

Eagle Lake Headlight.

BRUCE W. McCARTY, Editor and Proprietor.

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Mrs. Dilue Harris, a Texas Pioneer.



MRS. DILUE HARRIS.

By Mrs. Adele B. Looscan.

There are few survivors of the period of the Texas revolution of 1835-6, and a still smaller number of those who were in Texas previous to that time. Of the latter number is Mrs. Dilue Harris of Eagle Lake, now in her eighty-seventh year, who, with her father's family, landed on the Texas coast in the spring of 1833. Her father, Dr. Pleasant W. Rose, was a physician of St. Louis, where his daughter, Dilue was born on February 28th, 1825. When he determined to emigrate with his family, consisting of his wife, son and two daughters, they sailed from New Orleans, La., on a schooner commanded by Captain Denmore. Although James Spillman was their pilot they did not escape shipwreck, which was the fate of many Texas immigrants. They ran around on Clopper's Point, later known as Morgan's Point, but were finally brought safely to Harrisburg, where the citizens gave them a cordial welcome. After a few months they moved to Stafford's Point, and were living there when the revolution broke out and the "Runaway Scrape" occurred. Soon after the city of Houston was laid out Dr. Rose moved his family to a new home on Bray's bayou, near enough for his children to attend school, and avail themselves of other advantages offered by the growing town. At this home, on February 20, 1839, the marriage of Dilue Rose with Ira A. Harris took place. The bride was still a child, being in her fourteenth year. The wedding was attended by the leading citizens of the town and neighbor-

hood; among the guests were numbered General Thomas J. Rusk, Dr. Asubel Smith and others of distinguished rank in the government of Texas.

Ira A. Harris improved a place near Houston where he and his wife lived until 1845, when they moved to Columbus. They were the parents of nine children, all of whom lived to be grown, married and became useful citizens. Their elder sons gave their services in the army of the Confederacy. In 1869 Mrs. Harris became a widow, the death of her husband occurring at their home in Columbus. Up to May 4th, 1903, there was no other break in the family circle; the death of the eldest son, Tom P. Harris, occurred at Luling, Texas. For several years past Mrs. Harris has made her home with her children and grandchildren and is at present with her daughter, Mrs. Ziegler of Eagle Lake. Her fund of historic reminiscences is varied by incidents of a personal and often humorous nature, and her manner of narration is attractive and entertaining. Her written contributions in diary and reminiscent form, published a few years ago in the Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association, are a valuable repository to which students of Texas history frequently resort for information and entertainment. No other account of the "Runaway Scrape" is so full of comprehensive detail as was drawn largely from a diary kept by her father, supplemented by her own vivid recollections. The Eagle Lake Headlight is republishing portions of these interesting accounts of the revolution-

ary period from the pen of this beloved and revered pioneer.

The circumstances of her life, in a new country, developed remarkable powers of observation and reflection, which gave to her childhood the mature judgment which properly belongs to riper years. She says she scarcely remembers the time when she did not regard herself as fully grown and willing to share responsibility, yet in spite of her having assumed the duties of motherhood absorbed her time during the early part of her married life she has always taken a keen interest in political events, and her love of reading has kept her in touch with the spirit of the times. In consequence of her hearing having become seriously impaired many years ago, she has been deprived of many of the pleasures of social intercourse, but her active mind and busy hands have afforded her entertainment and occupation independent of other sources. Her days have been helpful to those about her, and her seventy-eight years spent in Texas have borne a fruitage of love and veneration from its people, who recognize the value of a life so modestly and worthily lived. May the fair years yet to come hold for her the sweets of love, reverent, pure and unalloyed.

EDITOR'S NOTE—With last issue, the Headlight closed the first volume of the Reminiscences of Mrs. Harris, and next week will begin printing the second volume. While her reminiscences that we have already printed have been highly entertaining and instructive, those that are to follow will be very much more so.

Bakke-Johnson Wedding.

From the Dallas News, May 24th:

Yesterday evening at 7:30 o'clock at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Johnson, 1115 South Ervay street, Oliver Bakke and Miss Suebelle Johnson were married. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. Frank Smith. The decorations in the parlors, were pink and white. The bride was becomingly gowned in a creation of French linen trimmed in Valenciennes and lace bands. She carried bride's roses and lilies of the valley. Mrs. Moselle Thompson, sister of the bride was matron of honor. Miss Virginia Johnson, maid of honor, and W. W. Thomas was best man. Little Miss Elizabeth Baldwin was the ring-bearer and little Miss Mozelle Frances Thompson, flower girl.

The out-of-town guests were J. E. Cameron, Houston; Miss Blanche Rawls, Groesbeck; Miss Sallie Mae Conner, Nocona; Mrs. Sarah Reynolds, Pulaski, Tenn.

Helmer Bros., who are farming potatoes near Brown, shipped five carloads of the potatoes from ten acres.

Mrs. Herbert D. Hard of Houston, formerly of Eagle Lake, was the guest of Mrs. W. H. Rather the first of the week.

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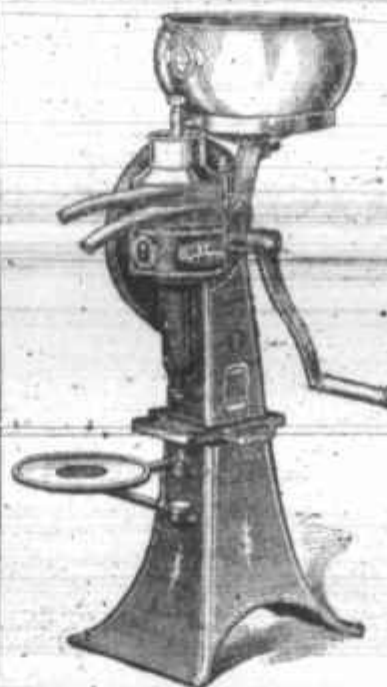
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