

**HISTORY OF MONTAGUE
COUNTY. ERA 1 - IMMIGRATION;
ERA 2 - ORGANIZATION; ERA 3 -
PROGRESS**

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History of Montague County. Era 1 - Immigration; Era 2 - Organization; Era 3 - Progress by
Fannie Potter

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FANNIE POTTER

**HISTORY OF MONTAGUE
COUNTY. ERA 1 - IMMIGRATION;
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PROGRESS**

Potter, Fannie (Bellows) "Mrs. W. R. Potter."

COUNTY SERIES READER

HISTORY *of*
MONTAGUE
COUNTY

ERA 1—*Immigration*

ERA 2—*Organization*

ERA 3—*Progress*

F 392

M & P e

"The American Republic is not leagues and furlongs; it is not wealth; it is not power. It is embodied liberty, regulated by law; it is liberty resting upon organized institutions, through which society and civilization may blossom into their fullest and fairest flower."

EXPLANATION.

It was the first purpose of the author of this book to write a history that would only be read in the homes of the county; but, after much deliberation and consultation with those best fitted to know, it was decided to condense the work and put it in a form that could be studied as a supplementary reader in the public schools of this county.

Believing that such a study would tend to cultivate that patriotism which is the heritage of every American citizen, and cause our youths to look with a greater degree of reverence upon the early settlers of this county, the writer makes this explanation for the benefit of those who have so kindly given the data which this book contains, that they may know why some of the smaller details are left out. The sketches of Indian depredations necessarily had to be condensed for school purposes. The author also wishes to express a sincere appreciation to the following friends who have assisted greatly in the compiling of this history: Mr. Bud Morris, Mr. Cash McDonald, Mr. C. Moore, Mr. C. Grant, Mr. Joe Box, Mr. Bob Savage, Mr. Levi Perryman, Mr. W. R. Bellows, Mr. S. G. Dowell, Mrs. Charlie Moore, Mrs. Charlie Grant, Mrs. Levi Blankenship, Mrs. Nettie Bellows, Mrs. Bob Savage, Mrs. Chesley Marlett.

PREFACE.

This book, partially, owes its origin to the encouragement of friends, who, long ago, urged me to attempt a work which would serve to illustrate and perpetuate the epoch-making periods of the history of Montague County. I have never wished more earnestly than now that these pages were possessed of a merit which might outlive my time, so at least these lines might remain as a record of the excellence of the people whom I loved and among whom it is my pleasure to live.

The genuine hardihood and true nobility of the pioneers of our county have never been fully appreciated. Their deeds of heroism and courage equalled those enacted by their ancestors in the early days of the "Colonies." There were dangers untold, dreadful days and nights of anxiety; Indian battles were fought, fierce and long; many a father, many a brother, sleeps where he fell, the forgotten, silent hero of civilization's advance.

Naturally, too, the interests of these pioneer people became interwoven with each other, and, as will be seen, when Indian dangers lurked, and the mutterings of war were heard throughout the land, they were drawn still closer together, and the citizens became as brothers, with the same feelings stirring their hearts.

I would not give the men the praise alone, for

many a covered wagon, as it rolled away from home and loved ones bore many a tearful, heartsore daughter as she bade farewell to father and mother to follow the fortunes of her husband, who, answering the call of the wild, determined to make for themselves a home in the beautiful west. Dangers lurked on every hand, but they were brave; privations awaited them, but they were enduring. Hope deferred, which maketh the heart sick, was theirs, but God gave them patience. What a heritage of progress, power and strength they have given us.

In attempting this work I have endeavored to study the times and characters diligently. In these pages I have tried to represent the history as it was and is. As a people we are prone to go beyond the limits of home for talent, progress and beauty of scenery, but I venture to hope the reader will obtain from these pages a better opinion of the importance of the county in which we live. More especially do I hope to perpetuate the memory of those "makers of history," the noble pioneer men and women who endured privations and hardships, battlings with the Indians, and the internal strifes incident to the civil war, that the foundation for a successful and progressive citizenship might be made. It is to these men and women this book is most respectfully dedicated by the author.

MRS. W. R. POTTER.

Bowie, Texas.

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