

The Life of Sam Houston

By Charles Edwards Lester

The Life of Sam Houston: (The Only Authentic Memoir of Him Ever Published)

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SANTA ANNA AND HOUSTON.

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is a good omen. Their heads are pointing westward. 'Tis the course of empire. I own I am a little superstitious about the raven."

XVI.

The next morning Santa Anna asked leave to see General Houston, which was granted. He presented himself elegantly dressed in citizen's garb, and tendered a most respectful and cordial greeting to his "host," and inquired kindly for his health and the state of his wound. The difference in the dresses of the two men was striking. Houston had on a plain, old black coat, snuff-colored pantaloons, a black velvet vest, a fur cap, a worn-out pair of boots, and a scimitar of tried metal, with a plated scabbard—a gift from his friend Captain Joseph Bonnell, of Fort Jessup. He had worn it, hung by buckskin thongs. This constituted his wardrobe, and his armory. Santa Anna would have been taken for the victor, and Houston for the captive.

XVII.

The Texan commander received his prisoner with courtesy, and he immediately proposed negotiations for his liberty. Houston, *who, from the beginning to the end of Santa Anna's capture, never was alone-with him a single moment,* immediately sent for the Secretary of War, and together they conversed some time
