

a 419-acre farm near Maryville, Tennessee, that her husband had purchased before his death. Of her fifth son Sam, who was then 14 years old, the widow Houston said, "I had no hope for him. He was so wild."

The Houston farm lay on the border of the Cherokee Nation. Sam found the life of a young Indian man more appealing than working in the family store, so at 16 he ran away from home to live with the Indians and became known by a Cherokee name, Raven.

By 1813, the War of 1812 was in full swing. In Maryville, Sam took a silver dollar from the recruiter's drumhead and enlisted. In February of 1814, his regiment received a call to go to the aid of General Andrew Jackson at Horseshoe bend in Alabama. For the next 31 years, Sam Houston was a friend and protégé of Andrew Jackson.

Jackson taught Houston how to fight a duel. In 1823, he helped Houston be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. The next year Houston helped Jackson in his unsuccessful bid for the presidency. With Jackson's help Houston became governor of Tennessee in 1827.

With Houston's help, Jackson was elected president in 1828. One biographer of Houston said that for Houston "to be governor of Tennessee with Old Hickory in the White House was as close to being the Prince of Wales as American blood could approach. Houston was the all-but-anointed heir of the most popular president since Washington himself."

A local judge wrote at the time "Houston stood six-foot-six in his socks, was of fine contour, a remarkable well-proportioned man, and of commanding and gallant bearing. He enjoyed unbounded popularity among the men and was a great favorite with the ladies."

As governor, Houston often visited the Hermitage, sometimes picking flowers in Rachel Jackson's garden. He was chief pallbearer when Rachel died on Christmas Eve of 1828, just after Jackson's election to the Presidency. The next month Governor Houston, then 36 years of age, married Eliza Allen of Gallatin, who was 18. In March, Jackson became President. A month later, on April 16, 1829, distraught over some still unexplained trouble with Eliza, Houston resigned the governorship and went to live with his old friends, the Indians who by then had moved west. He married again and made his way to Texas in 1832.

We all know that the great story of Sam Houston and Texas. But the story I would like to complete here tonight is of Sam Houston's walking stick and Andrew Jackson's death.

In March of 1845, President Tyler dispatched Andrew Jackson Donelson to Texas to try to persuade Sam Houston to support the annexation of Texas by the United States. Donelson was the nephew of Rachel Donelson. He had served as President Jackson's private secretary and in 1856 was nominated to run for the vice presidency of the United States. He lived in the plantation near the Hermitage, called Tulip Grove.

Upon reaching Texas, Andrew Jackson Donelson wrote, "Tell Uncle that Houston has disappointed me and not given the annexation question the support I expected." Houston had kept people guessing about whether he favored allowing Texas to remain an independent country, as British emissaries were arguing. According to one officer of the Texas Navy, "When [Houston] was sober he was for annexation but when he was drunk he would express himself strongly against the measure."

The next month, in April of 1845, Houston, his wife Margaret, and their two-year-old son Sam began a trip from Texas to New Orleans and up the Mississippi River to see 78-year-old Andrew Jackson, who was dying at the

Hermitage. According to one biographer, during those last hours Jackson was talking of his farm, his business, his country, and of the annexation of Texas, and especially of recent comments by Houston which had convinced Jackson that annexation would occur. In one of his last letters to Donelson, Andrew Jackson wrote, "I knew British gold could not buy Sam Houston."

The Houstons' river passage was delayed when their steamboat ran aground. Finally, at about 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 8, 1845, the steamboat tied up at the Nashville landing on the Cumberland River. The Houstons were told that Jackson was near death. They hired a coach to race to the Hermitage. A few miles outside Nashville their coach met the Jackson family physician. He told them that Jackson had died at about the same time the Houstons had arrived in Nashville. Proceeding on to the Hermitage, Houston lifted his two-year-old son and said, "Try to remember that you have looked upon the face of Andrew Jackson." Houston then put his head on Jackson's chest and wept. At midnight he wrote to President Polk, "I have seen the corpse. The visage is much as it was in life."

The Houstons were guests at the Donelson plantation, Tulip Grove, for several days after Jackson's death. Houston led the funeral cortege as he had as governor when Rachel Jackson died. When Houston left Nashville to travel to Texas, he left his walking stick at Tulip Grove. It is made of mulberry wood and has a solid gold cap. The stick is split and has been glued together, which may have been the reason Houston left it.

How do we know this stick was Houston's stick?

For one thing, the words "Sam Houston" and "Texas" and a Lone Star are engraved on the gold cap.

For another, we know from photographs and historical accounts that Houston carried walking sticks. We also know that he knew how to use his stick. In March of 1832, while visiting Washington, DC, Houston encountered Congressman Stanberry from Ohio who had criticized the Jackson Indian policy. Houston confronted Stanberry and said, "You are a damned rascal!" and whacked him multiple times over the head with his hickory cane, cut from the grounds of the Hermitage.

Fortunately, we know about the provenance of Sam Houston's walking stick from Stanley Horn, the former Tennessee state historian, and Dr. Ben Caldwell. Both Mr. Horn and Dr. Caldwell once owned this stick. Dr. Caldwell is here tonight.

Here is what affidavits and letters from Mr. Horn and Dr. Caldwell tell us: Andrew Jackson Donelson, the owner of Tulip Grove, where Houston left his walking stick, had married a widow of the grandson of Thomas Jefferson. Their son, William Alexander Donelson, inherited many of their Jefferson and Jackson items, including the stick. Some of these items, including the stick, were exhibited at Tennessee's 1896 centennial celebration. This exhibit was mentioned in a Nashville newspaper article in 1927.

When William Alexander Donelson died these Jackson and Jefferson relics were inherited by his widow, known as "Miss Bettie." In a letter to Ben Caldwell on June 15, 1976, Mr. Horn wrote, "I knew her several years before her death in 1940. [She] told me the details of how the cane was split, etc. I bought the cane at the sale of her effects after her death, and had the slight break repaired; and it remained in my possession until I sold it to you."

Mr. Horn sold the stick to Dr. Caldwell and Baker Duncan of San Antonio in 1973.

In a letter to me in 1985 Dr. Caldwell said, "Mr. Horn proudly displayed the stick in his

home. The only way that Baker Duncan and I were able to purchase the walking stick from Mr. Horn was a purchase-swap. He was collecting books containing presidential notations that were in the presidents' personal library. He had a book [of every President] except that he did not have a book of John F. Kennedy's library as he had opposed President Kennedy and he did not want to pay a premium for one of his books . . . I purchased a book that formerly belonged to John F. Kennedy . . . and we were able to trade this with money to Mr. Horn for his walking stick."

Ben Caldwell also told me last year:

"Mr. Horn had offered the stick to the San Jacinto Museum in Texas but they gave him some rigamarole and he said 'to hell with it' and so Baker Duncan and I bought the stick from him."

In 1985, I bought Sam Houston's walking stick from Ben Caldwell and Baker Duncan. Ben said it would be appropriate for the second Tennessee governor from Blount County to own the walking stick of the first. So he arranged a three-way purchase swap that worked this way: I paid money to Mr. Horn's daughter, Ruth Crownover, for a sword that belonged to General Stonewall Jackson and then traded that sword to Baker Duncan for his half of the Houston stick. I also paid Mrs. Crownover for a bird bath sculpted by Will Edmondson and then traded that to Ben for his half of the cane.

I then gave the stick to our youngest son, Will Houston Alexander, who we named for Sam Houston. When Will was born in 1979, Honey said that I was "in my Sam Houston phase." The lure of Texas also attracted Will. He spent seven years at the University of Texas and its law school but now is living in Nashville. We are glad that he is here tonight.

I have since displayed Sam Houston's walking stick in the offices of Tennessee's governor, the president of the University of Tennessee, and the U.S. Secretary of Education. The story of the stick has always produced good conversation, as well as several attempts by Texans to run off with it.

For the last eight years, Sam Houston's walking stick has been displayed in my United States Senate office in Washington, DC. It is beneath a photograph of Sam Houston taken when he was United States Senator from Texas. In that photograph Senator Houston is standing with a walking stick much like the one he left in Nashville 166 years ago when Andrew Jackson died.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO TIM CREAL

● Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor a South Dakotan who has been a tremendous advocate for rural education and has shown selfless dedication to ensuring thousands of students in South Dakota achieved their highest academic potential.

At the close of this school year, Dr. Tim Creal will retire from the Custer School District, where he has served as superintendent for 10 years. Tim began his career as an educator in the Faith School District in 1979. After teaching in Faith, SD, he spent nearly 20 years with the New Underwood School District, working first as a high school math teacher and coach for 10 years. He then served as an elementary principal, special education director, and

superintendent for the school district. In 2001, Tim moved to Custer, SD, to serve as the superintendent for the Custer School District.

Tim earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics education at Black Hills State University, BHSU, a university known for its exceptional education program. Last year, Tim was honored with the BHSU Excellence in Education Alumni Award, which is an award to honor an alumnus' outstanding contributions to the field of education.

Tim is a national leader and advocate for rural education. In 2001, Senator Tom Daschle appointed him to the Forest Counties Payments Committee, where Tim served for 7 years and helped oversee the implementation of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. Tim currently is on the board of the National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition. Additionally, Tim is actively involved with the Impact Aid Program and serves as secretary of the Section 8002 Federal property group for the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, NAFIS. As a founder of the Senate Impact Aid Caucus, I have appreciated working with Tim to ensure children living in rural areas and enrolled in federally impacted schools receive a high-quality education.

Over the years, I have enjoyed working closely with Tim on issues of great importance to education in South Dakota and have greatly valued Tim's insight and expertise. I commend Tim for his stewardship and involvement with the Secure Rural Schools and Impact Aid programs. Tim is currently in Washington, DC, for the annual spring NAFIS conference, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his service to our State and Nation. As Tim prepares to retire from the Custer School District, I wish him, as well as his wife Darla, all the very best. I am deeply appreciative of Tim's years of service to students in South Dakota and for helping prepare our State's next generation of leaders.●

TRIBUTE TO FRANK SEILER

● Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I offer my heartfelt congratulations to a South Dakotan who has dedicated his life to educating students in my State.

At the close of this school year, Frank Seiler will retire as superintendent of the Timber Lake School District, concluding a nearly 50-year career as an educator in South Dakota. Frank began teaching in North Dakota in 1964. In 1967, he moved to Kadoka, SD, to serve as the high school principal and coach before moving to McIntosh, where he served as superintendent for 15 years. In 1991, Frank took over as superintendent of the Timber Lake School District, where he has worked for 20 years.

Frank has been involved with the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, NAFIS, since 1975. As one of the founders of the Senate Im-

pact Aid Caucus, I am deeply appreciative of Frank's leadership in the Impact Aid community and for his responsible administering of the Impact Aid Program in the school districts where he has worked. In May 2010, I was pleased to announce that the Timber Lake School District would receive a \$5 million grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, known to many as the economic stimulus package, so that the community could replace its existing high school facility. Frank has shown tremendous leadership in helping make the dream of a new school become a reality.

Over the years, Frank has served as a tremendous advocate for his school district and for the importance of a strong education system. My staff and I have greatly valued Frank's insight and expertise over the years. It has been my pleasure working with him to ensure that the many children in South Dakota living in rural and federally impacted schools receive a quality education.

On the occasion of his retirement from the Timber Lake School District, I congratulate and thank Frank for his service as an educator and mentor to thousands of students in South Dakota. He has truly been an inspiration to many of his friends and colleagues. As Impact Aid leaders from across our country gather this week for the annual NAFIS conference, I want to take the time to recognize Frank for responsible management of the Impact Aid Program. On behalf of all South Dakotans, I thank Frank for his years of tireless dedication to students in our State and for the lasting legacy he leaves. I also thank his wife Donna for her continued support. I wish them both a happy and healthy retirement.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 872. An act to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1255. An act to prevent a shutdown of the government of the United States, and for other purposes.

At 2:46 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 658. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2011 through 2014, to streamline programs, create efficiencies, reduce waste, and improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 872. An act to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 706. A bill to stimulate the economy, produce domestic energy, and create jobs at no cost to the taxpayers, and without borrowing money from foreign governments for which our children and grandchildren will be responsible, and for other purposes.

H.R. 471. An act to reauthorize the DC opportunity scholarship program, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1138. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Part 95 Instrument Flight Rules; Amdt. 492" ((RIN2120-AA63)(Docket No. 30769)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1139. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A330-243F Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64)(Docket No. FAA-2011-0156)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1140. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; EUROCOPTER FRANCE Model SA330F, SA330G, and SA330J Helicopters" ((RIN2120-AA64)(Docket No. FAA-2010-0891)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1141. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Eclipse Aerospace, Inc. Model EA500 Airplanes Equipped with a Pratt and Whitney Canada, Corp. (PWC) PW610F-A Engine" ((RIN2120-AA64)(Docket No. FAA-2011-0199)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 30, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1142. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited