Robert W. Loughery: Rebel Editor

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The owner-editor of the Marshall Texas Republican contemplated his future, on a day in February 1861, and found it good. By an overwhelming vote of 866 to 44, his readers and neighbors in Harrison County had voted with a majority of other Texans to dissolve their bonds with the United States of America in the ultimate exercise of states' rights. And states' rights was the fundamental tenet on which R. W. Loughery had based his entry into Texas journalism fourteen years earlier.

Loughery had reason for satisfaction. In Washington City, the Marshall man whom he had aided substantially in his elevation to the United States Senate was "giving 'em hell" long before another firebrand made the phrase famous. Louis Trezevant Wigfall quite apparently was destined for big things in the confederacy now aborning. In Austin, a constitutionalist governor had become anathema to a large fraction of the people he had helped liberate from Mexican rule, and another Marshall man, though he had been elected lieutenant governor as an independent on Sam Houston's ticket, was standing in the wings, awaiting his cue. Edward Clark would remember his—and Loughery's—home town.

For a young man who had arrived in Marshall virtually penniless in 1849, it had been a rapid rise. By 1860, Loughery had become a citizen of some substance and was a voice to be reckoned with in Texas politics. Census data show him to have been possessed in that year of $4,000 worth of real property, along with personal property, including two slaves, worth $7,500. Already he had received flattering credit around the state for his role in the election of yet another fellow townsman, James Pinckney Henderson, to the United States Senate.

Standing shoulder to shoulder with Loughery—and sharing the euphoria of a victory won—were colleagues who had fought for states' rights and Democratic doctrine, perhaps most notably among them another Northeast Texas editor, Charles DeMorse of the Clarksville Northern Standard, who would become known in history as "the father of the Texas Democratic Party."

By what path had Loughery reached his position of prominence? In the first place it should be remembered that mass communication in the period meant simply newspapers supplemented by a few periodicals and, in the homes of the affluent and literate, the works of such writers as Sir Walter Scott and other novelists. In the South, Uncle Tom's Cabin was not the happiest example of the latter, though it elevated...
blood pressure levels and undoubtedly was one of the Marshall editor's most helpful allies. Too, the press was largely a personal, not an institutionalized element of society, inasmuch as readers tended to read an editor, not a newspaper. Indeed, many read only their local weekly newspaper. One student has declared that "Southerners learned from newspapers virtually everything they knew of events outside their own communities. Thus, the way in which news was selected and interpreted exerted a tremendous influence in molding the viewpoints of Southerners on many subjects." It is not too much to say that the newspapers of 1860 had a virtual monopoly on news distribution, as the same student has written.

As to the how of Loughery's rise to prominence, the answer is easy. Born February 2, 1820, in Nashville to Irish immigrant parents but bereft of both parents by the time he was ten years old, he studied briefly at St. Thomas Academy and St. Joseph's College in Bardstown, Kentucky, then learned the printer's trade, in which he developed a taste for literature and a talent for composition. Totally upon his own resources at 16, he migrated to Louisiana and in 1840 commenced the publication of a newspaper at Monroe which he continued until 1846. In April 1847 he became editor of the Jefferson, Texas, Democrat, a paper started by W. N. Bishop. Two years later he became associated with Judge Trenton A. Patillo in the publication of the Texas Republican in Marshall. Loughery bought the paper in 1851 and in 1857 associated himself with A. D. McCutcheson, who had started the Daily Times, a "rabid secession paper" in Jefferson which he eventually bought also. Loughery merged the two papers in June 1869, discontinuing their publication in 1872. He started the Galveston Times in 1874, and in succession, the Marshall Tri-Weekly Herald and the Jefferson Democrat in April 1875 and August 1880. He later worked on the Austin Statesman, and, in 1883, wrote his last editorial for the Shreveport Standard. In 1885 he was appointed U. S. consul at Acapulco, Mexico. At the end of his term of office he returned to Marshall, where he continued to live until his death in 1894. He is buried in Marshall Cemetery.

These are the bare bones of a career whose impact on Texas politics has absorbed journalists and students of Texas history for many years. Fittingly, his principal legacy is the fading files of his newspapers, though a few tangible evidences remain: his gravesite, a house at 206 East Fannin in Marshall in which he is said once to have lived, a collection of family photographs in Dallas, and his name on a number of deed records in the office of the Harrison County clerk in Marshall.

Looking back, it had been a long pull from the day in May 1849 when, in the first issue of the Texas Republican, Loughery announced that his paper was Democratic and that he fully appreciated "the institutions of the South"—meaning slavery, of course—and was one of
those who believed that “their perpetuity depends on a candid rebuke of any attempted encroachment upon them.” It was a position which appealed to the economic instincts of the planter class, if not always to the political instincts of his constituency, and it was one from which Loughery never deviated in his militancy. That he chose his ground carefully is evidenced by the fact that a year earlier, during the heated campaign of 1848, Whigs had campaigned actively in Harrison County, even establishing a paper, the Star State Patriot, which achieved a circulation of 600. In that election the Whigs polled 48.9 percent of the vote. Obviously Loughery had gambled heavily on his reading of a future for the Democratic Party in the county.

Later, John W. Barrett would challenge Loughery with the Harrison County Flag, a conservative journal, only to see the election of Abraham Lincoln scuttle any hopes he had for dominance in the Harrison County newspaper market. These hopes had been sustained by the fact that in 1860 the Flag held a circulation lead over the Republican. Their failure was legitimated after the Civil War when W. G. (Billy) Barrett, son of the founder of the Flag, signed a mortgage to Loughery for $633.27 for the power press “upon which the Harrison Flag newspaper is at present printed,” acknowledging a debt to Loughery in that amount for “certain printing materials including the power press.”

Not only had it been a long pull from 1849 to 1861, for Loughery it not always had been a successful one. He had opposed the Compromise of 1850, declaring that “It is such a compromise as the wolf dictates to the lamb.” Five months later he wrote that “with the bribe of ten million dollars in one hand and the sword in the other, our free soil government has plotted to dismember Texas, and to convert a part of her domain devoted to slavery into free soil territory.” It made good reading for a portion of the Harrison County population, but Loughery’s blasts did not, of course, alter the course of events.

In addition to the Compromise of 1850, Loughery also bitterly opposed the rise of the American Party in 1855, only to suffer the acute embarrassment of having to report that a fellow townsman, Lemuel Dale Evans, had been elected to the United States House of Representatives with Know-Nothing support. Evans denied that he was an advocate of the Know-Nothings, but, needless to say, their votes counted in the nineteenth century equivalent of what we call the “one man, one vote” principle. Loughery countered that a “good source” had declared Evans to be a member of the Marshall Know-Nothing council who had withdrawn in order to state truthfully that he was not a member of any secret society. The good source, according to one student, was Josiah Marshall, the Whig editor of the Marshall Meridian, who had switched to the Know-Nothings. In a letter published in the Texas Republican, Marshall denied he had said that Evans’ name could be found on the
books of the Know-Nothings, but rather that he had no doubts Evans was a member." Loughery remained unconvinced, and the humiliation lingered.

The Know-Nothing fight offers a good insight into both Loughery's political posture and the invective with which he attacked his political enemies. Know-Nothings, he wrote, were "the old, wrinked caste of prostitutes of party, with no more pretension to piety than an unrepentant Magdalen." Evans' election did, moreover, provide Loughery with a continuing target for his scorn and ridicule. Noting that "Hon. L. D. Evans sends us a pamphlet copy of his speech on 'The Foreign Policy of the United States,' delivered in the U. S. House of Representatives on the 24th of July 1856 and printed at the office of the American Organ in Washington, Loughery commented that

It is perhaps one of the longest Congressional speeches ever published. It would occupy about thirty or thirty-five columns of our paper. If our contemporary of the Rusk Enquirer should undertake the task of republishing it, it will take him about six weeks to get through with it. We have filed it among the archives."22

Even the elements seemed at times to conspire against the fiery Irishman. Writing plaintively in late December 1858, he observed that extreme cold weather and sickness in the office had forced the Republican to miss its previous week's issue. "Our paper froze into a solid mass, and it was impossible to work," he wrote, adding that because of continuing illness the next number might be missed as well, but "Since it is Christmas week we trust that we shall be excused."23

Such episodes of self-pity seldom diluted Loughery's anger at Yankee abolitionists, Northern politicians and anti-Democrats, however. "From 1850 to 1860, there was hardly an issue of the Texas Republican that did not place in glaring headlines some new 'aggression,'" one student has written.24 The final opportunity for rebellious rhetoric came as Harrison County awaited the presidential election results in 1860. Loughery wrote that the great question agitating the public mind was the alternative to a possible election of Lincoln. The general sentiment in Texas insofar as he could determine it was against submission to "a Black Republican administration... Such a submission, in our judgment, involves the loss of everything, and if consummated will end in the prostration of the Southern States," he declared.25

Given the inherent conflict in their political views, it is not surprising that Loughery's greatest personal highs and lows were the reciprocal of Sam Houston's triumphs and defeats. If alone for the venom with which Louis T. Wigfall attacked Houston, this would have been adequate reason for Loughery to support his fellow townsman, but of course their views coincided as if they had been cut from the same template. Perhaps
Loughery’s greatest satisfaction, then, was the humiliation Houston suffered when Edward Clark occupied the chair to which the old warrior had been elected. With a tone of self-righteousness, Loughery commented that

We have received a copy of the last pronunciamento of Gov. Houston. It is a whining and pitiful document. He evidently hopes to obtain some sympathy for himself by raising the cry of persecution and endeavors to make his outrageous obstinacy appear dignified firmness and a desire to uphold the rights of the people. Gen. Houston has in days gone by been honored and admired by the people of Texas; his sun has now set forever amid the righteous indignation of the people whom he fain would betray into the hands of their enemies. Thus perish all traitors!²⁷

Happily, Loughery thus could kill two birds with one stone when he could comment favorably of Wigfall, as he did often. Typical was his observation a few weeks later, in April 1861:

Some twelve years have elapsed since first we placed our feet on Texas soil, and inhaled its dry, salubrious atmosphere. The three bright particular stars were Houston, Rusk and Henderson. The first still lingers on the stage, though he has heard the prompter’s signal to retire. The last two have gone to their final account, and their lives are rapidly fading from the memory of man. At that time Louis T. Wigfall was struggling hard and with scant apparent hope of success, to ascend the political ladder on his Southern Rights doctrine. But now how things are changed; he stands confessed the first orator and statesman in Texas, and among the first in the Confederate States."²⁸

Loughery did not hesitate to aim his barbs closer to home than the aging hero of San Jacinto, however. Writing shortly after the election of W. T. Scott, Gil McKay, Alexander Pope and W. B. Ochiltree as Harrison County delegates to the state secession convention, he noted that John W. Barrett, the editor of the Harrison Flag, had called it a "bogus election." "Nineteen-twentieths of our population are for immediate secession. Persons abroad may be deceived by the Flag. At home, where the facts are known, such articles can awaken no other feeling but that of surprise and mortification," Loughery declared.²⁴

More critical to Loughery’s success than his political adventures, however, were the kind of everyday, bread and butter positions with which every publisher is familiar. He indulged in the blatant boosterism which nineteenth century newspapermen felt incumbent on themselves before the invention of the chamber of commerce. He fought for lower freight rates on river cargo via the Caddo Lake system through snag removal and channel clearing. He campaigned for improved mail and stage service between Marshall and Austin. He supported a toll plank road connecting with Shreveport. He exulted in the first incursion into
Texas, at Marshall, of the "magnetic telegraph." In the first issue of the Republican, in 1849, Loughery was plugging the construction of "a railroad from the Lake [Caddo] to some convenient and healthy point, say Marshall." He became a stockholder in just such a railroad, the Southern Pacific—neither a financial nor an engineering success, but an operating railroad nevertheless—and by 1861 had become a member of its board. All of these efforts were intended, of course, to promote the economy of the county, earning him the gratitude of planters, merchants, attorneys and other professionals of whatever political persuasion.

Less clear than the "how" of Loughery's success, until recent years, has been the full dimensions of his influence. Given the county's vote for secession, the author would like to believe, as a former ink-stained wretch himself, that Loughery's brilliance, his acerbic wit, and his never-faltering support of southern rights and Democratic doctrine had created a monolithic constituency over the years which enlisted solidly under his device, excepting only the miserable 44 who refused to see the light. This is the kind of influence newspapermen like to believe flows inevitably from their pontifications. However, until later scholarship proved otherwise, I had only my professional cynicism to temper this rosy view. Consider the following:

— The crisis of 1850, carrying over into 1851, resulted in a "sizeable minority" vote for local candidates whom Loughery labeled unpatriotic and "submissionist."  

— Two years later, William B. Ochiltree, a well known Whig, polled 416 votes for governor, compared to 234 for E. M. Pease, the Democratic candidate, in a race in which Unionist Democrat Lemuel D. Evans also received 206 votes. Two of the county's three successful candidates for the legislature, M. J. Hall and George W. Whitmore, had previous Opposition connections.  

— In 1855, Evans, the county's leading Unionist Democrat, received 63.1 percent of the county's vote in his successful bid for a seat in the Congress, as previously noted.  

— In 1858, partisanship reached such levels that there was a full-scale contest between Democratic and Know-Nothings for control of county government. In the election, the Opposition won every seat except that of tax assessor-collector, prompting Loughery to write that all "love of country" and "patriotism" were dead in the States Rights, Southern Rights county of Harrison.  

— With a surging Republican Party threatening to gain office without conservative Southern votes, Loughery wrote in 1860 that "The South will fight, and ought to fight, rather than purchase peace at the price of honor." Still, a few including Josiah Marshall, John W. Barrett...
and State Representative George W. Whitmore said publicly that the simple fact of Lincoln's election would be no cause for resistance by the South."

From an intensive study of voting patterns prior to the war," it has been determined that the Opposition in Harrison County was a solid, stable and enduring fraction of the electorate. It was one, in fact, which survived the war and was willing to speak out for a conservative approach to reconstruction." For this fact, at least in part, credit must be given to John W. Barrett, his son William G. (Billy) Barrett, and Josiah Marshall—as credit also must be granted to Loughery that he eventually triumphed in his advocacy of Southern Rights in national affairs.

Some of the surprise over these findings results from a misinterpretation of an analysis made more than half a century ago. In his master's thesis on Harrison County history, James Curtis Armstrong termed Loughery "the champion of the planter class." Certainly this is a true statement as it stands. Loughery advocated slavery and the plantation system, by which planters had become wealthy or hoped to do so. But it does not follow that all those who possessed wealth or aspired to it necessarily supported Loughery's militant advocacy of secession as the system's ultimate protection. As one example, only, Josiah Marshall, a lawyer with extensive agricultural and industrial holdings but a Constitutional Unionist nevertheless, was worth $30,000 in real property and $30,000 in personal property, including sixty slaves."

Loughery benefitted from an element of luck, too, along with his brilliant pen and Hibernian courage. With the split in the Democratic Party in 1860—and as it became apparent that the hated Republicans might indeed elect an abolitionist government—the Opposition fraction's position in Harrison County became difficult if not untenable. Its spokesmen did not attack slavery during the campaign, and they offered no indication that violations of "Southern Rights" would be considered tolerable." Josiah Marshall, by now interim editor of the Flag, blamed the approaching storm on "Vandal hordes" in the North and "Fiery dragons" [read Loughery and others] in the South and warned that the burdens of conflict would fall on "the great conservative mass who constituted a majority in both sections... These are the parties," he said, "to fight all, pay all, and be ruined.""

Luck, yes. But then Loughery had, indeed, selected his ground twelve years earlier and had defended it ever and always. He held his followers together, with assistance from believers like Henderson and Wigfall, until Democratic doctrine was put to the test by Lincoln's election. As has been written, there were 159 more votes cast in the election of 1860 than in the balloting for secession, leading to the conclusion that these missing voters did not bother to participate when
the outcome was certain. "Perhaps...although unwilling to vote against secession, these individuals were not moved to support it, either."

Herein may lie the answer to the question of Loughery's influence. Success in politics, both for professionals and amateurs, is measured by the final vote. Adherents must be kept in line, the opposition must be discouraged, the decisive vote must be cast. It is the old story of "saints" and "sinners" and organization for battle. In this it cannot be argued that Loughery was unsuccessful, as measured by the vote of 866 to 44 by which his journalistic constituency registered its support. One historian has written that "voting against secession was clearly futile in Harrison County."

These, then, were Loughery's glory years, 1849 to 1861, but they by no means were the end of his passion for public affairs. Throughout the war, his position was unchanging. He entertained no doubt, early on, that Texans would rally to Confederate arms. Even after First Mannassas, he was calling for more aggressive action, declaring that "The destruction of Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and Zanesville, Columbus and Cincinnati, and laying waste to all that portion of Pennsylvania and Ohio contiguous to Virginia would bring the Lincolnites to their senses." As Lee moved toward his bloody day at Sharpsburg, Loughery declared that "at no period of the war has the Confederate cause looked so bright as it does now." Even in the dark days which enveloped the Confederacy during the winter of 1864-65, Loughery's faith never wavered, at least publicly. In his issue for October 14, 1864, he wrote that "Peace, when it comes, must be a settlement on our own terms," and one week later he declared that "Our success is only a question of time." Even after the surrender of Lee and Johnston, Loughery maintained that Kirby Smith could sustain the fantasy of a Confederacy based in a Texas redoubt.

Loughery did not limit his advocacy to personalities and events safely distant, however. At home he urged residents to remove blankets from their own beds for Harrison County troops facing a winter in Missouri without blankets. He took the lead in organizing relief committees for the needy families of servicemen. He sought to shame those who preferred specie to Confederate currency. He reported at length on the experiences of Harrison County soldiers in distant theaters, and he printed their letters at home whenever he could get his hands on them. He kept his chin up when undoubtedly it would have been only human, and much easier, to let it sag. Perhaps most notably was this the case when on January 1, 1864, in a gesture of bravado aimed at Mr. Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, he bought a 10-year-old black boy from L. R. Witt, giving his note for $425. In this he set the example for, or perhaps anticipated, a similar gesture by his hero,
Wigfall, who in the spring of 1864 converted $1,000 in gold to Confederate notes, a patriotic gesture which some of his friends thought rather foolish that late in the war."

The war years were a time of difficulty and tribulation. Although he did not forsake his newspaper for active campaigning, as his colleague Charles DeMorse did to become colonel of the 29th Texas Cavalry," Loughery’s son R. W. Jr., enlisted early and never left the army until the end of hostilities." The senior Loughery thereby lost a competent printer whose absence he never would redeem. Materials, particularly paper and ink, became increasingly scarce as the war progressed, eventually forcing Loughery to suspend publication with the issue of July 25, 1863. Prices rose sharply, and money became almost worthless. Yet Loughery’s enthusiasm never flagged. In "A Bow Editorial" with which he reintroduced the Republican in Vol. XVI, No. 1, on September 24, 1864, Loughery wrote that “We start with a small paper [two five-column pages], but if we succeed in our arrangements in getting a supply of printing paper through Mexico, of which there is a flattering prospect, we shall double its present size.” He did comment, however, that “We are very much in need of two, intelligent, good printers to assist us in carrying on our business . . . we have thought it our duty, first to make an effort to obtain as such discharged soldiers, or persons not liable to conscription. But assistance we must have, and that quickly.”

To his credit, Loughery acquiesced with grace to the ultimate defeat, joining DeMorse in advocating a peaceful acceptance of the outcome, and urging cooperation with the requirements for what became known as presidential reconstruction."

Marshall was occupied in mid-June 1865 by troops of the Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, commanded by a Lt. Col. Wheaton." Shortly thereafter, on June 19, the citizens of Harrison County were called to meet in the Republican offices to consider how best the citizens might conduct themselves under military rule. A committee of fifteen was appointed and subsequently drafted a lengthy “resolution” which included the following points: 1. that the citizens recognized the war as over and sought good feeling as well as good order; 2. that United States troops could expect nothing but kindness and courtesy from the citizens; 3. that the people were pleased with the “courteous bearing” of Colonel Wheaton; and 4. that all citizens, north and south, should work to make the government of the United States acceptable to all." This meeting was followed, on June 23, by an editorial in which Loughery wrote that

Every sensible man must see the necessity of establishing good feelings between the officers and soldiers sent here, and the citizens of the county. These officers and soldiers may imagine that we desire to revive the war, and that the spirit of insubordination is rife in the land. In the treatment they are receiv-
ing, and will continue to receive, they will learn that such an opinion has no just foundation. They will go out from us, we trust, friends, instead of enemies; hereafter, political allies instead of adversaries. These results are important to us and scarcely less so to them.

In respect to Loughery's and the public's acceptance of the war's outcome, it is clearly significant that Loughery and his political opponents of the *Flag* endorsed the conservative ticket in the first statewide elections held under the new state constitution. And the two sometime journalistic enemies both sought ways to defeat the constitutional convention demanded when military reconstruction overturned the existing governments in Texas. Again luck held a hand at the table, as far as Loughery was concerned. Congressional Reconstruction in Harrison County marked a more thorough destruction of the Opposition in terms of both leadership and popular support than did the war itself. The *Tri-Weekly Herald*, Loughery's post-war newspaper in Marshall, boasted in 1875 that the Democratic Party had combined "all that was good and sure in the Democratic and Whig organizations in antebellum times."

Loughery was a survivor, and by surviving he proved the old adage that politicians must be reelected if they aspire to become statesmen. By surviving he retained his voice and his influence.

**NOTES**

1 In the census of 1850, Loughery was shown to own no real or personal property; Randolph Campbell, "Planters and Plain Folk: Harrison County, Texas, as a Test Case, 1850-1860," *The Journal of Southern History*, Vol. XL, No. 3, August 1974, page 394.

2 Campbell, "Planters and Plain Folk," 396.


4 *The Handbook of Texas*, 1, (Austin, 1952), 489.

5 As late as 1911, 46 years after the conflict, the bitterness which this work created was unabated. It was reported in a Marshall newspaper that at the regular meeting of Confederate veterans on April 2, Commander W. W. Heartsill called attention to "the reliable rumor" that the school library had books in it which were obnoxious to all Southerners. Among these, he commented, was *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, "A book that has been denounced by every Southern state and discarded from all reputable libraries as a tissue of misrepresentation and falsehood on the Southern people." Heartsill was the author of the classic war journal, *Fourteen Hundred and 91 Days in the Confederate Army*. As reprinted in the "Decades Ago" column of the *Marshall News Messenger*, April 3, 1981.


7 This is the outline of his early years given in *The Encyclopedia of the New West*. Curiously, it sheds no light on how or by whom he was supported from age 10 until he migrated to New Orleans as a 16-year-old. The implication is
that he learned the printer's trade between 16 and 20, when he presumably began his own paper at Monroe. However, John Geddie, a Marshall, Dallas and Washington newspaperman who has done considerable investigation of the Loughery career in addition to writing a number of books of current history, believes it is more logical that Loughery's first newspaper experience was in Monroe. This, he points out, conforms with the obituary written by W. A. Adair, publisher of the Marshall Evening Messenger, at Loughery's death on March 26, 1894. Letter, Geddie to Mrs. Inez Hughes, director of the Harrison County Historical Museum, undated but received at the museum August 21, 1970.

Loughery gave Patillo his note for $1,251.92, payable in two annual installments; Book I, 460, Deed Records of Harrison County.

The Handbook of Texas, I, 489.


In addition to business property and his home, Loughery also invested in Marshall city lots which he liquidated after the Civil War. In August 1860, from Governor-to-be Pendleton Murrah and W. R. D. Ward, he bought Lot 6, Block 57, Original Townsite, giving notes for $750 to each for land on which he established his print shop and which he later sold to William Umbdenstock, a Republican postmaster in Marshall after the war. The site is now occupied by the Harrison County Courthouse; Book T, page 30, Deed Records of Harrison County. This property brought $2,000 in cash on January 10, 1871, when Umbdenstock bought it as the site for his new home, at the time the most elaborate ever built in Marshall; Book X, page 34, Deed Records of Harrison County. The author has been unable to discover the record of Loughery's purchase of his home or home site. This property, "known as our former residence," he sold on May 10, 1872, to B. H. Epperson, for $2,500; Book Y, page 572, Deed Records of Harrison County. At the northeast corner of Houston and Lafayette in downtown Marshall, the site is now occupied by the Wilson Building.

May 26, 1849.


July 1, 1869, Book VI, page 855, Reed Records of Harrison County.

June 30, 1850.

November 16, 1850.


McClellan, "1855: The Know Nothing Challenge in East Texas," 34, 35.

McClellan, "1855: The Know Nothing Challenge in East Texas," 37. DeMorse, in the Northern Standard, was somewhat more temperate. He wrote, on May 17, 1856, that he was "unequivocally and unswervingly Democratic and opposed to all ultraism, including Know-Nothingism."

A reprint is in the author’s scrapbook.

Armstrong, “The History of Harrison County,” 133.

Armstrong, “The History of Harrison County,” 139.


At an election held February 23, 1861, M. J. Hall, an early Opposition member, though he was one of the county’s richest men and largest slaveholders, was elected a delegate to succeed Ochiltree, who was elected a Texas delegate to the Confederate Congress, and E.H. Baxter was elected to succeed Pope, resigned.

Marshall Texas Republican, passim, 1849 to 1861.

May 26, 1849.

Armstrong, “The History of Harrison County,” op. cit., 178. Other directors were Alexander Pope, Pendleton Murrah, G. G. Gregg, J.S. Holman, Benjamin Long, J. H. Waskom and George B. Atkins of Harrison County.

Randolph Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 273.

Randolph Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 223.

Randolph Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 224. Hall owned 14 slaves in 1850, and in 1860 was worth $94,425 in real and personal property, including 34 slaves; Randolph Campbell, “Planters and Plain Folk,” 393 and 396. Whitmore, a state representative in 1860, opposed secession and became the target of a bitter campaign seeking his removal from office. He later was elected to the U. S. House of Representatives from Smith County.

Randolph Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 227.

Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 228.


Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 229.

Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 230.

Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 238.

Campbell, “Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus,” 238.

Marshall Texas Republican, April 27, 1861, as quoted by Ralph A. Wooster in “The Home Front: East Texas Supports the War Effort,” a paper presented before the East Texas Historical Association at its spring meeting in Orange on February 25, 1981.


Wooster, “The Home Front,” quoting from the Texas Republican for September 6, 1862.

Marshall Texas Republican, May 12, 1865.

Marshall Texas Republican, May 12, 1865.

Book T, page 622, Deed Records of Harrison County.


The Handbook of Texas, I, 489.

Encyclopedia of the New West, 301-502.

Later, during Congressional reconstruction, Loughery became a bitter opponent of what he considered intolerable excesses by military occupation forces. See Traylor Russell, Carpetbaggers, Scalawags & Others, "The Stockade Trial," Chapter XIV, 50-70.


Marshall Texas Republican, July 23, 1865.

Campbell, "Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus," 235.

Campbell, "Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus," 235.

Campbell, "Political Conflict Within the Southern Consensus," 236.