

REMEMBERED BY A SOLDIER

His Stirring Appeal to the Little Band Who Helped Achieve Texas Independence.

Judge William J. Jones, the venerable ex-jurist of the Texas republic, furnishes The Tribune with a report of the speech made by Captain Moseley Baker to his company on the eve of the battle of San Jacinto, which has appeared in print but once before and that in the Galveston News in 1882, when it was contributed by Judge

at that time by Judge Jones: "It has been religiously treasured in the memory of Captain John S. Menifee of Jackson county, a member of his command, who recited it in a graceful manner and with felicitous effect to a group of veterans at their late annual meeting in Waco, mostly composed of those who took part in that daring and successful engagement." At Judge Jones' request Captain Menifee reduced it to writing and it was thus preserved.

Judge Jones met Captain Baker in the fall of 1838 and through his influence was appointed by President Houston ~~quartermaster of an expedition~~ sent to the frontier to retaliate on Indian depredators.

ADDRESS OF CAPTAIN MOSELEY BAKER

To his company, just before the battle of San Jacinto, recited by John S. Menifee, a member of the company.

Fellow Soldiers: You are now paraded to go into battle. Our greatest desire for the last few weeks has been to meet our foes in mortal combat, that we might rid our country of their presence; and now that desire is about to be gratified. I have confidence to believe that you will do your duty, and act like men worthy of freedom; but if there be one who is not fully satisfied that he can face death without faltering, he is at liberty to remain in camp for I do not wish my company disgraced by a single act of cowardice

Yonder, within less than a mile, is the tyrant Santa Anna with his myrmidons, who have overrun our country, destroyed our property, put to flight our families and butchered in cold blood many of our brave men.

Remember, comrades, that we this day fight for all that is dear to us on earth—our homes, our country, our families, and our liberty—he who would not fight for these is not worthy the name of man.

Remember that this little army, of less than 800 men, is the last hope of Texas, and with its defeat or dispersion dies the cause of freedom here, and we will be regarded by the world as rash adventurers; but should victory crown our efforts, of which I have no doubt, we can anticipate a riddance to the country of the oppressor, followed by peace and prosperity, and in the future years, when this broad, beautiful and fertile country shall be occupied by millions of intelligent and thrifty people, who can appreciate the value of liberty, we will be honored as the founders of a republic.

Remember that Travis, Bowie, Crockett and their companions, numbering 183 of the bravest of brave men, stood a siege of 10 days against twenty times their number, and fought until the last man was killed—not one left to carry the news or tell the tale.

Remember that Fannin and 400 noble volunteers were basely murdered, after they had capitulated on terms that they were to be treated as prisoners of war and sent to the United States.

Remember that you fight an enemy who gives no quarter, and respects neither age nor sex. Recollect that your homes are desolated and your property destroyed. Imagine your wives and daughters trudging through the mud and water and your children crying for bread, and then remember that the author of all this woe is in so short a distance of us; that the arch fiend is within our grasp, and that the time has at last come for us to avenge the blood of our fallen heroes, and to teach the haughty dictator that Texians can not be conquered, and that they can and will be free. Then nerve yourselves for the battle, knowing that our cause is just, and that we are in the hands of an all wise Creator, and as you deal the murderous blow, let your watchwords be: "Remember Goliad. Remember the Alamo."