

Cranfills Gap, Texas

December 24, 1895

### BIOGRAPHY OF M. R. RHONE

Before I commence this narrative of my life I wish to say a few words in regards to the cause of my penning this. I do not do this because I think that it might have any value in the future, but it helps me to wile away the long hours of evening. I am at present leading the life of a Bachelor and as time is rather lonely I will give this brief narrative of myself.

I first seen light in a place called Frydenlund the 11th of December, 1870 in Romedal parish, Hedemarken County, Norway, and my earliest recollection is that I stood on a chair looking out of the window to see if my Mother was coming home. I next remember a man who used to come to our house throw a boot at me, he being short of mind. At sometimes he would be crazy, but his parents being rich, he was allowed to go where he pleased. He at last turned crazy so that he was shut up in a room. I afterwards stayed with my Grandparents most of the time until I was seven years old. The next thing I remember is going with my Mother to the summer resorts for the cattle. In the old country at that time, keeping cattle at home during summer was unknown. They was sent to the woods or mountains in the Spring and taken home in the fall. I remember that on this trip some of the cattle was very weak and they strayed off, so the boy who was along to drive could not manage them. I was left by myself with a basket containing a couple of cats while Mother went and helped to gather up the cattle again. I must have been about four years.

That Summer I caught my first whipping that I can recollect and I will to the benefit of those who may read this tell how it happened. A few men came to us in the Summer chopping wood for us and they liked to tease me to see me mad and they plagued me most about me having white hair and said if I would eat lots of cream I would get black hair, but it would not help if I did not get hold of it so my Mother did not know anything about it. They also told me how and when to get to the cream and little as I was I believed all they said of course. And so one day