



Colonn'eh ~ Raven ; Cherokee Citizen & Son,
General, Representative, & President of Texas, Governor & Senator of Tennessee &
Texas'

General Sam Houston, while President of the Republic, did all in his power to allay the growing excitement and preserve peace. Having spent his early boyhood in the mountains of Tennessee, in close proximity to the Cherokees, and, previous to his coming to Texas, having lived among them for four years, he was familiar with their character and customs, and in addition to this, being very popular with this tribe, he necessarily exercised great influence over them. This being generally known, caused many to suspect that General Houston had delayed in taking any decisive steps against the Cherokees because he was more favorably inclined to them than to his own people. "Indeed," says an old Texan, "so strongly was this opinion entertained at the time by many of the Texans, that nothing but General Houston's great personal popularity could have sustained him in the almost neutral position he occupied in regard to the troubles then existing between his quondam friends, the Cherokees, and their white neighbors." However this may be, it is evident that he naturally felt kindly towards them, and was anxious to preserve peace between them and the Texans. Moreover, Houston was aware that it frequently happened that lawless whites upon the border, in some instances, were to blame for the outrages committed by the Indians in a spirit of retaliation,