

SCURRY, RICHARDSON A. - Born in Gallatin, Sumner County, Tennessee, November 11, 1811. He was educated by private tutors; studied law and was admitted to the bar in about 1830. He commenced practice in Covington, Tipton County, Tennessee. He came to Texas early in the year 1836 and promptly joined the army. In Comptroller's Military Service Record No. 9038, it is certified that he enlisted in the army as a private March 10, 1836; elected first sergeant March 20; transferred to Captain Isaac N. Moreland's Company of artillery April 14; elected first lieutenant May 6th and resigned October 4, 1836. He received Donation Certificate No. 830 for 640 acres of land March 19, 1839 for having participated in the Battle of San Jacinto. In Head-right Certificate No. 43 issued in 1838 to Mr. Scurry for one third of a league of land by the Board of Land Commissioners for San Augustine County it is merely stated that he came to Texas previous to March 2, 1836.

Mr. Scurry was secretary of the senate of the first congress of the Republic from October 3 to October 21, 1836. He was elected district attorney of the First Judicial District December 16, 1836. Congress elected him Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, January 30, 1840, which automatically made him a member of the Supreme Court. He resigned to become, on February 5, 1841, district attorney of the Fifth Judicial District. At that time he was a law partner at San Augustine of his younger brother, William R. Scurry, who later became a famous Confederate officer. He was a member of the House of Representatives of the Seventh and Eighth Congress and was Speaker of the House of the Eighth.

Judge Scurry was elected a member of the Thirty-second United States Congress, August 4, 1851, to succeed David Spangler

SCURRY, RICHARDSON A. - Following is the inscription on the headstone of Judge Scurry in the cemetery in Hempstead:

"Sacred to the Memory of

My Husband

R. A. Scurry

Born

Nov. 11, 1811

Died

April 3, 1862"

Buried nearby are "Evantha, Beloved wife of Richard A. Scurry, 1823-1895." "Richard A. Scurry, Jr., Died May 7, 1905."

Kaufman, who died January 31, 1851, defeating Oran M. Roberts. At the expiration of his term, March 3, 1853, he resumed the practice of law. He moved to Austin County, in that part embraced in the present county of Waller, and built a home about one-half of a mile east of Hempstead.

The following item appeared in Central Texian, Anderson, Texas, August 19, 1854:

"We learn from Gen. Coney, of Austin County, that the Hon. Richardson Scurry accidentally shot himself through the foot a few days since, while out hunting, and that the wound was so severe as to require an immediate amputation of about half of that member. The Judge he informs us has suffered greatly since the operation."

The wound never healed. In 1861 he offered his services to Albert Sidney Johnston and was appointed to the position of Adjutant General on his staff. Upon the advice of a friend he consented to an operation on his foot. Blood poisoning evidently set in and it was found necessary to amputate his leg. He never regained his health and died near Hempstead April 9, 1862.

The following appeared in the Tri-Weekly Telegraph, Houston, April 25, 1862.

"We are deeply pained to hear of the death of Judge Dick Scurry of Austin County. Judge Scurry was for years a prominent citizen of Eastern Texas; having sat on the bench, and in Congress. Lately he has been but the wreck of his former

self, by reason of a painful wound by which he lost the larger part of one of his feet. The wound shattered his nervous system; and we doubt not, though we have not heard it was the primary cause of his death. He was a generous and noble Texas and his memory will not soon be lost by those who knew him."

Judge Scurry was married to Evantha Foster, daughter of James and Pamela (Waller) Foster, who came to Texas in 1832 and settled near the site of the present town of Hempstead. Miss Foster met her future husband in 1836, while he was in the army and she was in a camp in the famous "Runaway Scrape." She next met him in Washington, Texas while he was a member of the Texas Congress and she was visiting the town under the chaperonage of her cousin, Mrs. Sarah Wharton. Mrs. Scurry was born in 1823 and died in Dallas in 1895, and is buried in the Hempstead Cemetery.

Children of Judge and Mrs. Scurry were (1) Kate, (2) Richardson A., Jr., (3) Tony, (4) Thomas, and five children who died in infancy.

(1) Kate Scurry was married to Edward Terrell. Mr. Terrell died about 1878. Mrs. Terrell died in New Orleans, June 12, 1918 and was buried in Oakland Cemetery, Dallas, Texas. Their children were (a) Roy Terrell and (b) Scurry Terrell.

(2) Richardson Scurry, Jr. died May 7, 1905 and is buried in a marked grave in the cemetery in Hempstead.

(3) Tony Scurry died at the age of 9 years.

(4) Thomas Scurry was married to Emma Gano, Jan. 21, 1896. General Thos. Scurry died December, 1911. Mrs. Scurry still resides at

1903 Bennett Street, Dallas, Children of Thomas Scurry:

- (a) Miriam Scurry, died in infancy.
- (b) Thomas Scurry, Houston, Texas, member of the firm of Baker, Botts, Andrews & Wharton, Esperson Bldg., Houston, Texas.
- (c) Martha Scurry Potts, wife of R. M. Potts, Dallas.
- (d) Evantha Scurry Boles, wife of J. W. Boles, Dallas.
- (e) Richardson G. Scurry, attorney, Republic Bank Bldg. Dallas.
- (f) William C. Scurry, attorney, Santa Fe Bldg., Dallas.
- (g) Maurice McLaurin Scurry, student of Medicine, Galveston.