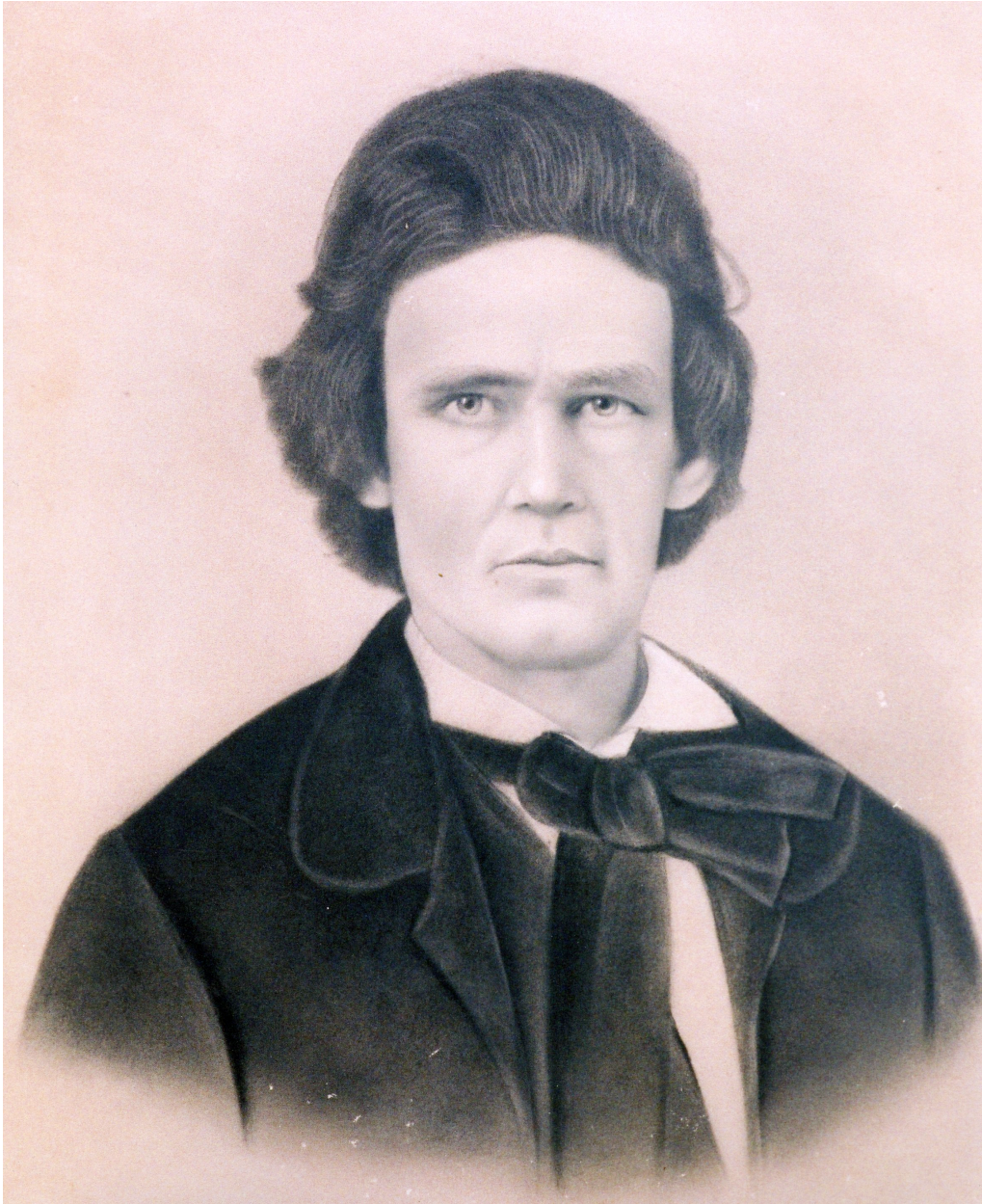


Josiah Dowling
Lavaca County Clerk



Josiah Dowling, the first County Clerk of Lavaca County, was born on January 18, 1814, in Springfield Iron Works, Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Dowling was selected as the County Clerk at the July 13, 1846, election held at Clarks' Mill.

In April 1847, Lavaca County purchased a log building from Dowling located on Lot 3 in Block 16 for \$45.00 to serve as a temporary courthouse. Even with this building, from 1847 to 1851, the County Clerk and District Clerk offices were housed in the home of Josiah Dowling.

Dowling speculated in land, and he purchased several lots in Petersburg during 1851.

In June 1852, then Hallettsville was selected as the permanent county seat, Dowling was responsible for the transfer of the records from Petersburg to Hallettsville.

On September 22, 1853, Dowling married Temperance Veal in Lavaca County.

Dowling died on July 16, 1874.