

The Daily Astorian

VOL. XX, NO. 16.

ASTORIA, OREGON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1883.

PRICE, FIVE CENTS.

GEN. HOUSTON'S EXILE.

How the Texan Patriot Lived Among the Cherokees.

In April, 1829, Samuel Houston, then 36 years of age, in the full flush of personal popularity and political success, surprised the people of the United States by resigning the office of governor of Tennessee, which he had held for two years, by a letter of dignified staterliness, assigning as a reason an exigency in his personal affairs which he did not describe.

There is no instance of quite so conspicuous an abandonment of fortune and honor for that motive, but there have been many, even to this day, in which persons of intelligence and station have abandoned all the hopes of a successful career and the charms of civilized society from an irresistible impulse to live with the children of nature and indulge their primitive instincts.

Having settled up his affairs in Tennessee, he descended the river to Cairo, then a small trading post, where he fitted up a small flat-boat with whiskey and Indian goods, and floated down the Mississippi to the mouth of the Arkansas.

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he took up as his wife, and removed to the west of the Grand river, opposite Fort Gibson, where he made a clearing, which still remains, and erected a log cabin, which was burnt during the war.

DEGRADING HABITS OF SAVAGES, however strong the barbaric elements in his nature, or however severe the blow that had rendered civil life for a time intolerable to him.

That he sincerely loved his Indian wife is made evident by the fact that when he had established himself and won fame and honor in Texas, he sent for her to join him, but she refused to leave her people and familiar life, and died after a few years in the house he had made.

but the family of his wife was a large and notable one, and his nephews and nieces are numerous in the tribe, some of them distinguished by their influence and intelligence. To his credit it should be mentioned that his friendship with the Cherokees or endeavored to ignore his life among them. After his election to the United States Senate he was fervent in advocating their interests and in defending them from injustice.

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