JOHN WYATT MOODY, FIRST AUDITOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, 1835-39

FROM THE WRITINGS OF SAM HOUSTON, 1813-1863, ed. by Amelia W. Williams and Eugene C. Barker, University of Texas Press, 1939, 2 volumes:

V. II, p. 127: "Private. City of Houston, 20th June, 1837. To J.W. Moody Esq. Auditor etc. Sir--The accounts of Genl. Chambers this day ordered to be audited, are to be considered entirely with reference to the amounts disbursed and responsibilities assumed by that Gentleman. The question of his rank as an officer is not to be affected or decided upon by this proceeding. SAM HOUSTON."


Above was taken from the J.W. Moody papers, filed in the Texas State Library, Austin. A note by the editors says: "John W. Moody was the Auditor of Public Accounts during the two years of Houston's first administration. He had served as auditor for the Provisional Government, having been elected by the Provisional Council, December 20, 1835. Before this time he had been serving as chief clerk of the Finance committee, also as clerk for the committee on State and Judiciary Affairs, prior to the establishment of the office of auditor.

"During this time, claims on the Provisional Government were audited by a Committee on Public Accounts which reported from time to time, and thereupon the Council ordered the drafts to be drawn upon the Treasurer. All claims of whatever description under $4,000 were examined by the auditor and were approved by the comptroller. All such claims were, under this ordinance, to be returned to the auditor, who was thereupon to issue on the treasury drafts, countersigned by the comptroller in favor of the claimants for the amounts found to be due. Claims for larger sums than $4,000 were to be referred to the Governor and Council, and if approved were to be returned to the auditor and the comptroller, who were then to issue drafts in the same manner as on claims for less sums than $4,000. For more detailed explanation of the functions of this office see C.W. Gaines, Year Book for Texas, 1901, p. 24.

"John W. Moody continued to hold the office of auditor until his death, August 21, 1839. Telegraph and Texas Register, August 21, 1839, in recounting his death stated that he was forty-eight years old, and had been a citizen of Texas many years, and an efficient official of the government since the beginning of the republic. Moody seems not to have been able to amass any considerable fortune, not even a competence, for the Telegraph again, March 12, 1841, gives information concerning him. Moody's administrator, M.R. Goheen, posted a notice that by order of the Probate Court "all of Moody's perishable property--consisting of 1 silver watch, 1 four-horse wagon, a lot of cows and young cattle, household and kitchen furniture--should be sold at the Moody home on Spring Creek at public auction on Monday March 25, 1841." See also William C. Binkley, Official Correspondence of the Texas Revolution, I, 260, 279, 326, 351, 395, 407, 451, 476."

V. II, p. 105: "To the Texas Congress, Executive Department, Houston, 26th May, 1837: Gentlemen of the Senate and of the House of Representatives: I have the honor of presenting to your consideration and your particular attention the subject of the accounting Department of the Government. The Officer who has been employed as auditor is one of the most capable, industrious and untiring men that I have ever known in any department of business, and it is totally out of his power to audit the accounts when presented...therefore, I would suggest the absolute indisputable necessity of providing for a second auditor and a comptroller of the Treasury...The Auditor has twice tendered his resignation, which I was compelled to decline accepting, because it was impossible to supply his place in the present emergency. SAM HOUSTON."
"P.S. I have the honor herewith to enclose to you a communication from the Auditor." The note refers to "John W. Moody. See Houston to the Texas Senate, December 20, 1836. The enclosure was as follows:

"Auditor's Office, Houston, May 26, 1837. To His Excellency the President:

In consequence of the rapid increase of the labors of this Department, it is absolutely necessary that there should be another Auditor; one of whom should audit the military claims, the other the Naval, Civil and Contingent; there should also be a comptroller who should examine the proceedings of both auditors in order that clerical errors should be detected, if any, and to see that none other should be drawn for than for proper objects as contemplated by law; he should countersign the corresponding drafts of each auditor if approved by him, and enter name of claimant in a book the date of the draft, number and check letter, and should be obliged by law to furnish the treasurer on every morning at nine o'clock with a list of said entry in order to prevent forgery and fraud; owing to the state of the times no certain calculation can be made to the number of clerks that would be necessary to perform the different duties of these departments, therefore some discretion should be left with the Executive on that subject.

"It is necessary to call the attention of Congress to the subject of those unfortunate fellow soldiers who have fallen whilst under the command of Col. Fannin and others in order to enable their Relatives to have their claims adjusted. Another subject would be worthy of remark in regard to the oath to be taken by the Claimants and before whom taken. It seems to me from the best reflections I have been able to give the subject in regard to the manner in which Disbursing Officers are to pay out the amount of their contracts and save the persons who sell or furnish supplies from being compelled to have their claims audited (for want of money). Each should make a Quarterly estimate of the probable amount that would be needed and draw in bulk upon the approval of the Secretary of War and of the Treasury and deposit same with the Treasurer in lieu of depositing money in the bank, they could then draw direct upon the Treasurer for the proper objects of their estimates, the Government through its comptroller would then be able to know its debts at the end of each quarter.

"Horses lost while in the Infantry service is a subject much desired to be noticed in order that the auditor may be relieved from such examinations. I am of the opinion from such examinations as I have already made that two-thirds of the horses for which claims are made have been paid for already. J. W. MOODY, AUDITOR."

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At the time of J.W. Moody's death on Aug. 21, 1839, the Houston writings show that Houston made an agreement with Hickman Lewis for 7 blooded horses, total $6,000. Contract was dated Aug. 30, 1839, Nashville, Tenn., where both signed. The pedigree was given, such as "No. 1st One Chestnut filly Proclamation by Arab dam Lady Hamilton by Ball's Florazelle at $2,000.00," etc. The next item is Dec. 2, 1839, house debate on removing the capital from Austin. Houston said the provisional government had been moved from Washington in 1836 and that having Austin as capital did not even benefit Bastrop County. Austin is described in Tel. and Texas Register Dec. 4, 11, 1839; also Brazos Courier Dec. 3, 1839 and Texas Sentinel, Jan. 15, 1840, also Colorado Gazette and Advertiser, Jan. 11, 1840.

The first item in the Writings of Sam Houston referring to Moody is V. 1, p. 324. Sam Houston, Commander in Chief of the Army, To Major Moody: "Sir, You will please to audit the account of Dr. Smith, as Post Surgeon at Washington from the date of his appointment, until the time he left there. SAM HOUSTON." This was attached to letter from Washington 25 Dec. 1835 by Houston to Smith Endorsement by J. W. Moody read: "1137 $117.45 Doct Wm. P. Smith Filed 9th May 1837 Exam'd same day admitted to audit as Post Surgeon to the Regiment & has been paid. Admitted to audit for $117.45 Military J.W. Moody Auditor 25th Dec. 1835 fl 9th May 1837 No Draft 1475." (Note: Smith edited The Monument (La Grange for the Mier Expedition and those killed with Dawson. See Weyand & Wade, History Fayette Co.)
Sam Houston wrote Dec. 26, 1835, to Henry Smith, Governor: "I have the honor of reporting here Captain Wyatt, with a company or detachment, consisting of less than fifty-six men from Huntsville, Alabama." A note says: "Captain Peyton S. Wyatt was a native of Huntsville, Alabama. In the fall of 1835, he raised a company of his friends from Huntsville and environs, with a few men from Kentucky, came to Texas and joined the Texas army. On January 12, 1836, he was sent with his company to relieve to relieve Captain Philip Dimmit at Goliad (Brown I, 503.) There he remained and became a part of the force under Colonel Fannin...these men were massacred with Fannin." Wyatt escaped as he was on leave. Houston on Dec. 30, 1835, sent Henry Smith "a muster roll of Captain P.S. Wyatt." See p. 344-5.

On Dec. 20, 1836, Houston nominated as Chief Justices W. H. McIntire for the County of Goliad (p. 514), etc. and all were confirmed the same day. He also presented Thomas J. Green for Senior Brigadier General p. 514, which was rejected, Dec. 22, 1836. Thomas Jefferson Green 1801-1863 "was born and died in Warren County, North Carolina. He went to Texas in 1836, and remained a citizen...until 1843. He served in the Texas Revolution with the rank of brigadier general. In 1843, he refused to obey the orders...and with a small body of Texan troops left the main army and made an expedition against the Mexican town of Mier...193 men and officers were taken prisoners and were started on a march to Mexico City." Santa Anna ordered every tenth man shot at Salado. They were held about two years. Green went to California and entered the Confederate Army in the Civil War. He wrote The Mier Expedition.N.Y. 1845. See Biographical Encycl.of Texas, 1880 p. 276.


The Moodys had lived in Alabama not far from Huntsville and may have known the men in the Wyatt corps. Houston got his blooded horses from Limestone County, Ala. near Huntsville. The ancestors of John Wyatt Moody lived in Warren Co., N.C. to 1819 after leaving Lunenburg Co., Va. where above Green lived. * * *

V. II, p. 55, Writings of Sam Houston. Columbia, Texas, 13 Feb. 1837, to Daniel Parker "I will file your brothers accounts with the auditor; Major Moody!... Houston to J.W. Moody "Columbia, Texas, 14th Feb'y 1837. Gneil Houston's compliments to Maj. Moody, and will with great pleasure meet his request." Addressed to Maj. J.W. Moody Present. This letter from J.W. Moody Papers, Texas State Library, and see Houston to Senate, Dec. 20, 1836.

P. 60, Houston to "Maj. J. Moody, Auditor," Feb. 28, 1837, to pay G.W. Poe, dated Columbia, addressed to Moody Present. Endorsed "Order from his Excellency to examine and settle with Paymaster Gen. etc. Taken from Houston to Senate Dec. 20, 1836, which see, also Moody Papers. P. 90, Houston from City of Houston 9 May 1837 to "Major John W. Moody" to audit account of Post Surgeon Smith, Endorsed "$177.45 Doct. Wm. P. Smith, Filed 9 May 1837. Exand same day. Admitted to audit as post Surgeon up to 28th March, 1836...J.W. Moody auditor 25th Dec. 1835 Feb. 9th 1837. No. Draft 1475. See Houston to Senate, Dec. 20, 1836.

V. II, p. 188. Houston to Major Moody, 30th Jany 1838. "The President highly approves Your suggestion in relation to Administrators, and desires that they should be observed by your Department. Let the oath be so amended in relation to Rangers, and mounted men as to embrace the fact of their not being mounted, for any part of the time, which required them to be mounted. Let them be paid
only for the time which they were actually mounted, as cavalry & the residue as
Infantry. I thank you for your vigilance--You will be sustained by the Executive
and blessed by the Grateful People. Capt. Eastland was directed by me to make a
full report on the subject of those not mounted. SAM HOUSTON." From Auditor's
Papers, Texas State Library; see Houston to Senate June 20, 1837. "The suggestions
which called forth such wholehearted approval from Houston were as follows:
"Auditor's Office, Houston 29, Jan. 1838. His Excellency the President: Upon a
strict examination of the Rules presented to me by your Excellency I would beg lea-
to suggest as no pay is to be issued to the Administrator of a deceased soldier or
Officer unless to a relative, whether it would not be proper to refuse any action
upon Cases of that Character, until Congress shall pass some Law on that subject,
as no Ranger is to be paid only as Infantry, who have not been mounted. This
Department has no way to know these facts. Certificates generally state that A. or
B. have served in the Ranging Corps under my Command from -- to -- as no returns
of Muster Rolls have been made to this Department, he cannot know who was mounted
and who was not. I have hitherto paid those Rangers under the Command of Majr.
R. M. Williamson $1.25 per day; those not otherwise provided for $25 per month.
Those raised to protect the frontier to consist of Two hundred and Eighty men,
addition for furnishing their own Horses and Arms ($23 per month, the officers
of the latter as Cavalry with $15 per month addition). I am called upon to deliver
the pay to Administrators. I have refused to do so until today in order that I
can have your written instructions on that subject. All of which is respectfully
submitted by your Obedient Servant, J.W. MOODY, AUDITOR."

P. 194 Houston from City of Houston 7 Feb'y 1838 to Major J.W. Moody, First
Auditor referring to General F. Houston "It is for the auditor to determine the
legality of the voucher, as it is fairly within his competency to decide upon the
law of the case." The amount of Felix Houston was for 16 months $4,955.95. See
Houston to Senate June 20, 1837.

P. 195 Houston to Major John W. Moody 10 Feb'y 1838,"Sir, You will be so good
as to prevent Mr. Sage drawing any money...he is not entitled to one cent. I pray
that you will not pass any accounts hereafter without the most satisfactory
evidence of their validity and justice. If that is not presented, for Gods-sake
let the Acct be refer'd to the President." From J.W. Moody Papers. P. 196 letter
to Maj. Moody 1st Auditor from Houston about Mr. Northrup's pay as 1st Lieutenant
with servant.

"Sir, You have leave of ab sence from your duties of office, for the space of
twenty days, from this date. SAM HOUSTON." Endorsed: "Presidents Letter."
regards to Major Moody, and refers him to the 1st article of the regulations
published 6th Feb'y 1838, and hereafter should Major M... receive any accounts not
in conformity with them he will please to send them to the President with his
remarks ... You are to judge of the whole merits of a claim--All that Col.
Poe's signature is worth is to recommend the paper to your examination..."
P. 234 "On October 2, 1837, the House resolved that the Auditor of Accounts be
required to lay before the House reasons why he had refused to audit the discharg
of the volunteers who served a tour of duty under the commands of Captain Michael
Costly and Captain George Washington Jewell. John W. Moody, Auditor of Accounts,
made reply on October 5, stating that the two...had not obeyed orders, and that
Houston, the President of the Republic had instructed him not to pay these two
companies...See Lamar Papers I, 573-4." P. 237, Houston to Moody 24 May 1838,
to audit strictly Lynch's Company. P. 241 Houston to Moody, City of Houston, May
25, 1838, instructions on auditing: "You are not bound to admit any but upon your
own discretion. Audit means to hear & decide upon, and no approval by any power
can deprive the Auditor of his own right to judge." P. 243 Houston to Moody 30
May, 1838, asking for a report on money. P. 253, Houston to Moody 15 June 1838,
"no account is to be audited without the person...gives a receipt to the Paymaster
(Note--not all references to Moody are in the index. I saw a few others.)
MAJOR JOHN WYATT MOODY, FIRST AUDITOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE TEXAN REVOLUTION, 1835-1836, ed. by W.C. Binkley. P. 259 San Felipe de Austin 30th dec 1835. Mistress A.B. Peyton Madam In examining the different accounts placed in my hands as Auditor, I find one of yours, which I am compelled to reject in its present shape the law on that subject giving me no Equity jurisdiction you will therefore have the goodness to arrange it in proper form it must state the day on which your oxen was pressed into service the time when you received them if you have received them. If you have not the price must be ascertained by the affidavit of some credible witness who knew them the time & price must also be proven as well as the customary Price of the Country for the use of such property per day, if a specific contract was made by the press master & you it will only be necessary to have his certificate with an affidavit that the same is original I shall take great pleasure in extending to you full and ample justice I am with due Regard Your obt servt J.W. MOODY AUDITR.

"Signed copy, Comptroller's Letters. . . Moody had begun his work as auditor on the day that this letter was written. Gammel, Laws of Texas, I, 717."

Page 279: "Auditors Office 9th January 1836 The Honble the President and Members of the General Council Gentlemen Two reports are due from me to your honourable Body by tomorrow, the Only apology I have to offer is want of Paper I have sent to Washington for paper and Expect return to morrow evening, I will then be ready to report, the different duties of my office require three or four blank books as you will perceive by a reference to the 13th section of the ordinance creating an auditor & controllers office. The latter clause of the 2d section, Makes it my duty to keep a record in a neat business like manner in the first part of section 3 I am at all times to be able to detect fraud etc. by a reference to my books you will discover in the 5th section the auditor shall pursue the same Routine in relation to the necessary expenses of his office stationary of a suitable kind being essentially necessary to the Interest of all should be promptly attended to your Auditor would therefore ask to be authorised to draw such sum as would enable him to procure the same, that he may be able to discharge the duties of his office with Credit to himself and dignity to the Country. Which in duty bound heremains your obt Servant J.W. MOODY." For ordinance see Gammel, Laws of Texas, I 1003-1008.

"His Excellency James W. Robinson acting Governor an apology, is due from me to the General Council. I tender it through your Excellency, there being no quorum at present, for not having fulfilled the requirements of the 21st Section of an ordinance and decree Creating the offices of Auditor and controller of public accounts for Texas. the main Cause, was, want of Stationary, which must be obvious to your excellency, as well as to the Members of the General Council this then, being the earliest period I beg to report that since the first day of January, Instant, I have admitted to audit and drafted for on account of

Contingent Expenses $206.75
Civil Expenses 713.00
Military Expenditures 11,358.21
Making an aggregate of $12,277.96
up to 21st January 1836 inclusive. . . the debets of the Government up to the 21st January, Instant, is $12,277.96 which latter sum I am of opinion is the proper debets of the Government not seeing my way Clearly I have thought proper to report the facts my Records show in what manner the notes etc. are consumed. Very Respectfully I Remain Your Auditor J.W. MOODY, January 22nd, 1836."

P. 395. "San Felipe De Austin 5 Feby 1836 His Excellency James W. Robinson In pursuance of the existing laws I report to your Excellency Since 29th ult up to 4th Instant (inclusive) I have admitted to audit and drafted for on account Military Expenses $122.66, Amt. of Govt. debt on 28th ult. 28,089.21, Amt. of Govt. Debt on 4th Inst. $28,211.87, J.W. MOODY AUDITOR OF PUB A/c for Texas." (A.L.S. Treasury Papers.)

P. 407, "San Felipe de Austin 10 Feby 1836." Moody reports to Robinson again. Military Expenses $7009.88, Civil Expenses $245.50, Contingent Expenses $90.00, total $7,345.48. Total $35,557.35. etc. From Treasury Papers, J.W. Moody.


P. 453 "Washington 25th February 1836." In my last Report I discovered an error of Eleven cents the amt of Government Debts as Reported last was $39171.75 which should have been $39171.86 as stated above. J.W. MOODY AUDITOR." P. 476. "Washington 2d March 1836, His Excellency James W. Robinson," report of J.W. Moody auditor Pub A/c for Texas, government debt 1 March 1836 $42,146.52. "I will here remark I have reported to the Convention. I understand the Convention had formed themselves into a legislative Character appointed a Committee to wait on His Excellency the (ex) Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and Council. I am now informed the Committee is not appointed for fear I may be in error I have thought proper to report to your excellency a Copy in substance of the one alluded to with sentiments of highregard I remain Your Obedient Servant, J.W. MOODY AUDITOR PUB A/C for Texas." A copy of the above report addressed to The Honourable President and Members of the Convention is in Financial Affairs Papers."

McINTYRE NOTES: On Jan. 29, 1836, from Austin, the Advisory Committee to Pres. Robinson wrote that copies of the laws should be given to "Lieut. McIntire and such other gentlemen...on their return to Copano." This refers to Thomas H. McIntire "a native of Pennsylvania, who had moved to Texas in 1829. Both later participated in the battle of SanJacinto, Tarleton as a private and McIntire as a captain." He with James Tarleton, B. C. Wallace, were the captains of volunteers. See L.C., Consultation Papers etc. **

The Ad Interim Government March 17 to Oct. 22, 1836, included David G. Burnet President, Samuel P. Carson, Secretary of State etc. P. 284 David Crockett had arrived 1836 in January at St. Augustine, Texas. He was at the Alamo. **

On Feb. 26, 1955, Seymour V. Conner, archivist of the Texas State Library, wrote to Wm. A. Moody: "I personally get the feeling that J.W. Moody's careful approach to the financial problem of the Republic is one of the major factors in the success of the government of the Republic. I have reviewed in the past yea literally hundreds of letters and documents under his hand and have come to the opinion that he is one of the neglected figures in Texas history. I should very much like to see someone attempt to do a biographical monograph on Moody."

THE HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY, TEXAS, by A.A.Aldrich, 1943, p. 7--in the list of petitioner's to create the county is William Anglin, Elish Anglin, Martin Murchison etc. April 22, 1837. (This was father of John Monroe Moody's wife.)

P. 177 Armistead Thompson Monroe was son of Augustine Garnett Monroe, who was a nephew of President James Monroe. A. T. "had three brothers named John and Joseph and James. James was a general in the northern army...John was a trader and left his family well provided for in New York City." Joseph was a priest. A.T. left Virginia at 18 for New York City and came to Texas 1842-3.
MOODY RECORDS IN TEXAS--MILITARY

James M. Day, Director of State Archives, sent photostat copies from the Comptroller's Military Service Records on John Monroe Moody and Wm. C. Moody. "These records are proof of service during the Texas Revolution. We checked various other sources for military service during this period, but found no mention of these men...We could find no additional service information concerning a Confederate war record for John Monroe Moody, but we did locate one for a J.W. Moody which we thought might be of interest to you." P. 171, Moody Family Record, had a note: "There was a John Monroe Moody who served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, a member of the Brock's Regt., 18th Brigade, Texas State Troops. It is improbable that these persons are the same." Service qualifies for Daughters of the Republic.

"Post of Washington, Town of Washington, 30th Sept. 1836. This is to certify that Wm. C. Moody has served in my company of cavalry, as a volunteer for the last three months. He discharged his duties as a private, to the satisfaction of our officers and also being empowered by authority from F. Auston (?), brev. (?') brig. gen', T.A., acting Colonel of Cav.'y, to discharge the men of my company they being at headquarters of cavalry, he is hereby honorably discharged. J.G.W. PIERSON, Capt. of Cavalry, Texas Army." (Photostat, very hard to read.)

CMSR (Comptroller's Military Service File), under John M. Moody, Texas State Library, Archives Division, Austin, Texas: "166 $166.66. John M. Moody, filed 20th October, 1838. Examined & admitted to audit for one hundred & sixty-six 66/100th dollars. A. WEILKMEYER T. Auditor (? unreadable words), approved 20th Oct. 1838 DANIEL (?) P. Lubbock, Comptroller. Orig. 20th October 1838 dft issued 1934 G $166.66, Civil List." (Photostat, hard to read.)

"Auditor's Office, Houston 20th Octr. 1838. I certify that John Monroe Moody is entitled to two months pay as assistant Clerk in this office at the rate of $1,000 per annum. $166.66. J.W. MOODY (?) Auditor." (Photostat.)

From James M. Day, Director of State Archives, Texas State Library: "This will certify that a military record for the person listed below is found in the Muster Rolls, Confederate States of America, Texas State Library, Archives Division. Service Record: Moody, J.W., rank: Private; Comm. Off. Captain J.A. Clayton, Organization: Reserve Company, Precinct No. 2, Navarro County, 19th Brigade, Texas Militia. Enlist. Date: September 15, 1861. Disch. Date not given. Navarro, Ellis, Freestone and Limestone Counties compose 19th Brigade."

P. 4, Official Correspondence of the Texan Revolution, Binkley: In 1835, on the permanent council Oct. 17 were present, J.G.W. Pierson and Alexander Thompson etc. from Viesca...Pierson served as secretary from October 17 to October 19." P. 491. Pierson accepted as aide de camp from Milam, Mar. 9, 1836, when he wrote to the Governor saying he would "proceed to the organization of the militia the first class will rendezvous at this place on the 19th inst ready for march as soon as the necessary arms ammunition provisions etc. can be procured, which I shall be compelled to procure from below from the situation of this country I take the liberty of suggesting the propriety of my ordering the troops from this section against the indians it is here stated that Mexicans have been seen among the indians and from their movements it is believed an attack from that quarter is intended on the whites ere long...your Excellency is not perhaps apprised that the people here are thinly settled and in an entirely defenceless situation."

Descendants of John Wyatt Moody are qualified to join the Daughters of the Texas Republic. I sent his records to the State Library, Austin, and Day replied, "We have made these a part of our permanent collection and very much appreciate your sending them." Oct. 18, 1963.
TELEGRAPH AND TEXAS REGISTER (Houston, Texas), Wednesday, February 6, 1839:

"Houston, Jan. 26, 1839. To Gen. Sam Houston: Sir: the undersigned your fellow-citizens, understanding you purpose leaving on a visit to the U.S. of the north, and anxious to testify their esteem and regard, beg leave most respectfully to tender you a ball, to be given at such time as may suit your convenience. We have the honor to subscribe ourselves, Your obedient servants, Messrs. W. N. Bronaugh A. M. Tompkins, J. W. Moody, J. W. Scott, G. W. Bonnell, Niles F. Smith, F. R. Lubbock and others."

"City of Houston, Jan. 28, 1839. Gentlemen: Your polite invitation to a ball tendered to me, I have had the pleasure to receive. I most highly value the testimonial of regard which you have rendered me. The feelings and sentiments which prompted it are properly appreciated. I would be peculiarly happy in participating in the festivities of an evening with my friends before my departure, but owing to the long neglect of my private business, I will have to render my undivided attention to it until my departure, which must be within a very few days. I pray, gentlemen, that you will be assured of the grateful sense I feel in return for your desires, and that you will accept assurances of my most cordial and affectionate esteem. I am, with great regard, gentlemen, Your obedient servant, SAM HOUSTON.


COUNTY OF GRIMES, 1860 CENSUS: Page 67, dwelling 437: Moody, J. M., age 46, male, butcher, value of property 6560 $100; born Alabama; Fannie age 84, female, born in Alabama; born in Texas all the following--Nancy 13 F, William 10 M, Lucinda C. 9 F, Mary J. 8 F, John M. 7 M, Henry 5 M, Jesse A (?) 2 F.

LETTER OF OCT. 14, 1963, FROM LLERENA FRIEND, BARKER TEXAS HISTORY LIBRARY, University of Texas, Austint, Texas: "Of course we are quite delighted to have this compilation of Moody genealogy...for our files. The names of John Monroe Moody and William C. Moody do not appear in any index that I have located here. You might check the Lamar Papers (6 vols)...I believe that I found some 25-30 mentions of the name John W. Moody in the newspaper index cards. There is no way that this library could check those. Miss Miriam Dozier of 1900 Pearl St., does work of this type." The General Land Office is in the Texas Archives and Library Bldg., Austin.

Letter from James M. Day, Director of State Archives, Austin, Oct. 18, 1963, enclosed data to him from William A. Moody. He enclosed record of Land Grant 183 to J. W. Moody of one league and labor of land, 1/3 in Harris Co. pat. Dec. 1854, 2/3 league and one labor in Harris Co. pat. May 8, 1861. He arrived May 1835, married. Files Harris 1st 269,174. Bascom Giles, Comr. of G. L. Office. Material enclosed from W.A. Moody on John Wyatt Moody stated that "his son, William C. said his father believed he could make a good Negro out of any slave by treating him kindly. In 1833 John W. moved with his family to Wympta, in the Creek Indian territory...my record gives his age at death as sixty-three. I took my data from my father's record."

At Yale Beineke Rare Book & Ms Library, New Haven, I checked a few records. The Telegraph and Texas Register is there from Aug. 2, 1836, to Aug. 4, 1838, but only V 1-23, 111-49 (40), whole 23-144, and Nov. 15, 1843. I checked quickly to Nov. 22, 1836. Page of Drafts paid by Treasurer May 1, Junet, 1838, inserted before June 9, 1836, Tel. and T. Reg. Civil List--J. W. Moody 208,33. Special Liabilities of Government by Executive Order J. W. Moody 474., Alex Kirkham & Co. 732.08 etc. Last issue suppl. to 144 in this book, Aug. 4, 1838. (Allen's owned Houston land.) In 1836 new town of Houston was advertised near Spring Creek and San Jacinto.
REPORT OF H. E. CHRISTIANSEN ON THE BALDWIN FAMILY

The following report was made to W. A. Moody 19 Aug. 1960:

"Resumed research on Mary Polly Baldwin (Wife of John Wyatt Moody) line at patron's urgent request of 9 Aug. 1960. Patron suggested that we look over F. H. Bal (Baldwin History) as it carried a Francis Baldwin of Chester Co., Pa. A careful analysis of this manuscript suggests that it is a compilation taken from various other sources and it isn't at all documented. This would suggest that it should not be given too much credence, though information therein may be of value. It is your researcher's opinion that this just contains sporadic information on many different lines and each entry must be taken on its own merits.

1. With respect to Rhoda Jennings (wife of Francis Baldwin) it is felt that the statement "born in Fairfield, Connecticut" is incorrect and that the information concerning Connecticut has come from "Promiscuous Name Gathering." 1452 Pt li (Barbour Collection) lists no information on a Rhoda Jennings born early enough to meet the description of our subject. The closest listed is one born 1775 of Weston.

The notes, group sheets, and related papers indicate that intensive research must be undertaken from the last "known" information and from the known localities of residence. The Baldwin and Jennings names are so common in both the North and South that a life-time could be spent in general name-hunting. From this point we will have to begin from "scratch" and follow accepted research procedures.


(The above is from patron's pedigree and family group sheet). B9C37 Vol. 1, page 727 (Baldwin Genealogy, 1881 by C. C. Baldwin) is by far the best documented information on the Baldwin family (with the corrections in volume 2) and the account of Francis of Chester County, Pa. with earlier information from F. H. 357 is about the best published information on the family.

Information is sketchy on the family of Francis Baldwin born 1769 and his wife Rhoda Jennings and we must begin with confirming information on this family and work back.

1. Four of Francis and Rhoda Baldwin's children stated lived in Warren County, Ohio. A check of "History of Warren County, Ohio" 1882, by Beers listed nothing on Baldwins, but information as follows was located on Jonas Whittaker-Whitacre who married SARAH BADWIN: Page 1028 "ROBERT WHITACRE (deceased), one of the earliest settlers in the southern part of the county, emigrated to and settled near the mouth of Todd's Fork, in the year 1805; he was of English descend his father, John Whitaacre, having emigrated from England about the year 1750,
Robert was married three times; first to SARAH ROACH, by whom he had one son, JONAS; second, Hannah Young, who died without issue; third, Patience McKay, by whom he had seven children—Andrew, John, Priscilla, Jane, Aquilla, Rhoda and Moses..." (Ohio W3). Page 663 of the same work stated that Robert Whitacre was from Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia and that a Mr. Roach with sons Jonah, George, Phineas, and Mahlon were of Harper's Ferry, Jefferson County, Va. We know Francis Baldwin was of Berkeley County, Va. (after 1860 in West Virginia) and all three of these counties adjoin each other. All up near the Maryland and Pennsylvania areas.

2. Three histories of Franklin County, Ohio, were searched here, but no information could be located on the name Baldwin nor Fish (Frances Baldwin was married to William Fish and she was supposed to be of Troy, Franklin, Ohio.

3. Nancy Baldwin statedly married (1) William Leaman or Seaman and (2) a Mr. Pearson. 5560 Pt 4 (1860 Census of Hardin Co., Tenn.) listed—#271-282 (Ingleside Post Office of Civil District #3) REBECCA COVEY 78 F Farmer $3000-$1500 Va. NANCY PEARSON 75 F Va. (Note: This is undoubtedly Nancy Baldwin who married a Mr. Pearson and who died in 1865 in Hardin County, Tenn. It is further possible that this Rebecca Covey is a sister to Nancy and is the Rebecca Baldwin who married Joel CASEY. Notice that both of them statedly were born in Virginia which would imply that Francis Baldwin and Rhoda Jennings were not in Wilkes County, G. until after 1785.

5561 Pt 3 (1850 Census of Hardin County, Tenn.) listed—
#83-83 of Civil District #3
JOEL CASEY 76 M Farmer $900 Va.
REBECCA 70 F Va.
NANCY PEARSON 68 F Va.
Elizabeth Mitchel 26 F (Mulatto) Tenn. (Note: This is the same family in 1850 and is certainly Joel Casey with Rebecca and Nancy; both born in Va.

4. 5007 Pt 21 (1860 Census of Warren County, Ohio) listed—
#125-121t Lebanon, Turtle Creek Township. ISABELLA NIXON 76 F Ireland.
#130-131 Lebanon, SARAH WHITCARE 72 F $1500 New Jersey; Richard 37 M Laborer, Ohio; Carolina 28 F, milliner, Ohio. (Note: This could well be Sarah Baldwin who married Jonas Whitacre. The New Jersey place of birth is very interesting.

5008 Pt 18 (1850 Census of Warren County, Ohio), #551-552. SARAH
WHITCARE 62 F New Jersey; Richard 28 M Laborer Ohio Deaf & Dumb; Caroline 19 F Ohio.

It would be well to have Mrs. Carl Main go into Warren and Franklin Counties, Ohio, and do further work on the Whitaker, Nixon and Baldwin names that are associated therewith. It is evident that we do not have sufficient records here to solve further into the problem there.

This gives us basic confirming information and we will next move into Wilkes County, Georgia Records to see what can be located pertaining to the family of Francis Baldwin and Rhoda Jennings.
"In the Name of God Amen, I WILLIAM JENNINGS of the State of Georgia and County of Wilkes, being weak in body but of a sound memory for which I bless God for, do make this my last will and testament, and revoking all other Wills—and as touching my worldly estate I dispose of it in the following Manner (viz) Item I give and bequeath unto my grandson GARLAND JETTER five pounds in property to be raised out of my estate at the discretion of my executors. Item, I have given and delivered in possession to my son DICKERSON JENNINGS all his part of my estate to him and his heirs and assigns forever. Item, I have given and delivered in possession to my son JOHN JENNINGS all his part of my estate, except ten pounds to be raised in property, as it may be best raised to him and his heirs and assigns forever. Item, I have given and delivered in possession to my son WILLIAM JENNINGS all his part of my estate except ten pounds to be raised in property to balance accounts with him, to him and his heirs and assigns forever. Item, I give and bequeath unto my son MOODY JENNINGS two hundred acres of land including his plantation and two negroes, David & Phillis to him and his heirs and assigns forever. Item, I have given and delivered in possession to my son JAMES JENNINGS all his part of my estate, except ten pounds to be raised in property as it may best be raised to him and his heirs and assigns forever. Item, I give and bequeath unto my son THOMAS JENNINGS, two hundred acres of land including the plantation where he live, one Negroe named Hanner, one feather bed & furniture to him and his heirs and assigns forever. Item, I do give and bequeath unto my son ROBERT JENNINGS one Negroe Jack, one feather bed & furniture to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

"Item, I do give and bequeath unto my THOMAS JENNINGS, two hundred acres of land including the plantation where he live, one Negroe named Hanner, one feather bed & furniture to him and his heirs and assigns forever. Item I do give and bequeath unto my son HENRY JENNINGS two hundred acres of land including the PLANTATION WHERE SOME I NOW LIVE, beginning at MOODY JENNINGS' line or the mouth of the branch then up the River to include his two hundred acres and one Negroe named Peter, one feather bed and furniture to him and his heirs and assigns forever. Item, I have given and delivered in possession to my daughter ELIZABETH ANDERSON all her part of my estate to her and her heirs and assigns forever. Item, I have given and delivered in possession to my daughter SARAH ROBERSON all her part of my estate except ten pounds to be raised in property as it may be best to her and her heirs and assigns forever. Item, I do lend unto my daughter MARY JETER during her life one Negroe named Lucy and after her death to be equally divided among her children to them and their heirs and assigns forever. Item, I do lend unto my daughter NANCY HIX during her life and after her death to her children one Negroe named Malley to them and their heirs forever. Item, I will that the remaining part of my land not given out be equally divided between my two daughters MARY JETER AND NANCY HIX. Item, I will that the remaining part of my estate be it whatsoever nature or quality soever which I have not given out (after what is to be raised out of the estate in property) to be equally divided among my five of my sons (viz) MOODY JENNINGS, JOSEPH, ROBERT, THOMAS & HENRY JENNINGS, Provided nevertheless that if ANY MY sons should die before they marry then and in that case their estate given to them should be equally divided among the five youngest boys then living. I will nothing herein contained be misconstrued for want of form or form in Law. I do appoint Robert Walton and my son MOODY JENNINGS my executors of this my last will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this nineteenth day of October Anno Domini 1793. N.C. Robert and Thomas Jennings is already had their parts beds & furniture before signed this nota Bina Made. WILLIAM JENNINGS (his Mark). Wit: OLIVER JETER, ROBERT JENNINGS, HENRY JEN
Personally appeared before me OLIVER JETER, ROBERT JENNINGS & HENRY JENNINGS the subscribing witnesses to the annexed will (say above will) and being by me duly sworn on the holy Evangel of Almighty God deposes and saith that they saw William Jennings sign seal publish and declare the annexed (say foregoing) Instrument of writing to be his last will and testament and that at the time of his so doing he was of sound mind...exhibited 31 Oct. 1793..."

22358 Pt 1 (Wills of Wilkes County, Georgia) continued --
1806-1808 (No Baldwins nor Jennings.)
1810-1816: page 2 "In the name of God amen, I BALDWIN BAIN OF WILKES County
...to my nephew Williamsen N. Bain...also all debts due to me in Amherst
County, Virginia...appoint my nephew Williamson N. Bain and Henry L. Bevein
executors ....17 Apr. 1807..." JOHN TODD AND JAMES FORD, witnesses.

Page 19, 31 Oct. 1793, Robert Walton and MOODY JENNINGS took out bond for Wm.
Jennings, deceased.

1818-1819 No Baldwins nor Jennings.
1819-1826 No Baldwins nor Jennings.
1827-1877 No Baldwins nor Jennings.

2. 22357 F Ga W2b (Index Heirs of Estates 1777-1877):
   NANCY JENNINGS, legatee to estate of Guy Smith, Wills 1819-36, 1830, p.
   301. No Baldwins listed. 22358 Pt 2 (Wills 1819-1836) p. 301, will of Guy Smith:
   "...wife Sally Smith...son John Smith...daughter NANCY JENNINGS...Mary Bailey
   mentioned, son William Smith, son Guy Smith, son Thomas Smith, daughter Sarah
   Beroshey (?) son Henry Smith...dated 15 Aug. 1830...."

3. WILKES COUNTY MARRIAGES. 22359 Pts 1-2 (Court of Ordinary, Marriages).
   1806-1831: No Baldwins--Giles Jennings & Mary Stark page 271; Hannah
   Jinnings & Joseph Taylor page 319: page 271 Giles Jennings and Mary Stark married
   Baldwins, Nixons, Fish, Tribbeys nor Caseys.
   1832-1856: No Baldwins nor Jennings.
   1790-1832: JOHN BALDWIN & RACHEL WEIBURN.
   ROBERT JENNINGS & Mary Chips

4. WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA, LAND RECORDS: 22379 F Ga W2x (Land Grants 1781-
   1854): Book A: No Baldwins nor Jennings. Book B WILLIAM BALDWIN, p. 31; WILLIS
   JENNINGS, page 97 or 91. P. 31: Warrant 2 Feb. 1785 WILLIAM BALDWIN, 200 acres
   adjoining MORDACAI BALDWIN, Cochran's land, Davises land, and Thomas Elliott land.
   P. 97: Warrant 10 Nov. 1784, WILLIS JENNINGS 1200 acres pine oak and hickory
   land on Goose Pond Creek of Broad River, adjoining Shepheard's land, Suela land
   and Maramar land.

   Book C: MORDACAI BALDWIN, p. 292. WILLIAM BALDWIN p. 301 or 303. MILES JENNINGS
   p. 9. P. 9 Warrant 3 Oct. 1785 MILES JENNINGS, 1500 acres adjoining Jas. Sheph-
   ards land, Chandlers land, Hardmans land and Thornton's land. On Goose Pond
   Creek (same area as Willis Jennings). P. 292 Warrant 9 July 1784 MORDACAI BALDWIN
   300 acres adjoining Heards land, Cochran's land, John Kimbrough's land, and two
   "Vacant" lands. P. 305: Warrant 8 August 1784 WILLIAM BALDWIN 300 acres good
   corn land, adjoining Mordacai Baldwin, William Kimbrough's land, John Gilmore's
   land and Stephen Heards land.

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INVENTORIES & SALES 1791-1816; 1825-1925, 22377 F Ga W2v. No Baldwins nor
Jennings were found in all volumes from 1795-1799 Pt. 1; 1791; 1794-1806; 1806-7,
Pt 2; 1807-1810 Pt. 3; 1811-1812; 1812-1816; 1825-28 Pt. 4; 1828-1831; 1830-1836
(unindexed, nothing found, pt. 5; 1836-1839; 1839-1841; 1843-1848; 1848-1853 (un-
indexed and a complete roll.) The fact that no inventories, appraisements nor
estates were noted for Baldwins and Jennings would imply that they perhaps left
Wilkes County before decease.
WILLIAM BALDWIN OF FREDERICK COUNTY, VA. 1765. "Know all men by these presents that I Hannah Bull of Hampshire County, Virginia, for and in consideration of the sum of eight pounds of current lawfull money of Virginia to me in hand paid by WILLIAM BALDWIN of Frederick County, farmer, whereof I do hereby acknowledge the receipt and myself therewith fully and entirely satisfied have bargained sold and delivered and by these presents in palm and open market according to the due form of the law in that case made and provided do bargain set over and deliver unto the said William Baldwin one sorrel mare branded on the near shoulder and buttock thus "B" the said mare to have and to hold to the proper use and behoof of him the said William Baldwin his heirs executors administrators and assigns forever and I the said Hannah Bull...sealed this 25th day of Mar. 1765. Wit: Thos. Powel and Jonathan Edwards." (7471 Pt. 7 Frederick Co., Va., Deeds.)

DEED FROM WILLIAM AND JEAN BALDWIN TO THOMAS BALDWIN. 1769. "This indenteure made the fourth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty three between William Baldwin and Jean his wife of Berkeley County in the Commonwealth of Virginia of the one part and Thomas Baldwin of Frederick County...for and in consideration of the sum of three hundred pounds lawful current money...doth release, acquit and discharge the said THOMAS BALDWIN his executors and administrators by these presents...doth grant...unto the said Thomas Baldwin (in his actual possession now being by virtue of a bargain and sale to him thereof made by the said William Baldwin by indenture bearing date the day next before the day of the date of these presents...a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the said County of Frederick...beginning at two white oaks by a small branch then N. 21 W one hundred and fifty two poles...containing five hundred acres...the same tract of land conveyed to the said William Baldwin by deed of lease and release from FRANCIS BALDWIN AND INNOCENT his wife, John Chenoweth and William Chenoweth executors of the last will and testament of JOHN BOSHER deceased, bearing date the third and fourth days of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty nine...recorded...No. 12 Folio 699...signed WILLIAM BALDWIN, JEAN BALDWIN (Her Mark)..." (7472 Pt. 12, V. 19, p. 371.)

Berkeley County was taken 1772 from Frederick County; Frederick 1738 from Orange and Augusta; Orange in 1734 from Spotsylvania; Spotsylvania 1720 from Essex, King and Queen and King William; Augusta 1738 from Orange.

MARRIAGE BONDS, FREDERICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA. (Va. F 3a (Mgs. 1771-1825). "These records of marriages in Frederick County, Virginia, beginning with the earliest 1771 and continuing to the year 1825...Frederick County was formed in 1713 from a portion of Orange County, Virginia; and, with Augusta County, was all that country west of the Blue Ridge Mountains. In 1763, by the treaty with France, its western boundaries were limited by the Mississippi River and it embraced what is now the states of West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. Two streams of migration flowed through Frederick County, the first came from NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA and Maryland. Among these were the German, Dutch, Welsh and Scotch-Irish. The second were the English people from tidewater Virginia, who became large landowners." William Baldwin was listed in Rental for Berkeley Co., 1780, with 1510 acres, 2 arrears. Same list has Wm. Baldwin, 1103 and 364 acres, 3 arrears and J..."

Land Owners 1781 lists William Baldwin Sen. In 1785 are listed William Baldwin Sen. and William Baldwin Jr. No Baldwin is listed 1786. In 1787 there are JANE BALDWIN, JOHN BALDWIN; in 1788 is listed JANE BALDWIN and again 1789, 1790, 1792, and in 1793 is listed JEAN BALDWIN. In 1794 is listed WILLIAM BALDWIN Ex.

Francis and William do not appear after 1785 except the exec. of William Baldwin's estate in 1794. Jane or Jean appears as a land owner. She is undoubtedly the wife of William who had died by 1787;
SAMUEL BALDWIN OF FREDERICK COUNTY, VA. 1750

"I SAMUEL BALDWIN of Frederick County and Colony of Virginia have for and in consideration of twenty pounds curt, money of Virginia to me in hand paid have bargained sold set over and delivered unto Mr. Gershom Keys one quebald (/) horse branded with Thomas Harts brand, two cows and one calf together with all my stock of hogs and my whole crop of Indian corn upon my plantation and all my household goods in my house belonging to me having and to hold forever which said creature and corn and household goods I do hereby oblige myself my heirs exrs. ad. and every of them to warrant and forever defend unto Mr. Gersham his heirs exrs. adms. and all manner of person and persons laying claim thereunto and the horses above mentioned delivered to said Keyes in liew of the whole. Given under my hand & seal the 23 of October 1750. Sealed & delivered in presence of JACOB HITE, W. DAVIS AND SAMUEL WALKER, SAMUEL BALDWIN (His Seal.)

"...This bill of sale...proved in open court...15 Nov. 1750." (7474 F Va F5c Frederick County, Va. Deeds 1743-1867.) See photogr. Baldwin deeds, Pt 3, p192, v. 2.

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CORNELIUS BALDWIN OF NEW JERSEY AND FREDERICK CO., VA. 1784

"This indeniture made the fifth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four between Isaac Wilkes and Jean his wife of Winchester in the county of Frederick and State of Virginia of the one part and CORNELIUS BALDWIN LATE OF NEW JERSEY of the other part...for ninety pounds...a certain lot or half acre of land situate in Lord Fairfax's addition to the said town of Winchester...N21l..." (Pt. 12, v. 20, p. 219.)

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FREDERICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MINISTER RETURNS (Va F 3a, Marriages 1771-1825.)

Cornelius Baldwin and Mary Briscoe, 16 Oct. 1783
Cornelius Baldwin and Nelly Conway Hite, 28 Nov. 1809.
Cornelius Baldwin and Susan Pritchard, 31 Aug. 1819.
Joseph C. Baldwin and Eliza Baldwin 6 June 1810.
Joshua Baldwin and Elizabeth B. George 26 Feb. 1823.
Robert T. Baldwin and Sarah Macky 14 May 1818.
Thomas Baldwin Jr. and Mary Kurtz, 7 Jan. 1802.
William Baldwin and Elizabeth Mann, 28 Nov. 1805.
William Baldwin and Margaret Mahamann, 26 Mar. 1813.
ANGUS JENNINGS and Susannah Smith, 8 Sept. 1788.
DANIEL JENNINGS and Polly Parker, 12 Dec. 1787.
Joseph Jennings and Evelina Withers, 8 May 1822.
Page 7 Mary Jennings and Zachariah Jones 31 May 1793.
Page 26 Mary Baldwin and John Cocks, 8 Aug. 1790.
Page 40 Margaret Baldwin and Thomas Henshaw, 15 July 1811.
Page 52, Rebecca Baldwin and Hugh Martain, 30 Sept. 1790.
Page 30 Sarah JENNINGS and Stephen Dick, 4 May 1805.
Page 27 Rebecca JENNINGS and John Cordell, 2 Mar. 1796.
Page 56 NANCY JENNINGS and Joseph Norman, 2 June 1800.
Page 65 Betsy Jennings and Adam Shipe, 23 Apr. 1799.

"Note: None of the above marriages seems to apply to the children of Francis, but it is possible that there is a relationship.")

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INDEX TO WILLS ETC., OF BERKELEY CO., W. VA. 22, 200 F W. Va. Bl. William Baldwin A 35, A 37, A 96...George Jennings, A127; George S. Jennings, 413...

ESTATE SETTLEMENTS, BERKELEY CO., W. VA. p. 271 JENNINGS, ED., INV. 12/22/1806 JENNINGS, ED., ADM., 10/16/1809.