Cadwell Walton Raines was a noted historian and State Librarian of the State of Texas. Witten family tradition says Raines came home with G. W. Witten from the Confederate army, and taught school for a time at Spring Garden before leaving the community. Raines was born September 18, 1839 in Upson County, Georgia, a son of Thomas A. Raines and his wife, Arsadna Jackson. In 1858, after completing his junior year at Princeton University, he moved to Texas and settled at Paris. He was admitted on trial to the East Texas Methodist Conference in 1860.

He was opposed to secession, but enlisted in 1861 under Richard M. Gano, and served as a private throughout the war. During that service he met and became good friends with George W. Witten. He was twice captured and escaped, and twice wounded and reported dead. When offered a commission he refused, saying he did not want the responsibility of leading men into battle.

After the war he taught school at New Braunfels and Spring Garden, practiced law in a partnership at Canton, was County Judge of Van Zandt County, and published newspapers at Wills Point, Mineola, and finally at Quitman. While at Quitman, he was elected county judge of Wood County, where he became friends with James Stephen Hogg, later to become governor of Texas. When Hogg became governor in 1891, he appointed Raines as State Librarian. Raines served two non-consecutive terms at the post. When he assumed office, the State Library was virtually nonexistent. Hogg took a special interest in the library and saw to it that Raines was given $500 per year to collect Texas historical data. Under Raines, the present collection was begun. The election of a new administration caused Raines to lose his post. He authored several important Texas works.
Raines was married twice: first to Mary Bowden, and second to Isabella M. Mason of Amarillo, a sister of his old army friend, George W. Witten. Raines and Mrs. Mason were married on December 25, 1901. He died August 2, 1906, and lies buried at Round Rock in Williamson County, Texas. An excellent biography of Raines appears in Texas State Historical Association, *The Handbook of Texas*.

An obituary for Raines appeared in the *Austin Statesman* on August 3, 1906: “*JUDGE C. W. RAINES IS DEAD AT HIS RESIDENCE. STATE LIBRARIAN FOR MANY YEARS — AUTHOR OF SEVERAL VALUABLE WORKS — A GENTLEMAN OF THE OLD SCHOOL.* The death of Judge C. W. Raines, state librarian, occurred yesterday afternoon at his late residence, 2004 University avenue. The passing away of Judge Raines was not unexpected, as it has been mentioned heretofore in these columns he had been in a critical condition for some time suffering with tuberculosis of the throat. The funeral will be held this morning at 10 o’clock from the Central Christian church and the funeral ceremonies will be conducted by Dr. J. W. Lowber, pastor of that church, and Dr. S. H. Werlein, pastor of the Tenth street Methodist church, and the remains will be interred at Round Rock, Williamson county, in the family burial ground. The body will be taken to the depot from the church. John B. Hood Camp of Confederate Veterans and Austin Lodge No. 12, A.F & A.M. will
attend the funeral, accompanying the remains in the church and from there to the train. The interment will be at 12 o’clock today at Round Rock. The active pallbearers are: E. W. Winkler, F. M. Brailey, John D. McCall, F. T. Ramsey, P. L. Dillingham, and F. F. White. The honorary pallbearers are: Colonel George L. Walton, Dr. George P. Garrison, Hon. R. R. Cousins, Mr. R. A. Kendall, Judge A. E. Wilkinson, Dr. W. S. Sutton, and Colonel A. P. Woodridge. Judge Raines is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. D. W. Gardner of Kosse and Mrs. N. Wilson of Houston; one son, Dr. S. W. Raines of Platter, I. T., besides other relatives. He was also an uncle of Charles Raines, stenographer in the executive department. Judge Raines was born on September 18, 1839 in Upson county, Georgia, but has been a citizen of Texas for many years. He was a Princeton man, but left when a junior in 1858. He joined the Confederate army in the Civil War, entering the service under Captain (later general) R. M. Gano. He fought to the close of the conflict. He was county judge and ex-officio county superintendent of public instruction of Van Zandt county, 1876-1878, and for Wood county in 1886-1890. Judge Raines was appointed state librarian May 5, 1891 and served until January 18, 1895, during the whole of the Hogg administration. When Colonel Digges died, the judge was reappointed to the office and held it continuously until his death. Judge Raines was also a writer of considerable ability, being the author of several books on Texas, and also edited and had published the state papers and speeches of the late Governor Hogg, which had quite a sale in the state. Judge Raines was a scholar in every sense of the word and a thorough southern gentleman.”

Raines’ headstone and that of his wife stand in the Old Round Rock Cemetery in Williamson County. She was Mary Jane Raines, born in Tennessee on October 9, 1840. She died in Austin on June 28, 1896.