

ed between crop seasons. His mother died in 1861, and his father enlisted in the service of the Confederate States and served in Lee's army as captain of Company E, Twenty-second Georgia regiment until the close of the civil war. During the war Mr. Foster and his brother and sister, constituting the family, lived with their grandmother who was a woman of marked intellectuality, and strong Christian character. The vicissitudes of war swept away his father's property in common with many others who were near the line of Sherman's march to the sea, and at the close of the war the country promised little for the future to the young and ambitious. Therefore Mr. Foster came to Texas, arriving at Horn Hill, Limestone county, Dec. 12, 1869. He was penniless and indebted to an uncle for the money that paid his expenses to Texas. Nothing daunted by the trials to which fortune subjected him, he sought honest employment and during the next four years cultivated the soil, picked cotton and worked at the brickmason's trade as opportunity offered to obtain the means with which to educate and fit himself for the duties and responsibility of professional life, it being his object at that time to enter the legal profession. Later he seriously contemplated entering the ministry, but providence directed his work along other lines as we shall hereafter see. By industry and frugality he earned money to pay his expenses at Waco University where he stood well with his teachers and classmates and acquired a fair English education.

In 1873 he removed to Groesbeck and at the earnest solicitation of the citizens of the place established the