

Elections and Miscellaneous Notices – 1856

By Bill Page

Democratic State Convention ... delegates ... Brazos & Burleson – James Shaw ...
Texas State Gazette (Austin), 9 Jan. 1856, p.2

Steamboat Landings, and Distances on the Brazos River

... Wash'ton to Hidalgo ... 6 miles

Hidalgo Falls to Coles ... 70 miles

Coles to Munson shoals ... 40 miles

Munson to Moseley ... 25 miles

Moseley to Port Sullivan ... 60 miles

The Texas Ranger (Washington), 12 January 1856, p.3

Synopsis of Judgment rendered by the Supreme Court at Austin ... Wilson vs. Adams.
Brazos. Judgment affirmed ... Everts, Executor, vs. Millican. Brazos. Reversed and
rendered in favor of appellant.... Galveston Tri-Weekly News, 19 Jan. 1856, p.3

Citation.

The State of Texas, Brazos County

In District Court, Spring Term, 1856

Nancy L. Shepard vs. Alfred Shepard

Endorsed, No. 116

To the sheriff of said Brazos County, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon by publication Alfred Shepard, to be and appear before the Hon. District Court of said Brazos County, to be holden at the court house thereof, in the town of Boonville on the fourth Monday in April, A.D. 1856, to answer the petition of Nancy L. Shepard, this day filed in my office, wherein said Nancy L. Shepard states that some time in the year A.D. 1848, in the State of Mississippi, she and said Alfred Shepard were joined together in matrimony, that they emigrated to Texas and settled in the county of Brazos in the year A. D. 1850, that they lived together as man and wife until about the 1st of September A. D. 1852, during all which time she faithfully discharged all the duties incumbent on her as a wife – that Alfred Shepard on the 1st of September A. D. 1852, without any just cause, left with the intention of totally abandoning her – being a space of time more than three years – she further states that the fruits of this marriage were two children, John Abram about seven years old, and Stephen about three years old, she prays for the custody and Guardianship of said children. She further prays for Judgment and Decree of the Court, dissolving and annulling fully and finally and forever the bands of matrimony heretofore existing between her and said Alfred Shepard, and said Nancy has made oath that the residence of said Alfred is unknown. Herein fail not and of this writ make return as the law directs.

Attest

Arthur Edwards, Clerk of the District Court of Brazos County, and seal of said court at office at Boonville, this 10th day of January, 1856

The Texas Ranger (Washington), 26 January 1856, p.2

Arrivals at the Washington Hotel for the week ending, Feb. 13th, 1856 ...
Dr. Kelley, Brazos Co. ... Washington American, 15 Feb. 1856, p.3

If any of our friends in Brazos County find a bay horse, with a halter on, a star in his forehead, and branded A V R, they will, of course, take good care of him, for we have the best reason in the world to believe we lost just such an one. At least, we know that we took such a horse away with us, and did not bring him back. But we were so badly lost at the time, we can't exactly say whether we lost the horse, or the horse lost us; all we know about it is that we were separated, and when we found ourself twenty five miles from anywhere the horse wasn't there. We did some tall walking that day. We have left our mark in Brazos County. Washington American, 26 March 1856, p.2

State of Texas – Brazos County. Taken up by T.M. Cooper, trespassing on his premises, and estrayed before Wm. McIntosh, an acting justice of the peace, a yoke of oxen, of the following description, viz: each about seven years old, marked with a smooth crop and slit in each ear; the one is a yellow and white speckled ox, branded NK on the right hip; the other is a brindle ox, branded but blotched, with a small bell on, and a small point off each horn; both appraised at forty-two dollars by Wm. P. Patterson and John H. Millican. David McIntosh, Clerk. Washington American, 26 March 1856, p.3

To persons visiting Boonville, Brazos County, wishing to put up at a good house, and with a clever lady, we would respectfully call their attention to the Boonville Hotel, kept by Mrs. E.R. Montgomery. Washington American, 2 April 1856, p.2

Arrivals from the 24th to the 31st of March, 1856, at the Washington Hotel ... G. Higgs, Boonville Washington American, 2 April 1856, p.3

State of Texas – County of Brazos: Taken up by B.F. Stroud and estrayed before Wm. McIntosh, an acting justice of the peace in and for said county, two horses, the one is a sorrel horse, about six or seven years old; right hind foot white, considerably saddle marked, branded thus 0 on the left shoulder and appraised at sixty-two and a half dollars. The other is a roan paint horse pony, five years old, about thirteen and a half hands high, branded with a diamond on the right shoulder, and appraised at thirty dollars, by G.B. Reed and H.E. White. Washington American, 2 April 1856, p.3

The State of Texas

Brazos County

In District Court to Fall Term, A.D. 1856

Sarah V. McCleaster vs. Hiram B. McCleaster

Suit for Divorce [No.119]

To the Sheriff of Brazos Co. – Greeting: You are hereby commanded to summon by publication, Hiram B. McCleaster to be and appear before our Hon. District Court to be holden in and for said Brazos County, at the Courthouse thereof, in the town of Boonville, on the first Monday in September, A.D. 1856, to answer the petition of Sarah V. McCleaster, this day filed in my office, wherein said Sarah states that some time in the year A.D. 1850, she was married to said Hiram B. McCleaster, that they lived together in said

County till about December, A.D. 1851, when he left her without cause with the intention to abandon her, that since that time he has wholly abandoned her, and that she cannot find out where he resides, so that said petitioner avers that said Hiram has separated himself from her for more than three years with the intention to abandon her, and that she is now unable to state the place of his residence, and that he is a transient person. Wherefore she prays that said Hiram B. McCleaster be cited by publication, and upon the final hearing of said petition for Judgment and Decree of Court, dissolving and annulling fully, finally and forever the bonds of Matrimony heretofore existing between her and said Hiram B. McCleaster, and said Sarah has made oath the residence of said Hiram is unknown. Herein fail not and of this writ make return according to law.

Attest, Arthur Edwards, Clerk of the District Court of said Brazos County and the seal of said court office in Boonville, this 22d day February A.D. 1856.

Arthur Edwards, Clerk D.C.B.C.

Issued February 22d, 1856

Came to hand March 28th, 1856, and ordered the within writ to be published in the *Washington American*, a newspaper published in the town of Washington, State of Texas, for four successive weeks previous to the return day thereof.

J.S. Riley, Sheriff B.C.

Washington American, 2 April 1856, p.3

That horse we lost over in Brazos County has been found – dead as a smoked herring.

Washington American, 8 April 1856, p.2

Citation.

The State of Texas, County of Brazos.

To the Sheriff of Brazos County, greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon by publication, Marshall Payne, who is one of the heirs at law, and legal distributees of the estate of Alvah Payne, deceased, and is a non-resident of the State of Texas, to be and appear before our Honorable County Court, for Probate business, to be holden in and for said Brazos County, at the Courthouse thereof in the town of Boonville, on the last Monday in June A.D. 1856, then and there to show cause, if any he can, why a partition and distribution of the stock of cattle belonging to the estate of the deceased, should not be made among the heirs and distributees thereof, in accordance with the petition of Miles Payne, Administrator, and one of the heirs of the estate of said deceased, and the order of said court, made at the April term thereof, A.D. 1856. Herein fail not, and have you this writ at my office by the return day hereof, with your returns of service hereon according to law.

Attest David McIntosh, Clerk of the County Court in and for said county, and the seal of said Court at office in Boonville, this 12th day of May, A.D. 1856.

David McIntosh, Clerk C.C. B.Co.

(Endorsed). Issued May 12th, 1856.

Came to hand May 13th, 1856, and ordered the within writ to be published for four successive weeks in the *Washington American*, a newspaper published in the town of Washington, before the return day thereof.

J.S. Riley, Sheriff B. Co. Washington American, 21 May 1856, p.3

Administrator's Notice.

The undersigned having been appointed by the Hon. County Court for Probate business of Brazos County, at the last May Term, thereof Administrator of the estate of James H. Evetts, deceased. This is to notify all persons having claims against the same to present them, properly authenticated, to me within the time prescribed by law. G.B. Reed, Adm'r Est. of Jas. H. Evetts, dec'd. June 11th, 1856. Washington American, 11 June 1856, p.3

State of Texas – County of Brazos. Taken up by Peter Keefer and estrayed before Wm. McIntosh, justice of the peace, a sorrel horse, bald face, both hind feet and left fore foot white; some white specks on his shoulders and rump. No brands perceivable; about five years old; appraised at forty dollars, by J.I. Bowman and J.P. Mitchell. David McIntosh, Clerk C.C.B.C. Washington American, 18 June 1856, p.3

State of Texas – County of Brazos. Taken up by E.M. Millican and estrayed before Arthur Edwards, justice of the peace a sorrel mule, with saddle and gear marks; branded A on the right thigh; almost ten years old and appraised at forty-two dollars, by J.M. Price and Michael Symms. David McIntosh, Clerk C.C.B.C. Washington American, 18 June 1856, p.3

Runaway Negro.

State of Texas – County of Brazos.

Taken up by J.T. Conway and Committed to the County Jail, the Negro boy, Oliver, who formerly belong to T.A. Johnson, and says he now belongs to Mr. Martin of Chappell Hill and was hired to Mr. McArthur of Grimes County. The owner can pay charges and take him away. Jas. S. Riley, Sheriff, Brazos C'ty. Boonville, June 17th, 1856.

Washington American, 25 June 1856, p.3

Estray Horses. State of Texas – County of Brazos. Taken up by E.M. Millican, and estrayed before Arthur Edwards, justice of the peace, three mares, described as follows: One a sorrel roan mare, blazed face, fourteen and a half hands high, five years old, branded on the off shoulder N. One a paint mare, about six years old, fourteen hands high, Spanish brand on the near hip, also very dim on the near shoulder, glass eyes, white streak of hair in the centre of the main; One a bay mare, about four years old, fourteen and a half hands high, a few white hairs in the forehead, branded a circle on the near shoulder, appraised to \$180, by J.M. Price and Geo. H. Brantner. Washington American, 16 July 1856, p.3.

Taken up by Wm. G. Wilson and Wm. King, Jr., and estrayed before Wm. McIntosh, justice of the peace, July 12th, one sorrel mare, about fourteen hands high, blazed face, six or seven years old, Mexican brand, appraised to \$100. One dark bay or brown horse, fifteen hands high, both hind feet white, about five years old, branded J, appraised to \$100. A bay mare and yearling colt, about fifteen hands high, five years old, branded J, both appraised to \$130. One iron grey mare and suckling colt, scar across her nose, fourteen and a half hands high, nine years old; no brand to be seen, appraised to \$70. One bay mare and colt, about fourteen hands high, six or seven years old, branded K, appraised at \$75; and a dark brown or black horse colt, two years old, branded K, appraised at \$40; all appraised by

T.C. Bowman and Jas. S. Riley ... Washington American, 23 July 1856, p.3

Taken up by Robert L. Allen and estrayed before Arthur Edwards, justice of the peace, on the 15th inst., two mares, described as follows, viz: One of a bay color, black mane and tail, both hind feet white, a small star in the forehead, about thirteen and a half hands high, seven years old, appraised at \$25; the other is a roan mare, grey mane and tail, blazed face, both hind feet and scars thereon, had a colt last spring, about nine years old, appraised at \$30 by John Millican and R.J. Christie ... Washington American, 23 July 1856, p.3

We have just returned from Wheelock, in Robertson County. We left Anderson last Friday morning. The road was in some places even muddy from the rain the evening before. But we had not traveled far until we came to where the shower had been light, and the farmers were yet wearing the same gloomy countenances that have for several weeks been casting a dark shade over every social circle in which we have mingled. We however felt that the bow of hope had inspired our own heart with some more cheerfulness; for while we humbly acknowledged the righteous judgments of the Almighty in blasting the corn to such an alarming extent in this and several adjoining counties, we could but feel that even where the wrath of God is manifest, there are yet some tokens of mercy; for in looking upon the forest fields, we saw every where signs of an abundant crop of acorns; and from the showers of rain with which the Lord seems now to be visiting the earth, there will very probably be an abundance of pork, fattened upon the mast. For this we ought to be truly grateful.

After traveling some miles on the Boonville road, we came to Arrington's Sulphur Springs, the most justly celebrated mineral Springs that we have even seen in any country. Mr. Arrington has expended much money in confining and raising the water of three several springs to render the water both convenient and pleasant. One of these, which has been tested, is strongly impregnated with iron, sulphur and soda. One of the other seems to possess a greater proportion of sulphur but little iron and the third ... Navasota River. Th- ... we forded it without ... mile from the river ... table dwelling ... his name was ... dinner, and ... introduced the ... he believed ... no and ... Boonville, the county seat of Brazos County. From this place we rode six miles towards Wheelock, and spent the night with Mr. Reed; who treated us very courteously and his charge was moderate. Saturday morning we again set out for Wheelock, where we had an appointment to preach. We reached there in good time, but found a very small assembly at the court house. At night we had a good congregation, and on the Sabbath a full house. Several gentlemen insisted that we should visit them often. Much good may be done in Wheelock. We hope to see them again. We thank Dr. Graves, Mr. F. Cavitt and others for their kindness. Baines. Texas Baptist (Anderson), 22 July 1856, p.2

Gentlemen Sportmen.

Of the State of Texas – I am a man of fifty six years of age, the first day of February last, and I banter any man of the State, of the same age, as a marksman sixty yards with a rest. Of any man ten years under that age, I will take one quarter of an inch the advantage, and in that proportion down for every ten years, of I will give any many over my age the same advantage, for any amount, not limited.

Address Henry G. Hudson
Boonville, Brazos County, Texas
Washington American, 30 July 1856, p.3

A Murderer

Arrest of the murderer – His attempted escape
Is shot by the Guard

Some weeks since a gambler by the name of Roberts, killed another man, by the name of Melton at Camron, Milam County. Roberts escaped and went to Brazos County. A writ was sent to that county for his arrest. On Sunday the 24th of August Roberts went to Boonville and spent the day in drinking – during the day he got into a quarrel with a man, and shot at him twice. At night while asleep, the Sheriff arrested him, chained his hands and put him under guard in the Court House. Roberts got the chain off of one of his hands, and attempted to escape. As he ran, one of the guards shot at him from the Court House, the ball grazing his head, another fired at him with a shot gun, which took effect. Roberts lingered until the next Sunday when he died. He seems to have been a reckless man and a terror to the community.

State Gazette (Austin), 13 Sept. 1856, p.4

... The best sheep range I have seen is in the northern part of Grimes County, all the prairie regions of Brazos County and prairie contiguous to the San Antonio Road in Robertson County.

Galveston Tri-Weekly News, 20 Sept. 1856, p.3

Grand Union Barbecue! Rally! Rally! And Mass Meeting! Fillmore and Donelson! “The Union must and shall be preserved.” A mighty gathering of the friends of the Union will take place at Washington, on the Brazos River, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 24th and 25th of October ... Gen. Sam Houston will address the meeting ... The following distinguished gentlemen will also be present ... E.M. Millican, Brazos ...

Washington American, 1 Oct. 1856, p.2

“Ben Stuckey, who killed a man near Mitchell’s Ferry on the Navasota last spring, was shot in his bed a few nights ago and has since died.” *Texas Republican* (Marshall), 4 Oct. 1856, as quoted in Kelsey, Michael, Miscellaneous Texas Newspaper Abstracts, v.1, p.214

The State of Texas, County of Brazos.

To the Sheriff of said County – Greetings: Whereas, Miles Payne, Administrator, and one of the heirs and distributees of the estate of Alvah Payne, deceased, has filed in my office his final account with said estate, and his petition praying for a settlement of said account, and for a partition and distribution, final and complete, of both realty and personalty of the estate of said deceased. These are therefore to command you to summon Marshall Payne, one of the heirs and distributees of said estate, who is a non-resident of the State of Texas, by publication in the *Washington American*, a newspaper published in the town of Washington, six successive weeks, to be and appear at the next

November term of the Hon. County Court (for Probate business, &c.) of said Brazos County, to be holden at the Courthouse thereof in the town of Boonville, on the last Monday in November, A.D., 1856, then and there to contest said account, if he see proper, and to show cause, if any he can, why a partition and distribution as aforesaid should not be made in accordance with said petition of the estate of said deceased. Herein fail not, and have you then and there this writ, with your returns of service hereon according to law.

Attest David McIntosh, Clerk of the County Court of said Brazos County, and the seal of said Court at office Boonville, this the 6th day of Oct. A.D., 1856.

David McIntosh, Cl'k C.C.B.C.

(Endorsed) Issued Oct. 6th, 1856

Came to hand October 6th, and the same day ordered the within Citation to be published for six successive weeks in the *Washington American*, a newspaper published in the town of Washington, before the return day thereof.

S.E.W. Hudson, Sh'ff Brazos County

Washington American, 15 Oct. 1856, p.3

Taken up by John Fullerton, and estrayed before Wm. McIntosh, justice of the peace, a black Spanish mare, branded S, a scar on the left shoulder, right fore foot white, star in the face, about fourteen and a half hands high, about ten years old, saddle marked, and appraised to forty dollars, by H. Mitchell and C.C. Seale ... Washington American, 22 Oct. 1856, p.3

Taken up by J.M. Roberts and estrayed before Wm. McIntosh, justice of the peace, the following described estrays, to wit: One brown ox, seven years old, mark crop off each ear, and split in the right, branded WV, worth \$25. One yoke pale red and white pied oxen, six years old, crop off the left ear, branded on the hip JQ, worth \$40. One black and white pied stag ox, eleven years old, mark, crop and split in the right ear, under slope in the left, branded L, valued at \$18. One yoke of oxen about six or seven years old, one is a pale red, mark, crop and split and under bit in each ear, branded C D, the other is a red brindle ox, white face, mark crop and upper slope in the left ear, and crop and under half crop and upper slope in the right ear, branded C D, medium size, worth \$50. The above stock were appraised by Robert Johnson and Wm. C. Boyles, this Oct. 27, 1856, Boonville.

Washington American, 5 Nov. 1856, p.3

... "He was followed in a spirited address by the Hon. E.M. Milligan, of Brazos County, who briefly averred to the danger of foreign influence in our country, and illustrated it by some startling disclosures in regard to that influence exerted in the early days of the Texas Republic, during the canvas between Gen. Burleson and Anson Jones." *Confederate's* account of the Fillmore Barbecue at Washington.

Wonder if Mr. Milligan referred to Sam Houston during the "Republic," when he went in favor of the Franco-Texian bill and every measure to introduce colonies of foreigners? Sam did more than any other man to bring foreigners to Texas, and yet after they have come, cleared up the country and added to its wealth, he desires to make them little above free Negroes in political rights. Mr. Milligan never opened the book of Know

Nothingism at this chapter!
State Gazette (Austin), 8 Nov. 1856, p.2