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HARPER, JOHN Born in 1811. He arrived at Vealsco January 28, 1836, on the schooner Pennsylvania, having been recruited in New Orleans by Captain Amasa Turner for the Army of Texas. In the Head-right Certificate issued to him March 2, 1838, by the Harrisburg County Board, for one-third of a league of land it was stated that he came to Texas in January, 1836.

Mr. Harper was a member of Captain Amasa Turner's company at San Jacinto. He is shown on a muster roll at the Land Office as having enlisted in the army February 13, 1836, for a period of two years, or the duration of the war. On December 31, 1836, and February 28, 1837, he is shown as a member of Captain John Smith's company on Galveston Island. He was issued Donation Certificate No. 403 October 20, 1841, for 640 acres of land for having participated in the battle of San Jacinto.

Mr. Harper met death in an unfortunate manner, and his death is but another chapter in the history of tragic deaths of early settlers of Fayette County.

"Mr. Harper left his home on the date of his death to look after his flock of sheep and sought to drive them to shelter. The night was cold, and was supplemented later by a severe storm, sleet fell fast and the ground froze rapidly.

"Nearing a twenty foot embankment, he evidently paused, and accidentally slipped down the embankment, breaking both of his legs; the storm raging, and being some distance away from his home and his voice not penetrating the noise of the storm, he was compelled to remain

where he fell.

"Searching parties found him the next morning, near to noon, frozen stiff, he had been dead for several hours. His body was buried in the Cedar Cemetery about five miles from LaGrange on the old Flatonion road."

Following is the inscription on Mr. Harper's tombstone in the Cedar Cemetery near La Grange Fayette County, Texas.

"Sacred to the memory of

John Harper

Died September 4, 1859

Age 48

There shall be no night there."

Mr. Harper was married to Ann Ayers. To them were born two children Sarah and Elizabeth Harper.

Sarah Harper was married to James S. Lewis. Mr. Lewis died in 1933. Mrs. Lewis died April 15, 1865. Their children were Elizabeth, William, Emily, and Clara Lewis, all deceased.

Elizabeth Harper was married to Samuel Card. Mr. Card died near Muldoon, Texas, September 17, 1869. Mrs. Card died May 29, 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Card, mentioned above, had six girls and one boy. Of these, Jessie Card married a Mr. Wehling and now resides in Weimar, Texas, and Frankie Card was married to T. S. Doggett. Mrs. J. O. Boettcher, Weimar, Texas is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Doggett.