

PASSWORD



THE EL PASO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. XVII, No. 1

EL PASO, TEXAS

SPRING, 1972

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PASSWORD

Published quarterly by The El Paso County Historical Society
EUGENE O. PORTER, *Editor*

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"Charles Francis Adams, Jr., grandson of John Quincy Adams, wrote to historian Justin Smith in 1911, shortly after the publication of Smith's book on Texas annexation: 'You do not distinctly set forth in your narrative the character Texas then bore, and which as matter of fact, it subsequently introduced into the Union. Texas, it must be remembered, was the American Botany Bay. It was filled with speculators, adventurers, fugitives from debt and the law, and ruffians generally—G. T. T. in those days had a well understood significance—Gone (absconded) to Texas.'

" 'This feature of the historical situation it seems to me you have failed to set forth in its full proportionate light. Judging by your narrative, one would suppose that when we introduced Texas into the Union we introduced a community at least respectable. Such was not the fact. It was immoral, lawless, pro-slavery, uneducated, grasping and generally brutal—in a word, half civilized ' "

—JOHN H. JENKINS, *Texas Delineated*.

Published quarterly by THE EL PASO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

EUGENE O. PORTER, *Editor*

BUD NEWMAN, *Archival Editor*

HARRIOT HOWZE JONES, *Editor, Heritage Homes*

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by LEON C. METZ

When I was asked to serve a second term as your President, the Selection Committee told me that I needed another year to complete my programs. Since then I have sat around trying to figure out what my programs were, and I have finally concluded that I actually had no basic plan of action at all. I simply wanted to improve the Society through any means possible. That was my desire in 1971, and it remains so today.

Nevertheless, the last few months have been eventful, and perhaps we ought to touch upon a few high points so that a better sense of direction might be noted.

Last year we began a big push for a larger membership. Through the untiring efforts of Leonard Goodman, Sr., we almost doubled it. Now we have around 925 members, about 100 of these being schools and libraries throughout the world while the remainder are primarily family groups. (A family counts as one member.) Nevertheless, a community of this size should be able to support several thousand members and I think it very likely that within a few years we shall reach those figures.

It is regrettable that so few of our members come from minority groups. I did not see a single Black at a meeting all last year, and I'm not even sure if any are presently members. The number of Spanish surnames on our membership rolls is less than ten percent, a deplorable figure. How we can attract more Mexican-Americans into the Society I do not know. Obviously the direct approach by mail and word-of-mouth has not worked; and just as obviously we shall have to try other approaches to the problem. Whether we chose to admit it or not, these people are largely the heart and core of El Paso's early history, and we should together be sharing the fruits of our historical heritage.

PASSWORD had a good year in 1971, but show me a year when it didn't. Dr. Eugene O. Porter, the editor since its inception, continues with his usual excellent and remarkable work. Two of last year's volumes, incidentally, are now out of print and unavailable due to our large membership jumps. You might also have noticed that PASSWORD has increased its number of photos, and for the first time in its 16 year history, it exceeded 50 pages in the last issue.

I'm pleased that the general meetings at the Radford School for Girls has undergone a significant rise in attendance. Well over 350 people attended one particular talk. However, I'm not sure if these crowds were due more to the ability of our speakers, or to Miss Marjorie Graham, our hostess at Radford, and her fine crew of girls who served those delicious after-meeting snacks. Either way we have gone first class, and I hope that it will continue.

Our newsletter, *El Conquistador*, published its first issue last November. Thank to editor Bud Newman it will be a bi-monthly printing, bringing you news of meetings and other items of a historical nature that you should know about. Also, due to the more personal nature of its notices, I hope that it will make us a more tightly knit group.

Everyone was pleased that the Magoffin Home was placed on the National Register of Historic Sites last year, and full credit for this accomplishment should go to our last few presidents. They all worked for and supported the project, and its fulfillment is indeed a tribute to their foresight and perseverance.

Meanwhile, the Hart's Mill, Old Fort Bliss site has been nominated for the same honor, as have the Ysleta and Socorro Missions. Because the San Elizario Church dates from more recent times, it will not be placed on the Register but will instead be cited as a Texas Landmark.

During the last few months we have finally begun to move in the area of preservation. Just the mere fact of so many buildings being in the process of becoming national historical sites means that the rampant destruction of our heritage, so common a few years ago, is at least slowing if not completely stopped.

To aid our preservation efforts, our local state representatives have promised during the next session in Austin to study legislation calling for the creation of "Historic Preservation Districts" in Texas. If enacted, the bill will give the Society a little more preservation muscle than we presently have. I strongly urge that our members support this proposed law.

The year 1971 was a long and sometimes arduous one for the hard-working members of the Museum Committee. They met at least once a month to submit their numerous reports and findings. Now, sometime this year we will kick-off a fund raising drive. It will have to be a community effort (no bond issue), but our objectives can be obtained. Details will be forthcoming in the near future.

As my final parting shot, I have tried to remove the El Paso County Historical Society from its mistaken image of a "Social Club," and to make it a more working and responsible member of the community. We are now a very large organization, and we could be a very powerful one with plenty of political clout if we chose to use it. While I do not recommend the backing of any political candidate (which would be a violation of our charter), I do think the Society should strengthen and make public its views on the issues of historical preservation—parks, sunshine, trees, clean air and water. For if we do not save the future, we cannot hope to preserve the past.

Linda Darnell, the beautiful screen actress, was born Linda Monette Elyse Darnell in Dallas, Texas. She gained fame for her roles in "The Mark of Zorro," "Blood and Sand," "Brigham Young," and "Day-Time Wife." Her screen debut was made in 1939 in "Hotel for Women." Some of the other movies she appeared in were "Centennial," "Chad Hanna," "Rise and Shine," "Star Dust," and "Song of Bernadette" in which she played "The Virgin Mary." Her greatest success, however came in 1947 when she played "Forever Amber" from the Windsor novel.

Miss Darnell was burned to death in April, 1965, while visiting her former secretary in Glenview, Illinois. The two were enjoying "Star Dust" on television when the house caught fire. Miss Darnell suffered burns over ninety per cent of her body and died shortly afterward in a Chicago hospital. She was forty-two years of age.

LETTERS HOME: W. W. MILLS WRITES TO HIS FAMILY

intro. & notes by EUGENE O. PORTER

(FIRST OF SERIES)

FOREWARD

by BILL MCGAW

About 10 years ago, Bill McGaw established *The Southwesterner*, a monthly publication devoted to the history and interests of El Paso's portion of the southwest. Within a few years the publication had become literally world-famous, with subscriptions going to every state, virtually every U. S. University, 23 foreign countries and even the Embassies in such places as Madrid, Paris and Berlin. Due to the wide acceptance and influence on the recorded history of the area, Gene M. Gressley, director of the University of Wyoming Western History Research Center, invited McGaw to give to that institution all of his private papers, as well as anything pertaining to the publication of *The Southwesterner*. This was in 1966, but it wasn't until 1971 that McGaw was able to visit the University of Wyoming to make arrangements for the transfer of his papers to the library. Visiting the University where he was also acting as tour director of the Royal Lipizzan Stalions of Austria, McGaw met Gressley, Charles G. Roundy, research historian and another research worker, Pete Long, to discuss the transfer of *The Southwesterner* and McGaw material. The discussion eventually turned to W. W. Mills and it was disclosed that Wyoming had a series of letters from W. W. Mills to his father and brother Anson, written at the outbreak of the Civil War, while Mills was in El Paso. Long asked if McGaw could provide a two or three page biographical sketch of W. W. Mills to go with the letters. Traveling on the road with the Lipizzaners at the time and exceedingly busy, McGaw arranged for this job to be performed by his daughter, Patricia, a graduate student in history at the University of Texas. In gratitude, the Wyoming school sent McGaw copies of the Xeroxed letters to do with what he will. The UTEP history department evinced an interest in the letters and McGaw agreed to turn them over to the UTEP archives, but agreed first to allow Dr. Eugene Porter to excerpt or publish in any way he chose the letters in *Password*. This material will be found, complete, in the UTEP archives.

INTRODUCTION

The Mills brothers will always be associated with El Paso. This is certainly true for Anson, William Wallace, and Emmett who were pre-

Civil War arrivals at the Pass of the North. The fourth, Ethan Allen, visited the city years later to help dedicate a pillar to the memory of Emmett. The four were sons of James P. and Sarah Kenworthy Mills of Thorntown, Indiana.

Anson was the first of the brothers to arrive at the border city. He had failed mathematics at West Point and was ashamed to return home. He came to Texas in the spring of 1857, taught school for a year at McKinney and then took the Butterfield stage for El Paso, arriving on May 8, 1858. He has been called "the father of El Paso" because he surveyed the original townsite and, according to him, suggested the name. When the Civil War broke out, he left El Paso on the last stage east for Washington, D. C. and an army commission. He served throughout the war and attained the grade of brigadier general. He died in Washington on November 5, 1924.

William Wallace Mills came to El Paso in December, 1858. At the time he lacked two months of being twenty-three years of age. He first went to Fort Fillmore where he was employed as a clerk by the post trader. After a year he returned to El Paso and took a job in a mercantile business owned by Vincent (Vicente) St. Vrain and Henry J. Cuniffe. An ardent Unionist, he was soon at odds with his fellow *Paseños*, the vast majority of whom favored secession, and before long found himself at Fort Bliss, a prisoner of the Confederates. With the collusion of two friends he was able to escape and make his way to New Mexico where he joined the Union Forces. Later he served as Collector of Customs for the El Paso district and still later, from 1897 to 1907, he served as United States Consul at Ciudad Chihuahua. He resigned his consulship and with his wife, the daughter of A. J. Hamilton, Reconstruction Governor of Texas, went to Austin to reside. There he died on February 10, 1913, on the seventy-seventh anniversary of his birth.

Emmett Mills, the third brother to come to El Paso, arrived in 1859 and took employment with the Butterfield Overland Mail Company. When the Confederate forces occupied Fort Bliss he and six other Butterfield employees left for California with the company's records. The group was intercepted on July 21, 1861 by Apaches at Cooke's Springs near Deming, New Mexico, and all seven were killed. In September, 1920, the citizens of El Paso erected a monument on the grounds of the public library to the memory of the seven men. Anson came from Washington to dedicate the memorial and his brother, Ethan Allen, came from Indiana to attend the ceremony. This is about all that is known of the youngest brother.

William Wallace Mills was, in some ways, an unusual man. Dr. Rex Strickland (see below, footnote 2) described him as "a cross-grained

and opinionated man, self-assured and egotistical." And he added: Mills was "articulate, even bumptiously so, and he left a salty, highly individualized book telling his story as he saw it." Mills, on the other hand, described himself as "a man of raw courage, intellectual attainment and waspish disposition." The reader is free to make his own appraisal.

The following letters, it should be noted, are published herein as they are in the original, with *italics* and without corrections in spelling, punctuation, capitalization or with the use of the tediis [sic].

El Paso Texas

May 28th 1861

Dear Brother

Yesterday I received your letter dated Washington April 5th and directed to Fillmore. I would have been well pleased with the arrangement you made had I not learned before that Gathrop was not appointed but that our Saml Woods has the place. There is a letter for Emmet at Mesilla¹ which I suppose is from you but as I cannot get it before the next mail leaves I write you this. I need not speculate on what may be our fate for I am so far from all the news that I can guess nothing. I presume you are in the army by this time that is if you are not on your way out here. I feel confident that you will be able to do something for me even if that attempt has failed.

Evry body but the buisness men has left El Paso and we have as quiet a time as we could wish.

Col Herbert² took the wind out of Ben Dowell³ in this [illegible] Valdick⁴ & Dowell made an arrangement to swindle Herbert out of \$250 that Valdick owed Herbert by a sham sale of Valdicks Train to Dowell. Herbert went into Dowell's den and sayed, "Ben Dowell you are a d-d Liar & a swindler, you swore a lie and I can prove it, but I would rather fight you than to prosecute you for perjury." Dowell *weakened* and Herbert has commenced process against him for perjury and is going to have him indibted for the murder of the man he & Kuhns killed some time ago.

Ben has *laid aside* the pistols which he has carried for the last 20 years and now walks the streets "as mild a mannered murderer" as you ever saw, a *Bully no more*.

There are some resigned officers here from New Mexico who state that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the officers in that Territory are friends to the South and will not execute the order of the government, they say that the soldiers are coming down by companies to join the Southern army, government should see to this for there is some truth in it.



Allen Mills

From Anson Mills, My Story by Commander McKinney.

Capt Cook is here and is very friendly to me but he has not the great mind of Hebert and if he knew every thing he would likely be down on us.

Hart^s attacked me about your [illegible] in the Washington Star but he did not gain anything, Crosby^s was present and sayed that you might have sayed hard things about the people here but he did not believe you would do mean act.

I will stay here with Hall & Co⁷ until I hear something to take me away and if any man molests me I will make him fight, I think I have more friends than ever. I tell Vicent^s everything and Herbert & Dr. Nanzle^s know of course that you are not in Washington for nothing.

Emmet is yet at the station between Mesilla & Tucson, I have heard nothing from him since he left and hope that we will soon be able to take him away from so dangerous a place.

Remember that we are six weeks behind the dates in the states, I will write you as soon as I hear from you again.

If you are yet in Thorntown¹⁰ remember that there is an individual there that I feel a very peculiar interest in and act accordingly.

Asever

W.W.Mills

Fillmore¹¹

July 13, 1861

Dear Brother

I have just returned from Santa Fe. If you can get me the appointment¹² you spoke of please do so and let me leave this god accursed country. I can do well here but would as soon live in hell.

Direct to La Mesilla. Judge Watts¹³ is in Washington. Write to him about the appointment.

If Anson is any where in the States please send this to him.

W.W.Mills

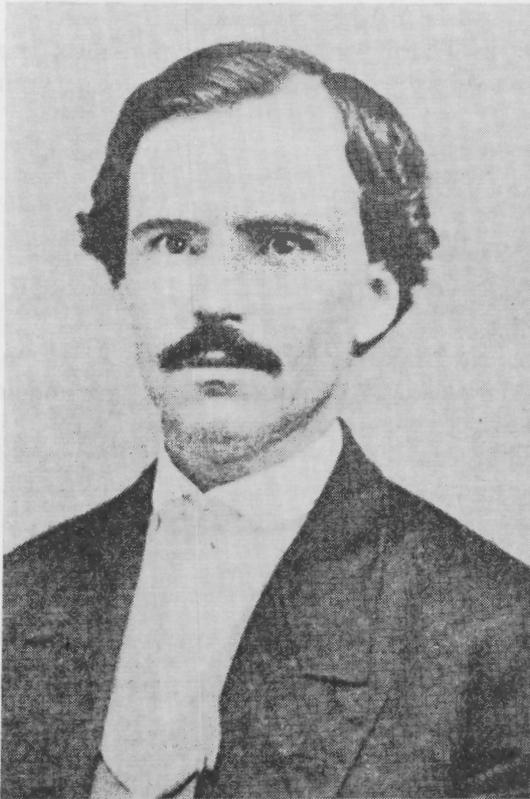
Fort Craig, N.M.¹⁴

Oct. 16, 1861

My dear Father

Our own dear Emmet is no more. He was killed by Indians about the 20th July last at Cooks Springs 100 miles west of Mesilla. I had written him to come in from his station to take part in the fight which was to decide the fate of Arzona and he came elate with hope and "eager for the fray," but alas on his arrival at Mesilla he found that through the *treachery & cowardice* of our own officers Fort Fillmore would soon be turned over to the Texans without a fight and that I had been arrested as a Spy and would probably be hung. He started back to his station with his party of Six brave young men like himself, they were attacked by Indians and finally all killed. They were well armed and had time to build a little breastwork of rocks and from the signs must have defended themselves for about two days but were finally overpowered, they must have given out from exhaustion and want of water. There is abundant evidence that they killed many Indians. "They fought like brave men long & well." I hope to be able some day to give you many particulars of this melancholy affair. *I cannot now.* Remember that "He doeth all things well." Asever

W.W.Mills



W. W. Mills

From Anson Mills, My Story by Commander McKinney.

I was arrested by six Texans in the Plaza of El Paso Mexico¹⁵ about the 16th of last July and was hurried immediately to Fort Bliss where I remained a prisoner charged with being a Spy for just one month part of the itme in *irons*. I was then liberated there being no evidence against me. Our old friends in El Paso & Mesilla were all determined that I should be hung but the Texan officers of whom I made friends manfully refused to hang me unless they would prove that I was a spy.

Even after my release I was yet virtually a prisoner for I was so closely watched that it was two months before I could get away. Five days ago haveing bought two horses and employed a mexican guide I left El Paso Mexico in the night and came around through the Indian country a dis-

tance of 250 miles to inform Col Roberts¹⁶ at this Post of the condition of affairs at El Paso. My guide was of no account and we were lost for two days without water for our horses or food for ourselves before we reached the Post. My own knolledge of the country finaly brought me through & here I am thank God among my friends again, though with my health greatly injured.

Now that Col Roberts knows the real weakness of the Texans we will soon move down and whip them out of the country. I have been in the employ of Government for four months and am yet.

I want to write you a long *long* letter but have neither time nor strength now. I will probably go to Santa Fe soon. but will go with Col Roberts to El Paso to fight.

Asever

W.W.Mills

Judge Hart¹⁷ gave \$100 to have me arrested.

I dont know where Anson is — send this to him.

Fort Craig N. M.

Oct. 25, 61.

My dear Father

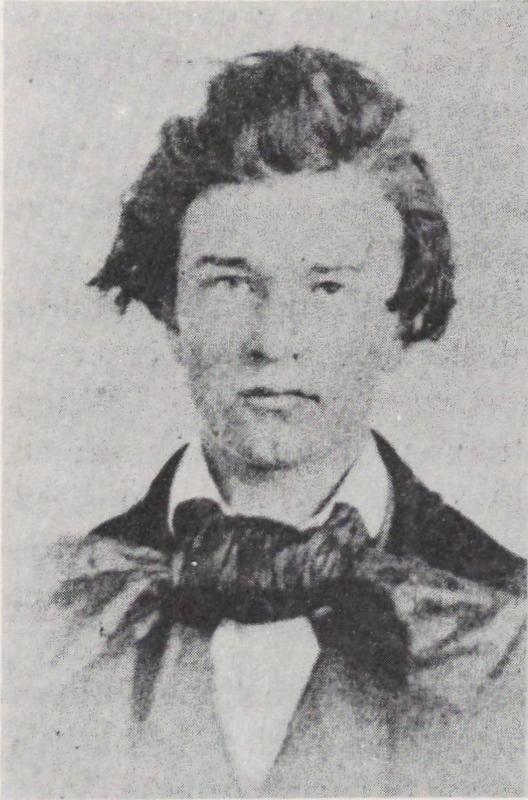
Before I left El Paso I wrote a very long history of my adventures during the last three months and left it in the care of a friend so that if I should not reach this place safely you might same day know the whole truth concerning the fate of myself and our poor Emmet.

Since arriving here I have written a very long report to Col. Roberts and I do not feel now like rewriting all this as I intend some day to send you the letter I left at El Paso. it is true that you also have war in the states, but I am sure that there is no where so much romance and personal adventure as here on the frontier where we have a mixture of evry sort of people even to Mexicans & Indians.

When I reached this Fort from El Paso I had been two days without food and my horse as long without water. My guide was of no use and but for my own knolledge of the country we would have been lost.

When I went to El Paso more than three months ago I was employed by Maj Lynde¹⁸ astensibly as Guide & Interpreter but in fact as a Spy. You may think it was rash in me to undertake this duty but I am satisfied that but for the treachery of our own officers all would have been well.

I was arrested by six men on the Plaza of El Paso Mexico as you have heard, these men were paid \$100 by Judge Hart of El Paso of whom you have heard Anson speak.



Emmett Mills

From Anson Mills, My Story by Commander McKinney.

Since my arrival at this Fort I have been treated as well as I could ask, I room with the officers and am treated with a great deal of respect. I am to be paid \$3 per day for the time I have been employed and am employed by Col Roberts as Interpreter at the same wages. I have nothing to do, the col says all that he wants me for is to go with him to El Paso and point out to him my "good friends" there. We will leave here soon with about 2,000 men and rest assured that this time we will not fail.

I believe I am the only man of El Paso who has stood up for the Union¹⁸ through all trials and when we gain the day there I will be *all right*. I have good influence with Col Roberts who is a good and brave man and as I intend to ask of him nothing but what is right I think I will

have matters *pretty nearly my own way*. I can be appointed a captain or Lieutenant in the Volunteers when ever I ask it but I think I can do better.

Since my arrival here they tell me that I am appointed collector of customs at El Paso.²⁰ if this is true it is *just the thing I want* and if it is not true I think I can make more money by taking government contracts than by being an officer in the Volunteers.

You may think that I am too fast in all this for we will certainly have a battle at Mesilla or Fort Bliss, but I tell you that this time there is no treachery in our little army and we will carry evry think before us. Of course I will be in the fight and if my courage does not fail me in the thickest of it. I think that I have allready encountered more danger than any one does in an ordinary battle and I am only impatient to "get at them." We will leave here probably in two weeks.

You may direct "W.W. Mills El Paso Texas in care of J. Howe Watts Santa Fe"

I know not only evry person liveing about El Paso but allmost evry man in Col Baylor's (the Texan army) Col Baylor²¹ & I are very good friends and I assure you that he not a bad man. compaired to Judge Hart and the rest of our *friends* about El Paso he is a Saint. if he had not been an honest man I would have been hung, but he is my enemy in war. Col Herbert was my friend throughout and I owe him a debt of gratitude. he has gone to Virginia.

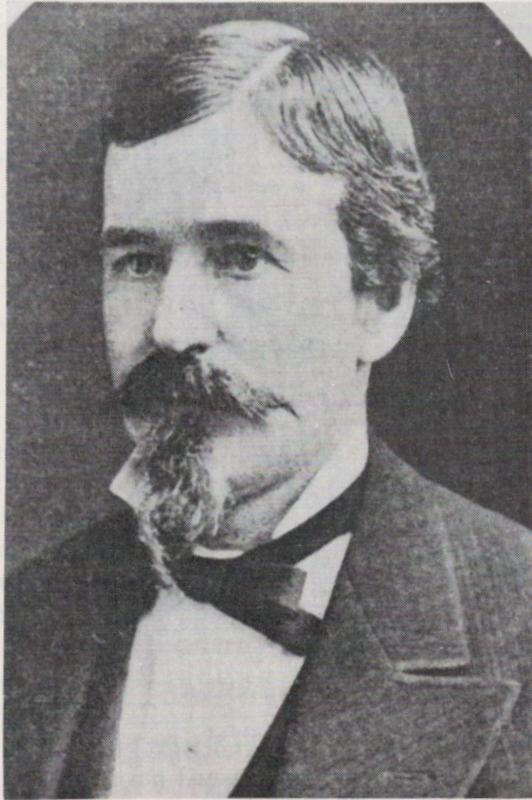
I do not know where to direct to Anson yet but hope soon to hear from you all.

You must make all allowance for the letters I have written lately, as I did not know which ones would reach you I have written the same thing several times.

I meet here two of my old friends, Capt. Howland & Leiut Lord, I think I will be attached to Lords company of Cavalry during the fight. We are haveing fine weather and I am fast recovering from the sickness brought on by my confinement and my journey to this place.

Our Government now knows that I have rendered them good servis and that if they had acted more promptly on the information I gave them before the surrender at Fort Fillmore it would not have been surrendered.

Dr Diffendoffer U S Consul²² at El Paso acted the coward and resigned when I was arrested. I have written to Judge Watts that *he must not be reappointed* and I am confident that he will not be though he boasts of great influence at Washington. he is a Union man but we want men that will stand the fire. if our family had not been so heavy on applications I



Anson Mills

From Anson Mills, My Story by Commander McKinney.

would suggest that you apply for this situation as it would suit you exactly.

Please send this to Anson and as soon as I hear from you I will write again.

Asever

W.W. Mills

I hope it is true that I am appointed collector at El Paso. I was today assured by Col. Roberts that I shall be his "[illegible] de camp" or the filler of bottles.

I would write to brother Allen if I knew where to direct. I presume he is a Volunteer, if he is not he should be. It is true that it is a hard life and poor pay but it will not last very long and it is a good School for a *good boy* and after the war he will always be glad that he was in it. I think that this country where I am is going to be a better place to make money than ever before and after making one visit home I expect to live here a while. I think that he can do well here also after the war is over, our Ranch will be good property after a while.

Remember me to all our family & friends and tell them that I will write them again as soon as matters become more settled. Allen should not enlist for a long time.

It is true that I am appointed collector at El Paso and while I live there Allen can always find plenty to do and with my help can make money. Now that Emmet, poor brave Boy, has left us I shall like to have Allen here.

W.W.Mills

Fort Craig N. M.

Nov. 14, 1861.

Dear Father

I have been here now about a month and have heard nothing from home since my arrival except a letter which Anson wrote to Col Canby²³ enquireng for Emmet & myself. Soon after my arrival here I wrote you several letters which I presume you have received. Since then I have not written for I had nothing to write. I did hope that long before this time we would have been in possession of Mésilla & El Paso but it is only a matter of accident that we are not. The Texans are yet there, we have here about 2000 men half Mexican Volunteers and we will *soon* make a movement.

We will surely win the battle and then I am determined to make some money out of Government contracts. I hear that it is true that I am appointed collector at El Paso but have as yet received no official notice of it. The place will suit me exactly and I do not want to be thrown out of it by any accident. I can be appointed any day a capt or Lieutenant in the Volunteers but I do not want to be as the pay is not so good as that I am now geting, and while I am Interpreter Ade do Camp & c I can go where I please and do as I please while if I belonged to a company I would have to stay with it. Then I am more in the confidence of the officers than if I had a commission.

I go with nearly evry scouting party that goes down toward Mesilla and I assure you we have some exciting adventures. Last night Capt

Howland and I brought in a Texan Lieutenant & two soldiers as prisoners. of one thing be assured the Texans will not get me again without a fight, we have no traitors in our camp now.

As soon as I hear once more from home I will write you and Anson a long letter. Please send this to him, *he must see that I am not cheated out of my appointment.* I wrote to Judge Watts upon my arrival here.

Asever

W.W.Mills

Remember me to all friends.

Fort Craig N. M.

Dec. 3d 1861

Dear Father

Your letter from Toledo dated Nov. 3d is received today being the first I have had from any of my friends for six months. You have before this time received my letters written upon my arrival here about six weeks ago. At that time I hoped long ere this to be able to write you from my Texas Home and I am greatly disappointed in not being able to do so, the Texans less than 600 in number yet hold that place and in fact the whole territory of Arizona while we with three times there number are laying idle at this place which is little more than 100 miles from their camp. Why this is I cannot tell but I assure you that I yet have perfect confidence in all our officers and men and am sure that we will before *very long* drive those Devils out of the country *forever* but what I wonder at is why is it not done *now* or rather why was it not done three months ago? The reason that I did not accept a commission in the Mesilla Vol-enteers last July was that when I returned to Fort Fillmore from Santa Fe I saw that our officers were nearly all traitors as the sequel has shown²⁴ and I knew that I could be of no service in that capacity so I went to El Paso as a Spy. I could now at any moment be appointed but I think I can do better both for the cause and for myself in the capacity of Interpreter for Col. Roberts the commander of this little army. I have evry reason to be satisfied here only that I cannot help being impatient at this delay.

I think I wrote you before that I am to be "Aid de Camp" to Col Roberts when we have the fight but I cannot help mentioning it agan, for their are no better or braver men in the army than he and Col Canby the commander of this Department. Do not think that because the Texan force is so inconsiderable that we will have nothing to do for they will have the advantage of being fortified and besides half of our men are

Mexican volunteers. My old friend Lieut Lord is here with his company of Dragoons and is "eager for the fray," his company is to be our advance guard and I will get permission to go with him. Neither he nor I will make prisoners of any such men as Simon Hart or Col Jones.²⁵ I have many an account to settle with those men and I think the day is not distant.

With regard to Maj Lyndes surrender I have only patience to say this, that Maj Lynde himself is a *coward* and all the officers of his command except McNalie²⁶ and proudly two subalterns acted the *Traitor*. A court-martial will some day prove this but I am sorry that in the main time such men as Potter Stephenson²⁷ Gibbs Brooks²⁸ Plumer Lane²⁹ & Dr McKee³⁰ are able to impose upon the Government by a Sham repentence. I give as a hint, to Anson for his guidance should he meet these men Potter is the least culpable and *Lane* is the [illegible] of all. I learn that he has gone to Kentucky to raise a Union regiment, God help Kentucky if he does. Now that they see we are going to win they are all Union men? ? ? Two officers Garland & Jones no worse than the rest ran away and joined the Texans a day or two before the fight.

The Santa Fe Gazette says that I am appointed collector at El Paso Texas with a Salery of 2500\$ a year while your letter says at Las Cruces,³¹ but I will get a letter from Judge Watts soon with the official notice. I would rather live at El Paso as our property is there, I think after the war is over or even while it lasts this will be a better country than ever before. The troops are being paid off here and as they cannot spend their money here they will take with them to El Paso more than 100 thousand dollars, besides this our little army will have to be supplied with Beef corn Hay wood Flour & c and I think I will get a good contract, probably in company with Mr. Stephenson who has been as faithful to the Union as a man of family and means dare do liveing as he is among the Texans.

I think I can get a couple of companies of troops Stationed at the Canntilla³² and get to build Quarters for them. El Canntilla, I never think of that beautiful place without remembering our brave Emmet. He was there when the place was first started and lived there more than either of us, some times alone; He loved that spot as his Home and had it not been for this accursed war might have passed many a happy day there. But after all, we do not lose much in giving up this uncertain life a few years sooner or later, if there is another life after this which we all hope for, surely our Creator knows best when to show it to us, and if there is no other life, surely we are will rid of this one which in that case is a miserable desepction. There was nothing in Emmet's life that he had to regret and had he lived longer there might have been, I have talked with

him about these things and I know that he had no inordinate love of life and that what he would have desired most of us had he foreseen the worst would have been that we should not forget him but that we should speak often to each other about him and about things connected with his memory. The last act of his life was to travel two hundred miles to offer it in defence of the flag of his country and may the traitors be forever accursed who rejected the offering and drove him away to die a more terrible but not less honorable death.

We have a Texan Lieutenant here a Prisoner who knew Emmet well while he lived in Arizona who tells me that he was one of the Party who buried his body and those of his six comrades, he says that after two weeks had elapsed he could very readily recognise Emmets features as he knew him better than any of the rest. I am confident that he tells the truth and I hope some day to bring the remains and bury that at the Canntilla, such a thing is very easily done in this country on account of the dryness & pureness of the atmosphere.

I am liveing with Capt Wingate³³ of the regular army from our own State, he is a fine man and has shown me many favors. he is now sick and we fear he has the Small Pox of which there are several cases in the Garrison. I hope I may not have it *now*.

I think that after the war is over it will be best for Allen to come out here, provided I am established at El Paso or Las Cruces. his first duty however is to volunteer.

Now that I have heard from home I will write often. Where is R L Robertson?³⁴ I hope Anson has written to him for me.

Asever

W.W.Mills

Direct to Ft Craig & your letters will be forwarded. or if you enclose them to Col Canby he will send them sooner.

Fort Craig N. M.
Newyearsday 1862

My dear Father

Your letter of Nov. 26th and one from Sister Caroline are received today. these and your letter from Tolledo³⁵ are all that I have received from any of you.

I have written you often and if you have all my letters you can understand from them pretty well what I have been doing for the past six

months, though I have not written you as fully as I intend some time to do. The reason why I wrote you that desponding letter of July 13th from Fort Fillmore was that I then knew the treachery of the officers there and foresaw evry thing would be lost. With the same pen I wrote Emmet to come to Fort Fillmore to take part in the fight which I yet hoped might be brought on in spite of the treachery. You know the rest.

I cannot now write you any thing more about Emmet than I have lately written, if you do not receive those letters I will some day write again. His body was found, "lying on the ground, shot through the head."

The Texans at El Paso have at last received a reinforcement. They have now about two thousand men under Gen Sibley³⁶ & Maj. Bill Scurry³⁷ so well known to Anson and myself. They are now on the way to attack this post and we will have a very *very* bloody fight in a few days. this has changed my plans entirely; to day I am to be appointed a Lieutenant of Volenteers and am to be detailed as Aid de Camp to Col. Canby who is here in command. I asked for the the position of Aid de Camp and it was readily granted, it is just the thing for me and I would not exchange it *now* for any position in the army.

There is no good in making idle boasts now but you can look for my name in the list of "mentioned" or killed. Evry one here even to the Texans look for some thing from me and they shall not be disappoinded. I received today for Services \$397.50 but I have spent more than this since I have been in the Service. This \$397.50 is all that I have rece'd from Government. I think I could get more as a remuneration if I would ask it but the first thing is to whip the Texans.

Judge Watts is a brave & good man but if he made any arrangements for my release they were not [illegible] out. he did all he could for me but *I escaped by my own exertions.*

I paid \$100 for a horse today and tomorrow I will have on all the tinsil of a Lieutenant.

There is a rumor that there are near hear another party of two thousand Texans and it may be true but one thing consoles me this time we will at least have a desperate fight, and I think we will thrash them.

Anson knows what a compliment it is to be appointed Aid to a commanding officer.

I will write again before the fight if I have time, if not be assured that I have made up my mind that it would not be hard to die in defnce of the Union.

Asever

W.W.Mills

Please thank Caroline for me for her letter. Tell all our friends evry thing about me and send this to Anson. he should do something for Allen.

Allen *must* go to school and never enlist in the regular army. he will come to this country sooner or later, therefore he must learn to write well & c & c.

Emmett would have been a Lieutenant if he had lived.

Asever

W.W. Mills

1st Lieut. Vols.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Mesilla, New Mexico, sometimes called "Old Mesilla."
2. Philemon Thomas Herbert was born in Alabama and served in the United States Congress from California, 1855 to 1857. He killed a waiter in Washington's Willard Hotel but went unpunished. Returning to California at the close of his term of office he was forced to leave the state and he came to El Paso. He was an ardent secessionist but a friend of W. W. Mills. He died in the war.—W. W. Mills *Forty Years at El Paso 1858-1898*, edited by Rex W. Strickland (El Paso, 1962), 182. Hereinafter, if the material in these notes comes from Mills' text the citation will read *Forty Years*, if from the introduction or notes of Dr. Strickland, the citation will read Strickland.
- For further information concerning Herbert see Strickland, "P. T. Herbert: Ante-Bellum Resident of El Paso," *PASSWORD*, vol. v, no. 2 (April, 1960), 43 - 64.
3. Benjamin Shackett Dowell was born in Kentucky and came to El Paso in 1850 after serving in the Mexican War. He married Juana Márquez, a full blood Tigua Indian. Dowell served as postmaster of El Paso and as the first "regularly elected mayor." As a businessman he operated "a house that served as saloon, store, billard parlour." It was on the present site of Hotel Paso del Norte. He was a rabid secessionist—Strickland, 179.
4. Mills very likely meant Gabriel Valdes who was engaged in the freighting business.
5. Simeon Hart, born in Highland, New York, came to El Paso after service in the Mexican War as an adjutant in the Missouri cavalry under the command of Colonel John Rolls. He operated a grist mill in El Paso and served as a purchasing agent for the Confederacy.—Strickland, 182. For a more detailed biography see *Handbook of Texas*, vol. i, 781 - 782.
6. Josiah Fraser Crosby was born in Charleston, South Carolina. He contracted tuberculosis and came to El Paso for his health. He was well educated by private tutors and developed into an outstanding lawyer. He served as quartermaster general under Sibley in New Mexico and as adjutant general on the staff of Edmund Kirby-Smith. Crosby died in El Paso in 1904.—Strickland, 176.
7. There were three Halls in ante-bellum El Paso, Charles F., Edward, and Thomas Jefferson. Mills confused Edward and Thomas and called his composite man "H. C. Hall."—Strickland, 182.
8. Mills evidently means Vincent St. Vrain. He was born in New Mexico, a younger member of the famous St. Louis fur trading family. He engaged in business in El Paso during the 1850's. He was a Unionist.—Strickland, 188.

9. Nanzle is a mis-spelling. It is Dr. Joseph Nangle. He was born in Pennsylvania and migrated to El Paso where he was associated in business with Edward Hall and Company. Nothing is known of his activities after the Civil War.—Strickland, 186.
10. Mills mis-spells the name of his home town. He was a poor speller, as the reader must have noted. He very likely spelled by sound.
11. Fort Fillmore was five miles south of Las Cruces at Mesilla, New Mexico. It became the principal post in the El Paso area.—Richard K. McMaster, "The Mansfield Report—1853," *PASSWORD*, vol. iv, no. 3 (July, 1959), 96 - 112.
12. The appointment was very likely the collectorship of customs at El Paso, a post Mills did obtain. (See below, fn. 31).
13. Judge John Sebrie Watts was born in Kentucky and educated at Indiana University. He was associate justice of the supreme court of New Mexico Territory from 1851 to 1854 and territorial delegate in Congress from 1861 to 1863.—Strickland, 41n.
14. Fort Craig, established in 1853, was situated halfway between Fort Fillmore and Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the west side of the Rio Grande near the present site of Elephant Butte, Dam.
15. Modern Juárez. The name was changed from Paso del Norte and sometimes El Paso, by the Chihuahua State legislature on September 16, 1882.
16. Colonel Benjamin Stone Roberts, a native of Vermont and a graduate of West Point, served in both the Mexican and Civil War. Mills regarded him as the superior of Canby in military initiative and leadership. He is best remembered as the inventor of the breech loading rifle.—Strickland, 56n.
17. Simeon Hart (see above, fn 5) was trained as a civil engineer. He was never a lawyer but may have served as a justice of the peace, thereby gaining the title of "judge."
18. Major Isaac Lynde surrendered Fort Fillmore without a struggle on July 27, 1861 to Colonel John R. Baylor, the Confederate Commander. For this Lynde was dismissed from service but was reinstated after the war. Mills wrote in his *Forty Years*, 55, that Lynde "was not treacherous, he was weak, and he was deceived to his ruin and the disgrace of the flag." For an account of the surrender see Kenneth A. Goldblatt, "The Defeat of Major I. Lynde, U.S.A.," *PASSWORD*, vol. xv, no. 1 (Spring, 1970), 16 - 20. For complete details of Lynde's feeble defense of Fort Fillmore see Herbert O. Brayer, "The Fall of Fort Fillmore," (Western Brand Books, 1951), 411 - 438.
19. In his *Forty Years* Mills lists a half dozen besides himself and Anson who were Union partisans—Henry Cuniffe, Vincent St. Vrain, Samuel and Joseph Schutz, and Dr. Joseph Nangle.
20. Mills wrote in his *Forty Years*, 63, "I accompanied Colonel Roberts to Santa Fe, where he detailed me as post quartermaster, but learning that, while I was a prisoner at Fort Bliss, President Lincoln had appointed me collector of customs at El Paso, and not intending to follow the profession of arms, I resigned and returned to the home from which I had been driven, took possession of that office." It is doubtful if he took office before 1863 because on page 81 he noted that he served as collector from 1863 to 1869.
21. For another side of Colonel John R. Baylor see the story of Baylor's killing of Robert P. Kelley, editor of the *Mesilla Times*, in Martin Hardwick Hall, "The Baylor-Kelley Fight: A Civil War Incident in Old Mesilla," *PASSWORD*, vol. v, no. 8 (July, 1960), 83 - 90.
22. David R. Diffenderfer, a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, was actually a druggist. He was appointed consul at Paso del Norte (Juárez) by President Fillmore in 1852 and continued in office until the Buchanan administration. He then opened a general mercantile business in El Paso. He was not a consul at the time Mills wrote.—Strickland, 178.
23. Colonel Edward Richard Sprigg Canby assumed command of the Department of New Mexico on May 14, 1861. He was later promoted to brigadier general and then to major general. He suffered a disastrous defeat at the hands of General Henry H. Sibley at Valverde, New Mexico, on February 21-22, 1862.—Daniel A.

still living here. Dr. Higgins later resigned from the ministry.

Dr. Howard Thompson whom his Mexican patients called "Doc Tonk" was a large, jovial, untiring man beloved by his patients. He spoke Spanish fluently and did a great work in El Paso.

Dr. O. C. Irvin was the father of Dr. Harland Irvin and grandfather of Clifford Irvin, prominent business man of El Paso, and of the Reverend Harland Irvin, the present Headmaster of St. Clements Church School.

Of this period, too, were gentle Dr. Race and Dr. S. T. Turner, whose home on Montana is now occupied by the Medical Auxiliary as a sort of club house. This was a beautiful and most hospitable home during the lifetime of Mrs. Turner.

There was Dr. Justus, a distinguished looking man. He lived in Juárez but practiced in El Paso. Later he came to El Paso to live and made his home on Magoffin Avenue with his wife and three children. I believe that his daughter Norma may still be living in El Paso.

Dr. Vilas was a handsome, stocky man of compelling personality. He lived across the street from Hotel Dieu, a house later occupied in turn by the Gallaghers and the Schusters and where Margaret Schuster Meyer lived until it was torn down recently. Later the Vilas family moved to the one-story house on Wyoming and Oregon, now a part of La Villita. He had his office there. Many amusing stories are told of him. He was a strong convincing person. He never minced words. He left no doubt as to what he meant. A young man who had come to El Paso believing he had tuberculosis visited Dr. Vilas often but could not be convinced that he did not have the dread disease. Finally, on one of his visits the doctor squared off, looked the young man directly in the eye and said: "Young man, I never saw you before, I have no reason to lie to you. I would not give a damn if you died tomorrow. Now go home!"

There was smallpox in El Paso from time to time and a "pest house" was kept ready for patients. A worried young doctor went to Dr. Vilas one day and asked him to explain the difference between a bad case of chickenpox and smallpox as he could not differentiate between them. Dr. Vilas asked: "Did you ever see a guinea hen and an ordinary hen?" The young man replied: "Of course I have seen both." "Well," said the doctor, "try to explain the difference to a man who has never seen a guinea hen."

Dr. Gallagher, a slender, frail man who had come from Lockport, New York, to this climate looking for health, was what might be called a "doctor's doctor." He was a great diagnostician and could often

quickly diagnose a case that puzzled other doctors. He had a large family and when asked about his children some child would sing out: "Peter, Francis, Monica, Paul, Hiram, Lea, Donald—that's all."

The Gallagher family lived across the street from Hotel Dieu. During the terrible epidemic of Spanish Flu in 1918 there was a great dearth of nurses and doctors because of World War I. A hospital was set up in one of the large school buildings in south El Paso for the people of that section. Hotel Dieu and other hospitals could not accommodate any more patients. Huge bags of canvas stuffed with straw for mattresses and cots from Fort Bliss served as beds.

W. L. Brown, a most capable doctor, was head of the Red Cross. The scarcity of nurses allowed only one trained nurse for day and one for night for each hospital. These directed the women of the town who volunteered to nurse. Whole families were brought in at one time. Churches, theaters, all gathering places were closed in an effort to control the spread of the disease. There were hundreds of deaths in El Paso and thousands across the United States.

Mrs. Gallagher, wife of the doctor, was one of the day nurses at the Mexican School hospital. As there was no other means of transportation at that time, Mrs. Gallagher took the daily walk to the hospital. One day after the fury of the epidemic had subsided, she remarked: "As I am not too much needed today, I think I shall go home. I do not feel well." She took the long walk home. By three o'clock that afternoon she was dead.

Dr. M. P. Schuster, father of Drs. Stephen and Frank, came to take over the Smelter practice for ASARCO (American Smelting and Refining Company). Later, with the able assistance of Mrs. Schuster, he set up old Providence Hospital on Santa Fe and Upson Streets—a good and much needed addition to the community.

There were, of course, many more of the early or pioneer doctors who came and went from time to time. As the early doctors began to retire younger men arrived, better trained and better equipped.

As time passed and El Paso grew, came the era of the Specialists—eye, ear, nose and throat men. Doctors H. H. Stark, trained in Vienna, Stephen and Frank Schuster, W. E. Vandevere, Harland Irvin, Carpenter, Gray and others. Also came the orthopaedic or "bone men," Dr. Goodwin and others. Dr. R. B. Homan and Drs. Hendrix and Laws came to set up sanitoriums to care for the many tuberculars. The Nun's Nursing Home and Southwestern General Hospital buildings were originally built for and served that purpose for Dr. Homan.

Drs. Cathcart and Mason came to introduce X-Ray and Radium.

Drs. George Turner and Waite and others were technicians and allergists. And there were the internists with their tubes and little lights to look inside. Dr. B. F. Stevens had many interesting stories of his time. He found it difficult to retire. His patients would not let go and he sometimes had to practice in spite of himself.

Dr. George Brunner, of a pioneer family of El Paso, worked almost to the end of his life.

Dr. J. A. Rawings came, one of the first child specialists to care for the babies and serve in the free clinic. It was said that 80 per cent of the Mexican babies died before the coming of these specialists.

Dr. Arthur Black served in Peiping, China where he was in charge of the division of Pediatrics in the Union Medical College—a Rockefeller supported Foundation—before coming to El Paso. He went back to China with the U. S. Naval Group which was a part of S.A.C.C. in World War II.

Dr. J. Travis Bennett, pediatrician, was always trusted by parents and beloved by his small patients.

Dr. Hugh Crouse, physician and surgeon, was a forceful and magnetic man. This story is told of him: A patient of old Providence Hospital once asked whose voice in the hall she heard that so excited her. The nurse replied: "I don't wonder. I have known a patient who, on hearing that voice, dismissed her own doctor and employed Dr. Crouse without ever seeing him."

As El Paso grew, the demands for surgical specialists grew. Dr. Horseley, an able surgeon, came from Richmond, Virginia. For several years he came from time to time. People seemed to save up their surgery for him. Then he came to stay awhile. He set up a small surgical hospital in the Joe Schutz house on North Santa Fe and West Missouri Streets. It was a spacious house with large grounds and Dr. Horseley was very successful. But eventually he retired to Richmond, never to return.

A prominent surgeon, Dr. James Vance came and gradually other surgeons came to El Paso to live and work.

The great Dr. Joseph Lister of London, Edinburg, and Glasgow—physician and teacher (1827-1912)—had long believed in bacteria and had demanded surgical cleanliness and antiseptics in his own hospital. His theory began to take hold in medical schools and institutions in America. Surgery was made safe and thousands of women in childbirth were saved. For a time, it has been found that childbirth was safer in the home than in hospitals because of the danger of infection.

More and more capable doctors came to make their homes and to practice in El Paso until it was said that El Paso had more efficient doctors than any town of its size in the United States.

About the time that the younger doctors, those immediately following the pioneers, began to practice in El Paso, Dr. Worsham, in charge of the State Mental Hospital and the Babies Clinic in Austin, retired and came to El Paso to live. He soon saw the necessity for a rabies clinic in this section, one to serve West Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Mexico. Hitherto, only the Austin clinic had been available. Under Dr. Worsham's instruction, Dr. Hugh Spotswood White with Dr. Worsham as a retired partner set up the laboratory. It was a long drawn out and arduous effort. Healthy rabbits had to be procured and cared for. The rabbit's skull was trepanned and rabies injected into the brain. After the death of the rabbit, in about nine days, the spinal cord was painstakingly removed and suspended in a bottle to be dried out and sterilized for a graduated number of days. Small portions of the cord mixed with sterile water were injected into the patient—usually into the fatty portion of the abdomen. The treatment continued daily for twenty-one days and was very painful.

I recall one incident when eighteen young soldiers on a trek and camp-out had a bout with a rabid coyote one night. All were bitten or otherwise exposed to rabies. They were quickly returned to Fort Bliss to be bussed to the clinic daily for twenty-one days.

The little skunk called the Hydrophobia Cat because it was a carrier though not necessarily rabid itself, sometimes strayed into tents and sent terrified campers scurrying to the clinic.

Others of the later doctors I recall include Drs. Herbert Stevenson, son-in-law of Dr. Vilas, Ernest Duncan, W. E. Rheinheimer, himself something of a medical historian, Robert Ramey, Branch Craige, C. P. Brown, Ralph Homan, R. B. Homan, Jr., H. R. Safford, John Hardy, Felix Miller and Drs. McCamant, Paul Gallagher, son of the elder Gallagher, Love, M. O. Wright, and F. O. Barrett.

There were many incidents in which El Paso doctors served beyond the call of duty. There was the Battle of Juárez when El Paso doctors were requested to come and care for the wounded. It was a sad sight. There were no provisions made for the wounded. There were no hospitals, medicine, or nurses. Dr. White bent over a big, fine-looking soldier with a bullet wound in his abdomen and asked permission to operate. His brother, standing by replied: "Yes, but if he dies I will kill you." I do not know why I did not ask Dr. White how and where he

would have operated on the Mexican soldier if his brother's answer had been an unqualified "yes." I don't know whether he would have risked bringing the wounded man to an El Paso hospital with all the red tape involved, or would have boiled his instruments, picked up a likely assistant and operated on the spot. His training in the shacks on the Smelter Road with little or no help, had stood him in good stead in emergencies. He seemed to feel that if he met emergencies head-on, did his best, luck would be with him as it often was.

There was the time of the typhus epidemic in Mexico when great efforts were made to protect the people of El Paso and to assist the victims in Juárez. All those crossing at the bridge were stopped and thoroughly fumigated. So far as I know there were only two cases in El Paso, the city physician, Dr. Klutz who had gone to Juárez to assist in the epidemic there and Charlie Wilcox, a young boy who had found a Mexican army uniform in an old basement and had put it on.

There was the determined effort to clear the city and county of smallpox. A troop of workers was sent out armed with vaccine points. Old Father Córdova offered to seek out and vaccinate superstitious Mexicans who hid from the workers but trusted him. With the help of the Catholic Father and the good work of the others sent out, the city and county were cleared of smallpox for the first time. The pest-house was no longer needed and no more yellow flags were hung out.

The first County Hospital was a group of rented shacks along the river on the Smelter Road. Dr. Vilas was in charge but ready to retire. The next county physician was Dr. Hugh White who worked against the greatest odds. There were no trained assistants. As patients got better, those who were able helped those who could not help themselves. Important operations were performed under the most trying circumstance with little or no assistance but, strangely enough, most operations were successful. One colleague remarked: "White, just stay away from a well-equipped, bona fide hospital and operate by yourself and your patients will recover."

It was Dr. White's dream of a real hospital, equipped and staffed, that resulted in the first government accredited hospital in El Paso. It was called the "City-County." It served the community well for many years and was staffed by volunteer doctors. The City-County unit has now been torn down to make way for the Thomason General, new and well equipped, to serve this growing community for many years to come.

There were years in the lives of the very early or pioneer doctors and even those who came immediately after them when money was scarce and the pay meagre, but service was as good as the time could provide.

The span of life has been greatly increased since I came to El Paso 85 years ago. Some diseases that tormented and plagued humans have almost disappeared because of the great doctors and great scientists. As time is reckoned, it has been a short span from 1885 to 1972. What has been accomplished is a miracle. The slow, plodding horse and buggy has passed out and the little red Maxwell, followed quickly by larger and better cars, sped up service and alleviated suspense and the long, anxious wait for the doctor's visit. And now in this year of 1972 has come the loud, harsh scream of the siren's warning and the quick flash of the ambulance to the hospital ward. What comes next?

Those who look back and remember sometimes wish for the "voice that is stilled" and the "touch of the vanished hand" of the old time family doctor who comforted and often healed just by his very presence.

But there is, too, the old poet who wrote:

Better to hunt in fields unbought
Than fee the doctor for a nauseous draught;
The wise for the cure on exercise depend.
God never made his work for man to mend.

On the Southwest frontier with few doctors and fewer drugstores, folks depended almost entirely upon herbs and home remedies. For example, tea brewed from camomile or mint was the favorite prescription for a stomach ache and lime mixed with oil and applied to the throat with a feather was believed to be a cure for tonsillitis. The blue paper which sealed the Duke's Mixture tobacco bag was applied to the forehead and temples for a headache. About the only "store bought" medicine available was McLean's Volcanic Oil which was good for "man or beast."

September 16th was declared a national holiday to be celebrated with salvos and masses by the independent government of Mexico on March 1, 1822.

The Mexican civil marriage law of 1859 "limited" the marriage age at 12 for girls and 14 for boys.

The first book printed in Arizona was *Arizona, The Constitution of the Provisional Government of the Territory of Arizona, and the proceedings of the convention held at Tucson*. It was published in Tucson in 1860 by J. Howard Wells.

POSADAS AND PINATAS

by FRANCIS HATFIELD

Traditionally, Christmas is a religious celebration in Mexico, but the festivities preceding the holy day are some of the oldest and most joyful in all of the Americas.

In preconquest times, two weeks before the end of the year, which then was December 8, the Aztecs observed the passing of the year with *fiestas*. For several weeks the people held brilliant rites in honor of their gods. There were dancing and dining. Statues of the gods were made of a candy paste called *tzoally* to be given to friends and relatives. *Tzoally* is now called "*alegria*" or gaily. With the coming of the Spanish, the priests converted these celebrations into pageants and plays held in the churches. Singing and processions were adapted to stories of the birth of Christ. One custom, the *posadas*, became especially popular and in time became a secular observance. Now, the *posadas* are neighborhood celebrations and although the religious background remains, they are principally social and gay.

Las posadas begin on December 16. *Posada* means "lodging." A procession of friends go from one house to another, each carrying a lighted candle, all singing. Usually, two small children lead the way, carrying a small basquet or tray in which they have placed figures of Mary and Joseph. Sometimes, angels, shepherds, and the wise men are added. Frequently figures of animals and birds are included.

The procession arrives at the door of the host for the night and asks for *posada*, or room for the night. Those inside the house answer in song, telling the travelers to go on their way.

After many requests and refusals have been sung, the host relents and allows the tired shelter-seekers to enter. The house will have a *nacimiento*, or decorated shelf where the figures are placed. Refreshments are served and a *piñata* party follows.

Each guest is blindfolded and given a stick. After he has been turned around several times to thoroughly confuse him, he tries to hit the *piñata*, suspended by a rope from the ceiling. One after another tries his luck until someone breaks the *piñata* and a cascade of candies falls to the floor. Everyone scrambles for the goodies amid much laughter and confusion. Usually, dancing and singing follow until the party is over.

This is repeated each night until Christmas Eve when the Christ Child is added to the manger by the host for the party. The pilgrims kneel and sing the baby to sleep. He is not awakened until February, or Candle-mass.

The *piñata*, by the way, is a favorite part of other celebrations, such as weddings and birthdays, as well as of Christmas. It is made by hand and



Piñatas. (Photo courtesy of Amigos Magazine.)

in many shapes, birds, burros, Santas, flowers. The *piñata* maker can be seen working at his art in the markets and shops of Juárez. He begins with a clay pot and covers it with layers of newspapers and paste until he achieves the desired shape. Then he covers it with strips of curled tissue paper in a riot of colors.

Piñatas are available in all sizes and make attractive decorations for the holidays.

BOOK REVIEWS

EL PASO IN PICTURES

by FRANK MANGAN

(El Paso: Guynes Printing Co., \$15.00)

Most of us regard ourselves as being very familiar with El Paso history . . . and we really are not. We have read books, talked to authorities, and attended lectures. Yet, because of a lack of genuine photographic documentation, much of our knowledge is necessarily incomplete. Practically all of us, if transferred back to historic El Paso, would not recognize where we were.

Frank Mangan, who now serves on the Historical Society's Board of Directors, saw the need several years ago for a picture history of El Paso. Since part of our recorded background began with the *Conquistadores*, he sought out such leading local artists as Jose Cisneros, Tom Lea, and Russell Waterhouse to sketch in the very early years.

Next came photos and maps of the 1860's through the 1880's, the story of the railroads, the gunfighters, the wagon trains, the churches, saloons, and Sunset Heights. He worked his way into the era of street cars, electric lights, and the downtown plaza. There was the blood and thunder of revolution across the Río Grande, Stormsville (an adobe community on Rim Road), the College of Mines when it was "way out in the desert," modern and old Fort Bliss, Scenic Drive when it was a gravel road, the war years, the Bataan Trainway, and the booming construction period.

To be successful, a picture book has to tell a story in a logical and sensitive manner. Frank has accomplished this like the professional that he is. Furthermore he has tied his photos together with an interesting and very well-written narrative.

The low cost of \$15 should not deceive anyone into believing that this is a cheap book. Though pictures place an enormous financial burden on any publisher, the photos (all 290 of them) are of fine quality. The paper, binding and design work are excellent. If you are a Southwest buff, or just have a lot of civic pride, *El Paso In Pictures* is a must for your library.

University of Texas at El Paso

—LEON C. METZ

ON THE LAST FRONTIER: A HISTORY OF UPTON COUNTY, TEXAS

by N. ETHIE EAGLETON

(U. T. El Paso: Texas Western Press, 1971, \$8.00)

If Mrs. Eagleton left anything out of her *History of Upton County*, it is a fair bet that it wasn't worth knowing. *On the Last Frontier* contains not only a history of the county from 1887 to the present-day, but also information on its annual rainfall, soil conditions, fossil finds, land records—including who platted what, when, and how much; many mini-biographies of the County's key citizens past and present, oil discoveries, flora and fauna, and

town, post office, church, bank, utility company, and club histories. And it all hangs together nicely and interestingly. The author, in her Foreword, says flatly that her book is "a pioneer volume," the work of some 30 years of assembling data, and it is impossible to imagine that anyone is better qualified to write it or that anyone could have done it better. Mrs. Eagleton began her teaching career in Fannin County and 1908, taught at Tioga, White-wright, Commerce, Corsicana, Nacogdoches, and North Texas Agricultural College at Arlington. She earned both a B.A. and M.A. degree from the University of Texas at Austin, and moved to McCamey in 1941 where she continued to teach until her retirement in 1961—teaching history and civics (a nostalgic word if there ever was one!).

For the insider, *On the Last Frontier* is the kind of book that ought to be in every home in Rankin, McCamey, and all points beyond and between in Upton County, and from the looks of things, it almost is. The first binding of the first edition of this book sold out a few weeks after publication. An additional 500 copies has been prepared for sale by Texas Western Press and they are going fast. In December, Mayor B. A. Epley of McCamey (pop. about 3,300, quite a bit bigger than the county seat, Rankin), proclaimed an "N. Ethie Eagleton Week" and the whole county has turned out to honor their official historian.

For the outsider, the book offers something that Mrs. Eagleton probably didn't think too much about when preparing it: a very graphic and precious glimpse of small-town, small county America—a view in nostalgia where important things like the 50th anniversary of the Methodist Church, the goings-on at the Nix Barber Shop and Confectionery; group sings, where a favorite is "Til We Meet Again"; and where George Ramer, manager of the Burton Lingo Lumber Company is appointed to the Chamber of Commerce—where such things are significant and worth recording.

Upton County is fortunate in having Mrs. Eagleton as their historian for she has a sense of history—including a sense of the importance of land records as well as people—and she has a sense of place, of time.

University of Texas at El Paso

—DALE L. WALKER

87 PAINTINGS & DRAWINGS BY TOM LEA

(El Paso Museum of Art, 1971, \$2.00)

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WRITINGS AND ILLUSTRATIONS BY TOM LEA

comp by GLENNIS HINSHAW AND ELIZABETH LOVELACE

(El Paso Public Library, 1971, \$2.00)

An exhibit of Tom Lea's work is always an event of major importance. This past autumn, El Paso was fortunate to have not just one, but two such exhibits. For each, a book was published as a permanent record of the exhibit and as an item of interest to Tom Lea fans, whose number is legion.

The first, titled *87 Paintings & Drawings by Tom Lea*, contains biographical information and a foreward, "The Universality of Tom Lea," written by Leonard P. Sipora, Director of the El Paso Museum of Art. The illustrations, all black and white, were selected from Lea's wartime art, his postwar production, and his most recent work including "A Castle in Spain," which is representative of his new technique. The book reflects the good design of William D. Wittliff and the Encino Press of Austin.

The second, *A Bibliography of Writings and Illustrations by Tom Lea*, was compiled by two dedicated librarians, Glennis Hinshaw and Lisabeth Lovelace of the El Paso Public Library. This book contains an introduction by Dr. Frank Connally of Waco, Texas, a longtime Lea fan and collector, plus a short bibliography of information about Tom Lea, and an index.

The compilers have given a chronological list of Lea's work, beginning in the 1920's to the present. The list does not purport to be complete; instead, it includes the items which the library managed to obtain for the exhibit. Even so, it contains 154 entries which will amaze the reader with Lea's versatility and productivity during his years of peak activity.

In a sensible way, the compilers have made use of earlier bibliographies such as that by Jeff C. Dykes which appeared in *American Book Collector*, XV (April, 1965) and Price Daniel, Jr.'s 1968 *Catalogue No. 19* which featured books printed and/or designed by Carl Hertzog. Both of these (plus a few others) provided a solid foundation for this new listing.

The two librarians received valued assistance from many scholars and collectors of Lea's work. In the design of the book (El Paso: Guynes Printing Co.), they had the experienced guidance of M. H. Zabriskie and Lyman Dutton.

Both books will be eagerly sought, bought and treasured by Tom Lea fans. Of course, the lucky ones were on the scene to use their books in connection with the exhibits, both of which were outstanding tributes to El Paso's favorite artist and native son.

University of Texas at El Paso

—EVAN HAYWOOD ANTONE

A TYPESTICK OF TEXAS HISTORY

by DONNA LEE DICKERSON

(Austin: Department of Journalism Development Program,
University of Texas at Austin)

TRUE WITNESSES

by LYNNELL JACKSON

(Austin: Department of Journalism Development Program,
University of Texas at Austin)

The Journalism Department of the University of Texas at Austin is fortunate inasmuch that two corporations have established foundations for the purpose of encouraging research in the field of Texas journalism. One corporation, the Borden Company, created an endowment in honor of its founder, Gail Borden, at one time a nineteenth-century journalist and publisher. The other, the Southland Paper Mills, Inc., honored the memory of its first president, E. L. Kurth,

Already a number of books and pamphlets have been published with Foundation money and three of these have been reviewed in *PASSWORD*. Those published under the Borden aegis and reviewed in our pages are Dudley M. Lynch's *The Hereford Brand: Belle of the Prairie Press*, vol. xiii, No. 2 (Summer, 1968) 31, and Tom Berger's *Baptist Journalism in Nineteenth-Century Texas*, vol. xv, No. 3 (Fall, 1970), 108-109. The E. L. Kurth Foundation Publication reviewed in *PASSWORD* was Emily Lamon's *Sam Fore, Jr., Community Newspaper Editor*, vol. xii, No. 2 (Summer, 1967), 61-62.

A Typstick of Texas History, a Borden Foundation Publication, is based on a truism once voiced by Heywood Broun, the noted columnist, that "every good reporter is writing literature for some future historian." In other words, what was news to the nineteenth-century reporter becomes history to the twentieth-century reader.

This work, then, proposes to be a source book or record of Texas history as revealed by Texas newspapers. The entries cover the chaotic period of the Republic, 1836-1845, and include such subjects as "Invasion of Texas," "Capture of Goliad," "Fall of the Alamo," and "Navy for Sale." The writers, in most instances, are anonymous as the byline was not used in nineteenth-century journalism. What makes the selections important is the fact that many of them are first-hand accounts of the events described, written by friends of the editors and often at their requests. Incidentally, some of the selections were taken from Gail Borden's *Telegraph and Texas Register*.

All in all it is a good book, well conceived and executed. The reader will not have wasted his time.

True Witnesses is a compilation of the newspapers that appeared in Texas between 1845 and 1861. It is a follow-up to *Gaceta and Gazette, A Check List of Newspapers, 1813-1846*, by John Melton Wallace, published in 1966. During the thirty-two years covered by Wallace, 125 papers were published. In the sixteen years covered by this volume, 350 newspapers appeared for varying lengths of time. Of those that had been established during the earlier period, it is interesting to note, only five were in existence in 1850.

The author divides her study into six "Sections." Section III, the main body of the book, is titled "Check List of Newspapers." The items are arranged alphabetically with the place of publication following the title as, "Advance Guard (Sherman)," "Advertiser (Bastrop)," "Advertiser (Bonham)." A short paragraph accompanies each entry as, for example, "The *Bosque Times* was published in 1860 by Ward and Cantrell, in Meridan, Bosque County." That is all. There is no information as to how many issues were printed or how often or for how long or if any copies are available today and, if so, where.

Another weakness of the book stems from the fact that the author drew her information wholly from secondary material and therefore has no first-hand knowledge of the newspapers she lists. Nor is there any evidence that she checked her material for accuracy. For instance, she lists "*Gazette* (El Paso)" and then notes: "According to Baillio, the *Gazette* was established in 1860, with S. Hart as editor." Actually, there was no newspaper in El Paso until well after the Civil War, until 1871, in fact. It is true that it was owned and edited by Simeon Hart but its name was not *Gazette* but *Sentinel*. It

was published intermittently until Hart's death in January, 1874. By the way, the Baillio mentioned above is Ferdinand B. His *A History of the Texas Press Association* was published in Austin in 1913.

Section IV of *True Witnesses* is titled "Check Lists of Newspapermen." The entries are again listed alphabetically followed by the place of publication and then by the name of the editor as, to give one example, "Alamo Star, San Antonio: F. M. Whitemond."

Section V is a "Check List of Newspapers by location." Here the cities are arranged alphabetically and under the name of each are listed the newspapers published therein. Under Austin, for instance, sixteen papers are listed and under Galveston, it is interesting to note, twenty-nine.

This reviewer dislikes being adversely critical of a book because he knows how much labor has gone into its writing. But this is not a good book or, perhaps he should say, it is not a usable book for the historian. What good does it do the historian to know only that the *Free Press* (Wood County) "was quoted in the *Texas State Gazette* of July 26, 1856"?

Other weaknesses in addition to the several already noted include the absence of a table of contents and the lack of numbered Sections. In line with these criticisms it should be noted that the historian still awaits a compilation of available nineteenth-century newspapers.

University of Texas at El Paso

—EUGENE O. PORTER

Kilgore, Texas, is celebrating its 100th birthday. It was founded in 1872 by Constantine Buckley (Buck) Kilgore, then a young attorney, Confederate veteran and later a Congressman.

The first chair of surgery in America was established in 1621 at the University of Mexico.

The Chippewa Indian language has 6,000 verb forms, more than any other known language.

The Spanish-Mexican patio was designed to provide an outdoor area of safety from bandits, wild Indians and rebellious peons.

In September, 1627, Mexico City suffered from a flood that lasted four days and drowned 27,000 inhabitants.

Biscochito, a Southwest delicacy, is a sweet, cookie-like biscuit, made only for weddings and other important celebrations. It is generally diamond-shaped and covered with sugar and cinnamon.

BOOK NOTES

At the inception of *PASSWORD* in 1956 the editorial committee agreed that only those books which fall within the Society's sphere of interest—West Texas, Southern New Mexico, Eastern Arizona and Northern Mexico—would be reviewed. As *PASSWORD* became well known and universities, colleges, high schools, and public libraries became subscribers, more and more publishers, unsolicited, began sending books for review. Many, however, were outside our sphere of interest. Nevertheless, they were good books and we came to feel that our readers should know about them and that the publishers should, in a small way, at least, be compensated. We decided, therefore, to publish "Notes" of all such books. Actually, the notes are short reviews which, in some instances, are taken from the publishers' blurbs.

ARTHUR E. STILLWELL: PROMOTER WITH A HUNCH

by KEITH L. BRYANT, JR.

(Nashville, Tenn.: Vanderbilt University Press, \$10.00)

Arthur Edward Stilwell is described as a "flamboyant and daring railroad-builder and urban promoter [who], between 1886 and 1812 built 2,300 miles of railway. In addition, he founded several dozen hamlets and villages" including the cities of Port Arthur, Texas, and Stilwell, Oklahoma, both of which he named for himself. "He built a railroad from Kansas City to the Gulf of Mexico and projected another from Kansas City to the Gulf of California and built most of it before financial reverses stopped construction." "After retiring in 1912 Stilwell wrote novels, poetry, plays and songs on such diverse subjects as Wall Street, financing World War I, and religious inspiration."

The author, an Associate Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin, has written an excellent book. Those interested in Western History will want to read it and those buffs of railroad history will want it for their libraries.

LIEUTENANT LEE OF BEALE STREET

by DAVID M. TUCKER

(Nashville, Tenn.: Vanderbilt University Press, (\$7.95)

This is the "story of an indomitable individual—a black American who 'made it' in spite of racial prejudice." "Hailed as a national Republican leader in the forties and fifties, Lee went down before the segregationist Goldwater movement of 1964. Unseated by the Tennessee Republican delegation in a purge of blacks, Lee fought for his seat all the way to the national convention in San Francisco, only to be ousted by a tricky rules change."

This is more than a biography, however, because it presents fifty years of the social history of Memphis and of the black middle class, from Booker T. Washington's "Atlantic Compromise" to Stokely Carmichael's "Black Power."

The author, Associate Professor of History at Memphis State University, has taught Black History there since 1965. He has written a good book, a very good book.

BIG MEN WALKED HERE: The Story of Washington-on-the-Brazos

by STANLEY SIEGEL

(Austin & New York: The Pemberton Press, \$6.95)

This is the first book ever written to focus primarily on the birthplace of

Texas. It is the story of Washington-on-the-Brazos, "Old Washington," and of the major events in the early history of Texas. "Throughout the story walk such Texas giants as Sam Houston, Thomas J. Rusk, Anson Jones, David G. Burnet, Branch T. Archer, Edward Burleson, and virtually all of Texas' early heroes and founders."

It is a good book that should be read by all Texans. The four maps — "Texas in the Mexican Period," "Colonies — Mexican Period," "The San Jacinto Campaign," and "Texas — 1836" — plus the twenty-three drawings, mostly profiles of the "Big Men," add greatly to its interest and value. It should be in every college, high school, and public library in the Lone Star State.

GEORGE PEABODY: A BIOGRAPHY

by FRANKLIN PARKER

(Nashville, Tenn.: Vanderbilt University Press, \$8.95)

Almost everyone has heard of the George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, but how many know just who George Peabody was? how he made his money? or what his other accomplishments were?

George Peabody, born in Danvers, Massachusetts, in 1795, was "an international merchant and financier, benefactor of numerous philanthropies both in the United States and England, and the first American to be named an honorary citizen of the City of London."

Perhaps Peabody's most notable contribution was the result of his anguish at the devastation of the South after the Civil War. Most of the schools had been destroyed, the states had no money to rebuild them, and a whole generation was growing up illiterate. It was George Peabody who "established the Peabody Education Fund for the establishment of normal schools throughout the South and made the education of both races a civil obligation. George Peabody College for Teachers and the Southern Education Foundation are direct descendants of the Fund; Tulane University and the Johns Hopkins Medical School, indirect descendants."

Dr. Parker, the author, is Benedum Professor of Education at West Virginia University. He is to be highly commended for his important contribution to the history of American education.

DEAR AMERICA: Some Letters of Orange Cicero and Mary America (Aikin) Connor

ed. by SEYMOUR V. CONNOR

(Austin & New York: The Pemberton Press, \$6.95)

Dear America consists of forty letters written between August 1851, and February, 1866, by Orange Cicero Connor and his wife Mary America (Aikin) Connor. Collectively, the letters present "a story of the love and lives" of Orange and Mary with a major emphasis on the period of the Civil War and the trials and problems it created for them. Their separation during the greater part of the war occasioned the exchange of letters which make possible intimate and fairly detailed glimpses at the life of a marginal plantation family in East Texas.

It is a very revealing volume and should be "of as much research value to the historian as it will be pleasurable reading to the layman." It may be added that the book is of unusual design, something the Pemberton Press is known for and respected.

HERITAGE HOMES

The Beall House

by MARGARET NEFF BALLANTYNE, *Guest Editor*

Captain Thomas Jeremiah Beall, a young lawyer, first came to El Paso from Bryan, Texas, in 1881 to try a court case. Liking the town and thinking the climate would help his wife, née Margaret Ragsdale, who had "galloping consumption," he moved his family here the following year. Mrs. Beall, incidentally, lived to be ninety-six.

Captain Beall (he pronounced his name as if spelled Bell) bought a lot on the corner of St. Vrain and Olive Streets in the newly developed Campbell Addition. The purchase was very likely made in the year of his arrival because the city-county records for 1883 show that Thomas Beall paid taxes on a house built the previous year at 817 Olive Street. Its evaluation was \$5,000.

The house, constructed of redwood brought from California, was built the same year as the Krause home (see *PASSWORD*, vol. xvi, no 1, 35-36) but it is not known which was built first. It is known, however, that the Beall home was one of the first in El Paso to be constructed of wood and that it is probably the oldest house still standing and in use. The house is larger than it appears from the front, as it extends some distance to the rear. It has a pitched roof and a front porch, the roof of which is supported by simple columns. In the front part of the house which has a fifteen-foot ceiling, are a living and a dining room, each with a fireplace, a kitchen, two bedrooms and a bath. A bay window allows the living room to be flooded with sunshine.



The Beall House. (Photo by Col. H. Crampton Jones.)

A long L-shaped hall extends to the rear where there were four or five bedrooms (the house has since been remodeled. Most of the rooms in the early days were heated by wood-burning stoves set on square of metal and vented with pipes extending through flues.

Soon after coming to El Paso Captain Beall formed a law firm with Mr. Charles Davis. This firm has had several changes of name, from Davis and Beall to Beall and Kemp, to its present name of Kemp, Smith, White, Duncan and Hammond. It is the oldest law firm in continuous existence in the state of Texas. Captain Beall served as attorney for the State National Bank from its beginning. Later he gained state-wide recognition when he was elected president of the State Bar Association. He was also civic minded and served several terms as president of the El Paso Public School Board. Beall School on South Piedras Street was named in his honor.

In the early days the house on Olive Street sheltered a large family and a happy one. In addition to the parents, the five Beall children and several close relatives lived there. The children, four daughters and a son, included Mary, daughter of Captain Beall and his first wife, née Laura Wilson, who died when Mary was very young, and Susan, Nancy, Florence and Thomas. Mary married a Mr. Gleason and moved out of the state; Susan, the first El Paso girl to be "sent east" to a boarding school, married Eugene E. Neff; Nancy married Joseph F. Williams and, after his early death, Norman Carmichael, president of Arizona Copper Company, and resided in Clifton, Arizona; and Thomas married Helen Jones, a native of Florida, and lived in Mexico where he had ranching interests. Only Susan and Nancy continued to live in El Paso where they reared large families. Many of their descendants to the second, third and fourth generations are living in the city, although no longer in the old homestead. It has been occupied since 1945 by the Reverend and Mrs. Donato Ruiz. Mr. Ruiz is a retired Baptist minister and Mrs. Ruiz a retired teacher.

Woodville in Tyler County was named for George T. Wood, the second governor of Texas.

Vanilla was for a number of years obtained almost exclusively from colonial Mexico.

Although the mockingbird is the state bird of Texas, the roadrunner or "paisano," so-called by J. Frank Dobbie, was the official bird of the Texas Centennial Exposition of 1936.

The maguey or *agave Americana*, called by the Aztecs *metl*, was cultivated from very ancient times and considered by the Mexicans to be indispensable. The plant furnished not only food but its leaves served as roofing for their huts, its fibers were manufactured into cloth, cords, slings, sandals, and paper, its roots furnished medicine, its juice their favorite beverage, *pulque*, and its sap by condensation their sugar.

SOUTHWEST ARCHIVES

The Texas Collection of Baylor University

by VIRGINIA MING, *Guest Editor*

In July, 1923, Dr. Kenneth Hazen Aynesworth, one of the most enthusiastic collectors of Texana that the State has produced, gave Baylor University one thousand books from his personal library. Upon presentation of these volumes he said that they were given with "the hope that the coming years may reveal a saner culture and a happier life because of the spread of knowledge of the history of our great State."

Thus the Texas Collection at Baylor was brought into existence. From this small beginning the dream of a world renowned collection began to grow. The Aynesworth books were added to a small body of books that had constituted the libraries of the early literary societies of Baylor and books from the personal libraries of J. B. Link, Rufus Bursleson, William Carey Crane, and others to form the nucleus of a great library. Later other books and funds were added by Dr. Aynesworth and, early in 1926, Miss Aleph Tanner was chosen to evaluate and correlate the materials that had been brought



A Gildersleeve photograph showing Carroll Library Building where the Texas Collection of Baylor University is housed today. Believe it or not, the license plate reads, "Visitor, Colorado 1916."

together. In order to have the material used for research a Texas History Class was organized in the spring semester, 1926.

With the marriage of Miss Tanner, Professor Guy B. Harrison was appointed to teach the Texas History course and to assist in the management of the Collection. With the passing of the years, Professor Harrison became the Director of the Collection and with the growth of the library new housing facilities were needed. Today it has grown from the small library of the original one thousand volumes to a multitudinous collection of manuscripts, bound volumes and associated artifacts.

In 1969, Professor Harrison retired and the Texas Collection staff was expanded to include a Curator, Dayton Kelley; Assistant Curator, Miss Laura Simmons; Librarian, William L. Ming; and Serials Librarian, Mrs. Virginia Ming. The work of the Collection was divided at this time into two main areas, the Library and the Archives/Manuscript division. The Texas Collection at Baylor now is housed on two and a half floors of the Carroll Library Building and serves as a primary research center for students and writers from all parts of the nation.

The Library division includes bound volumes, a rare book collection, Baylor University theses and dissertations, periodicals and a map collection. Almost nine hundred Texas magazines are represented in the periodical stacks with three hundred and forty-seven on its current receiving list. A significant portion of the library is devoted to Baptist history in the state and includes associational minutes, Baptist State Convention minutes and Baptist periodicals. Political and business history is reflected not only through bound volumes, but also, in a vertical file of contemporary materials comprised of more than eight thousand major entries. The library division serves as a depository library for State documents.

The personnel of the library division is presently working on a biographical index reflecting sketches found in books having no indexes. Begun in the fall of 1971 it already includes more than 4,500 cards and is proving to be one of the most dynamic portions of the catalogue system.

The Archive/Manuscript division is divided into two areas: primarily as the Archives of the University and also as a library of personal papers, letters, diaries, and memorandum that have been donated to the Collection by the general public.

The Archives section serves as a depository for all the departments of the University, all Baylor publications, and materials received from the literary and social organizations on campus. Here can be found the original records books of the early literary societies, the Erisophians and the Philomathesians, together with the essays produced by individual members of the societies. Financial records of the early presidents of the University reflect deposits made to the President's account by parents of individual students. Every withdrawal from the account is shown. Typescripts from the Oral History Department are retained in the Archives division and at the first of this year amounted to over a thousand pages of material. The interviews thus recorded deal with the history of religion, Baylor, legal matters and businesses throughout the State. The tapes of the interviews are available in Moody Library on the campus. The Archives division also contains a vertical file of clipping pertaining to the life of the University, programs and ex-student file, news releases, etc.

Through the years the Collection has received personal papers, diaries, letters, and memorabilia from families and individuals. These are maintained as separate collections in the manuscript division. Most of the papers of the Presidents of the University are here: Rufus Burleson papers, William Carey Crane collection, George W. Baines (grandfather of Lyndon B. Johnson), Reddin Andrews collection, S. P. Brooks papers, Pat M. Neff papers, William R. White papers, and the Abner McCall collection.

There are collections of personal and business materials from early settlers of Texas and here one can find the story of the uncommon common man as no where else in the State. The Haass collections reveals life around Hondo, Texas; the Pier collection has to do with early Austin and Washington Counties; and Duerr papers and Barnard papers are valuable as resource materials on early Texas businesses. These are just a few of many such collections.

Many of the Baylor faculty members have contributed to the manuscript division with not only their personal papers, but also, unpublished manuscripts or the manuscripts of their published works. Of significant note here are the collections of Dorothy Scarborough, Lula Pace, John Kern Strecker, Mrs. Lily Russell and Mrs. Lois Murray.

The modern day political life of Texas is illustrated by the papers of members of the State and Federal legislature which include those of W. R. (Bob) Poage, John Dowdy, Clark Thompson and others, while the political and municipal history of yesteryear is reflected in the tax lists, town and county plats, land grants and military unit rosters. Some collections contain no more than one or two items, while others consist of hundreds of pages of material. Business records are revealed in ledgers, cash books, receipt books and legal papers presented by family-owned businesses or large corporations that have entrusted their records into the care of the University.

Housed in the Archives/Manuscript portion of the Collection are newspapers dating to the pre-republic era of Texas history as well as bound volumes of more recent date. Many "association items" have been received along with collections of manuscript materials. Although there is little attempt to serve as a museum, there are displays of special interest set up from time to time using these artifacts. All association items are available to the researcher working with the papers pertaining to the items. On permanent display are the personal items associated with the Baylor family collection, the Pat Neff collection and the Sallee collection.

The casual visitor is usually entertained and impressed by portraits of many of the early settlers of Texas. These include the portraits of Captain and Mrs. Shapley P. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Neil McLennan and many others. Among the many pictures painted by H. A. McArdele is a portrait of Sam Houston. The most recent additions are six paintings of the missions of Texas by Donald Yena, presented to Baylor in 1971, and one lone picture by an artist from Lamar County, Miss Sarah Osburne.

In 1970 work was begun on the task of indexing and filing the many hundreds of photographs that have come into the Collection from different sources. Many of these are tintypes, glass negatives, commercial photographs and family albums filled with a variety of pictures. All are being classified, indexed, filed and made ready for use. The largest single collection of photographs is that of the Gildersleeve pictures, which give a photographic history

of Waco and McLennan County from the turn of the century through the early years of the forties.

For almost fifty years the Texas Collection has been in the making and much of it has never been calendared or cataloged. This monumental task is now underway and, slowly but surely, more of it is being readied for the public researcher. Vast areas are being opened to the scholar with quantities of untapped primary source material at his disposal.

In 1908 there were 374 automobiles in El Paso.

The notorious Calamity Jane was married in El Paso in 1886.

Charles Hamilton was the first man to fly in El Paso. The year was 1910.

El Paso provided street name signs for the first time in 1915.

El Paso began her street-paving program in 1906 when El Paso and Oregon were paved as far south as Second and Overland was paved from Chihuahua to Campbell.

The census taken for the El Paso City Directory in 1889 showed a population of 11,069, as follows: "American, 7846; Mexican, 2069; Colored, 810; and Chinese, 344."

In 1894 a famous ordinance was passed by the city council at the behest of Alderman Stanton. The ordinance restricted horseback "riding of ladies with case-hardened spiritual natures" to an area bounded by Seventh, Stanton, and Oregon streets and the river. Fines of \$10 and \$100 were to be levied against all such ladies identified in any other part of the city. The ordinance also forbade any woman, "good or bad," from riding "straddle on horseback" inside the city limits.

The First Mexican Baptist Church in El Paso was opened at Fourth and Kansas streets in the summer of 1890.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Within the Roman Catholic Diocese of El Paso are a number of Communities of Religious Women who strive to "give God to the world by their labors." The names of some of the orders and some pertinent data of each follow:

SISTERS OF LORRETTO AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS arrived in San Elizario in 1879 from their Motherhouse in Nerinckx, Kentucky. In 1892 the Sisters assumed charge of St. Joseph's Academy in El Paso from the Sisters of Mercy who had been called to Tucson.

DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY came to El Paso in 1892 from their Motherhouse in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and established Hotel Dieu. (For further information concerning Hotel Dieu see **PASSWORD**, xiv, 3 (Fall, 1969), 91-92.)

SISTERS ADORERS OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD came to New Mexico in 1905 from Illinois and established St. Francis Xavier Academy in Carlsbad.

SISTERS OF CHARITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD made periodic visits to El Paso from their St. Joseph's Home for girls in Dallas. Then, in 1919, J. E. Morgan gave land and a house in the valley east of El Paso which the Sisters named St. Margaret's Orphanage in memory of Mrs. Morgan.

SISTERS OF PERPETUAL ADORATION came to El Paso in 1925 from Guadalajara, Mexico, to "escape persecution."

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH came from Tipton, Indiana to Silver City, New Mexico, in 1915. On August 20, 1927 the Sisters opened St. Joseph's Sanitarium in El Paso.

SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF CHARITY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD came from Mexico City to El Paso in July, 1927.

RELIGIOUS OF JESUS AND MARY crossed into El Paso from Mexico in May, 1926, to escape "oppressive laws."

SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF CHARITY OF REFUGE came to El Paso in October, 1929, enroute to their former home in Saltillo, Mexico. Refused entry into Mexico, they settled in El Paso and in 1932 opened the San Juan Orphanage. This they operated until its closing in 1953 when it became San Juan School.

THE URSULINES arrived in Pecos, Texas in 1930 and founded a parochial school at Santa Rosa.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY MISSIONARY SISTERS had their inception in 1935 when they opened centers in the parishes of Smelertown and St. Francis Xavier. The Sisters "conduct an intensive catechetical program."

SISTERS OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE arrived in El Paso in 1950 and opened a school at Holy Family parish. In 1954 the SISTERS assumed charge of the school at St. Pius X parish.

MISSIONARIES OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH is a religious congregation of recent vintage, having been founded in Madrid, Spain in 1942. The Sisters arrived in El Paso in 1960.

FRANCISCAN MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION came from Mexico in 1942 and opened an orphanage at St. Francis de Paula Church in Tularosa, New Mexico. Twelve years later this small group affiliated with the FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP.

—Quinn, ed., *Anniversary: Diocese of El Paso*

Ladino was anciently applied in Spain to a person who knew a foreign language and later, in Mexico, to a native who knew Spanish.

Leprosy was known in colonial Mexico as "San Lázaro's evil."

The Red River War of 1874-75 was the last major Indian uprising on the Southern Plains.

A Spanish league equals approximately 4 English miles.

The livestock industry was an important part of the Texas economy before the Civil War.

The triangle formed by the Gulf of Mexico, the Río Grande, and a line south of San Antonio and running east and west held an estimated five million head of cattle in 1865.

For at least 7,000 years, as shown recently by archaeological evidence, three items—corn, beans, and chile—have been the mainstay of the Mexican diet. A corn tortilla filled with beans and laced with sauce of ground chiles continues to be the favorite diet.

According to legend, wheat was accidentally introduced into Mexico. Soon after the Conquest there came by chance to Cortés from one of the ports some rice and three grains of wheat, one of which was planted and yielded well, forming the first wheat crop in America.

CONTRIBUTORS to this ISSUE

LEON C. METZ, Archivist of the University of Texas at El Paso, is serving his second term as president of the Society. For further details see *PASSWORD*, xvi, No. 1 (Spring, 1971).

ANNE PERRIN KEMP WHITE was born in Calvert, Texas on December 7, 1882. She came with her family in 1888 to El Paso where she attended Old Central School at Myrtle and Campbell Streets. She then attended Virginia Female Institute, now Stewart Hall (Episcopal), in Staunton. Returning to El Paso she taught school for several years. In 1909 she married Dr. Hugh S. White. After the death of Dr. White in 1943, Mrs. White lived with her son, Attorney Wyndham K., and his wife Constance until her death this past January.

Mrs. White died with the knowledge that her article would be published in the Spring issue of *PASSWORD*.

FRANCES HATFIELD was born in Monroe, Louisiana. She was graduated with an A.B. degree from Centenary College, Louisiana, and with a Master's Degree from Texas Western College, now UT El Paso. She is the widow of Dr. Haskell D. Hatfield who was a prominent El Paso physician and surgeon. Mrs. Hatfield is the editor of *Amigos: The International Magazine*. Her article was taken from *Amigos* with her kind permission.

JAMES M. DAY, Associate Professor of English at UTEP, is a frequent contributor to *PASSWORD*. He is the author of *Black Beans and Goose Quills*, reviewed in *PASSWORD* in the Spring, 1971, issue.

EVAN HAYWOOD ANTONE, born in Clarksville, Texas, received his B. A. and M. A. degrees from the University of Texas at El Paso. He then received a scholarship to The University of California at Los Angeles from which he received the Ph. D. in English. Returning to UTEP he was appointed Assistant Professor of English. Presently he is Director of the Texas Western Press, having succeeded Dr. Carl Hertzog who is in partial retirement.

Dr. Antone is married to the former Mary Ann Hamilton and they have two daughters, Leslie and Teri.

DALE L. WALKER, Director of the Office of News and Information at UTEP, is a regular contributor to *PASSWORD*. For further biographical data see *PASSWORD*, xvi, No. 3 (Fall, 1971), 132.

MARGARET NEFF BALLANTYNE is a granddaughter of Captain and Mrs. Beall. She attended public schools in El Paso and was graduated from Vassar College. In 1925 she married Lt. John L. Ballantyne, U. S. Cavalry, a West Point graduate. After serving in several far-flung posts, Colonel Ballantyne retired and he and his wife returned to El Paso to live. The couple, members of St. Clements Episcopal Church, is active in civic and church affairs.

VIRGINIA RUSSELL MING was born in Paris, Texas where she attended Paris Junior College. She was graduated from Baylor University where she received an A. B. degree and from Southwestern Theological Seminary (Fort Worth) where she received a Master's degree in Religious Education. In 1949 she married William L. Ming, an Air Force officer. Upon his retirement from active duty the couple joined the staff of the Texas Collection at Baylor University where he is Librarian and she Serials Librarian.

Mrs. Ming has contributed articles and book reviews to several genealogical quarterlies and has completed several articles for a fourth-coming volume, *The Handbook of Waco and McClennan County*, to be published this spring by the Junior League of Waco.

The Mexican Congregational Church was organized with twelve members on February 18, 1892. Its building, located south of Fourth Street on Kansas, was dedicated in 1899.

The Sacred Heart Church on South Oregon Street was opened in 1893. It was blessed by Bishop Fitzgerald of Little Rock, Arkansas on June 9 of that year.

Have you ever heard the superstition about bad luck following those who begin a journey on Friday? There is a similar one in Spanish but the unlucky day is *martes*, Tuesday: "En martes ni te cases, in the embarques." (On Tuesday neither marry nor begin a voyage.)

Texas Christian University was formerly called Add-Ran C. U. after Addison and Randolph Clark who established the academy which grew into TCU.

The slot machine was invented in 1895 by Charles Fey, a 29-year old mechanic of San Francisco. It was called the "Liberty Bell."