

Sam Houston

Five months after he led the Texas army to victory at the Battle of San Jacinto, Sam Houston was elected the first president of the Republic of Texas. He won by an overwhelming majority, easily defeating Stephen F. Austin, who was also running for president.

Houston faced a number of challenges during his first term as president of the Republic of Texas. He successfully established peace treaties with most Texas Indian tribes, including the powerful Comanches on the western frontier. He gained diplomatic recognition from the United States, though he was unable to secure loans from the U.S. government, and U.S. tariffs on Texas cotton negatively affected the Texas economy. To help raise revenue for the government, the Houston administration passed high taxes and disbanded the army to reduce spending. He relocated the capital from West Columbia to the new, small village of Houston, named in his honor. By the end of his first term in office, Texas' debt had increased to approximately \$3-4 million, and the Texas economy remained in very poor condition.

The constitution of the Republic of Texas prohibited a president from serving consecutive, or back-to-back, terms. Houston's vice president, Mirabeau Lamar, was elected the next president of Texas in 1838. During Lamar's presidency, Houston served as a congressman in the Texas House of Representatives from 1839 to 1841. He was a strong opponent of many of President Lamar's policies, including Lamar's war against the Texas Indians. During his time as a congressman, Houston married a young woman named Margaret Moffette Lea.

Houston served a second term as president of the Republic of Texas from December 12, 1841 to December 9, 1844. During this second term he worked to reduce government spending and reestablish peace agreements with Texas Indians. He also dramatically reduced government offices and salaries and attempted to sell the Texas navy. While some of these measures helped Texas financially, Houston also stopped payments on Texas' debt, which increased to \$12 million by 1846.

During Houston's second term, the Mexican army invaded Texas and occupied San Antonio twice in 1842. Houston authorized the Texas Rangers and militia to fight back and even to invade Mexico if they believed there was a possibility for success. This led to a battle in the town of Mier, where the Texans were defeated, captured, and imprisoned in Mexico.

Finally, during his second term in office, Houston worked to build a commercial and diplomatic partnership with Great Britain. He then used that developing partnership to try to convince the U. S. to annex Texas in order to prevent the British from gaining a stronghold over the young republic. Although most Americans opposed British influence over Texas, the U.S. Congress denied a second attempt to annex Texas in June 1844. In the end, Texas was finally annexed to the United States on December 29, 1845, a year after Houston left office.





Mirabeau Lamar

Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar was born in Georgia on August 16, 1798. He grew up on his father's plantation near Milledgeville, Georgia. As a young man he became involved in politics, serving in the cabinet of the Georgia governor in 1823. Lamar married a woman named Tabitha Jordan in 1826, and they had a daughter named Rebecca Ann. Lamar and his family then moved to the town of Columbus, Georgia, where he established a newspaper called the *Columbus Enquirer*. Lamar served as a senator in the Georgia state senate in 1829. He was running for reelection in 1830 when his wife died of tuberculosis, and he withdrew from the race.

In 1835, Lamar sold his newspaper and traveled with James W. Fannin to Texas on the eve of the Texas Revolution. He was an early supporter of the war for Texas independence, though he returned to the U.S. and was in Georgia during most of the Texas Revolution. When news of the Alamo and the Goliad Massacre reached him in Georgia, he returned to Texas, joined Sam Houston's army, and fought in the final battle at San Jacinto.

The first national election after Texas won its independence was held in September 1836. Sam Houston was elected president and Lamar was elected vice president. After Houston's term ended, Lamar was then elected president on a platform that opposed many of Houston's policies. Lamar opposed Texas joining the U.S., believing that Texas should continue as an independent nation and expand to the Pacific Ocean. He instituted a policy of forceful removals of the Texas Indians, driving the Cherokees out of east Texas and waging war against the Comanches in the west. By the end of Lamar's presidency, Texas' debt had climbed to \$10 million, largely as a result of his policy of war with the Texas Indians.

As president, Lamar attempted to gain diplomatic recognition for Texas from Mexico. When that failed, he established an unofficial alliance with the government of the Mexican state of Yucatán that was in rebellion against the centralist government in Mexico City. Lamar sent the Texas navy to Yucatán to aid in its rebellion against Mexico, but they were unsuccessful.

Additionally, Lamar relocated the Texas capital from Houston to the new and undeveloped village of Austin on the far-western frontier of the Republic. Hoping to boost the Texas economy, Lamar authorized an expedition to Santa Fe in 1841 to establish trade and convince the Mexican state of New Mexico to officially join the Republic of Texas. The Santa Fe expedition failed, however, and the members of the expedition were imprisoned by President Santa Anna. The failure of the Santa Fe expedition was an embarrassment for Texas and the Lamar administration.

During his term, Lamar also worked to set aside public lands for schools and universities. Although it would be decades before the Texas public school system was established, this action earned Lamar the nickname, "the Father of Texas Education."





Anson Jones

Anson Jones was born in Massachusetts on January 20, 1798. He studied medicine in New York and worked as a doctor in New York and Pennsylvania; however, he had little success. He then spent two years in Venezuela from 1824 to 1826 before returning to the United States. Then, in 1832 he moved to New Orleans where he briefly worked as a merchant.

In 1833, he moved to Brazoria, Texas, where he began a successful medical career. At the time, Texas was still part of Mexico. When the Texas Revolution broke out, Jones enlisted in the army as a surgeon and served at the Battle of San Jacinto. After the war, he returned to his home in the town of Barrington in Brazoria and resumed his medical practice.

During the first years of the Republic of Texas, Jones became increasingly involved in politics. He initially served as a congressman during Houston's first administration, where he worked for policies to regulate medical practices and promote education. Houston appointed Jones minister to the United States in 1838, with the goal of persuading the U.S. to accept Texas' annexation.

Jones then served as a senator under Texas' second president, Mirabeau Lamar. Jones was critical of many of Lamar's policies, including the Santa Fe Expedition and the costly wars against the Texas Indians. During this time, Jones married a woman named Mary Smith McCrory on May 17, 1840. After finishing his term as a Texas senator, Jones moved with his wife to his home in Brazoria where he resumed his medical practice.

When Sam Houston took office for the second time as president of the Republic of Texas, Houston offered Jones the position of secretary of state. In this position, Jones managed the foreign relations of Texas during some significant challenges, including two invasions of Texas by the Mexican army, struggles funding the Texas navy, and a second failed attempt at annexation to the United States.

In September 1844, Jones was elected to serve as the fourth president of the Republic of Texas. He angered many Texans by not publicly supporting annexation at that time. He focused instead on the less-popular strategy of securing diplomatic relationships with Mexico and Britain. The Texas congress nonetheless continued to work for annexation during his administration, finally achieving annexation to the U.S. in 1845.

After Texas' annexation, Jones retired to his plantation in Barrington near Washington-on-the-Brazos. He spent the remainder of his life managing his plantation. He established the first Masonic lodge in Texas at Brazoria and he helped establish the Medical Association of Texas. He died on January 9, 1858 and was buried in Houston. Today, his home in Barrington is a state historic site.





John Coffee Hays

John Coffee Hays, nicknamed Jack, was born in Tennessee in 1817. At an early age, he learned the skills needed to work as a surveyor. Surveyors provided accurate measurements of land and identified the boundaries of property to secure land ownership claims. His skills as a surveyor would prove valuable to him, especially after he moved to Texas in 1836.

Hays arrived in Texas in 1836 in the middle of the Texas Revolution. He joined the Texas army and then a company of rangers. During the Texas Revolution, the provisional government authorized groups of rangers to patrol the Texas frontier and protect settlers from thieves, the Mexican military, and Indian raids. Hays was involved in several conflicts with the Mexican military during his service as a ranger during the Texas Revolution.

After the Texas Revolution, Hays worked as the deputy surveyor of the Bexar district, where San Antonio is located. He also continued his service with the Texas Rangers. From 1840 to 1846, Hays served as a captain and then a major in Ranger companies that included Anglo and Tejano volunteers and Indian allies, primarily from the Lipan Apache tribe.

Hays led the Rangers in fights against invasions of Texas by Mexican armies during 1842. After the second invasion and occupation of San Antonio, Hay's small company of Rangers joined forces with the Texas army under Captain Mathew Caldwell to fight the Mexican army under Adrián Woll at the Battle of Salado Creek, which took place seven miles outside of San Antonio. The Texas Rangers and the army defeated the Mexican troops and then followed Woll and his men as they retreated to the border of Texas.

Hays was also involved in a number of conflicts with Texas Indian tribes on the western frontier during his time in the Texas Rangers. He led the Rangers in fights primarily with the Comanche at Plum Creek, Cañon de Ugalde, Bandera Pass, Painted Rock, and Walker's Creek. His Ranger company was also tasked with patrolling the border between Texas and Mexico, specifically to stop thieves and smugglers operating in the border region. Hays and his men tracked down people accused of thievery, often executing them without a trial.

John "Jack" Coffee Hays and the Texas Rangers played a significant role in the development of the Republic of Texas.





Chief Bowles

Chief Bowles was known by several different names, including Duwali, Diwal'li, and Chief Bowl. He was one of the primary chiefs of the Cherokee Indians in Texas from about 1820 to 1839. Chief Bowl was born in North Carolina around 1756. He was the son of a Scottish father and a Cherokee mother. As a young man, he became a chief of a Cherokee village at Little Hiwassee in western North Carolina, though his tribe was forced to move several times as Anglo settlers migrated – often without permission – into Indian lands. The tribe moved to Missouri and Arkansas, but again found themselves crowded out by Anglo-Americans. They finally moved to Texas around 1820, settling near Nacogdoches in their search for land that they could call their own.

Chief Bowl became the primary civil chief, or peace chief, of several united Cherokee villages in east Texas. In 1827, Chief Bowl cooperated with the Mexican government to help put an end to the Fredonian Rebellion. Over the years, Chief Bowl made several attempts at negotiating with the Mexican government for official title to the land where the Cherokees had settled in east Texas, though he had no success in his negotiations.

During the Texas Revolution, Chief Bowl signed a treaty with Sam Houston, who was acting on behalf of the provisional government of Texas. This treaty promised the Cherokees legal rights to their land. After the Revolution, however, the government of the Republic of Texas refused to recognize the legitimacy of the treaty. When Vicente Córdova then led some Tejanos and Indians in rebellion against the Texas government, Chief Bowl denied Cherokee involvement in the Córdova Rebellion, though later evidence suggested he secretly supported the rebellion.

When Mirabeau Lamar became president of Texas in 1838, Lamar began what he called a "war of extermination" against many of the Texas Indian tribes, including the Cherokees. Lamar sent troops to fight and drive the Cherokees out of Texas. Chief Bowl was killed at the Battle of the Neches on July 16, 1839. He died carrying a sword that Sam Houston had given him years earlier as a gift. He was 83 years old at the time of his death.

After Chief Bowl's death, the Texas army forced the remaining Cherokees out of Texas into present-day Oklahoma. Chief Bowl's sword passed through many different hands over the years after being taken off his body at the Battle of the Neches. In 1890, the sword was returned to the Cherokee Nation.

The Cherokee Nation today is made up of 466,000 people as of 2024. The headquarters of the Cherokee Nation is in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and many members of the Cherokee still live in northeastern Oklahoma spanning an area covering fourteen counties.





William Goyens

William Goyens (or Goings) was an African American man of mixed race who had been born a free person in North Carolina in 1794. He was the son of William Goings Sr., a free man of mixed race, and his mother was an Anglo woman. Goyens moved to Texas in 1820 and settled in Nacogdoches, where he became a successful businessman, blacksmith, and wagonmaker. He also hauled freight, meaning he transported large materials for trade. On one of his freight-hauling trips from Texas to the U.S. state of Louisiana, he was captured by a man who attempted to sell him into slavery. Goyens was able to make it back to Texas and file a lawsuit which successfully upheld his claims to freedom. In 1832, Goyens married an Anglo woman named Mary Pate Sibley, who had one son from a previous marriage.

Goyens learned Spanish and a number of Texas Indian languages, which enabled him to become a translator and mediator between the Mexican government, Anglo-Americans, and many Texas Indian tribes in many important meetings over the years. He often served as an agent of Mexico in its dealings with the Comanches. During the Texas Revolution, he also served as an agent, mediator, and translator for the provisional government of Texas in its dealings with the Cherokees of east Texas. He played a significant role in the meeting at which Sam Houston negotiated a peace treaty with the Cherokees.

After the Texas Revolution, Goyens continued in his role as an agent of the Texas government with the Cherokees. He purchased property near Nacogdoches and by 1841 he managed over 4,000 acres of farmland, several properties in Nacogdoches, and owned nine enslaved people. He built a large, two-story home with a sawmill and gristmill on Moral Creek where he and his wife Mary lived for the rest of their lives.

Throughout his life, Goyens fought for his right to own property and take part in businesses within his predominately white community. He hired the best lawyers to uphold his rights in court and was often successful in his court cases. By the time of his death in 1856, ten years after Texas was annexed to the United States, Goyens owned nearly 12,500 acres of land. His wife had died shortly before his passing, and they were both buried in Nacogdoches County. A special grave marker was placed at his grave in 1936 by the Texas Centennial Commission, an organization established to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Texas' independence from Mexico.





Mary (Adams) Maverick

Mary Ann Adams was born on March 16, 1818, in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama. She was the daughter of William Lewis and Agatha Strother Lewis Adams. She grew up on her family plantation near Tuscaloosa and attended school, which was not always common for young girls at the time. She married Samuel Augustus Maverick at her home in Alabama on August 4, 1836. Samuel had participated in the Texas Revolution, which ended only months before their wedding. Mary and Samuel later moved to the Republic of Texas in 1838.

Mary and Samuel initially settled in San Antonio. When the Mexican army invaded and occupied the city twice in 1842, the Mavericks fled the city along with many other families in search of safety. Mary and Samuel moved several times during the years that followed, living briefly near Gonzales and in Matagorda Bay, before finally returning to San Antonio in 1847.

Mary and Samuel had ten children over the course of twenty-one years, and Mary spent much of her time during those years raising her family. Four of her children died of illnesses before they were eight years old. As her surviving children grew up, Mary become active in her community. She volunteered at her church, serving as president of the Ladies' Parish Aid Society for twenty years. She also helped establish St. Mark's Episcopal Church in San Antonio, which still exists as an active church today.

After her husband died in 1870, Mary worked to ensure that Texas' early history was preserved. She became a member of the San Antonio Historical Society and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. She also served as the president of the Alamo Monument Association for many years. In this role, she worked to preserve the Alamo as a historic site and to educate the public about the importance of historical preservation. She also wrote a brief history of the fall of the Alamo.

During her early life in the Republic of Texas, Mary kept diaries of her experiences on the Texas frontier. In the 1880s, she organized her diaries into memoirs and had them published with the help of her son, George Madison Maverick. Her memoirs included her eyewitness account of the Council House Fight in 1840 and have provided people today with a vivid picture of what life was like during the Republic of Texas. Mary Maverick died on February 24, 1898, at 80 years of age. She was buried next to her husband in San Antonio City Cemetery No. 1.





José Antonio Navarro

José Antonio Navarro was a Tejano who helped establish the empresario system in Texas, establishing a close friendship with Stephen F. Austin. He was one of three Mexican signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence at the Constitutional Convention of 1836. Of those three, he was one of only two Texas-born Mexicans, or Tejanos, to sign the document, the other being his uncle, Francisco Ruiz. Navarro was elected to the Texas Congress in 1838 as a representative from Bexar, or San Antonio, after Texas won its independence from Mexico. As a congressman, Navarro worked to help develop Texas during its early years as a republic. This included working to protect and advance the rights of Tejanos in the Republic of Texas.

Navarro opposed many of President Sam Houston's policies. When Mirabeau Lamar became president of the Republic of Texas, Navarro was a supporter of many of Lamar's policies. When Lamar organized the Santa Fe expedition in 1841 in an attempt to establish trade and bring New Mexico into the Republic of Texas, Lamar persuaded Navarro to join the expedition.

Navarro faced many challenges during the Santa Fe expedition. When the expedition arrived in Santa Fe, Navarro and many others were taken prisoner by the Mexican authorities there. Navarro and the other captured Texans were then marched 2,000 miles to Mexico City where they were interrogated and imprisoned near Veracruz. During his interrogations, the Mexican authorities offered Navarro his freedom if he would give up his position in the Texas government and swear allegiance to Mexico. Navarro refused, so he was convicted of treason and sentenced to death.

Navarro's death sentence was later changed to a life sentence in a prison in Veracruz, where he spent four years in terrible conditions in the prison dungeons. In 1844, President Santa Anna was overthrown and, shortly after that, Navarro was able to escape the prison and make his way back to Galveston by way of ship. At 50 years old, he arrived back at his Texas home on February 18, 1845. He was welcomed back as a hero.

Navarro continued to serve his community until his death in 1871. He supported annexation to the U.S., helped create the Texas constitution in 1845, and served twice as a U.S. senator for Texas. He authored historical and political articles for the local newspaper to help keep the people of San Antonio informed. He died on January 13, 1871, at his home in San Antonio, which is now the Casa Navarro State Historic Site.





Vicente Córdova

Vicente Córdova was born in east Texas in 1798 when Texas and Mexico were still under Spanish colonial rule. As a young man, he played an active role in the Spanish government of Nacogdoches. He served as alcalde, or mayor, of Nacogdoches, and later as a judge and on the town council. By the time Mexico had gained its independence from Spain, Córdova had become one of the largest land owners in Nacogdoches. He married a woman named María Antonia Córdova on July 29, 1824, and they had several children together.

In 1832, Córdova was the captain of a local militia group in Nacogdoches. After a conflict between some Anglos and the centralist troops at Fort Anahuac, the Mexican military in Nacogdoches ordered all residents to surrender their firearms in order to prevent a similar uprising from occurring there. Anglos and Tejanos in the area, including Córdova's militia, fought against this order. They defeated the centralist troops in east Texas and forced the Mexican army out of the region.

When the Texas Revolution broke out, Córdova supported the war, but not Texas independence. Instead, he supported a return to the Mexican Federal Constitution of 1824. In the fall of 1835, Córdova was serving as a judge in Nacogdoches when he secretly began to organize local resistance to the Texan revolutionaries. He negotiated an alliance with Cherokee Chief Bowl, promising to grant the Cherokees ownership of their lands in east Texas.

After the Texas Revolution ended, Córdova opposed the government of the Republic of Texas and continued his work for a return to the Constitution of 1824. In August 1838, he organized a large group of Mexican loyalists and local Indians in a rebellion against the Republic of Texas. During the Córdova rebellion, the rebels carried out several attacks on Anglo settlers in the area before a Texas militia under Thomas J. Rusk ended the rebellion.

After his failed rebellion, Córdova fled south toward Mexico with a small group of rebels. A Texas militia under Edward Burleson caught up to Córdova and his men at Mill Creek near Austin, and Córdova was severely wounded in the battle that followed. He eventually managed to make his way to Mexico where he recovered and then joined the Mexican military under General Adrián Woll. He took part in the September 1842 invasion and occupation of San Antonio and was killed shortly afterward in the Battle of Salado Creek on September 18, 1842.





Thomas J. Rusk

Thomas Jefferson Rusk was born in South Carolina on December 5, 1803. Rusk worked as a county district clerk while attending law school. Then, in 1825 he moved to Georgia to work as a lawyer. Two years later he married a woman named Mary "Polly" Cleveland and went into business with her father, General Benjamin Cleveland.

During that time, Rusk made large investments in the gold mining business of Georgia, but lost his investments when the managers of the company stole all the money and fled to Texas. In an attempt to recover his investment, Rusk followed the managers to Texas. He was unable to recover his money, but decided to stay in Texas. He became a Mexican citizen in February 1835, settled in Nacogdoches in David G. Burnet's colony, and then sent for his family to join him.

When the Texas Revolution broke out at the Battle of Gonzales on October 2, 1835, Rusk organized a group of volunteers to join Stephen F. Austin's militia at Gonzales. Rusk then proceeded with his men to San Antonio, but left the army before the Siege of Bexar and the Battle of the Alamo. He was the Nacogdoches delegate to the Convention of 1836, where he signed the Texas Declaration of Independence and helped lead the committee that wrote the Texas constitution. He then served as the secretary of war for the provisional government. He took part in the Battle of San Jacinto and served as the commander in chief of the Army of the Republic of Texas for a short time following the Texas Revolution.

After Texas won its independence, Rusk played an active role in the Republic of Texas. He served for a short time as the secretary of war under President Sam Houston. He then served in the Republic of Texas congress from 1837 to 1838, when he was elected major general of the militia. Rusk led the militia in subduing the Córdova Rebellion in August 1838. He continued to lead the militia under President Mirabeau Lamar, enforcing Lamar's policy of war against Texas Indians and driving the Cherokees out of Texas.

Rusk supported Texas annexation to the United States, serving as the president of the Convention of 1845, which accepted the terms of annexation. In 1846, Thomas Rusk and Sam Houston became the first two United States senators for Texas. That same year, Rusk helped establish the University of Nacogdoches.

During his time as a senator from Texas, Rusk advocated for improved transportation and postal services in Texas. He was serving as postmaster general in 1857 when his wife died of tuberculosis. Rusk himself was in poor health and died not long afterward, on July 29, 1857. The State of Texas placed a monument at the graves of Thomas and Mary Rusk, and the town and county of Rusk were both named in their honor.





Alexander Somervell

Alexander Somervell was born in Maryland on June 11, 1796. He moved several times as a young man, living in Louisiana where he worked as a planter and then Missouri as a merchant, before settling in Stephen F. Austin's colony in Texas in 1833, where he continued to work as a merchant in San Felipe de Austin.

When the Texas Revolution broke out in 1835, Somervell joined the Texas volunteers after the Battle of Gonzales and marched to San Antonio where he took part in the Siege of Bexar. He later fought in the Battle of San Jacinto. After the war, Somervell served in the first and second congresses of the Republic of Texas.

Somervell continued his service to the Republic of Texas as the commissioner to inspect land offices and then as the county clerk in Austin County. In March 1842, Sam Houston appointed Somervell as commander of the volunteers at San Antonio. When the Mexican army invaded Texas and occupied San Antonio twice in 1842, Somervell led the volunteer forces that fought back against the invasions. Houston authorized Somervell to pursue the Mexican army as they retreated to Mexico, with authority to invade Mexico if there was a realistic chance of success against the Mexican forces. Somervell led approximately 700 volunteers to the town of Laredo on the Rio Grande in pursuit of the Mexican army.

The Somervell expedition captured and raided the Texan border town of Laredo and then the nearby town of Guerrero. Several hundred men returned to their homes, and the Somervell believed he had accomplished his objective, and that the expedition would not succeed if it continued and he ordered the remainder of his men to return to Texas. However, only 189 men obeyed because many volunteers were eager to continue the expedition. The rest of the men remained under the command of William S. Fisher and continued on to carry out an unsuccessful fight against the Mexican army at the Mexican town of Mier. Meanwhile, Alexander Somervell returned to his home in Texas.

Following the Somervell expedition, Alexander Somervell was appointed collector of tariffs, at the port of Calhoun. He later helped establish the Texas town of Saluria on Matagorda Island. Somervell died under mysterious circumstances on January 20, 1854. He was found in Matagorda Bay, tied to a sunken boat that contained a large amount of money.





Adrián Woll

Adrián Woll was born in 1795 near Paris, France. He attended military academies as a young man and served in the French military for a number of years until he immigrated to the United States in 1816. Woll met with American General Winfield Scott, hoping to join the United States military. Instead, Scott encouraged Woll to join the Mexican revolutionary army in its fight against Spanish colonial rule. Woll took General Scott's advice and traveled to Mexico where he joined the Mexican revolutionary army as a lieutenant colonel. He fought in the War for Mexican Independence, eventually coming to serve under General Antonio López de Santa Anna.

Following Mexico's independence, Woll remained in the Mexican army. He became a citizen of Mexico, married a woman named Lucinda Vautrey Griggi, and climbed the ranks of the Mexican army under General Santa Anna, who was a federalist at the time. When the centralists overthrew the federalist government of Mexico, Woll continued to support Santa Anna, who had become a centralist.

During the Texas Revolution, Woll arrived in San Antonio after the Battle of the Alamo and took part in the pursuit of Sam Houston's army across Texas that caused thousands of Texans to flee their homes in the Runaway Scrape. Woll was captured by Houston's army at the Battle of San Jacinto, and briefly detained as a prisoner of war before he was eventually released to return to Mexico.

After the Texas Revolution, Woll continued to serve in the Mexican military under Santa Anna and the centralists. In 1842, Woll received orders to invade Texas and capture San Antonio. Woll and his troops occupied San Antonio from August 11 to 18, 1842. On August 18, Woll was defeated by the Texas militia and rangers at the Battle of Salado Creek. He and his men then returned to Mexico.

Woll went on to become a major general commanding Mexico's northern armies in 1843. Woll continued supporting the centralists for a number of years. During that time, he often made journeys back to his home country of France. In 1862, while Woll was in France, the French leader Napoleon III declared war on Mexico. Woll returned to Mexico, this time with the French military. He briefly took part in a French colonial government that was established to rule over Mexico. When Napoleon III withdrew his troops from Mexico in 1866, Woll returned to France where he lived the remainder of his life until his death in 1875.





Stephen Pearl Andrews

Born in Massachusetts in 1812, Stephen Pearl Andrews was the youngest of Elisha and Ann Andrews' eight children. He enrolled in Amherst College in Massachusetts in 1828, leaving two years later to accompany two of his siblings to Louisiana. He worked as an instructor at a seminary, or religious school, and then became a lawyer in 1833. In 1835, he married Mary Ann Gordon, whom he met while teaching at the seminary. Stephen and Mary would go on to have four sons together.

The Andrews' moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, where Stephen worked as a lawyer and began a friendship with a man named Lewis Tappan. Tappan was an abolitionist, meaning he opposed slavery and believed it should be abolished, or ended. Andrews was deeply influenced by Tappan's abolitionist views.

Andrews and his family experienced hard times during the financial panic of 1837. Hoping for new opportunities, he moved with his family to Texas and settled in Houston in 1839 where he worked as a lawyer and became active in real estate. He also continued to support the abolition of slavery in Texas.

In 1843, during Sam Houston's second term as president, Houston worked to form a diplomatic relationship with Great Britain in the hopes that the United States would annex Texas to prevent the British from gaining influence in North America. As part of his strategy, Houston worked to convince the British that Texas would support the abolition of slavery in exchange for an alliance with Britain. This led Andrews to believe that it might be possible to organize an abolitionist movement in the Republic of Texas.

Andrews traveled to Galveston in 1843 hoping to begin Texas' abolitionist movement there. But most people in Galveston opposed his plan and chased him out of the city. When Andrews returned to his home in Houston, news of his abolitionist activities in Galveston had reached Houston and an angry mob attacked him and his family at their home. Andrews and his family fled to the United States for safety.

Andrews continued his work for the abolition of slavery after he left Texas. He also supported the growing women's suffrage movement, which supported women's right to vote in the United States. He became interested in phonography¹ in the late 1840s. He opened a school of phonography in Boston and worked as an editor and publisher of several magazines and books on phonetics in New York. Andrews died on May 21, 1886, at the age of 74.



¹ **Phonography and phonetics**: studying language and sounds



Rosa Kleberg

Philippine Sophie Caroline Luise Rosalie "Rosa" von Roeder was born in Westphalia in what is now Germany on July 20, 1813. She was born into a wealthy family, but when her family experienced financial difficulties when she was a young girl, they decided to *emigrate*² to Texas. She married Robert Justus Kleberg on September 4, 1834, when she was 21 years old, and her entire family and new husband all moved to Texas that same year.

Rosa and her family experienced a number of challenges almost as soon as they arrived in Texas. Their ship wrecked on Galveston Island, several of her family members died during their first years in Texas, and within months of settling in Cat Spring the Texas Revolution began. Rosa's brothers, Albrecht and Louis, and her husband Robert all joined the army and fought in the revolution. Rosa fled with her infant daughter during the Runaway Scrape and later returned to find her house and most of her possessions destroyed by fire. Rosa later recalled that she and her family had to start over with less than they had when they first moved to Texas.

After the Texas Revolution, Rosa and her family moved to DeWitt County in 1847. The number of German immigrants arriving in Texas increased during this time as many Germans fled the turmoil of rebellions and revolutions happening in Germany and Europe from 1848 to 1849. Rosa helped many German immigrants settle into new lives in Texas. She often hosted and entertained new Germans arriving to Texas and cared for neighbors who were sick or dying. She raised her eight children, along with several nephews, a foster son, and eventually grandchildren. She was also active in running and maintaining the Kleberg family farm, building log house chicken coops and cultivating her garden.

Rosa's husband Robert died in 1880. She went on to live another twenty-seven years. Rosa passed away on July 3, 1907, in Yorktown, Texas. One of her sons, Robert J. Kleberg, married Alice Gertrudis King and took over management of the large and prominent King Ranch on the Texas Gulf Coast.

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² *Emigrate:* To leave your home country permanently. (*Immigrate*: to arrive in a new country to permanently settle)