

**Volume 10**

**Number 048**

**Sam Houston - III**

**Lead:** After leading Texas to its independence from Mexico, Sam Houston spent the rest of his life deeply engaged in the state's affairs and finally achieved a measure of a happiness in his personal life.

**Intro.:** *A Moment in Time* with Dan Roberts.

**Content:** Houston was the overwhelming choice to be President of the new Republic when Texas achieved its independence from Mexico in 1836. Through two terms Houston conspired to have the United

**States annex Texas. It did not happen on his watch, but from the time it did transpire in 1845, Houston served Texas as one of its US senators. He was one of the few senators who consistently argued against Secession. Though elected once more as Governor in 1859, he was largely marginalized, and when, in March 1861, he refused a loyalty oath to the Confederacy, the Secession convention summarily deposed him.**

**While political events gradually turned against him, Houston at last achieved something of personal peace through his marriage to Margaret Lea of Alabama in 1840. She delivered him eight children in his latter years, convinced him to**

**abandon his heavy drinking, and even go to church. After his removal from office he retired to home and hearth. Sam Houston, Governor of Tennessee and Texas, President of the Texas Republic, U.S. Senator, Indian fighter and Indian lover, victor of the Battle of San Jacinto and author of Texas independence and annexation died in Huntsville in 1863.**

**Research assistance by Erin Butterworth, at the University of Richmond, this is Dan Roberts.**

## Resources

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