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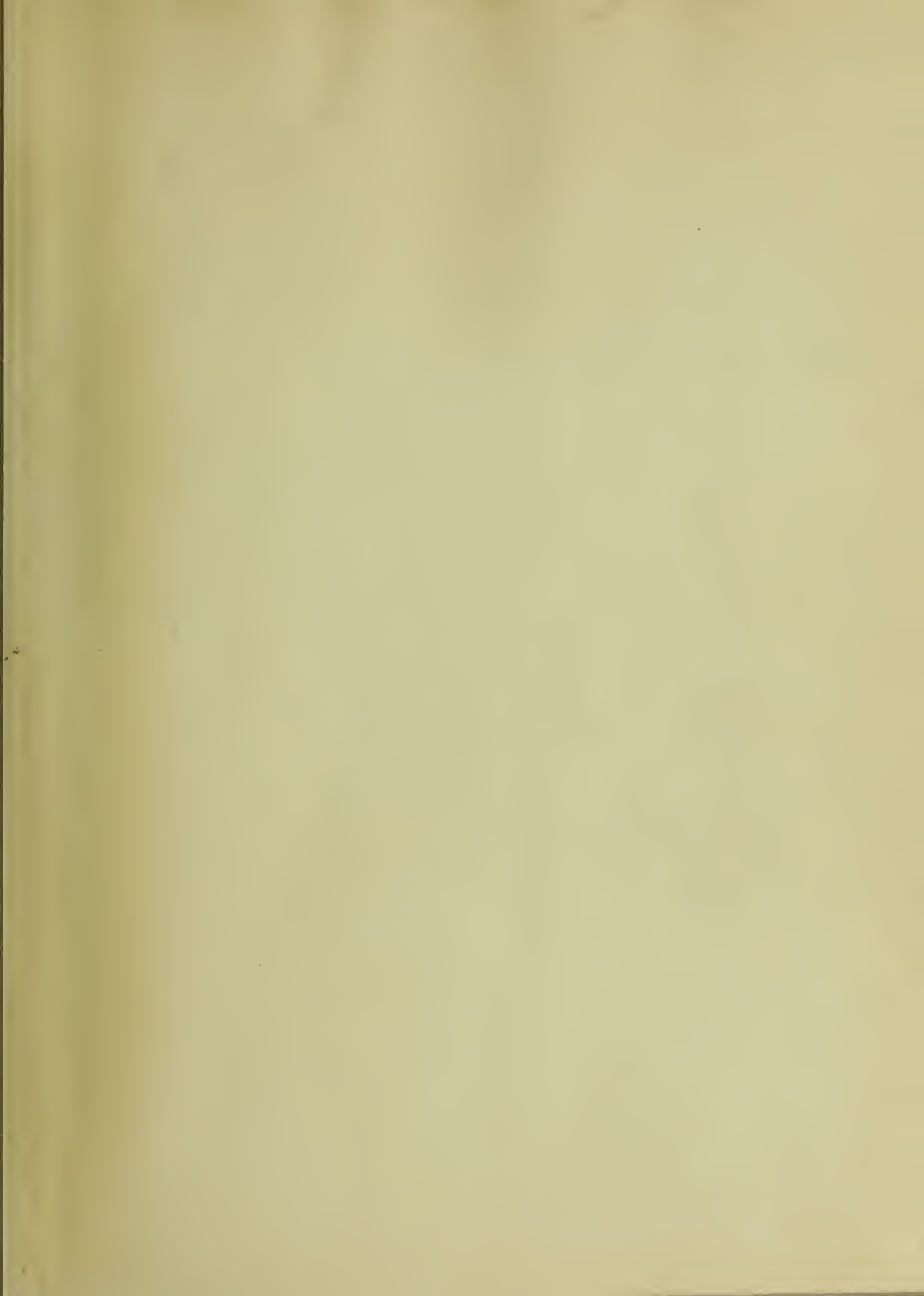


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HISTORY  
OF THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
AND  
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD  
OF  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Containing Biographies of Well-Known Citizens of the Past and Present.

STATE HISTORY BY

J. M. GUINN, A. M.

Secretary and Late President of the Historical Society of Southern California, and Member  
of the American Historical Association of Washington, D. C.

HISTORY OF SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY BY

GEORGE H. TINKHAM.

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*ILLUSTRATED*

COMPLETE IN TWO VOLUMES.

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VOLUME II.

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HISTORIC RECORD CO.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

1909



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*Charles M. Weber*

## CAPT. CHARLES M. WEBER.

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A record of the life of Captain Weber, through the most important and fruitful years of his activity, might well be called also a history of the city of Stockton, of which he was the "father." The high standing of this place as a business center, as a locality of beautiful homes and prosperous people, may be attributed in no small degree to his early labors, and finally, when he was taken from the scenes of his usefulness, his body was laid to rest in a city of the dead whose site had been donated by him years before and whose artistic surroundings resulted from his cultivated taste and great liberality. As he recounted in his last days the history of his home town, he might well have exclaimed, "All of which I saw and part of which I was." No recital could be made of the early days of Stockton without considerable mention of his identification therewith, and his name is worthy of perpetuation not only in local annals, but also in the annals of the state.

The birth of Captain Weber occurred in Homburg, department of Montonnere, kingdom of Bavaria, Germany, February 16, 1814, during the reign of Emperor Napoleon I. It was the ambition of his father, who was a Protestant minister, that he should be educated for the ministry, and his school life was planned accordingly. He was early sent to the common school in Homburg, and upon his graduation therefrom entered the academy and began the study of ancient languages and French, at the same time receiving several hours private instruction daily, so that he might be prepared for the German universities at the proper age. The failure of his health under this undue mental pressure made it necessary for him to leave the university, where he had every prospect for making a

fine record. This change in his plans was the means of turning his attention to the mercantile business, for which he had a natural adaptation, and which proved the entering wedge to his subsequent career in the New World. He had been in business but a short time when his thoughts turned to "the home of the free," and accompanied by a cousin he set out from the Fatherland in 1836. It had been his intention to proceed up the Mississippi from New Orleans and visit a relative, Judge Hildegarde, at Belleville, Ill., the father of Eugene Hildegarde, professor emeritus of the University of California. The river was blocked with ice and instead he remained in New Orleans, where he secured employment in mercantile pursuits. Yellow fever was at that time very prevalent in the south and Mr. Weber fell a victim to the scourge. After his recovery he went to Texas, and while engaged in military service against the Mexicans he was again taken ill, in 1840, and by the advice of his physician he determined to locate in a cooler climate.

During the spring of 1841, while at St. Louis intending to proceed to Belleville, Ill., Captain Weber read a glowing description of the Pacific coast written by Dr. John Marsh, a resident of California. The account was so fascinating and alluring that he determined to cross the desert to the coast and accordingly he joined the Bartelson party for the long journey to the west. It was his intention to spend the winter on the coast and then return to the States, but like so many other emigrants, when he fell under the witchery of the genial climate he wished to locate here permanently, and after spending the winter at Sutter's Fort he made no plans for returning to the east. His object in going to

Sutter's Fort had been to make the acquaintance of Captain Sutter, to whom he had letters of introduction, and by whom he was employed as overseer during that winter. While there he found a quantity of seeds which had been presented to Captain Sutter as tokens of friendship and good will from William G. Ray, the representative of the Hudson Bay Company, the Russian agent at Bodega and captains of vessels on the coast. These seeds he planted as an experiment and from this was developed the fact that the valleys of the San Joaquin and the Sacramento were capable of becoming a paradise of fruits and flowers. Among the seeds were three varieties of tobacco, various flowers and vegetables, all of which grew and thrived wonderfully in the fertile soil.

It was about this time that Jose Jesus, the celebrated chief, visited the fort and Captain Weber formed his acquaintance. The two became friends, and in after years the chief was able to prove helpful to his German-American comrade. With keen foresight the Captain decided that California eventually would be admitted, in part or whole, into the United States, and therefore he believed investments in land would prove profitable. Visiting San Jose in the spring, he formed a partnership with William Gulnac, and in 1842 they built a flour mill, embarked in the manufacture of shoes, made soap and also sea biscuit. The shoes they turned out were the first to be made in the entire state. July 14, 1843, Gulnac, who was a Mexican citizen, petitioned Governor Micheltorena in behalf of Captain Weber for a grant of eleven square leagues of land, to be located in the vicinity of French Camp in the San Joaquin valley. He expressed a preference for the east side of the river, believing that this stream might form the line between Mexico and California in case of a division; another reason for this preference was that the east side was protected by the Hudson Bay Company's trappers. The governor granted Gulnac the tract of land known as the Rancho el Campo de los Franceses, January 13, 1844, and afterward this tract was transferred

to Captain Weber. Cattle were herded upon the land and for a time the camp had its headquarters at the present site of Stockton, but later moved nearer to Sutter's Fort for the protection thus afforded. Having met with no success in an attempt to settle the grant, Captain Weber obtained a passport from the alcalde and visited Sutter's Fort for the purpose of making a treaty with Jose Jesus. In this he was successful and their alliance remained unbroken until the death of the chief. The Captain agreed to aid him in case of war between the Americans and native Californians or Mexicans. The chief advised the building of the village at the present site of Stockton and agreed to provide all the help necessary in the tilling of the soil, also agreed to provide a war party in case protection was necessary from the Indians or Mexicans. During the Micheltorena wars the Captain rendered staunch assistance, joining the native Californians against the Mexicans, and when war was declared between Mexico and the United States he aided the latter and with his characteristic energy organized a cavalry company at San Jose and became its captain. After having made his home in San Jose from 1842 to 1847 he returned to the peninsula and here remained until death.

With prophetic vision Captain Weber saw the possibilities which awaited those willing to take up their abode in the little settlement of Stockton, but men could not see the future as he did, and in spite of the liberal offers which he made they still held back, among other things fearing attacks from the Indians and an outbreak of the small-pox scourge. A writer in the *Stockton Times* in 1850 says: "Having been a resident of California for many years, and having known Captain Weber for four or five of these, I venture to say there are but few Americans now in this country who have lived here for any length of time, who have not been recipients of favors from that gentleman. There had been a large number of grants given in what is called the San Joaquin district, but none had the hardihood to settle their grants until 1846. It was



next to impossible for Weber to get men enough to offer any protection against the Indians, as everybody thought the risk too great for the benefits received. He succeeded in getting a few to settle with him, among whom were B. J. Thompson and Andy Baker, and finally, after losing cattle and horses and paying an extravagant price for labor, he succeeded in establishing a ranch where Stockton now stands."

Concerning the home of Captain Weber the famous poet and traveler, Bayard Taylor, writes as follows: "We were greatly delighted with our visit to Captain Weber's, who transformed a tract of land between two sloughs into a garden. There is no more delightful villa in existence. A thick hedge, outside of which is a row of semi-tropical trees, surrounds the peninsula. The gate opened into a lofty avenue of trellis work, where the sunshine strikes through branches of amethyst and chrysolite, while on either hand beds of roses fill the air with odor. The house is low but spacious, the woodwork of natural redwood. Vine-covered verandas surround it and every window discloses a vision of plants that would be the glory of any greenhouse on the Atlantic coast. In Mrs. Weber I found the acquaintance of my former visit. Well I remember the day when, hungry and footsore, I went to the door of her father's house in the valley of the San Jose and found her reading a poem of mine. Her father saddled his horse and rode with me to the top of the mountain, and her own hands prepared the grateful supper and breakfast that gave me strength for the tramp to Monterey. The garden delighted us beyond measure. The walks were waist deep in fuchias and geraniums, and the pepper trees, with their loose, misty boughs, hailed us as do friends from Athens. A row of Italian cypresses were shooting rapidly above the other boughs in the garden. How they will transform the character of the landscape when their dark obelisks stand in full stature!"

As may be inferred from the above, Captain Weber was a lover of flowers, and indeed, from the time of his early experiences with seeds

which were given him by Captain Sutter he never ceased to experiment with every kind of seed or shrub that came under his notice. Many of these he obtained from Japan and Europe, and also from the missions. As an incentive to others to follow his lead in this enterprise he supplied those interested with seeds and shrubs from his own garden, and was especially interested in inculcating this love of nature in the hearts of children. With him, time and money were no object in furthering this cause, and no county fair was complete without his exhibit of fruits, flowers and shrubs. For many years his garden was open at all times to the public.

Meanwhile Captain Weber was aiding the development of Stockton by every means within his power. Every church that applied to him received a donation of land. Land was also given to the city and county, and August 28, 1851, he deeded the public squares, streets and channels to the city. The land occupied by the San Joaquin Catholic cemetery was donated by him and he gave a large portion of the purchase money for the Rural cemetery. In later years he devoted much personal attention to the garden of St. Agnes academy, which was noted for its beauty. To protect the city from overflow, he superintended the building of a bulkhead on Stanislaus street and dug a canal on East and North streets. \$30,000 of his money went into the improvement of California street, and he gave generously to the building up of other avenues. When the natural course of events made the property in the valley valuable, squatters began to give him trouble. The heirs of Gulnac attempted to wrest the land from him and in defending his title he spent vast sums of money, rendering necessary in order to pay for the litigation, the sacrifice of his valuable property in San Francisco. Finally he had the gratification of receiving the incontestable patent signed by President Lincoln. While it was necessary for him to eject squatters for the protection of his title and the title of those to whom he had sold, many of these squatters found in him a staunch and generous friend, who aided them to

get a start elsewhere. Besides the property which he owned in San Joaquin county Captain Weber owned a large ranch in Santa Clara county, upon which he engaged extensively in breeding and raising high-grade horses and cattle.

During the Civil war Captain Weber was stanch in his allegiance to the Union cause and exerted a powerful influence in moulding the sentiment of this region. Early in the war he sent to Oregon and bought for a flag-staff a pole one hundred and twenty feet long. This he planted on an island west of his residence. After every Union victory the stars and stripes could be seen waving in the air and for miles in every direction the sight would tell that Union arms were again victorious. In politics the Captain voted with the Republican party, but he was not a politician and preferred to devote himself to movements for the public good, without respect to political ties or views. When he passed away, May 14, 1881, the people of Stockton regarded his demise as a public loss. A large concourse assembled to pay him the last tribute of respect when the funeral was held, under the auspices of Archbishop Alemany of San Francisco. Up to the day of his death he was in full possession of his faculties and actively interested in all of his various enterprises.

The marriage of Captain Weber united him, November 29, 1850, with Miss Helen Murphy, a member of the celebrated Murphy party of 1844. Three children were born to them, of whom Charles M., Jr., at one time represented Santa Clara county in the state legislature, and the younger son, Thomas J., is now deceased. The only daughter, Miss Julia H., of Stockton, makes her home near the city so indissolubly associated with the life-work of her father and is everywhere honored as a member of an interesting and celebrated pioneer family. Mrs. Weber, who died April 11, 1895, was a daughter of Martin and Mary (Foley) Murphy, the latter an aunt of Bishop John Foley of Detroit and the late Bishop Thomas Foley of Chicago. In temperament Captain Weber was impulsive, though forgiving and large-hearted, was liked by all

with whom he came in contact in every walk of life, and he was also highly respected for the high moral principles which actuated him in all he undertook.

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#### CLAUS LUDWIG VIEBROCK.

Although Mr. Viebrock was not one of the very earliest settlers in California, still he came in response to the longing to try his luck in the mines, and in his attempt was successful above the average, so much so that in three years time he had accumulated sufficient to establish himself in a well-paying business. A native of the Fatherland, he was born in Hanover December 18, 1832, the son of parents who knew no other home than the Fatherland.

When he was twenty years of age, in 1852, Mr. Viebrock came to the United States, his original plan being to locate in the east. However, he had not been here long before he was induced to come to California on account of the still greater opportunity which it was claimed lay hidden in the mines, and the year 1853 found him bound for the eldorado by way of Panama. On his arrival in the state he went direct to the mines at Marysville, where he worked diligently for three years, and with such success, that at the end of that time he had accumulated sufficient to establish himself in business. After trying various undertakings he came to Stockton in 1868 and established himself in the wholesale liquor business, following this successfully until he retired from active business in 1875. Ten years later, in December, 1885, he passed away at his home in Stockton, leaving a wife and two children to mourn his loss. Before her marriage Mrs. Viebrock was Amalia Fick, a native of Germany, their marriage occurring in Marysville, Cal., in 1862. The eldest son, Charles L., is a prominent rancher of Santa Cruz county, and F.





*George West*



J. Viebrock is cashier of the well-known firm of Austin Brothers, of Stockton. Twenty-three years ago he entered the employ of the firm as office boy, and in the meantime has gradually worked his way up to the responsible position which he holds today. The death of Mr. Viebrock occurred nearly a quarter of a century ago, but nevertheless he is remembered as one of the city's most public-spirited citizens, one who was generous of both time and means toward the promotion of beneficial measures to either city or county.

---

#### GEORGE WEST.

It would be little short of impossible to attempt to write a history of San Joaquin county and make no mention of an industry which probably more than any other has been instrumental in bringing the county into the prominent place which it holds in the commonwealth today. Without question San Joaquin county is among California's foremost producers of grapes, both for the table and the vat, and within her borders is situated one of the greatest wineries in the country, that of the El Pinal Vineyard of George West & Son. The history of the grape-growing industry in the county dates back to the time when Capt. C. M. Weber, the founder of Stockton, planted some cuttings which he had brought from the old Spanish missions of Southern California, little dreaming that he had instituted the nucleus of a vast industry. It was soon demonstrated that the soil was well adapted to the growing of the vine, and following Captain Weber, George and William B. West were the first to appreciate this and take advantage of the knowledge in a practical way. From the vineyard which they started in 1852 from fifty cuttings has grown the immense industry which since the death of George West, its founder, has been

in charge of his son, Frank A. West, business being conducted under the name of George West & Son, Incorporated.

The history of the West family dates back to the early settlement of New England, where the parents of the brothers above mentioned, William A. and Ann Bradford (Leonard) West, were born and passed their entire lives. (See sketch of F. M. West.) George West was born in Taunton, Mass., January 12, 1830. In 1848 he went to Boston and engaged in the lumber business. Soon afterward, however, the reported wealth to be had for the seeking in the mines of California turned his attention to the west, and in the spring of 1850 he began to try his luck in the mines of Tuolumne county. A trial of two years proved to him that the uncertain returns from mining were not in keeping with the efforts expended and he wisely determined to give it up and concentrate his efforts in another direction. It was at this time that his attention was drawn to the grape-growing industry through the attempt of Captain Weber, previously alluded to. A keen foresight led him to the conclusion that the grape could be grown in this climate to advantage, and in demonstration of this belief he purchased a tract of land not far from Stockton, to which he later gave the name of "El Pinal." This was in 1852 and was the pioneer effort in viticulture in the state. Associating himself with his brother William B., whose word was authority throughout the state on horticultural matters, they made the first importation of foreign varieties of grape vines, including about fifty varieties, among which was the seedless Sultana, and from this importation have come all of the seedless Sultanas in the state. The object of securing such a varied assortment was to ascertain by trial what particular varieties would thrive the best and produce the most satisfactory results. Upon this foundation has been built not alone the firm's wine-making industry of today and its co-ordinate business of distilling brandies, but the vineyardists are still indebted to a degree for the data secured by this

first experimental planting of diversified vines, both for table and wine grapes.

The initial attempt to manufacture wine by the West brothers was in 1858, and to such an extent did the venture prove successful that the output of the vineyard was not sufficient to supply the demands of the winery, and in 1868 they planted a vineyard of sixty-two acres ten miles from Stockton. In 1880, associated with Thomas R. Minturn, George West established a vineyard in Madera county comprising seven hundred acres, under the name of the Sierra Vista Vineyard Company, which is one of the oldest concerns of the kind in that county. This venture proving so successful Mr. West branched out still further in this direction and with others purchased the Escondido ranch in San Diego county. Six years later, however, this ranch was sold. The enterprise was further enlarged in 1898 by the building of the Hanford winery, later by the building of the McCall road winery at Selma and the Kearney winery of Fresno in 1899. Since the death of the founder of this enterprise in 1899 the business has been continued along the lines he established, and in 1900 was enlarged by the purchase of the Lucerne vineyard in Kings county, containing one thousand acres. The year following, 1901, the San Joaquin Valley winery at Acampo was added to its holdings, in 1902 the Lodi winery was built, and in 1906 the Sanger winery was also added. The founder of this enormous enterprise passed away April 13, 1899, at which time his interests were assumed by B. R. Kittredge of New York. In 1902 the company was incorporated as George West & Son, Frank A. West being the principal factor in maintaining and forwarding this vast enterprise. In 1880 George West was appointed by Governor Perkins State Viticultural commissioner, representing the San Joaquin valley, and thereafter he filled the same office under various governors until 1891, or until the purposes of the commission had been accomplished. He became an authority on viticulture in the state, for his perseverance and quiet determination enabled him to overcome difficulties that would have

deterred weaker men, and it was these characteristics that gave him the leadership of men and his financial success at last. He was a man of commanding personal appearance and pleasing address and possessed a large capacity for making friends, kindly by nature and courteous to all. An ardent love for the beautiful in nature was a marked characteristic in the three West brothers.

Referring briefly to Mr. West's domestic life, it may be mentioned that prior to her marriage his wife was Ellen King, and two children were born of their marriage, Frank A. and Harriot R., the latter Mrs. C. M. Jackson. The death of Mr. West occurred at his home in El Pinal, removing from the community one whose efforts had been along lines which more than any other have tended to upbuild the community, for undoubtedly viticulture as understood and practiced today throughout San Joaquin county is directly traceable to his efforts of over half a century.

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#### JOHN E. BUDD.

In the selection of their life-work many of the men who owe their educational training to the splendid institutions of California, have chosen the profession of law as offering exceptional advantages to those possessing mental equipment, keen judgment, logical powers of reasoning and readiness in repartee. Among those who have been identified with the profession for many years and who have achieved signal success in managing the affairs of a large clientele, mention belongs to John E. Budd, member of a pioneer family of California and son of Hon. Joseph H. Budd, whose family history appears on another page of this volume. John E. Budd was born in the city of Janesville, Wis., October 18, 1853, being the second son of Hon. Joseph H. and

Lucile N. (Ash) Budd, descendants of eastern ancestors honored in their several walks of life.

Primarily educated in the public schools of his native city, John E. Budd came to California during early life and afterward entered the California State University at Berkeley, where he took the complete course of study in the belles-lettres department, graduating in 1874. He took up the study of law in his father's office and during October, 1876, was admitted to the bar before the supreme court at Sacramento. Shortly afterward he became identified in practice with his father at Stockton, where he gained his first practical experience in the profession, continuing in the association for a number of years. Under the administration of Grover Cleveland in 1890 he was appointed receiver of the United States land office with headquarters at Stockton and filled the position with recognized efficiency until resigning upon a change in the administration.

After having been associated for a time with his brother, James H., in a general law practice, during 1895 Mr. Budd formed a partnership with E. R. Thompson, now city attorney, and the firm of Budd & Thompson has become well known throughout this section of the state, its members being recognized as attorneys of ability and thorough acquaintance with the principles of jurisprudence.

Stanch in his allegiance to the Democratic party, Mr. Budd was a prominent figure in local and state politics up to the year 1903, but since that time he has relinquished his association with public affairs in order to devote himself exclusively to the law. For ten years or more he has acted as a regent of the state university and during the entire period he has maintained a warm interest in the welfare of his alma mater, whose contribution to the educational uplift of the state he recognizes as indispensable and permanent. As a citizen he has given constant support to enterprises for the development of Stockton and may always be relied upon to give of time and means for the furtherance of such. By his marriage he became identified with a pioneer

family of California. Mrs. Budd, whom he married in 1887, was Miss Mary Haste, of Berkeley, being a daughter of J. H. Haste, an honored pioneer of the state and for years a public spirited citizen of Berkeley. The only son of Mr. and Mrs. Budd is Henry S., who has been educated as a civil engineer. The two daughters are Mary, the wife of Francis I. Hodgkins, and Lucile, who remains with her parents in their comfortable home at Stockton.

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#### JOHN ELLIS WOOD.

The east has contributed many substantial residents to the thriving city of Stockton, and not the least among them is John E. Wood, who took up his residence here as early in its history as 1875 and has ever since been engaged in the sewing machine business here. Mr. Wood is a native of New York state, born in Hamilton county February 1, 1834, and early in life became familiar with the duties which fall to the lot of every farmer's son. He remained with his parents on the old homestead until attaining manhood years, when he set out for the newer west, which seemed to offer larger inducements for advancement than the east.

Going to Plymouth, Wis., he apprenticed himself to learn the carpenter's trade and after mastering it, followed his trade until called to take up arms in defense of his country's honor. Joining the volunteer service, he became a member of Company H, First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry his enlistment bearing date of August 14, 1862. His service was of short duration, however, for on account of physical disability he was honorably discharged the following year. After this short though trying experience he returned to Wisconsin and as soon as he was sufficiently recovered, again took up his duties as



a private citizen, following the dry goods business for a number of years thereafter. It was in 1875 that he decided to make his home on the Pacific coast, selecting Stockton as the most desirable location, and here he has been content to remain ever since. During the same year he embarked in the sewing machine business and has followed it for over thirty years with very satisfactory results.

Mr. Wood was a young man of only nineteen years when, in January, 1853, he formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Zillah C. Whitford. Three children, two sons and a daughter, have blessed their marriage, and all have now grown to years of maturity. Both of the sons, Walter A. and Charles H., are engaged in business in Oakland, while the daughter, Mrs. C. E. Williams, makes her home in Stockton. With the wife of his youth Mr. Wood is passing the evening of life contented and happy, and at their home, No. 1223 East Weber street, they dispense a hospitality which is heartily enjoyed by their many friends.

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#### CHARLES HINKLE DIAL.

As a representative of the men whose lives have become a part in the foundation of the western statehood, Charles Hinkle Dial is worthy of mention. A resident of Lockeford, San Joaquin county, he has long been connected with public affairs in this vicinity and has given liberally to the material upbuilding of the country, through the pioneer days proving his ability in the effort and loyalty to the cause which induced him to cast in his lot with the pioneer element. Born November 28, 1830, a native of Warren county, Tenn., he was a lad of seven years when the family home was changed to Shelby county, Tex., where he was reared to the

age of sixteen years. During this time the only educational training he received was at the hands of his older brother, as the school advantages in Texas at that time were very meagre indeed.

At the time of the war with Mexico Mr. Dial went to the scene of activities and in May, 1846, was mustered into the United States army as a cavalryman in the Texas Rangers, under Colonel Woods of the Second Cavalry, Company I, Captain Truitt in command. During the campaign he was also under General Taylor at the battle of Monterey, September 21, 22 and 23, the regiment serving as foot soldiers as they could not use horses. Mr. Dial's term of enlistment expired at the close of the battle of Monterey, but he promptly re-enlisted and served under Captain McCullough and Captain Walker of the Texas Rangers in the battle of Buena Vista. Monterey fell into the hands of the United States September 24, 1846, and just one year later, September 22 and 23, 1847, the backbone of the war was broken through the fall of that mighty stronghold, Buena Vista, where General Taylor, at the head of less than five thousand United States troops (a large portion of whom were raw volunteers) totally defeated twenty thousand Mexicans under Santa Ana. After the close of hostilities Mr. Dial returned to his home in Texas, remaining there until November 27, 1849, when he set out for California by way of the Isthmus. March 5, 1850, on the brig Corbia, he landed in San Francisco, where, after looking around for two weeks, he went to the mines of Eldorado county. Three years later, May 24, 1853, marks the date of his advent into San Joaquin county, where in the fall of that year, so well pleased was he with the outlook, that he took up a ranch two and a half miles east of the Jacktone ranch. There he followed general ranching for about ten years, when, in 1864, he went to Virginia City, Nev., with a team, remaining in the upper valley for about three years, when he once more took up his residence in San Joaquin county. Near Lockeford, in 1870, he purchased a ranch, and in addition to its cultivation ran a harvesting machine for a





*Austin Spry*

number of years. Upon disposing of his ranch in 1876 he bought a hotel in Lockeford of which he was the genial host for thirty years, or until 1906, during this time also retaining his interest in farming. During the year last mentioned he disposed of both hotel and ranch and has since lived retired from business cares, a rest to which he is well entitled after many years of unremitting toil.

Mr. Dial's first marriage occurred in 1854 and united him with Miss Amanda Peters, their marriage resulting in the birth of four children, of whom two are living, Jacob, a rancher near Lockeford, and Annie, Mrs. Gilbert, of Oakland. In 1872 Mr. Dial married Miss Jennie Arnest, who passed away in 1875; two children were born of this marriage, but both are deceased. Mr. Dial was married to his present wife, formerly Miss Ella Arnest, in May, 1877, and five children were born to them, only two of whom are living. The eldest of these, Edward L., now twenty-five years old, is a traveling salesman for the Pacific Cereal Association of San Francisco, although he makes his home in Fruitvale. Jesse, twenty-two years old, is also employed in the Pacific Cereal Association and is a resident of Fruitvale.

Mr. Dial has always been a close student of current events, is well posted on matters of local and national importance, and possesses the broad knowledge and keen intelligence that make a man a desirable citizen of any community. In 1884 he was elected to the office of constable of Lockeford, serving for ten years, and afterward served as deputy for four years. As road overseer he also served efficiently for many years, and for one year, 1899-1900, he acted in the capacity of night watchman in the county court house. Socially Mr. Dial is a member of the Pioneers of Stockton, and fraternally he belongs to both the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He joined the first mentioned order in Linden, becoming a member of Sciolo Lodge, but in 1876 he transferred his membership to Progressive Lodge No. 134, I. O. O. F., of Lockeford, in which he has passed all the

chairs. He joined the Knights of Pythias in Galt, Sacramento county, but upon the organization of Vesper Lodge No. 96 in Lockeford he transferred his membership and has since been one of its most active members, having passed all of the chairs in the lodge. As a reward for his long and faithful service in the Mexican war he receives a pension of \$20 per month from the government. It has been Mr. Dial's privilege to witness much of the development of the west, and as he contrasts the conditions of the twentieth century with those noticeable when he came to California, he realizes the wonderful progress wrought during the past fifty years or more and is proud of his connection with the commonwealth as one of its pioneers.

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#### AUSTIN SPERRY.

With the early development of important industries in California the name of Austin Sperry is indissolubly associated, and any resume of his life, no matter how brief it might be, would tend to show that the progress of the state was unmistakably benefited by the citizenship of this pioneer of 1849. The influences which tended to mold the life and character of Mr. Sperry are traced to a long line of New England ancestors, several of whom figured prominently in the history-making events in Colonial times, first in Connecticut and later in New Hampshire. It was in the latter state that the father, Benjamin Sperry, was born. Times and conditions were such as to necessitate an active out-of-door life, and as a result he developed a stalwart frame that enabled him to cope successfully with the hard, unyielding soil of New England. In young manhood he united his fortunes with those of Mary Davis, their marriage occurring in Claremont, N. H. Their wedding journey consisted of a



trip to the then wilderness of Vermont; locating on a tract of about two hundred acres in Caledonia county they began their struggle with nature, and in view of the times and circumstances, made a success of their undertaking. Into the home thus established and surrounded five children came to brighten the fireside, four sons and one daughter, all of whom lived to attain maturity and fill useful positions in life. Besides Austin Sperry, those of the family who located in California were Charles Sperry, a resident of Stockton; Alvaro Sperry; and Mrs. Almira Sperry Sloane, the latter also a resident of Stockton.

On the family homestead near the village of Cabot, Caledonia county, Vt., Austin Sperry was born May 20, 1819. From earliest boyhood he was inured to farm duties, and during the autumn and winter, when his services were the least in demand, he attended the common school. Thus the year was divided between work and study, and his mind developed with his body. Until he was seventeen years of age he continued his studies in the home school, after which he took up more extended studies in an academy. Following closely upon the close of his school days was his entrance into the business world, in Danvers, Mass., becoming a clerk in a general merchandise establishment. Three years' experience in that capacity was of untold benefit, bringing him in contact with the keen-witted, enterprising people of the country roundabout. From Danvers he went to Boston and entered the dry-goods house of George W. Warren & Co., there as in his former position gaining the respect and approbation of his superiors by his close attention to business. Still later he obtained a clerkship in the large dry-goods, shawl and silk establishment of Jewett & Prescott, on Tremont street, Boston. The years of his clerkship were also years of economy, for out of his meagre salary during five years he accumulated enough to set up a small business of his own. His experience thus far had been confined to the dry-goods business, and naturally he continued in this same line of business in setting up an es-

tablishment of his own. In partnership with his brother Henry he opened with a modest stock of goods at No. 2 Tremont row, and continued in business until the latter part of the year 1848, when, on account of a poor business investment on the part of his partner it was deemed advisable to close out the business. This move was further strengthened by the fact that in the meantime Austin Sperry had become interested in California through the reports of the recent discovery of gold. Several months of preparation followed, and on January 27, 1849, in company with three friends, he set sail from the port of Boston on the ship *Pharsalia*, Captain Allen in command, going by way of Cape Horn. A weary journey of six months finally brought them into the harbor of San Francisco, the sight of which they hailed with delight, for during this time they had been out of sight of land about two-thirds of the time. After taking an inventory of their effects upon landing it was found that the little company of four friends had only about \$500 all told, a state of affairs that meant they must exercise rigid economy until their enterprise began to bring in returns. At San Francisco they hired a small schooner to take them to Stockton, and here the party divided on August 18, Austin Sperry and E. R. Stockwell going to the placer diggings at Jacksonville, Tuolumne county, and the other two of the company going to other camps. Mr. Sperry and his companion worked a claim for twenty-three days and a half, during which time each one cleaned up \$500. Mr. Stockwell had become fascinated with mining as a result of his good fortune and wished to continue it. Mr. Sperry, however, did not find it agreeable employment, preferring instead to engage in something less speculative and in surroundings less crude. Returning to Stockton, he became interested in a grocery business with a partner and was on the high road to success when a destructive fire in the spring of 1851 completely destroyed their enterprise. Undismayed by this seeming discouragement, Mr. Sperry rebuilt and restocked his store, and resumed business as before.



As yet Mr. Sperry had not entered upon the line of work which was to make his name famous, but events were leading in that direction. During the early days of placer mining Stockton was the principal distributing point for the southern mines. As a consequence there was considerable staging and heavy freighting to and from the mines, and so important did the transportation industry become that it was considered second only to mining itself. Naturally this industry called for large numbers of horses and mules, and it was to supply and prepare feed for these animals that first suggested the idea to Mr. Sperry of establishing a mill. While this was the first mill established in Stockton, it was not the first in the state, for it is known that at that time there was one at Sutter's Fork and also one at Bodega. This unpretentious beginning inaugurated by Mr. Sperry was the nucleus of the now famous Sperry flouring mills of Stockton, which at this time are second in size on the entire Pacific coast, a manufactory of wide usefulness in domestic trade, as well as one which stands high in foreign commerce. The business was first housed in a one-story frame building on Main street, between Commerce and Beaver (now Madison) streets, constructed by Mr. Sperry and his partner, George Lyon, in 1852. Having disposed of his grocery business in the meantime Mr. Sperry was enabled to contribute \$1,000 to the new enterprise, while Mr. Lyon gave a second-hand engine. Mr. Sperry's natural ability as a mechanic found opportunity for exercise in setting up and adjusting the machinery, and for about three years the plant was run with the original equipment. The explosion of the boiler on December 14, 1855, completely destroyed the building and works, and to one of less resolution and tenacity of purpose than Mr. Sperry possessed the loss would have seemed irreparable. However, by this time better and more improved machinery had been brought to the west and he was finally enabled to replace the old mill by a larger and better one. While the grinding of feed had been the original idea in establishing the mill, in the fall of the year

1852, the year the mill was founded, he began the manufacture of flour also. His first partner, George Lyon, continued with him about a year, after which he became associated with Samuel Baldwin, the latter remaining with him about four years, when Mr. Sperry purchased his interest. In 1856 he induced his cousin, S. Willard Sperry, who had recently come to the west, to join him in the business, and the association thus formed continued for twenty-five years, or until the death of Austin Sperry, July 22, 1881. During his early pioneer struggle Mr. Sperry carried almost the entire responsibility of the enterprise, attending closely to every detail of the work, and as long as it was practicable he kept his own books and attended personally to collections. Throughout his life he at no time relinquished his personal interest in and acquaintance with the details of the business, and the success of the enterprise is undoubtedly due to this characteristic of its founder. From this it is not meant to imply that he was so deeply engrossed with his own interests that they were a drudgery, or that they excluded him from other interests; on the contrary he was happy in his work and was a constant inspiration and help to all who knew him. After his death the business was carried on under the firm name of Sperry & Company for several years, but on September 27, 1884, it was incorporated under the same name and for a quarter of a century the Sperry mills have continued to flourish throughout California.

From the time of his marriage until his death, nearly twenty years, Mr. Sperry enjoyed the love and faithful co-operation of his wife, who was formerly Miss Mary E. Simpson, and to whom he was married November 6, 1862, at Stockton. Into this serene and happy home four children were born, as follows: Mary A., Bida S., Horace Benjamin and Austin. All of these children have been reared with the thought of future usefulness in the world, and in return for this devoted care on the part of their parents they are now filling responsible positions in life, either as home-makers or in the larger, although no

less important, field of commerce. Mrs. Sperry is a woman of unusual energy and force of character, qualities which at no time in her life, probably, were brought out more strikingly than at the time of the death of her husband. At once she assumed his interest and partnership in the Sperry mills, in the care of which, added to her family duties and the rearing of her children, she has displayed excellent judgment and executive ability.

Fraternally Mr. Sperry was a member of the Masonic order. Personally he was a man of superior integrity and rectitude, and when in his presence one felt instinctively that he had led a pure and upright life and was one who could be trusted implicitly without fear that any confidence reposed in him would be betrayed. At the time of his death many a tribute of friendship and admiration were volunteered for the man who, in the distractions of business life, had never failed to hold out a hand of help or to say a word of cheer by the way:

"His life was generous as his life was long;  
Full to the brim of friendship and of song."

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#### RICHARD P. HAMMOND.

The history of a community is best told in the lives of its citizens, and when these citizens are men of forceful character, progressive and public-spirited, giving of the best in their lives not alone to the upbuilding of their own fortunes and the furthering of their own personal interests, but to the establishment and maintenance of enterprises calculated to advance the general welfare of those about them, then indeed is such a career worthy of a place in the highest type of citizenship. Such qualities and characteristics distinguished the life of the late Richard P.

Hammond, who from the time he came to California in 1848 up to the time of his death, in November 1891, proved a dominant force in the upbuilding of this commonwealth and the development of San Joaquin county.

A descendant of one of the oldest and most prominent American families, Richard P. Hammond was born in Hagerstown, Md., October 9, 1820, and was reared and educated there up to the age of seventeen years. At this age, through the influence of General Jackson, he secured an appointment to the United States military academy at West Point, where he was associated with many who later attained distinction in military ranks. Shortly before he was twenty-one years old, on July 1, 1841, he graduated from the academy with honors, being the twenty-first in order of merit in a class of fifty-two. Thereafter he was assigned as brevet second lieutenant to the Third Regiment of Artillery, which was at that time stationed at Fort McHenry, Md. Promotions followed rapidly, for in the following September he was made second lieutenant and transferred to the garrison at St. Augustine, Fla., and still later to the arsenal at Augusta. During 1845 and the early part of the year following, Lieutenant Hammond was employed in the department of coast survey, but when war was declared with Mexico he was made first lieutenant and ordered to report to Brigadier-General Shields for duty as aid-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant-general. As such he marched through Coahuila, and on March 29, 1847, as one of the victorious army he entered the city of Vera Cruz. His gallant and meritorious conduct at the battle of Cerro Gordo led to his brevet as captain, and for worthy services rendered in the engagements at Contreras and Churubusco he was made brevet major of artillery. The storming of the castle of Chapultepec occurred on the 13th of September, and when the troops entered the City of Mexico the following day Major Hammond was appointed secretary of the city government and acting judge advocate. At the close of the Mexican war he became adjutant of the Third Artillery, and in





*Andrew Woff*



January, 1848, he was sent to the Pacific coast for the purpose of making a special survey for the Government. He remained in California until 1850, under leave of absence, and finally resigned his commission and received his honorable release from the army.

Major Hammond was invited to the little town of Stockton by the father of the town, Capt. C. M. Weber, and still later, in 1850, they entered into partnership. The firm of Weber & Hammond was the first real estate firm in Stockton and represented most of the lot ownership, as well as much of the land ownership, in the county. In 1854, however, this partnership was dissolved and the lands and properties were divided. In the meantime, in 1852, Major Hammond had been elected to the legislative assembly and became speaker of that body. Thereafter, upon the expiration of his term, he was appointed collector of the port of San Francisco, a position which he filled until September, 1855. During the latter year he presided over the Democratic state convention. It was in that year also that he returned to San Joaquin county and took up his residence on his ranch in Cherokee Lane, three miles north of Stockton. During his residence here his ranch became famous for the many hospitalities extended, prominent people from all over the state and east being lavishly entertained and treated to the excellent quail shooting which in those days was to be had in the Mokelumne live oaks. This entertainment included long drives over the surrounding country, all of which redounded to the great advantage of the country in the matter of advertising its resources and its richness.

In 1871 Major Hammond was appointed general superintendent of what was then known as the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad. In the meantime, in 1868 and 1869, he had served as president of the Board of Education of San Francisco, and from that time until 1873 he was regent of the University of California. On the organization of the board of police commissioners of that city in 1878 he was elected president, a position which he was filling at the time of his

death. Major Hammond was a confidential associate of Senator Leland Stanford during the period of his dominance of the Central and Southern Pacific railway systems, and a director or vice-president of several of its subsidiary railway organizations.

Three sons and a daughter mourned Major Hammond's death, his wife having died some years before. At the present writing only two children survive, the well known mining engineer, John Hays Hammond, and the daughter, Elizabeth. Major Hammond was a typical Californian in his hospitality and a westerner when viewed in the light of his energy and enterprise. His ideals were high and governed all his actions; his motives were never questioned by those who knew him best and appreciated him most for the qualities of character so rarely met with, so steadfastly disciplined, so honestly manifested. It is enough to say that he was representative of the type of men who have made California what it is today.

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#### ANDREW WOLF.

To depict in their entirety the salient events in the life of Andrew Wolf would be to portray the progress of California during the period that has elapsed since its American occupation and such portrayal would fortunately familiarize the younger generation of readers with many of the thrilling adventures experienced by the men known in history as the pioneers of '49. To this class belongs Mr. Wolf, who in the flush of young manhood made the memorable journey across the plains to the unknown region lying beside the sunset sea. Travelers of the present day, crossing the continent in the splendidly-equipped limiters, cannot realize the dangers and hardships incident to that trip taken under the

conditions existing sixty years ago. To that journey as made by Mr. Wolf there was added to the dangers from attacks by Indians and starvation through being lost on the desert the even greater danger of cholera, whose victims fell by the wayside where their bones met the eyes of the traveler to add terror to his dreams by night.

The life which this narrative depicts began in Bath township, Greene county, Ohio, May 26, 1821, in the farm-home of John W. and Mary (Hawker) Wolf. During the era ante-dating the Revolution the Wolf family became established in America, its first representative in this country being a pioneer of Pennsylvania. There John W. Wolf was born in 1791 and from there in 1792 he was taken by his parents to Greene county, Ohio, the family settling on what was then known as the western frontier. The first recollections of the boy were associated with visits from friendly Indians and with hunts for wild animals, the securing of game being the means of furnishing the family larder with meat. During 1812 his father died of the plague and later he bought from the other heirs their interests in the old homestead, where he engaged in farm pursuits. During the war of 1812 he volunteered in the American army and served at the front until the surrender of General Hull, when he was honorably discharged.

The first wife of John W. Wolf was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, November 17, 1800, and died March 5, 1837. Eight children were born of that union, namely: Israel, born in 1819, deceased at the age of fourteen years; Andrew, whose name introduces this sketch; Catherine, born in 1822; Susannah, born in 1826, and who is living in Indiana; George W., born in 1828, a pioneer of California, where he died in 1861 at the age of thirty-three years; Mary A., born in 1831; Malinda, born in 1833, now living in Dayton, Ohio; and Louise, born in 1835, now the wife of Putman Visser, of Stockton. The second wife of John W. Wolf, whom he married February 25, 1838, was born in Ohio in 1808 and bore the maiden name of Rebecca Swadner.

Her death occurred in 1899, at the age of ninety-one years. Of her six children the two eldest, Elizabeth (born in 1838) and William B. (born in 1840) are deceased. Benjamin, born in December, 1843, is a resident of Bryan, Ohio. Martha A., born in 1845, makes her home in Dayton, Ohio, where also reside John M. (born in 1849) and Charles E. (born in 1852).

Shortly after the death of his mother Andrew Wolf started out to seek his own livelihood in the world and at first clerked in a store in Dayton, Ohio, owned by an uncle, William Van Cleaf. Two years later he embarked in business with J. R. Coblenz and continued there until October of 1847, when he severed the partnership and went to Iowa to visit an uncle, Abram Morgan, of Davis county. This uncle met him at Burlington, Iowa, but before proceeding with him he paid a visit to an old friend at Bloomington (now called Muscatine), Iowa, and later went to his uncle's home. Through this friend he secured a position with Greene & Stone, general merchants and pork packers of Muscatine, with whom he continued from November 1, 1847, to March 1, 1848. On leaving their employ it was his intention to return to Ohio. However, he was interviewed by Alexander Oglebie, the merchant who had sold the first yard of calico in Muscatine. Having planned to re-enter business, Mr. Oglebie asked Mr. Wolf what he planned to do and was told that he intended to return east as soon as he could get across the river. The next inquiry was as to the terms on which he would enter the employ of Mr. Oglebie. Replying that "my price would be so high that you would not want me," he named the terms, not thinking they would be accepted, but at once Mr. Oglebie closed the bargain. At first Mr. Wolf thought he would offer \$100 to be released from the bargain, but he decided it would be best to fill his part of the contract and accordingly he took charge of opening up the mercantile business of Oglebie & St. John, whose stock of goods had been purchased in St. Louis.

Meanwhile the tales of the discovery of gold in California proved so alluring that the young



clerk determined to try his luck in the west and at once he began to make his plans for the trip. The outfit for the overland journey, consisting of four pair of steers, one yoke of cows and a mule, was carefully selected by a friend who knew the requirements of stock for such a trip. Among the party were S. C. Hastings, Dr. Owles, James Baker and a Mr. Smith. Two friends of Mr. Wolf, William Scott, an experienced cook, and Isaac Heath, a teamster, were asked to accompany him, but having no money Mr. Wolf agreed to pay their expenses, they to reimburse him as soon as they had earned the means in California. Mr. Heath stated that he would drive every step of the road to California and upon his arrival there would pay back one-third, besides giving Mr. Wolf the outfit. In the party there were thirty-six persons, three to each team, and Mr. Scott cooked and washed for their party of three, besides doing duty as guard.

Leaving Iowa April 5, 1849, the party proceeded to St. Joseph, Mo. There they found the regular ferry would not cross the river for six weeks with their outfit, as each party had to wait their turn. Thereupon they proceeded to make a special ferry, at which they worked from the 11th to the 13th of May. On the launching of the boat their twelve wagons were ferried across free of cost in return for their work, while if they had waited for the regular ferry it would have cost them \$300 to get their teams across the river. Meanwhile hundreds of emigrants were dying of the cholera and during the night of the 14th one of their party died of the dread disease. This was the only one they lost, although three others were very ill for a time. With them was a doctor who never lost a case of cholera if notified in time and through his instrumentality many emigrants were saved for he always responded to appeals for aid from other parties than his own. An abundance of meat for the party was secured through the killing of wild animals, and Mr. Wolf had a record for killing more antelope than any other man in the train. In selecting a route the expedition adhered to the road surveyed by Gen. John C.

Fremont for the government and traveled to the sink of the Humboldt over the hard road and the sand. Well equipped with water and hay as per instructions, they arrived at the sand strip about three o'clock in the afternoon, intending to travel the twenty five miles of its length during the cool of the night, and by so doing they avoided disastrous consequences, but all along the trail they met wagons with emigrants who had disobeyed orders and were begging for assistance, as their stock had become worn out with hard driving in the heat of the day. By taking every precaution they got through safely to California, but for two weeks they were never free from the sight of cholera victims. A saving of sixty miles was effected through continuing the journey via Fort Laramie and the Sublette cut-off and they entered California at Truckee. They camped and slept in the cabin that had been occupied by the ill-fated Donner party and from there traveled across the Sierra Nevada mountains and entered Hangtown (now Placerville), where the company disbanded. Mr. Wolf, with his two friends Heath and Scott, and some members of an Illinois train, found a place to put their stock for recruiting it, and then proceeded to the mines.

A German who belonged to the company soon found gold that he could pick up with his hands and claims were at once staked out by all. In three days Mr. Wolf cleaned up \$1,500 worth of gold, but on the fourth day he was blinded by poison oak so that further work was impossible. Hiring a driver at \$10 per day he took his team to Sacramento, meanwhile suffering untold agonies all the way. It was his good fortune to meet an emigrant train in which a woman had some sugar of lead, which she gave him, besides rendering every assistance in her power. Without her timely aid he would probably have perished on the road, but the help came in time and after recruiting for seven days in Sacramento he was able to proceed to San Francisco. October 15, 1849, he arrived in Stockton, and ever since then he has been inseparably associated with the development of

this part of the state. Until 1851 he engaged in freighting between Stockton and the southern mines. Later he built a livery stable on Main street and in time this business increased until he owned two hundred feet on Main, one hundred and thirty feet on California, one hundred and fifty on Market and one hundred on Sutter. The Wolf stables became known throughout the entire state and remained in the same location until 1906, although after 1865 he leased the business to other parties. As early as 1860 he became interested in farming and in 1865 he moved his family to his ranch on the Mariposa road, eight miles from town, where he owned eight hundred acres of land. For this he paid \$2.50 per acre after buying out some squatters who had settled on the tract. With characteristic generosity he donated land to the railroad and for the opening up of highways, which lessened his ranch to seven hundred and fifty acres. The land is fertile and still ranks among the finest properties of the kind in the entire valley; since 1875 he has made his home in Stockton and with the exception of twenty years he has conducted the ranch himself.

The present home of Mr. Wolf, erected in 1886, stands on the site occupied by the cottage where in 1852 he married, on the 17th of August, Amanda Dwelly, a native of Maine. When she was a small child she lost her father and later her mother married again. In 1850 she came to California with her mother and stepfather and settled in Stockton. Of her marriage four children were born. Laura, who married W. T. Smith, died at Elko, Nev., March 27, 1889, leaving an only daughter, now Mrs. Charles Henderson, who is the mother of two sons. Franklin resides in Stockton and is engaged in ranching on a part of eight hundred acres belonging to his father; he married Laura Usher, by whom he has a daughter, Liti, and a son, Andrew. George L., who was born May 26, 1858, is unmarried and resides in Stockton, where he conducts a real estate business. Delia became the wife of Dr. J. J. Meigs and is re-

siding in Stockton; they have one son, John Gerald.

While making the management of his ranch his main activity during the years of his prime, Mr. Wolf found many other enterprises to engage his attention, as might be expected of a man possessing such great energy, varied resourcefulness, and fine qualities of mind. Many enterprises that afterward became important owed their origin to his foresight and progressive spirit. He built the first track and sheds for the fair association, with which he was identified as treasurer during its existence. On the organization of the Stockton Grange he was chosen the first master. As president of the Grangers' Union in Stockton he erected for them a building now occupied by Hudson & King and also had charge of their warehouse, where an immense volume of business was transacted for a number of years. Eventually he resigned his office of president and disposed of his interests in the enterprise, since which time he has lived in retirement. In the organization of the San Joaquin County Pioneers' Society he was a prime factor and for one term he officiated as its president. September 3, 1845, he joined Buckeye Lodge No. 47, at Dayton, Ohio, and later became a member of Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., in which he has passed all of the chairs. In addition he is associated with the Parker encampment. At this writing he is the oldest living Odd Fellow in San Joaquin county and, so far as known, also in the entire state. At the inception of the Stockton Savings & Loan Society Bank he became one of its stockholders and still remains a member of its board of directors, in which body the value of his sagacious counsel and optimistic spirit is appreciated, as a member of the finance committee.

Seldom is it the good fortune of a man to reach Mr. Wolf's advanced age (eighty-eight years) and yet more seldom is it that the mental and physical faculties are retained after a lifetime of strenuous activity. Active in mind and body, thoroughly posted concerning matters of present importance as well as the happenings of







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pioneer days, Mr. Wolf is a delightful companion for those progressive spirits that seek to study conditions of the past and present, thereby to form an outlook for the future. No one has greater faith in the future of Stockton than he and none is more ready to advance local projects by contributions of time, money and by sagacious advice founded upon the experiences of many busy years. To an unusual degree he is honored by the people of his home town and in its annals his name will ever occupy a prominent place.

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#### ASA CLARK, M. D.

The experience gained through active professional work, first in the mining section around Placerville, and later in Stockton, has given to Dr. Clark a broad and humanitarian outlook upon the science of medicine and has brought him a high rank among physicians in central California and Nevada. During the years of his earlier professional work Dr. Clark was greatly impressed with the fact that special care and special needs would be required to properly control and handle the large and increasing number of insane cases that came to his attention. This observation led him to make a thorough research into the treatment of mental diseases and was followed by his election as assistant physician to the State Insane Asylum at Stockton where his further observations and experience have brought him to rank among the foremost in this important branch of the medical profession. As proprietor of the Clark Sanitarium in Stockton he is devoting his entire attention to the care of insane patients, his forty-seven years of continuous practice making him competent to cope with mental diseases of all stages.

The life which this narrative depicts began in

the home of Curtis and Electa (Mecham) Clark, both natives of Vermont, but at the time of the birth of their son, June 20, 1824, residents of Essex county, N. Y. Subsequently they removed to Oswego county, same state, later settled on a farm in the middle west, near Park Ridge, Cook county, Ill., from there finally removing to Minnesota, where the mother died in 1862, at the age of seventy years, and the father in 1883, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. At the time Asa Clark was of school age the family home was in Illinois, where he first attended the district schools in Park Ridge, and his academic education was received in Wilson's Seminary, Chicago. In the meantime he had formed clear-cut ideas as to his future course in life, having decided to follow the medical profession, and his studies thereafter were conducted under Dr. Brammell, of Rush Medical College, Chicago. Receiving his diploma in 1849, he set out that same year for California, going directly to Placerville, where he opened an office for the practice of his profession. Necessarily his practice was small at first, and in order to enlarge his income he became interested with others in the establishment of a general store in the town, and also was interested in mining to some extent. He did not remain in Placerville very long, however, at that time, for the year 1850 found him in Santa Clara, and the year following he was in Santa Barbara. Two years later, however, in 1853, he returned to Placerville and resumed his practice, remaining there for eight years.

It was in 1861 that Dr. Clark came to Stockton to assume his duties as assistant physician for the State Insane Asylum, and since that time his entire thought and study have been directed toward a wise and humane plan, first to relieve and cure those mentally afflicted, and secondly to put a check on the increase of the malady. By arrangements with the authorities of Nevada Drs. Langdon and Clark were entrusted with the care of the insane in the territory, then numbering about thirty, and all such other patients as should be committed to their

care. They were first located in Woodbridge, and four years later opened their office in Stockton, having in the meantime also formed a contract with Arizona for the care of her insane. Both contracts remained in force until each territory built its own asylum, Nevada in 1882, and Arizona in 1888, although after 1880 Dr. Clark carried out the contracts alone, owing to the death of Dr. Langdon in that year. In 1874 Dr. Clark had established his private sanitarium, then known as the Pacific Hospital and now known as Clark's Sanitarium; this possesses many advantages over public institutions, not the least of which is the greater dispatch in gaining admission and extra accommodations when required. The buildings are spacious and comfortable, situated in the midst of forty acres of ground located south of the city limits.

In Placerville, Cal., in 1856, Dr. Clark was united in marriage with Mary Elizabeth Mountjoy. Her parents were natives of Virginia, but at the time of the birth of their daughter, in 1838, were residents of Ohio. Subsequently, in 1852, they brought their family to California and here they passed the remainder of their lives. Dr. Clark and his wife became the parents of the following children; Hattie Electa, who became the wife of William M. Baggs; George Curtis, deceased; and Dr. Fred Pope, the present superintendent of the State Asylum. This position was formerly occupied by his father for fourteen years. Dr. Asa Clark is a thorough student of his profession, keeping in close touch with advancements and new discoveries through the reading and study of the latest medical and scientific journals.

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#### GEORGE H. LOCKE.

It is an unusual occurrence for one who has been born and reared under the sunny skies of California to seek a home in any other part of the

country upon reaching years of maturity, as almost without exception they remain in the midst of familiar scenes and take up their life work. This has been true of the life of Dr. Locke, who has never been outside of his native state except for three years during his service in the United States army in the Philippines. Not only is he proud of his nativity as a Native Son, but he also takes pride in the fact that he is a son of one of the state's sturdy pioneers, to whose bravery and indomitable spirit this greatest of commonwealths owes its existence.

A native of Lockeford, San Joaquin county, George H. Locke was born October 19, 1877, into the home of Dean J. and Delia M. (Hammond) Locke, being next to the youngest among their large family of thirteen children. (For a more detailed account of the family genealogy the reader is referred to the sketch of the father, which will be found elsewhere in this volume.) With the other children in the family George H. Locke attended the schools of the village, from which he graduated with honors in 1895. As he had been considering his future course in life while a pupil in the grammar school, by the time of his graduation he had his future plan of action well formulated, and without loss of time he continued his studies in the veterinary department of the University of California, preparatory to becoming a veterinary surgeon. After the completion of the course he returned to Lockeford and opened an office for practice, following it with considerable success for one year, when the breaking out of the Spanish-American war broke in upon his plans and for three years he served as a veterinary surgeon in the United States army in the Philippines. With the close of his service he came back to Lockeford and resumed his practice and also again gave attention to his livery business, which during his absence had been in charge of his brother.

Dr. Locke's marriage occurred in January, 1906, and united him with Miss Estelle Walsh, of Linden, San Joaquin county, the daughter of H. W. Walsh, a well-known resident of that place. Two children have been born of the marriage of



Dr. and Mrs. Locke, Olga and Georgiana. Fraternally Dr. Locke is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, the California State Veterinary Medical Association and the Pacific States Veterinary Medical Association. During his service he was in the front from 1899 until 1902 under General Funston.

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#### EBENEZER BOWER BATEMAN, M. D.

The life history of Dr. Bateman is one of unusual interest. Full of incidents, stirring and adventurous, it possesses that fascination which attaches to lives that present the spectacle of small beginnings and large achievements and of success wrested from adverse circumstances. Through a career which began in 1830 and ended in 1890, he was a witness of much of the remarkable development of the United States, no part of which was more interesting to him than the Golden state, where the happiest and most useful years of his life were spent. As an alleviator of the sufferings of humanity few saw more active service than did he during the years passed on the frontier of California and in the Mexican war.

The boyhood days of Dr. Bateman were associated with the east, and he was born in New Jersey, July 4, 1818, the son of Isaac Newton and Jane Bateman. While he was still a youth the family home was transferred to the middle west, in the vicinity of Galesburg, Ill. Here a brother of Dr. Bateman, Dr. Newton Bateman, gained distinction in the educational field; his first position of note was as president of Knox College, later he was made state superintendent of public instruction, a position which he held for twelve years, after which he held a professorship in Knox College. After a long and successful career in the educational field he passed away at the age

of eighty years. Dr. Bateman of this review remained at home until the death of his mother, when he went to St. Louis, Mo., and while working in a drug store there began the study of medicine. In due time, by close study and unremitting efforts, he won his diploma. The Mexican war was then in progress and with the hope that he might be accepted in the service Dr. Bateman set out for the field of action, neither family or friends knowing of his plans. His application for service was accepted, and under General Donovan, the army surgeon, he made the weary march over the desert to Mexico. He remained in the service until the close of the war, and it was not until the fall of the City of Mexico that his family secured any clew as to his whereabouts.

When peace was declared Dr. Bateman came to California, coming direct to Stockton and opening a drug store on Weber avenue. Above his store he maintained his family home and after the fire, in which he lost all of his possessions, he moved to another location and organized a hospital at the corner of Sutter and Washington streets, which was the first regular hospital instituted in Stockton, and also made this his home. From here he removed his home to the east of Stockton, in what is now known as Fair Oaks, and also continued to maintain his private hospital. Later he was appointed county physician, a position which he filled acceptably till 1870, serving twelve years in office. Here he took up twenty-eight acres of land for a home and ranch, and of the good which he accomplished in the undertaking, only those who received help and encouragement at his hands will ever know. This was especially true at the time of the small-pox scourge, in 1868, when he performed many successful cures. With the close of his term as county physician, Dr. Bateman devoted his attention to the care of the ranch, although in the meantime he also served one term in the state legislature. It was in 1871 that he was sent as physician to the Tulare county Indian reservation, and from there he was later transferred to Covelo, above Ukiah, Mendocino county, Cal., to



the Round Valley Indian reservation. It was there that his earth life came to a close eighteen years later, on September 8, 1890, and his remains now lie in the cemetery at Covelo. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Masons.

Dr. Bateman was married in San Francisco February 9, 1851, by the Rev. William Taylor, to Mrs. Josephine (Kimberlin) Reed, daughter of Jacob and Harriett Kimberlin and the widow of William B. Reed of Virginia. In all his work and aspirations Dr. Bateman had the cheerful help and co-operation of his faithful wife. She came to California via Cape Horn in the ship Andalusia, Capt. Wilson commanding, arriving in San Francisco September 20, 1849, in company with her sister, Mrs. Annie I. Taylor and her husband, Rev. William Taylor, who later became bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the well-known African missionary. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Reed stopped in San Francisco for a time and from there came to Stockton, where the following year Mrs. Reed and Dr. Bateman were united in marriage.

The Kimberlin family is of English descent. A maternal ancestor, James Ritchie, removed from London to Dublin, Ireland, where he later married an English woman and thereafter came to America, settling in Staunton, Botetourt county, Va. A daughter born to this couple, Harriett Ritchie, married Jacob Kimberlin, the father of Mrs. Bateman, and besides the latter their children were: Annie I., the wife of Dr. Taylor; Caroline, the wife of Rev. Adam Bland; Prof. James Kimberlin, formerly connected with the faculty of Santa Clara college, and who later gained fame as a horticulturist; and Mrs. Valentine M. Peyton, of San Francisco.

Of the children born to Dr. Bateman and his wife we make the following mention: Mary V., widow of Enoch Peyton, of Stockton; Mrs. Alice I. Hammett, of Los Angeles; Everett B. Bateman, and Josephine, the wife of Robert Powell of Stockton. Mrs. Bateman passed away at her home in Stockton August 11, 1904, at the age of nearly eighty-one years, with her mental facul-

ties still unimpaired. She was a woman of exceptional qualities, with a remarkably bright mind and personal force, and her demise was the cause of deep regret among those who had learned to love her for the nobleness of her character.

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### WILLIAM HULSE.

Upon investigating the reasons which induced Mr. Hulse to make his home in California it was found that he came hither in the hope of recovering his health, and after gaining the object for which he came was loath to leave this health-giving and health-retaining atmosphere. A native of the east, he was born in Franklin county, Pa., February 21, 1840, the son of William and Ellen (Pawling) Hulse, both of whom were also natives of this same eastern state. As his father was a farmer the early life of William Hulse was associated with farming as conducted in the east, for he assisted his father in the care and management of the home place until reaching mature years.

In 1878, in the hope of recuperating his broken health, Mr. Hulse came to California, locating in Merced county, where he purchased forty acres of land upon which he began farming, making a specialty of raising grain. As his strength returned and he was enabled to add to his responsibilities he established a trucking business which brought him a good income, as this was before the railroads were built in that section. Finally, in 1889, he disposed of the latter business and removed to Santa Cruz, and for two years thereafter was overseer of roads in Santa Cruz county. Coming to Stockton at the end of that time, in 1891, he resumed his old business of teaming for a time, but gave it up to assume the position of general advertising agent for the Arcade store of Stockton, the duties of which





*R E Wilhoit*

position took him into five counties of the state. After relinquishing this position he once more resumed teaming and followed this employment throughout the remainder of his life. At one time he was also in the employ of the city as superintendent of sewers.

In Vernon county, Mo., April 6, 1871, Mr. Hulse was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Seaver, who though a resident of Missouri at the time of her marriage was a native of Pennsylvania. Of the children born to them two are living, Lillian, the wife of Frank Watrous, and Edward W. Hulse, both residents of this city, and the latter a traveling salesman for the well-known firm of Greenebaum, Weil & Michels, clothiers, of San Francisco. Fraternally Mr. Hulse was a member of but one organization, the Junior Order United American Mechanics. His earth life came to a close at his home in Stockton November 1, 1907, since which time his widow has continued to live in the old home, at No. 620 South Pilgrim street.

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#### ROLEY E. WILHOIT.

The genealogy of the Wilhoit family is traced to Germany, but its first representative in America crossed the ocean during the colonial history of our country and settled in Virginia, where several generations lived and labored with a fair degree of success. Following the trend of emigration toward the unsettled wilderness of the west, the family pushed across the mountains into Kentucky in an early day and aided in the agricultural development of that commonwealth. Julius and Lucy (Ewell) Wilhoit, parents of Roley E., were born, reared and married in Virginia, but while still young they became pioneers of Kentucky and from there moved to Illinois, settling in Edgar county. By dint of the utmost

frugality and indefatigable energy they accumulated large holdings and acquired the title to about eight hundred acres of farm land. Among their eight children was a son, J. Y., who enlisted in the Union army at the opening of the Civil War, went to the front with his regiment and took part in various engagements until he fell into the hands of the enemy, later dying in a Confederate prison.

While still quite young, Roley E. Wilhoit accompanied his parents from Jefferson county, Ky., where he was born March 1, 1830, to Edgar county, Ill., where he attended a country school and an academy. After leaving the home farm he clerked for a time in a drug store. On hearing of the discovery of gold in the west he determined to emigrate to California and began to make plans for that purpose. With nearly one hundred young men from various parts of the country, in 1850 he outfitted for the trip across the plains, and in May started from St. Joseph, Mo., proceeding along the usual desert route and arriving at Hangtown, Cal., on the 8th of August. After mining there for a few days Mr. Wilhoit proceeded to Mokelumne Hill, where he worked in the mines during the winter, and in the spring went to Jackson, Amador county, later to Folsom, mining at Willow Springs for a time.

Arriving in Stockton May 8, 1852, Mr. Wilhoit secured employment on a ranch near the city and in the fall he began to haul freight to the southern mines. On account of the high water he was forced to convey his goods to French Camp by boat and there he loaded them on wagons for the remainder of the trip. For nine years he engaged in freighting and teaming. During the last six years he had a partner and the firm of Bostwick & Wilhoit conducted a large business in their line. During 1861 Mr. Wilhoit was elected County Recorder and this position he filled by successive elections until March of 1868, when he embarked in the abstract, conveyancing and real estate business. From small proportions the business has increased until it ranks with the largest of the kind in this part of the state. As stated in the



sketch of George E. Wilhoit, the business was conducted by R. E. Wilhoit alone for eighteen years and then he took two sons into partnership; still later the Wilhoit Abstract & Title Company was incorporated, with the three members of the family and Messrs. Taylor and Comstock.

Interested in all movements for the welfare of the town and county, Mr. Wilhoit has long been a member of the Pioneer's Society, from 1872 to 1878 served as a member of the board of supervisors (being chairman for three years), and from 1870 to 1873 served as a councilman (being chairman of that board for two years). After his election as a member of the board of education of Stockton he was chosen president of the body and filled that position with efficiency and fidelity to the interests of the schools. As early as 1859 he became identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in 1865 he was made a Mason. His first marriage took place in Stockton October 7, 1861, uniting him with Miss Delia Dwelly, who was born in Maine in 1844 and died at Stockton January 14, 1872. Three sons and a daughter survived her, namely: George E., born in 1863; Eugene L., born in 1865; Arthur and Alice (twins), born in 1866. The second marriage of Mr. Wilhoit took place in Stockton December 11, 1873, and united him with Miss Jeanette French Tilton, who was born at St. Johns, New Brunswick, in 1849. Three children were born of this union, a son who died at the age of six years, and two daughters, viz.: Mary L., born in 1875, and Elsie G., born in 1877. The family stands high in Stockton and its members are welcomed guests in the most cultured social circles of the city.

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#### WILLIAM DENNIS.

Forty years have come and gone since William Dennis passed from life, but by those still living

who knew him and by those who knew him only by hearsay, he is recalled as one who bore an active part in the material building of Calaveras county and maintained the constant interest in progressive projects characteristic of a citizen of education and culture. A native of England, he was born in Barnstable August 23, 1829, the son of John Dennis, a mechanic, whose death in 1832 left the son fatherless while he was too young to realize his loss. The family remained together in their native land thereafter for a number of years, the elder brothers taking up the burden of support which the death of the father necessitated. The name became established in the United States in 1838, when Louis Dennis, with his brother William, then a lad of nine years, braved the uncertainties and dangers of a voyage by sailing vessel and landed on these shores on the coast of Maine.

Before leaving his native land William Dennis had received all the book knowledge he was destined to receive under the instruction of teachers, for as soon as they were settled in their new home in Maine he was apprenticed to learn the machinist's trade. The mastery of his trade made him self-supporting, and thereafter he followed it in the east until his interest in California was awakened through the fact that his brother Alexander had located here. The latter came in 1851, and so well pleased was he with the outlook that the stories which he wrote to his brother of the country could not be resisted, and two years later he also was numbered among the pioneer settlers of the state, having made the journey by way of the Isthmus of Panama. At first he went to Big Oak Flat and from there to Murphy's, where he assisted in setting up machinery in the first saw-mill in Calaveras county. During the year 1854 he went to Willow Creek and became interested in lumbering, also bought and sold stock, continuing these two lines of activity until 1868. It was during the following year that he went to Virginia City, Nev., where one week later, after a brief illness, he passed away. In the death of Mr. Dennis, Calaveras county lost an honored citizen, one who was beloved and respected by

his many friends, who were numbered among all classes, old and young alike.

At East Corinth, Penobscot county, Me., William Dennis was united in marriage November 8, 1855, with Miss Delphina J. Eaton, the daughter of True and Abigail T. (Comins) Eaton, for years residents of New England, though their last years were passed in California. Two children, both sons, were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis, William S. and T. Lewis. The youngest son resides on the old homestead in Calaveras county, known as the Cutler-Dennis ranch, where he is in charge of a gold dredger now in operation there. A sketch of the older son will be found elsewhere in this volume. Through the accomplishments of father and sons the name of Dennis has been known long and honorably in both San Joaquin and Calaveras counties, in which part of the state the sons have a large circle of warm friends.

The widow of William Dennis became the wife of William O. Cutler in January, 1873, but in June, 1897, she was again left a widow, the death of Mr. Cutler occurring at their home in Calaveras county.

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#### FLAVEL GAYLORD HICKOX.

For many years prior to his sudden and lamented death Mr. Hickox was numbered among the energetic and patriotic citizens of Stockton. Meanwhile by diligent industry and sagacious investment he accumulated a property the value of which has shown a steady increase in common with other real estate of the city and state. During boyhood and early manhood he resided in New York state, where he was born at Gilbertville, July 24, 1844, and where his parents, Cyrus and Mary (Gaylord) Hickox, resided for many years at the Hickox farm lying opposite what long was known as the Joseph Bush farm,

one mile above the village of Bainbridge. In those days schools were crude in their methods of instruction and occupied buildings primitive in appearance and furnishings, yet the boys and girls of that period became well informed in spite of handicaps that would daunt the school children of the present era.

When the Civil war began the sympathies of Mr. Hickox were on the side of the Union and throughout the struggle he gave his influence and aid to the north, volunteering in the army and entering Company B, Ninetieth Regiment New York Infantry with which he served until the expiration of his time, or the close of the war. On his return from the war he began to earn his livelihood at the trade of a painter, which occupation he afterward followed. He maintained a warm interest in all movements for the welfare of the war veterans and for years was prominent in the activities of Rawlins Post, G. A. R., at Stockton. In 1873 he gave up his business interests in the east and moved to California. There he settled in Stockton and took up work at the painter's trade. By industry and steady application to business he accumulated considerable property, including the family residence at No. 20 West Vine street. Fraternally he was identified with Masonry, being a member and past master of Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., and also a member of the Royal Arch Chapter, Royal and Select Masters and the Knights Templar. He also held membership with Truth Lodge, I. O. O. F.

There are now living in New York state two brothers of Mr. Hickox, namely: William C. and George B., of Afton, and one sister, Mrs. H. N. Crydenwise, of Binghamton. He was married in September, 1892, to Miss Carrie A. Lawson, and to them was born one daughter, Amy M., who resides with her mother. By a former marriage he had one son, William J., who is a resident of Stockton.

The death of Mr. Hickox resulted from accident, September 2, 1908, about 9:30 in the morning. In company with F. D. Soule he had been engaged in painting the Buell residence on North

Eldorado street. A few minutes before the accident he remarked to his companion that he would have to go to the roof to attend to some special work. As a matter of precaution he took with him a piece of rope and fastened it around his body. Climbing up, he fastened one end of the rope to the roof and then went to the uppermost part of the house in order to paint the crest. No sooner had he started to work than he was seized with a cramp and in the convulsions that followed he slipped from the crest, rolled down the steep roof, and was brought to a quick stop upon reaching the end of the rope. For a moment he was held suspended in the air, then the rope broke and he plunged headlong fifty feet to the ground.

No one saw the accident, as Mr. Soule was working on another side of the house and there was no unusual noise. Fortunately some passers-by noticed the injured man on the ground, rushed to his aid, found him still conscious and gave him every attention, summoning Mr. Soule and others to his aid. He asked for water and desired some one to bathe his head, adding that soon he would be ready for work again. Everything possible was done to ease his suffering, but while his head was being bathed he gave a few gasps, muttered inarticulately and expired, death ending his sufferings about ten minutes after the fatal fall. Throughout the city there was universal expression of regret at the sudden demise of an industrious workman, a loyal citizen, a true patriot and a war veteran, one who was loyal to family and friends, and solicitous to live up to the highest ideals of citizenship.

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#### GEORGE SUMNER HARKNESS.

Thirty years have come and gone since the death of Mr. Harkness, but he is still remembered by the older residents of Stockton, with whom for over a quarter of a century he was intimately as-

sociated during the early history of this now prosperous city.

He was born December 12, 1826, in the state of New York. In early childhood his parents removed to what was at that time considered the frontier, settling in Jackson county, Mich., where he was reared to manhood. August 13, 1848, he married Miss Mary A. French, of Onondaga, Ingham county, Mich. The young couple made their home in Jackson until April, 1852, when they began the journey that was to bring them to the then Far West. They were ten months on the road, coming by easy stages and having their share of adventures along the way. They were fortunate in not having any trouble with the Indians, but not so fortunate in escaping from the Mormons, who in those days considered the Gentiles as their lawful prey. Upon reaching Salt Lake they tarried two weeks and then continued their journey over what was known as the southern route to the golden west, arriving in Los Angeles in November, 1852. They remained there until the following May, when they started north, and were two months making the journey that now takes two days, arriving in Stockton July 3, 1853.

Mr. Harkness worked at his trade of blacksmithing in Stockton for a few years, interspersing it with trips to various mining towns and a surveying trip to Fresno and Tulare. Not liking his trade he went into the cattle business in 1859, having his headquarters near the San Joaquin river south of Stockton. The great flood of 1862 relieved him of his cattle, and the land he bought, being on a Spanish grant, he was soon relieved of that also, and returned to Stockton in 1863 with nothing but his family and the dog, to begin life anew. He soon engaged in the well-boring business, in which he continued as long as he lived.

He was an ardent Republican and took an active part in politics, never being afraid to speak for the cause in which he believed. His outspoken sentiments during the stirring times of the Civil war won for him once an invitation to come across the river and get hanged, which in-









*James H. Budd*

vation he declined. On returning to Stockton he became a member of the Home Guard, continuing in it until the close of the war.

Three children were born, all of whom are at present living: George S., a physician of this city; Mary A., the wife of William H. Priest, of French Camp, Cal.; and Layton M., also a resident of this city.

Mr. Harkness had no inclination toward public life, nor any taste for fraternal affiliations, his greatest happiness being found in the association of his family, of whom he was very fond. This affection was reciprocated on the part of the family, for he was ever an indulgent husband and father, and many friends and associates loved and respected him for his generosity and kindness of heart.

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#### HON. JAMES HERBERT BUDD.

The ideal life is measured not by years but by intensity, and truly "that life is long which answers life's great end." Gauged by years alone, the career of ex-Governor Budd was all too brief; but estimated by the amount he accomplished for the welfare of his fellowmen, the upbuilding of his commonwealth and the attainment of needed reforms, his life was long as it was also brilliant and eventful. In the annals of California his name is entitled to perpetuation and in the hearts of friends the laurels of memory are blooming with unfading verdure. Every station that he held was distinguished by his loyal service. A spirit of firmness, sustained by the highest patriotic ardor and directed by the loftiest wisdom, enabled him to maintain the rights of his fellow-citizens against the strongest extraneous pressure. Of him it may be said that he promoted the prosperity and exalted the reputation of the state. In life he was widely beloved and in death, universally mourned. The

virtues and services that endeared him to his fellowmen brought to his grave a tribute of affectionate gratitude not alone from his own state, but from friends and admirers throughout every part of the country.

The life which this narrative depicts began at Janesville, Wis., May 18, 1851, and closed at his residence, No. 1239 East Channel street, Stockton, Cal., July 30, 1908, after a vain struggle of several years against a fatal disease. With his parents he resided in California after 1859 and in Stockton after 1860, the father, Hon. Joseph H. Budd, becoming one of the successful attorneys of this city and eventually winning distinction as one of the most learned jurists of the state. It was the desire of the father that the son enter the legal profession, for he recognized the talents that would ultimately bring success in the law. With this object in view, the best educational advantages were provided. Upon completing the studies of the Stockton schools, the youth was sent to the Braxton College School at Oakland in 1869, after which he entered the first class in the University of California, from which institution he was graduated in 1873. Immediately afterward he studied law in his father's office at Stockton and in 1874 at Sacramento he was admitted to practice before the supreme court of California. Returning to Stockton, he engaged in practice with his father for a time and also was with Judge J. G. Swinnerton for a brief period, meanwhile appearing in most of the important litigation of San Joaquin and adjacent counties. During 1873-74 he had served as deputy district attorney under A. W. Roysden and later he received the unanimous nomination of the Democratic convention for assemblyman from his district, but declined the honor.

It had been said that "opportunity knocks once at every door." When it came to the door of the popular young lawyer of Stockton others less keen than himself would not have recognized the presence. A nomination in 1882 for congress at the hands of the Democratic congressional convention seemed but to invite



failure and defeat, for the district was overwhelmingly Republican and his Republican opponent was Hon. Horace F. Page, who for years had represented this district in congress with distinction and efficiency. Only the remarkable ability and personal magnetism of the Democratic candidate could have won in the face of such odds. His defeat was everywhere predicted, but with intense enthusiasm he persevered in his campaign and in every locality he won stanch friends. It was he who originated what became known as the buckboard canvass, so called from his habit of riding over the country in a buckboard. People flocked to meet him and to hear him speak. His influence was felt as much in his chance meeting with people on the street as in his addresses from the platform. The end of the campaign brought him and his party victory to the overwhelming surprise of those who believed the Democrats could never win in this district.

While representing his constituents in congress Mr. Budd was very active and influential, serving on the committees on education and invalid pensions, also securing a large appropriation for dredging Stockton channel, and introducing and carrying through, after the most untiring labor, a measure in the interests of the settlers on the Moquelemos grant. To his efforts was due the passage of an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill, making the Indians amenable to state and territorial laws. After the friends of the Chinese bill considered it hopelessly lost he fought for and secured a special date for its presentation. Chinese matters, inter-state commerce law, fortification measures and appropriation bills were his chief interests while in the house of congress. Upon his return to Stockton from Washington at the expiration of his term he was given an ovation surpassing anything of the kind ever witnessed in the city. The congressional convention renominated him without a dissenting vote, but he declined a second term. Again and again he was unanimously renominated with urgent appeals to accept, but each time he was firm in his refusal. While he de-

clined the honor for himself, he was eager to aid his party and in 1888, by acting as chairman of the city and county central committees, he carried the county for the Democrats.

When twenty-three years of age Mr. Budd served on the staff of Governor Irwin. As a cadet in the University of California he became connected with the National Guard and at graduation held the rank of first lieutenant. Later he received successive promotions to the ranks of major of brigade staff, lieutenant-colonel on the governor's staff, major of the line and when governor was intitled brigadier-general. During 1889 he became a member of the board of police and fire commissioners of Stockton. For six years he was a trustee of the Stockton city library, which through his efforts was made a depository for public books and documents covering an issue of ten years.

The Democratic convention assembled at San Francisco in 1894 nominated Mr. Budd for governor, his Republican opponent being the late Morris M. Estee, who afterward was appointed United States circuit judge in the Hawaiian islands. On the return of the Democratic candidate to his home city the people united in tendering him a spontaneous expression of their warm friendship. A display of bunting indicated the festive spirit of the people. The roar of artillery and glare of fireworks combined to produce a demonstration seldom equalled in the city's history. However, the strength of the candidate in other parts of the state was unsuspected by himself or the rival candidate. His popularity was shown in the fact that he was the only man on the Democratic ticket elected and he ran over thirty-three thousand votes ahead of his ticket. Spencer G. Millard, the Republican nominee for lieutenant-governor, was elected, but died ten months after his inauguration and was succeeded, under appointment, by William T. Jeter, who had been the governor's running mate for the office of lieutenant-governor.

Concerning the gubernatorial service of Mr. Budd the "New San Franciscan," under date of

August 29, 1908, furnishes this tribute: "No matter what his political enemies may say, Governor Budd was the soul of honor. Like all men who rise to high office in state, he was compelled to do opportunist politics. But there is no official act of his career which is sicklied over with the pale cast of suspicion or doubt. From beginning to end his official career will bear the most minute inspection. His record in the gubernatorial office will remain as a possession forever. He may not have been the greatest chief executive that ever ruled California, but he certainly was a governor who never allowed a blot to smear his escutcheon, a governor who took care that his record should give a good account of his stewardship.

"The campaign of 1894 will long be remembered in California. It was almost unbelievable that Budd should defeat Estee and should be able to overcome a twenty-thousand Republican majority. But this is precisely what happened. The year 1894 was a year of political surprises. Budd was elected governor and Sutro was elected mayor of San Francisco. There seemed to be a political upheaval. No candidate ever worked as Budd worked during that campaign. From north to south his voice was heard expounding the principles of the Democratic party. One night he would be in some mountain hamlet in the north. The next night he would be somewhere in the south. He seemed to have the capacity for perpetual motion. But above all things, there was the determination to win, the determination to overcome obstacles. And Budd overcame obstacles; and Budd won against all odds."

During the executive service of Governor Budd the taxes were reduced and the people freed from what had been heavy burdens in that respect. Many reforms were brought about in the interests of economy and good government. His term was one of the most successful of any of the governors. Upon retiring from the office he practiced law in San Francisco and it is said that the returns of his large and important

practice enabled him to accumulate a fortune in a comparatively short period.

The failure of his health caused Governor Budd to retire from professional labors and during 1907 he traveled extensively in Europe, hoping to be benefited by the change, but only temporary relief was secured. In the spring of 1908 he returned from abroad and, feeling restored in part to former health, he announced his intention of residing in Stockton and maintaining his principal offices in that city, with a branch office in San Francisco. The illness of his brother, John E. Budd caused him to plan an automobile trip to Lake Tahoe and the brothers spent several weeks at mountain health resorts, but meanwhile the ex-Governor contracted a cold that brought on a recurrence of rheumatic and kidney troubles. Treatment under a specialist in a San Francisco hospital proved of no avail and he was brought to his Stockton residence, where the end came. Surviving him are his widow, Mrs. Inez A. (Merrill) Budd; his mother, Lucinda M. (Ash) Budd; and a brother, John E. Budd. Mrs. James H. Budd was born near Hartford, Conn., August 2, 1851, and in 1856 was brought to California by her parents, Marcus H. and Celinda A. (Clough) Merrill, natives respectively of Connecticut and Massachusetts. In 1852 Mr. Merrill had come to the Pacific coast for the first time and after a residence here of a few years he returned for his family, having decided to cast in his lot permanently with the undeveloped west. His wife died April 19, 1909, and he is still living in Stockton. One of his daughters, Clara A., the wife of Reginald Webster, resides in San Francisco.

The marriage of Mr. Budd and Miss Merrill was solemnized in Stockton October 29, 1873, and was the consummation of a romance begun when they attended the same school in Stockton. Their teacher was Professor Raulall, now of San Jose, and the building still stands on the present site of the Lafayette school. In every respect Mrs. Budd was fitted to be the wife of a man of genius and brilliant mind.



Her talents are of a high order and have been developed by study and culture. Through the generosity of her husband in 1902 an independent income was placed in her hands and at his death she received the bulk of the estate. Ample means enable her to prosecute her studies and continue her literary work without interruption. Astronomy has been one of her favorite pursuits. The study of the Bible also has been conducted from the standpoint of a classical scholar and earnest Christian believer. In her studies and writings she had the deepest sympathy of Governor Budd, whose own brilliant mental faculties enabled him to be of practical assistance oftentimes in her work. Since his demise she has planned a memorial monument in his honor. With the aid of an artist she designed a broken dome typical of his life terminated all too soon, and the monument was erected in the Rural cemetery at Stockton in 1909.

One of the most brilliant men ever in California was lost to the state in the death of Mr. Budd. Nature had liberally endowed him and to this endowment he had added by industrious application. It has been said of him, as of James G. Blaine, that he could make sight-drafts on his memory for anything he had ever learned and for nearly anything he had ever read, and the drafts would be honored. Supplementing a brilliant mind were great generosity of disposition, earnest philanthropy, a sincere love of children, an unfailing courtesy toward the aged, and the utmost consideration for others. A helpless convict needlessly tormented or a Salvation army preacher annoyed by petty insults from the unthinking rabble—these were as much the object of his helpful sympathy as were people of influence temporarily distressed. Wherever the need might arise, there was the helpful hand, there was the kindly act.

This biographical sketch would fail of its purpose were no mention made of ex-Governor Budd as a friend. Many remember him less as the influential governor or the brilliant congressman than as "Jim" Budd, the devoted

friend. His capacity for winning and retaining friends was one of his most remarkable characteristics. His genial disposition won to him even those of different political opinions, and he never permitted differences of opinion to interfere with his friendships. For his friends he would suffer any hardship and endure any annoyance; for them he would grant any favor possible, and, no matter what the strain of business might be, he was ever ready to give a hearty clasp of the hand to one of his friends. It was said of him that he would travel a thousand miles to do a friend a favor, and none of his friends were dearer to him than the comrades of his early days in Stockton, the men who then admired and remember now with affection the generous, witty, genial "Jim" Budd, a friend unchanged toward them by manifold successes and by all the triumphs of a brilliant career.

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#### L. M. BOWDOIN.

As might be inferred from the name, the family from which the late L. M. Bowdoin descended was of New England origin, and it was one of these early ancestors who in 1798 founded the famous Congregational institution of learning, Bowdoin College, in Brunswick, Me. He was born in the state which had been the home of his ancestors for many generations, his birth occurring in Waterborough, July 30, 1828. His parents, Elliott and Sallie K. (Taylor) Bowdoin, were also natives of this New England state. For some years after their marriage the family home was in Waterborough, where their son was born, but while he was still a small boy they moved to Saco, Me., settling on a farm in that locality. The primitive schools of the times furnished very meagre advantages indeed, but the eagerness with which as a boy he grasped them and turned





*Al. W. Lincoln*

them to the best account possible is indicative of the thoroughness with which he entered into everything with which he had to do in later life.

While L. M. Bowdoin was working on the home farm with his father, the discovery of gold was made in California and the result was that in 1850 he was among the immigrants who landed in San Francisco, he having made the journey hither by way of the Isthmus of Panama. As soon as possible he made his way to the mines in Placer county, but it was not recorded that his success as a miner was in proportion to his expectations. After a few years of this life, he returned to his native state and going to Portland, Me., he conducted a wholesale fancy goods store there for a number of years, making a specialty of handling fine imported laces. Afterward he again came to the west, making the journey this time by way of Nicaragua. Some years later a second visit to his old home in the east was made, but as before, he again became homesick for the west, and hither he came to remain in 1875. By trade he was a carpenter and builder, and during the earlier years of his career in the state he followed his trade in San Francisco. While there he experienced many thrilling events in the history of the metropolis. In order to assist in bringing about better conditions he joined the vigilance committee, the need for which was created by the unruly element which had flocked to the city and was making life and property of the law-abiding citizens unsafe.

From 1882 until his death February 25, 1905, Mr. Bowdoin made his home in Stockton, at No. 22 North Pilgrim street. In the interim he led a busy but happy life, for being a fluent and gifted writer he was never so contented as when preparing material for the two papers with which he was associated, *The Record* and the *Sacramento Bee*. One subject in which he was greatly interested was the Panama canal. During his various trips to and from the coast he had been over both the Panama and the Nicaragua routes and in his judgment the latter passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific was the most practicable one. A very able article on this subject at one time ap-

peared in the columns of the *Record* over his signature. At one time he won a prize of \$25 on a writing contest by the American Secular Union of Philadelphia, the subject being an essay on how to educate the children in schools and how to assist the teachers in the work. For about a year he was also editor of a campaign paper in Nevada City, Cal.

Mr. Bowdoin's marriage occurred March 27, 1861, and united him with Miss Eliza Waterhouse, who like himself was a native of Maine. Three children were born of that union, as follows: Charles E., of San Francisco; Leona, the wife of Chester H. Clieves, of Stockton; and Ida F., the wife of Gilbert T. Austin, also of Stockton. After a short illness Mr. Bowdoin passed away at his home, February 25, 1905, when in his seventy-seventh year. To the last he led a busy, useful life, always working, always thinking and always holding out a helping hand to those in need about him, his words of encouragement and advice giving hope to many a discouraged heart. For nearly half a century he was a Mason and at the time of his death was a member of Morning Star Lodge of Stockton, and under the auspices of this lodge his body was tenderly laid to rest.

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#### ANDREW W. SIMPSON.

Among the men who have bukkled for all time and who have lived their lives so that in the evening of their days they can look back on a work well done without regret and with the knowledge that they have held the respect and esteem of those with whom they have had business or social relations is Andrew W. Simpson, one of the oldest residents and business men of the city of Stockton. He has been a resident of the city since his arrival from Maine in November, 1851, and for the last fifty-five years he



had been connected with the firm of Simpson & Gray, the oldest firm in the state that has existed since its organization under its original personnel of Simpson & Gray.

Andrew W. Simpson was born July 15, 1831, in Brunswick, Cumberland county, Me., into the home of Thomas and Eliza (Whitehouse) Simpson, both natives of that state. He is descended from a seafaring and shipbuilding class of men, as his father and three of his brothers were shipbuilders in Maine and two brothers were captains of vessels.

At an early age Andrew W. learned from his father the names of the various parts of a ship and their uses. Being among the younger members of the family he was given such duties to perform about the home place as his strength would permit. He attended school in his native town and was preparing for college when the call to the eldorado of the west was too strong to be resisted, for his brothers Lewis, Asa M. and Isaiah had come to California in 1849 and had made such favorable reports on the opportunities here that they induced their younger brother to come. After he had arranged for his transportation Andrew W. had to borrow \$150 to defray his expenses, and he landed in San Francisco with only ten cents in his pockets. The passage was made on the steamer Daniel Webster, it being the first voyage of that vessel, and it brought the first lake steamer used to convey the emigrants across Lake Nicaragua.

Upon leaving the home roof Andrew W., as did the other children, carried with him into his life work the precepts of honor and integrity as well as habits of industry that had been instilled in him by his parents. With this as his only asset he began the battle for success in the busy marts of the new state. He came direct to Stockton, where he at once secured work in the lumber business with his brother, who had started in that branch of activity here. He gained a very thorough knowledge of the lumber industry during the next few years and in 1853, in partnership with George Gray, bought out his brother Asa M. and a Mr. Jackson and from that

time to the present the business has been carried on by these two men. In the buying of stock Mr. Gray left that to the good judgment of Mr. Simpson, and that this has made the success of the firm no one disputes. For the past fifty-five years the office has been in the same location, though at first it fronted on Commerce street, but in 1861 it was turned to front on Weber avenue. The corner stone marks the record of the high water of 1906, and shows that it was higher at this time than during the memorable flood of '61-'62. The main yard has been continued at the same location, being bounded by Commerce, Main and Madison streets and Weber avenue, and they have three other yards in the city to further protect their interests. They have had but two small fires during this time and in this have been most fortunate, for the city has had several disastrous conflagrations. In the early days they did a large wholesale business, but in later years have confined themselves to the local trade. By the conservative methods of the firm they have been able to accumulate valuable property interests in the city and county. In all the years that the firm have been doing business in the county Mr. Simpson has been the recognized head of the company and to his unerring judgment is due in a great measure the present standing of the firm.

Though devoted to the business for so many years, it must not be inferred that Mr. Simpson has neglected the duties of a citizen, for he has been interested in the growth of the city and has participated in the movements for the welfare of the people. He is a stockholder in, and from its organization has been on the directorate of the Stockton Savings and Loan Society Bank. He was a member of Weber Fire Engine Company and in the political movements of the city has been an active worker in the ranks of the Republican party, voting for every Republican president since John C. Fremont. In 1888 he was a delegate to the National convention in Chicago. In local matters he has given his influence to the end that the best men qualified for office should be recognized. In all the years of his residence

in Stockton his integrity has never been questioned and it is a well-known fact to all who know him that his word is as good as his bond.

Mr. Simpson formed domestic ties by his marriage in 1863, while on a visit to Maine, with Miss Augusta D. Pennell, who is a native of Brunswick, having been born there in 1842. Their wedding journey was via Panama to California. Arriving in Stockton Mr. Simpson erected the house in the spring of '64 that is still the family residence, being located at the corner of Eldorado and Oak streets. Here five of their six children were born, two dying in infancy and one daughter, Jessica Pennell, at the age of twenty-four years. Those living are Estelle A., the wife of Minot Tirrell and Bertha G. The only son, Andrew W., Jr., is a resident of Stockton and in the employ of Simpson & Gray as manager. The children received their education in the schools of Stockton, Benicia and San Francisco and are well qualified to fill positions of responsibility in the business and social world.

Mr. Simpson is fond of outdoor sports and many leisure hours are spent with rod and gun. He is generous to a fault, a kind and indulgent husband and father and his happiest hours are spent with his family. Generous and kind-hearted, he is willing at all times to give assistance to those less fortunate than himself.

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### HENRY ESHBACH.

In the van of the great army of Argonauts who sought the golden wealth of California there came across the plains two brothers, Frank and Joseph Robert, pioneers of 1848 on the Pacific coast and intimate friends of the illustrious Captain Weber. For a time they tried their luck in the mines, but indifferent success caused them

to turn their attention to industrial pursuits. Starting the first dairy in Stockton, they met with steady success, and for years continued to conduct a prosperous business. Upon finally retiring they removed to San Francisco and there died when advanced in years. During the early growth of their business they became impressed with the possibilities of the state and accordingly sent money for traveling expenses hither to Henry and Magdalena (Robert) Eshbach, a brother-in-law and sister.

Thus it happened that the Eshbach family in 1857 boarded a vessel at New Orleans bound for the Isthmus of Panama and from there proceeded to San Francisco, whence they came to Stockton. Henry Eshbach was a native of Switzerland and in early life had immigrated to the United States, settling at New Orleans, La., where he followed the trade of a carpenter. There he met and married Magdalena Robert, who was born in Alsace-Lorraine and in childhood had come to the United States. It was not the privilege of Henry Eshbach to attend school regularly in boyhood, hence his education was not what he wished. However, he was a natural mechanic and also a proficient carpenter, and after coming to Stockton he followed carpentering until his death, which occurred at the age of sixty years. His wife met with an accidental death in 1878; both were buried in the Rural cemetery near Stockton. They were the parents of two children, Henry and Frank, the latter a native of Stockton and now engaged in business here.

In the city of New Orleans, La., Henry Eshbach was born August 25, 1850, and there he spent his first seven years, when he took passage on a ship in 1857 and came via the Isthmus to California. He attended the public schools in Stockton and in the same class with him was Caroline Deitsch, a pioneer's daughter, whom he married in 1875, and by whom he has two daughters, Amy and Carrie. Upon leaving school he worked at the printer's trade, beginning at the lowest round of the business and working his way up by steady promotions. For nine years



he was foreman of the job department of the *Independent* and he also had a job office of his own, starting the *Record*, which then was known as the *Commercial Record*. Eventually he sold out to a partner and after an association of eighteen years with the printing business he turned his attention to the retail liquor business, which he has conducted since 1883. Fraternally he is connected with Charter Oak Lodge, K. of P.; Ancient Order of United Druids; Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., which he joined February 28, 1872; Stockton Turn Verein and Eintracht Verein. His father was a member of San Joaquin Company No. 3, and he also has been connected with the volunteer fire department, being chief engineer for four years and also president of the board of delegates. At this writing he is connected with the Exempt Firemen. Politically a Democrat, he was a member of the city council from 1881 to 1884 and for two years served on the fire committee. His wife and daughters are identified with the Daughters of the Revolution and the young ladies belong to San Joaquin Parlor, Native Daughters of the Golden West, and also to Lebanon Rebekah Lodge No. 41.

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### JOHN WILSON.

During the early years of California's history as a state, when mining was attracting more attention than agriculture or other substantial callings and men were eager to attain riches by a single bound, John Wilson became a pioneer settler in Stockton, where, after a short experience in the mines, he engaged in teaming with considerable success. This was especially true before the advent of the railroads, when he had a large trade in hauling copper from the mines at Copperopolis, besides doing general teaming throughout the county. The coming of the railroads

worked a hardship on him, as it did with many others who up to this time had secured a good income in the teaming business. To offset this difficulty he established a dairy business and continued the same with equally good results for twelve years. With the proceeds of the sale of this business he erected a number of houses on property which he had purchased from time to time, and from then until his death his time was given to looking after his tenants and keeping his property in good condition.

A native of Vermont, Mr. Wilson was born in the vicinity of Danville, March 18, 1830, the son of parents who had been life-time residents of New England. As a result of the glowing tales which were spread broadcast over the country at the time of the finding of gold in California in the latter '40s and early '50s, prospects which prior to that time seemed to satisfy the average young man, paled perceptibly, and among the number who experienced this change in outlook was John Wilson. In 1852, when a young man of twenty-two years, he set sail from the port of New York bound for Panama, en route for California, taking passage on the first steamer that ever came by the Nicaragua route. In common with all pioneers Mr. Wilson experienced the usual ups and downs, but his adverse experiences were temporary and of short duration, for his indomitable spirit would not brook defeat. Step by step he added to his income by the wise investment of his earnings, until in his later years he was enabled to live practically retired, and at his death left his family well provided for.

The marriage of John Wilson occurred April 7, 1863, and united him with Mary C. Fisher, a native of Missouri, and of the children born of their marriage only one son is now living, Orrin Christopher Parker Wilson, a resident of Stockton. Since the death of her husband, which occurred March 27, 1899, Mrs. Wilson has continued to make her home in the old family residence, at No. 1205 East Channel street, Stockton, which for many years had been the center of a congenial and happy home life. With his wife Mr. Wilson was a member and active worker in the







*W R Bishop*

Central Methodist Church of Stockton, and he was also a stanch believer in and worker for the cause of prohibition, for he confidently believed the traffic in liquor to be the darkest blot on the name of this fair country.

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### HENRY BOSTWICK BISHOP.

For a period of over fifty years Henry B. Bishop was identified with the interests of California, whither he came in 1849, when in the prime of manhood. Naturally he was ambitious to achieve the success which all coveted who made their way with such difficulty to this eldorado of the west, and as soon as he reached the state he lost no time in making his way to the mines. Not unlike the majority who came with the idea of making their fortune in the mines he soon turned aside from this pursuit and tried various means of making a livelihood before settling down permanently. The last twenty-five years of his life were spent in Stockton, where he was known as a very successful rancher, his fine prune and apricot orchards having no equal in this part of the state.

The Bishop family had for years been identified with the east, and Henry B. Bishop was born in Glens Falls, N. Y., May 11, 1824, the son of Samuel and Maria (Reed) Bishop. They were farmers in the vicinity of Glens Falls, and on the parental homestead their son Henry grew to a sturdy manhood, apparently contented with the outlook in the east for a business career. The discovery of gold in California about this time, however, put a new phase on the future, and in August of 1849 he was among the argonauts who disembarked at the port of San Francisco. From there he went at once to the mines at Jackson, Amador county, from there to Mokelumne Hill, Calaveras county, by which

time his enthusiasm for making his fortune as a miner began to wane. Subsequently he was employed in driving the stage and for a time carried passengers from Sacramento to Jackson. Later he engaged in the livery business at Drytown and at Sutter Creek, Amador county, following this until 1870, which year marked a change of location as well as a change of business. From Amador county he came to San Joaquin county and in the vicinity of Linden and Farmington operated large ranches upon which he raised and dealt in stock, as well as raising grain and the various fruits, grapes, etc. After maintaining these ranches for about five years he finally disposed of them and in 1878 he settled near Stockton. Here he also set out trees and vines and established an extensive fruit ranch, and by those in a position to know it was conceded that the prunes and apricots grown in his orchards were not exceeded in quality by any others grown in the county.

In Sacramento, March 4, 1858, Mr. Bishop was married to Miss Caroline Elizabeth Githland, a native of New York state, and two of the six children born to them are living, George Lewis, now of Oakland, and Emma B., the wife of James S. Dunham, they too being residents of Oakland. It was in this latter city that the earth life of Mr. Bishop came to a close February 10, 1902, when in his seventy-eighth year. His life had been a busy and successful one, but it was not spent in the pursuit of personal gain only; on the other hand he was keenly alive to the interests of his home community, wherever that chanced to be, and while a resident of Amador county served as supervisor, and in Sutter Creek was second lieutenant of the Home Guards during the war. After coming to Stockton he affiliated with the Pioneer Society of this city, while fraternally he belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, holding membership in Linden Lodge. Politically he was a Republican, and in the cause of his party, as to whatever he lent his name or influence, he gave honest, unselfish service. Mrs. Bishop comes from an old pioneer family who have been

identified with the state since 1850, in which year she and her parents crossed the plains and began life under conditions far different from those to which they were accustomed in the east. Mr. Gilliland left his wife and four children in Salt Lake and he came direct to California, returning for them the following year. Mrs. Bishop and Mrs. Emma J. Taylor are the only survivors of the family who crossed the plains, but one sister, Mrs. Martha Louise Freeman, born in California, is a resident of Oakland. Mrs. Bishop now makes her home in Oakland, at No. 180 Eighth street.

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#### GEORGE A. CONRAD.

The genealogy of the Conrad family is traced to Germany, but representatives have been associated with American history for many generations. John Conrad, who was born in New Jersey in 1802, died at the age of eighty-four years, after having devoted all of his active life to the carpenter's trade. During early manhood he had married Eliza Pearson, who was born in New Jersey, of English descent, in 1804, and died in 1876; she was the daughter of Col. Robert Pearson, an officer in the Revolutionary war, who lived to be eighty-six years of age. The Conrad family for a long period lived at Dover, Morris county, N. J., where George A. was born January 17, 1828, and where he received advantages that were unusually good for that day. At an early age he gained a thorough knowledge of carpentering under his father's careful training and later became foreman in a shop.

Leaving New Jersey in 1851 with a party of friends, George A. Conrad sailed on the Ohio from New York to the Isthmus of Panama, which he crossed on muleback, and then proceeded on northward as a passenger on the Constitution,

under Captain Stewart. Immediately after his arrival he went to the mines at Mokelumne Hill, where he labored for four years with only ordinary success. His work was always in his own interests; only three days in California has he worked for wages. While he had no remarkable success as a miner, he saw enough of the climate and country to be impressed with its advantages, and he relinquished all thought of returning to the east to reside. Turning his attention to a means of livelihood, he built a toll-bridge on the south fork of the Mokelumne river and operated the same for two years. Mining and teaming were almost the only occupations of those days, and all freight went from Stockton to the mines.

A very important enterprise which Mr. Conrad superintended was the building of a suspension flume in Tuolumne county, thirty-three hundred feet long and eighty feet high, one of the largest contracts undertaken in the state up to that time. The firm of Holt & Conrad filled the contract, the senior member being G. W. Holt, whose widow now makes her home in Oakland. The work required the constant labors of thirty men for a period of four months and cost \$80,000, the whole being superintended by Mr. Conrad, whose intelligence, keen judgment and previous carpentering experience qualified him for such a responsible undertaking. At the time of the great flood, 1861-62, some ditch property was sold at auction and he bid it in, remaining at Jenny Lind, Calaveras county, for fifteen years to superintend its management. Later two large dredges were operated there and large quantities of gold taken out.

Removing to Bellota, San Joaquin county, in 1877 and purchasing a large tract of bare, unimproved land, Mr. Conrad embarked in agricultural pursuits and in time became an extensive rancher, owning twelve hundred and eighty acres in the home place and at various times having other holdings in the locality. When he settled on the land no attempt had been made at improvement. A heavy burden fell upon him in developing the property until it took rank among



the best-improved properties in the region. Alfalfa was his principal crop, and he made a specialty of feeding stock cattle for the market. While he raised a few horses each year, they were principally for his own use and not for sale. For two winters he kept the one hundred and seventy-five horses forming the equipment of the circus owned by Sells Brothers. At one time he lost his barn and stock by fire, managing to save his residence from destruction, but suffering a loss of \$8,000 before the fire could be stopped.

Churches, charities, the Y. M. C. A., and the local schools have always received generous support from Mr. Conrad and his contributions to the same would reach an aggregate surprising to many, but indicative of his interest in all progressive and philanthropic work. October 1, 1907, he retired from ranching and settled in Stockton, where he owns a home at No. 1107 North San Joaquin street. He is still interested in the George E. Crane Company and serves as a director of the First National Bank of Stockton, in the organization of which he took an interested part. Though not opposed to fraternities, he has not identified himself with them, nor has he ever been active in political affairs, his preference being to devote himself strictly to private affairs or to such progressive movements as pertain to the general welfare of the county. Many an interesting hour can be passed with him as he narrates happenings of the early days, for he possesses an excellent memory and has at hand a fund of interesting reminiscences, including stories of meetings with Indians, the majority of whom were friendly to the newcomers and molested them in no way whatever.

The marriage of Mr. Conrad took place October 7, 1868, and united him with Miss Mary Bachelder, who was born in Winnebago, Ill., in 1843, and May 4, 1864, left the old home for California, crossing the plains with horses and arriving after an uneventful journey of six months. The journey was made with her parents, John W. and Mary (Carpenter) Bachelder, the former of whom was born in Maine in 1813, and the latter in Massachusetts in 1820. The first

trip made by Mr. Bachelder to California took place in 1856, but he soon returned east. Again he came in 1860 and in 1864 brought his family hither for the purpose of establishing a permanent home. The Bachelder family came from Cape Cod and the father of John W. served as a lieutenant in the Mexican war, remaining at the front until his death at Pueblo. On the maternal side Mrs. Conrad is descended from Major Nathaniel Carpenter, who first held a commission under George the Third, but, being in sympathy with the patriots, gave up his connection with the British army and became a soldier of the colonies. At the close of the struggle he was in command of troops at West Point. Thereafter he remained a resident of the country whose freedom he had helped to secure and here he died at the age of eighty years. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad is Annie C., wife of A. W. Wilson, living on the home ranch. She was educated at Mills College, Oakland, and has one son, Allen Wilson.

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#### FRANK DYCKMAN COBB.

The identification of Mr. Cobb with California dates from the year 1878, at which time he located in San Jose and two years later became associated with the firm of O. A. Hale & Co., handling a full line of dry goods. The unpretentious business then started has grown steadily with the passing years and the firm now have five stores, scattered throughout the coast, there being one in each of the following cities: San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, San Jose and Stockton. In 1883 Mr. Cobb became manager of the Sacramento branch, but since 1885 he has been in charge of the Stockton house.

Frank D. Cobb was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., a son of Samuel P. and Prudence (Dyckman) Cobb, the former a native of Springfield, Vt.



born September 10, 1811. When eighteen years old he entered the employ of Francis Kidder, who built and carried on the first cotton factory in that section. Mr. Cobb's first wife was the daughter of his employer, and after her death he was married, in 1840, in Schoolcraft, Mich., whither he had moved in the meantime. Two children were born of this marriage, Libbie, who died in childhood, and Mattie, the widow of George Hannah, formerly a capitalist of San Diego, Cal. Mr. Cobb's third marriage occurred June 27, 1848, uniting him with Prudence Dyckman, of Schoolcraft, Mich. Mr. Cobb died in Kalamazoo, Mich., November 26, 1852, the victim of typhoid fever. He was a son of Moses Cobb, M. D., a native of New England, who died in his sixty-sixth year, in October, 1849.

Mrs. Prudence Cobb was born in Clay, Onondaga county, N. Y., October 9, 1828. Some time after the death of Mr. Cobb she became the wife of Marshall Hale, of San Jose, Cal.; she passed away in January, 1907. She was the daughter of Evert B. Dyckman, born in Greenbush, N. Y., September 25, 1799, a son of William and Maria (Smith) Dyckman. Subsequent years found him a resident of Michigan, and in that state his death occurred October 14, 1880, after a long and useful life.

Frank D. Cobb was educated in the public schools and in Hillsdale College. At the age of nineteen years he entered the bank of his grandfather, E. B. Dyckman, and of his uncle, Moses R. Cobb, in Schoolcraft, Mich. Nine months later he became a partner of his step-father, Marshall Hale, in a general store, under the style of Hale & Cobb. About 1872 he bought out the interest of Mr. Hale and formed a partnership with W. B. Cobb. Still later he was associated with his brother-in-law, O. H. Barnhart, under the style of Barnhart & Cobb, carrying on a lumber-yard, store and a farm of two hundred acres adjoining the town. In 1878 he sold out his interest in Michigan and came to San Jose, Cal., whither his step-father and his mother and their six children had preceded him in 1875. In 1879 he became a partner with Mr. Hale under

the name of O. A. Hale & Co., the business since then having been incorporated under the name of Hale Brothers, Incorporated. Since 1885 Mr. Cobb has been manager of the Stockton branch, there being four other similar stores scattered throughout the coast country.

In Schoolcraft, Mich., Mr. Cobb was married to Miss Hattie Myers, a native of Kalamazoo, and a daughter of Henry B. and Helen (Randall) Myers. Mr. and Mrs. Cobb have two children, Boyd S. and Carrie P., the latter born in Sacramento September 19, 1883. The son, Boyd S., was born in Schoolcraft, Mich., December 8, 1871, was educated in the schools of California and was a student in the University of the Pacific for two years. Fraternally Mr. Cobb is a member of San Joaquin Lodge No. 19, F. & A. M., Stockton Commandery No. 8, K. T., Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., and Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E. Mr. Cobb is a great lover of horses and has a number of fine specimens.

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#### JOHN M. PERRY.

Scarcely an enterprise has been formulated for the benefit of Stockton since the opening of the twentieth century which has lacked the enthusiastic co-operation of John M. Perry, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and a firm believer in the future progress of the valley of San Joaquin. Although one of the younger generation of business men of the county, already he has made a decided imprint for good in the circles of those progressive citizens having for their earnest object the permanent welfare of Stockton and the surrounding country. In this age, when tendencies in the largest cities are toward intensive labor and narrowing restrictions, it is a gratification to the student of history to observe that only the centers of our densest population





JOHN M<sup>c</sup>MULLIN

are affected in this way. In the smaller cities, such as Stockton and many others of the west, the citizens are a unit in their endeavors to promote the broadest culture among the people, and thus representatives of the younger generation reap the benefit of this desire for progress.

In the city of Stockton where he now makes his home, John M. Perry was born December 14, 1872, being a son of George and Susannah Perry, natives respectively of New York and Philadelphia. On the completion of his education in the city schools, he gained his first business experience in the capacity of shipping clerk and bookkeeper in the branch office at Stockton of the Chicago firm of L. P. Miller & Co. Later this firm was succeeded by the Monarch Book Company, with which Mr. Perry continued until 1894, and then entered the employ of the Union Transportation Company, operating steamers between Stockton and San Francisco. From the positions of bookkeeper and cashier he was promoted to be secretary of the company and continued in that office until February, 1902, when he severed his connection with the concern. Meanwhile he had leased and purchased ranches of about fourteen hundred acres, suited for potatoes, beans, grain and other products. Shortly after severing his connection with the transportation firm he formed a partnership with G. S. Melone under the firm title of Melone & Perry, and since then he has engaged in buying and selling grain, beans, etc., conducting a general warehouse business. The firm is popular with the farmers of the locality, for prices are always as high as the market justifies, and fair treatment is accorded to everyone. Through honorable business methods the proprietors have established an enviable reputation.

The marriage of Mr. Perry took place May 19, 1906, and united him with Miss Jennie E. Hogan, of Stockton. Of recent years he has become extensively interested in farm lands. Included in his property is a valuable vineyard at Woodbridge. A considerable tract of land he has put under cultivation to asparagus. Well informed as to products suited to our soil and

climate, he maintains a deep interest in the cultivation of such products and by experience has gained a wide fund of agricultural knowledge. An earnest worker in the Chamber of Commerce, he served as a director for a time and since 1907 has held the office of president. In February, 1908, Mr. Perry was appointed foreman of the grand jury by Superior Court Judge W. B. Nutter, serving a term of one year. He served with honor and distinction, and at the discharge of that legal body, was highly complimented by the judge and members of the bar. In Masonry he is identified with San Joaquin Lodge No. 19, F. & A. M.; Stockton Chapter No. 28, R. A. M.; Stockton Commandery No. 8, K. T.; and Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. He is past grand of Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F., and is past president of Stockton Parlor No. 7, N. S. G. W., in the work of which he is still interested. Politically he gives his ballot to the Republican party in national elections. Though still quite young, already he has achieved a gratifying degree of success and has attained a position among the influential business men of his native city.

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#### CAPT. JOHN McMULLIN.

Possessed of a temperament that fitted him for daring deeds and the endurance of frontier hardships, Captain McMullin came to the regions of the southwest at a period when ample opportunity was afforded him for the exercise of his natural instincts and the gratification of his desire for adventure. The record of his life reads like a romance such as was often lived out in the careers of the hardy pioneers of the early half of the nineteenth century, but it was not his good fortune to be spared to witness the marvelous prosperity of the west and the remarkable development of its vast resources. Death



ended his labors ere success had crowned his efforts, yet he had been able to lay the foundation of a prosperity that later brought ample returns to his family and, in addition, he had been an integral factor in laying the foundations of our commonwealth broad, deep and strong, capable of sustaining the superstructure of twentieth-century civilization.

Born in Baltimore June 27, 1824, John McMullin was taken to Florida at the age of four years and afterward attended the schools of Tallahassee. When fifteen years of age a desire for adventure led him to run away from home for the purpose of joining Col. Jack Hays. After arriving at San Antonio, Texas, he traveled westward alone through the country of hostile Indians and in due time safely arrived at the camp of Colonel Hays, whom he told that he was not afraid of any hardships endured by soldiers. Many a time in later days his courage was brought to a test and in every instance he proved himself undaunted by any hardship, undismayed by any peril, and through all that wild region he became known as a brave Indian fighter. Though always in the thickest of the fights, he escaped without injury, and seemed to lead a charmed life, for none was more eager than he to throw himself into the most dangerous place and sustain the weakest division. His bravery elicited the highest approval of his superiors and led to his promotion to the rank of captain, in which capacity he took part in the Texas and Mexican wars. As a member of a party of one hundred and eighty soldiers he made a raid from Texas into Mexico. During the war he was taken prisoner by the Mexicans and for two years was confined to prison, but eventually was exchanged, though in the meantime he had made several unsuccessful attempts to escape rather than suffer the indignities heaped upon the prisoners.

As early as 1848 Captain McMullin had decided to establish himself in California and already had started via the Mexican overland route when he received the news of the discovery of gold. With G. W. Trahern he bought a herd

of cattle and drove them to the southern mines, where they were sold at a fair profit. Thence he proceeded to San Joaquin county, where he acquired large tracts of land, including a horse ranch on the Calaveras. It was his theory that horses would thrive better on mountain land and his success with fine stock proved his ideas to be correct. On his property, known as the Casa Blanco ranch, he erected a residence which had been shipped in sections from Boston. The tract comprised six hundred and forty acres purchased from Innes Brothers, who in turn had acquired the estate from the government.

Throughout his life Captain McMullin was loyally devoted to the progress and prosperity of Stockton and his death, which occurred in 1868, was a serious loss to the highest citizenship of the entire county. Through his large holdings and his commanding personality he had ever been a prominent figure in the history of the county and had been instrumental in promoting movements for the general welfare. One of his hobbies was a fondness for fine stock. As an organizer and the president of the first county fair association, he had been in a position to arouse an interest in stock among the ranchers of the valley and had introduced many breeds of exceptional merit through his own efforts. In spite of maintaining a constant interest in politics he never aspired to office and invariably declined appeals to fill positions of that nature, yet in other ways he was ever alert to aid in the upbuilding of the community. The first theatre building in Stockton was owned by him and many other early enterprises were fostered by his progressive spirit. During the Civil war the governor of Texas offered him a position as chief of cavalry, but he had a family of little children and felt that his first duty was to them, therefore he declined the honor. Land in Texas which he secured in an early day is still owned by his heirs, as is also San Joaquin valley land and Stockton real estate.

During a visit in Washington, D. C., Captain McMullin met Miss Eliza Fleming Morgan, who like himself came from sturdy stock fitted to

endure hardships and privations in frontier regions. She was a native of Kentucky and a daughter of a general famous in the annals of that state, descended from Gen. Simon Morgan, an officer in the Revolutionary war and a cousin of Gen. Daniel Morgan. In 1857 Miss Morgan became the bride of Captain McMullin and their wedding trip took them to San Francisco, where they established their first home, but as soon as everything was in readiness on their San Joaquin ranch they came hither and began house-keeping. All of their nine children were born in California, with the exception of Eliza M., who is a native of Kentucky. The eldest, Anna M., became the wife of Jack Hays of Visalia and they have two sons, Jack and Harry T. Eliza M. married E. B. Perrin, of Williams, Ariz., and they have one son, Lilo McMullin Perrin. Morgan died at the age of twenty-two years. Rebecca K. is the wife of Francis J. Heney, of San Francisco. Beauregard died in young manhood. Elizabeth M. married Judge C. L. Weller, the youngest son of Governor Weller; they and their daughter, Anna Hays Weller, reside in San Francisco. John, who died at the age of thirty-six years, was one of the leading men in the public life of Fresno, this state, where he was president of the Fresno National Bank, president of the Fresno Irrigation Company, president of the Fresno Ice Company, and identified with other leading local industries and business activities. By his marriage to Miss Betty Hays he had three children, John, Jr., Eliza Morgan and Harmon Hays, by whom he is survived. Susan H. married Edward Fant, of Fleming county, Ky., but died soon after marriage. The youngest member of the family circle, Henrietta, died in infancy.

After the death of her husband Mrs. McMullin made her home in Kentucky for ten years, but at this writing she resides in San Francisco. Changes of residence, however, have left undimmed her loyalty to San Joaquin county, for which she cherishes a deep affection as the home of her happy married years, the birthplace of all of her children but one, and the center of

many warm friendships formed during those busy years. Proud of the military record of her ancestry, she taught her children to display a patriotic spirit in every act and in her own life has shown the possession of the loyalty of her ancestors. On the organization of the Sons of the Confederacy at Lexington, Ky., she became a charter member. At that time there was no ladies' auxiliary, but later she identified herself with the Daughters of the Confederacy, and during 1906 became a member of the Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter of San Francisco, with which she is now identified, and she is also a member of the National Chapter, Daughters of the Revolution.

Mrs. McMullin has made all the improvements on the property left by her husband and has acquired several parcels of land in the various counties in the valley which have become very valuable by the improvements she has made upon them. She has been a liberal contributor to all public movements for the betterment of the county and state.

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#### JOHN WALTER DOCKENDORFF.

The possibilities of achievement on the part of industrious application and intelligent energy find expression in the life of John W. Dockendorff, who is recognized as one of the most competent architects and builders in Stockton. While he is yet on the sunny side of life he has already gained a gratifying degree of success, evidence of which is seen in the many substantial structures which are the work of his brain and hand. Of New England parentage on the paternal side, he was born in Newcastle, Lawrence county, Pa., September 6, 1873, the son of Robert and Elizabeth (Reed) Dockendorff, the former a native of Maine, and the latter of Pennsylvania. The father was a contractor and builder by trade, and



thus it happened that the son entered his office to learn his trade as soon as he had completed the studies prescribed in the common schools of Newcastle. At the age of eighteen, when he had obtained a fairly good insight into the trade, he went to St. Louis, Mo., to add still further to his proficiency by learning the mason's trade.

Mr. Dockendorff's independent career as a contractor and builder began in 1896, when he was only twenty-three years old, at that time opening his office in St. Louis prepared to execute orders for contracting and general building. Believing that a better outlook awaited him further west he went to Kansas, and after looking around for a suitable location, settled in Garnett, a thriving and growing town, where he found ample opportunity to exercise his ability as a first-class architect and builder. His reputation as an honest, straightforward workman in all departments of his calling brought demands upon his services throughout the surrounding country, and many structures scattered over eastern Kansas and Oklahoma attest his ability and popularity in his special calling. Coming still further west in February, 1905, he located in Stockton at that time and has made this city his home ever since. While to some extent he has followed his profession since coming to the west, the greater part of his attention has been given to developing and getting on the market a patent which holds a promising outlook to the owner. His land dredger, for such his patent is called, is now being operated with great success on the Richard R. Smith ranch near Stockton, making irrigating ditches. The dredge runs along the land much in the same manner as a traction engine, and can be adjusted to dig either large or small ditches, as the necessity may demand. The fact that this machine can be operated by one man makes it especially attractive to prospective buyers, as in dredges of the average type from six to eight men are required to operate them. Judging from the reception which his invention has received thus far a great future undoubtedly awaits it in this state, or in fact wherever irrigation is feasible. Since

locating in Stockton the following buildings have been constructed under Mr. Dockendorff's immediate supervision and direction, the T. F. Kneutzen block, Moline Plow Company annex, Flint-Bigelow block, E. B. Stowe building, besides a large brick apartment house on California avenue, and a number of fine private residences.

While a resident of St. Louis, Mo., Mr. Dockendorff was united in marriage, July 8, 1898, to Miss Ida Hanson, a native of that city, and four children were born to them, Mildred, Bertha, Gertrude and John, the last mentioned deceased.

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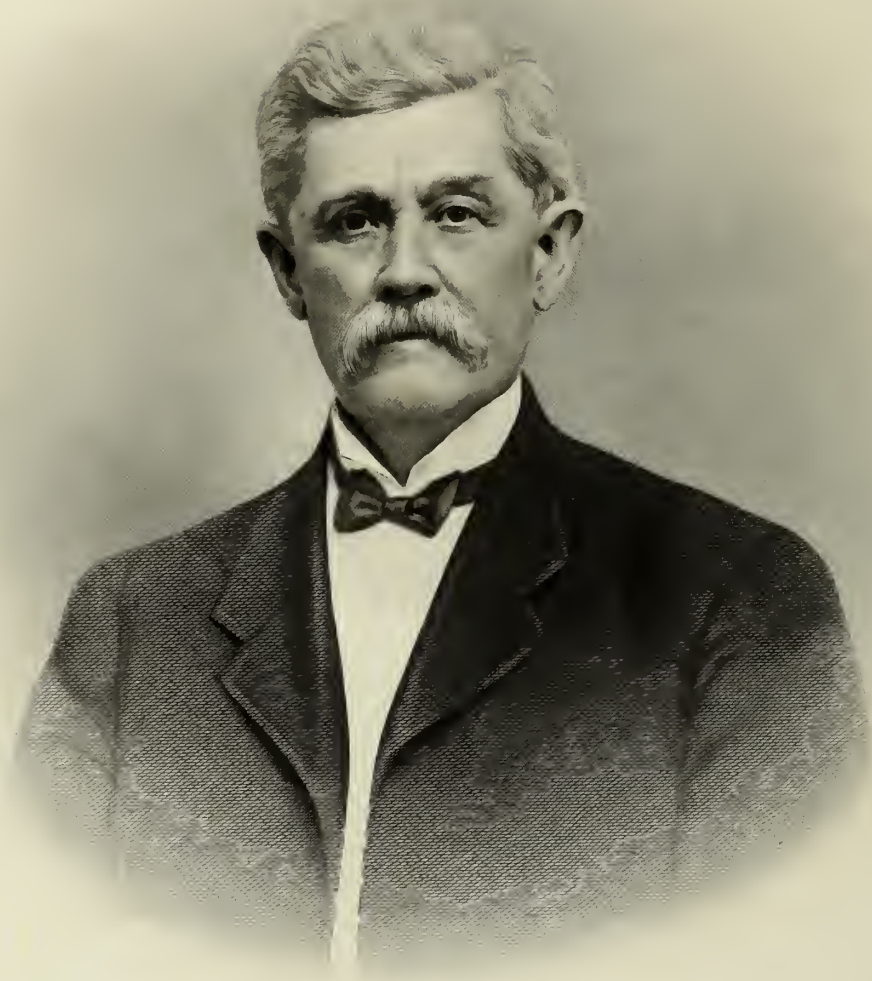
#### ANTHONY J. MCPHEE.

Evidence of skill in the building business, exemplified by the construction of some of the most attractive residences in Stockton, have given Mr. McPhee a high place among the people of the city, who recognize in him the possession of both artistic taste and constructive ability. The trade of carpenter, which he learned in all of its details in the east, has been his principal occupation in life, but of late years he has added the contracting business, and has filled contracts for the erection of some of the most elegant and substantial homes in Stockton.

The birthplace of Mr. McPhee is far removed from the scenes of his present activities. On the bleak shores of the peninsula of Nova Scotia, in the little hamlet of Sidney, he was born May 15, 1862, being a son of John and Sarah (McGillvray) McPhee, also natives of that province. With keen intelligence the lad early decided that his native place offered few opportunities for other than the most meagre livelihood and at the age of fourteen he came to the States, after which he made his own way in the world. For a short time he worked in the Hodges iron foundry at Chelsea, Mass. Next he secured employment







*R. B. Thompson*

in the Bradwell & Anderson furniture factory at Boston, where he remained for six years.

An excellent opportunity to learn the trade of a carpenter was seized by Mr. McPhee, who thus was brought under the tutelage of a Mr. Rowe from Maine, at that time one of the experienced and successful contractors of Boston. In that way the trade was thoroughly mastered. Hearing of the need of skilled carpenters in California, he came west in 1887 and settled in Los Angeles, where he engaged in contracting as a member of the firm of McNeill & McPhee. At the expiration of eighteen months in Los Angeles he came to Stockton in 1889 and here he has built up an excellent business in contracting. Residences have been his specialty, and the homes of Dr. Fisher Clark and W. C. Ramsey on Flora and Monroe streets, as well as many others in the city, bear testimony as to his skill and efficiency.

The marriage of Mr. McPhee was solemnized in Los Angeles November 14, 1888, and united him with Miss Rose Howley, a native of Madison, Wis. Of the children born to them, the eldest, Vincent, has recently been taken into partnership with his father, while Harvey and Carlton are also associated with the business. The youngest son, Leland, attends the public school. Mrs. McPhee presides over her home with excellent taste, looks well after the needs of her family, and is a devoted mother and a loving wife. Mr. McPhee is a home-loving man and, when his day's duties are over, finds his greatest pleasure by his own fireside; however, he is of a social nature and no one enjoys more than he the visits of old friends and companions. At various times he has allowed himself needed relaxation from business. During the summer of 1908 he returned to Boston and passed two months with his father, also renewing the associations of old days. At the time of the discovery of gold in Nome, Alaska, in 1897, he went to the northern mines, both for the purpose of seeing the country and of working in the mines. Finding that no opportunity was offered in the mines, he worked at his trade after his ar-

rival in Alaska on the steamer *Zalandia*, the voyage being made in thirty days. For three weeks he and his companions were isolated by ice-fields. To illustrate the prevailing prices of that day and place, it may be stated that he and his partner received \$560 for building a cabin, 14x14 feet in dimensions, the entire work on which consumed only two days. Living was very high, meals costing \$3 each. Returning to Stockton he worked at his trade in the winter and the next summer again sailed to Alaska, on the steamer *South Portland*, which made the voyage in forty-eight days. This time he remained six months, until the approach of wintry storms warned him of the necessity of returning to the south. Much of interest marked his trips to the northern mines and other journeys have been equally interesting, but as a place of permanent abode he has never found a rival to California, which he believes offers all the advantages necessary for contentment and happiness.

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#### REES BOEN THOMPSON.

The life of this early pioneer began in Tazewell county, Va., February 10, 1830, and closed in Oakland, Cal., July 3, 1908. Between these dates was enacted a life of usefulness, exerted unselfishly toward the betterment of his adopted home in the west. Leaving his southern home in the year 1850 he came to California across the plains, going direct to Hangtown, now Placerville, where he engaged in mining. After he had remained there a year he returned to the east for his parents, with whom he had moved from Virginia to Missouri. With his parents Mr. Thompson again took up his westward march in 1852, crossing the plains this time as he had done two years previously. Coming direct to San Joaquin county, he settled eighteen miles from

Stockton at a place which has since become known as New Hope, where he purchased a large ranch and engaged in the cattle business until the year 1880.

Mr. Thompson's interest in and qualifications for public life led to his election as representative to the legislature from San Joaquin county in 1880, at which time he was the only member of the Democratic party in the house. He was elected by a large majority, his great popularity with both parties taking many votes from his opponent on the Republican ticket.

After his election to the legislature Mr. Thompson disposed of a part of his ranch property and the following year, 1881, removed into the city of Oakland, which was his home thereafter until his death, July 3, 1908. While living in New Hope he was united in marriage, July 4, 1865, with Miss Josephine Hardesty, a native of Indiana, who still survives and now makes her home in Oakland at the family home place, No. 275 Fairmount avenue. Personally Mr. Thompson was a man of much worth, integrity and earnestness of purpose, and it can truly be said of him that he was representative of the best in American citizenship, living up to a high standard in public and private life and making his influence felt throughout the community for its betterment and moral uplift.

terests a few years later. As successors to Dr. Clarke, Messrs. Trask and Ramsey greatly enlarged the efficiency of the institution by removing the college to its present location at the corner of Channel and California streets. W. C. Ramsey later purchased the interest of Mr. Trask (now Judge D. K. Trask of Los Angeles) and continued the active management of the college for nearly twenty years. At the end of this time, however, June 1, 1904, Mr. Ramsey disposed of the institution to Messrs. Dixon and Gardiner, under whose management it flourished for about two years or until August 1, 1906, when it was purchased by the Heald Colleges, whose home office is in San Francisco. Under the system of colleges known under this name, a great power has been exerted in the educational field throughout the west, this being especially true since the addition of a course in engineering.

For thirty-five years, or ever since it was founded, the Stockton Business College has been a success, and the high standard of its curriculum has always been recognized. Many thousands of boys and girls have been trained to usefulness under the system here followed, and thousands of country boys who might otherwise have drudged out their lives in obscurity have here been trained to fill useful positions on an equal footing with those of larger opportunity. The college has also to its credit many teachers who are at present employed in the high schools and other educational institutions throughout the Pacific coast. It is a fact well known that more professional penmen are graduated from this institution than from any other college of the Pacific coast, which is explained when it is said that the manager of the college, Fred O. Gardiner, is conceded to be the finest penmen in the west.

Under its present management the Stockton Business College is bringing into San Joaquin county a class of young men and women who are taking front rank in the commercial world. Every bank in Stockton has from one to a half dozen of its graduates among the employes, a

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#### THE STOCKTON BUSINESS COLLEGE.

This well-known institution was founded in 1874 by Prof. E. C. Atkinson, one of the oldest and most experienced educators of the Pacific coast, and now the owner and principal of the Sacramento Business College. It was conducted for four or five years under Professor Atkinson's management, and subsequently was sold to Fischer R. Clarke, who likewise sold his in-



fact which speaks eloquently for the reputation in which the college is held. The latest addition to this growing institution is an engineering department, which is affiliated with the Heald School of Engineering in San Francisco. This department fits young men for intelligent use of their hands as well as their heads.

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### JOHN COX WHITE.

John Cox White was born in Ohio September 2, 1822, and received such advantages as the day and locality afforded. When twenty-four years of age he accompanied his parents to Illinois, settling at Knoxville. At the time of the discovery of gold in California he determined to seek a livelihood on the western coast and in 1849 he crossed the plains with a party of Argonauts. After an uneventful, but tedious journey of five months he landed at his destination and settled in San Joaquin county, where he engaged in freighting to the mines for a short time. Next he formed a partnership with William Dunlap in the stock business, the two continuing together until the death of the latter in 1854, after which on his own account Mr. White engaged in agriculture and stock-raising until his death. Through the exercise of judgment, energy and foresight he became the owner of large herds of cattle and large tracts of land on the lower Sacramento road, and his reputation was that of a capable stockman, energetic farmer, excellent business man, and kind neighbor. Everywhere it was said of him that his word was as good as his bond.

For many years a director in the San Joaquin Valley Bank of Stockton, John C. White maintained a warm interest in the welfare and prosperity of this institution. A successful business man, he was noted for his able management

of affairs. Though often solicited to hold office he always refused, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business affairs. In him the needy had a practical counselor, and he proved a friend to the widow and the orphan; indeed, no one in distress was ever refused succor by him, and he gave with a generosity typical of the man. From 1867 until his death, which occurred May 19, 1891, he remained a resident of Stockton, and was one of the original members of the San Joaquin Society of California Pioneers. October 2, 1853, he was united in marriage with Miss America E. Smith. They became the parents of ten children, namely: J. Frank, now deceased; Jennie W., wife of W. R. Fisher, residing at No. 5 West Oak street, Stockton; Charles B.; Lewis B., of San Francisco; Arthur C.; Mrs. Kate W. McPherson, of Sonora; Mrs. Lizzette W. Maxey, of Lathrop; Morgan Mc. M.; Harry D.; and Mrs. Anna W. Farnsworth, of Stockton.

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### JONATHAN HALL DODGE.

The qualities which have contributed to success in new countries have always been characteristics of the family represented by the late Jonathan Hall Dodge, a pioneer of 1850 in California.

The genealogy shows the undoubted antiquity and gentle blood of his English ancestry, several patents granting arms or confirming preceding grants being preserved in the family to this day. As early as 1629 his first American ancestor came to the New World and settled at Beverly, Mass., where he took an active part in the early struggles of the colonies and assisted in the founding and maintenance of one of the great institutions of learning, Harvard College. Others of the race bore an active part in the Revolutionary war.



Born in Lamõille county, Vt., July 21, 1819, Jonathan Hall Dodge made the most of educational advantages in his boyhood and later gained a broad information which gave him the power of initiative in the new conditions of the west. In early life he started to make his own way in the world and following the tide of emigration to the west he came to McHenry county, Ill., where he was living at the time of the discovery of gold in California. Eager to avail himself of this opportunity to make a fortune in the great unknown west, Mr. Dodge settled up his affairs in Illinois and, on Christmas day, 1849, started for California. He went to St. Louis and there took a steamboat for New Orleans, arriving January 17, 1850.

The government steamer commanded by Capt. David Porter, on which he took passage February 12, 1850, conveyed Mr. Dodge to the Isthmus. There he hired natives to carry his luggage across to Panama, where he embarked on the sailing vessel Greyhound, which anchored at San Francisco forty-seven days later. After his arrival he went to Sacramento by steamboat and from there journeyed with wagon and oxen to the south fork of the American river, six miles from where gold was first discovered at Coloma. Meeting with little success in the mines, he soon decided to take up lands in the San Joaquin valley, and on the 3rd of December, 1850, settled in San Joaquin county.

After a partnership of seven years with J. H. Cole, in which a large tract of land was held jointly, Mr. Dodge purchased nine hundred acres of land near the Calaveras river, the tract being a part of the famous Pico grant. Later he became the owner of thirty-two hundred acres in Merced county, which was used as a sheep range for high-grade Spanish-Merino sheep. Besides owning large tracts of land he was interested in the development of coal mines near Mt. Diablo, and also held gold mining interests in Calaveras county. From the first he met with encouraging success in his agricultural efforts. His home farm was brought under cultivation, buildings were erected, and good grades of stock

were purchased. The owner became famous for the fine horses that he raised. The most improved farming machinery was bought to aid in the cultivation of the land. No expense was spared to secure the best results and the appearance of his ranch bore every testimony to a most intelligent oversight.

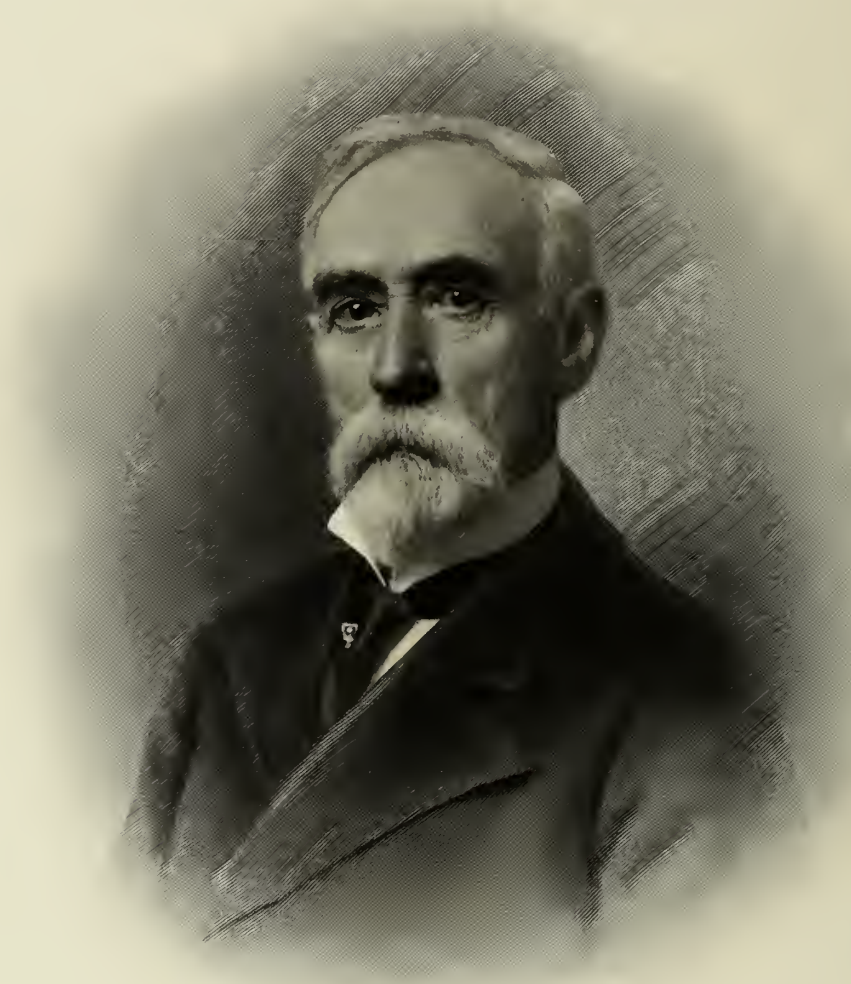
Along lines for the development of new agricultural activities Mr. Dodge was a pioneer. He was always among the first to purchase new farming implements or to experiment with different crops. He was a pioneer in grape culture and with George West, in an early day, planted a vineyard of fifty acres comprising many varieties of imported wine and table grapes. The experiment proved successful and many were encouraged thereby to enter this industry for themselves.

A house, said to be the oldest in the county, was on the ranch at the time of Mr. Dodge's purchase. It was constructed of logs and was located on the Calaveras river near the site of one of General Fremont's battles with the Indians. A frame structure brought around Cape Horn was added to this and became the first dwelling of himself and wife, the latter, prior to her marriage, having been Miss Emily Bray. Of English lineage, she was born in Lancastershire, and came from England to California, where she married Mr. Dodge November 8, 1859, and where she remained until her death.

In 1866 Mr. Dodge erected a new dwelling house and necessary farm buildings. Later he donated the site for the Calaveras school, and contributed largely toward the erection of the school building and the maintenance of the school.

Though so successful in his early life in California Mr. Dodge later met with business reverses. The grain market having been cornered he chartered ships to send his grain directly to Liverpool. This experiment had been successfully carried out the previous year by J. D. Peters, but owing to a sudden fall in the price of grain Mr. Dodge suffered an exceedingly heavy loss.





*John C. Thompson*

Mining investments which proved unfortunate and a succession of dry years brought about his financial embarrassment, from which he was unable to recover. His death occurred July 26, 1894. A man of public spirit, he did much to promote the welfare of the county where for years he made his home. Especially was he kind in assisting others less fortunate than himself to gain a foothold in the new land. By all who knew him he was held in the high respect and esteem of which he was so eminently worthy. In his family were the following children: Florence, deceased; Henry L., who married Harriet Benjamin; Clara, wife of M. T. Noyes; Emily M., Anna L. and Charles Holt, all residents of Stockton.

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### JOHN C. THOMPSON.

Very early in the colonization of America the Thompson family became established among the pioneers of the New World, the first of the name making settlement upon Virginia soil, whose riches enabled him to gain notable prosperity. John Thompson, a native of the Old Dominion, grew to manhood on a stock farm and at an early age acquired a thorough knowledge of the raising of stock, besides which he was given a good education in private schools. While living in the old home neighborhood he married Mary Adams Williams, a native of Virginia, where for some years they continued to make their home. They were the parents of four children, all of whom were born in Tazewell county, Va. The second son is John C., whose name introduces this article. Another son, Hon. R. B., formerly a member of the legislature of California, died July 3, 1908, and is survived by his widow, a resident of Oakland, Cal. A daughter, Eliza Thompson Yerby, is a widow living in Los Angeles, and another daughter,

Mrs. Sarah L. Thompson Wheeler, makes her home at Milton, Calaveras county. Eventually they followed the tide of immigration that drifted over the mountains into Kentucky and Missouri, and for six years lived in northwestern Missouri. The discovery of gold called attention to the unknown riches of the Pacific coast and John Thompson determined to try his fortune in that country. Having made the necessary preparations and disposed of his possessions in Missouri, during 1852, he and his family crossed the plains and after a fatiguing and eventful journey during which his wife died in the Big Meadows of the Humboldt Basin, now the state of Nevada, he arrived at his destination.

Seeking a suitable location John Thompson came to San Joaquin county and selected land near New Hope, where he acquired the title to five hundred acres. Here he engaged in raising small grain, also cattle and horses. After two years he returned to Missouri and married Mrs. Jane Hardesty. He crossed the plains a second time to his California home, bringing again a large drove of cattle. Being a man of tireless energy and wise foresight he prospered in his undertakings and became one of the leading citizens of his county, where he rendered efficient service as a supervisor and in other ways identified himself with public affairs. Reared in the Democratic faith and always staunch in his allegiance to that party, he nevertheless favored the Union cause at the time of the Civil war and in 1861, upon being elected to the state legislature entered the office with the understanding that his support would be given to the Union. During his service he never faltered in his allegiance to the Union and as a member of various important committees he proved helpful to the welfare of the state and nation. In no matter, public or private, was his integrity ever questioned. His force of character left its impress upon the early history of the county, where he continued to reside many years. The latter part of his life he spent in Oakland with his daughter, Mrs. H. C. Yerby, where he died in October of 1886, at the age of eighty-three.



The gentleman who forms the subject of this narrative was born in Tazewell county, Va., in January of 1835, and in childhood gained a practical knowledge of the frontier through residence in Missouri during the pioneer days of that state. It was his good fortune to be the son of an advocate of liberal education, a man who devoted himself to giving his children the best advantages possible to the period. Hence, it was his privilege to receive instruction from a private tutor and later he was a student in Grand River College. Upon leaving school he devoted his entire time to work on the home ranch, where he soon gained a thorough knowledge of all kinds of stock. After attaining his majority he began to buy and sell horses and cattle, and prepared cattle for the home markets. In 1861 he formed a partnership with James P. Folger under the firm name of Thompson & Folger, which partnership was successfully continued until the death of Mr. Folger in 1885, after which the business was incorporated under the name of Thompson & Folger Company.

From time to time the firm made investments in land until eventually it acquired its present holdings of about three thousand acres, where are to be found stock of fine breeds, good improvements in the way of buildings, and the various accessories which tend to the success of the rancher or lighten his labors. In addition to his stock interests he planted and developed vineyards.

The marriage of John C. Thompson took place in 1863 and united him with Miss Caroline Rutledge, whose parents, John and Nancy Fulton Rutledge, migrated from Virginia to California during an early day and settled in San Joaquin county. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson became the parents of four children, viz.: Edward R., deceased, who officiated as city attorney of Stockton and was well known at the San Joaquin County bar; Mrs. Richard C. Minor, of this city; John H., who is secretary and a member of the Stockton Iron Works and of the H. C. Shaw Company; and Mrs. Edw. F. Haas, of San Francisco. The family residence is a sub-

stantial structure, standing at No. 107 West Vine street, Stockton. Fraternally, Mr. Thompson is a Master Mason, identified with Woodbridge Lodge No. 131, F. & A. M. A number of industries receive the benefit of his co-operation and counsel in addition to the ranches with which his name is most closely associated, and besides he acts as a member of the state board of managers of the state hospital, holds office as a director in the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Stockton, and is vice-president of the Bank of Lodi; these various positions indicating his high standing as a man of ability and as a progressive citizen.

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#### JACOB WAGNER.

During the year of 1849, memorable in the history of California by reason of its remarkable increase of population owing to the discovery of gold, a youth of nineteen years set sail from Germany for the United States in the hope of achieving a greater success here than his native land afforded. This was Jacob Wagner, who was born at Baden-on-the-Rhine, October 15, 1830, and whose education was received in the splendid institutions that are the pride of Germany. The ship on which he sailed cast anchor at New Orleans and he stopped there, lacking the means necessary for further travel. For a time he was employed as a gardener by different wealthy citizens. With the savings resulting from his industry and frugality he was able to pay for his transportation to California, and during 1852 he arrived in Stockton, where now he makes his home. At first he worked at gardening, but soon he began to butcher stock and sell meat, thus laying the foundation of the business to which he gave the best years of his life.

For a time Mr. Wagner had a market on Hunter street and then for six years he conduct-

ed a market at Vallecito for the purpose of supplying the mining camps with fresh meat. At the expiration of six years he opened a market on American street, Stockton, where he continued in business for about eighteen years. Meanwhile he had bought lots and erected a building on American street and Weber avenue, and to this location he moved his market. In connection with his local business, he engaged in buying and selling sheep, cattle and hogs, and for fifteen years or more he owned a ranch of fourteen hundred acres on the lower Sacramento road, on which he pastured his stock. During the early period of his identification with the meat business, there were few improvements, and the industry was conducted under great handicaps of hardships and exposure. Later, fortunately, improved methods were introduced, modern machinery was purchased, a fine plant was equipped, and the business became much easier to manage.

After having engaged in the meat business for more than forty years and meanwhile having established a reputation for reliability, energy and thorough knowledge of the industry, Mr. Wagner turned his market over to his two sons, who have since managed it. Retired from former activities, he spends much of his time at his comfortable home, No. 421 East Flora street, Stockton, where he enjoys the society of relatives and friends, and keeps in touch with the progress of the world through the perusal of current papers and periodicals. At the age of seventy-nine years, he still retains all of his faculties, and is mentally active as well as physically robust. His marriage was solemnized in 1854 and united him with Miss Lena Kuhn, who was born in Prussia in 1834 and immigrated to California in 1853. They became the parents of ten children, as follows: Lena B., the wife of Henry Brack; Katherine, the widow of Herman Durtmann of San Francisco; Annie, wife of William Leslie; Bena, wife of A. Strong; Louis; Fred, deceased; Emma, the wife of W. H. Bennett; Amelia, who became the wife of Clarence McCall; Jacob; and Clara, the wife of William

Ludlow, of Oakland. All but two make their homes in Stockton, with the exception of two married daughters. In younger years Mr. Wagner took considerable interest in fraternities and was active in the work of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, the German Turn Verein and the Druids. He has been a liberal contributor to charities throughout the county, besides giving to churches and schools.

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#### NATHAN L. BROWN.

As years are counted Mr. Brown would be called a late acquisition to the citizenship of Stockton, but in point of accomplishments during the four years of his residence here he compares favorably with old-established residents. The descendant of a long line of New England ancestors, he was born October 26, 1864, in Waterville, Lamoille county, Vt., where his parents, Ephraim and Sophia (Brown) Brown, lived on a farm. Under the shadow of the Green Mountains Nathan Brown grew from boyhood to a sturdy manhood, during these years attending the public schools of Waterville, working on the homestead farm, and finally qualifying as a contractor.

Mr. Brown's removal to California in 1903 was preceded by many years of painstaking work in the line of his profession as a contractor and builder in the east, hence his success since coming to Stockton is but the natural outcome of application, diligence and perfection of workmanship. During the four years of his residence here he has erected over thirty houses, and is continually adding to the number under way, so great is the demand for his services.

In Vermont, June 5, 1889, Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Hill, she

too being a native of the Green Mountain state. Five children have been born of their marriage, Lotta, Ralph, Harry, Guy and Glenn. Mr. Brown's mother is also a member of his household, the father having passed away in the old Vermont homestead March 20, 1890. The family have a very commodious and handsome residence in Stockton at No. 1306 South San Joaquin street, where friends and acquaintances are hospitably entertained. Since taking up his residence in Stockton Mr. Brown has taken a deep interest in the welfare of his home city, giving generously of time and means toward any project that will redound to the benefit of his fellow-citizens. Fraternally he is a Mason, being a member of the Royal Arch degree in the Masonic lodge in Jeffersonville, Vt.

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### JAMES M. WELSH.

The death of Mr. Welsh, July 26, 1904, was the cause of general regret throughout the city of Stockton, where he had made his home for twenty-two years, during which time he had demonstrated an unselfish, wholesome interest in its upbuilding and had been a large factor in placing its affairs on a firm basis. This was especially true during his term as mayor of the city, an honor which came to him in 1884, he being the first to hold this important office under the new charter.

A native of Scotland, James M. Welsh was born in Dundee in 1845, the son of John Welsh, a grain and commission merchant in that city. When their son was five years of age the parents immigrated to America, locating in Canada ten miles from the city of Toronto. At the time he had reached the age of eighteen years James Welsh had determined to fit himself for the builder's trade, but after mastering it he did not

follow it very long, giving it up to come to California. Leaving New York in July of 1868, he finally arrived in San Francisco via the isthmus after an uneventful journey. His understanding of the builder's trade naturally led him to seek employment either in that or a similar line, and the latter he found in the McCreary Flouring mill at Tehama. From there he went to the Antelope mill at Red Bluff, later going to Sacramento, where he had charge of that branch of the McCreary mill until 1872, when he went to Oregon City, Ore., where he had purchased two mills. Four years later he bought an interest in the Eureka mills at Walla Walla, Wash., after which the firm became Welsh & Co., and so remained until November, 1881. At this time he went east, taking his family for a pleasure trip, and remaining until the spring of the following year, when he returned to California and located in Stockton. It was some time after his location here that the Crown mills were built, with Schwabacher Brothers, Balfour, Guthrie & Co. and James M. Welsh as proprietors, doing business under the corporate title of the Stockton Milling Company. Mr. Welsh had been a resident only two years when he was chosen as the city's chief executive, he being the first one thus honored after the adoption of the new charter, and for three years he proved his efficiency for the office, to the great satisfaction of those who had been responsible for his election. Various other interests claimed a share of Mr. Welsh's time and thought besides the business and public affairs already mentioned, among them the Alta Fire Insurance Company and the Stockton Land, Loan and Building Association, in both of which he served as president, in the latter association from the time of its organization, and he was also a large stockholder in the California Navigation Company, in this also serving as president from the date of its organization. He was also president of the San Joaquin County Valley Bank and a director of the Samson Iron Works.

Mr. Welsh was married March 15, 1871, in New York, to Miss Mary E. Wheeler, who was









Charles Holt

born there, and three daughters blessed their marriage, as follows: Grace, Mrs. W. E. Elliott, of Oakland; Beatrice, Mrs. Stuart P. Elliott; and Maude, the wife of F. C. Dutton, of San Francisco. Fraternally Mr. Welsh was a member of Morning Star Lodge No. 68, F. & A. M., for five years was master of Walla Walla Lodge No. 7, and was a member of the Chapter and Commandery of the same Washington city. He was a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, and was also a member of Truth Lodge No. 55, I. O. O. F., of Stockton. Throughout his career in the west, both in a public capacity and as a business man and private citizen, he won a host of friends on account of his unswerving devotion to his duty and his honesty of purpose, and all who knew him admired him for his many pleasing traits of character.

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#### CHARLES HENRY HOLT.

The life history of Charles H. Holt is one of unusual interest. Through a career which began in 1843 and ended in 1905, he was a witness of much of the remarkable development of the United States, no part of which was more interesting to him than the Golden state, where he had made his home from the time he was twenty years of age. The records show that the family is of English origin, the first representative of the name in the New World being Nicholas Holt, who settled in Andover, Mass., during the colonial period, and from him Charles H. Holt was descended in the seventh generation.

In the years which intervened the name became well and favorably known throughout the New England states, especially in New Hampshire, and in Loudon, that state, the birth of Charles H. occurred October 23, 1843, in the home of his parents, William Knox and Harriet

(Parker) Holt. The name of William K. Holt was well known throughout that part of the state as a lumber manufacturer, owning and managing a large mill in Loudon. By the time Charles H. Holt had reached the age of twenty years his school days were over (attending school in Boston) and he had taken up the responsibilities of his own support. Instead of settling in the east, however, he satisfied his ambition to come to the Pacific coast country, where he believed a larger opportunity awaited the ambitious young man than in the more crowded New England states. Thus it happened that he set out for California in 1863, coming by way of the Isthmus of Panama and locating in Hydesville, Humboldt county, where for two years he engaged in teaching school.

It was in 1869 that Mr. Holt inaugurated the business which was to make his name known in the business world throughout the west, the hardwood lumber and wagon material business which he then started at No. 27 Beale street, San Francisco, being the nucleus of what has since developed into the Holt Brothers Company of San Francisco and the Holt Manufacturing Company of Stockton. Mr. Holt was sole proprietor of the business for about two years after its establishment, when, in 1871, he admitted into the partnership A. Frank, W. Harrison and Benjamin Holt. The growth of the business in the meantime had warranted them in enlarging their plant, which thereafter included Nos. 27, 29, 31 and 33 Beale street, besides which they established and maintained a branch office in Concord, N. H. In 1877 the personnel of the firm was enlarged through the admission of A. H. Bachelder, a brother-in-law of Mr. Holt. In 1879 Mr. Holt bought property at Nos. 30 and 32 Main street and erected a brick building.

As the business grew and prospered it was decided to establish a factory solely for the manufacture of wheels used in their business, and after looking about for a site suited to their needs Mr. Holt established the plant in Stockton, in 1885, under the name of the Stockton Wheel Company, Benjamin Holt being placed in charge. Three

years afterwards, in 1888, Charles H. Holt and Benjamin Holt bought out the interest of A. Frank and W. Harrison Holt, and in 1892 they incorporated the San Francisco house as the Holt Brothers Company and the Stockton Wheel Company as the Holt Manufacturing Company. The success and steady growth of both of these undertakings have been made possible through the executive and financial genius of Charles H. Holt and through the inventive ability of Benjamin Holt, all of which have combined to build the business to large proportions and enabled them to weather the financial storms which from time to time have been visited upon the business world. The death of Charles H. Holt occurred suddenly, July 7, 1905, in Spokane, Wash., whither he had gone on a business trip, preparatory to interesting himself in the development of the country. At the time of his death he was president of the Holt Brothers Company, of San Francisco; vice-president of the Holt Manufacturing Company, of Stockton; president of the Houser-Haines Manufacturing Company, of this city; and a director in the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Stockton.

The marriage of Charles H. Holt occurred April 9, 1874, and united him with Miss Jeanette Noé Finch, the niece of Capt. D. B. Finch, who ran the first line of steamers to enter the harbor at Puget Sound. Three children were born of this marriage, Grace F., Edith Knox and Charles Parker. The wife and mother passed away on April 5, 1905, the death of Mr. Holt following three months later. From the time he settled in California until his death Mr. Holt had made his home almost continuously in Oakland, where, in the Lakeside district, he owned a beautiful residence. In his political sympathies Mr. Holt was an old-line Democrat, and was a great admirer of Grover Cleveland. Socially he was a member of the Athenian Club of Oakland, the San Francisco Club, and in his religious affiliations was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, toward the upbuilding and maintenance of which organization he gave liberally of his

means. The death of Mr. Holt was the cause of universal mourning throughout the city and vicinity in which he had lived for so many years, during which time he had won the love and esteem of his fellow-citizens. Such men as he build for all time and leave a monument to their memory in substantial form, as well as a heritage to their posterity and an example worthy of emulation.

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#### HON. DENIS J. OULLAHAN.

The family represented by Denis J. Oullahan boasted an ancestry which had given to its descendants sturdy qualities of manhood and insured the success of their careers. Generation after generation had added lustre to a name already held in high repute in the Emerald Isle, where Robert Oullahan was a prominent civil engineer, being an *attaché* of the Royal Engineer Corps of the British army. His son, Denis J., was a native of the city of Dublin, born in 1824, and in that city he was given every educational privilege, attending first the grammar school, later colleges and higher institutions of learning, and finally began the study of medicine. Had he continued to the end of the course and followed the medical profession he undoubtedly would have been a brilliant addition to the ranks of this noble calling, but as he was of an exceedingly sensitive nature the study of medicine became distasteful to him and he abandoned the project of becoming a physician.

In 1849, accompanied by his brother Edward, Denis J. Oullahan embarked from the port of Queenstown, Ireland, for the United States, coming by way of Cape Horn and landing in California, about which land of plenty and large opportunities they had read such fabulous accounts. As their father was a man of large means their outfit included every possible convenience for



beginning life in the midst of new and untried conditions. Among other things they brought two portable iron houses, the first ever brought to California, but they proved to be of little value, and were ruined in one of the first fires that visited San Francisco. For about a year Denis J. Oullahan engaged in the commission business in the metropolis, and thereafter went to Sonora, Tuolumne county, where in addition to following the commission business he also carried on a forwarding business between Stockton and the mines. In Columbia, Tuolumne county, he also established a flouring mill, which proved a great accommodation to ranchers of the vicinity and added no little to his exchequer. Disposing of his business affairs in that county in 1868 he returned the same year to San Francisco and with a partner opened a real-estate office, and for about five years conducted a fairly successful business. In the meantime his brother Edward had located in Stockton and established himself in the wholesale liquor business, and hither Denis J. came in 1873. This was his home for about thirteen years, when, in 1886, he returned to San Francisco and resumed his former business as a dealer in real estate. He did not long survive his removal to the metropolis, however, for his death occurred three years later, November 5, 1889.

In Stockton, in 1859, Denis J. Oullahan formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Julia Baine, a daughter of Judge A. C. Baine, a prominent lawyer of Jackson, Miss. At her death in 1881 Mrs. Oullahan left to mourn her loss a devoted husband and two daughters and three sons, the names of the children being as follows: Sadie, Mrs. J. M. Thorpe, of Oakland; Linda, the wife of William Winterberry, of Toronto, Canada; Robert B., Alexander C. and Edward J. During his forty years' residence in California Mr. Oullahan became a prominent figure in Democratic politics, a career for which he was well fitted by his superior education, and in 1884 he was appointed by Governor Stoneman to fill the office of state treasurer which had become vacant through the resignation of W. A. January. At

all times Mr. Oullahan adhered to the clean element in political affairs, having no patience with so-called machine tactics and the advantage to be gained by combination or intrigue. When the less desirable element was in power he naturally was denied many official honors on account of his firm stand for purity in politics, but he enjoyed what was more to be desired, a clear conscience and the respect and co-operation of the best citizens of whatever community he chose to make his home.

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#### JUDGE J. B. HALL.

No name was better known in the official life of Stockton than that of the late J. B. Hall, who as attorney-at-law had administered to the needs of the public of this city for over fifty-five years. Without doubt he was the oldest lawyer in the state, and thus his death, which occurred April 4, 1906, was an irreparable loss to the legal profession, toward which he had contributed so much to bring it to its present high standing in Stockton.

A native of Maryland, Mr. Hall was born in Hagerstown, Washington county, March 25, 1821, the son of Thomas Bowie and Ann (Pottenger) Hall, both of whom were descendants of old Maryland families, and the former an eminent lawyer in that state. The son evidently inherited his predilection for law from his father, for at the early age of fifteen years he had determined upon his future course in life, and in fact had begun his studies in Jefferson Law College. He graduated from that institution four years later, in 1840, after which he continued his studies under the guidance of William Price, one of the most brilliant lawyers in the early history of Maryland. After his admission to the bar he at once began practicing law in his native town, con-



tinuing this for some years or until the news of the finding of gold in California opened up a vista of far brighter prospects in the new west. In 1850 he joined the throng who started for California, and soon after landing in San Francisco he opened an office for the practice of law. He built up a large and remunerative practice and was on the high road to prosperity when the disastrous fire of 1851 in San Francisco reduced his office to ashes, including a valuable law library which he had brought from the east. This disaster temporarily disheartened him, and it was while he was in this state of mind that he was approached by Capt. C. M. Weber, the founder of Stockton, with the offer of a position as the latter's legal advisor. His acceptance of Captain Weber's offer led to his removal to Stockton, which throughout the remainder of his life was the scene of his activities.

During his career in Stockton Mr. Hall was associated in practice with several attorneys, first with Henry Huggins, under the firm name of Hall & Huggins, later with S. P. Scaniker, subsequently with W. S. Montgomery, and finally with Marion DeVries. The latter was taken into partnership with Mr. Hall soon after his admission to the bar, the firm name becoming Hall & DeVries, but the firm was dissolved about a year later owing to Mr. DeVries' increasing interest in political affairs.

In 1843 Mr. Hall had married (in St. Louis, Mo.) Anna M., daughter of Dr. William Hammond, U. S. A., formerly of Hagerstown, Md. In 1853, she, with their son, joined him in Stockton. At his death Mr. Hall left two children, the son just mentioned and a daughter. William Hammond Hall is a well-known engineer of San Francisco, who at one time held the position of State Engineer and was also at one time employed in the Transvaal Republic, South Africa. The only daughter, Mary B., was the home-maker and care-taker, the wife and mother having passed away in 1892.

Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Hall was eighty-five years old at the time of his death he retained his faculties to the last and up to within

two weeks of his demise he attended to practice in the courts. He was a venerable, kindly old gentleman, and his figure was one of the most striking ever seen before the San Joaquin bar. As soon as it was known that Mr. Hall was no more his fellow-members of the San Joaquin bar assembled to prepare resolutions upon his death, and also to make arrangements for the funeral. Court was then adjourned for the day out of respect for their departed co-laborer.

Perhaps no more fitting close to this brief sketch of the life of Mr. Hall could be given than by quoting an article which appeared in the Daily Record the day following his death:

"When a man lives half a century in a community, with his life an open book and his name synonymous with sterling integrity and unblemished character, it is not surprising that his death should call forth sincere lament. Such a man was John B. Hall. He was a strong oak, unchanging and ever the same in sunshine and storm. As a citizen, as a lawyer, as a gentleman, Mr. Hall will be remembered as a high type of each. Although he was not much before the public in his later years, the mention of his name met with respect. His life was a success. He early grounded it on the precepts of honor, the principles of integrity and courteous conduct. Peace to his mortality and reward in immortality, is the due of the deceased."

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#### CYRUS MOREING, JR.

The county of San Joaquin may with justice point proudly to the record of its native-born sons, for they are holding positions of importance in political, commercial and agricultural circles, and are assuming growing responsibilities in connection with the welfare of the community. Noteworthy among the young men who have passed





*Benj Holt*

their lives within the limits of this county and have received their educations in its schools, mention belongs to Cyrus Moreing, Jr., representative of an honored pioneer family. To the lustre of the name he is adding by his recognized talents and personal enterprise. In various ways he has been associated with local projects and has accomplished much for one of less than thirty years.

Born in San Joaquin county, January 11, 1880, Cyrus Moreing, Jr., is a son of Cyrus and Mary Moreing, and during boyhood he was a student in the grammar and high schools of Stockton, graduating in 1899 from the latter institution. For a time he was associated with his father in contracting under the firm title of Cyrus Moreing, Sr. & Son. Later he was employed as book-keeper in the plant of the San Joaquin Creamery Company and in addition to keeping the books he had charge of the milk routes of the company's wagons. Upon severing his connection with the creamery he became interested in farming, and, in company with his brothers, Lewis and Will, under the firm name of Moreing Brothers, he had charge of some five thousand acres, and engaged extensively in the raising of wheat, barley, potatoes, onions and beans. Large yields have been secured by care and cultivation, and few tracts have repaid the labor expended upon them in so large a degree as has this one.

While devoting considerable attention to farming, Cyrus Moreing, Jr., has had many other interests, among them being contract work on streets and canals, street railway grading, constructing roadways, etc., in which he has utilized the aid of many men and teams. Politically a staunch adherent of Democratic principles, in 1906 he was selected by his party as their nominee for assessor of San Joaquin county. In spite of the fact that the county is largely Republican, he was elected by a fair majority, which bears testimony to his popularity with the people irrespective of party ties. His term as assessor will expire in 1910 and meanwhile he is filling the position with tact and efficiency. Fraternally he is connected with the Woodmen of the World and Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E., at Stockton. Dur-

ing 1901 occurred his marriage to Miss Maude Rich, daughter of C. E. Rich, an early settler and highly respected citizen of Stockton. At the time of the organization of the Stockton Baseball Club of the California State League, Mr. Moreing was a prime factor in promoting the same, and for six years he acted as its manager, during which time it rose to a rank among the leading clubs of the state.

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#### BENJAMIN HOLT.

The name of Benjamin Holt carries weight and influence as president of The Holt Manufacturing Company, one of the best known enterprises of Stockton. Mr. Holt comes of a family of whom much is reasonably expected, and to whom the community looks for the maintenance of the high standards of life and work, his ancestors being among the sturdy New England settlers, who gave their life's efforts toward the upbuilding of the young colonies. Several generations of the family had flourished in New Hampshire. In Loudon, Merrimack county, Benjamin Holt's father, William K. Holt, carried on a large lumber business, owning in connection therewith a number of saw mills. In the various enterprises of which the father, William K. Holt, was the head, he was enabled to furnish employment to a large number of men, and in other ways exerted a wide influence in the upbuilding of the New England town which had been his lifetime home.

Upon the parental homestead in Merrimack county, N. H., eleven children were born, the seventh in order of birth being Benjamin Holt, who was born January 1, 1849. His primary education was gleaned in the public schools around his boyhood home and subsequently he became a pupil in the academy at Tilton, N. H.



still later attending a Baptist institution of learning at New London.

In 1868, Benjamin Holt, with W. Harrison, A. Frank and Charles H. Holt, began the manufacture of wagon spokes and hubs, shipping this material and also hardwood lumber, to all parts of the United States. In 1873, Benjamin Holt established at Concord, N. H., a plant for the manufacture of spokes, hubs, felloes, wheels, bodies and running gears, and during the ten years that he continued this business he built up an extensive trade that gave him a wide reputation in business and manufacturing circles throughout the east.

In 1871 Mr. Holt entered the firm of Holt Brothers Company, San Francisco, but did not come to California until 1883. At this time Mr. Holt and his brother, Charles H. Holt, took up the manufacture of wheels and wagon material in Stockton, first under the name of The Stockton Wheel Company, but later, since 1892, under the name of The Holt Manufacturing Company, a name which is still in force and represents one of the most flourishing enterprises on the Pacific coast.

While the manufacture of wheels is still a large feature of the output of The Holt Manufacturing Company, they also manufacture extensively combined harvesters, especially the side-hill combined harvester, an invention of Benjamin Holt. By the use of this side-hill combined harvester the farmer is enabled to cultivate land which before this invention was considered worthless, as there was up to this time no machine capable of adjustment to uneven ground.

Benjamin Holt, as president of The Holt Manufacturing Company, with his inventive mind has been responsible for a number of other improvements in farming machinery which have practically revolutionized farm work in the western states. Among the more important inventions of Mr. Holt may be mentioned The Holt Manufacturing Company's large steam traction engines and steam harvesters, and their steam and gasoline Caterpillar traction engines, with an endless belt platform wheel replacing

the ordinary round wheel, the machine being designed for use on soft and sandy land. Mr. Holt has also adopted this type of wheel for use on combined harvesters. The products of the various departments of The Holt Manufacturing Company supply a large part of the export trade of Stockton, and taken all in all, their plant is one of the busiest centers of industry on the Pacific Coast. Besides being president of The Holt Manufacturing Company, Mr. Holt holds the same position in the Houser & Haines Manufacturing Company, and is vice president of the Aurora Engine Company.

Mr. Holt was married in 1890 to Miss Anna Brown, a native of California, and the daughter of Benjamin Brown, a prominent citizen of San Joaquin county. With his family, Mr. Holt is pleasantly located in a handsome residence at No. 548 East Park street, where they receive and entertain their many friends.

As prosperity has come to Mr. Holt, he has been increasingly generous in his benefactions toward upbuilding projects, and by his public spirit and energy has become recognized as one of the representative men of San Joaquin county.

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#### CHRISTOPHER GRATTAN, M. D.

Possessing a temperament that fitted him for the unusual experiences that have come into his life, Christopher Grattan came to California at a period when ample opportunity was afforded him for the exercise of his natural instincts and the gratification of his desire for adventure. The record of his life reads like a romance, and now, at the remarkable age of eighty-eight years, he still takes a keen interest in the world's activities, though he himself has taken no active part in them since his retirement in 1884, in Stockton. The family originated in Ireland and was closely

related to the Duke of Wellington. One of nine children comprising the family of his parents, Patrick and Mary (McAvoy) Grattan, Christopher was born on Christmas Day of 1820, in Dublin, Ireland. The year following his birth the family home was transferred to the New World, and in Albany, N. Y., his boyhood years were spent. His schooling was of the most primitive character, and he well remembers learning his letters by means of the sand box. His father's profession as surveyor later necessitated their removal to Pennsylvania, where he and associates had been sent to survey the then new anthracite coal fields. In following his calling the father met with an accident that incapacitated him for the rest of his life, and thus it happened that the children were early thrown upon their own resources. Of the once large family of nine children, only two are now living, Christopher and John, the latter also being a resident of San Joaquin county.

With only twenty-five cents in his pockets, Christopher Grattan found himself in New York City at the age of fifteen years, a stranger indeed. His insatiable thirst for an education made him willing to do anything honorable to gratify this desire, and for some time he was employed in a wholesale and retail drug store in that city. He was especially fond of science or anything which bore on the subject of medicine, and in Carbon-dale (Pa.) Academy he later gratified this ambition. When he was twelve years old he had come under the notice of the great phrenologist, O. S. Fowler, who declared that he had possibilities within of working wonders along the line of animal magnetism and hypnotism, and this proved to be the case, for about this time he performed many wonderful things of this nature. As has been stated, he worked in a drug store for some time, and during this time for two years he also attended the clinics in the University of New York, when finally the professor insisted upon his giving his entire time to the study of medicine. This he did, and at the age of nineteen he was prepared to take up his practice. Chronic cases and such as were deep-seated and intricate ap-

pealed to him most strongly, and strange as it may seem, it was with such cases that he met with his greatest success. In his treatment he made use of his knowledge of phrenology and electricity wherever practicable.

So closely were Dr. Grattan's efforts concentrated upon his patients that his own health finally began to feel the result of the continued strain. It was about this time too that he heard of the recent discovery of gold in California and it was not long before he had completed arrangements to come to the new west. With some friends who had become interested with him in the purchase of a ship they set from New York in March, 1849, going by way of the Horn, and arrived in San Francisco October 5, 1849. From there he went at once to the mines of Tuolumne county, and later mined at Soldier's Gulch. In the meantime he had fully recovered his own health. As is well known, the miners and newcomers to this country in those pioneer days were subjected to untold hardships and sickness. Dr. Grattan's sympathetic nature would not allow him to pass by without offering a helping hand, although it had been his original purpose to keep his knowledge of medicine a secret, at least for a time. This was not to be, however, for the news of his wonderful ability spread like wildfire and he soon had all he could do. On account of the dangers to which one was constantly exposed in the mining camps, murders being of common occurrence, Dr. Grattan finally decided for the sake of his wife to remove to safer quarters, and abandoning his claim he came to Stockton in September, 1850, and has made this city his home ever since. One of the first things that greeted him upon his arrival here was an old shipmate who was at the point of death. He immediately took him in hand and soon had him on the road to recovery. This was his introduction to Stockton, and from that time until recently he has continued his wonderful cures. He recounts heart-rending stories of the sickness and distress in pioneer days in Stockton, and so far as lay in his power he relieved it. Sending to Benicia for some medicines he made the first attempt in this city to



ward establishing a hospital, and with the assistance of his brother John, who was an excellent nurse, the venture proved a success so far as it went. Calls for his services came for miles around, necessitating long and fatiguing rides, but notwithstanding this he responded to the call, although he knew in advance that it was to be a work of charity. In business ventures and philanthropy in one year alone he lost over \$250,000, but this did not tend to lessen his efforts in behalf of suffering humanity. During his many years of usefulness as a medical practitioner he has employed various methods of cure, believing in and using medicines where necessary, although during the later years of his practice he made use of psychic thought in operations, in this being a follower of the noted surgeon, Dr. Valentine Mott, of New York. Although he is now retired from practice, many are those now living who owe their lives to his timely and wise assistance.

Dr. Grattan's first marriage united him with Janet Craig, by whom he had three children, all of whom died in childhood. After the death of his first wife he married Josephine Kelsey, she also passing away, as did also his third wife, formerly Mary A. Southworth. During the year 1852 Dr. Grattan sent east for his parents, and the closing years of their lives were spent under the sunny skies of California. In 1852 Dr. Grattan was elected coroner of San Joaquin county, a position which he filled for two terms, was one of the directors of the insane hospital in 1854, and for five terms was a member of the city council. He was also a member of the board of education, and in this as in everything toward which he lent his influence he rendered valuable service. He assisted in the organization of the Stockton Saving and Loan Society Bank, and was a member of its board of directors, with others was instrumental in organizing the Pioneers Society, and fraternally he was a member of Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., which he assisted in organizing in 1852. No one has labored in behalf of Stockton and its citizens more self-sacrificingly than has Dr. Grattan, and few

there are today who have not heard of the name and works of Dr. Christopher Grattan. He is making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Dr. Ira B. Ladd, in Stockton.

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### JAMES SUTHERLAND.

The gold excitement in California during the early days attracted settlers and investigators from all parts of the world, and among those who came from the Mother Country at that time was the late James Sutherland, of Stockton. Born in Durham, England, January 29, 1828, he was educated in that vicinity and was preparing to engage in business life there when he was swerved from his plans by a stronger desire to try his luck in the New World. He was a young man of twenty-one years when he landed on the shores of America in 1849, and from the eastern port in which the ship cast anchor he made his way at once to St. Louis, Mo., where for a time he engaged as a coal miner.

With the means thus earned Mr. Sutherland secured the necessities for the long journey across the plains, which he undertook the following year. Going directly to Sacramento, he mined for a time on the American river, but gave this up finally to engage with his uncle, John Sutherland, in the cattle business in Fresno county. This partnership existed for a number of years, to the profit and pleasure of both, but in October, 1870, the younger man withdrew from the association and came to Stockton, and from that time until his death, February 27, 1901, this was the scene of his activities. Here he established himself in the mercantile business, which he followed continuously up to within a few years of his death, when he retired from active business. A few years after he took up his residence in Stockton, Mr. Sutherland made a visit







*J. C. Locke.*

to his friends and relatives in his native land, returning six months later, well satisfied to take up his duties again in his adopted home.

In Amador county, Cal., Mr. Sutherland formed domestic ties by his marriage September 3, 1854, with Helena Meliss, a native of Germany, although she had made her home in this country since 1850. A large family of children was born to them, of whom the following are living: James and Harry, both in Roswell, Chaves county, N. Mex.; Philip, of Deephole, Washoe county, Nev.; and Charles, Annie, John and Catherine, the latter the wife of Otto Von Detten; the four last-named children make their home in Stockton. Mr. Sutherland was a man who took greater pleasure in the society of his family than he did in the gatherings of fraternal or social organizations and therefore his associations of this character were limited. His widow still makes her home in the old family homestead, No. 823 North Sutter street, Stockton.

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#### DEAN JEWETT LOCKE.

The name of Dean J. Locke is synonymous with many of the influences and movements that have had to do with the upbuilding of San Joaquin county, and his name has been perpetuated in the town which he founded and in which he made his home for nearly forty years, or until his death. He passed away in Lockeford May 4, 1887, at the comparatively early age of sixty-four years, mourned alike by old and young, all honoring and respecting him for his large accomplishments and loving him for his genial, kindly nature.

The records state that the Locke family is of English origin, and was established in the United States during colonial times by Deacon William Locke, of Woburn, Mass. From him the line

is traced to Calvin Locke, who was born in Ashby, N. H., in 1765, and who in February, 1796, married Sarah Jewett. Their son Luther was born in Sullivan county, N. H., in the latter part of the year 1796, and in that vicinity the greater part of his life was passed. Four children were born of his marriage with Hannah Willard, as follows: Luther Franklin, who graduated from Middlebury (Vt.) College and also from Cambridge Medical College; Dean Jewett, Ehner Hall and George S.

The second child in the parental family, Dean Jewett Locke was born April 16, 1823, at Langdon, Sullivan county, N. H., where his father was a trader and owned a store in partnership with a brother. Dean Jewett received his early education in the schools of his native town. At the age of fourteen years he attended the academy at Langdon, paying his tuition by his services as janitor of the building, ringing the bell and keeping the fires supplied with wood through the long snowy winter time, and performing the same work for the people with whom he boarded, in payment for his board. Thus early in life he was engaged in earning his own living, with characteristic energy and determination. Later, in order that he might further pursue his studies, he taught school, beginning when he was seventeen years of age, at Tewksbury, Mass. With the money which he had accumulated in this way he attended the first State Normal school in Bridgewater, Mass., and after graduating from it, he taught in the high school of Pawtucket and Worcester, Mass., until he entered Harvard College, graduating from the medical department of this institution in 1849. It had been his intention to settle in the east and follow his profession, but the discovery of gold in California during the year of his graduation turned his thoughts toward the Golden West instead. On April 16, 1849, he with a party of twenty-five friends started across the plains for California, the party being incorporated as the Boston and Newton Joint Stock Association. Dr. Locke served in the capacity of physician to the company and received

his transportation in exchange for his services. Five months of weary marching finally brought the little party to their destination, Sacramento, where they arrived September 16, 1849. What is now one of the principal cities of the state and its capital as well, was at that time a settlement of tents and rudely constructed shacks. Here Dr. Locke practiced medicine for a short time, after which he went to the mines at Downieville, on the American river. It is safe to say that his anticipations as a miner were not realized, for he had been there only a short time when he gave up mining, and coming to San Joaquin county, took up a tract of land whereon is now located the town of Lockeford, having first paid a good price for it to the parties who had purchased a pretended Spanish Grant, and afterward being required to buy it from the government at the regulation price of \$1.25 an acre. Later he established the town, which was named in his honor, his name furnishing the first syllable, the last syllable being taken from an old ford in the river near the town. Dr. Locke with his brothers Elmer and George built the first house in the town in 1850.

In 1854 Dean J. Locke returned east, and on May 8th of the following year was united in marriage in North Abington, Mass., with Miss Delia M. Hammond, a native of that place. The wedding journey of the young people brought them to Lockeford, Cal., July 1, 1855, and they set up housekeeping in a house which Dr. Locke erected in the autumn of that year. On their return from the east Dr. Locke and his wife were accompanied by the former's father, Luther Locke, who became the first postmaster of the town, in June, 1861, and who here rounded out his long and useful life, passing away in 1866, at the age of nearly seventy years. Thirteen children were born of the marriage of Dean J. Locke and his wife, named in the order of their birth as follows: Luther J., Ada, Nathaniel Howard, Horace Mann, Ida, Mary, William Willard, Hannah, John Calvin, Edward Moore, Eunice, George Hammond and Theresa. All of the children received excellent educations, for

Dr. Locke was a staunch advocate of furnishing the younger generation with good school advantages, and as a member of the board of education of the town he was able to accomplish considerable along this line. None of her citizens were more public spirited or philanthropic than was Dr. Locke, whose greatest happiness seemed to be in advancing the growth and up-building of the town, to which he gave a number of lots for the erection of churches and schools. Himself a temperate man in every sense of the word, he never having used liquor or tobacco in any form, he was a staunch advocate of temperance and was an unwearied worker in the cause throughout his life. During his early life he voted the Whig ticket, but later, when the Republican party was formed, he voted for its candidates. He passed away in the town which he had founded, May 4, 1887, at the age of sixty-four years, loved and honored by his fellow-citizens.

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#### STEPHEN H. MANN.

The years following the discovery of gold represented an era of industrial activity in California. During the long summers every day brought its caravans from the east, consisting of weary but enthusiastic and ambitious emigrants, all eager to begin their search for gold. No sight was so common to those days as that of the famous "prairie schooners" drawn by oxen and containing the worldly possessions of the travelers. The same inducement that brought thousands to the coast led Mr. Mann to cross the plains. A large expedition began the journey together with a suitable equipment of wagons and teams, as well as the necessary provisions for the long trip. The route followed was that now traversed by the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific roads and six months were spent on the



way, during which time no trouble was encountered with Indians although, through constant fear of attacks, members of the party took turns in standing guard. During the progress of the caravan westward the various parties constituting the same began to carry out their personal preferences as to the route and the result was that only a few were with the original band when they landed at Downieville, Sierra county, on the North Yuba, on the 12th of September, 1852, fatigued by the tedious journey, but hopeful for the future and pleased with the country.

The member of the company whose name heads this article was born at Wells River, Vt., in 1825, and during boyhood removed to Landaff, N. H., where he made his home until he was twenty-one, meanwhile attending the grammar schools and Newbury seminary, and later teaching school for a short time. The young men of New England were leaving for regions further west with the hope of finding more fertile soil for agricultural purposes, and he was thus induced to try his fortune as a farmer in Illinois, where he settled in Stephenson county. Doubtless he would have remained there had not the discovery of gold in California transformed him into an Argonaut, eager, like the one who sailed with Jason of old, to find the golden fleece.

The first experience in mining gained by Mr. Mann did not prove encouraging, for the weather was very severe, expenses were high (flour being \$1 per pound, and results small. Breaking a trail through the deep snow, December 11 he went to Auburn and for a time mined at Good-year bar, but a flood washed away all of his gold. The winter of 1852-53 was one of the most severe ever seen in the country. Snows were deep and the floods destructive and continuous. Hoping for better luck in Oregon he crossed the state line and arrived at Jacksonville April 20, 1853. There he worked at cutting wood until January, 1854, when he resumed mining and had the luck to find a rich prospect. Next he went to Coos county, from there to Randolph, later to Jacksonville, and in March of 1855 arrived at Sterilngville, Ore., where he remained until April,

and then came back to California. December 30, same year, he arrived at Crescent City, and started thence to the southern mines, where he arrived January 12, 1856, after having passed through Stockton for the first time. During 1858 he went to Mariposa county, and on the 31st of May, that year, came to Stockton, which he made his trading center for a number of years, meanwhile engaging in agricultural pursuits.

All of this time Mr. Mann had remained a bachelor, but he now gave himself a deserved vacation and returned to the east for his bride. The trip was made via Panama to New York and thence to Vermont. May 5, 1865, he arrived after an uneventful voyage, and was married to Hattie H. Gordon, who was born at Landaff, Grafton county, N. H., June 11, 1833. September 16, following their marriage, the young couple started for California via Panama, and October 17 they arrived at Stockton. They began house-keeping on the site of the present family residence. Since then Mr. Mann has bought adjoining lots and built cottages, which he has sold as opportunity offered. For a time he was employed in the Stockton city mills, in addition he engaged in farming and has followed other occupations at different times. His children were born in the block where he still makes his home. The eldest son died in infancy, and February 25, 1896, he was bereaved by the death of his devoted wife. Mrs. Mann was an attendant of the Congregational church and was very active in church work, taking a great interest in religious affairs. She was also a member of the Daughters of Rebekah. May 1, 1892, the family had moved into their present comfortable modern residence and since the death of the wife and mother a daughter, Hattie M., has presided over the home, ministering to the comfort of her father and maintaining a warm interest in his welfare and happiness. The other daughters are married and established in comfortable homes of their own. Julia I. being the wife of J. A. Barr, and Henrietta F., the wife of J. F. Dietrich, of this city. The daughters are graduates of the Stockton high school and are women of culture. Mr. Mann



has favored good schools and always has given willing co-operation in all movements for the betterment of our educational institutions. Externally he is identified with Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F. Politically he votes the Republican ticket in national elections, but in local matters he gives his support to the men best adapted to promote the welfare of the city and county, without regard to their political views.

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#### DON CARLOS MATTESON.

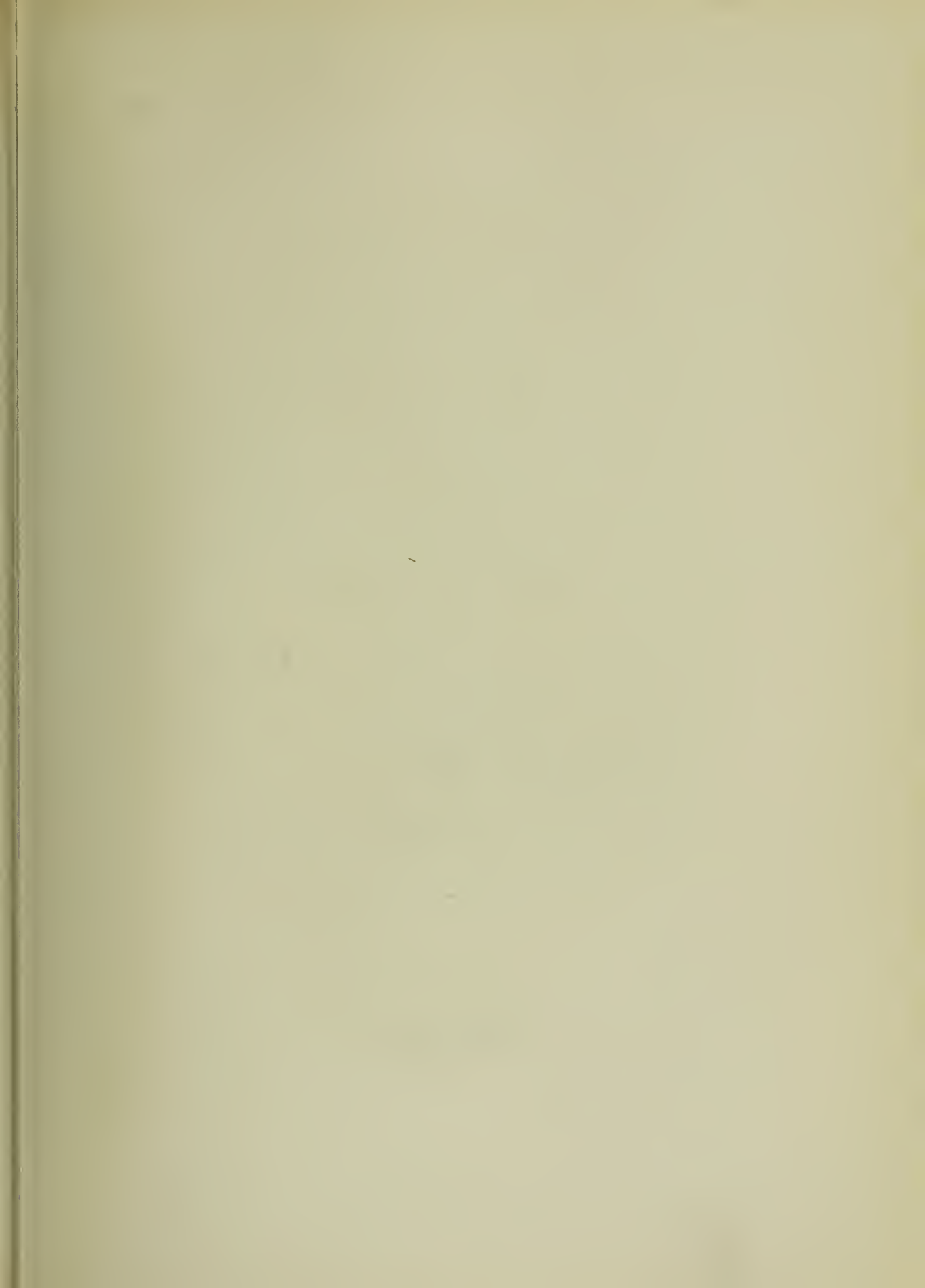
At the time of his death in 1905 Mr. Matteson had been associated with the well-known plant of Matteson & Williamson Manufacturing Company for a period of forty years. He was born in Genesee county, N. Y., May 18, 1827, a son of Stephen B. and Esther Jones (Sex-ton) Matteson, the former a native of Vermont, and the latter a native of New York state, the descendant of Mohawk Dutch ancestors. When their son was about five years old, in 1832, they crossed over the line into Canada and for sixteen years made their home in the Dominion, the father carrying on a farm in the meantime. In 1847 they moved back into the Empire state and in Erie county the father carried on agricultural pursuits for many years, or until he came to Stockton in 1874. Two years later he returned east as far as Detroit, Mich., where he made his home with a daughter until his death, February 25, 1879, being thrown from his horse. The wife and mother had died many years previously, October 8, 1864, while the family were living in Erie county, N. Y.

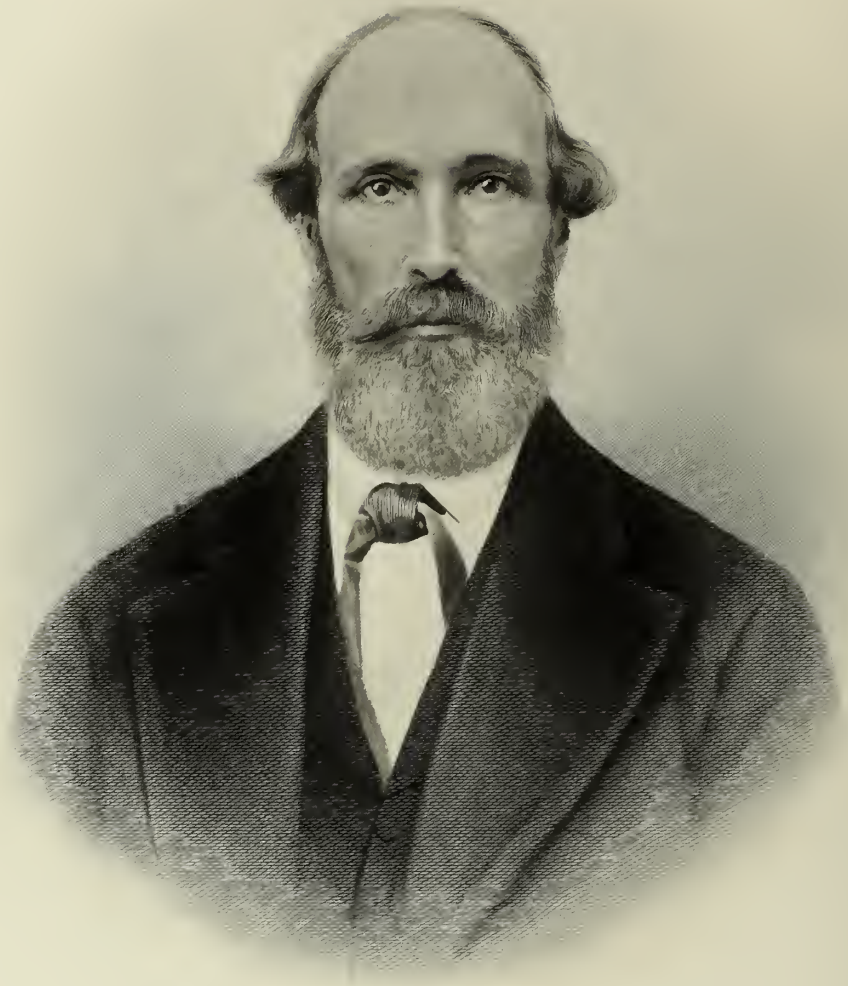
In 1845, when Don Carlos Matteson was eighteen years old, he left the parental home, then in Canada, and set out for the west, going to Naperville, Ill., where he learned the trade of blacksmith, spending three years as an ap-

prentice and two years as a journeyman, as the latter receiving \$7.50 wages per week. It was about this time that he formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Catherine Salisbury, their marriage occurring in Illinois September 19, 1849. Mrs. Matteson was born in Canada September 7, 1828, a daughter of Christopher and Catherine (Cook) Salisbury, who had located in the middle west on a farm near Naperville, Ill.

The year following his marriage Mr. Matteson came to California across the plains in 1850, arriving in Placerville, July 13. After mining in that vicinity for a few weeks he thought to better his luck by going to Rich Bar, on the north fork of the Feather river, but in this location he was also disappointed, so gave up mining altogether, and going to Sacramento found work at the blacksmith's trade at \$8 per day and board. Misfortune overtook him after a time, however, when for several months he was physically unable to do work of any kind. As soon as he was sufficiently recovered he opened an eating house, an undertaking which proved a remunerative one, for during the time he carried it on he accumulated \$1,500. Fruits and vegetables at this time brought a fabulous price, Mr. Matteson receiving twenty-five cents apiece for apples and \$1 a pound for grapes.

With the proceeds from the sale of his restaurant Mr. Matteson once more became interested in mining, going back to Feather river, where he and others dammed the stream at Twelve Mile bar. There he again met with disappointment, in that he lost all of the money he had invested, the earnings of years. Still undismayed, in July, 1851, he went to Downieville, from there to Durgan Flat, where he bought a half interest in a claim, and in four weeks cleared \$1,200. Selling out his interest in the mine, he started for Illinois, intending to make that state his permanent home, the trip there, by way of Panama, costing him \$700. Arriving at Naperville, Ill., he began to work at his trade, receiving for his services only \$7.50 per week, which in comparison with his late suc-





J. R. Cory  
II



cess in the mines seemed paltry indeed. Naturally his thoughts turned again to California, and in the spring of 1852, with one wagon and five horses, he and his wife set out for the Pacific coast in company with a few hundred other emigrants. Arriving at Stockton, Cal., after an uneventful trip, Mr. Matteson sold his wagon and horses for more than the round trip had cost him, the transaction bringing him \$1,850. He then went to Placerville, but did not remain long, as in September, 1852, he came to Stockton for the purpose of making this city his permanent home. In the fall of that year he bought a lot at the corner of Main and Grant streets and erected a blacksmith shop, in which he carried on a successful business for several years. Thinking to better his location, in 1860 he removed his shop to a lot adjoining the old Central Methodist Church, and here, in addition to doing a regular blacksmith business he also built a reaper. This latter undertaking, however, proved a failure, for in three months time he lost \$2,000. Later he purchased the lots where the Commercial hotel stands and moved his shop upon the property.

The beginning of the business known as the Matteson & Williamson Manufacturing Company, iron founders and manufacturers of agricultural implements, dates from the year 1865, when Mr. Matteson entered into a partnership with T. P. Williamson under the above name. Two years later, in 1867, Mr. Matteson obtained a patent for a reversible gang plow, and later for a fork and derrick, and also for a horse hoe for weeding purposes. The following year he made improvements on a combined harvester, and the manufacture of this implement in addition to those already mentioned, soon proved to the proprietors that they had outgrown their plant. Hence, in 1870, they purchased for \$7,500 a block bounded by Main, Market, Grant and Aurora streets, and here they erected a foundry suited to their special needs. To such an extent had their business increased in thirteen years, that in 1883 they found it necessary to erect four new buildings for the manufacture of plows and

harvesters, of the latter building six in 1886, and sixty in 1890, many skilled workmen being employed in their manufacture. In 1887 and 1888 Mr. Matteson received patents for two valuable improvements on the Harvest Queen, and he also invented an improvement on a plow which adapted it to use on adobe soil.

Three children were born of the marriage of Don Carlos and Catherine (Salisbury) Matteson, all of whom were born in Stockton and are still residents of this city. The eldest, Julia Alice, born in 1853, became the wife of John R. Williams; Walter Carlos, born in 1856, married Mary Eccleston; and Edward Jerome, who was born in 1859, married Ann Eliza Bissell, a native of Calaveras county. The family were associated with the First Baptist Church of Stockton, of which both Mr. and Mrs. Matteson were members, and fraternally the former was a member of Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F. His political affiliations were in behalf of the Republican party, on which party ticket he was elected a member of the city council a number of terms. Successful in life, prosperous and respected, Mr. Matteson was an honor to his county and to the citizenship of the community with which his life for so many years had been identified.

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### JOHN RANDOLPH CORY.

In the annals of California no names are more justly entitled to perpetuation than those of the pioneers, those who braved the unknown perils of the desert and the mountains, or the no less dangerous long ocean voyage, in their efforts to reach the great west with its glowing possibilities. We of the twentieth century can but vaguely grasp conditions as they then existed, the wide separation of the Pacific coast from the commercial world and the centers of culture, the

complete absence of transportation facilities, the constant danger from warring Indians, the absence as yet of any established form of government, and the endless stretches of land still in its virgin condition. None other than those with the vision of the prophet could foresee present conditions, productive ranches, large cities teeming with progress and enterprise, conditions of which every true Californian is proud, and for all of this due credit belongs to the pioneer of '49.

Numbered among this brave band was John Randolph Cory, who was born at Portsmouth, R. I., October 11, 1816, and died in Stockton February 12, 1898, at the age of eighty-one years and four months. He possessed the fine physique and robust constitution which we instinctively associate with the pioneer, and at the age of eighty he had the appearance of a man twenty years his junior. He passed away after a short illness of less than two weeks, on the old homestead ranch about two and a half miles east of Stockton, on the Weber grant, which had been the home of the family since the year 1863.

The history of the Cory family in America dates back to a period when Canada was wrested from the French and was made a possession of Great Britain. In this conflict the great-grandfather, Thomas Cory, served valiantly and gave up his life on the field of battle in 1759. This spirit of patriotism and loyalty to home land was bequeathed in large measure to his son, Samuel Cory, who served in the Revolutionary war, with his comrades suffering the great hardships incident to long barefoot marches through the ice and snow. The next in line of descent was Pardon Cory, who by his marriage with Abigail Lake became the father of two sons and one daughter. John Randolph, the eldest of the children, attended the country schools in the vicinity of Portsmouth until he was sixteen years of age, when he went to Providence, R. I., and apprenticed himself to Solomon Arnold to learn the carriage-maker's trade. Subsequently

he followed his trade in that city for some time, but finally he established himself in business in New Bedford, Mass., having as a partner William Doty. Events were transpiring on the Pacific coast which were to have a marked influence on the life of Mr. Cory, and no one listened more intently than did he to the stories told by returning travelers from the gold fields. He fell an easy prey to the allurements which the new eldorado held forth, and July, 1848, found him setting out for California. From the port of New Bedford he set sail on the bark Diamond, going by way of Cape Horn, and February 1849, he landed at San Francisco. There he bought a lot and built a house which he had shipped from Massachusetts in sections. Notwithstanding that his efforts in the mines were not successful, he nevertheless was enamored of the country and determined to make it his future home. Returning to New Bedford, Mass., in 1851, he remained there a few months in order to dispose of his business interests, and when this was accomplished again came to California by the Panama route, walking across the Isthmus. He had expected to take up his abode in the house which he had erected some years previously in San Francisco, but he found it had been destroyed by fire during his absence, so instead of locating in that city he came to Stockton, and on the corner of San Joaquin and Channel streets he established a carriage shop.

Several years before his first trip to California Mr. Cory had formed domestic ties by his marriage with Abby, the daughter of Benjamin and Penelope Cory. She was born at Tiverton, R. I., July 17, 1823, and was married April 25, 1844, in New Bedford, Mass. The young people made their home in New Bedford until their final removal to California, two children having in the meantime been born to them, although the eldest died in early childhood. With her only remaining child Mrs. Cory started by steamship for California, via Panama. She rode on mule-

back across the Isthmus, and pack mules carried the baggage and freight. Not the least thrilling of their experiences in crossing this neck of land was the fording of the Chagres river, which at that day was the only means of reaching the other side. The family were re-united in Stockton early in January, 1852, and until a house could be put up they were compelled to board. From Captain Weber Mr. Cory purchased for \$400 four lots at the corner of California and Fremont streets, upon which he made the first payment of \$100 on January 15, 1852. A house of three rooms was their first shelter, and from time to time other rooms were added. From the first the place began to show signs of permanency and substantiality, thus indicating the characteristics of its owners. Mr. and Mrs. Cory always remembered appreciatively the kindness of Captain Weber, to whom they were largely indebted for the plants, trees and shrubs which adorned this early home. This continued to be the family home up to the year 1863, when Mr. Cory removed to a ranch which he had purchased a few years previously, two and a half miles east on the Weber grant, and comprising about three hundred acres. In later years he bought a smaller farm near Lockeford and also at one time owned the lot where the Fanning house now stands, at the corner of Channel and Sutter streets. Mr. Cory passed away February 12, 1898, and three years later he was followed by his wife, her death occurring May 3, 1901, at the age of seventy-seven years and nine months. Their marriage was one of unusual happiness and congeniality, and in death as in life, they were not long separated.

Five children were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Cory, named in the order of their birth as follows: Caroline Jemima, who was born in New Bedford, Mass., and died in early childhood, before the removal of the family to California; Abby Amelia, who was also born in New Bedford, and died near Stockton February 22, 1880; Adaline Allen, who became the wife of James A. Louttit, and died August 21, 1884;

Nellie, the wife of Charles H. Cory, residing near Soquel, Santa Cruz county; and Carrie E. Cory, who lives upon the ranch on the Waterloo road.

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### JOHN B. DOUGLASS.

As the name would indicate, the Douglass family is of Scotch origin, and the first representative in this country was the grandfather, John Douglass, who left his birthplace, Edinburgh, Scotland, in young manhood, and settling in New London, Conn., followed his trade of cooper. He was blessed with the sturdy qualities of his countrymen, among them steadfastness of purpose and determination to succeed in whatever he attempted, and as a consequence he was a valued citizen of the little settlement of New London. He lived to reach the remarkable age of ninety-six years, and might have lived to be a centenarian, had he not met with an accidental death while working at his trade at that time. Grandmother Douglass passed away when in her seventy-sixth year. Among the children born to this worthy couple was a son John, whose birth occurred in New London, Conn. Early in life he was attracted to a life on the sea, and when he was a mere boy he shipped on a sea-going vessel. For twenty-two years he followed the sea continuously as chief officer of a merchant vessel engaged in the New York and Liverpool trade, and it was while thus engaged that he was lost at sea in 1837. His wife had died the year previously, at the age of twenty-two, leaving two children, John B. and Margaret, the latter becoming the wife of James Cullen of Bloomington, Ill. She died in 1909, at the age of seventy-six years.

John B. Douglass (known familiarly as Jack) was born August 6, 1830, in New York City, the eldest child born to his parents, John and Eliza



(McDevitt) Douglass. As he was left an orphan at the early age of seven years he received very meagre school advantages and was very early in life forced to depend upon his own resources. At the age of sixteen years he became a clerk in a shoe store in New York City, and for several years thereafter was variously engaged throughout the east. The news of the finding of gold in California found him an eager listener to the wonderful tales of fabulous wealth to be found in the eldorado on the Pacific coast, and thus it was that in 1849 he set sail on the barque *Flora* bound for California by way of Cape Horn. Arriving safely in San Francisco that year he went directly to the mines of Coloma, where for fourteen months he mined with only average results.

By way of Panama Mr. Douglass started for the east September 5, 1850, but the following spring he returned to California by the same route. Coming direct to Stockton, he opened a public house, a venture which proved so successful that he determined to remain in the west permanently, and before the close of the year 1852 he returned east to claim his bride. He was married in New London, Conn., January 10, 1853, to Ellen Dart, and three days after their marriage the young people started on their wedding journey, with Stockton as their destination. Until the following fall Mr. Douglass continued the management of the public house previously mentioned, and then went to Tuolumne county, and in Columbia conducted a similar establishment in addition to acting as stage agent for sixteen years. In the meantime, in 1857, he returned east on a visit with his wife. For a number of years he was a member of the board of trustees of Columbia, for several years was president of that body, and was also a member of the school board. While making that city his home he also acquired valuable mining stock, some of which he still retains. Selling out his interest in Columbia in 1869, he came once more to Stockton and has since made this city his home. Here he again opened a public house, which he ran from 1869 to 1885 in partnership with Steph-

en Badger. In whatever community Mr. Douglass has chanced to live he has taken more than a passing interest in the well-being of the locality and has been an acquisition to its citizenship. For over eleven years he served as chief engineer of the Columbia fire department, for seven years was a member of the National Guard of Columbia, and after coming to Stockton served for seventeen years in the latter organization here. During this time he attained the rank of captain, holding this office until his resignation from the body in the spring of 1888. Fraternally he has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Red Men since 1874, and with the Knights of Pythias since 1876. He is a member of the Exempt Firemen of Stockton, having been a member of Weber Engine Company No. 1 in early days, and later of Eureka Company No. 2.

Two children were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Douglass. The eldest, William Grant, was born December 27, 1860, received his education in the high school and business college of Stockton, and is now an engineer; his marriage united him with Annie Goodman, and they have one son. Joseph Smith, deceased, was born May 8, 1863, and married Annie Hentzelmann; she is also now deceased, at her death leaving one daughter, who survives.

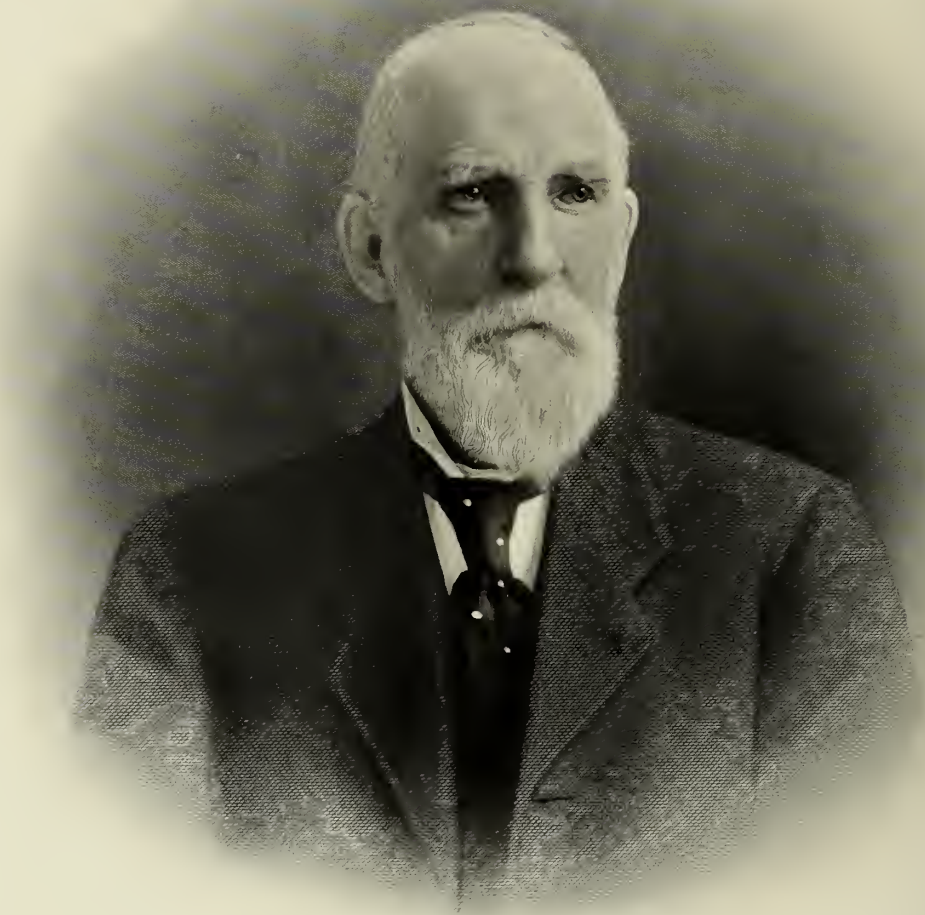
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#### WILLIAM CHARLES WHITE.

When a boy in his Canadian home on the shores of Lake Ontario Mr. White heard much concerning the boundless riches of the west. He was about nine years old when word came to his little village that gold had been discovered in large quantities in California, and at once he determined that, as soon as he was a man, he would come to the Pacific coast. Meanwhile, the years passed uneventfully in study, work and







*Edw R Hedger*

play, at his birthplace, Picton, Prince Edward county, Ontario, where he was born July 12, 1840, and where he was educated in local schools. On leaving school he was apprenticed to the trade of a carpenter and served his time, gaining a thorough knowledge of every detail connected with the occupation. Thoroughly trained by a master builder and with a native talent for such work, he became unusually proficient as a carpenter, and it is said that no task was too intricate or complicated for his patient and resourceful skill.

At the age of twenty-two years Mr. White left his Canadian home and bade farewell to the friends of youth. It was now possible for him to carry out his plan of migrating to the Pacific coast and after 1862 he always made California his home. For three years he engaged in mining in the Copperopolis district and he was also employed in building shafts for mines, such work bringing him fair wages. Not long after he had settled in Stockton he formed a partnership with F. R. Thomas in the planing-mill business and they erected a mill which they provided with all the equipment of that period. From the first the firm prospered. The members were recognized as men of business ability and tireless energy. Besides selling mill products they took contracts for building and their business activities covered a large scope of country. Mr. White disposed of his interest in the mill to Mr. Buell after he had been identified with the business for a period of twenty years, and after that he lived retired, with the exception of managing his property interests in Stockton and elsewhere.

Some years after coming to Stockton Mr. White was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Sawyer, who died in 1893. They became the parents of two daughters now living, namely: Carrie, who married J. L. Whitmore and resides in Stockton; and Miss Etta M., who occupies the old homestead at No. 19 East Poplar street, Stockton. This residence was erected by Mr. White and here he passed away, December 28, 1905, after a long and honorable asso-

ciation with the interests of his home city. Deeply concerned in enterprises for the local welfare, he gave his support to such with earnestness. Through a membership of twelve years as city councilman he was in a position to encourage projects for the development of commercial, educational and philanthropic measures, and these received his practical help. At the time of his death he was a member of the board of supervisors and his service on the board was intelligent, practical and public-spirited. Various fraternities were benefited by his sagacious co-operation, including the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

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#### EDWARD RICHARDS HEDGES.

As compared with what it is today, Stockton was little more than a hamlet, when in 1860, Edward R. Hedges located here and courageously established a mercantile business which was destined to thrive and become a factor in the upbuilding of the town and surrounding country. From the time of organization until the present, a number of changes in the firm name have been recorded, but through them all Mr. Hedges remained the moving spirit until he retired from active life. The name of Hedges-Buck Company is a familiar one throughout the San Joaquin valley and in the mountain counties as well, where they transact a large wholesale business.

A native of New Jersey, Edward R. Hedges was born in Bottle Hill, now Madison, October 18, 1827, the son of Timothy Hudson and Harriet Lavinia (Richards) Hedges, who were also natives of that state. The ancestors of the Hedges and Richards families were among the earliest settlers of Connecticut and Long Island respectively, and during the war of the Revolution were among the most sterling patriots of New Jersey.

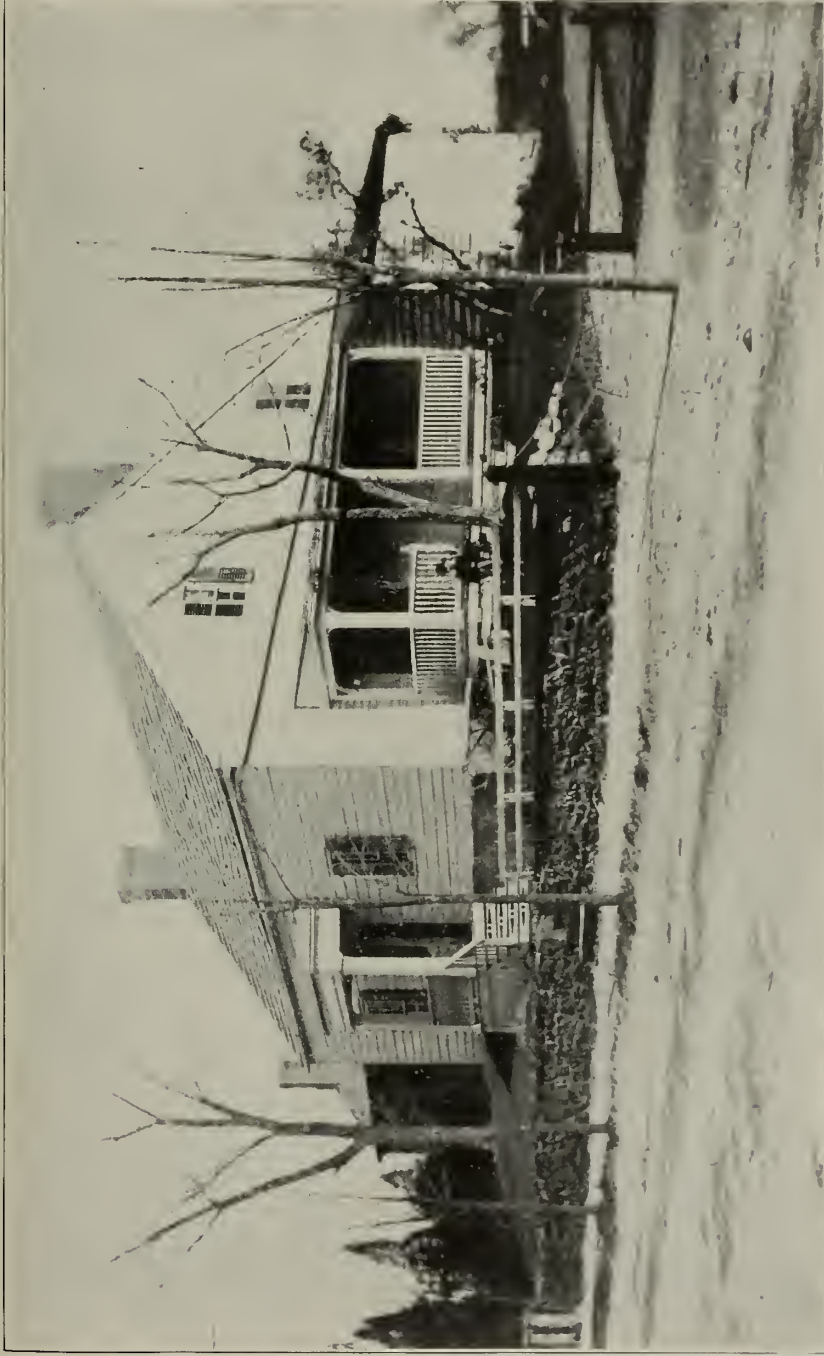


The founder of the former family in America was Sir Charles Hedges, who having married without his parents' consent, came to America in 1720 and settled in Long Island. From him descended Timothy Hudson Hedges, a native of New Jersey, born at Madison, Morris county, October 1, 1793. For some years he engaged in business as a dealer in wooden-ware at Madison, where he married Harriet Lavinia Richards, born in Columbia, that state, July 13, 1798. Their marriage was solemnized November 7, 1818, and in 1836 they removed to St. Louis, Mo., taking passage from Pittsburg on the first steamboat that ever went down the Ohio river to that city. There Mr. Hedges engaged in the manufacture of brooms. In the interests of his business he bought a farm in St. Clair county, Ill., and engaged in the raising of broom corn. While still in the midst of successful and promising commercial activities he died in 1840, during a visit to his Illinois farm. His wife died at Eagle Lake, Texas, December 31, 1880. They were the parents of four children, but all are deceased excepting Edward R., of Stockton.

The progenitor of the Richards family in America was Thomas Richards, who was born in Dorchester, England, in 1605, and during 1630 immigrated to America and established the name in Hartford, Conn. He survived the voyage only two years, however, his death occurring in that settlement in 1632. One of the descendants of this ancestor was another Thomas Richards, who was born in Columbia, N. J., in 1769, and figured as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His marriage united him with Sarah Sayre, who became the mother of Harriet L. Richards, and she, in turn, the mother of Edward R. Hedges. Sarah Sayre was the daughter of Deacon Ephraim Sayre, the descendant of Joseph Sayre, who was born in Bedfordshire, England, and immigrated to America in 1665, settling in Southampton, L. I. Ephraim Sayre was a farmer and tanner, and was highly esteemed in the Presbyterian Church at Bottle Hill, now Madison, which he served as deacon. During the Revolutionary war he rendered active service as one of the Min-

ute Men, and participated in the battles of Connecticut Farm, Springfield and Monmouth. At the time of the war he was residing in a house erected by his father in 1745 (a view of which is here given), and this place he threw open to soldiers and officers, whenever the occasion required. Some of the wounded in the battle of Springfield were there cared for and the kitchen was used as a hospital. The house was the headquarters of Gen. Anthony Wayne for a considerable period while the army was in the neighborhood in the winter of 1780-81. The room occupied by the general was the front one in the north end and in it many conferences took place between "Mad Anthony" and the illustrious General Washington, who with his staff was frequently in the house, although he was stationed at Morristown. The chair in which he sat during these visits to the Sayre house is still preserved, as a priceless relic, by members of later generations.

There is in Morris county no landmark more famous than the old Sayre house, which is still standing and in the possession of the descendants of the original owner. For some time Rev. James Campbell, known throughout the country in his day as the "fighting dominie," held religious services in this house. Here were spent the early years of Baxter Sayre, the famous abolitionist. To this home of his childhood often returned with delight the philanthropist, David A. Sayre, of Lexington, Ky. Here occurred the birth of Sarah Sayre April 1, 1773; here she started the first Sunday-school in New Jersey, and her house, too, was one of the stations of the famous underground railroad to Canada. In this old home she passed into eternal rest in 1860. The old walls had also looked down upon her bridal, when she became the wife of Thomas Richards, a farmer, who was born in Columbia, N. J., in 1769, and died November 3, 1816. Their daughter, Harriet L., spent many happy girlhood days beneath the shelter of the old roof; here she passed the years of early married life, and here her son, Edward R., first opened his eyes to the light.



The Deacon Ephraim Sayre Homestead, at Madison, N. J.  
Headquarters of General Anthony Wayne in the Revolution,  
and birthplace of E. R. Hedges.





The earliest recollections of Edward R. Hedges cluster around this old homestead, where he was born October 18, 1827, and where, when a small child, he sat on the knee of the famous General Jackson. When he was eight years of age his parents removed to St. Louis, where his education was received largely in the English, mathematical and classical high schools. With a party of five young men, equipped with two wagons and mule-teams, and about five thousand pounds of supplies, he left St. Louis, March 8, 1850, and on the 28th of August, same year, he arrived at Hangtown, Cal., the party having in the meantime lost some of their mules by attacks from the Indians. From Hangtown the party went to Sacramento, and after recuperating went on to Rough and Ready camp, where they engaged in mining with fair success. From the latter camp Mr. Hedges and two of his companions went to a point above Downieville and put in three flumes; the venture was not a success, however, and they lost the greater part of their gold. In 1857 Mr. Hedges went back to Sacramento and from there to Amador county, where, at Iowa Flats and Hoodsville, he opened a general store in each town. Business was continued there until 1860, when he came to Stockton and embarked in merchandising on the spot where James E. Kidd's paint store is now located. During the year 1864 the firm of Hedges & Howland was organized. Three years later the name was changed to Hedges & Buck, and eventually the concern was incorporated as the Hedges-Buck Company. During January of 1889 E. F. Parker purchased an interest and in the same year Mr. Buck withdrew, but his name is still a part of the title. Subsequently Mr. Drury became a member of the company, he having purchased the interest of Mr. Parker, who died in 1902. The grocery business is the oldest concern of its kind in the county. From a small beginning the trade has steadily increased, until at this writing the company has a large wholesale business throughout the San Joaquin valley and in the mountain counties as well.

During the winter of 1861-62, when the water was so high that the entire country was flooded, Mr. Hedges in company with Mr. R. Anderson occupied a store on Main street. The floor was lower than the sidewalk, and the water rose until the room was three feet under water. Goods were piled on a number of half-barrels of pork, they built a boat, took it into the store, loaded it with goods and then rowed to a point thirteen miles above the city, to the Mose Eaton place, and from there hauled them to the mountains by team.

February 14, 1869, Mr. Hedges married Mrs. Alice (Davis) Nuttall, the daughter of James M. Davis, a prominent farmer in San Joaquin county, born in Virginia in 1816. He died at Beggs Station while making a trip to his ranch in Lassen county. Four daughters were born of this union, only two of whom are now living, Harriet Lavinia Stanton and Bertha Hedges Davies.

In Masonic circles Mr. Hedges has the distinction of being the only Thirty-third-degree Scottish Rite Mason in Stockton. Besides having held offices in all the subordinate bodies he is Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; Past Grand Master of Royal and Select Masters; Past Grand Commander of Knights Templar; member of Oakland Consistory No. 2, Scottish Rite, and of Islam Temple A. A. O. N. M. S. of San Francisco. He is a member of the San Joaquin County Society of Pioneers. Movements for the upbuilding of the city and county have found in him a ready supporter. Besides other interests he is identified with banking circles. While he is ever ready to aid in public affairs, he has steadfastly refused to take any part in politics, this being in accordance with a promise made to his mother when he left home, that he would under no circumstances allow his name to be put forward for any political office, nor would he become a politician in any sense of the word. Now in the evening of his days he is living in quiet retirement in the city of Oakland, where

he is surrounded with the comforts he is justly entitled to after his many years of business activity.

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### CHARLES MORRILL KENISTON.

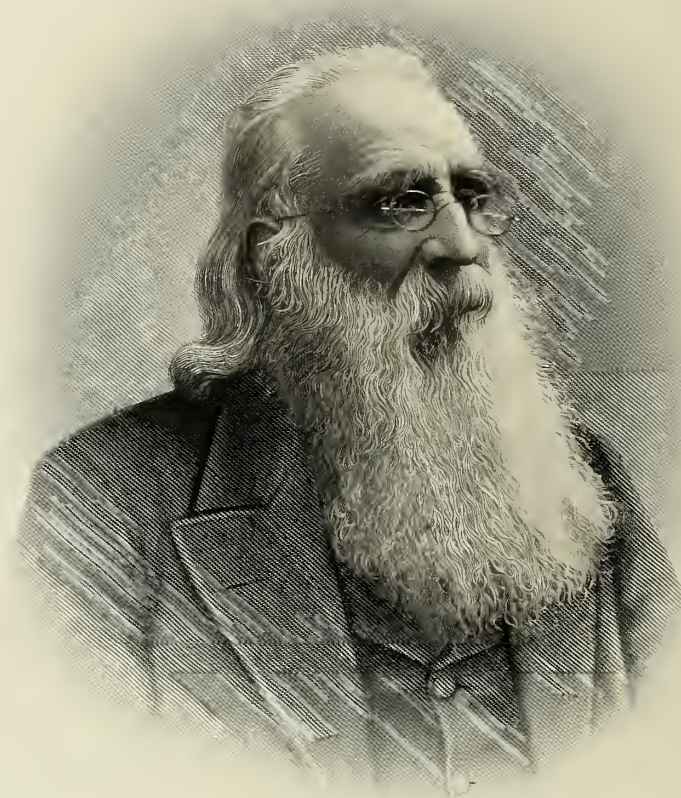
Legal, business and fraternal circles in Stockton mourned the loss of one of their most prominent workers when it became known that Charles M. Keniston was no more. The many fine traits of character that formed the warp and woof of his make-up came to him as an inheritance from generations of New England ancestors, and he himself was a native of that section of country in which his forefathers had lived and died. A native of New Hampshire, he was born in the city of Manchester January 7, 1851, the son of Charles Calvin and Rebecca J. (McPherson) Keniston, both of whom were also born under the shadow of the White Mountains. The paternal grandparents, Samuel and Lydia (Pingree) Keniston, were born respectively in 1798 and 1795, and at the time of the birth of their son Charles Calvin, June 23, 1827, were living in Franklin, N. H. The mother of Charles M. Keniston was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William McPherson, and at her death, March 17, 1853, left a son too young to recognize his loss.

Charles M. Keniston was educated in the public schools of Manchester, fitted for college in Northwood Seminary, and was graduated from the normal school at Plymouth in 1872. He taught in that institution for one year and in other schools before and after graduation at intervals for about five years. During this time he had begun to read law in the office of Chief Justice Ladd of New Hampshire, a training which he followed up by private study. An unrest and desire to see California brought him to the west in 1874, and for about two years there-

after he taught in the public schools of Stockton. During the two years thus spent he recognized that a large field of usefulness awaited him in the practice of the law and he determined to resume its study and fit himself more fully to cope with legal intricacies. Returning to the east, he entered upon a course in the Albany Law school and upon its completion was graduated and admitted to practice in New York and New Hampshire.

Returning to Stockton immediately after his graduation in 1877 Mr. Keniston was the same year made principal of the Franklin school, his record as a teacher of superior qualifications gained in previous years making his incumbency of the office very desirable. He filled this position with great credit to himself for three years and was thereafter, in 1880, elected superintendent of schools of the county, filling the position a term of three years. In the meantime the young and growing city of Stockton had outgrown its old original charter, and under the new regime in city affairs which followed Mr. Keniston was made first deputy city attorney under Frank H. Smith. Later, in 1883, he formed a partnership with Mr. Smith, under the name of Smith & Keniston, a title which continued until January 1, 1885, when Stanton L. Carter was admitted to the firm, the name of which was then changed to Carter, Smith & Keniston. In 1887 Mr. Keniston withdrew from the firm and spent some time in Southern California, but after his return to Stockton he was not as actively identified with legal affairs as formerly. On his return from the south in May, 1888, he accepted the position of Stockton agent for the California Steam Navigation Company, the name of which in 1889, however, was changed to the California Navigation and Improvement Company. During all the years of his residence in Stockton he was identified with educational affairs in one capacity or another, first as a teacher and later as a member of the school board, in which body his knowledge and experience had considerable weight and he was an important factor in raising the standard of





A. G. BROWN.



the schools in this vicinity. He was at one time in the employ of the Union Transportation Company as manager for about four years and for a time he was also interested in mining in Nevada county, and for two years was superintendent of a mine in Colorado.

Mr. Keniston's first marriage occurred in Lancaster, N. H., in 1874 and united him with Miss Lucia Porter, whose married life was of short duration, as her death occurred the following year in Santa Barbara, Cal. Two years thereafter, in 1877, Mr. Keniston was married to Miss Nellie W. Nichols, the daughter of Martin M. and Flora A. (Leadbetter) Nichols, and a native of Monmouth, Me., born August 12, 1856. Three children, two sons and one daughter, were born of this marriage, but only the daughter, Lucia Nichols Keniston, is now living.

Not only was Mr. Keniston an ardent worker in behalf of young people through his association with educational affairs, but he was also interested in their welfare from a religious standpoint, no one doing more toward the organization of the Young Men's Christian Association in Stockton than did he, and he had the honor of serving as its first president. At the time of his death he was serving his second term as president of the board of managers of the State Hospital, and he had also served as superintendent of Rural Cemetery for eleven years. Throughout his life he had been a staunch Republican, and as a worker in party campaigns had participated in a number of severe contests.

Few citizens of Stockton were more active in fraternal affairs than was Mr. Keniston, and in all the societies where his name was recorded he was welcomed as a genial friend and co-worker. He was a member of San Joaquin Lodge No. 19, F. & A. M., which he served as master in 1902; at the time of his death was High Priest of Stockton Chapter No. 8, R. A. M.; and a member of Stockton Council No. 10, R. & S. M., of which he was deputy illustrious master. He was a Scottish Rite Mason, having attained the thirty-second degree. In 1906 he was made

venerable master of Stockton Lodge of Perfection No. 12, and was wise master of Albert Pike Chapter No. 9, Knights of the Rose Croix at the time of his death. He was also a member of Islam Temple of the Mystic Shrine of San Francisco; and during 1888 and 1889 he was patron of Homo Chapter No. 50, O. E. S. When he was a young man of twenty-one years he joined the Odd Fellows, and at the time of his death was a member of Stockton Lodge, which he had served as secretary for eleven years, and during the year 1889 was noble grand. Shortly before his death, December 15, 1908, he joined Stockton Lodge of Elks No. 218. He passed away, March 3, 1909, in the home of the family for many years, No. 721 East Weber avenue, where the funeral services were conducted, under the auspices of San Joaquin Lodge.

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#### ALBERT GALLATIN BROWN.

The life history of Albert G. Brown is one of unusual interest. A quarter of a century has passed since he answered the roll-call to come up higher, but the exemplary life which he led and the noble deeds which he accomplished during his life are still fresh in the memory of those who were permitted to know him, either as friend or acquaintance. Through a career which began in 1801 and ended in 1884 he was a witness of much of the development of the United States, no part of which was more interesting to him than the Golden State, where the happiest years of his life were passed. The son of Benjamin and Mary (Horn) Brown, he was born in Vassalboro, Me., September 9, 1801, and grew to a sturdy young manhood in an environment of untrammelled nature that had much to do with formulating the high and noble principles that characterized his entire life. The primitive

schools which prevailed during his boyhood had little to offer in the way of advantages as compared with the present day, but such as they were he used to the best advantage, even at this youthful age applying the principle which was dominant throughout his whole life, to put his whole heart and soul into whatever he attempted.

Reaching manhood, Mr. Brown became interested in the manufacture of paper, being one of the pioneers in the manufacture of this commodity, which for many years has been one of the largest sources of income in that state. In time Mr. Brown became one of the largest and most important mill-owners and paper manufacturers in Maine, but when he was in the heyday of his success his plant was reduced to ashes through a disastrous fire. It was about this time, also, that he became interested in the west through the discovery of gold in California, news of which was then being heralded throughout the United States. Joining the Argonauts in search of fortune, he made the voyage around the Horn in the schooner Suliote, and in due time was landed in the harbor of San Francisco. With his son Benjamin H., who had accompanied him on the voyage, he made his way at once to the mines of Mokelumne Hill, but a short experience was all that was necessary to convince him that his forte did not lie in delving in the hidden recesses of Mother Earth. Instead, however, he established a stage line between the mines and Stockton which produced a steady and satisfactory income for many years.

Before coming to the west Mr. Brown had established home ties through his marriage with Marion Hall, a native of Boston, Mass., whose death occurred in Stockton. His second marriage occurred in this city and united him with Maria Clark, two children being born of this marriage. Mr. Brown passed away October 13, 1884, leaving a wife and five children to mourn the loss of an exemplary husband and father. Named in order of their birth the children were as follows: Samuel J., a resident of Stockton, now in his eighty-first year; Benjamin H. and Edward P., both now deceased; Mary L., Mrs.

William F. McKee; and George A., who has been a resident of San Joaquin county for fifty-six years; he now makes his home in Stockton, where he was formerly associated with the San Joaquin County Title and Abstract Company. During his long residence in Stockton Mr. Brown's ability to fill public office was turned to good account, no one filling the offices of police judge and justice of the peace more worthily than did he for a long term of years. Fraternally he was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic organization, in the former passing all of the chairs in Charity Lodge, and in his religious preferences he was associated by membership with the Congregational denomination. Quiet and unostentatious though he was, he yet exerted a strong influence for good through his moral and temperate life.

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#### CARL W. OSER.

Since the pioneer days of '49 the name of Oser has been well-represented in Stockton through both father and son, the present representative, Carl W. Oser, still adding lustre to the name as one of the city's enterprising business men. Alois Oser was born in Baden, Germany, of a family of high rank in that grand duchy. At the time of the gold excitement in California he was residing in Missouri, having come to the United States several years prior to this, and with one companion he set out to cross the plains on foot, with the gold fields as the goal of his ambition. They finally reached the coast, but at the cost of untold hardships and privations. While going over Truckee Pass, in the Sierra Nevadas, their provisions gave out and they were obliged to subsist on such food stuffs as they could find on the way which had been discarded by others westward bound. When

they reached Stockton Mr. Oser was considerably broken in health owing to the extreme hardships of the journey, but as soon as he had regained his strength he began to complete his plans to go to the mines. Going to Nevada he mined at Red Dog for a short time, but his experience there was not as satisfactory as he had anticipated and without making any further attempts at mining he returned to Stockton. In common with all natives of Germany he had learned a trade as soon as he had left school and it was with a thorough mastery of the jewelers' trade as his chief stock in trade that he left his native land. Naturally he turned to this when his efforts as a miner proved unsatisfactory, and in 1858 he opened a jewelry store in Stockton under the name of Schmidt & Oser, their store being located on the Levee between Center and Eldorado streets. In 1869 Mr. Oser passed away, leaving a widow and five children. Those now living besides Carl W. are Louis, who is connected with the fire department of Stockton, and Henry, who is the San Francisco manager of the California Navigation and Improvement Company. Before her marriage Mrs. Oser was Johanna Meunter, the daughter of a pioneer who did not long survive the rigors of the journey to the coast. He died a victim of the cholera in San Francisco in 1850, and is buried on the present site of the city hall, on Market street, with many others who died of that scourge at the same time.

Carl W. Oser is a native son of the state, his birth occurring in Stockton February 17, 1862, and throughout his life he has known no other home. It was soon after his school days were over that he turned his thoughts toward his future from a business standpoint, and early in life became associated with the Wagner Leather Company, and for over thirty-one years has continued in the employ of that company. During this time he has risen steadily in the esteem of his superiors, and at their hands has received substantial acknowledgment of this esteem through well-merited promotions from time to time. His long retention with this company is

a high recommendation and speaks eloquently of the regard in which he is held.

The marriage of Carl W. Oser occurred March 1, 1892, uniting him with Miss Emma Stoetzer, and one daughter, Lois, was born of this marriage. Mrs. Oser's father, Henry E. Stoetzer, was born near Stuttgart, Germany, February 12, 1830, the son of Casper Stoetzer, a manufacturer in the Fatherland, who followed his son to the United States and here passed away. Henry E. Stoetzer was interested in railroad work for some time before coming to California in 1860, having made the trip by way of the Horn. Going directly to Calaveras county he was successfully engaged in mining at Copperopolis for two years, when, in 1862, he returned to Germany and was there married to Miss Bernadine Buhner, at her home in Steinbach-Hallenberg, Prussia. With his bride Mr. Stoetzer returned to Calaveras county, Cal., by way of Panama, but instead of resuming mining there he established a restaurant at Copperopolis, the first to be inaugurated in the little mining settlement. In 1865 Mr. Stoetzer came to Stockton and continued the same business under the name of the Copperopolis restaurant, at the corner of Main and Sutter streets; the enterprise proved a success from the first, but suffered destruction in the fire of 1867, after which Mr. Stoetzer opened the St. Charles hotel on the west side. Later, in 1870, he started another hotel at the corner of San Joaquin street and Weber avenue which was first known as the Fairplay, but the name of which has since been changed to San Joaquin, by which name it is now known. The structure was originally the old Methodist Episcopal church, which was purchased by Mr. Stoetzer and his partner, David Jockers, for hotel purposes and remodelled accordingly. At an expense of \$45,000, in 1909, the two daughters erected a three-story, modern glazed brick and terra cotta building for offices and stores. In his various undertakings Mr. Stoetzer accumulated a competency, which enabled him to live retired twenty years before his death, which occurred June 6, 1900. He was survived a number of



years by his wife, her death occurring October 30, 1907. Four children blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stoetzer, named in order of their birth as follows: Louis F., who is employed in the navy yard at Washington, D. C.; Antone E., an artist residing in Los Angeles; Emma, the wife of C. W. Oser; and Mrs. Lena Berg, also residing in Los Angeles.

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### ALBERT N. BUELL.

The quiet discharge of the duties attendant upon an old-established business forms for Mr. Buell a considerable contrast to the stirring days of youth, when he gratified his taste for adventure and his love of travel by following the fortunes of whaling vessels in the polar regions. Meanwhile he met with many experiences that were more dangerous than enjoyable, but which now form the theme for many an interesting tale during leisure hours. Of eastern birth and lineage, he was the eldest son of Albert and Nancy (Noyes) Buell, both natives of Connecticut, where the former followed the trade of a carpenter. The maternal grandfather, Nathan Noyes, was a prominent man in his section of Connecticut and remained in that state until his death.

Albert N. Buell was born at Westerly, R. I., in January of 1841, and remained at his native place until about thirteen years of age, when he began to earn a livelihood by working on a farm in Connecticut. At the age of seventeen he started out to see something of the world. Going to New Bedford, he secured a job with the crew of the whaling vessel, *Java*, bound for the Arctic ocean. This voyage lasted for two and one-half years, the winters being spent on the Pacific coast, and the summers in the northern seas, where a number of whales were harpooned after a series of thrilling adventures on the part of the crew.

During October of 1860, Mr. Buell set sail on the whaler *Reindeer* and cruised along the islands of the Pacific and as far south as Honolulu. On leaving the whaling business he came to California, landing at San Francisco in September, 1861, on the packet bark *Francis Palmer*. He secured employment at boating on the bay. April 12, 1865, he left San Francisco on a side-wheel steamer and by way of Panama proceeded to New York. From there he returned to his old home in Westerly, R. I., where he learned and later followed the trade of carpenter.

Returning to California in 1876, Mr. Buell secured employment in the Centennial mill, operated by William Bradford, owner of the planing mill. Later he took charge of the sash and door department at San Quentin, Marin county, this state. In a short time he came to Stockton and took charge of the sash and door department in the old mill opposite the Eureka engine house. During 1890 White & Thomas built the mill at its present site on the corner of Main and Commerce streets, where one-half block is occupied by the plant and its appurtenances. The interest of Mr. White was purchased by Mr. Buell in 1892, and the business was conducted under the name of R. F. Thomas & Co., until the death of the senior member some eighteen months later, when W. B. Thomas purchased his father's interest and the firm title was changed to Thomas & Buell. Modern machinery enables the firm to turn out mill work of the finest quality. A sixty-horse power boiler furnishes steam power, the fuel used being shavings from the mill. Throughout the county and surrounding country the planing mill has built up a reputation for the quality of its output and a steady business is conducted along the line of its specialties.

The marriage of Mr. Buell united him with Susan M. Lawton, a native of Rhode Island, who died March 17, 1903. The family residence is a substantial structure at No. 211 Poplar street and is still occupied by Mr. Buell, although the death of his wife left him alone without children. His days are spent at the mill and his evenings are devoted to reading, and he particularly enjoys







*James M. McK.*

looking over his many historical sketches of fisheries and his pictures of noted places. As a member of the fish commission, he has been active in promoting and defending legal fishing and in prosecuting illegal fishing. The owner of a steam launch, he spends many of his leisure hours on the water, and delights in bringing back large catches of salmon, trout and black bass. With the Anglers' & Hunters' Association he is connected as president and deputy commissioner. To "swap stories" with expert fishermen is a source of pleasure to him, and the late honored Grover Cleveland himself was not more fond of the "silent sport" than is Mr. Buell. In fraternal relations he became a member of Truth Lodge No. 20, F. & A. M., while living at Westerly, R. I. After coming to the west he identified himself with the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and Trinity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., in the work of each of which he has maintained a warm interest and has contributed generously to their charities.

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### FRED M. WEST.

During the entire period of his residence in California, covering an eventful epoch of only a little less than one-half century, Mr. West made his home in San Joaquin county, where he occupied positions of increasing importance in civic, industrial and financial circles. To the enthusiastic, progressive efforts of such citizens as he may be attributed the encouraging development of the city of Stockton and the surrounding country, whose resources he was instrumental in promoting and whose future he was solicitous to build upon the substantial foundations of a successful past. In various positions in public life and financial affairs he proved himself eager to forward the county's

best interests and by wide grasp of affairs, keen faculties of reasoning and wise discrimination he proved a factor in the development of local finance. His death, July 29, 1909, was therefore the cause of general mourning among those who had been associated with him during his long residence in Stockton.

Of eastern birth and descended from ancestry identified with the early settlement of New England, Fred M. West was born at Taunton, Mass., May 1, 1839, being a son of William A. and Ann Bradford (Leonard) West. His father was engaged in the copper-manufacturing business at Norton and operated the same with the Crocker Brothers. During the last twenty years that the large copper cent was coined he made them for the government, ready for stamping. In addition he manufactured coins of one cent and one-half cent denomination for the Chilean government. The schools of Taunton afforded Fred M. West ample facilities for acquiring a common-school education. At the age of fourteen he left school and became a clerk in a wholesale millinery goods business at Boston and remained there until the outbreak of the Civil war.

Upon the first call for seventy-five thousand volunteers Mr. West was among the very first to respond in Boston and a day after volunteering he was enrolled as a member of the Fourth Battalion of Rifles, formed mainly from members of the old Boston City Guard. The company went into camp at Fort Independence and there was merged into the Thirteenth Massachusetts Regiment of Volunteers, which at once was ordered to the front. At the expiration of three months, the term of his service, Mr. West received an honorable discharge, and at once decided to come to the Pacific coast, concerning which he had received favorable reports from two brothers who preceded him hither. Arriving by way of the Panama route in San Francisco August 10, 1861, he came immediately to Stockton and engaged as clerk for Gray & Hickman, then for six years engaged in the nursery business with his brothers, William B. and George.



Later he engaged as a clerk with Shippee-McKee & Co., until 1873, when he formed a partnership with a Mr. Dyke at Farmington, San Joaquin county, where he continued until the dissolution of the partnership five years later. Meanwhile he had become an active local worker in the Republican party and in recognition of his services he was elected county treasurer in 1878. At the expiration of two years he was again chosen to fill the office, but resigned shortly afterward in order to accept a position as cashier in the Stockton Savings & Loan Society Bank. Thereafter he devoted a large share of his attention to the development of this concern and in recognition of his qualifications he was promoted to the office of president. In addition he also acted as secretary of the Stockton Combined Harvester and Agricultural works and as director in the Sierra Vista Vineyard Company.

The marriage of Mr. West was solemnized in Stockton October 10, 1867, and united him with Mrs. Elmira F. Hutchinson, a native of Boston; they became the parents of three children, two sons and a daughter, of whom the only survivor is Harry L. The fraternal relations of Mr. West brought him into association with Morning Star Lodge No. 68, F. & A. M., at Stockton, which he served as master two terms and for many years as treasurer; Stockton Chapter No. 28, R. A. M., Stockton Commandery No. 8, K. T., and was a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason. In addition to his Masonic connections he held membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, finding pleasure in meeting with the "boys in blue" identified with Rawlins Post, and under their auspices was erected the Gridley monument in the Rural cemetery in Stockton, for the success of which Mr. West gave liberally of his means and time. During the war, after he arrived in California, he assisted in organizing a company of cavalry and drilled them in military tactics. He was instrumental in and worked hard to have the Santa Fe railway built through Stockton, also the Western Pacific, as well as a strong advocate for the diverting canal, now being dug by the govern-

ment to protect the city from overflow. For fourteen years he was connected with the library board of Stockton. He was one of the incorporators and the first president of the Chamber of Commerce, with which he was associated at the time of his death, and his loss to that organization is fittingly expressed by the secretary of that body, J. M. Eddy, in an article which appeared in the *Stockton Record* under date of July 29, 1909. "The death of Fred M. West leaves a vacant seat in the board of trustees of the Stockton Chamber of Commerce and also leaves vacant the office of treasurer of the corporation, positions which Mr. West filled most efficiently and conscientiously for a number of years. His death will be most sincerely regretted by all members of the Chamber of Commerce, not only because of his conceded efficiency and judgment in the exercise of his duties in connection with the Chamber, not merely because on all occasions he showed the deep interest of a public-spirited and progressive promoter, not alone because he was loyal to Stockton unvaryingly under all conditions, but because of his recognized worth as a man and a citizen.

"Mr. West was the first president of the present Chamber of Commerce, and to his interest, devotion, attention and broad and progressive ideas during the period of its inception and its first year's experience, was largely due the great success which marked its efforts from the first, and the prestige which it almost immediately gained among the trade and publicity organizations of the state. He had been president of the old Chamber of Commerce, and it was largely due to his efforts, assisted by a few energetic co-workers, that the present Chamber was organized and begun its career under such favorable auspices.

"During the eight and one-half years of the Chamber's existence I was associated with Mr. West in its deliberations, either as trustee or secretary, for six of those years, and I do not recall a single instance of his opposing any proposal or suggestion, whatever its source, for the advancement of the city, the county, or for the

welfare and diversion of the people. He was among the first to declare for any step that promised success, and his experience and judgment were almost invariably a safe guide for the favorable action of his colleagues in the management of the organization.

"His nature was frank and outspoken, and he never failed to denounce a fraud or sham when presented under the most alluring form, if he detected its true character. He was an enthusiast regarding Stockton's advantages and the resources of the county, and his experience had made him an expert in several lines of endeavor. For good roads, arbor work, fruit culture and other public and private improvements he displayed a persistent ardor that operated as a stimulus to others, and those engaged in organizing efforts along these lines could always count on him as a resource in difficulties.

"In a city that numbers many notable examples of public-spirited citizens who have given their time and money for the public good, none deserves greater credit or more lasting gratitude for untiring and effective effort, than Fred M. West, who has gone to his last reward."

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#### ICHABOD DAVIS HAMILTON.

Yet another of the pioneers who have passed to their reward after a long and useful life in their adopted home in the west is the late Ichabod D. Hamilton, whose death January 7, 1894, was deeply deplored by the many business and social friends and acquaintances whom he had drawn to him during his residence of half a century in California. A native of Ohio, he was born in New Lisbon, Columbiana county, March 16, 1822, the son of Jonathan and Eleanor (Davis) Hamilton. He was reared in the vicinity of his birthplace and in fact had settled down to make it his fu-

ture home, when the news of the superior advantages to be had in the west as a result of the discovery of gold in California, made his prospects in Ohio appear to be insignificant. He was among those who came across the plains to the state in the memorable year of 1849, and without loss of time he made his way to the mines of Mariposa county. The following year he returned east by the Isthmus of Panama, and New Orleans, being one of the first men to return from the mines to his home locality. His satisfaction in regard to the prospects offered in the new west were significant in that he returned to the Pacific coast country with his family the same year, crossing the plains, as he had done the year previously. Coming directly to San Joaquin county, he rented a ranch between Stockton and the Rough and Ready ranch, but his crops proving a failure he gave up ranching and in 1851 became proprietor of the Charter Oak house on the Sonora road. Soon afterward, however, he purchased the Twelve Mile house on the same road and carried it on successfully until 1858. He had in the meantime experimented in farming, and at this time he took up this vocation on a large scale, having charge of a ranch of one thousand acres until 1864.

It was during the latter part of the year 1864 that Mr. Hamilton made a radical change in his occupation, abandoning farming to follow steamboating on the San Joaquin river, with Stockton as his headquarters. He built the steamers Fresno and Tulare, as well as several barges, for this trade, carrying it on until 1889. During this time he had engaged in the real estate business, owning considerable property in Stockton, among which was residence property on Madison street which he had purchased in 1868. The grounds covered an entire block, which has since been improved by the erection of a number of houses, and also by the planting of ornamental trees and shrubs. In 1878 Mr. Hamilton increased his interest in river transportation by the purchase of the steamer Clara Belle, of sixty tons burden, and the Clara Crow, also purchasing the Empire City, of one hundred tons. During the latter

part of his life, however, Captain Hamilton lived practically retired from all cares or duties, rounding out his long and useful life in the old family homestead on Madison street. He was a temperate man and a man of high morals, and was attached to his home and family.

In Dayton, Ohio, July 17, 1847, Captain Hamilton was united in marriage with Miss Eleanor Evans, a native of Fayette county, Pa., and of the children born to them three grew to years of maturity. Charles Ichabod, now of Calaveras county, who was born December 27, 1848, learned the printing trade and in 1875 purchased a job printing office of which he was the proprietor for ten years, the firm being known as C. I. Hamilton & Co. In 1886 he became superintendent of the quartz-mining enterprise of his father in Butte county, the latter being associated in the development of this mine with Joseph Phillips of Los Angeles. Mary F. was born in Stockton and in 1880 became the wife of the late Thomas Phillips, M. D., one of the assistant physicians at the State Insane Asylum and a well-known practitioner of Stockton. Jefferson Davis was born February 23, 1861, and was married March 18, 1883, to Miss Zelma S. Jefferson; he died December 23, 1885, leaving one child, Eleanor Jefferson. Jefferson D. Hamilton was a young man of much promise in the business world, and his early death was a sad loss to the community. Both sons were associated with their father in the steamboating business for a time. Mrs. Hamilton died July 17, 1900, at the age of seventy-two years. She was a woman who was loved by all who knew her.

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#### CHARLES A. L. GRUNSKY.

The life which this memorial sketches began in Maichingen, Wurtemberg, Germany, December 7, 1823, and came to an end in Stockton, Cal.,

August 24, 1891. Between these two dates there was crowded a lifetime of useful and successful activity, the earlier part of which was spent in the native land. At the age of twenty years Mr. Grunsky crossed the ocean to the United States, landing at New York in 1844 and for some time remaining in the east and south. The discovery of gold in California induced him to come to the west, where he arrived during August of 1849. After a short experience in the mines he engaged in teaming and then removed to Stockton, where he remained until death. During the early period of his residence in this city he was engaged in the lumber business as a member of the firm of Baggs & Grunsky, and thus became identified with the material upbuilding of the community. After becoming a citizen of the state he cast his ballot for the principles of the Republican party. A number of times he was chosen to occupy positions of trust, all of which he filled with efficiency and fidelity. At one time he served as a member of the board of trustees of the schools of Stockton. Afterward he held office as city clerk and for three terms he filled the position of county recorder. In fraternal relations he was identified with the Stockton Turn Verein, the Druids, Knights of Pythias, and the San Joaquin Society of California Pioneers. For a year he suffered from failing health, but force of will kept him among his friends until a few days before the end. His death occurred August 24, 1891, at the family residence on Lindsay street, and two days later the body was interred in the cemetery near the scenes familiar to his later years.

During a visit back to Germany in 1852 Mr. Grunsky married Miss Clotilde Camerer, who was born in Heselach, Germany, December 8, 1831, and died in Stockton January 17, 1864. Afterward he married, December 27, 1866, a sister of his first wife, Friedericke Camerer, who died seven years later. December 23, 1874, he was united with Mrs. Anna Maria (Follert) Wurster, who was born May 11, 1836, and died June 10, 1903. By her former marriage she had two children, F. W. Wurster, now connected with the Sam







W. E. Grethaway.

Joaquin Valley Bank, and Miss Louise Wurster, a resident of Stockton; and by her marriage to Mr. Grunsky she had one daughter, Miss Anna Pauline, the only child of Mr. Grunsky's third marriage. Of his first marriage there are five children now living. C. Ewald, a civil engineer educated in Germany, at one time filled the office of city engineer in San Francisco and later was appointed as a member of the first Panama canal commission; at this writing he resides in New York City, where he is a consulting engineer. The second son, Otto, who spent two years in Germany, has filled the office of supervisor and served two terms as county clerk; now he is engaged in the real-estate business at Livingston, this state. The third son, C. A., is a resident of Stockton. The fourth son, E. M., for many years has been engaged in the realty business and at present is the head of the firm of Grunsky, Dietrich & Leistner. The only daughter of that marriage, Miss Lottie Grunsky, for many years has been a teacher in the Stockton public schools. Born of the second marriage of Mr. Grunsky were three children, namely: Mrs. Clotilde Fisk, a graduate of the California State University and for some years a teacher, now residing in Berkeley; Herman, a graduate of the Leland Stanford University and of Harvard, now making his home near Wrights, this state; and Mrs. Eda Murray, a resident of Stockton.

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#### WILLIAM ELMER TRETHEWAY.

Without hesitation or fear of contradiction it may be said that the Stockton Iron Works holds first rank among the many substantial enterprises which go to make up the bulwark of commercial stability in this thriving city. The president of this enterprise, William E. Tretheway, is a native of England, born in London April 27, 1857, the

eighth in order of birth among the eleven children born to his parents. Richard and Rebecca (Arthur) Tretheway were born in Cornwall, England, June 11, 1823, and January 30, 1826, respectively, but subsequently became residents of London. When their son William E. was about two years of age the parents again took up their abode in Cornwall, making their home there until leaving for the United States by way of Panama in July, 1868, making the journey from San Francisco on the side-wheeler steamer *Cornelia*, which landed them safely in Stockton on August 21st of the same year. The parents lived to enjoy the comforts of their adopted home in the Golden State for a number of years, the father living until July 4, 1877, and the mother until July 26, 1881.

Named in order of their birth, the children comprising the parental family are as follows: Edward Arthur, born April 23, 1844; Elizabeth, who died in infancy; John, born March 16, 1847; Samuel and Richard, both of whom died in infancy; Arthur, born February 13, 1853; Thomas, born June 10, 1854; William E., April 27, 1857; Samuel, July 28, 1858; Amy, who died in San Francisco when in her thirteenth year; and Richard, who was born June 24, 1862, and died in Stockton when in his twenty-first year. Of this family, Edward A. is employed by the Sperry Flour Company; for the past thirty-five years John has been in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company as conductor at Oakland; Arthur is employed in the blacksmith department of the Mare Island Navy Yard; and Samuel has for the past thirty years been employed as baggagemaster with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company.

At the time William E. Tretheway became a resident of Stockton he was about eleven years of age, and thus the greater part of his education was received in the local schools. In 1872 his school days were over and he began preparation for a business life the same year by an apprenticeship at the iron trade. Going to San Francisco he was for a time in the Risdon Iron Works, but after a time came to Stockton



and took charge of the pattern department of the Stockton Iron Works, with which institution he has been continuously identified for thirty-two years, or ever since 1877. In San Francisco he attended evening sessions at the Lincoln school and after coming to Stockton took a business course in the Atkinson and Clark Business College. In 1889 he purchased a one-third interest in the Stockton Iron works and is now a large stockholder and general manager of the new and enlarged manufacturing plant on the north side of the Stockton channel, which belongs to the company.

Mr. Tretheway was married November 30, 1905, to Mrs. Louise Haas, who was born in Stockton September 1, 1862, the daughter of George and Mary (Turner) Holdsworth, natives of Yorkshire, England. Mrs. Tretheway is also a director and a stockholder in the Stockton Iron works, and for the past six years has been a director of the Sacramento Natural Gas Company.

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#### MYERS J. GARDNER.

There are few men within the limits of California whose knowledge of the lumber business is more extensive than that acquired by Myers J. Gardner during a long and successful identification with the industry both in Stockton and elsewhere. As a boy he early gained a complete practical knowledge of all grades of lumber under the trained oversight of his father, S. St. John Gardner, who for many years was associated with the lumber interests of New York state and who became well known throughout that part of the country by reason of prominence and success in his chosen occupation. Under such capable instruction it was to be expected that he would become thoroughly versed in the industry and his present success might be predicated by

those familiar with his apprenticeship in youth.

The Gardner Lumber Company, which had been established by Mr. Gardner in June of 1905, was incorporated June 19, 1908, under its present title, with a capital stock of \$200,000. On the organization of the company Mr. Gardner was elected president and he likewise serves as a director, the other members of the board being George E. Crane, F. A. McCann, W. A. Washington and W. E. Elliott, of San Francisco. The company transacts a general retail business in the city and surrounding country and carries in stock a varied and complete assortment of hard and soft wood lumber. In addition to presiding over the conduct of this business Mr. Gardner also holds a position as president of the Stockton Fire and Enamel Brick Company, one of the growing industries that have aided in the business development of the city.

Mr. Gardner was born in New York state January 20, 1866. Educated in its schools and in Rockland College at Nyack-on-the-Hudson, and trained in its business enterprises, he brought to the coast the business acumen, progressive spirit and financial ability that characterizes so many of the people of the eastern seaboard.

During his long identification with the business interests of Stockton he has been ever mindful of the best resources of the city, the means needed for their development and the part to be taken by public-spirited citizens in their advancement. Through the Chamber of Commerce he has been able to aid in local projects. The long period of his residence here has witnessed his generous co-operation with all movements having for their object the local upbuilding. Churches and charities have found in him a liberal supporter. Identified with local political affairs, he served as mayor from 1905 to 1907, and during his term in the office many needed reforms were inaugurated that proved of benefit to the town. Fraternally he is identified with Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. His marriage, which occurred April 7, 1896, united him with Miss Annie Long, a daughter of M.

A. D. Long, now of Stockton, and formerly a resident of Missouri. Their son, Floyd St. John, is at this writing a student in the Stockton schools.

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### MAJOR J. D. PETERS.

A complete record of the life of Major Peters would be in many respects a history of Stockton, the city he loved. Loyalty to the town was one of his most distinguishing characteristics. His interest, his ambitions and his life were centered here, and when traveling abroad he was always proud to state that he was a resident of Stockton. During the long period of his association with the place he was the fostering spirit of its principal enterprises. Indeed, it would be difficult to name a progressive project that lacked his hearty support. When once convinced of the wisdom of any projected plan he was enthusiastic in its support and contributed without stint of time and means to its furtherance. His loyalty was never questioned, for deeds gave proof of his words. During the building of the Masonic hall he was one of the leading financial supports of the work, and he also took stock in the Yosemite building, which gave to the city a splendid business block as well as the Yosemite hotel. Even when on his death-bed, illness could not take his mind from the welfare of the town and he subscribed to the new hotel, which had as yet scarcely taken form in the minds of its projectors. His contributions to St. Joseph's home were liberal, and made that institution possible, and many other benevolent movements received the impetus of his generosity and cordial support. Financial institutions were greatly benefited by his association therewith and as president for many years of the Stockton Savings Bank he gave that institution a solid position among similar organizations in the state. In ad-

dition he acted as a director of the First National Bank and the Stockton Savings & Loan Society, also owned stock in the San Joaquin Valley Bank.

Between the date of his birth, which occurred in Genoa, Italy, July 25, 1827, and the date of his death, May 25, 1907, at his home, No. 1043 North Eldorado street, Stockton, Cal., an era of intense activity proved the value of Major Peters to the citizenship of his adopted country. The youngest son among four children, he was only seven years of age when death deprived him of a mother's affectionate oversight. Himself frail in constitution and delicate in health, he was prevented from making rapid progress in his studies and at the age of eleven years he was taken from school by his father, who, hoping that the ocean air might prove beneficial, sent him to sea under charge of an old friend, then captain of the ship Russell. The first voyage ended in New York City during December of 1838, when the boy caught his first glimpse of America. The next voyage took him to Liverpool and for three years he traveled on the Russell, meanwhile gaining a robustness of constitution that fitted him for the arduous duties of manhood. During the year 1841 he landed on American soil at Baltimore and forthwith enlisted in the United States navy, where he served for three years. During the war with Mexico he engaged as engineer on the steamship *Pepella*, which carried supplies for the men in the army. In this way he became familiar with the southwest and heard of the riches of California.

When news came of the discovery of gold the enthusiastic young sailor embarked from New Orleans for California and during the latter part of July, 1849, landed in San Diego. A steamer for San Francisco was anchored in the harbor, but he lacked money for the fare. Nothing daunted by his poverty, he with a companion rowed out to the vessel and attempted to climb aboard. Unfortunately the friend was drowned. In his possession was found \$16.01. The money was taken by the ship officers, with the exception of the penny, which was turned over to Mr.



Peters and ever afterward treasured by him. Landing in San Francisco he soon secured employment and with the money thus earned paid his passage on a boat to Stockton. From this point he started to the mines, taking with him his entire worldly possessions, a pair of blankets, a loaf of bread, a pipe with tobacco, his copper cent and a silver one-half dollar. Arriving at the mines he prospected and earned a little by teaming, after which, in 1853, he settled in Stockton. During 1858 at Columbia, Tuolumne county, he married Emeline C. Taylor, by whom he had a daughter, now Mrs. W. L. Ashe. In March of 1875 he was united with Anna, daughter of Col. Ferris Forman. Three children blessed their union, Joseph F., Mrs. C. L. Six and Miss Anna F., the last-named remaining with her father to brighten his last days with her affection and sympathy.

In later years Major Peters met with a severe injury from which he never fully recovered, although it was not the immediate cause of his death. Up to the last he retained his grasp on his business affairs and with marvelous mental power carried the minutest details of his many enterprises without dependence upon books or employes. For many years he exerted a controlling influence upon river navigation and with Captain Brooks built the tug Frolic, and the steamer Empire City, these forming the nucleus of the old San Joaquin Improvement Company. Several years afterward this was consolidated with the California Steam Navigation Company under the title of the California Navigation and Improvement Company. Of this he became the president and its best steamer now bears his name. Besides his navigation and banking interests, he always had mining interests, and at one time these represented large investments, particularly in the Royal Consolidated mine at Hodson, Calaveras county.

Perhaps no work accomplished by Major Peters was more helpful to his county or a source of greater pleasure to himself than his labors in behalf of the agricultural interests of the com-

munity. As a grain merchant he aimed to pay the highest prices possible and thus became popular among farmers, to many of whom he also gave financial assistance in times of stress caused by crop failures. When they were unable to meet their obligations he encouraged them to do their best, look on the bright side of life, and pay as they were able, and never did he foreclose a mortgage against any of them. As a charter member of the old San Francisco Produce Exchange and the Merchants' Exchange, he was a helpful factor in the development of these interests vital to the early progress of the state. For a period of forty-seven years he engaged in the grain business and during that long period he witnessed the agricultural development of the valley, the increasing prosperity of its farmers, and the introduction of modern methods of farming.

The title by which Major Peters was always known came to him through his service on the staff of Governor Stoneman. During the centennial celebration of 1876 he acted as grand marshal of the three days' celebration, which culminated in appropriate exercises on the 4th of July. Though often urged to accept positions within the gift of his fellow-citizens, he invariably declined, having no inclination toward political offices, but preferring to devote his attention to measures for the general welfare of the people. In this respect one of his most helpful labors was in connection with the development of the buhach industry. Buhach is the insecticide of commerce and was introduced into this country in 1877, when one pound of seed of the flower (which is of the marguerite family) was sent to John Milco, proprietor of a fruit stand in Stockton and a native of Dalmatia, from which country it was sent to him by his father. The seed originally had been taken from Persia to Dalmatia by birds and thus had become known in the latter place. Mr. Peters experimented with the seed both on heavy soil and on sandy soil, but found he met with greatest success in the Merced county sandy soil, so he planted one hun-







*J. P. Humphreys.*

dred and forty acres to the plant at Atwater. The blossoms are picked, brought to Stockton, ground to powder, and converted into the poison, buhach, which is bought by the government in large quantities, being found the only thing that will kill the insects in Panama. From three hundred and twenty-five to four hundred pounds per acre are produced and sales are made all over this and other countries. The ranch in Merced county comprises fourteen hundred acres, a large portion of which is planted to a vineyard that is the largest in the world. As a horticulturist he won fame throughout the state and in the treatment and cultivation of vines and the raising of grapes he was an authority. His advice was consulted by others interested in vineyards and success followed his counsel. Indeed, upon every industry suited to this climate and soil he was an authority, and with justice it may be said that no citizen ever lived in Stockton who labored more earnestly for its prosperity or identified himself more intimately with its industries than did Major Peters.

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### JOHN RANDOLPH HUMPHREYS.

A man of scholarly attainments, active, ambitious and capable, John R. Humphreys is carrying on a most successful work as president of the Western School of Commerce, at Stockton, of which he has had charge since its organization in 1901. He is eminently qualified for the important work in which he is engaged, in fact the greater part of his life has been given to educational work of one character or another. He was born in Honaker, Russell county, Va., March 7, 1867, the son of southern parents, Ward C. and Nancy J. (Jackson) Humphreys, both of whom were also natives of Virginia. The son grew to a sturdy youth on the parental farm in the south, attending the public schools in the neighborhood during his boyhood, and later

becoming a student in the old Dominion College of Honaker, Va.

A predilection for the teacher's profession asserted itself at an early age, for when only sixteen years old John R. Humphreys was installed as teacher in the public schools of his native town, filling this position acceptably to his superiors for three terms. At the end of this time, in 1886, he went to Greenup, Ky., remaining there until 1895, during which time he was engaged in teaching in the public schools for six years, and the remainder of the time was associated with a lumber firm whose main office was located in Pennsylvania. During the last few years Mr. Humphreys was interested in the latter business he had been investigating conditions in the west with a view to coming here as soon as he had satisfied himself as to the advisability of the change. He set out in 1895 with the intention of locating in Washington, but after remaining there one week came south into California, stopping at Hanford, Kings county, where for seven months he was employed on a ranch and also in a packing house.

Mr. Humphreys' identification with Stockton dates from January 1, 1896, whither he came direct from Hanford, and here he has since resided continuously. Having determined to resume educational work he refreshed his mind by taking a four-month course in the Stockton Business College, reviewing his school work. Six months later, June 1, 1896, he became a teacher in the same school and remained there until August 1, 1901, as a teacher in the Normal department. In September of that year, in partnership with T. H. Wolfenbargar, he purchased the plant of the old Gas City Business College, which had not been in operation for one year, and he also took over their lease of the old location, in the Salz-Bours building, on Hunter street square, Stockton. The new proprietors opened their business, shorthand and normal school September 30, 1901, with a corps of three teachers and an attendance of three pupils for the first day, at the end of the first year having an enrollment of forty pupils. The school was in-



incorporated under its present name, Western School of Commerce, September 1, 1902, with officers as follows: J. R. Humphreys, president; T. H. Wolfenbargar, vice-president; H. W. Bessac, secretary; and the San Joaquin Valley Bank as depository. The sickness, resignation and death of T. H. Wolfenbargar (the latter occurring in November, 1905), made a change in the school's management, and its officers are at present J. R. Humphreys, president; E. H. McGowen, vice-president; H. W. Bessac, secretary, and L. W. Peart, business manager.

Mr. Humphreys' marriage occurred in Michigan Bluff, Placer county, Cal., August 30, 1899, and united him with Miss Lena Mannelin, a native of that county. Three children have come to brighten their home life, Mary, Jean and John, Jr. Fraternally Mr. Humphreys is an Odd Fellow, having joined the order January 26, 1898, and he is also a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, Woodmen of the World, and the Tribe of Ben Hur. Without exception Mr. Humphreys stands in the forefront among educators on the Pacific coast, and it is due to his untiring efforts that the School of Commerce has attained the high standard of excellence which it enjoys today.

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### HENRY TINKHAM.

"I believe that all things are for the best."  
"Do unto others as you would be done by."  
This was the philosophy and the life axiom of Henry Tinkham, who was born in 1820, in the old Green Mountain State, of a Scotch father and an English mother. The family can be traced back to the great-grandfather, who in 1776 served as a captain in the Revolutionary war; and his grandfather was a private in the war of 1812.

Young Henry, like all of the New England boys of that day, worked hard all summer on the little rock fenced farm, where, as he declared, "It took all summer to raise enough to live on through the winter." He had but two suits of clothing a year, the cloth being woven and made up by his mother. Henry, with the other children in the family, walked to church, barefoot through the snow, carrying his shoes under his arm, so that he might wear them bright and shining in the meeting-house.

During the winter months he attended the district school, the teacher being such as Goldsmith describes, "A man severe he was and stern to view, I knew him well, and every truant knew." On one occasion the teacher gave Henry a whipping for misbehavior, sometimes, however, the pupils gave the teacher the whipping, but in this instance Henry got the birch rod, the teacher always keeping a supply on hand, as the birch trees grew near by. On going home he received consolation from his father, the latter quietly remarking, "Now, Henry, if you get another whipping at school, I'll give you one when you come home." His father, Daniel Tinkham, was a man beloved alike by his family and the community in which he lived, for his sterling qualities of heart and mind, but severe in discipline and unwavering in his ideas of right and wrong, he believed in upholding parental, educational, civil and religious authority.

At the age of eighteen Henry Tinkham obtained a position as a clerk in the Woodstock dry goods store, but not liking the work, for he was a strong, active, ambitious young man, he later took passage on a stage for Boston, and asked for work in a hardware store. The proprietor said to him, "All right, come around in a few days." The stage journey had taken all of his money, and the applicant replied: "Well, I am out of money and I want work now." The employer immediately put him at work; he remained about a year, then became an apprentice meat cutter in one of the markets of old Faneuil hall, historic as the birthplace of American liberty. He was employed in the meat cut-

ting business three years and during this time, in the words of the Yankee song, he went "spark-ing Sunday night" and during a part of the time he was one of the quartette in the Park street Unitarian church. The result of his "spark-ing" was his marriage to Frances Baxter, the family being one of the oldest in Boston. The fruits of this marriage were four sons and four daughters, viz.: George Henry, Francis Isadore, Etawah (Etta), Elmer, Lillian, now Mrs. Thomas Shaw of San Diego; Edgar, Marian, Mrs. E. L. Gnekow of Stockton, and Alfred. The father died in 1896, the oldest daughter in 1901, and the wife and mother in 1905.

Between the marriage and death of Mr. Tinkham there lies fifty years of an industrious, honorable life in business, home building, protecting and sustaining; the home was his life, the business an auxiliary, as

"His home the spot of earth supremely blest,  
A dearer, sweeter spot than all the rest."

To build the home, when the cry of gold resounded throughout the east, with a company of one hundred and sixteen young men he started for California, expecting to make his fortune in a few months and return. Chartering the bark Lenark, they loaded her with provisions sufficient to last two years, and after a long voyage of six months, September 12, 1848, they anchored in the harbor of San Francisco. The company parted, some going to the mines, Mr. Tinkham being of this number. They sailed up the San Joaquin river seven days, during which time it rained heavily, and they were compelled to sleep in their wet blankets on the open deck. As a result Mr. Tinkham was taken sick with fever. The party he was with purchased a two-wheeled ox cart and oxen to carry their supplies to the mines, and after placing Mr. Tinkham on top of the load they started to the Sierras. The hot sun's rays beat upon the open cart as it jolted over the rough road and added to the already intense sufferings of the sick man. Although the teachings of his youth helped him to bear patiently the ills of life, yet one day, when very hungry and thirsty, he resolved, if die he must,

to die with a full stomach. The party had gone on a bear hunt, leaving him alone, and crawling from the cart, he found some crackers and cheese and the water canteen. He ate and drank all he desired, the result of which was surprising, for two days later he had recovered from his sickness.

Locating at Hawkins' Bar the party began mining, and after several days sluicing they obtained about \$3,000 in gold dust. One night it rained heavily and the following morning when the party arose everything was gone. Money and tools had been swept away in the flood that came rolling down the cañon. Mr. Tinkham then came to the conclusion that he had had all the mining he wanted.

Returning to Stockton he hired out to Harry Morton, a butcher, for \$300 a month. The following morning his employer said: "Can you dress a beef?" "Yes, I guess so," Tinkham replied. "Well, go out and shoot one of those steers and bring it in." The cattle were running loose where now stands the court house. Never in his life had he dressed a bullock, but he was an unerring rifle shot, and in the "green hills" of Vermont, many a time he had gone bear or woodchuck shooting. Taking a rifle he singled out an animal and shot it through the brain, and somehow caused it to bleed profusely. Fortunately a butcher was dressing a beef near by and he finally gave the amateur butcher a lesson in the business, and from that time on he had no trouble. Two years later Mr. Tinkham opened a meat market at the corner of Main and Sutter streets and in 1854 he opened the City Market opposite the Yosemite hotel, and for more than fifty years he was engaged in the business.

He made and lost several fortunes; thousands of dollars were lost in bad debts, for he would not become involved in law suits nor engage in any transaction that would involve the good name which he so highly prized, or cause any suffering to a poor debtor or his family. Very sympathetic in his nature and generous and charitable even beyond sound judgment he

believed that the getting of money could never be justified in doing a wrong act.

He was for many years an Odd Fellow and a member of Charity Lodge No. 6 and Parker Encampment No. 3 and during the four years of his patient, uncomplaining sickness they faithfully fulfilled their obligations. He was also a volunteer fireman, being a member of Eureka No. 2, and was a member of the San Joaquin county Pioneers. In politics he was a Republican, and at one election, at the "solicitation of friends" his name was placed before the convention for sheriff. They promised to support him, but this they failed to do, and it so disgusted him he never again would consent to run for office, for a lie to him was a lie, whether in business or politics.

A man of fine sensibilities and tastes, he despised vulgar language or stories, and had no regard for unclean men or actions. In his family he was the head, his word was law, yet he was never rude or harsh in tone or action, but gentle, kind and considered generous and unselfish, and ever thoughtful of those he loved. His family all present, he passed from earth as quietly as a sleeping child, his life an open book without a stain.

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### JOHN DUCKER.

From the time of his arrival in California in 1853 until his death nearly forty years later, John Ducker was identified with various enterprises, agricultural and commercial, tending toward the development of San Joaquin county and during that period he held a position among the prosperous German-American citizens of the region. A native of the province of Hanover, he was born near the city of Bremen April 15, 1821, being a son of John and Katharina (Nullman) Ducker. The excellent schools of his na-

tive locality afforded him opportunities for acquiring a thorough knowledge of the German language and, following the usual custom of the country, he attended school regularly until he was fourteen, when he began to earn his livelihood. April 15, 1849, he sailed from Bremen on an English vessel and sixty days later landed in New York. For a few years he remained in the east and during a part of that time he was employed in a factory in Boston.

With four others bound for California, during June of 1852 John Ducker took passage on the sailing vessel *Dakota*, Captain Sloane, and sailed southward. A stop of twelve days was made at Rio Janeiro for water. Shortly after starting from there a storm arose, the masts were lost, and it was necessary to return to port, where eleven tedious weeks passed in waiting for repairs. No other stop was made on the voyage except one of twelve days at Valparaiso. After rounding the Horn the vessel proceeded slowly toward its destination and arrived at San Francisco in April of 1853, after almost one year on the water. Mr. Ducker came at once to Stockton by steamer and thence to the mines of Calaveras county, remaining at Chili Camp for a short time and at Poverty bar for two years. It had been his plan to return to New York with the fruits of his mining expeditions, but, meeting Charles Meyers, he changed his plans, formed a partnership, secured one hundred and sixty acres, and began to raise grain and other products. About 1858 he sold out and two years later married Mrs. Annie Ortman, widow of Herman Ortman, an honored pioneer of this region.

Mrs. Ducker was born in Hessen-Darmstadt, Germany, in 1830, and in 1849 crossed the ocean to Boston, Mass., where she became the wife of Herman Ortman. Her brother-in-law, Henry Ortman, a pioneer of 1849, induced them to emigrate to the west. The journey was made via the Isthmus of Panama, which they crossed on muleback, landing at San Francisco August 8, 1852, and coming direct to Stockton. The two brothers took up land and engaged in ranching and stock-raising. For three years Herman Ort-







*Chas. Neumiller*

man and wife lived in Stockton and then removed to a ranch on Rock creek, where they spent two years. On selling out they moved to a tract later known as the Ortman place, which had the advantage of being in closer proximity to town. The brothers farmed together until the death of Herman, in 1858, after which the estate was settled and the property divided.

After the marriage of Mr. Ducker and Mrs. Ortman they lived on the Rock Creek ranch, where they built quite early in the '60s. Both at that ranch and at the Ortman place they conducted the stage station, Mr. Ducker being paid \$110 per month for attending to the stage horses, while she was paid \$100 per month for her services as cook. The work was hard and the privations many, but Mrs. Ducker possessed an optimistic temperament and endured hardships cheerfully. With their earnings they were enabled to start in business at Stockton. At the time of settling here she found there were only about twenty women in the town. Few houses were built, it being a city of tents, and it was not until 1881 that she erected her present substantial residence at No. 647 East Weber street. She became a charter member of the German Lutheran Church at Stockton and with her husband aided generously in its maintenance.

Largely as the result of heavy losses of cattle during the severe winter of 1861-62, Mr. Ducker decided to move from the ranch into town. During 1863 he took some passengers to Virginia City, Nev., and had the pleasure of seeing that then famous mining region. In 1864 he purchased property in Stockton, on which he built a structure suitable for merchandising, and here he opened a grocery business with a partner, but at the expiration of two years he purchased his partner's interest. The store was afterward conducted in his name until about 1882, when he sold out. In 1879 he became president of the Stockton Warehouse Company, with which he was actively identified until his retirement from business cares. Fraternally he was connected with Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., and passed the chairs in Parker Encampment. In politics he voted the Democratic

ticket. Frequently he served on juries, but he always declined offices of a political nature. As a citizen he gave generously to movements for the general welfare and in the work of grading and building up the road he paid about \$1,400 as his share. Recognizing the need of adequate fire protection he gave his services gratuitously toward that end and served as a member of Weber Company No. 1, Volunteer Firemen. When he died, January 9, 1892, it was recognized that one of the most progressive of our pioneers had been taken from the scenes of his energies, and the universal testimony of citizens was that his loss would be deeply felt in the town. Since his demise Mrs. Ducker has continued to make her home at their city residence, besides which she owns some country property and business blocks and is also a member of the Stockton Chamber of Commerce and yet identified, notwithstanding her advancing years, with many movements looking toward the permanent development of the town and the ultimate highest prosperity of its inhabitants.

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#### CHRISTIAN NEUMILLER.

The subject of this sketch was born in Wolfersheim, Canton Zweibrucken, in Rhenish-Bavaria, Germany, February 16, 1835. In 1855 he came to the United States and served an apprenticeship to the baker's trade and afterwards as a journeyman-baker in the cities of Baltimore, Md., Alexandria, Va., and Washington, D. C., until 1858.

It was in the latter year that Mr. Neumiller came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, arriving in San Francisco October 18, 1858; on October 24 of the same year he came to Stockton, San Joaquin county, and on January 1, 1859, he entered the employ of the state of



California in the bakery department of the State Hospital at Stockton as chief baker, and he continued in the active charge and management of this department until September 1, 1908, when he retired. This service was continuous with the exception of a period of about five years, or from 1867 to 1872, during which time he engaged in farming in San Joaquin county. Upon his retirement from active employment, he had completed an honorable service and remarkable record as a state's employe extending over forty years.

Since Mr. Neumiller's arrival in Stockton in 1858, the city has always been his home, excepting the time when he was engaged in farming, when he lived near the town of Collegeville, in San Joaquin county, about ten miles distant from Stockton.

In June, 1865, Christian Neumiller was married in San Francisco to Mary Mey, of Sufflingenheim, Alsace (formerly France, now Germany), who came to the United States in 1853 and to California in 1863, and who died in Stockton, August 18, 1905. The family of Christian and Mary Neumiller consisted of two daughters and two sons, namely: Mary E. Minta, widow of the late Judge Wesley Minta, of Stockton; Miss Emma C. Neumiller, William C. Neumiller, treasurer and tax collector of San Joaquin county; and Charles L. Neumiller, a member of the law firm of Ashley & Neumiller, all living and residing in the city of Stockton.

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#### JOSEPH HARRISON TAM.

A cosmopolitan population was attracted to California by the discovery of gold. Men of broad education and the highest culture mingled with adventurous pioneers whose only education had been gained in the school of experience.

The rich and the poor met on the friendly basis characteristic of the frontier, where all were one in their solicitous desire for the upbuilding of their new home, the country of their adoption. Prof. Joseph Harrison Tam, an honored pioneer of 1849, and a native of Pennsylvania (born in November, 1812), had taught for years prior to the discovery of gold and when the news came of that event in western history he was filling a chair in Boonville (Mo.) College, where for ten years he had been an efficient instructor. The call of the west touched a responsive chord in his heart. His books were closed and his professorship resigned, while he turned his face toward the setting sun and took up the life of a frontiersman.

Nine families crossed the plains together from St. Joseph, Mo., where they outfitted with wagons, teams and necessary supplies. The journey was ended in nine months, during which time the most exciting event was an encounter with the Indians, resulting in no further trouble than the stampeding of the cattle. Mr. Tam brought with him his wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Glassford, and their daughter, Josephine, who was eighteen months old at the time of leaving home. Another daughter, Amelia, was born while the party were crossing the Rocky mountains. The family first settled in Marysville, Yuba county, but later moved to a farm in Sonoma county, where the third daughter, Julia, was born. During 1850 Mr. Tam took up land eight miles from Stockton and embarked in general ranch pursuits, making a specialty of raising grain and stock. Fruit and vegetables were raised in large quantities for some time. The ranch comprised one hundred and sixty acres of tillable land and the same amount of tule land. While living at the ranch he gave the land for the Live Oaks Methodist Episcopal Church and its cemetery, and his son, James Henry (commonly called Harry) was the first to be interred in that burial-ground.

After having spent ten years on the ranch Mr. Tam retired from farming and came to Stockton, where he died in June, 1891. His

wife also passed away in this city during the same year, at the age of sixty-six years. A man of fine judgment, scholarly mind and broad mental endowments, his citizenship was of value to this locality, and his work as correspondent for various San Francisco papers gave adequate representation to this section in the cosmopolitan dailies. As a Republican he took a leading part in national and state campaigns. In religion he was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was active in the San Joaquin Society of California Pioneers and had a wide acquaintance among the pioneers, having traveled much throughout this state. Among his most influential friends was Captain Weber, with whom he was intimate for years before his death. On coming to Stockton he bought a house on Fremont street, but later moved to Main street, occupying a residence where the curiosity shop now stands.

As previously stated, the eldest child of Mr. Tam was Josephine, born at Macon county, Mo., while he was an instructor in Boonville College. The second daughter, Amelia, married B. F. Rogers (at one time chief of police of Stockton), and died in 1887. The third daughter, Julia, is the widow of Russell A. Myers, of San Jose. The eldest son, James Henry, died in childhood. The fourth daughter, Mrs. Augusta Richards, is the wife of a physician in Santa Cruz. The second son, Judge Joseph H. Tam, of Klondyke, was for years a prominent lawyer and jurist in San Francisco. The youngest son, John T., died in 1898 in Stockton. The sons and daughters were reared in California and received excellent advantages in local schools. The eldest daughter has been twice married. Her first husband, David J. Martin, came to California in 1854 and later gained success in the sheep business. Fraternally he was prominent in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. At his death, December 14, 1902, at the age of sixty-eight, he left five children, namely: David S., an employe of the street-car company in Oakland; Helen, who is the wife of William Tuttle, of Reno, Nev.; Arthur T., employed on the

street-railway in Oakland; Cora, who married C. J. St. Louis, and resides at Sacramento; and Avan Covert, who is connected with the Logan photograph gallery in Stockton. During 1905 Mrs. Martin became the wife of S. S. Stewart, a pioneer of 1864 in California and one of the early settlers of Stockton, where they now reside at No. 1328 East Washington street. The Stockton Presbyterian Church has in Mrs. Stewart an active worker and generous contributor, and her activities are further increased by membership in the Auxiliary of Pioneers and the Daughters of Rebekah.

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#### AMOS G. SHIPPEE.

Pleasantly located in San Joaquin county, not far from Stockton, Amos G. Shippee has here been engaged in the cattle business for about thirty-three years, and in his free and independent life has met with marked success. His home and its surroundings are creditable to his industry and enterprise, everything being kept in good repair and at all points indicating the supervision of an intelligent and able man.

A native of Rhode Island, Mr. Shippee was born in East Greenwich December 3, 1861, the son of Isaac and Frances (Gardiner) Shippee. The father was also a native of Rhode Island, where he followed farming throughout the greater part of his life, a calling in which he was especially successful. The boyhood and school days of Amos G. Shippee were passed in his native city, East Greenwich, and after leaving school he continued on the home farm taking an interested part in advancing his father's business until 1876. At this time, although he was only fifteen years of age, he started out alone to come to the west, and upon reaching California, made his way at once to Stockton, where an uncle, L. U. Shippee, was engaged in the stock business.

An association of the two then formed continued amicably and to the profit of each until brought to a close by the death of the elder man in 1896. After the death of his relative Amos G. Shippee continued in the stock business alone, selecting a ranch in San Joaquin county in close proximity to Stockton, which comprised eight hundred acres of excellent land for stock-raising purposes. This he has well stocked with horses and cattle, making a specialty of the latter, however, buying and selling cattle and supplying feeders for ranchers in all parts of the state. His principal market, however, is San Francisco.

The marriage of Mr. Shippee occurred in 1892 and united him with Miss Harriet Jolly, who was, like himself, a native of New England, the daughter of John Jolly, one of the pioneers to California in the famous year of 1849. Mr. Shippee and his wife have a comfortable residence in Stockton, at No. 247 West Fremont street, where they entertain their many friends, for both are popular in social and fraternal circles in the city. Mr. Shippee is identified with the Odd Fellows order, holding membership in Truth Lodge No. 55, and in his political sympathies he is a Republican. Among those who know him best Mr. Shippee is recognized as a man of ability and fair judgment, being conservative as well as successful in his business affairs, and his honesty and straightforward dealings are also proverbial.

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### JOHN CUNNINGHAM HOULT.

Inventive genius in a high degree was a characteristic of this pioneer of the '50s and, had it been his fortune to live in a manufacturing region at a somewhat later period of our nation's history, undoubtedly he would have attained remarkable financial success; even in the midst of unfavorable circumstances he won a large measure of

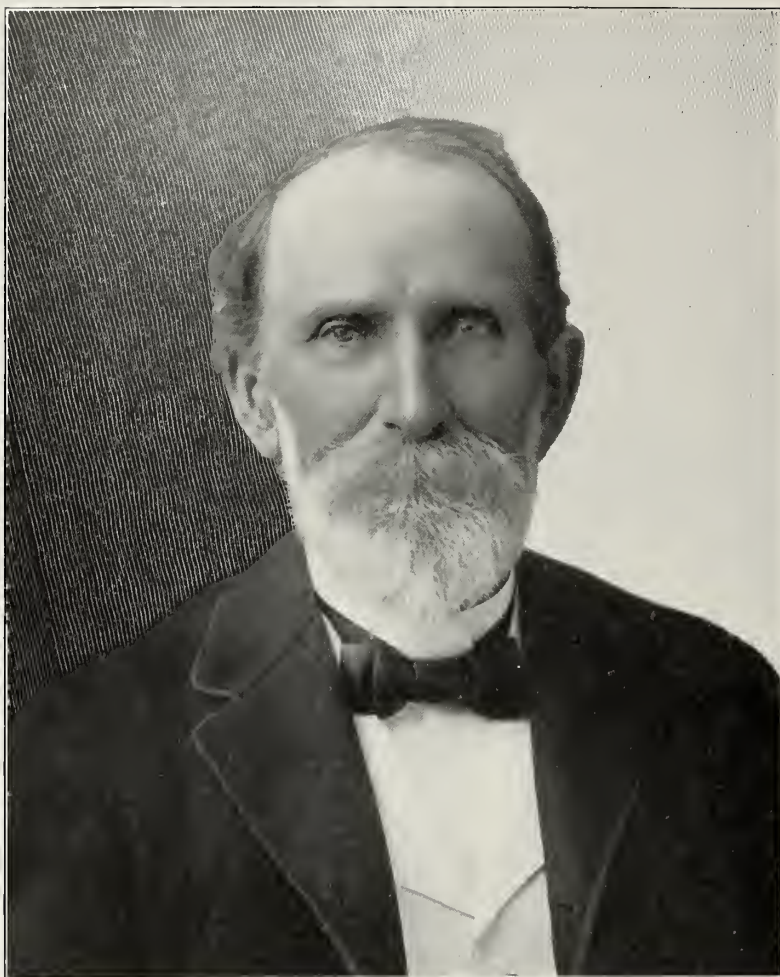
success and established an industry that gave added prominence to the business enterprises of Stockton during an early day. The old commonwealth of Virginia was his native place and he was born October 26, 1832, in Marion county, which is now a part of West Virginia. Few advantages brightened his boyhood days. Early he became inured to labor. At an age when collegiate advantages would have made easier his later years, he was forced to take up the burden of self-support and also aid others of the family, which he did by means of following the blacksmith's trade.

A tedious but uneventful voyage by way of Cape Horn brought Mr. Hoult to California early in the '50s. His first location was twelve miles east of Stockton on the Sonora road, where for several years he carried on a blacksmith shop. Shortly after settling here he bought eight hundred acres of land and began its improvement and cultivation, making a specialty of the raising of grain. He was a man of keen, thoughtful intelligence, and he soon ascertained that grain-raising was unprofitable here on account of no facilities for harvesting. The existing system rendered impossible any profits for the farmer. Studying the matter carefully, he conceived the idea of building a combined harvester, as that machine is now known. The completion of the task was one of great difficulty, owing to lack of necessary tools yet he persevered, and in 1876 he was able to use his new invention in harvesting eight hundred acres of grain, which he did without taking the machine from the field.

As the first successful operation of the harvester had taken place during the year of the great Centennial at Philadelphia, Mr. Hoult named it in honor of that event, and for years the Centennial combined harvester was the only successful machine of the kind in the United States. During the winter of 1883, having previously greatly improved the original invention, he began the manufacture of harvesters in Stockton, and continued the business until March of 1892, when the works were destroyed by fire. Upon being rebuilt, the plant was operated by his three sons.







*Wm H. Pile*

D. J., W. J., and J. F., and the sale of the machines continued until the year 1896, when the world-wide financial stringency caused a cessation of business activities.

Possessing wide information and keen mental endowments, the advice of Mr. Hoult was sought often by friends, and his integrity was so well established that those who knew him regarded his word as equal to a bond. His death occurred at Stockton March 9, 1905, and was mourned by family and friends, to whom he had endeared himself by his kindly disposition and unfailing generosity. In 1854 he married Miss Hannah Higgins, and of their union nine children were born who still survive, namely: Mrs. Elizabeth Toothman, of Watson; Mrs. Susanna Straight, of Mannington, Marion county, W. Va.; Thomas, David, William and Frank, and the Misses Ellen, Lizzie and Margaret, all of Stockton.

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#### WILLIAM HENRY PILE.

Innumerable hardships and many privations filled the early years of William Henry Pile, but now in the twilight of his useful existence he is surrounded by the comforts he worked so incessantly to secure; and, strong in the friendship of old friends and the associates of years, he is passing his declining days in a peaceful retirement well merited by a lifetime of activity. His early recollections cluster around a farmhouse in Pennsylvania, where he made his home with his grandparents. His father had died before he was born and afterward the mother married again, giving out her three sons to the service of others. The youngest of the three was taken by the grandparents, but they were very poor and the struggle for a livelihood demanded the assistance of every member of the family. Farming in those days was particularly laborious,

for modern machinery had not come into use and only the most primitive implements were available. The hardships of manual labor had not been lightened by improved machinery.

The birth of William Henry Pile occurred at Stone Creek, Somerset county, Pa., March 9, 1832. While still a small boy he showed that he possessed an inventive turn of mind and made bob-sleds and wheelbarrows for the family use. Afterward he invented an apple-peeler that became popular among the people of the neighborhood. Seeing his aptitude for such things his grandparents, who were unable to give him an education, decided to apprentice him to the mechanic's trade, and arrangements were entered into when he reached the proper age for apprenticeship. Unfortunately his co-workers immediately began to abuse and ridicule him. Unable to bear the treatment, he ran away and returned home after only one week in the shop. No sympathy was given him at home, for he was then eighteen and the old people felt that he should make his own way in the world even amidst the hardest surroundings. However, a miller to whom he told his troubles became a warm champion and advised him to learn the milling business, offering him a place in his own mill, and this he accepted temporarily, but all the time he was in constant fear of being taken back to his former place of work by the sheriff, for in those days the laws were very strict in regard to an apprentice serving out his full time.

The savings of months enabled Mr. Pile to attend Allegheny College for a short time and later he taught school at \$10 per month, then began to clerk in a mercantile establishment at Meadville, Pa. Gold had been discovered in California and for a considerable period he had been anxious to try his luck in the far west, but it was not until 1854 that the opportunity came. During that year he left Meadville and traversed the country to Independence, Mo., where he outfitted for the trip across the plains. His party consisted of four men, equipped with three yoke of oxen, four horses, wagons, cooking utensils and provisions for a journey of six



months. The first part of the trip was uneventful. Great herds of buffalo could be seen on the plains. After a time the Indians became numerous and the little party had several encounters with them after they had left the sink of the Humboldt. At one time Mr. Pile was captured by the savages, but he managed to escape without being injured at their hands. However, in other respects he was less fortunate. For a long time he was ill with the mountain fever and for hundreds of miles he was carried by his comrades when he was in a delirious condition. Their kindly care enabled him to regain his strength, although he was still weak when he arrived in California. Their provisions became exhausted. Their outfit had been reduced to one yoke of oxen and one horse. About this time two of the company left and proceeded alone. When they reached the Sierras several successive heavy snow storms made it very difficult for the men to travel, but they did the best possible under the circumstances and after hardships that would have killed many men they finally reached the gold mines.

When Mr. Pile reached California his emaciated frame bore mute testimony to long illness, while his clothing indicated the hardships endured. A pair of Indian moccasins protected his feet and on his head was a dilapidated wool hat. A vest, originally white, and trousers made out of tent covers completed his costume. However, his appearance aroused no comment, as the people were accustomed to sights that would have been unique to the eyes of an easterner. It had been the intention of Mr. Pile to remain in California only long enough to get the money necessary for embarking in business in Meadville, Pa., but as he traveled over the country he became more and more impressed with the richness of the soil, and he decided to make his permanent home here. Eventually he bought a raw tract of land on Roberts' island, twenty-two miles distant by river from Stockton, and in 1873 he moved his family to the new location. The only way to reach the land was by boat. Soon he had built a levee and during the first

season he cleared two acres, on which he raised five hundred and nine sacks of onions, besides other vegetables for family use. The soil proved well adapted to grain and vegetables and his success was encouraging, but he met with some discouragements, notably the great flood of 1884, which destroyed all the crops of that year. During his long residence in San Joaquin county he has witnessed the development of the farming property and the advancement in the invention of agricultural implements to meet the demand of the ranchers. In addition to agriculture he has had interests in the mining of gold.

The first marriage of Mr. Pile took place January 21, 1863, and united him with Miss Elizabeth Caroline Parkinson, who was born in Macomb, McDonough county, Ill., and died on the home ranch March 18, 1892. The present wife of Mr. Pile, whom he married September 18, 1893, was formerly Mrs. Frances Caine. Of his first marriage there were born six children. The three sons living are Edgar and Oscar (twins) and George Arthur. The only daughter, Eva N., married Andrew J. Lund, who resides in Stockton and is well known as a prosperous farmer and progressive citizen. Ever since he became a voter Mr. Pile has given his support to the Republican party, but he has not been active in political affairs and never was an aspirant for office, preferring to devote himself to his ranch and home. In fraternal relations he is an Odd Fellow and a charter member of Ione Lodge No. 51, with the work of which he always has been in keen sympathy.

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#### CHARLES M. JACKSON.

It is scarcely possible to enumerate any enterprises inaugurated within the past twenty-five years for the commercial development of Stock-

ton, that have lacked the wise counsel and enthusiastic co-operation of Charles M. Jackson, one of the leading business men of the city. While for years he was known chiefly as the founder and senior member of the well-known hardware firm of Jackson & Earle, his identification with this important business by no means represented the limit of his activity. In every sense of the word he is a man of affairs. For the development of growing industries he is well qualified by nature and by education. Experience has ripened his judgment and increased his efficiency, so that his rank among Stockton's business men is deservedly high.

Born in the city of San Francisco November 8, 1855, Charles M. Jackson is a son of Charles and Mary (Severence) Jackson, natives of New York and pioneers of the Pacific coast. The early recollections of Mr. Jackson cluster around frontier scenes that characterized the cosmopolitan city of his birth. In its schools he received a training for the activities of the business world and after leaving school he served an apprenticeship with the firm of Holbrook, Merrill & Stetson, leading hardware merchants and plumbers of San Francisco. During the eight years of his association with the firm he gained a thorough knowledge of the business and was well qualified for the responsibilities which his duties involved. Upon starting out for himself in 1882 he settled in Stockton and founded the firm of Jackson & Earle, dealers in hardware, plumbing and general supplies. This is the oldest hardware business, with one exception, in the county of San Joaquin and it remained under the same management until 1905, when the retirement of Mr. Earle left his partner the sole proprietor of the large and important retail business, until January 1, 1909, when he also retired.

The marriage of Mr. Jackson in 1905 united him with Miss Harriet R. West, who, like himself, was born, reared and educated in California. In politics he always has been a strong Republican, and fraternally holds membership with the San Joaquin Lodge of Masons. Identified with many of the prominent enterprises of the county,

he holds the office of vice-president in the Samson Iron Works, is also vice-president of the Stockton Fire & Enamel Brick Company, and is president of the Lightner gold mine, situated at Angels Camp, Calaveras county. Twenty or more years ago he assisted in the organization of the Stockton Building & Loan Association, of which he now acts as vice-president. In addition he has owned interests in the Murphy Ice & Fuel Company of Stockton.

An important industry, about to be established in Stockton, owes much to the firm support of Mr. Jackson. This is the flax factory, a site for which has been chosen (1908), and the machinery to be used in its operation is now in process of construction at Los Angeles. The factory, when completed and equipped, will be the only one of its kind in the United States, and will utilize machinery for work hitherto done entirely by hand. The devices to be installed in the plant represent a new invention that it is believed will revolutionize the flax industry in the state. Several thousand acres of flax will be raised annually in San Joaquin county and the product will be sold to the factory, where it will be converted into yarn, thread and rope. When once the industry shall have been established upon a solid basis, it will be of material benefit to the growth of Stockton and the surrounding country. Mr. Jackson is also a director of the Western States Casualty and Insurance Company of San Francisco.

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#### FRANKLIN S. HOLLEY.

In a history of San Joaquin county, with its many prominent citizens and business men, the name of Franklin S. Holley is deserving of special mention, not alone for what he has accomplished along agricultural lines, but more particularly for his later accomplishments in the field

of invention. With many years to his credit as a breeder of livestock, both in the east and in San Joaquin county, he relinquished this to become associated with the Holt Manufacturing Company as a traveling salesman. His intimate association with agricultural conditions and needs during a period of fifteen years led to his invention of the Holley Junior side-hill harvester, which is a self-leveling machine and specially adapted to the hilly and uneven country of California. The Holley Junior, for such is the name of the harvester, is being warmly received by the ranchers throughout the states of Washington and Oregon, as is attested by the large sales of the implement, on which Mr. Holley receives a liberal royalty.

Of New England birth and parentage, Franklin S. Holley was born in Cornwall, Vt., March 18, 1843, a son of Trueman B. and Juliette (Sanford) Holley. As his father was a farmer Mr. Holley was early initiated in the duties which fall to the lot of the farmer's son, alternating with these duties attendance at the district school and academies in the vicinity of his early home. The breaking out of the Civil war disturbed the quiet routine of his life and at the age of nineteen, in 1862, he enlisted his services in the army for three years in the First United States sharp-shooters under Colonel Berdan, the regiment being made up of men from different states. Mr. Holley participated in all of the important battles with his regiment. He was with General Hancock's second corps and also with General Sickles' third corps at various times, being very close to the latter general when he suffered the loss of his leg at Gettysburg and saw him carried from the field. Mr. Holley was twice wounded. After his honorable discharge from the service he returned to the home-  
stead farm in Vermont and devoted his attention to the breeding of thoroughbred live-stock, a business which he followed for many years with exceptional success. Relinquishing his interests in the east in 1883, he came that year to California, locating in Stockton, where he soon became interested in importing thoroughbred stock.

About this time also he became interested in and identified with the Holt Manufacturing Company as traveling salesman. During this time he also continued the management of his stock business. In order to concentrate his time and attention upon the perfection of his inventions on the Holley Junior harvester he gave up the stock business finally, and in 1904 he received the patent upon the completed machine. This is now being manufactured by the Holt Manufacturing Company and is having a wide sale. He is also the inventor of the Pony Special harvester.

In Vermont, October 30, 1878, Mr. Holley was united in marriage with Miss Jennie M. Maynard, a native of New York state, and two children have been born of their marriage: Stanley E. and Maynard, both residents of Stockton. In the city and county where Mr. Holley has made his home for the past twenty-five years he has gathered about him many friends and well-wishers, this being especially true in the two organizations of which he is a member, the Grand Army of the Republic and the Masonic order.

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#### SUMNER A. WITHINGTON.

A life of adventure on sea and on land gave to Captain Withington a fund of varied information that made him an exceptionally interesting and instructive conversationalist. After a stirring life that gave him an intimate acquaintance with many lands and different peoples, he settled down to a life of domestic comfort and had the great joy of celebrating his golden wedding, when he and his wife told of their early experiences in the west. He had come hither in 1864 and two years later she joined him at the mines of Eldorado county. The country was in a primitive condition. Neighbors were few and the nearest doctor was more than twen-







*J. H. Kroyer.*

ty miles away. In the years that followed they witnessed the development of the country, the building up of towns and the improving of ranches, until the region presented a pleasant contrast to its appearance at the time of their settlement.

Born at Wellesley, Mass., October 11, 1828, Captain Withington went to sea in early boyhood and worked his way up from the most humble position on a whaling vessel to the rank of officer. Three times he sailed around the world from New Bedford, each voyage taking three years, and during these whaling expeditions he frequently visited ports on the Pacific coast, becoming acquainted with California long before gold had been discovered. On landing from one of his trips at the end of a long cruise he learned that the Civil war had just been declared and at once he offered his services to the Union in the navy. Being accepted, he was assigned to a warship and remained as acting master until the close of his term of service.

During the gold excitement of 1849, the Captain's brother-in-law, W. R. Davis, a native of Falmouth, Mass., had come to California by way of Cape Horn, and had tried his luck in the mines of Eldorado county. His favorable letters induced the Captain to come here in 1864 on being honorably discharged from the navy, and for eighteen years he engaged in mining with varied success. The next ten years were spent in San Francisco, where he held several appointive offices and maintained a warm interest in political affairs. From the organization of the Republican party he was a stanch believer in its principles and voted for its men and measures at all elections. On leaving San Francisco he came to Stockton and here made his home until he died, March 25, 1908. He is survived by his widow, who bore the maiden name of Lydia C. Davis, and whom he married in Falmouth, Mass., during March of 1857. Mrs. Withington was a daughter of parents who celebrated their golden wedding in Massachusetts and who were honored residents of Falmouth. In the Withington family there were two children who attained mature years, the son, Charles W., being now

engaged in business in San Francisco. The daughter, Carrie, is the wife of F. L. Kincaid, of Stockton. During his last years Captain Withington was a member of the Stockton Post, G. A. R., and all through the period of his residence in California he maintained a warm interest in post affairs, enjoying the reunions of the boys in blue and contributing to the happiness of such occasions by his narratives of encounters at sea during the progress of the war.

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#### JOHN M. KROYER.

One of the most thriving industries in Stockton is the Samson Iron Works, a name which is well known throughout the Pacific coast country on account of the undeviating reliability of its product, the Samson gas engine. The originator and proprietor of this thriving plant is one of Stockton's younger generation of business men, John M. Kroyer.

Of foreign birth and parentage, Mr. Kroyer was born in Denmark July 6, 1869, and until he was seventeen years of age continued to make his home in his native land. During this time he made the most of the educational opportunities which the schools of his home town had to offer and prepared himself for his life work by learning the machinist's trade. With this as his chief asset he set out for America in 1887, and in Chicago secured employment with Crane Company, one of the largest iron manufacturing industries in the country. After remaining with the latter company for a year and a half he came to the Pacific coast, going first to Seattle and Tacoma, Wash., but soon afterward coming to California, where his interests have since been centered. The first year and a half that he spent in the state was in the employ of the Chico Iron Works, after which, in the spring



of 1889, he located in Stockton. Before establishing his present industry he worked in a number of similar establishments, among them the Holt Company, the Globe Iron Works, and still later had charge of the Matteson & Williamson machine shop. A subsequent position was with the Haines-Covey Company, having charge of the gas engine department. After leaving the employ of this company he spent over a year in experimenting on a new gas engine. While he was successful in perfecting the machine according to his ideas, he found that it was too expensive to manufacture and therefore abandoned it. The idea of becoming proprietor of a similar plant had been forming in his mind for some time and on January 1, 1898, he established the Samson Iron Works, which during the ten years of its existence has grown to large proportions, and of which Mr. Kroyer is president and general manager.

Mr. Kroyer's first marriage occurred in Stockton August 28, 1893, and his son Clifton was born June 15, 1894. His second marriage occurred September 3, 1908, uniting him with Miss Grace Lease, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Lease of Lodi, Cal. Fraternally Mr. Kroyer is identified with the Elks and with the Masonic organization. Personally he is a self-made man in the best sense of the word, having come to this country when little more than a lad, and during the years which have passed has become one of the most expert machinists and manufacturers in the west.

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#### RICHARD CONDY.

In the death of Richard Condy, which occurred November 3, 1903, Stockton lost one of her enterprising business men, a musician of more than ordinary ability, as well as one of her early pio-

neers, his residence here dating back to the days when the gold excitement witnessed the influx of settlers from all over the world. Mr. Condy was a native of England, born in Liskeard, Cornwall county, in 1827, and up to the age of twenty-one he continued to make his home in his native country. In the meantime he was fitting himself for the future by learning the tailor's trade, an equipment which stood him in good stead when, as a young man of twenty-one, he came to the United States and for a time followed his trade in Philadelphia, Pa. The mines in the west, however, had been the attraction which brought him to this country, and hither he came in 1852, going directly to Mariposa county. While in Philadelphia he had married, but he came west alone, not wishing to bring his wife until he had been able to prepare a home for her; while he was in Mariposa county, however, he sent for his wife to join him. He remained there only about a year, when, in 1853, he came to Stockton, and from then until his death he continued to make this city his home.

When he was a mere child Mr. Condy displayed a remarkable precocity for music, which was fostered and encouraged by his parents, to the end that he became an accomplished musician at an early age. Wherever he went his talent was recognized and was in immediate demand. This was true while he was in Philadelphia, where he taught music in addition to following his trade. His coming to Stockton in 1853 was due to the fact that he had been sent for to instruct a band of musicians which had recently been organized. Not one of the members was able to read music by note and it was necessary to select a leader who was able to teach them the rudiments of music as well as lead them. This happy combination they found in Mr. Condy, who at the time was the only man in the state who could read music. He was waited on by a committee, who induced him to come to Stockton, and in 1853 he became director of the first brass band ever organized in California. Under the name of the Stockton Cornet Band the organization grew in size and became known all over the state, the

pioneer musicians being in great demand for all occasions. As an E-flat cornet player Mr. Condry was unexcelled, and as a flutist, had he made that instrument his specialty, few would have excelled him.

While Mr. Condry was greatly admired for his musical ability, it was for the nobility of his character and his determination to be just and true, even though it meant the loss of money and friends, that made him most deeply loved and respected. Principle and honor were paramount with him, and no bribe was alluring enough to swerve him one iota from what he knew to be just and honorable. Throughout his life he had abstained from the use of tobacco or liquor in any form, in fact he was a strong Prohibitionist, and was one of the twenty who first voted that ticket. At the time of the call to arms Mr. Condry joined the Third California Cavalry Regiment as band leader and served faithfully until his band was discharged. In memory of his days spent on the battlefield he was a member of Rawlins Post, G. A. R. He was also a member of the Odd Fellows, having joined the order in 1869, and his funeral was conducted under the auspices of Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F., of which he was a member.

Mr. Condry had been twice married, his first marriage occurring in Philadelphia and uniting him with Elizabeth Bray. Four children were born of this marriage, Herbert J., Fred C., Joseph H. and Edward B., all of whom have inherited their father's talent for music. Some time after the death of his first wife Mr. Condry married Mrs. Lizzie H. DeLong. Her father, Alvin N. Fisher, was one of the early pioneers to the state, coming by way of the Isthmus of Panama in 1849. He located first in Sacramento, but later came to Stockton and here rounded out many years of usefulness. By trade he was a carpenter, but after locating in California he established a transfer business in connection with two brothers, in time adding to this several stage lines running from Stockton to various prominent points. He was a well-known and influen-

tial citizen in the early days of Stockton, and in 1855 was honored with election as mayor, he being the seventh to fill this seat of honor.

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#### HOLT MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

As one of the important factors in the manufacturing industry of Stockton, a short resume of the history of The Holt Manufacturing Company will be of interest to the general reader.

In the year 1869 Charles H. Holt founded in San Francisco a wholesale house devoted to the importation of hardwood lumber, wagon and carriage wheels. This business so prospered that in 1871 he entered into partnership with his three brothers, W. Harrison Holt, A. Frank Holt and Benjamin Holt, all from the city of Concord, N. H., and the association became known as Holt Brothers.

In 1885 W. Harrison Holt sold his stock to his brothers, and in 1889 Charles H. Holt and Benjamin Holt purchased the interest of the estate of A. Frank Holt, then deceased.

In the early part of 1883 Holt Brothers realized the necessity of a wheel built in California, and with that idea in view established at Stockton The Stockton Wheel Company, the management of which was vested in Benjamin Holt, who had recently come from the east.

The Stockton Wheel Company occupied a single building on the northeast corner of Aurora and Church streets, the present site of the main office of The Holt Manufacturing Company.

Two years after the foundation of The Stockton Wheel Company they decided to take up the manufacture of combined harvesters. These machines had been constructed previously, the power being transmitted almost entirely by gears. Seeing the demand for a more economical and more easily repaired transmission, Benjamin Holt ap-

plied the idea of a link-belt drive to harvesters, and this, more than any other feature, has made the Holt harvester so successful.

The Holt harvester has been a success from the start and at the present time there are more than twenty-five hundred of these machines in actual use. Horse harvesters require from eighteen to thirty-two animals, and with the aid of four men, can cut, thresh, clean, re-clean and sack a strip from fourteen to twenty-four feet wide, making the capacity in acres per day from twenty to fifty.

In 1892 Benjamin Holt, who has always been the mechanical head of the company, made the first successful side-hill combined harvester. The side-hill combined harvester is built to level up on a twenty-eight degree slope, and thus the farmer has been able to cultivate land which had before been considered worthless.

In the year 1890 the company took up the manufacture of traction engines, and have since built the most powerful and successful traction engines ever built anywhere in the world. One of their freighting engines is hauling loads of forty-three tons up a twenty per cent grade in Tuolumne county.

On the advent of their successful traction engine they conceived the idea of a steam harvester. The steam harvester is built along the same lines as a horse harvester, and is pulled across the field by means of a large traction engine. With the aid of seven men and four horses the farmer is able to cut, thresh, clean, re-clean and sack in one operation a strip thirty-four feet wide, harvesting from seventy-five to one hundred and twenty-five acres per day.

Their steam plowing outfits followed somewhat later and these successful rigs have been able to plow, seed and harrow in one operation a strip twenty-five feet wide, covering from fifty to seventy-five acres per day. This outfit requires but four men and two horses to haul fuel and water.

The business of The Stockton Wheel Company was carried on under this name until the year 1892, when it was incorporated as The Holt Manufacturing Company, with the following officers: Ben-

jamin Holt, president; Charles H. Holt, vice-president; George H. Cowie, treasurer; G. L. Dickenson, secretary.

The Stockton Wheel Company was very successful in the manufacture of wood hub and Sarven patent wheels. The material for these wheels was brought out in carload lots from the east and allowed to become thoroughly dry and seasoned before being worked up into wheel stock, this being necessary on account of the long, dry seasons in California. The wheel factory is still a very important part of The Holt Manufacturing Company.

The death of Charles H. Holt, in July, 1905, removed the financial and business head of the corporation. For thirty years, in good times and bad, his sound judgment and clear headed business ability had carried the company steadily onward. His place was taken by his son, C. Parker Holt.

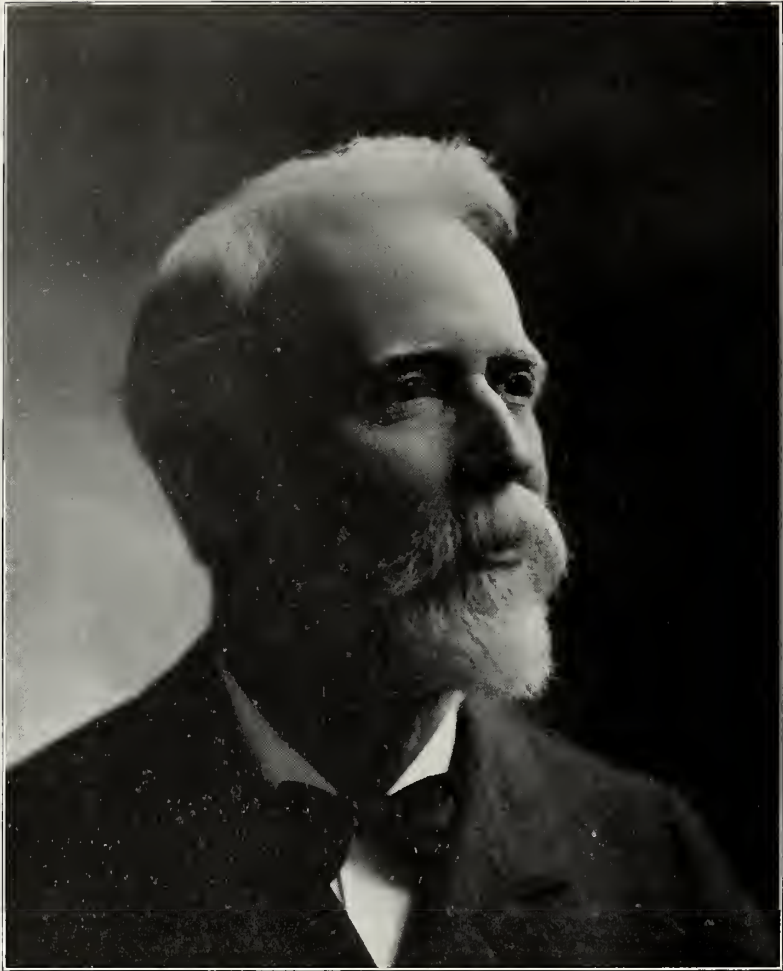
In December, 1906, Benjamin Holt bought out the interest of the estate of Charles H. Holt, and Ben C. Holt and Pliny E. Holt, sons of W. H. Holt, became vice-presidents of the company.

In 1903 Benjamin Holt conceived the idea of an endless belt platform wheel to replace the ordinary round wheel on traction engines and combined harvesters, when these machines were to operate on soft or sandy land. The company has since carried on, under the direction of Mr. Holt, some very extensive experiments with this type of wheel, and at the present time there are three successful steam outfits of this type in operation. There are twenty-eight of the gasoline Caterpillar traction engines at work on the Mojave Desert and adjacent mountains, hauling rock and supplies for the construction of the Los Angeles aqueduct.

The Holt Manufacturing Company has been very successful in the manufacture of boilers and tanks, the boiler shop being exceptionally well equipped to handle all kinds of sheet metal work. Stockton Improved and Fresno scrapers are manufactured and shipped out of here in carload lots. The hardware, iron and steel departments, which are entirely separate from the manufactur-







*L E Cross*

ing departments, handle each year a large amount of wholesale business throughout the entire Pacific coast.

The northern interests of the company have been under the charge and able management of Ben C. Holt for a number of years, he maintaining offices and store room both in Walla Walla and Spokane, Wash.

In January, 1909, Pliny E. Holt and George H. Cowie retired from the active management of the business. Their places as vice-president and treasurer were filled by C. Parker Holt and C. A. Bachelder, who maintain an executive and purchasing office in San Francisco.

Since 1885 the company has steadily grown; a great amount of land has been acquired each year and the number of buildings increased, until the plant now covers sixteen acres of ground. The manufacturing end is divided into nineteen distinct and separate departments, employing about three hundred and fifty men. Starting with a capital of but \$3,000, the business has steadily grown, until The Holt Manufacturing Company alone, irrespective of its associated companies, has a business considerably in excess of \$1,000,000 per year.

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#### LESTER E. CROSS, M. D.

In point of years of active professional labors Dr. Cross is the oldest physician in Stockton with the single exception of Dr. Asa Clark. Upon removing to California in 1873 he settled in Stockton and rented an office which he continued to occupy for a period of twenty-five years. Finally during 1908 he removed into the Elks' building, where he has a handsomely-fitted suite, including a large reception hall, and private offices for himself, his son and his brother, all of whom are prominently identified with

the medical interests of the city. As a physician he has always shown great skill in diagnosis and corresponding accuracy in treatment. Many difficult cases confided to his care have responded rapidly to his treatment and thus added testimony to his skill.

The doctor's father, Lester Cross, a native of New York, received exceptional advantages in youth and became a resourceful and able lawyer, being admitted to the bar in New York. There he married Miss Alma Sloane and there, in the city of Lockport, a son was born to whom was given the name of Lester E., and whose birth occurred March 24, 1842. During 1848 the father removed to Michigan and engaged in the practice of law at Port Huron, but during 1856 he went to Saginaw, the same state, where he became known as one of the most able attorneys in the town. Upon retiring from an active professional career he came to California in 1876 and settled at Stockton, where he remained until his death in 1890. His wife passed away some years ago.

Upon having completed the course of study in the grammar and high schools at Saginaw, Mich., Lester E. Cross took up medical studies and matriculated in the Homeopathic Medical College of St. Louis, Mo., from which institution he was graduated in 1873. After a short experience as a Missouri practitioner he went to Florida and continued in practice at Pensacola. From there he came to California, where he has resided for more than one-quarter of a century. Meanwhile he has become actively identified with the San Joaquin Medical Society, the American Institute of Homeopathy and the California State Medical Society. The principles of homeopathy have in him an ardent disciple and his personal success has been also a tribute to his favored department of medical science.

At the outbreak of the Civil war Dr. Cross was a young man living in Michigan and he at once offered his services to the government. On the organization of Company E. Twenty-third Michigan Infantry, he was chosen second lieutenant and soon afterward received promotion to the rank of first lieutenant, resigning in 1863, owing



to ill-health. Always stanch in his loyal devotion to the nation, he is equally devoted to the welfare of California and no one maintains a deeper interest than he in the progress of his chosen home town. Here he is the possessor of valuable real estate, including a comfortable residence at No. 207 Acacia street. During December of 1866 he was united in marriage with Miss Imogene Lyon, a native of New York state. Four children came to bless their union. The eldest son, Henry N. Cross, M. D., a graduate of Cooper Medical College in San Francisco, has engaged in practice for some years, principally in Stockton, and has performed some remarkable surgical operations. The only daughter, Elizabeth H., is the wife of Dr. Frederick P. Clark, superintendent of the state hospital at Stockton. George L. is engaged in ranching. Walter A. is superintendent of a ranch of sixty-five hundred acres on Cross island. A portion of this large estate is under cultivation, but the greater part is used for the pasturage of cattle and draft horses, which business is conducted on an extensive scale upon these ample grounds.

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### JAMES JOURNEY.

This pioneer of 1849, now living retired from business activities in his comfortable home at No. 1028 North Commerce street, Stockton, was born on Staten Island, New York, April 22, 1825, being the son of David Journey, a soldier in the war of 1812 and by trade a blacksmith. In lineage he traces his ancestry to France, but several generations have lived upon American soil and have displayed the utmost loyalty to our government and its institutions. Under the careful oversight of his father, he learned the trade of a blacksmith and at the age of twenty started out as a journeyman. For one year he worked in

Alabama. Later he followed his trade at Galveston, Tex., and thence went to Brownsville, where he and a brother, Stephen, were among the earliest white settlers. They started the first brickyard in the new town and had an order from the United States government for brick, but could not fill the order on account of lack of wagons. In meeting the emergency they bought a government wagon at a sale and used the same until the two hind wheels were stolen. By a strange coincidence, when they were traveling to California later, they encountered a party of Indians and found in their possession the two lost wheels.

As members of a party of twenty-four men, the Journey brothers outfitted at Brownsville for the trip to California shortly after the discovery of gold in the west. The Mexican war had closed a short time before, but the Mexicans were still hostile, and the plan of travel through their country to Mazatlan involved grave dangers. When they had gone as far as Durango the Apaches attacked them and endeavored to drive them back. In the conflict Stephen was wounded in the eye and this delayed the brothers for two weeks, James carrying the wounded man to Santiago for treatment and later taking him to Durango. It had been the fortune of the party to capture from the Indians fourteen Mexican children who had been stolen, and the return of these children delighted the people to such an extent that every courtesy was extended to the Americans.

Finally, by passage on a sailing vessel from the Mexican coast, the brothers reached San Francisco and from there came to Stockton, thence proceeding to the Jamestown mines, where they remained during the winter, meeting with unusual difficulties on account of the heavy rains. Eventually they found gold and felt repaid for their arduous efforts. Next they tried their luck at Mariposa, where they had many hardships and discouragements. From there James came to Stockton, a canvas town crude in appearance and insignificant in dimensions. Setting up a camp on the Mormon channel, he secured em-

ployment shoeing horses and during boom times made \$16 per day. Soon he was joined by his brother and the two continued together for a time, but eventually the brother returned to the east and soon afterward died.

Grass on the Calaveras was free to all, but hay was high-priced, and James Journey began to cut the grass and make hay, for which he was paid \$100 per ton. With the money thus made he bought a team of oxen and began to haul to the mines, using also for this purpose a team of mules he had brought here with him. On selling his teams he opened a blacksmith shop at the present site of the Eagle drug store and this he conducted personally at great profit. Meanwhile with Mr. Congdon he had bought property opposite the court house, built a corral, and established a livery stable and hay yard, also opened a hotel. Mr. Congdon carried on the hay yard, Mr. Phelps conducted the hotel, Mr. Journey devoting himself to the blacksmith's shop, and the three made large profits between 1852 and 1854, when Mr. Phelps sold out and Mr. Journey returned east to be married. During his absence Mr. Congdon disposed of all their holdings, or put mortgages on such land as could not be sold, and disappeared with the money, so that when Mr. Journey returned he found that he had practically nothing left out of his large holdings. Going out to the mortgaged ranch on the Calaveras, he succeeded in paying the mortgage off in two years, and then returned to the blacksmith's trade in Stockton. Five years later he left the shop for a ranch of three hundred acres on the Copperopolis road.

After having improved the land Mr. Journey sold the same and purchased other land, continuing in this way until his final retirement in 1901, since which time he has made his home in Stockton. In the early days he bought the first harvester in Sacramento county and this he used on large areas of leased land where he conducted extensive grain operations. While in the shop he made the first large wagons used in the town of Stockton. From the time of coming to this county he has been interested in movements for the bene-

fit of the people and the development of the ranches. As trustee of his district he had charge of the building of a schoolhouse on the Copperopolis road and contributed generously to the same. Politically he always supported Republican principles. In the early days of Stockton he served as a member of the Volunteer Hook and Ladder Company. He enjoys the distinction of being the oldest initiated member of Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., and always has maintained a warm interest in lodge work. Churches and charities have received such aid as his means permitted.

The golden wedding of James Journey, celebrated at Stockton in 1904, commemorated his marriage in 1854 to Miss Amanda M. Osborn, who was born in New York City in 1828 and came to California in 1855. They became the parents of six children, all born in California. One of these died in childhood and another at the age of twenty-five years. The eldest son, William E., is a prosperous farmer at New Hope. The only daughter, Mary, is the wife of G. C. March, and resides at Crockett, Contra Costa county. The second son, J. Walter, lives at Washington, Nevada county, and owns a home near the race tracks. The youngest son, Joseph G., is engaged in business at San Francisco.

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#### GEORGE SAMUEL LADD.

For a period covering only a little less than fifty years George Samuel Ladd was identified with the interests of Stockton, where he arrived January 14, 1853, and afterward continued to be associated with educational, real-estate and commercial enterprises until his death, April 25, 1902, at the family residence No. 927 North Eldorado street. Not only does this era cover almost the entire period of the American occupancy of Cali-



fornia, but in addition it represents the epoch of progress and development of the Pacific coast resources, which prior to the discovery of gold had been unknown to the world. Shortly after the memorable event that changed the entire subsequent history of California he started for this region, full of the courage and dauntless purpose of youth, ambitious to make his own way in the world, unmindful of hardships and perils by the way. His decision in leaving New England for the more fruitful regions of the west he never regretted, but on the other hand rejoiced that it was his privilege to aid in the upbuilding of this rich commonwealth.

Descended from an old family of New England, George Samuel Ladd was born in Danville, Vt., May 28, 1832, being a son of Seneca and Pamela (Estabrook) Ladd, and a brother of John S. and Ira W. Ladd, also pioneers of California. During boyhood he was sent to the seminary conducted by the New Hampshire conference at Sanborton Bridge and there he was fitting for college when he heard of the discovery of gold. At once all of his plans for the future were changed and he began to plan for the long journey to the new gold fields. With his father he took passage in 1851 on a vessel which made the trip by way of Cape Horn to San Francisco, where they landed after a tedious but uneventful voyage. Without any delay they started for the mines in Tuolumne county, where they met with fair success, but finally they returned to Danville, Vt., arriving in July of 1852.

A few months later George S. Ladd, accompanied by his youngest brother, Ira W., came to California by the Panama route, and reached Stockton, as previously mentioned, on the 14th of January, 1853. In addition to mining interests he became interested in the freighting and commission business with his brother, John S., and after closing out that concern he became a partner of George West and Sidney Newell in the manufacture and sale of products from the West vineyard. Meanwhile he had invested from time to time in land and had bought and sold farms in various counties of California as well

as in Oregon. The rise in land valuations had proved of benefit to him financially and enabled him to accumulate a considerable property. At the time of his death he left, in addition to his business, property in Stockton, land in Fresno and San Joaquin counties, and Oregon property. Fraternally he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which he joined in 1856, and at the time of his death he was connected with Stockton Lodge No. 11, and was a member of the Pioneers Society of San Joaquin county. In politics he voted with the Republican party. For three years he was a member of the city council of Stockton and under the administration of Governor Perkins he officiated as state commissioner of the Yosemite valley. For twenty years or more he was a member of the choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Stockton, and his wife still retains active identification with that denomination.

A record of the career of George Samuel Ladd would be incomplete were no mention made of his association with the educational development of his county and state. From early manhood he held a life certificate as a teacher and during his residence in Tuolumne county he served as a school trustee. In 1867 he was appointed superintendent of the schools of Stockton, and this position he held by appointment until the first election under the new charter, when he was duly elected to the office, holding the same until 1880. Under his administration the local schools were brought to a high standard of excellence. Systematic courses of study were adopted and everything was done to secure for the children the best possible advantages preparatory to their life duties. Perhaps no work he accomplished in the position was more important than that of recommending a revision of the school law and manual outlining the duties of pupils, teachers and superintendents, which recommendation was adopted.

The marriage of Mr. Ladd took place in Stockton May 28, 1856, and united him with Miss Abigail Bourland, a native of Arkansas, born January 30, 1840. Her parents, Alne and Rebecca (Cook) Bourland, were born, reared and







*Isaac Koch*

married in Alabama, but shortly after marriage they removed to Arkansas and settled at Fort Smith, where they remained for some years. During 1854 they started for California via the overland route and proceeded as far as Surprise valley without misfortune, but while camping there the wife and mother died of heart disease. The survivors arrived at Stockton September 22, 1854. The grandmother, Mrs. Abigail Bourland, attained the age of ninety-six years, and other members of the family also were spared to great ages.

Four children now living form the family of Mrs. Ladd. All are sons. The eldest, George Edwin, born May 11, 1857, married in Stockton November 26, 1884, Miss Mary Evaline Van Vlear, who was born in this city in 1860. They have two children, namely: Jeanette and Edwin Hubbard. The second son, Walter Eugene Ladd, born May 27, 1859, lives in Stockton and is a member of Truth Lodge, I. O. O. F. His marriage, February 5, 1885, united him with Miss Lucy Estella Ayres, who was born in San Joaquin county, December 9, 1862. Of their union three sons and one daughter are now living, namely: George Allen, the survivor of twin brothers; Walter E., Jr., Elmer A. and Juliette. The two youngest sons of the Ladd family are Joseph Marshall and Ira Bourland. Joseph M. Ladd was born December 31, 1864; he is a resident of Stockton, where, August 17, 1905, he married Louise Poppelwell, a native of England, but a resident of Stockton since she was five years of age. Ira B. Ladd was born May 28, 1868; since his graduation from Cooper Medical College he has been a practicing physician in Stockton. He married Mrs. Mollie E. (Grattan) Cross. The death of George S. Ladd came after he had passed through six strokes of apoplexy; the seventh proved fatal, bringing to a termination a career that had been filled with useful activities in behalf of his family and his home town. In his passing the city lost a citizen who had been ever alert to promote her educational, civic and commercial interests, and whose name will long be remembered as that of an honored pioneer.

His generosity and kindness were proverbial, for he let no opportunity pass to assist those less fortunate than himself.

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#### ISAAC KOCH.

Twenty miles southeast of Stockton lies the thriving post village of Ripon, and it is with this part of San Joaquin county that Mr. Koch is most familiar, having located on his present homestead in this vicinity in 1858. A native of the east, he was born in Union county, Pa., in 1825, and up to the age of twenty was reared in his native county, in the meantime attending a private school, as well as gaining a good insight in agricultural life through hiring out to farmers when not in school. As the outlook did not appeal to him as being especially attractive he determined to learn a trade, and at the age of fourteen he apprenticed himself to a blacksmith for two years, and thereafter followed his trade in the east for four years. The fact that he had a half-sister living in Illinois was a strong incentive in bringing him to that then western state in 1845. There he had no difficulty in finding work as a blacksmith, but he had followed it only a short time when the call for volunteers for service in the Mexican war found him enlisting in the United States army. After the expiration of his term of enlistment, during which time he had taken part in the battle of Buena Vista under General Taylor, February 22 and 23, 1847, he returned to Illinois and opened a blacksmith shop of his own, an undertaking which he followed with eminent success for six years.

The reports of larger opportunities west of the mountains induced Mr. Koch to give up the business which he had established and followed so successfully and in 1853 he came across the



plains with an ox-team and a drove of cattle. Tuolumne county was then attracting many miners on account of the rich diggings there and thither Mr. Koch drove his cattle, selling them to good advantage. With the proceeds of the sale he established a blacksmith shop in the vicinity and carried it on until 1856, when he disposed of it in order to return to the east, where his wife and family were still located. Leaving San Francisco he made the voyage by water, landing in New York City after an uneventful passage. From New York he went to Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Union county, thus visiting the scene of his boyhood days, and finally joined his family in Illinois, where they had made their home during his absence in the west. Disposing of his property in Illinois he made further preparations for coming to the west by purchasing a band of cattle and mules, which he drove across the plains as he had done on his first trip to the state several years previously. This time also he went direct to Tuolumne county, but he remained there only long enough to dispose of his stock, when he came to San Joaquin county and located on the ranch which he now owns and occupies, adjacent to Ripon and not too far from Stockton to be deprived of the advantages of a large business center. Here he originally purchased three hundred and sixty-three acres in 1858, and the same year added two hundred acres of adjoining land, which aggregates nearly six hundred acres of as fine land as can be found in the county. He notes with pride the marvelous improvements of passing years, no little of which is due to his own enterprising efforts.

Mr. Koch's marriage occurred in 1846, in Illinois, and united him with Miss Elizabeth Gott, who though a native of Indiana was reared and educated in Illinois. Five children were born to them, three daughters and two sons, all of whom have attained years of maturity and are settled in homes of their own. John E. Koch is in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad in San Francisco, where with his wife and eight children he makes his home; Alice, the wife of Irwin Wright, is also a resident of

San Francisco and the mother of four children; Ada became the wife of James Messinger of Bakersfield, who is superintendent of the large cattle interests of Miller & Lux; Lottie is the widow of Henry B. Knight and the mother of two children; Jacob Roswell, the youngest child, is cashier of the San Joaquin Valley Bank of Stockton; he is married and the father of four children. Among the people of the county where for many years Mr. Koch has made his home he enjoys a reputation for honor, resourcefulness as a rancher, trustworthiness as a friend and progressiveness as a citizen. For a number of years he served as school trustee in his district.

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#### JACOB R. KOCH.

The assistant cashier of the San Joaquin Valley Bank at Stockton is a member of a pioneer family of California and traces his lineage to Germany through his paternal ancestry and to Scotland through his maternal progenitors, representatives on both sides having immigrated to the New World during the colonial era of our civilization. His parents were Isaac and Elizabeth (Gott) Koch, the father a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother a native of Indiana. (For full details of the parental history refer to the sketch of Isaac Koch, which precedes this.)

The old homestead near Ripon was the birthplace of Jacob R. Koch, who was born September 3, 1867, being the youngest son of his parents. For a time he was sent to the country schools, and then took a commercial course in the Stockton Business College. Upon leaving college he was employed by G. Hart, a grain merchant. Two years later he resigned that position and then clerked for one year with J. D. Peters, after which he was connected with the Stockton Milling Company as superintendent for a number of years. During that time he served for two terms as a member of the city council, repre-

senting the fourth ward, and in that position gave his influence and support to movements for the permanent benefit of his home town. During 1893 he resigned as superintendent of the mill in order to accept a position as assistant cashier of the San Joaquin Valley Bank, with which he has been identified ever since.

The comfortable home of Mr. Koch at No. 145 West Flora street is presided over by his hospitable wife, whom he married November 28, 1888, and who prior to that event was Miss Mary Joyce. Her parents, Alfred and Margaret Joyce, were pioneers of 1862 in San Joaquin county, and here she was born, reared and educated. The children of the marriage are as follows: Joyce R., (a clerk with the Stockton Milling Company), Alzoe, Gladys and Robert Baldwin. Mr. Koch acts as a director of the South San Joaquin Chamber of Commerce and is deeply interested in all movements for the development of the city and county. Prominent among his activities may be mentioned his association with the securing of the right of way for the San Joaquin Valley Electric Railway through the southern part of San Joaquin county, from Stockton to Modesto. The new road will cover about thirty-three miles and will pass through some of the richest lands in the state. Besides the interests mentioned Mr. Koch has become a vineyardist and with R. B. Teefy he has bought one hundred and sixty acres, one-half of which is being planted to grapes of the varieties particularly adapted to this soil and climate.

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#### EDWARD DUANE ELDRIDGE.

The fact that Mr. Eldridge became a resident of Stockton as early in its history as 1855 gives him a rightful claim to the title of pioneer. During all the years that have come and gone he has not been an idle witness of the transformation that has taken place, but on the other hand

has been one of the most active factors in bringing about the present flourishing conditions. As are so many of Stockton's residents, he is a native of the east, his birth having occurred in Sharon, Schoharie county, N. Y., August 6, 1830, on the paternal farm. Rural life, however, did not appeal to him and he determined to fit himself for a calling more in accord with his tastes. Acting upon this idea he went to Cortland county, N. Y., and apprenticed himself to learn the printer's trade under Seth Haight, a well-known pioneer of that section of the Empire state, and the publisher of the Cortland *Democrat* for many years. Having mastered his trade Mr. Eldridge followed it for a number of years in the east, when he awakened to the idea that the west held forth larger opportunities for a young man and he at once made arrangements to come to California via the water route. From New York City he set sail on the steamer Sierra Nevada bound for Aspinwall, and reached the Isthmus without serious difficulty; a number of the party were fortunate in having mules with which to make the journey across the Isthmus, but the others were obliged to make the entire distance on foot; they encountered a number of cases of cholera while making the trip across the Isthmus, but all were fortunate in escaping contagion. Having reached Panama the party set sail on the steamer Unicorn with San Francisco as their destination, and all went well with them until within a few miles of port, when, their fuel giving out, they were obliged to burn pork to complete the journey.

After reaching San Francisco Mr. Eldridge proceeded to the mines, but the hardships of this life soon began to tell on his health and he was compelled to give it up. Returning to San Francisco he remained there a short time then went to San Jose and became associated with Emerson & George in the publication of the Santa Clara *Register*; he had been in the office only a few days when a man came in to have fifty invitations printed; after asking the price and being told it would be \$50 he threw out a gold slug and walked out entirely satisfied. This work would have been done in New York for about



seventy-five cents. His health again becoming impaired, Mr. Eldridge decided to return to New York, making the voyage to that eastern metropolis via Panama; soon tiring of the east, however, we again find him in San Francisco in 1855, and the same year he came to Stockton, which since that time has been his home. In partnership with his brother Samuel he established a produce business which was carried on for many years to their mutual profit and pleasure, and after the retirement of Samuel, who is now a resident of Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo county, Mr. Eldridge carried on the business alone for some time. During the war the brothers were associated in the conduct of a brokerage business, with offices in the Eldridge building, making a specialty of buying gold, silver and greenbacks. In 1895 Mr. Eldridge retired from active business and has since devoted his time almost entirely to the care and management of his real estate, which has accumulated from year to year as his means permitted. Among the buildings which he has erected are the Eldridge building, the Alta house, the Cortland house, and the Eldridge and Buck building.

Much credit is due Mr. Eldridge for the part he bore in effecting improvements to the city during the early days. It was largely due to his efforts that the city is able to boast its fine pavement on Main and other prominent streets. After trying several processes of paving he finally succeeded in having the city authorities carry out his idea of using the bay salt blocks, which have proved the most durable and economical of any roads in the city. Although Mr. Eldridge is keenly interested in the welfare of his home city, he has never cared for public office, and politically is not bound to either of the great parties, casting his vote for the man best fitted for the office in question, irrespective of party name. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to San Joaquin Lodge No. 19, and also to Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F.

Mr. Eldridge was married in Ithaca, N. Y., and is the father of three children, viz., Edward E., of Stockton; Mrs. Ella Louise Cruse, of San

Francisco; and Charles A., also of the latter city. Since coming to California for the first time in 1852 Mr. Eldridge has made three trips to New York City, but each time he has experienced a satisfaction in returning to his adopted home on the Pacific coast. His first business in Stockton was carried on in the levee district in a canvas tent built for the purpose. This later boasted a wooden roof and was unique in that it was the first building of its kind in this vicinity. It was built without the permission of the city council, but was later approved by that body.

Mr. Eldridge has just had a book published entitled "A Voyage in the Motive Ship Pelican to the North Pole," Captain Solomon, commander. This book was written by him about twenty years ago and is based on sound fiction. This is one of the most exciting and thrilling narratives ever written on the subject and shows the advanced ideas he had at that time on navigation of the air that is being developed today, and also sets forth the idea that the motive power of these various crafts will be generated in transit. He has the book for sale and it is well worth the price asked for it.

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#### WILLIAM H. GROVES.

One of the pioneer settlers in Stockton is William H. Groves, who has not only witnessed the marvelous changes that have taken place in the past half century, but has himself been a factor in bringing them about, and is now living retired from business cares and responsibilities at the family homestead, No. 1122 Monroe street, Stockton. A native of Massachusetts, he was born in New Bedford, Bristol county, November 7, 1833, the son of Philip and Susan Deane (McFarlan) Groves, the latter also being natives of New England. When he was a child of nine years William H. Groves was sent to a







G. W. Haines

boarding school conducted by Quakers, and at the age of seventeen he had completed the course in the East Greenwich (R. I.) College. At school he was especially proficient in mathematics, drawing and music, performing on several instruments, including the guitar and banjo. While he was in college (1849) the father went to California in search of a fortune in the mines, and soon afterward was followed by his wife and children, with the exception of the son William. It was the expectation that he also would follow as soon as he graduated from college, but instead he joined the first minstrel company that ever performed in the New England and middle states, including as members, Campbell, who afterwards became a noted opera singer under the name of Cantpobello; Briggs, who had his own company; and Ben Cotton and Billy Rice; with the two last mentioned he always kept up an acquaintance.

The father did not approve of his son's choice of a profession and therefore sent for him to join the family in California, and accordingly he made the voyage by way of the Isthmus in 1852. From San Francisco he came direct to Stockton and embarked in the lumber business, which proved a very remunerative venture, but as he did not like the climate he gave it up and returned east. Going to Fall River, Mass., he became interested in the shoe business with an uncle.

While in the east at this time Mr. Groves met the lady who was to become his wife, and February 7, 1854, they were united in marriage. Two years later Mr. Groves set out for California, coming to Stockton, where he became associated in business with his father, his wife joining him later. Before her marriage Mrs. Groves was Henrietta Crighton, the descendant of a historical family in Scotland, and the daughter of Robert Crighton, member of the firm of Cluny & Crighton. Many generations of the family had lived and died in the Land of the Heather, but after the removal of the great-grandfather to Manchester, England, his estate in Scotland was confiscated by the government. Mrs.

Groves was born in Manchester, England, and can trace her descent from the ill-fated Queen, Mary of Scots. Her ancestors on the paternal side are silk and iron manufacturers in Manchester and Birmingham. On the maternal side she is a Canavan, and through her great-grandfather descended from the House of Dudley. Her great-uncle, William Henshaw, built the asylum for the deaf, dumb and blind on his estate just out of Manchester. Mrs. Groves is also connected with the House of Navarre of France.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Groves, three sons and two daughters, namely: Oscar B., member of the firm of Perryman & Groves, of Stockton; William F. C., with the First National Bank of Stockton; Robert H., a rancher at Manteca; Emma, wife of Louis Barney; and Gertrude, a school teacher of Stockton. Personally Mr. Groves is quiet and reserved, having few interests outside of his family and a few friends. After losing the money which he invested in his father's business he accepted a position as bookkeeper with the firm of Owens & Moore, and still later was employed in the treasurer's office. For sixteen years thereafter he was collector for the First National Bank of Stockton, but on account of failing health he was obliged to give up active duties and for the past four years has lived retired.

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#### GEORGE W. HAINES.

One of the most enterprising citizens of Stockton is George W. Haines, vice-president of the Houser-Haines Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of harvesters and other farming machinery. Mr. Haines is a native of the middle west, and was born in Medina county, Ohio, September 16, 1838. He was a child of about eleven years when his parents, Henry and Re-



becca (Erwin) Haines, left their Ohio farm and located in Illinois, making their home in that state for five years. Their next move took them to the adjoining state of Iowa, and from there they set out to cross the plains to the Pacific coast in 1861. Behind slow-plodding oxen their journey was destined to be a long one, and on the way Indians on several occasions threatened to make trouble for them. They passed a number of abandoned wagons, showing that the Indians had succeeded in attacking some of their predecessors on the road, but they were fortunate in reaching Stockton without any serious mishap. They reached Stockton, October 15, 1861, and after resting a while from their long journey went in search of a suitable location to settle on a ranch. This they found about fourteen miles south of this city, where the father bought a ranch upon which the family lived for many years. It was here that the earth life of the wife and mother came to a close in 1880, and in the year 1883 the family moved to Stockton. The father survived until February, 1899. Besides George W., two children survived their parents, Mrs. Fianna Bitzer and Miss Nancy Haines, both of whom are residents of Woodland, this state.

George W. Haines continued to make his home upon the old homestead until 1883, when he removed to Stockton and has since made this city his home continuously. In 1880, when Daniel Houser established the Houser Harvester Works, Mr. Haines assisted him in organizing the plant, and in 1889 he became associated with him in the business under the name of the Houser-Haines Manufacturing Company. Both men are experts in the manufacture of machinery, and being excellent business men as well, they have built up one of the largest industries of the kind in this part of the country. Mr. Haines is vice-president and active manager of the business and is widely known among business men generally, and especially among manufacturers of similar commodities.

Mr. Haines formed domestic ties by his marriage, January 1, 1890, with Mrs. Laura (Love-

lace) Brooks, a native of California and the daughter of John Lovelace, a pioneer in both San Joaquin and Tuolumne counties. Besides Mrs. Haines, Mr. Lovelace has one other daughter, Mrs. Hussey, of San Diego. By her first marriage Mrs. Haines had two sons, John and Eugene, both of whom make their home with Mr. and Mrs. Haines, at the family residence, No. 345 South Pilgrim street, Stockton.

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#### ADOLPHE F. NAHER.

Although not one of the pioneers of Stockton, Mr. Naher was successfully engaged in business in this city for some years and at the time of his death, which occurred October 26, 1907, he not only had achieved a satisfactory degree of financial success, but in addition he had won a large number of warm personal friends, who had been attracted to him by his kindly disposition and generous traits of character. Of eastern birth, he was born in New York in 1854, but at a very early age he was taken to the northwest, his parents settling in St. Paul, Minn., where he attended the grammar and high schools, receiving a fair education. After leaving school he began to earn his own way in the world and his later success was achieved by his unaided exertions. At first he secured a clerkship in a general store and afterward he turned his hand to anything that offered an honest livelihood. Meanwhile he was gaining experience important to him in subsequent activities.

Removing from St. Paul to the state of Washington, Mr. Naher settled at Seattle, where he engaged in business in the employ of others for a considerable period, but later became interested as a partner in the well-known firm of Swabacher Brothers, wholesale and retail hardware merchants, and in this connection he remained until

he disposed of his interests during 1889. Three years later he became a citizen of Stockton, where he engaged in the wholesale liquor business until his death. By judicious investments he accumulated a fortune and thus at his death left a valuable estate to his widow. Fraternally he was a prominent Mason, belonging to the blue lodge and chapter. Some years after coming to Stockton he purchased the residence and grounds formerly owned by Lee Phillips, at No. 205 East Magnolia street, and here, surrounded by every comfort, his last days were happily passed. This is now the home of his widow, whom he married in 1901, and who was Mrs. Mary L. (Woods) Allen, daughter of John Newton Woods, and a sister of Mrs. George E. Wilhoit, of Stockton.

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### BENJAMIN SCARLES.

Inventive genius of a pronounced degree has ever been a characteristic of this well known resident of Stockton, to whose pre-eminent talent may be traced many of the labor-saving devices and useful inventions now in use in all parts of the world. The ancestry of the Scarles family is directly traceable to a long line of English antecedents, and Benjamin Scarles was himself a native of the Mother Country, his birth occurring in Norwich, county of Norfolk, in January, 1843. He is a lineal descendant of Lord Chief Justice Richardson, whose remains lie buried in Westminster Abbey. The first fifteen years of Mr. Scarles' life were associated with his birthplace, where, even at this early age, he had begun to show marked evidence of his unusual ability. At that time wire fencing was manufactured by hand in Norwich to supply a merchant in London. Believing that this laborious method could not only be shortened but cheapened as well, this boy inventor set his brain at work

to devise a machine whereby this could be done. With drawings of his machine he went to London and laid his plan before the firm who up to this time had purchased the hand-made fencing before mentioned. The plan met with favor and after purchasing the invention the firm of J. B. Brown & Co., of Cannon street, London, began the wholesale manufacture of wire fencing by machinery, and it was from this plant that the first shipment of wire fencing that ever came to America was sent. This was displayed in the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876, and was the only exhibit of the kind there. Though only sixteen years of age, Benjamin Scarles was made manager of the plant of J. B. Brown & Co., and remained with them in this capacity for three years. Going to Birmingham, England, at this time, he there introduced his method of manufacturing wire fencing, which up to this time had all been done by hand.

It is, however, in the line of electricity that Mr. Scarles' greatest researches and inventions have been made, and as early as 1860 he had made the first subdivided armature for the generation of electricity. He exhibited this before the electrical engineers of Birmingham, England, and from that time his fame spread throughout the electrical world in England, which included such names as Sir Charles Wheatstone, the inventor of the electric telegraph, and Hon. Frederick Braby, president of the British National Telegraph Company. From Birmingham he again went to London and turned his attention once more to improvements on his fence patent, and also to perfecting a number of medical appliances which he had under way. So confident was he that his inventions along this latter line would be a boon to suffering humanity that as early as 1865 he could be seen in the public market place in Lincoln treating disease by electricity, and from that year until 1878 he gave the greater part of his efforts to inventions bearing on this idea. He helped to wind the first armature for the Gramme dynamo, which was the first in London and was the beginning of all the dynamos of this date. He was also identified with the in-

vention for the distribution of electricity for incandescent lighting.

It has been stated that Mr. Scarles was a descendant of Lord Chief Justice Richardson, from whom also descended Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, who gained fame as the discoverer of ozone, and as the inventor of innumerable mechanical devices. It was Mr. Scarles' good fortune to be intimately associated with this relative for a number of years, especially from 1878 until 1882, during which time they went about with physicians and performed many wonderful cures by means of their electrical apparatus. In the year last mentioned Mr. Scarles was induced by capitalists and prominent manufacturers of Massachusetts to come to the United States and interest himself in their business, among these being the Clinton Wire Cloth Company, of Clinton, Mass. He practically revolutionized their plant, not only inventing a machine which simplified the manufacture, but also inventing a process for silver-finishing the wire. To his inventive mind is also due credit for the wire lathing which is used at the present time, and he also designed and built the machines for the manufacture of wire used in the re-inforced concrete buildings of today. He remained in the employ of the Clinton Wire Cloth Company until 1890, in which year he went to Australia for the purpose of devising a means for destroying the rabbit plague. His idea was to employ fencing to capture the rodents, and in order to supply the commodity it was necessary to establish a plant for its manufacture. This was the first industry of the kind in the country, as was also the galvanizing plant which he installed in this connection. It was his plan, after placing the fences around the localities most infested, to charge the wire with electricity, but in order to produce the necessary voltage so much expense was involved (owing to the scarcity of fuel) that the method was finally given up as impracticable. Here the government stepped in and after dividing up the land and fencing it, made it possible for each owner to capture and rid his own land of the pests. About this time ambitious Americans es-

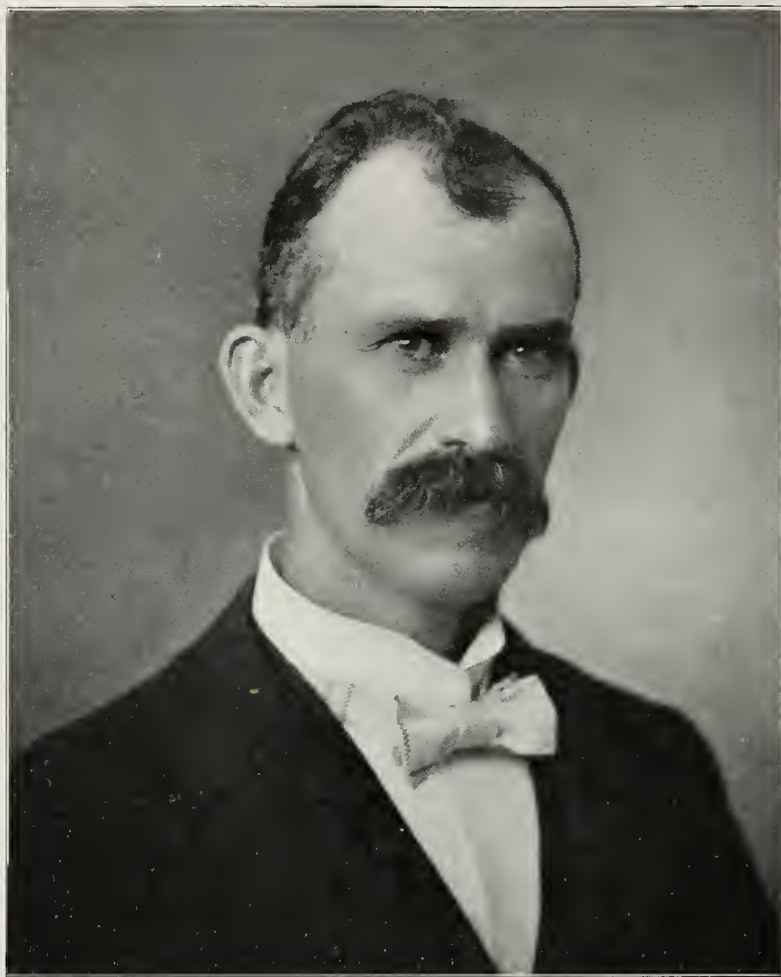
tablished a plant for canning the meat of the rabbit, and this today is one of the largest industries on the island.

After eleven months spent in Australia Mr. Scarles returned to the United States and continued his experiments for the different steel corporations who had employed him from time to time in the development of their specialties, both in electrical and mechanical lines. Through Mr. Halliday, of the Bay State Wire Works, he was induced to come to California in 1894 and interest himself in the California Wire Cloth Company of San Francisco, in which he also had an interest. Mr. Scarles was made vice-president of the company, filling it acceptably until his removal to Stockton, which occurred in 1897. Here he established a factory and installed special machinery for the manufacture of the Ideal wire fence, but after continuing it successfully with the assistance of his two sons the steel corporation stopped the supply of the raw material and absorbed the plant into the Pacific steel corporation. One of the sons, however, was retained as manager of the plant and is still filling this position. Since disposing of the plant Mr. Scarles has continued the development of electrical appliances, and he has also found a secret process for smelting ore by electricity. It is conceded by all interested in agriculture that his coming to California has been a most valuable boon to the country in the solution of the fence question. By the establishment of his manufactory he made it possible to supply the ranchers with a woven wire fence at a nominal cost as compared with the prices asked for the same thing shipped in from the east, the enormous freight charges making it a prohibitive luxury. Gradually he is relinquishing his efforts along some lines and giving his attention more especially to the cure of diseases by electricity, for he firmly believes that there is no malady known to mankind that it cannot reach and cure. He is licensed by the state medical board of Examiners of California to practice as an electric doctor.

In England Mr. Scarles formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Betsy Ann Clay, and







*Robert Powell*

six children, five sons and one daughter, have been born to them, as follows: Benjamin Joseph, John C., Albert C., Cyrus C., Horace C., and Mary Elizabeth. Fraternally Mr. Scarles is a Mason, having joined the order in England, and he still holds membership in Southworth Lodge No. 879, F. & A. M., of London. There are probably few men in the world whose inventive genius has been as versatile as has Mr. Scarles', and since coming to the United States in 1882 he has taken out sixty-six patents, all of which are in practical use in the various mechanical and electrical interests of this country.

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### ROBERT POWELL.

When it is said that Mr. Powell is the leading contractor in Stockton and that he is as well the pioneer in that calling it is natural to credit him with the erection of the majority of the best buildings in the city. This honor is his as the result of unwearying efforts to excel in his calling, and both as a business man and citizen he is respected and esteemed by those who have been associated with him during the past quarter of a century. A native son of the state, he was born at Angels Camp, Calaveras county, November 17, 1860, the son of William and Emma (Wilson) Powell, the former of whom came to the state during the days of the mining boom in 1849. His death occurred at Angels Camp, and he left a widow and a large family of children to mourn his loss.

Robert Powell was a young man of about twenty-three years when he came to San Joaquin county and located in Stockton. By investigating conditions and opportunities in the growing community he wisely foresaw that at least a livelihood awaited a good contractor and he therefore lost no time in fitting himself for the posi-

tion. Three years after locating in the town he opened an office as contractor and builder, the first who up to that time had inaugurated such a business, and the result was that for some time he had little or no competition in his line. Many of the largest and most important structures in Stockton were executed under his immediate direction, among them being the Stockton high school, Mail building, San Joaquin County Bank building, the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Christian Church, as well as the Episcopal Church, in fact he has erected all of the church structures in Stockton since 1883 with the exception of the small Methodist Episcopal German Church.

Mr. Powell has a pleasant and characteristic residence at No. 1605 North Eldorado street, his home being presided over by his wife, who before their marriage, August 27, 1893, was Miss Josephine Bateman, the daughter of Dr. E. B. Bateman. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, having joined the order soon after taking up his residence in Stockton.

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### GEORGE W. TRAHERN.

To read the life history of George W. Trahern is to review in detail the events which formed the historical setting of the Mexican war, followed by the American occupation of California, hence a brief review of his life may not be unprofitable. Born in Hinds county, Miss., in 1825, seven miles below Jackson, he was reared on the plantation of his parents and from infancy was familiar with the waving corn and cotton seen on every hand. When little more than a child, in 1839, his adventurous nature rebelled against the monotony of his life on the plantation, and as the outcome of this unrest we find him, at the age of fourteen, going to Texas.



where he might live the freer life of the cattle ranger. This was prior to the admission of Texas and at a time when the Indian uprisings caused the settlers considerable anxiety, not only for the safety of their cattle, but also for their lives. The organization of the company known as the Texas Rangers, formed for the purpose of quelling disturbances, found young Trahern among the first to enlist his services, and thereafter he was an active participant in the Mexican war, taking part in all of the engagements from Corpus Christi to the downfall of the Mexican stronghold. Between these two battles he with one hundred and eighty of his comrades experienced the hardships and rigors of prison life for two years, and upon being released, September 16, 1844, Mr. Trahern again offered his services. General Taylor had taken a fancy to the young soldier from the first, admiring his daring spirit, and thus it happened that he was delegated to deliver despatches which took him into the very heart of the enemy's ranks.

As was the case with many who had taken part in the Mexican war, Mr. Trahern came to the Pacific coast after peace was declared. As the excitement in the mines was at fever heat it was only natural that he should try his luck as a miner, but a week's experience at Woods diggings was enough to convince him that his time could be employed to better advantage in some other occupation, and for a time he was engaged in driving cattle to the mines. In 1849 he located on a ranch on the Calaveras river and it was while engaged in ranching there that he formed the acquaintance of a kindred spirit in Captain McMullin, one of the most stalwart upbuilders in the early history of this commonwealth. In partnership with Captain McMullin he bought a squatter's title to the Casa Blanco ranch, comprising six hundred and forty acres, also owning half of the stock. To this they later added until they had nineteen thousand acres all in one body. The mutually pleasant and profitable association which had existed between Mr. Trahern and Captain McMullin was sundered in 1868 with the death of Captain

McMullin, when not only Mr. Trahern, but the whole county mourned the loss of a friend. In 1870, after the division of the property, Mr. Trahern came to Stockton to make his home, in order to afford his children better educational opportunities. The residence which he then erected, at No. 724 North Eldorado street, is still the home of the family.

Mr. Trahern's marriage occurred on March 1, 1860, uniting him with Miss Henrietta Childers, and five children were born to them, as follows: Laura, deceased; Rachel, at home with her parents; Bessie Lee; Lida, deceased; and David Douglass, who has charge of the home ranch, and strongly resembles his father in his love of the horse. Mr. Trahern cannot recall the time when he first rode a horse, and throughout his life he has retained his love for man's best friend. Politically he is a Democrat and active in the party ranks, although he has at no time been willing to accept office. No one is more worthy of membership in the Pioneers Society than Mr. Trahern, and indeed it may be said that no one is more warmly welcomed at its gatherings than is he, for few have done more than he toward the upbuilding of this fair commonwealth.

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#### SAMUEL VINTON RYLAND.

Prior to taking up his permanent residence in Stockton, Mr. Ryland led a life full of variety, change, and such danger and adventure as of necessity fall to the lot of the bridge-builder, a profession which he had followed mainly throughout the east, although many evidences of his skill and ability are perpetuated in bridges in foreign lands. A native of Maryland, he was born in Baltimore county August 1, 1846, the son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Robinson) Ryland. His earliest recollections take him back

in memory to his boyhood home in Baltimore county, where he was reared and educated up to the age of seventeen years, having in the meantime been a diligent student in Franklin Academy, in Reisterstown, Md.

While he was still a youth Samuel V. Ryland developed a strong inclination toward the field of mechanics, and in response to this leaning he learned the cabinetmaker's trade. With the theoretical knowledge of his trade as his chief asset, coupled with the optimism and determination which must needs go hand in hand with any successful undertaking, he set out at the age of seventeen years for the coal regions of Pennsylvania, where for a time he was engaged in installing machinery in coal breakers throughout the state. The general knowledge and experience thus gained were of untold value to him when in later years he determined to specialize his efforts and master the trade of bridge-building. This accomplished, at the age of twenty-one years he became interested in practical bridge-building, following this business thereafter continuously for a quarter of a century, during which time he gained a reputation for being one of the famous bridge-builders of the United States. Niagara has a world-wide reputation for its celebrated bridges, the construction of which has called for the exercise of unusual engineering skill and some daring originality, indeed it is difficult to find any spot which possesses more interest for the bridge engineer than the Niagara Gorge. The famous Cantilever bridge which spans the river below Niagara Falls was constructed in 1883 under the direct supervision of Mr. Ryland, and stands as a lasting monument to his skill and ability. During the year in which Mr. Ryland was engaged in the construction of this bridge Captain Webb gained notoriety through his attempt to swim the Falls of Niagara, losing his life as the result of the daring undertaking. It may not be out of place to mention in this connection that in 1900, less than two decades after the completion of the Cantilever bridge, it became inadequate for the traffic demands made upon it, and in the year

last mentioned the work of strengthening the bridge was begun. The bridge as originally planned is nine hundred and ten feet long and consists of two cantilevers, the whole designed to support a weight of two thousand pounds per lineal foot. The strengthening of the structure by the insertion of a center truss enables the bridge to support over three thousand pounds per lineal foot and increases its carrying capacity from seventy-five to one hundred per cent. In 1887 Mr. Ryland went to Australia and constructed the famous Hawkesbury bridge, over the river of that name, thirty-six miles from the city of Sydney. Mr. Ryland had cause to be proud of his record, for during the many years in which he was engaged in this precarious calling he was never held responsible for the death of anyone in his employ. At one time he had under his supervision six crews of men in as many different states.

Mr. Ryland began the construction of the famous Merchants bridge at St. Louis, Mo., undertaking the work in behalf of the Union Bridge Company of that city, but before the completion of the structure he came to California. This was in 1889, and for nearly twenty years his interests have been centered in the Golden State in general and in Stockton in particular. Besides his interests in the real estate business he has large mining interests in Calaveras county. In Bradford county, Pa., in 1871, he formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Malva Anna Ridgeway, who was a native of that county. Eight children were born of their marriage, named in the order of their birth as follows: Girard Vinton, a resident of Seattle, Wash.; Winfield Sumner, who is in charge of the Pacific Club at Tucson, Ariz.; Rosemay, who is still at home with her parents; Aubrey Steele, a mechanical engineer who is now engaged in the gold fields in Arizona; Bernard Welcome, who is in charge of the machinery of the Gantnor & Mattern Knitting Works in San Francisco; Hawkesbury Ridgeway, who is in business in Stockton; Septimus Chicago, an optician of Stockton; and Columbus Jose, who is now



(1909) a student in the Stockton schools. During the twenty years of his residence in this city Mr. Ryland has lost no opportunity to advance the city's welfare, for he has always been a firm believer in her ability to become one of the principal cities of the Pacific coast, and for five years has been a director of the Chamber of Commerce. Fraternally Mr. Ryland is a prominent Mason, having been associated with the order for many years, and he is also a member of the Royal League of Chicago, as well as a member of the Western Society of Engineers of the latter city.

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#### CALVIN R. RALPH.

About twenty-five years have come and gone since Mr. Ralph was taken from the scenes of his activities in San Joaquin county, where he was known and honored as a California pioneer of 1849. His wife, too, has passed to that bourne whence no traveler returns, and their manly sons were all stricken by death when in the prime of usefulness. The only surviving member of the family, Mrs. Grace R. Willy, resides at No. 1020 North San Joaquin street, Stockton, and enjoys the warm regard not only of those of her own age, but also of the survivors among the early associates of her parents. The earliest recollections of her life cluster around frontier scenes in California and she recalls with vividness the many hardships endured by her parents and the obstacles they surmounted in their efforts to found a home for their children in the west.

The life depicted in these lines began at Woodstock, Vt., November 25, 1818, and closed in San Joaquin county, Cal., September 17, 1882. Between those two dates lies the record of a pioneer's existence, the toil bravely accomplished, the long journeys to and from the coast, the per-

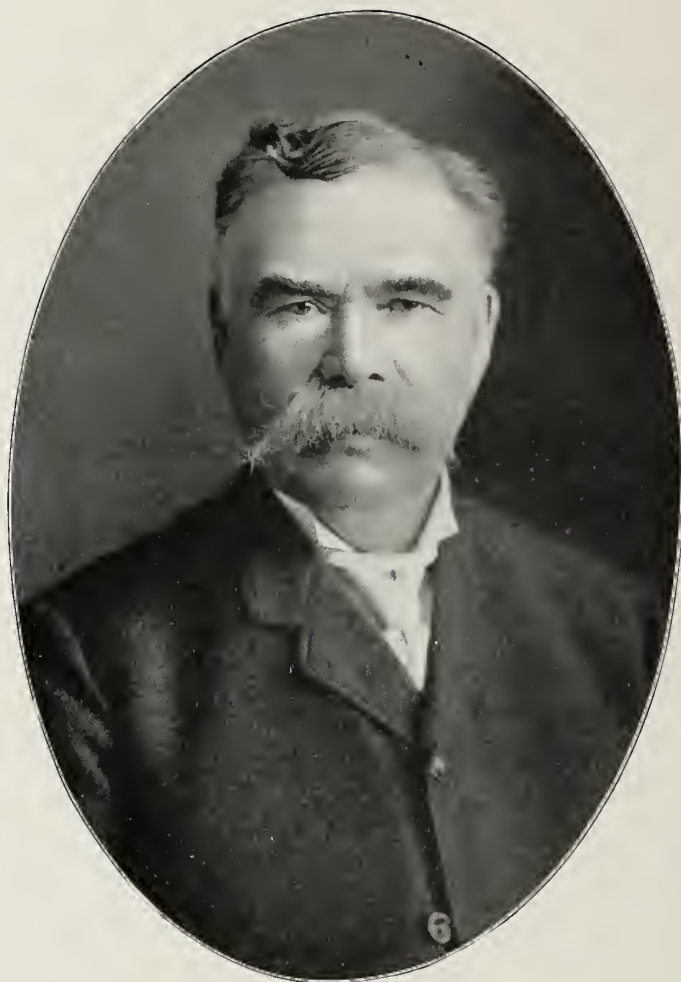
ils seen and unseen on the frontier of civilization, and the success finally won and abundantly merited. As a boy Calvin R. Ralph lived on a sterile farm in Vermont, where the efforts of an entire family barely sufficed to provide for their actual necessities. Whenever it was possible to leave the work at home he attended the country schools and thus laid the foundation of a culture which was broadened by the reading of choice literature and the study of current events in subsequent years.

Going to Michigan at the age of eighteen years, Mr. Ralph began to buy and sell hides. February 15, 1842, he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Gray at Monroe, Mich., where she was born November 14, 1822, being a daughter of a pioneer farmer of that state. The young couple settled on a farm and Mr. Ralph became interested in agricultural pursuits, but the discovery of gold in the west changed the even tenor of his career and revolutionized his subsequent history. Leaving his family in Michigan, he outfitted with wagons, oxen, provisions, etc., and crossed the plains to California. Cholera broke out in the expedition and he became very ill with the disease. The others were in such deadly fear of falling victims to the epidemic that they planned to bury him alive and hasten forward on their way, but fortunately he was a Mason and a comrade of the passage also belonged to that fraternity. The principles of the order forbid such treatment of a brother-Mason, and this alone prevented an awful death. Tender care was given him and he survived, reaching his destination in safety. At first he mined around Sonora, where he met with success. During 1850 he returned east via Panama, made ready his family for the return, and once more crossed the plains, arriving after a journey of six months. With his family he brought a fine span of horses. Settling at French Camp, then the principal city of San Joaquin county, he engaged in general farming and stock-raising, also teamed to the mines and traded.

Such remarkable success attended the various efforts of Mr. Ralph that by 1856 he had ac-







*P. P. Hamann*

cumulated an amount sufficient to support himself and family in comfort during their remaining years. They then determined to return to Michigan and settle among old friends. All of their possessions they took with them on the voyage, but when they arrived at the Isthmus of Panama they encountered the riots and lost everything they had except the clothing they wore. They felt themselves fortunate to escape with their lives, for many perished in the massacres. Finally they landed at New York and went from there to Michigan, but a visit of six months proved to them that they preferred the west. Accordingly they sold their old homestead in Michigan and returned via the isthmus, settling in San Joaquin county on a ranch near the present site of Lathrop. Afterward Mr. Ralph never returned to the east, but concentrated his attention upon agricultural pursuits, purchasing a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres seven miles from Lodi and later adding another quarter-section to the tract. For one year he engaged in the stock business in Mendocino county, but then returned to San Joaquin county and eventually sold out and retired to town life.

From the organization of the Republican party Mr. Ralph was prominent in its local ranks. In 1875 he was elected assessor on the Republican ticket, afterward was re-elected and remained in the office until his death, seven years after his first election to the post. When the Society of San Joaquin Pioneers was organized he became a charter member and always he and his wife took a warm interest in its reunions. Both were earnest members of the First Baptist church of Stockton, and he was officially connected with the same as a trustee. As previously mentioned he was a Mason from early manhood; after coming to the west he identified himself with Morning Star Lodge No. 57, F. & A. M. His wife was a demitted member of the Eastern Star Chapter. Her death occurred August 14, 1908, at the age of eighty-five years and nine months. Gentle in character, patient in sacrifice, devoted to husband and children, kind to the needy and

generous to the destitute, she lived up to the teachings of the denomination with which she was identified for sixty-four years, and when at last she was called from earth she passed to the great beyond in the firm faith of again meeting her husband and the children who had preceded her into eternity.

The eldest son of her marriage, William H. H. Ralph, a native of Michigan, died in California, unmarried, at the age of thirty-six years. The second son, Galo B., also a native of Michigan, died in California at the age of thirty-seven years. The third son and fourth child, Calvin R., Jr., who was born on board ship in the Gulf of Mexico, died in California at the age of forty-seven years, leaving one son, Harry E. The youngest child, Waterbury Gray, a native of California, died at the age of twenty-two, and at the time of his death was the youngest Master Mason in the state; before he was twenty-one he had graduated in civil engineering and surveying. The only daughter, Grace R., now Mrs. J. W. Willy, had four children, but the two sons, Ralph C. and Lester R., are deceased. One daughter, Grace Ethel Willy, resides at home; the other daughter, Edna, married William C. Peck, of San Francisco, and of that union a son was born, William C., Jr.

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#### PETER PAUL HANNAN.

Although he was of Irish birth and parentage, Mr. Hannan was to all intents and purposes an American-born citizen, for during his childhood he was brought to the United States and from his earliest recollection his sympathies were in favor of his adopted country. Born in Ireland in 1840, he was the fourth in order of birth among ten children, six sons and four daughters, born to his parents, John and Katherine (Welch)



Hannan. Upon coming to the United States the parents went direct to Ohio, but later settled in Minneapolis, Minn., which continued to be their home throughout the remainder of their lives.

While the family were living in Minneapolis Peter P. Hannan reached years of young manhood and in the meantime had begun his business career by working in a hotel. His familiarity with this business led him to seek similar employment when he came to California in 1875, his first position of this character being in the Grand hotel in San Francisco. It was in 1878 that his name became associated with the business life of Stockton, first through his connection with the Commercial hotel, and later as proprietor of the Sherman hotel, which was one of the well-known hostleries of this city for many years.

In Stockton Mr. Hannan was united in marriage with Miss Annie Crowley, who was born in California, the daughter of Patrick Crowley, the latter a pioneer of 1868 and a resident of Stockton. Three children, Joseph P., Zita E. and Aileen, were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hannan. Up to the time of his death, July 25, 1908, Mr. Hannan continued to be keenly interested in the business life of his adopted city, where he had made his home for over thirty years, and he was also prominent in Democratic politics, and for five years served as a member of the Democratic central committee. The widow and children still make their home in the old family homestead, at No. 23 North Aurora street.

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#### FRANK HARTFORD SMITH.

On both sides of the family Frank H. Smith is descended from good old Revolutionary stock, both of his great-grandfathers having fought in the struggle that won freedom for the Colonies, and both of his grandfathers also participated

in the second war with England. With the blood of such sturdy forebears flowing through his veins it is a matter of no surprise that Mr. Smith has been able to accomplish whatever object he has set his mind to master, and in so doing has become an expert legal authority in Stockton and since 1902 has served in the capacity of judge of the superior court. As has been intimated, he comes from New England stock and was born in Monmouth, Me., April 23, 1850, the son of Joseph H. and Abby (Noyes) Smith, natives of Exeter, N. H., and Monmouth, Me., respectively.

Frank H. Smith attended the district schools of his birthplace during his boyhood and later supplemented this training by a course in Waterville (Me.) Classical Institute, now known as Colburn Classical Institute. Thereafter he matriculated as a student in Bates College, of Lewiston, Me., an institution which is famous for the number of qualified teachers which it graduates annually. Mr. Smith graduated from the literary course in the class of 1875, and thereafter began the application of his knowledge by taking a position as a teacher at Winthrop, Me. It was not long afterward, however, that he determined to come west and in the spring of 1877 we find him holding a teacher's position in San Joaquin county, a position which he filled successfully for one term. From here he went to French Camp and taught for two years. Ever since leaving college he had a well-defined plan before him of his future course in life, which was to fit himself for the legal profession, and with this object in view he began to read law as soon as his school days were over. For a time it was his privilege to read law with Congressman Louttit and also with W. L. Hopkins, the latter of whom was district attorney at the time of their association. In the summer of 1879 Mr. Smith became deputy under county clerk W. H. Weaver, and in June of that year he was admitted to practice law in the courts of the state. Notwithstanding his election to the bar he continued in the county clerk's office until January, 1883, when he opened an office for the

practice of law in partnership with C. M. Keniston. This association continued until 1886, when S. L. Carter, now of Fresno, Cal., was admitted to the partnership, and the three continued together for two years, when Mr. Keniston withdrew from the firm, and in 1892 Mr. Carter removed to Fresno, thus leaving Mr. Smith alone. For ten years he continued the practice of law in all of the courts, but since his election in the fall of 1902 as judge of the superior court he has relinquished his general practice. His re-election in the fall of 1908 was the result of the popular demand of the people, both parties agreeing that no more fair or upright candidate could be found than Mr. Smith had proven himself to be, and giving him the nomination of both parties, an encomium which speaks more eloquently than can words of the regard in which he is held in his home city. While he was conducting his private law practice he was made city attorney, a position which he filled creditably for five terms, three times by election and twice by appointment. He has also been a valuable acquisition to the library board, having served as one of the trustees for twenty years, and as a member of the book committee.

From the foregoing it might be supposed that Mr. Smith's time and attention were entirely consumed in his professional duties and obligations, but this is not so, and to make no mention of his interest in outside matters would be an injustice. Fraternally he is a Mason in high standing, having taken all the degrees in the York rite, and thirty-two degrees in the Scottish rite. His identification with the order dates back to the year 1875, when he joined Temple Lodge No. 25, A. F. & A. M., at Winthrop, Me. After coming to Stockton he transferred his membership to San Joaquin Lodge No. 19 in 1880, and has since served as master of the lodge for two terms. He is also a member of Stockton Chapter No. 28, R. A. M., Stockton Council No. 10, Royal and Select Masters, Stockton Commandery No. 8, K. T., of which he is past commander, and he is also a member of Stockton Lodge of

Perfection No. 12, of which he is and for a long time has been the Orator. He is further associated with Albert Pike Chapter No. 9, Rose Croix, of Stockton, of which he is Wise Master, Oakland Council Kadosh, Oakland Consistory No. 2, and since 1885 he has been a member of Truth Lodge No. 55, I. O. O. F., of Stockton. He is also a member of Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E.

Mr. Smith has a pleasant and commodious residence at No. 620 North Harrison street, where with his wife he is enjoying the comforts and luxuries which his years of unremitting attention to his profession have made possible. Prior to her marriage, which occurred June 27, 1885, Mrs. Smith was Miss Belle McGuffie, a resident of Benicia, Cal., and a descendant of Scotch ancestry. One son, Winthrop S., has been born of their marriage. Mr. Smith's parents had one other child besides himself, a daughter, Lizzie S., who became the wife of George W. Wilcox, of Monmouth, Me., and they have one son, Ralph E.

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#### J. MILLARD ODELL.

Ever since the year 1852 the Odell family has been identified with the history of San Joaquin county. The second generation in descent from the original settler now enjoys the educational and civic advantages rendered possible by the industry and foresight of their ancestor, working in harmony with the other pioneers of the period. It was Daniel Odell who crossed the plains in 1852 and with him came his wife, formerly Margaret Jeffery, of English birth and lineage. Daniel Odell was born in Clyde, Wayne county, N. Y., in 1815, and received only a very limited education. When he was eight years old he lost his father by death. The mother was left

with a large family of children and a mortgaged homestead. For a time she carried on a brave struggle, but eventually she was forced to succumb; the place was taken from her and the children were given to other people, Daniel finding a home with a family who cared for him about three years. At the age of fifteen he began to learn the trade of a carpenter in Clyde and soon went to Waterloo, where he completed his apprenticeship, working until he was competent to take charge of the construction of buildings. Next he worked at his trade in Michigan, but in two years a severe financial depression came on, wild cat currency was put into circulation, and it was difficult to get value for the face of the money in any state.

Returning to Clyde, N. Y., and remaining for five years, Mr. Odell next removed to Indiana, but did not find the prospects satisfactory. Accordingly he proceeded to Adrian, Mich., in the vicinity of which a brother made his home. There he followed his trade and later bought a farm, to which in 1843 he took his bride. April 15, 1852, he outfitted for the journey across the plains with oxen and horses, and started on the tedious trip, accompanied by his wife, her father, brother, sister and the latter's husband. On the 15th of October they arrived at Hangtown, penniless, but robust and ready for work. Mrs. Odell was offered a position as cook at a salary of \$150 and she filled it for a month, with Mr. Odell as her assistant. Next they came to Stockton, which had been recommended to them by friends as a town with possibilities for employment. Unfortunately, the winter was wet and work was scarce, but as soon as spring opened Mr. Odell found an abundance of work without difficulty and as a carpenter he was paid \$8 per day. For six years he continued steadily at work, but when wages dropped to \$5 per day he gave up his trade and bought a ranch in O'Neil township, on the lower Sacramento road. At once he removed to the place and began to place under cultivation the tract of two hundred and sixty-four acres, which he transformed from a barren waste to a fertile farm. When old age came to him he re-

linquished his activities and eventually returned to Stockton, erected a cottage on the corner of Magnolia and Sutter streets, and here remained until his death, December 6, 1897. His wife passed away February 27, 1906. As early as 1854 Mr. Odell had identified himself with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically a Democrat, he was interested in party affairs, and served frequently as a delegate to county conventions, but always refused nomination for offices. A man of broad views, he aided to the extent of his means all movements for the welfare of the county.

The only child of Daniel Odell was James Millard, born in Stockton March 5, 1861, educated in common schools and Stockton Business College, and later an assistant on the home ranch. On coming to Stockton from the farm, he secured a position as clerk for Mr. Wollner, and in time purchased an interest in the business, which was conducted under the title of Wollner & Odell, general grocers of Stockton. The failure of his health forced him to relinquish business activities and a long period of failing health culminated in his death, December 5, 1903. At one time he was active in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but eventually was demitted from the organization. Though much interested in politics and stanch in his adherence to the Democratic party, he was never a candidate for office.

The residence at No. 1035 Sutter street, erected by Mr. Odell in 1888 and occupied by him until death, is now the home and property of his widow, Mrs. Addie M. (Grant) Odell, with whom are their four children, Lester Grant, Edith M., Howard J. and Adelaide M., all natives of Stockton and educated in the city schools. Mrs. Odell was born in Alameda county and at Stockton, November 17, 1888, became the wife of Mr. Odell. She was a daughter of the late John B. Grant, who crossed the plains in an early day and died at Stockton at the age of sixty-two in 1899. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ellen M. Gorman, makes her home in Stockton and enjoys fair health, with the preservation of all







*F. A. Ruhl*

her faculties. With her resides a daughter, Miss Nellie Grant. The only son, Colonel Grant, won his title through service as an officer in the California National Guard and already had risen to prominence as an attorney when death ended his career, in March, 1903, at the age of thirty-five years.

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### FREDERICK AUGUST RUHL.

To a considerable degree the present prosperity of California may be attributed to the German-American citizens of the state, men who came to the west in an early day and gave their most earnest endeavors to the upbuilding of the country. With them they brought the qualities that have characterized the German race the world over. Thrift, economy and industry have been the talismans that have brought success to their unwearied endeavors. Doubtless these traits, supplemented by the American quality of enterprise, have been the chief factors in securing prosperity for Frederick August Ruhl, who has been a resident of the United States since 1860, but dates the beginning of his success from 1867, the time of his arrival in California. Since 1869 he has made his home in Stockton, where for years he carried on a large hardware and plumbing business, but eventually disposed of his interests and retired.

Born in Prussia, November 8, 1839, a son of Matthew and Edna Ruhl, the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch attended school between the years of six and fourteen and from then until eighteen he served an apprenticeship to the plumber's trade in Hesse-Cassel. Upon the expiration of his time he began to work as a journeyman plumber and in that capacity traveled throughout his native country. Crossing the ocean in 1860, he settled in New York City and secured work at his trade. When the first

call came from President Lincoln for seventy-five thousand men he offered his services to his adopted country, and was accepted as a private in the Fifth New York Infantry, with which he was ordered to Washington and detailed to act as guard of that city. At the expiration of four months he was honorably discharged and thereupon returned to New York City and resumed work at his trade.

After a number of busy but uneventful years in New York City subsequent to the Civil war, in 1867 Mr. Ruhl came via the Isthmus to California, settling in Sacramento, where for two years he worked at his trade and for one year was employed by Holbrook & Merrill. Meanwhile he saved \$950 and with this sum he came to Stockton in 1869. Shortly after his arrival he opened a plumbing shop in a building that stood on the site of the old Mansion House. Later he became interested in the hardware business and continued the two kindred enterprises with growing success for a long period. The first catastrophe that fell to his lot occurred in 1903, when the store and contents were destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of \$10,000. About that time, with his oldest clerk, F. E. Goodell, he organized a company and incorporated what is known as the Ruhl-Goodell Company, Mr. Ruhl being president of the new concern. Soon afterward he sold his interest to his partner and retired from the business, leaving a record for long and honorable identification therewith. Since then he has served as president of the Security Land Company of Stockton, but is mainly retired from active labors, enjoying in quiet content the comforts accumulated by long years of industry. After retiring from business in 1907 he took a trip back to his old home in Germany.

Upon coming to Stockton Mr. Ruhl was a bachelor and here, in 1872, he formed domestic ties through his marriage to Miss Mary Christ, a native of Germany. The only child of the union, Hattie, married W. H. Lorenz, who was cashier of the First National Bank of Lodi. On account of his war service Mr. Ruhl is a pensioner of the government. All movements



for the betterment of Stockton or the advancement of the state receive his staunch support; always he is ready to aid worthy projects to the extent of his ability. Mr. Ruhl served four years in the city council. With many of his fellow-countrymen he enjoys the activities of the Turn Verein. Upon the organization of the Improved Order of Red Men he became one of its charter members, and his fraternal associations were further enlarged through his membership in Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F. Long connection with the business interests of the city gave him a wide acquaintance through this section of the country and there are few of the earlier settlers who are not familiar with the name and personality of Frederick August Ruhl.

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#### HON. EDWIN J. MCINTOSH.

In the period before the Revolutionary war, when America was beginning to draw home-seekers from every part of the civilized world, two brothers of the McIntosh family crossed the ocean from the highlands of Scotland and settled in New York, where their frugality, integrity and industry (qualities inherited from a long line of Scotch ancestry) enabled them to attain a fair degree of prosperity. Jonathan and Annis (Crane) McIntosh lived and died in York state, whence her father had gone forth to serve in the army of patriots at the opening of the Revolution and had remained in active service for seven years, until peace finally was declared. Edwin J., son of Jonathan, was born at Homer, Cortland county, N. Y., November 6, 1826, and at the age of five years accompanied other members of the family to Pompey, Onondaga county, N. Y., where he grew to manhood. It was not possible for him to acquire a good education. His attendance at school was limited to three months

in winter. However, being quick to learn, he became a well-informed man through habits of reading and close observation.

Upon leaving home before he was sixteen, Mr. McIntosh began an apprenticeship to the carriage-maker's trade and served for four years, but his employer failed to keep his promises and he left for Canada. While at Hamilton, employed in the manufacture of buggy-springs, he became enthused with the idea of serving in the Mexican war, and returned to the States, where he enlisted in the Tenth United States Infantry under Generals Taylor and Wolf. Upon being honorably discharged at the close of the war he went to New Orleans, where he was quarantined on account of a cholera epidemic in that city and thus was prevented from going to Mexico to fit out an expedition for California, as he had planned. Away from friends and without money, he enlisted in the Fourth United States Artillery for five years. For many months he was stationed at Tampa bay in Florida. While in the infantry he was very ill with typhoid fever for a long period, but eventually was able to resume duty. For ten months he stood guard every other night. He won the confidence of the Mexicans and when the commissary was sold he was asked to enter into negotiations with them, on account of the high opinion they had of him. With others of Company C and Company M, Fourth Artillery, he mounted the first gun on the lower tier at Fort Sumter in 1851. Upon the discovery of gold in California he was ordered here with his command and served as commissary quartermaster sergeant.

In some respects an army life was not pleasing to Mr. McIntosh. With keen foresight he felt that the war between the north and south was approaching and, less confident than other northerners, he felt that it would be a long and deadly struggle. While in the army he had no home, nor did he have any opportunity to accumulate a competency, and he was reaching an age when he aspired to the comforts of home rather than the hardships of the camp. For these reasons he determined to take up the life of a civilian, yet

he recalled with pleasure many thrilling incidents of army experience and remembered the comrades and officers of those days with an affection that time did not weaken. When he was honorably discharged from the army he came to Stockton to join a brother, R. C., a pioneer of 1849, who was engaged in mining, farming and teaming.

The first two years as a farmer in San Joaquin county brought Mr. McIntosh a profit of \$1,600, and this he intended to use in visiting his mother in New York state, but before he could start east, he heard the sad news of her death, and so he decided to remain in the west. For two years he was employed by W. P. Miller and in 1859 he settled at Woodbridge, quite a lively town in those days, with a toll-bridge spanning the river and teams constantly passing en route to Nevada. Produce brought higher prices than now and in every line values were above the much-discussed exorbitant charges of the present day. Wages were of course very high and much that he earned was paid out to his seven employes. In 1866 he left the shop for the farm and for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits, retiring in November, 1896, and removing to No. 24 West Oak street, Lodi, where he passed away in April, 1909. The family still own a farm of fifty-six acres.

As early as 1852 Mr. McIntosh was initiated into Masonry and later became a member of Woodbridge Lodge, F. & A. M. Ever since the organization of the Republican party he has been stanch in allegiance to its principles. In the year 1879 he was elected to the legislature on an independent ticket, after a canvass of the county during which he did not "treat" even one voter, but everywhere urged his intention, if elected, to work for a repeal of the school laws regarding the rural districts. Although he served only one session he accomplished much, securing a repeal of the school law, also aiding legislation regarding changes in the insane and reclamation laws. His interest in local educational work was shown by his faithful service as a trustee of the Lafayette district school.

The first marriage of Mr. McIntosh took place in California and united him with Miss Malancy

A. Miner, who was born in Berkshire county, Mass., and died on the home ranch in 1872. The two children of this union were born in San Joaquin county and are well known in the region where they have always made their home. The son, Thomas B., now has charge of the ranch near Lodi. The daughter, Malancy A., is the widow of William Kinney. The second marriage of Mr. McIntosh took place in 1876 and united him with Mrs. Lydia M. (Rich) Blakeslee, a widow, who was born in New York state in 1836, descended from a family identified with the colonial history of America. She was educated principally in the seminary at Peterboro, Madison county, and afterwards became a successful teacher, following the profession first in the east and later in Trinity county, Cal. From girlhood she has been an earnest worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church and has contributed to its maintenance, as well as to movements of a philanthropic and educational nature. On the organization of the Woman's Relief Corps at Lodi she was elected its first secretary and always has been prominent in its activities and generous in its charities.

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#### WILLIAM B. THOMAS.

With the planing-mill business in Stockton the name of Thomas has been closely associated for a period covering more than forty years, and the present representative of the family, William B. Thomas, maintains an intimate connection with the mill established by his father, the late Frederick R. Thomas, during the early business development of this city. The family genealogy indicates their early identification with the history of New England and their possession of the sterling traits common to the people of that region. Frederick R. Thomas was born in Vermont in 1840 and came to California in 1852.

remaining for a time in Jamestown, but subsequently establishing himself in Stockton as offering superior advantages for the building up of important business interests.

The planing-mill was established in 1867, at which time a building was erected, equipped with the best machinery of that period. The firm of White & Thomas, with W. C. White as senior member, conducted a growing business in the line of their specialties, the supply of both inside and outside work in wood. From a small beginning the business developed into one of the important industries of the city, and the steady growth of the town was in itself a large factor in the increasing demand for the products of the mill, while the recognized efficiency of the partners, their integrity in business dealings and their promptness in filling orders, aided them in the establishment of their enviable reputation as a business firm.

The marriage of Frederick R. Thomas united him with Miss Annie Shipley, who, like himself, was born in New England and came to the west during early life. She died during the infancy of the two children, Abigail and William B. Mr. Thomas married Miss Frances Pierson in 1881. Since the death of Mr. Thomas in 1894 his widow has remained at the old homestead in Stockton and receives, from her husband's early investment, an income sufficient to surround her with the comforts of existence. William B. Thomas was born in Stockton April 25, 1871, and, being the only son in the family, was given exceptionally fine educational advantages, not only attending the grammar and high schools of Stockton, but in addition being sent east to attend one of the leading institutions of Boston, Mass., where he remained until his graduation in 1894. On his return to Stockton he entered the planing-mill and soon acquired a thorough mastery of its details, the work being rendered less difficult by reason of the fact, that, as a boy, he had often aided his father during busy seasons. Since the death of his father he has represented the interests of his step-mother and himself in the mill, which is located on the corner of Main and Com-

merce streets, and has been equipped with conveniences of a thoroughly modern type. The firm of Thomas & Buell is well known throughout this region and has fully sustained the high reputation enjoyed by their predecessors in the mill.

The marriage of William B. Thomas in 1903 united him with Miss Maude Price. Fraternally Mr. Thomas holds membership with the Native Sons of the Golden West, Masons and Elks. While the interests of the mill require much of his time, they do not represent the limit of his business associations, for in addition he has an important position as manager and a director of the Citizens' Natural Gas Company, also acts as a director of the Stockton Loan & Building Association, besides being identified with a number of smaller organizations. Genial and affable in manner, energetic in temperament, and courteous in dealings with all, he has worthily won a high place in the esteem of associates and the respect of acquaintances.

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#### HON. ARTHUR I. MCSORLEY.

The years of persistent, painstaking application to classical literature and to the study of the law, which marked the early manhood of Judge McSorley, brought their own reward in the fruition of his aspirations toward professional excellence. At an early age he determined to enter the profession of law and, with that object in view, he never allowed himself to be satisfied with superficial knowledge; always he aimed at the profound, the solid and substantial, in literature and jurisprudence, and was a close student of the best authorities of the ages. Both at the bar and on the bench he has given evidence of a thorough understanding of the principles of law, and in his decisions an impartial spirit, broad information and logical powers of reasoning have been in evidence.







*J. Lewis Dennis*

A native of Calaveras county, Judge McSorley was born at Mokelumne Hill, August 14, 1870, being a son of Terrance and Mary F. McSorley, the former a pioneer of 1860 in the mines of Calaveras county, settling at Mokelumne Hill, and remaining in this county until his death in 1891. The widowed mother still remains at the old homestead. Arthur I. was reared at Mokelumne Hill and received his primary education in its public schools, after which he became a student in the Stockton Business College. Later he was a student in the law office of Louttit, Woods & Levinsky, a leading law firm of Stockton, with whom he continued to read until he was qualified for practice. In August of 1893 he was admitted to the bar and immediately came to San Andreas, where he formed a partnership with Judge Ira Hill Reed, the two continuing together for five years.

The death of the lawyer who occupied the office of district attorney of Calaveras county left a vacancy, to which Mr. McSorley was appointed, and he filled the position by appointment until 1900. At the regular election of that year he was chosen for the office and served for two years. During 1902 he became a candidate for judge of the superior court and at the election that followed he won a signal victory, receiving a fair majority. At the expiration of his first term of six years, in 1908, it was felt that in justice to his splendid record in the office he should be chosen his own successor, and this was done, his second term to expire in 1914. His attention has been given closely to the duties devolving upon him in the courtroom, where his impartiality, his desire to do justice to all, his wide professional knowledge and fine mental equipment have received recognition and won for him the highest esteem of all.

The marriage of Judge McSorley united him with Miss Nellie Ladrigan, who was born in Calais, Me., and came to California during girlhood years, settling in Calaveras county. They are the parents of four children, Marie, Edwin, Hugh and Minnie. In fraternal associations Judge McSorley is identified with Stockton

Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E., and the Woodmen of the World, and his social amenities are further heightened by his membership in Calaveras Parlor No. 67, Native Sons of the Golden West.

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#### T. LEWIS DENNIS.

Upon the foundation of industry, integrity and courage, laid by the early settlers of California, later generations have built a structure broad and deep. When the final history of the west shall have been written due credit will be given both to the pioneers whose indomitable courage amid privations began the work and to the later generations whose progressive spirit developed the commonwealth dear to every loyal heart. To the latter class belongs T. Lewis Dennis, who though now living retired to some extent, was in former years actively identified with ranching and at the present time is engaged in mining interests in Calaveras county.

The records show that the Dennis family is of English origin, and the earliest member of whom we have any definite knowledge is John Dennis, the grandfather of T. Lewis Dennis. At his death in 1832 John Dennis left three sons, Louis, Alexander and William Dennis, all of whom finally immigrated to the New World and became worthy citizens of the United States. William Dennis was born in Barnstable, England, August 23, 1829, and thus was only three years old at the time his father passed away. When he was nine years old he was brought to the United States by his brother Louis, and in Maine was apprenticed to learn the machinist's trade. Subsequently the other brother, Alexander, came to California and two years thereafter, in 1853. William came to the state and thus established in the west the branch of the family to which our subject belongs. Upon first coming to California



William Dennis went to Big Oak Flat and later to Murphy's, where his knowledge of the machinist's trade made him of valuable assistance in setting up the first sawmill in Calaveras county. In 1854 he went to Willow Creek and established a lumber enterprise, besides which he bought and sold stock, two industries which he carried on successfully until 1868. The next year he went to Virginia City, Nev., and there he died after a short illness soon afterward. His marriage, November 8, 1855, united him with Miss Delphina J. Eaton, the daughter of True and Abigail T. (Comins) Eaton, natives of New England, although the later years of their lives were passed under the balmy skies of California. Three children were born of this marriage. The eldest, George B., died June 5, 1870, at the age of thirteen years; the youngest, William S., resides on the old homestead at Jenny Lind, Calaveras county.

T. Lewis Dennis, the oldest child living in the parental family, was born March 10, 1859, at Willow Creek, near San Andreas, Calaveras county. When he was eight years old his father moved to Jenny Lind, in that county, and bought a large ranch upon which the family was living at the time the death of the father occurred. The son was educated in the public schools of the town during his earlier years, and later was sent to San Francisco to complete his school training. After the close of the course he remained in the metropolis for a time, having secured a position in the office of Newton Brothers, commission merchants of that city. After giving this up he came to Stockton, in 1878, and for some time thereafter was engaged in a clerical capacity with various firms. At the death of William O. Cutler in 1897, he returned to the home ranch at Jenny Lind, Calaveras county, where for the following eight years he engaged in ranching and mining. In 1902, however, he relinquished the active duties of ranch life and has since made his home in Stockton, where he has erected a comfortable residence at No. 1445 North Commerce street, which he occupies with his mother, the widow of William O. Cutler. Mr. Dennis still

has large interests in Calaveras county, being a part owner with his mother and brother in two gold dredgers in operation on the old home ranch.

Mr. Dennis is a very prominent and active worker in the Odd Fellows order, of which he has been a member since January 20, 1882, at which time he joined Stockton Lodge No. 11. Not only has he passed through all the chairs of his lodge, but he is also affiliated with and an active worker in all of the auxiliary bodies of the order, being a member of the Parker Encampment No. 3, of which he has been a member since August 2, 1887; and of the Patriarch Militant Branch, Canton Ridgley No. 15, and is also a member of Lebanon Lodge of Rebekahs, No. 41. In May, 1903, after having served twenty-one years in the Odd Fellows' order, Mr. Dennis became affiliated with the Veteran Odd Fellows Association of California.

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#### LUTHER PARK WHITMAN.

The association of the name of Whitman with California dates back "to the days of old, the days of gold, the days of '49," for it was in that year that Mr. Whitman landed upon her shores, having made the voyage from Boston around Cape Horn. He was associated with his uncle in the ownership of the vessel on which they made the voyage, as well as being part owner of the cargo. The latter they disposed of readily in San Francisco, after which they sent the ship back.

For several years after his arrival in the metropolis Mr. Whitman made his home in San Francisco, but later went to Sonora, where in addition to mining he carried on a merchandise business for some time. Subsequently he gave this up and came to Stockton, establishing here

the pioneer lumber yard, in connection with which he also ran his own ships. This was one of the thriving industries in the young town and proved a great impetus in encouraging other business men to establish themselves here. With a desire to lead a more retired life, Mr. Whitman went to Empire, Stanislaus county, and settled on land near the old McMullen ranch, and there he made his home until about 1896, when he again came to Stockton, and here lived retired for a few years, after which he went to Sacramento. At his death, which occurred in Sacramento in 1904, the state lost one of her early pioneers and San Francisco and Stockton one of their earliest business men, for in both cities he inaugurated lumber and shipping interests which have continued to the present time.

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#### EDWARD REES THOMPSON.

The history of a community is best told in the lives of its citizens, and when these citizens are men of forceful character, progressive and public-spirited, giving of the best in their lives not alone to the upbuilding of their own fortunes and the furthering of their own personal interests, but to the establishment and maintenance of enterprises calculated to advance the general welfare of those about them, then indeed is such a career worthy of a place in the highest type of citizenship. Such qualities and characteristics were pre-eminent in the life of the late Edward Rees Thompson, whose accomplishments in legal, business and fraternal circles in Stockton made him one of the best-known and most highly respected citizens in this part of the state. Death came to him at his home in this city March 7, 1909, after a lingering illness of many months.

A native son of San Joaquin county, Edward R. Thompson was born at Woodbridge, March

13, 1864, the son of John C. and Caroline (Rutledge) Thompson, early settlers in this western commonwealth. On another page of this volume will be found mention of John C. Thompson, and the family history appears therein, showing that they were pioneers of San Joaquin county and have long been prominently associated with the material development of this part of the state. Primarily educated in country schools, Edward R. Thompson later was sent to Woodbridge College and there took the regular course of study. On the completion of his classical education he took up the study of law in the University of California, from which he was graduated in 1888, at the age of twenty-four years. Immediately subsequent to graduation he was admitted to the bar before the supreme court of the state. His initial training in his chosen profession was as managing clerk in the office of Louttit, Woods & Levinsky. Later he became a law partner with J. J. Paulsell, and still later was associated with Judge Baldwin, under the name of Baldwin & Thompson, this partnership continuing until the death of the judge. Subsequently John E. Budd and Mr. Thompson formed a partnership under the name of Budd & Thompson, which existed up to the time of the death of Mr. Thompson. At the time of his death Mr. Thompson was serving his third term as city attorney, during which time he had been the legal advisor of the municipality, with credit to himself and the city. He entered the office during the term of Mayor William Inglis, was continued under Mayor Harrison, and finally was appointed by the Democratic majority of the council elected after the new charter went into effect. As an official of the city he protected its interests and promoted its welfare. His work in the office received the warmest approval and elicited favorable comments as to his ability and professional knowledge. Staunch in his allegiance to the Democratic party, and active in local, county and state politics, Mr. Thompson never displayed partisanship in his opinions, but was liberal and broad-minded, and hence won popularity among the people of all parties. Mr. Thompson was recognized as one

of the ablest practitioners of this section of the state. He was counsel for several prominent interests and by reason of his scholarly attainments and excellent judgment had built up a fine law practice.

At his death Mr. Thompson left a large estate. Among his real-estate holdings was the former site of the Stockton Iron works, at the corner of California and Weber streets, in which enterprise he was financially interested. In fraternal relations he became a prominent Mason, belonging to Woodbridge Lodge No. 131, F. & A. M., the Stockton Chapter, Stockton Commandery K. T., and Islam Temple, N. M. S. Socially he was a member of the Yosemite Club. All improvements tending to the good of the city and county received his support and to them he gave generously of time, influence, and means.

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#### JAMES WALLACE KERRICK.

The Kerrick family was an old and influential one in Kentucky, where the grandfather, Harrison Kerrick, was making his home at the time of the Revolutionary war, and two succeeding generations have had their origin in that southern state. James Kerrick, the father, was born in Jefferson county, Ky., and his wife, Rachel McKernan, was also of southern birth, being a native of Virginia. A son of these parents, James W. Kerrick, was born in Nelson county, Ky., October 22, 1831. When a child of five years the parents removed to Randolph county, Ill., four years later going to Arkansas, and after remaining there the same length of time they settled in Missouri, and it was there that their son acquired the greater part of his school instruction, attending first the district school, and later having private instruction.

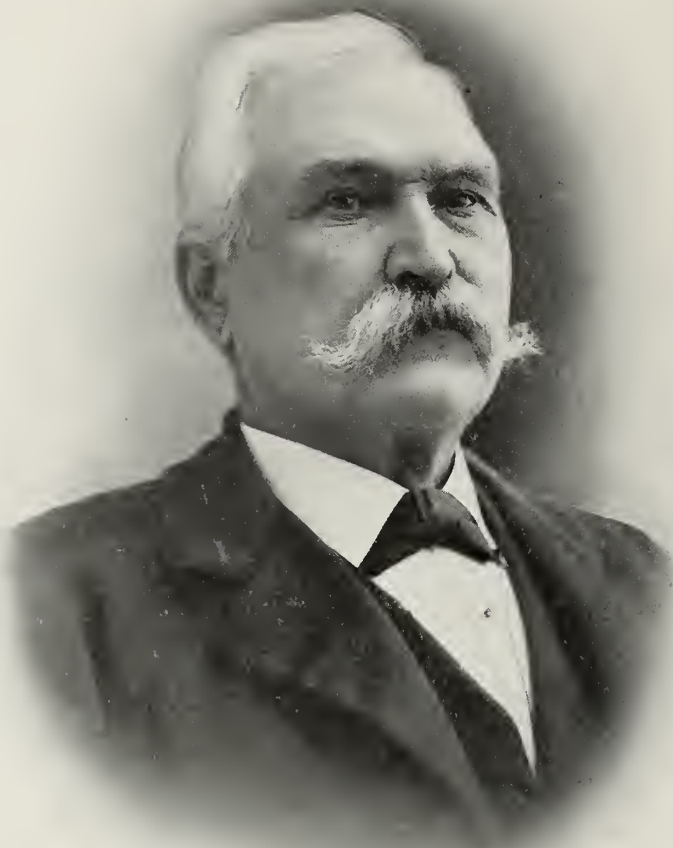
In 1853 the family made their final and most important move, that year marking their advent

into California. The party of which they formed a part comprised one hundred and forty-eight men, thirteen women and eleven children. With twenty-six wagons the party proceeded from Independence, Mo., to Fort Kearney, thence to Fort Laramie, via Sublett's cut-off, Steamboat Springs and the Humboldt river. At the sink of the Humboldt they left the main route and proceeded by way of Sonora into California, theirs being the first party to take this route. On the way they ran out of provisions and had to subsist on their cattle until reaching Relief Camp, where supplies had been sent out to them. At Sonora the train disbanded, and with the seven hundred head of cattle which Mr. Kerrick drove across the plains he settled on land about fourteen miles from Sonora, where for a time he raised hay. From there he went to Tuolumne county, and during the four years he remained there he followed farming and also hauled freight and lumber to the mines. For much of the latter labor, however, he never received any pay.

In 1857 Mr. Kerrick came to San Joaquin county and purchased the ranch on which he now lives, this formerly being the property of Dr. Chalmers. After bringing the ranch to a high state of cultivation he took a needed rest in 1883, visiting a number of the eastern states, and while he was away from home on this trip he was elected to the legislature on the Democratic ticket. He served as chairman of the committee on overflowed lands, and was also a member of the committee on county government and agriculture. At the close of his second term he declined to serve longer and thereafter returned to private life, taking up his residence in Stockton. He was not long permitted to remain out of office, however, for in 1891 he was elected county treasurer and was thereafter re-elected four times, serving in all twelve years, and for the past fifteen years he has taken part in every Democratic state convention. After this prolonged term of service he moved back to the ranch and as far as possible is living a quiet, retired life.







*A. W. Brooks*

Mr. Kerrick's marriage, which occurred January 17, 1868, united him with Katherine Uriell, a native of Iowa, and seven children, four sons and three daughters, have been born of their marriage. The eldest child, John Wallace, is a bookkeeper in San Francisco; Harrison is employed in the United States Forestry Reserve; Alice Maria is the wife of Thomas Downey, of Modesto, and the mother of four children, three daughters and one son; Cordelia is a music teacher, following her profession in Oakland; Charles Sylvanus attended the naval academy at Annapolis, Md., having received his appointment at Sacramento, and after his graduation in 1892 was on the ship Oregon for some time or until sent to the Philippines, where he remained for about three years; later he was transferred to the Atlantic fleet, which he is now accompanying as commander of the Truxton; Walter Carrol is an actor and singer, having an excellent baritone voice; the youngest child, Evelyn, is now attending the State Normal school at San Francisco. Politically Mr. Kerrick is a stanch Democrat, and fraternally he belongs to Stockton Lodge, Order of Elks.

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#### CAPT. A. W. BROOKS.

The title which Captain Brooks won as a result of his many years of seafaring life still clings to him, although for about fifteen years he has been a landsman and a resident of Stockton. He was born in Wales, February 28, 1829, and when a lad of only eleven years shipped as a cabin boy on vessels bound for far-distant ports. During one of these voyages, in 1849, he entered the port of Suez, at the head of the Red sea. This was prior to the construction of the canal, and he well recalls the novel sight of camels transporting freight across the Isthmus on their backs.

After following the sea continuously for about twelve years Captain Brooks came to California in 1852, having been attracted here on account of the reported wealth to be had for delving in the mines. The fact that he left the mines seven months later and returned to life on the sea is conclusive evidence that his expectations were not wholly realized in his new undertaking. He shipped as quarter-master on a vessel bound for Panama, steadily rising from this position, however, until he held the position of second officer on ocean liners. A desire to once more try his luck in searching for the yellow metal took him to the mines again in 1855, this time with better success, judging from the fact that he continued in the mines steadily from that year until 1866. A call to his old life once more attracted him to the sea, but he finally gave that up in 1894, and has since been a resident of Stockton, and one of the city's dependable business men. He is president of the Stockton Ice and Fuel Company (of which he was one of the organizers), and he is also president of the San Joaquin Brick Company. Captain Brooks, associated with J. D. Peters and Arthur Cornwall, built the Frolic, the first tug boat on the river used for towing schooners up the river. This cost \$10,000; they later built a four hundred ton barge to carry grain to San Francisco, and as the business increased added four more to their equipment. Freight rates started at \$1.50 per ton, but came down to \$1. They also built the stern wheeler Herold, now owned by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, and the Leader was also built and put in commission; this was partially burned in March, 1920. Captain Brooks was one of the organizers of the San Joaquin Improvement Company, which was the beginning of the present California Navigation and Improvement Company.

Captain Brooks was married in Tuolumne county, in 1857, to Miss Martha Bolter, who at her death, in 1889, left two daughters, Florence and Eva. Outside of his home and business interests there is probably nothing that has a stronger hold on the affections of Captain Brooks.



than the fraternal associations with which he is connected, and in Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., and Stockton Lodge No. 218 B. P. O. E., he is counted one of the most valuable members. Although he takes an intelligent interest in the political affairs of his adopted country Captain Brooks does not take an active part in the workings of either of the great political parties, and has never had any desire to come before the people in a public capacity. He has now reached the venerable age of eighty years and is in the enjoyment of all his faculties. For some years past the family home has been at No. 838 North San Joaquin street.

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#### PUTMAN VISHER.

Possessed of a temperament that fitted him for the endurance of frontier hardships, Putman Visher came to the regions of the southwest at a time when large opportunity was afforded for the exercise of his natural instincts. Many and varied have been his experiences in the meantime, but he has surmounted them all and has become recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the community in which he has made his home for over half a century, half of this time having been passed in Stockton.

On the Mohawk river, near Schenectady, N. Y., Putman Visher was born November 16, 1836, into the home of Sebastian and Elizabeth (Putman) Visher, in the development of which section of country the Putman family took an active part. Putman Visher passed his boyhood amid the scenes of his birth, attending the public schools of the village near his home, and when not attending the short school term, assisting his father with the chores on the farm. The finding of gold in California was not to pass without having its effect on the Visher family, for among the

argonauts who sought this eldorado in '49 was Sebastian Visher. Leaving his family in the east, he set out with a party of others equally anxious to make their fortunes in the mines, and after a long, tedious journey finally reached San Joaquin county, Cal. After reaching his destination and realizing the possibilities that might be developed for a permanent residence, he secured land and began its cultivation, carrying this on in connection with mining interests on the Sacramento river. After three years of hard work Mr. Visher felt justified in sending for his family, July 5, 1852, witnessing their departure from New York on the ship Ohio. The journey across the Isthmus was varied indeed, being made by rail, boat and on the backs of mules, and upon reaching the Pacific side they embarked on a vessel which landed them in due time in San Francisco, on August 13.

Putman Visher was less than sixteen years of age when he reached his new home in the west, and it was here that his life began in earnest. He at once took charge of the ranch which his father had purchased in San Joaquin county, and continued its management until attaining his majority. With only \$10 to his credit, he started out for himself at this age. After securing a loan of \$3,000 he purchased cattle in Monterey county and brought them to his ranch, later selling them at a good advance. His next venture, taking a band of sheep on shares, was likewise successful, but his career was not to be without its reverses, as later developments proved. After disposing of his sheep he undertook a general ranching enterprise in which, in eighteen months, he lost all the money he had previously saved. He then obtained employment on a levee which his father was building, having charge of the work as superintendent for six months. With the proceeds of his work during this time he bought a team of six horses and began freighting to Aurora, Nev., and while in that locality drove an ox-team in one of the logging camps for a time. He next freighted to the Reese river country, but misfortune again overtook him, this time in the death of four of his horses. Going to the town of Wash-

ington, he carried on teaming there for a time, and later, in 1863, embarked in the butcher business there. Later, in the vicinity of Modesto, he engaged in ranching in partnership with his brother John, but at the end of one year he became sole owner of the enterprise and continued it alone for a like period.

Following the disposition of his interests in Stanislaus county Mr. Visher came to San Joaquin county, renting a ranch on the French Camp road which he carried on for two years. His first purchase of land in the county consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of land just south of Stockton, on which he began ranching on a modest scale. From time to time he was enabled to add to his original purchase, until he finally owned eleven hundred acres all in one body. In 1884, however, he discontinued its management and took up his residence in Stockton, in order to give his children better educational facilities. Some time after locating in the city he purchased a barley mill on Hunter street, which he conducted until 1903, but he still continues his interest in the ranch and stock industry which he managed personally until removing into the city.

Mr. Visher's marriage occurred September 17, 1866, and united him with Miss Lucy H. Gardner, a native of Maine. At her death, in September, 1870, she left one son, John Foster, who is superintending a sugar plantation in Hawaii. Some time after the death of his first wife Mr. Visher was married to Miss Louisa Wolf, this union resulting in the birth of two daughters, Hattie M. and Myrtle. Fraternally Mr. Visher is a member of Morning Star Lodge No. 68, F. & A. M., and also of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. No one has had greater faith in the future of Stockton than has Mr. Visher, and he has shown this faith by a hearty willingness to contribute of time, means and advice toward any object inaugurated for the city's upbuilding. He holds membership in the Central Methodist Church, in which he has served as a trustee, and at the time of the building of the present house of worship he gave efficient service as a member

of the building committee. The advancement of the moral atmosphere in his home city has ever been a subject dear to Mr. Visher's heart, and his accomplishments along this line have had a telling effect in the Young Men's Christian Association of this city, which for a time he served as president.

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#### J. H. SMYTHE.

The life of this honored pioneer of 1841 had its beginning in county Antrim, north of Ireland, February 9, 1822, and its end came in 1885 after sixty-three years of activity and usefulness. The family which he represented was of prominent lineage in the annals of Ireland, where his parents, Samuel and Mary (Adam) Smythe, held a high position in the most refined circles of society. The mother died at the age of eighty-five years in 1865, and the father, who owned and operated a large farm, was seventy at the time of his demise. Reading had given them a liberal culture and they aspired to give their children advantages which they had been denied in their early years. One of their sons, Samuel, was educated for the ministry and at the age of twenty-two he assumed a Presbyterian pastorate at Draperston, where he remained until his death forty years later. Meanwhile he was honored and beloved by the people among whom his lot was cast, and into their homes he went, welcomed alike in times of joy and of sorrow, cheering the sick, helping the sorrowing and befriending the needy.

It was the intention of the parents that the son J. H. also should enter the ministry, and with that ambition in view they gave him exceptional educational advantages for that day and locality. However, his tastes were not in the direction of ministerial work and after he had

studied some years he decided that he would seek other avenues of activity. Coming to America in 1842, he settled in Texas and there engaged in ranching for five years or more. During 1849 he came to California via the isthmus. For a time after arriving in this state he mined at Columbia, Tuolumne county, and at Sonora, same county, but he met with no special good luck. His next venture was in the hauling of freight from Knight's Ferry to Columbia and Sonora, and later he had several teams hauling copper from the copper mines to Stockton. In 1859 he bought with school-scrip a raw tract of nine hundred and seventy acres. Later he increased his holdings by the purchase of one hundred and forty acres and another tract of two hundred and forty acres.

Returning to his old Irish home in 1859, Mr. Smythe was there married early in the year of 1860, his brother officiating at the wedding which united his destiny with that of Caroline M. Smythe, who though bearing the same family name, was not related in any way to him. Born in Ireland November 27, 1835, she was a daughter of John and Mary (Laughlin) Smythe, and traced her ancestry to England. The wedding trip of the young couple was a voyage to America. It had been the intention of Mr. Smythe to settle in Texas, but his wife became ill with the Panama fever, and it was then deemed advisable to proceed to California. They came by way of the isthmus and settled on the ranch eight miles from Stockton, where they industriously labored in the improvement of the land and the building up of a valuable property. Meanwhile he bore an active part in establishing the early schools and making the first roads through his part of the county. As school trustee he accomplished much in behalf of the common schools. It was his belief that nothing promoted the growth of a district more than good schools and good roads, and his public spirit was evidenced in the energy and sincerity with which he supported these movements. One of his intimate friends was the illustrious Captain Weber, who gave him an opportunity to buy

land in his grant, later a part of Stockton, but the difficulties encountered in perfecting the title caused him to hesitate, and he thus lost an opportunity which did not come to him in later days. For years he was active in the membership of the San Joaquin Society of California Pioneers. In politics he voted with the Democratic party.

The family of J. H. Smythe comprised eight children, but one died at the age of three and one-half years, and another was taken from the home at the age of six and one-half years, these two being Gracie I. and Samuel Edgar. The six now living are as follows: Mary M., who is known by the name of Daisy and who resides at No. 1344 East Channel street, Stockton; Annie E., who is living at the old home ranch; Caroline M.; Herbert J.; Helen R.; and Hudson, a physician, who is married and engaged in practice at Stockton.

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#### CHARLES WAGNER.

As one of the early settlers in the now prosperous and thriving city of Stockton Mr. Wagner well recalls the transformation which has been brought about in the intervening years, for when he first came to make his home here in 1856 sloughs were a common sight even in the busiest part of the town. This was the condition of Main street when he first saw it, but during his first year there it was planked and thus made more accessible. Mr. Wagner has not been an idle witness of the improvements which have followed with the passing of years, but he himself has been an active factor in bringing them about, and today is classed among her most enterprising and prosperous business men.

Charles Wagner is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in Wurtemberg, January







*Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Fessier*

23, 1837. As is the custom in Germany he was given a good education in her native schools, attending both the public and the polytechnic schools, and thereafter prepared for his life work by learning a trade. Both his grandfather and father before him had followed the tanner's trade and it was this calling that he selected for his own, serving his apprenticeship under his father, who owned a tannery. An elder brother, Jacob C., had been attracted to this country on account of the gold excitement in California, and for a time after coming here in 1852 continued mining in the southern part of the state, until convinced that more dependable and satisfactory returns would be enjoyed by following his trade. Though the tanner's trade was less romantic there was no element of chance about it, and the times and conditions made it necessary for him to have a dependable income. He opened a small tannery at his present location in Stockton which from the first bore promise of enlarging its scope of usefulness, and it was under this pressure of business that he sent for his brother Charles to join him and take an interest in the business. At the time the plant was started that part of Stockton was practically in the wilderness, although it was in the limits of the city, and the country roundabout was used principally for vegetable farms which were worked by Italians. A few years later business was carried on under the name of Wagner Brothers; from 1870 until 1895 under the name of Kullman, Wagner & Co., and in the year last mentioned it was incorporated as the Wagner Leather Company, a name which has gained high prestige for upright dealing and honest goods. This is the only manufacturing plant of the kind in the San Joaquin valley and it therefore draws its patronage from a wide field. The corporation has other outside interests, the principal one being an extract factory in Humboldt county, where a supply of the California oak tan bark is yet abundant; the juice is extracted, evaporated and shipped to the tannery in barrels.

Mr. Wagner was married in 1867 to Philip-

pina Simon, who had come to the state the year previously with her uncle. Two children have blessed their marriage, Edward C., who is vice-president of the Wagner Leather Company, and Bertha W., the wife of George E. Housken, of Stockton, who is secretary of the corporation. Mr. Wagner has never taken a keen interest in political affairs, but has followed up and studied all movements for the interest of the public and his home city and county, preferring that others with more taste for public life should have the field. In the best sense of the word Mr. Wagner is public spirited, and no opportunity to provide good school privileges, with the best of teachers, fails to receive his hearty support. Fraternally he is identified with Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F., and socially he belongs to the Turnverein, being a charter member of the society in Stockton. At its fiftieth anniversary in 1906 he was the only one present of the original founders. He has always been one of its most active members, working for the advancement of sound and practical knowledge, and education of the uprising generations. The family have a pleasant home at No. 243 East Fremont street, Stockton, where their many friends delight to gather and enjoy their hospitality, which is dispensed with a lavish hand.

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#### EUGENE NICHOLAS FESSIER.

The family represented by this well-known contractor of Stockton is of French lineage, becoming established in this country in 1875, at which time the father, Nicholas Fessier, immigrated to the United States with his wife and three children. His early life was associated with his birthplace, Alsace, where he was reared and educated, and in mature years he followed farming as a means of gaining a livelihood. At the



age of twenty-two years he took upon himself the responsibilities of family life, choosing as his wife Miss Virginia Dennis, one of his countrywomen, she being a native of Paris, France. Besides being a farmer Mr. Fessier was an accomplished basket-weaver, and for fifteen years after his marriage followed this craft almost exclusively. In the meantime he had been preparing himself to become a contractor and builder and for a number of years followed this business in Paris with exceptional success, many of that city's finest structures attesting to his skill and ability. Upon coming to the United States in 1875 Mr. Fessier made his way directly to Calaveras county, Cal., having taken up land here upon which he at once began farming. Three children comprised the parental family at the time removal was made to the United States, Joseph, Charles and Eugenie, one daughter having died in infancy, and after their location in California one more child, a son, was added to the number.

Eugene N. Fessier was born on the homestead ranch in Calaveras county, Cal., January 22, 1880, and attended school in Comanche and Wallace, in that county. When a youth of eighteen years he went to Angels Camp, also in that county, to try his luck at mining, remaining there for three years, when he came to Stockton and was variously employed for eight years, principally in the line of contracting, however, for before leaving Calaveras county he had learned the business under his father. Subsequently he took up the business in earnest, concentrating all of his efforts with one object in view, to become one of the foremost artisans in that calling in Stockton, and his efforts have not been in vain, for this honor is freely accorded him by those in a position to judge of his ability. Recently he has established a painting business and is also associated with D. G. Bambauer in the plumbing business.

In Calaveras county, Cal., September 3, 1901, Eugene N. Fessier was united in marriage with Miss Edna Adeline Matatall, the descendant of French-Canadian stock on the paternal side, John C. Matatall, her father, having been born

in Nova Scotia; on the maternal side she claims Irish lineage, although her mother, in maidenhood, Maggie Gillrooney, was born in Virginia City, Nev. Mr. and Mrs. Fessier have a pleasant residence at No. 630 East Worth street, where they dispense a cordial hospitality to their numerous friends, both being popular in social circles in the city. Mr. Fessier is affiliated with a number of organizations, holding membership in Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F., Stockton Lodge No. 106, W. O. W., Stockton Aerie, No. 83, F. O. E., and Rebekah Lodge, No. 97, besides belonging to a number of insurance orders. Following in the training of his parents Mr. Fessier is an adherent of the Catholic Church.

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#### HON. CHARLES G. HUBNER.

Not many years after the discovery of gold in California there came to this coast a young German, Charles G. Hubner, a native of Saxony, educated in the excellent schools of his country, and qualified by robust health and powers of endurance to surmount the obstacles attendant upon the settlement of a new country. Prior to coming to this state in 1855 he had learned the trades of wheelwright and wagon-maker, and was thoroughly acquainted with every detail connected with the same, so that he was able to earn a livelihood and better wages than would have been paid to an unskilled worker. For a time he was employed by John Gilgert at Stockton, but soon he embarked in business for himself, and by industry and perseverance built up a fair trade as well as an enviable reputation for workmanship and integrity.

Upon becoming a citizen of our country, Charles G. Hubner gave his allegiance to the Democratic party and always supported its principles. In recognition of his services to the party

and his qualifications for the office, he was elected a member of the state legislature and served as a member of the eighteenth assembly during the session of 1869-70. In an early day he began to buy land, taking advantage of the low prices of the time. As property increased in value he reaped the benefit of his early investments and became one of the well-to-do citizens of Stockton. The Farmers' canal had in him a staunch champion from the beginning of the movement in favor of the project and he aided the work in every way possible until it was brought to completion.

At the first start of Hill's Ferry, Mr. Hubner was a promoter of the new town. Much of the building was done under his supervision and he opened a warehouse in the town. Later it was merged into Newman and there still stands beside the river the old hotel which is a memorial of the earlier village. In fraternal relations Mr. Hubner was a Mason and belonged to the lodge at Hill's Ferry. Ere yet old age had come to him, but while he was still in the prime of life's usefulness, he was called from earth at the age of forty-eight years.

The marriage of Mr. Hubner was solemnized in Stockton and united him with Miss Mary Margaret Ransom, who was born in Germany, came to America in girlhood, settled in Stockton and resided here almost continuously afterward until her death, in 1902, at the age of sixty-eight. Four sons and four daughters formed the Hubner family. Three children died at an early age and one son was called from earth after attaining manhood. Two sons, Milton and George, reside in Stockton, and both are natives of this city. One of the daughters, Miss Mary Elizabeth, is unmarried, while the other, Laura Amelia, is the wife of H. W. Keith, residing at No. 126 South Pilgrim street, Stockton. Mrs. Keith was the only member of the family born in Stanislaus county. She has one son, George Hubner Keith, and her brother, Milton, has five children, Esther, Hazel, Mabel, Milton and Stella. In the organization of the German Methodist Episcopal Church Mr. Hubner took an active part,

becoming one of its charter members, and contributing to its maintenance throughout the remainder of his life.

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#### WILLIAM F. MCKEE.

In tracing the causes that have led to the present prosperity of California, the student of history discovers that the citizenship of men from the states to the east has been a leading factor in the results now visible. Numbered among the business men of Stockton who by their excellent business judgment and untiring energy contributed to the growth of the city, mention belongs to William F. McKee, who from the time he came to the west from Pennsylvania in 1851 until his death a quarter of a century later gave the best of his strength and intellect to the upbuilding of this city and commonwealth.

A native of Westmoreland county, Pa., born December 2, 1824, William F. McKee was a son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Tittle) McKee, both also natives of the Keystone state, where their entire lives were spent. There also the boyhood and youth of William F. were spent, and indeed he had reached young manhood under native skies before he had determined to locate in the west. The fact of the gold discovery in California in 1848 had much to do with his decision to locate in the Pacific coast country, a plan which he carried out in 1851. Making the voyage by way of the Isthmus of Panama, the ship on which he sailed cast anchor in San Francisco in due season, and from there he made his way direct to Stockton. He came to this city to fill the position of clerk in the postoffice, and later he was made assistant postmaster.

Mr. McKee's services in the postoffice, satisfactory as they were, proved but a stepping stone to his later business career. In partnership with

B. W. Owens he embarked in the mercantile business, the association thus formed continuing for some time or until Edward Moore was admitted as a third member of the firm which was known then as Owens, McKee & Moore. Subsequently business was carried on under the name of Shippee, McKee & Co. and still later as McKee & Southworth, Mr. McKee retaining his connection with the business through all of its various changes. He was considered one of the most thoroughgoing business men of the city, and through all of the changes in the business with which he was associated he was considered the mainstay of the concern.

The marriage of Mr. McKee occurred May 3, 1854, and united him with Miss Mary L. Brown, the daughter of Judge A. G. Brown, of whom a sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume. Five of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. McKee are deceased, and the following-named are living: Albert B., Edgar L. and Robert T. Mr. McKee was popular and highly esteemed and one of San Joaquin county's most deserving and successful settlers and citizens. Fraternally he was a Mason. He died at his home in Stockton September 4, 1875.

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#### ALFRED L. WYLLIE.

Tradition has it that during the religious persecutions in Scotland the Wyllie family was forced to flee from their native country, and accordingly crossed over to the north of Ireland, where they settled and flourished for several generations. Early in the colonization of America some of the name crossed the Atlantic to New England and there aided in the pioneer task of building up homes out of the wilderness. Oliver C. Wyllie was born at Warren, Me., in 1822, and learned the butcher's trade, which he followed in

Boston for some years after his marriage to Ruth L. Potter, who was born in Maine in 1827. Meanwhile a brother, Alexander Wyllie, had migrated to California during 1853 and had become connected with the operating of a sawmill in Calaveras county. Favorable reports came back to the east from him and Oliver was therefore induced to join him in the new country. Immediately after his arrival he bought teams and engaged in freighting from Stockton to the mines. As the road was extended he made the terminus his starting point.

Upon being joined by his family, who came via the Isthmus to California, Oliver C. Wyllie in 1862 established his home in San Andreas, where his wife still lives, hale and hearty notwithstanding her advanced years. Their son, Leonard A., also makes his home in San Andreas. Throughout all his residence in the west Mr. Wyllie was deeply interested in the development of Calaveras and San Joaquin counties and gave his support to every progressive enterprise. A friend of all the pioneers, he enjoyed maintaining intimate relations with them, and it was a source of deep regret to him when one of them dropped from the ranks and passed from earth. When he, too, was called into eternity in 1886 he was deeply mourned by the surviving old-timers, many of whom had known him in the days when he drove his freighting outfit through the country. Six years before his death he and his wife had returned to the east and had enjoyed a pleasant visit amid the scenes of early days. In politics he supported the Republican party.

Born in Boston, Mass., in 1857, Alfred L. Wyllie was a small child when his mother brought him to California, and his education was obtained in the schools of Calaveras county. After leaving school he began to teach and for eight years, commencing in 1875, he followed that profession in Calaveras county. For five years he acted as superintendent of a mine and still retains some mining interests. From 1886 to 1898 he held office as county clerk, to which he was elected on the Republican ticket, for, like his father, he always has been staunch in his allegiance to that



party and its principles. His marriage united him with Miss Ella S. Creighton, who was born in Calaveras county, and received excellent advantages in local schools. Their children, Oliver C., Genevieve L. and Loring A., were born in San Andreas and received their primary education in the schools of that town. In order that they might enjoy the splendid educational advantages offered by Stockton, in 1905 Mr. Wyllie brought his family to this city, where they reside at No. 30 West Rose street. His interest in educational matters has been steadfast. He believes that the proper education of the young will provide for the welfare of the next generation. In fraternal relations he is a member of Calaveras Lodge No. 78, F. & A. M., and Calaveras Chapter No. 83, R. A. M.; also is identified with San Andreas Lodge No. 50, I. O. O. F., in which he passed all of the chairs.

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### HON. JOHN THOMAS LEWIS.

For a long period of successful activity Senator Lewis has been intimately associated with the material growth of Stockton and it was a fitting recognition of his progressive citizenship when, in 1908, the Republican convention without opposition tendered him the nomination for the state senate. The election that followed gave him a large majority. As the representative of the people he is aiming to support only such measures as will be of general benefit and contribute to the public betterment. Unostentatious in manner, fluent in speech, broad in information, liberal in views, he adds to these advantages for public service the fact that he is a native-born son of the state and throughout all his life has been intensely interested in its progress.

The founder of the family in California was David Lewis, a pioneer of 1849 and a native of

Pawlet, Rutland county, Vt., born in 1832. When a mere boy he lost his father by death and from that time until able to earn his livelihood he remained with relatives, meanwhile serving an apprenticeship to the trade of a carpenter, at which he served for seven years. While still young he went to the south to make his home with a relative. There he came in contact with the slave system which was abhorrent to his spirit to such a degree that he refused to permit the slaves to wait upon him. For that reason he was ridiculed and called "white trash." The matter ended in his running away and going to Texas, where he joined a government surveying party bound for Mexico. During the progress of the work he was captured by Mexicans and held prisoner for a long time. It was the custom of the prison authorities to have numerous drawings among the prisoners and the unfortunates who drew a black bean were taken out and shot. By sheer luck David Lewis escaped such a death and finally was released at Resaca de la Palma, whence he was sent back home by the government.

When news came of the discovery of gold in the west, David Lewis decided to try his fortune in the mines and during 1849 made the long voyage by way of Cape Horn to San Francisco. First he mined at Beale's bar on the Sacramento river, but all he made there was lost in the floods. It had been his intention to return to the east, but losing his little fortune caused a change in plans. For a time he mined at Sutter's creek. Next he became superintendent of the Eureka mine, in which he owned sixty shares of stock. Building a cabin near the mine, he installed his family there, and in that humble home (the remains of which are still standing) a son was born October 21, 1856, to whom was given the name of John Thomas. The cabin and mine were located in that part of Calaveras county now included within the limits of Amador county.

Immediately after the birth of this son David Lewis abandoned mining and moved his family to San Joaquin county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres near the present site of Bellota. Improving the tract, he engaged in



farming. Two years after he settled on the farm, a bear was killed near their cabin, and this was the last bear ever seen in the neighborhood. For twenty years he remained on the same homestead and meanwhile a change was being made throughout the country from mining to agriculture. Public-spirited, well-informed and progressive, he was a desirable citizen, served as a trustee of the Old Guard school, assisted in building and did other pioneer work. An exciting event of early days was the theft of the church building, which was moved one night to Linden. Early in life he was a Whig, but upon the disintegration of that party he allied himself with the Republicans. Prominent in the Grange movement, he served as master of the Linden Grange. He was a member of Scio Lodge No. 102, I. O. O. F., and passed all the chairs of that organization. In 1887 he died at his Linden home.

The marriage of David Lewis took place at Jackson, Amador county, in 1855, and united him with Mary Ann Medlen, who was born in Devonshire, England, and in infancy was brought to the United States by her parents, the family settling in Wisconsin. When seven years of age she was taken from Wisconsin to New York and there boarded a vessel bound for the Isthmus of Panama. After crossing there another ship was boarded and finally she landed in California. Her father, a native of Cornwall, England, and an experienced miner, engaged in mining in Amador county for several years. Her death occurred in 1905. Seven children were born of her marriage, namely: John T., whose name introduces this article; Mary M., who married S. P. Elliott, of Stockton; Minnie, unmarried; Elizabeth, who died at the age of nineteen years; Addie, Mrs. Howard Mosher, of Oakland; Horace, living at the old homestead; and William D., also a rancher, living in the vicinity of Linden. The children were reared and educated in San Joaquin county and all are honored and prosperous.

Reared on the home farm and educated in the Linden schools, John Thomas Lewis was taught by his father the use of tools and the elements of the carpenter's trade. After the death

of his father he endeavored to carry on the old homestead, but agriculture was not to his taste and he met with little or no success. No one appreciates more than he the value of agriculture, but every man must find the work for which he is suited, and he soon found that carpentering was more interesting and less difficult for him than farming. While trying for work in Stockton he therefore drifted into carpentering, but he did not have the money necessary for tools, so he walked to the ranch, asked his mother to give him those belonging to his father, was given them with a mother's blessing and best wishes, and then returned to Stockton ready for work. For some years he worked by the day. Little by little he became more proficient at the trade. After a time he began to take contracts in Stockton and San Joaquin county. Since 1901 he and C. A. Barling have done a general contracting business, meeting with success from the start. Aside from this he has superintended the erection of the First National Bank and other substantial blocks in the city. One of his principal sources of income has been the buying of vacant lots, the building thereon of substantial cottages, and selling the same at a fair profit. During 1904 he erected at No. 245 South American street the residence he now owns and occupies, this being of unique style of architecture, following a design original with himself.

The marriage of Hon. John T. Lewis took place in 1888 and united him with Miss Ella Paty Davidson, a native of Tuolumne county and the daughter of a California pioneer. They have two children, Earl M. and Naomi Welcome. In fraternal relations Mr. Lewis is identified with San Joaquin Lodge, F. & A. M., and Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F.; also was the first native-born son of California to be initiated into Scio Lodge at Linden; further holds connection with the Ancient Order of United Druids and the Knights of the Maccabees. The Stockton Chamber of Commerce has the benefit of his progressive association therewith. While active as a contractor and builder, he never has allowed business and personal matters to engross his entire

time, but always has found leisure to support the movements that build up the city, and here, as well as throughout the entire district which he represents in the senate, his standing is high and his friends as numerous as his circle of acquaintances.

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### CYRUS MOREING, SR.

An early period in the colonization of America witnessed the immigration hither of the Moreing family and their settlement in North Carolina, where a number of successive generations lived and died. The first to seek a home further west was Jesse Moreing, a native of North Carolina and a pioneer of Iowa, where he took up land that was yet in a state of primeval wildness. The lands that he acquired were situated not far from the city of Dubuque and for a time he devoted himself exclusively to their cultivation, bringing them to a high state of improvement. Meanwhile his talents had been recognized by men in other lines of labor and he had been induced to enter the contracting business, taking the contract to build the tracks of the Illinois Central Railroad from Dubuque to a point eighteen miles north of that city. For years he made his home and business headquarters in Dubuque, where he had a large circle of friends among the early settlers. Sharing with him in the esteem of acquaintances was his wife, formerly Miss Celia Johnson, a native of Missouri, but a resident of Iowa after 1838.

Born in the city of Dubuque, Iowa, December 7, 1842, Cyrus Moreing was a son of Jesse Moreing, and received a common-school education in his native town. Starting out to earn his own way in the world, he went to Wisconsin and secured employment in lead mines, where he continued for several years. During 1862 he came to California and settled in Stockton, where he

became interested in teaming and freighting to Virginia City and other points. For four years he continued farming and teaming to the mines, supplying miners with the necessities of life and of their work. The first purchase of land that he made consisted of a tract some six miles east of Stockton. This he devoted to wheat and barley. Later he bought another tract and embarked in the dairy business, at one time conducting two large dairies in addition to his other enterprises.

In no way will the name of Cyrus Moreing, Sr., be associated more inseparably with the development of Stockton than in connection with his work in the grading of the streets. Ever since coming to the city he has entertained original but decided views upon the subject of street-grading, but it was not until the year 1907 that he had an opportunity to test his theories. During that year he was given the contract for improving certain streets of the city, and he spent some \$60,000 in grading and leveling the streets, rolling, macadamizing and oiling them. At the outset of the enterprise considerable skepticism was expressed among some of the citizen regarding the outcome of the matter. Many feared the money was being unwisely invested. But when the work was completed all were pleased with the result and now it is a favorite boast of the people of the city that their streets will compare with any in the state of California. The departure from the ordinary methods employed in street improvement proved an experiment wisely attempted and successfully consummated. In the contract business employment was furnished to as high as three hundred men, while from two hundred to three hundred teams of horses were utilized.

The first marriage of Mr. Moreing took place in 1868 and united him with Miss Arrena J. Lewis, by whom he had ten children, namely: Arthur, Nettie, Henry, Nellie, Charles, Lewis, William, Cyrus, Jr., Susie and David. After the death of the first Mrs. Moreing he was united in marriage with Adeline Schumaker. The sons are interested in the growing of *ferro granatum*.



on a large scale and during the year 1908 they cultivated five thousand acres in wheat and barley; and two hundred and seventy acres in potatoes and onions, all of which yielded large crops. Mr. Moreing, Sr., also is interested in these agricultural enterprises and with R. B. Oullahan he owns a ranch comprising eighteen hundred acres.

Besides the business interests previously mentioned, Cyrus Moreing, Sr., is a stockholder and director of the Enamel & Fire Brick Company, a part owner in eighteen hundred acres of land in Eldorado county, and is also a stockholder in nineteen hundred acres of land in Merced county. Fraternally he is connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. Through the long period of his residence in Stockton he has exhibited a constant interest in the welfare and development of the place and has aided local projects of a progressive nature. He was elected to the city council for four years, but after having served two years he resigned, in order that he might devote his entire time to the management of his business interests.

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#### EDWARD SKERRETT BONSALL.

The progenitor of the Bonsall family in America was Richard Bonsall, who during 1683, settled at Upper Darby, Delaware county, Pa., having crossed the ocean from Moldridge, parish of Bradbourne, Derbyshire, England, accompanied by his wife, Mary (Wood) Bonsall, formerly a resident of the mining town of Bonsall, three miles north of Wirksworth, Derbyshire, England. With them they brought ample means for those days and thus escaped some of the privations incident to a moneyless existence in a new country. Richard, who died in 1699, was the father of Benjamin, who was born November 3, 1687, and made his home in Philadelphia county, Pa. Next in line of descent was

Richard, born May 13, 1714, whose son, Edward, was born January 4, 1739. Thomas, son of Edward, was born August 1, 1789, and died January 17, 1875. By his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Skerrett there was born, among other children, a son, Edward Skerrett, born March 18, 1818, and deceased December 17, 1897. He was in possession of a coat of arms of the Bonsall family, of which they are very proud. In religion the ancestors of the race held firmly to the faith of the Society of Friends.

Born and reared in the city of Philadelphia, Edward Skerrett Bonsall learned in youth the trade of carpenter and stair-builder. His father and mother owned a drug store and were both druggists by profession and he was one of a family of eight children. At the age of about eighteen years he went to Salem, Ohio, and there in 1840 he married Sarah Evans, who was born in Ohio November 20, 1816, being a daughter of Jonathan Evans, a pioneer of 1804 in Ohio. About the beginning of the nineteenth century Mr. Evans had gone from his home near Philadelphia to the frontier of Ohio, where he cleared land, improved a farm, planted a fine orchard and started a nursery. Later he became prominent as a nurseryman. For some years Edward S. Bonsall lived on a farm near Salem, Ohio, and devoted his attention to farming and carpentering. Four children were born on the farm, namely: Rebecca, Edward, George W. and Charles E., of whom the last-named resides with his sister, Mrs. George Hornage, in Stockton.

During the autumn of 1850 Edward S. Bonsall left Ohio for California, taking with him two fine teams of horses, which he exchanged for oxen in Kansas City, Mo. From there he took the overland trail for Oregon and acted as scout of the party. After arriving at The Dalles he explored Oregon and Washington and in 1851 came to California, settling in San Francisco. The removal from Ohio had been made largely with the hope that his wife's health might be benefited and in this hope he was gratified, but other losses came to him. During April and May of 1853 three of their children died. They were







*E. H. W. Brantlett*

buried in a cemetery occupying the present site of the city hall. After working for wages in San Francisco until 1855, he then moved to Alameda county and purchased three hundred and fifty acres near Mission San Jose. In addition to ranching he worked as a carpenter and some of the houses he then built are still standing, evidences of the substantial nature of his work. While living there he served as trustee of the public schools.

Removing to the west side of San Joaquin county in 1868, Mr. Bonsall bought three hundred and twenty acres from the railroad company near Bethany and for years engaged in raising grain. After having farmed continuously until 1883, he then moved into Stockton and erected a residence on California and Acacia streets. In that home his wife died in May of 1886. Later he made his home with his only daughter, Mrs. Hornage, until his death, December 17, 1897. After coming to California his family had been increased by the birth of two children, Ella, now Mrs. George Hornage, and Edward, who resides in Berkeley.

Politically Mr. Bonsall always voted the Republican ticket. He always refused offices except those of an educational nature. Intensely interested in the upbuilding of our pioneer schools, he served frequently as a trustee, his last work of that kind being near Bethany. Besides being liberal in his contributions to educational matters, he was generous to charities and churches, and was a man of kindly disposition, genial, enterprising and progressive, supporting whatever had to do with the betterment of conditions in the west. At the time of the establishment of Tracy cemetery he took a warm interest in the measure and aided in securing the land. When twenty-three years of age he had been made a Mason in Salem, Ohio, and transferred his membership to California upon his removal hither. During the time spent in Oregon he frequently encountered Indians, but he made a policy of winning their friendship and treating them honorably, and never did he find them disposed to treachery or theft. The hard-

ships of the frontier did not inconvenience him and he regretted them only because they brought privations to his wife and children. After he began to farm in Alameda county he interested himself in securing cattle of good grade and made a specialty of the stock business. The keeping of cattle and horses rendered desirable the fencing of the ranch and this he did at a time when few ranches were enclosed, it being the common custom to allow the cattle the freedom of the range. His life was one of activity and his last days were quietly passed in the home of his only daughter, who gave him the most devoted care as long as he lived.

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#### CHARLES H. W. BRANDT

Eight miles south of Stockton, at what is known as Brandt's Bridge, may be seen a unique and interesting industry, the California Chimney works, which was inaugurated on a small scale in 1872 and has since become a flourishing business center in which seventeen men are employed. The organizer and proprietor of this enterprise is a native of the Fatherland, born in Hanover, Germany, October 25, 1840, the son of Frederick and Phillippina Brandt, both of the parents also being natives of this province.

By the time he was fifteen years of age Charles Brandt began to chafe under the restrictions and limitations which surrounded him in his native country, and through a mere lad in years and experience he set out alone for the New World, where he felt confident success and a fortune awaited him. Setting sail from the port of Bremen in 1855, he reached Galveston, Texas, after a comparatively uneventful voyage of three months and nine days. Going to Washington county, that state, he secured work as the carpenter's trade, a business which he followed for



several years or until 1859, when a desire to acquaint himself with conditions further south took him on a tour of inspection to Central and South America. After two years spent in these countries he was contented to return to the United States, coming direct to California, and in San Francisco he engaged in the furniture business for a short time. The year following, in the spring of 1862, he came to San Joaquin county, locating on the river near Castoria, where for several years he engaged in gardening and general agricultural pursuits.

As an outgrowth of his agricultural endeavors for ten years, in 1872 Mr. Brandt concentrated his attention upon the raising and manufacture of chicory for commercial uses, beginning at first in an experimental way, but later, in 1881, the business had grown to such an extent that he took C. A. Bachman into the business. Under the firm name of Bachman & Brandt, business was carried on until the death of Mr. Bachman in 1903, since which time Mr. Brandt has been alone. In addition to carrying on the manufacturing business just mentioned Mr. Brandt also owns three ranches, upon which he carries on general stock-raising and agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Brandt's marriage was solemnized in French Camp, September 18, 1870, uniting him with Theresa Bachman, the daughter of his late partner, C. A. Bachman. She was also a native of the Fatherland, and was born May 15, 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Brandt became the parents of nine children, of whom one son, Oscar, is deceased. Those living are named in order of their birth as follows: Charles A., Frederick C., Augustus W., Louis, Emil A., Theresa, Dorothy and Mildred. With the exception of one child, Augustus W., all are residents of San Joaquin county. Frederick C. and Louis are now associated in the plumbing business in Stockton and have the following large enterprises under construction: plumbing and heating for The New Hotel, the Y. M. C. A. Building and the State Hospital. The home of the family was made desolate by the death of the wife and mother, which occurred July 28, 1904. In his political

sympathies Mr. Brandt is an ardent Republican, is public spirited, and is withal a citizen whose influence is felt and recognized throughout a wide radius. During his residence of nearly a half century in San Joaquin county he has witnessed many marvelous changes and has himself been a prime mover in bringing about not a few of them. During all these years his ideas concerning and methods of conducting business have been such as to inspire the highest regard and confidence from those who have been associated with him, under no consideration being willing to countenance any gain that came at the expense of his fellowman. This characteristic was nowhere better illustrated than in his organization of a plan to so regulate the raising of chicory that all farmers on the island should have an equal opportunity, thus preventing a monopoly among a few. Fraternally he is well known in Masonic circles, being a member of Morning Star Lodge No. 68, F. & A. M., and he is also a member of the A. O. D.

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#### JOHN H. GERARD.

To the residents of San Joaquin county in the vicinity of Woodbridge the name of Mr. Gerard was familiar as that of an energetic and capable agriculturist, one who coming here in young manhood had worked his way to a position among the prominent ranchers of San Joaquin county, and had won the respect of associates in every walk of life. Although his life activities have ceased he is still kindly remembered by a host of associates and friends.

Although a native of England, Mr. Gerard had no knowledge of his birthplace, as when he was a mere child he was brought to the United States, the family settling in Maine. The straitened circumstances of the family made it neces-

sary for Mr. Gerard to begin his self-support when other children of a similar age were attending school. All the training which he received was in a night school, his days being employed in cotton mills in Biddeford and Soco, Me. His duties in the mill were confining and he felt his restrictions even more keenly as the reports of better prospects in the west came to his attention, both by means of the press and by word of mouth from those who had returned to the east. In 1855 he decided to come to California, and during that year, with his bride, he undertook the journey which was to bring them to their new home. From the harbor of New York they took passage on a vessel which landed them at Panama, arriving there just three days before the railroad across the isthmus was completed. Upon its completion they were borne to the Pacific side of the isthmus on the initial trip made over the new road. Finally reaching San Francisco, Mr. Gerard went to the mines of Calaveras county, where he was variously employed for a year and a half, after which he came to San Joaquin county, locating near Woodbridge in 1856. Here he purchased one hundred and eighty-three acres of virgin soil, the clearing of which entailed much hard labor. He continued to clear off the underbrush until he had the entire tract under cultivation and after several years was enabled to add more land to his ranch, the land being devoted to grain and to stock-raising. Mr. Gerard had the distinction of being the pioneer in the raising of grapes in this locality, in 1862 setting out six acres in vines, at the same time also planting an orchard.

Prior to her marriage in 1855, Mrs. Gerard was Miss Caroline Sterling, a native of England, born in 1838. At the age of seventeen years she was brought to the United States, settling in Maine, where soon afterward she was married to Mr. Gerard. One son was born of their marriage, James, who is now located in Oakland engaged in the steam boat business. By his marriage with Miss Annie C. Penny of Boston, Mass., five children were born, three of whom are living as follows: Lillie, Raymond and James.

Jr. The life of John H. Gerard came to a close in 1882, on his ranch near Woodbridge, leaving to mourn his loss a host of warm personal friends who had been attracted to him by his many sterling traits.

### JOHN NEWTON WOODS

Honored among the pioneers of San Joaquin county was John Newton Woods, who first landed in Stockton December 2, 1857, although he did not establish a permanent home in this city until twenty years later. The family of which he was a member became established in America during the colonial period. An ancestor, Henry Woods, who was born in Virginia, followed the tide of emigration that drifted toward the west, and settled in the wilds of Kentucky, where he was killed by the Indians in 1790. Later the family became pioneers of Ohio, where (in Brown county) Johnson Woods was born in 1815. During early life he became a pioneer of Indiana, where in 1834 he married Louisa M. Eastes. The American progenitor of the family on the paternal side was Rev. Robert Wooster, a native of London, England, born in 1727, who crossed the ocean to the New World and settled at Brownsville, Pa. Renouncing his allegiance to the king of England he aided the colonies in the war of the Revolution. Afterward he became one of the very earliest settlers of Fayette county, Ind., and officiated as the first minister of the Methodist Church west of the Alleghanies.

It was characteristic of Johnson Woods that he should display in his life the line of pioneer scenes that had been inherited from his ancestors. During 1840 he removed from Indiana to what is now Savannah, Mo., where he built the first house in Andrew county and engaged in trading. When news came of the discovery

of gold in California he determined to brave the perils of the unsettled west in an effort to find gold, and accordingly during 1850 he made the long journey, arriving at Hangtown on the 1st of August. Soon afterward he began to prospect on Woods creek, and was already meeting with success when he was killed, February 1, 1852, in Mariposa county, by a personal friend, for evidence given in a fraudulent claim case, which was against this friend. Surviving him were three sons and two daughters, also his wife, who was born in Rush county, Ind., in 1820, and died in Tulare county, Cal., June 12, 1906, at an advanced age.

At the age of fourteen years John Newton Woods, who was born in Fayette county, Ind., June 7, 1837, became a clerk in a general store at Savannah, Mo., where he gained a practical business knowledge. Five years later he went to Indiana, where he spent eighteen months at Knightstown, Henry county, and then came via the isthmus to California, landing in Stockton, as previously stated, late in the year of 1857. For a time he made his home with an uncle, J. H. Woods, the founder of Woodbridge. A year after coming he bought three hundred and twenty acres of land, on a portion of which Acampo now stands. During 1859 he embarked in the mercantile business under the firm title of Porch & Woods, but the following year he sold out and went to Virginia City, Nev., where he tried his luck at mining. On his return to Woodbridge, Cal., he conducted business from 1861 to 1863 under the firm title of Woods & Bayliss. During 1864 he turned his attention to agriculture and enlarged his farm to four hundred acres, but in 1877 abandoned ranching and removed to Stockton. However, he still retained large ranch interests at his previous place of residence until about 1880, when he sold and purchased land in Tulare county. From 1877 until 1882 he held the position of manager and secretary of the Grangers Union, and in 1883-84 acted as deputy treasurer of the county. Externally he was made a Mason in 1858 in Woodbridge Lodge No. 131, F. & A. M., being the

first member initiated, later becoming a member of Stockton Chapter No. 28, R. A. M., and Stockton Commandery No. 8, K. T. He was also a member of the Shrine, became a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of the Eastern Star Chapter, and was also a member of the Stockton Lodge of Elks. In recollection of his identification with early events in this locality, he held membership with the San Joaquin Pioneers and enjoyed greatly the reunions of these early settlers to whose energy and fortitude the present generation is greatly indebted.

The marriage of Mr. Woods took place December 22, 1864, and united him with Miss Annie V. Farmer, who was born in Greenfield, Mo., January 24, 1843, and came across the plains to California with her parents during 1859. They first settled in Sacramento, but later moved to Amador county, and it was in the latter county that the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Woods occurred. Two daughters blessed their union. Jessie Lee married George E. Wilhoit of Stockton, and Mary L. is now the wife of Macdonald Douglass. The death of Mrs. Woods occurred in Stockton, April 7, 1900, Mr. Woods surviving her a number of years, or until December 4, 1906.

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#### WESTERN SCHOOL OF COMMERCE.

The above institution of learning had its inception in 1901, when Messrs. J. R. Humphreys and T. H. Wolfenbarger bought of C. E. Doan the plant of the Gas City Business College, located on the third floor of the Salz-Bours building, on Hunter street square, Stockton, and at the time of the purchase the college had been closed for a year. Though the plant was a small one it was first-class in every particular. With this beginning the new proprietors opened a business, shorthand and normal school on Sep-



tember 30, 1901, with a corps of three teachers and an attendance of three pupils for the first day, but during the year it was increased to forty pupils. From the first, the school has appealed to the public only on the basis of merit.

Before organizing the Western School of Commerce Mr. Humphreys had had several years' experience in Normal work in this city and was recognized as one of the most successful teachers in the state in Normal subjects. Mr. Wolfenbargar had had considerable experience as a teacher of commercial subjects, as well as several years' experience as bookkeeper and expert accountant. Both were enthusiastic in their work and believed sincerely in a higher standard for business college work than was then maintained. They immediately raised the standard in this school by making more rigid requirements for graduation and requiring a longer term of preparation than had before been required by the business colleges of California. This school was the first to introduce an eight-month term for a business or shorthand course, and twelve months for a combined course, including both the business and the shorthand courses, with the accompanying subjects that usually go with these branches.

From the start, business practice, with the theory of bookkeeping taught by class drills as it was necessary, was adopted in the business department. An original course of work, based entirely on western business methods, was compiled by Messrs. Humphreys and Wolfenbargar. In this course of study they included what they conceived to be the best of the older systems, and added many new features that seemed to them to be demanded by a thorough practical business education. Among the most prominent of these was the use of the loose-leaf systems, card systems, modern filing systems, and the use of other modern office appliances. This proved quite an innovation, as the use of these modern office systems and appliances in training pupils for business life was almost, if not entirely, unknown among the business colleges. These are now a part of the equipment of every modern

business school, this school being the pioneer in their use.

The growth of the school had been so rapid that in the winter of 1904-05 its space was found to be entirely inadequate to its needs. Arrangements were therefore made by which a new building was constructed especially for the accommodation of the school, with more than twice the capacity of the old building. The school occupied the new building September 1, 1905, and within a year reached practically the capacity of the new building. The school now enrolls yearly from four hundred to five hundred new students, and has an attendance through the winter of about three hundred, which is all that the building will comfortably accommodate. The Normal department has grown to be the largest private school for the training of teachers in the state, with an attendance approximately equal to all the other private normals of the state combined. The business and shorthand departments are recognized as among the best departments of their kind in the west. No backward step has ever been taken, either in the matter of service or equipment.

In May, 1902, H. W. Bessac, a young man of much ability and considerable experience in public school work, became associated with Messrs. Humphreys and Wolfenbargar as a third owner of the school.

The school was incorporated under its present name, Western School of Commerce, September 1, 1902. The officers were J. R. Humphreys, president; T. H. Wolfenbargar, vice-president; H. W. Bessac, secretary; and the San Joaquin Valley Bank was named as depository. Mr. Wolfenbargar was compelled to give up his work in the school in April, 1903, and E. H. McGowan, who succeeded him as principal of the commercial department, became vice-president.

L. W. Peart, who had been engaged in business college and normal work in Stockton for a number of years, accepted a position in the faculty of the school in September, 1904, and purchased Mr. Wolfenbargar's stock in September, 1905, thereby becoming one-third owner of the

school. Upon his securing Mr. Wolfenbargar's interest he was made business manager of the school, and the duties of the management of the school were divided among Messrs. Humphreys, Bessac and Peart about evenly. Mr. Wolfenbargar died in November, 1905.

The strongest element in the growth and success of the school has been the ability and personality of its teachers. The school now employs regularly seven teachers and an office assistant. Its present officers are: J. R. Humphreys, president; E. H. McGowen, vice-president; H. W. Bessac, secretary; and L. W. Peart, business manager.

On January 1, 1909, the Western School of Commerce sold to the Heald Associated Colleges their business and shorthand departments, and purchased from the Heald Colleges their Normal schools at Oakland and Stockton. Thus the Western School of Commerce has become exclusively a Normal school. Its officers remain as above mentioned.

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#### HOWARD MALCOM FANNING.

In the passing of Howard M. Fanning, April 23, 1906, another of the early pioneers and up-builders of California crossed over the Great Divide. He was a native of New York, born in the city of Troy, June 3, 1826, and in the vicinity of his birthplace he grew to manhood. He was a young man of only twenty-two years when he assumed domestic responsibilities by his marriage, October 4, 1848, the ceremony being performed on Staten Island, N. Y., and uniting him with Laura Louise Butts. In less than two years afterward the young people started for California, embarking in July, 1850, and reaching their destination in the following October. They made the trip by way of the Isthmus of Pana-

ma, across which Mr. Fanning was obliged to walk, as there were only enough mules for the ladies to enjoy the luxury of riding. By the time they reached the Pacific side of the Isthmus a number of the party were taken sick with Panama fever, but fortunately all recovered. They had expected to be met at Panama by a steamer to take them to San Francisco, but in this they were disappointed, and instead they were obliged to take passage on a sailing vessel. Severe storms overtook them and drove their frail sailing vessel back almost to the Sandwich Islands after San Francisco had been sighted. The fact that Mrs. Fanning was the only woman on board led the superstitious sailors to believe that her presence was the cause of all the misfortune that had befallen them, and it was their wish to throw her overboard. She escaped this sad fate, however, and after a long and trying passage they finally set foot on terra firma.

From San Francisco Mr. Fanning came direct to Stockton, where for a time he engaged in the butcher business, and later worked at the carpenter's trade, receiving \$16 a day for his services. Subsequently he gave this up to take up farming on a ranch of two hundred and fifty acres one mile from Stockton, property which he cultivated successfully until 1875, when he sold out and thereafter lived retired. Few citizens were more deeply interested in the welfare of his home city than was Mr. Fanning, towards whose betterment he was ever lending his best efforts. For a number of years he served as supervisor of his township, having been elected to the office at the hands of his Republican friends, he himself being a stanch defender of that party's principles. Fraternally he was a Mason, and socially he was a member of the Pioneer Society, of which at one time he served as president.

Of the children born of the marriage of Howard M. and Laura L. (Butts) Fanning three are living, as follows Mrs. Clara F. Bugbee, who makes her home at No. 429 North Hunter street, Stockton; Jennie D., also a resident of this city; and Harry H., a prosperous rancher



in the vicinity of Stockton. All were born, reared and educated in Stockton. Mrs. Fanning passed away August 1, 1906, aged seventy-seven years.

#### WILLIAM MONTGOMERY BAGGS.

In the death of William M. Baggs, which occurred in Stockton October 17, 1888, not only did this city lose one of her most esteemed business men, but the state one of its early pioneers, he having located here early in the year 1849. The records show the family to be of English origin, although several generations had made the name famous in the southern states, where many of its members were large slave holders. This was particularly true of Peter J. Baggs, the father of William M., who owned a large plantation in Maryland. His marriage with Miss Mary Nichols united him with another prominent family of the south, her father also owning a large number of slaves which he employed on his plantation in Maryland just over the line from Virginia. It was on the plantation of Captain Aull, a relative on the maternal side, that Frederick Douglass received the education that made it possible for him to become the noted exponent of anti-slavery principles.

William M. Baggs was born on his father's plantation in St. Anne's county, Md., May 30, 1822, and there spent his early boyhood years. As he had no taste or inclination to follow in the footsteps of his father and become the owner of a plantation he early in life decided upon learning a trade, apprenticing himself to a cabinet-maker for that purpose. It was with this trade as his chief asset that he went to Philadelphia in young manhood, prior to the war with Mexico. It was while he was following his trade in that city that the news of the discovery

of gold in California came to his notice and made his efforts at making a fortune pale before the glowing tales of fabulous wealth to be found in the mines in the west. He immediately started for this eldorado, making the voyage by way of Cape Horn, and in May, 1850, the ship on which he sailed cast anchor in the harbor of San Francisco. The eldorado which he sought he did not find in the mines, however, but rather in the various business ventures which he undertook in Stockton, to which city he came immediately after landing in San Francisco. The first enterprise in which he engaged was the establishment of a commission business, which drew patronage from a large territory, extending as far north as Oregon, but he gave this up in time and for many years thereafter was extensively interested in the lumber business. His faith in the future greatness of Stockton as a large commercial center was continually manifest, one of the evidences of his faith in his home city showing itself when he ventured to erect the first brick warehouse in the city. The innovation proved a success, and from that time until his death he concentrated his efforts along this line exclusively.

While a resident of Philadelphia Mr. Baggs was married to Miss Anna Nairn Malwood in 1848, she being a descendant of the house of Nairn of Scottish nobility. The year following their marriage Mr. Baggs set out alone for the west, and three years later he was joined by his wife, she having made the trip by way of the Isthmus. The death of Mr. Baggs occurred October 17, 1888, and he was survived by his wife until September 22, 1903, both passing away in Stockton, which had been their home for many years. Eight children were born of their marriage, but of the number only three are now living. The eldest child, John, is deceased; Montgomery is engaged in the insurance business in San Francisco; Walter T., who died at the age of thirty-two, was a justice of the peace in San Joaquin county; Harry is a resident of Redondo, Los Angeles county; Mary became the wife of W. D. Buckley and makes her home in



Stockton; the other two children died in infancy.

The fourth child in the family of William M. and Anna Baggs was Walter Thompson Baggs, who was born March 4, 1858. He was educated in the public and high schools of his home city, Stockton, supplementing this training by a course in Yale College, from which institution he graduated with the highest honors of his class. For a time he was associated with commercial interests as secretary of a paper mill in Stockton, but a predilection for the law lead him to give this up and devote his time to its study, reading in the office of Judge W. L. Dudley, of Stockton. Subsequently he was elected to the office of justice of the peace on the Republican ticket. It was while filling his second term in this capacity that failing health made it necessary for him to resign his position. He went to Phoenix, Ariz., in the hope of recovering his health, but after remaining there for six months he returned to his home in Stockton and passed away one month later, May 8, 1888, just five months before the death of his father. He was a young man of brilliant promise, and his untimely death was a sad loss to the legal profession.

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#### GEORGE GRAY.

The lumber firm of Simpson & Gray, established at Stockton in 1853 by the purchase of the interests of Simpson & Jackson, enjoys the distinction of being the oldest continuous co-partnership on the Pacific coast, and its members, A. W. Simpson and George Gray, are entitled to the highest credit for having built up from a small beginning, an industry of large dimensions and great importance. Meanwhile they have contributed to the general development of the city and have paid large amounts to aid in the task

of street improvement, which work was taken up about the time their partnership was formed. Besides their city property they own lands in the county and are rated among the successful and prosperous business men of Stockton.

A native of Maine, Mr. Gray was born June 8, 1826, in the town of Topsham, in what was then Lincoln, but is now Sagadahoc county. His father, Capt. George Gray, descended from an old family of Rhode Island, and his mother was a member of the Winchell family, colonial settlers of Maine. On both sides the ancestors were lumbermen, farmers and seafaring men. The boy grew up almost within sight of the great Atlantic and as he listened to the tales spun by the sailors of winter nights, there arose in his heart a desire to be a sailor, yet duties at home prevented for a time and, after he had attended the country school and an academy, he turned his attention to farming in Lincoln county. The land in that locality affords little encouragement to tillers of the soil and its sterile wastes provide a most meagre sustenance in return for care and cultivation; hence the young man indulged his desire to see something of the world and became a sailor on a vessel between Maine and New Orleans. While following the sea he learned of the discovery of gold in California. November 1, 1849, he sailed before the mast on the ship Birmingham, bound for the Pacific coast via Cape Horn, and after a voyage of one hundred and fifty days under Captain Winchell, an uncle, he landed at San Francisco April 4, 1850, to find himself in the midst of strange conditions and a cosmopolitan population.

Using some boards to construct a boat, Mr. Gray rowed from San Francisco to Stockton and then proceeded to the southern mines, but met with no success. A brief experience on the Feather river terminated his experience as a miner. For a short time he operated a dray in Stockton, next he worked in a saw mill in Sonora, Tuolumne county, and during the summer of 1853 he became a permanent resident of Stockton, where his interests in the state had first centered and where previously he had made his head-

quarters and terminus. Among his recollections of early days here is the fact that a ferry was operated across a slough where now stands the hall owned by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. For a time he served as president of the San Joaquin County Society of Pioneers and always he has maintained a warm interest in the reunions of the early settlers, with whom he enjoys exchanging stories of pioneer existence and frontier experiences. Since coming to the west he has made three visits to Maine, the first one being made via the Isthmus ten years after his arrival on the coast.

A house that was brought around Cape Horn to California and that is still occupied in Stockton, was the center of a gay circle of pioneers one night in September, 1858, when George Gray and Cynthia A. Hammond were united in marriage. The bride was a native of Newport, R. I., born in 1840, and had come to the western coast during girlhood years. Their married life has been one of prosperity and happiness and they own a comfortable home on Fremont street, where their comfort is ministered to by their daughter, Hannah W., the other daughter, Abbie H., being the wife of John Garwood, of Stockton. Both daughters were educated in Stockton schools and are women of refinement and culture.

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### THOMAS CUNNINGHAM.

It is interesting, instructive and profitable, on occasions, to review the lives of men who have risen from comparative obscurity to honor and distinction among their fellow-men by virtue of their unaided efforts and intrinsic merits, in that they are exemplars worthy of imitation, a light to the path and a guide to the feet of the rising generation.

Thomas Cunningham was, perhaps, not only

the best-known man in San Joaquin county, but also in the state, over which his active career as sheriff in this county, for over a quarter of a century, had carried him. He was a native of county Longford, Ireland, where he was born on the 17th of August, 1838, the youngest of a family of seven children. When ten years of age he came to the United States with relatives and located in Brooklyn, N. Y. There he served an apprenticeship at the harness-making trade with his brother-in-law, and while so employed devoted his spare time to study and in attendance at night school as he had a chance. He worked there until 1855, when he left for California via Panama on the steamer Illinois, and landed in San Francisco from the steamer Sonora on June 16, 1855. Soon after his arrival there he came to Stockton and found employment with Peachy & Baggs, harness-makers. He afterwards worked in the same line of business for George Ellsworth and H. T. Dorrance. In 1860 he started in business for himself, on Main street near Eldorado, having bought out the stock of J. W. Scott.

In 1861 Mr. Cunningham was married in Stockton to Miss Catherine Quirk, of the Isle of Man, who died April 4, 1875; and upon her demise, great grief overshadowed many hearts in the community where she was known and beloved for her many virtues. They became the parents of three children: Mrs. Lillian May Confer, deceased; Margaret Ella, who occupies the home place at No. 1009 North Eldorado street; and Katherine Q., wife of Frank S. Dugger. He never contracted a second marriage, but devoted himself to the well-being of the motherless children left in their infancy to his fatherly care and keeping.

Mr. Cunningham was a leading member of the old Volunteer Fire Company, and in 1857 was elected a member of the Eureka Engine Company No. 2; he labored diligently to comprehend the duties of a fireman in detail; and was equally faithful in the discharge of those duties. As preferment followed merit, his sphere of usefulness was speedily enlarged, and he soon stood at the head of the company as its furthest. In 1865



he was chosen chief of the Stockton Fire Department and served in that position for several terms with such universal acceptance that in December, 1870, he was presented with a splendid medal of honor of unique and happily conceived design.

In 1865, and again in 1870, Mr. Cunningham was elected a member of the Stockton city council from the third ward; and was distinguished for the soundness of his views upon all matters of public interest presented during his term. It was at this time when the question was before the city council of granting a franchise by which the Stockton & Copperopolis Railroad (which was at that time backed by local capitalists, who later sold out to the Central Pacific), could gain access to the waterfront through Weber avenue. Councilman Cunningham stood alone in determined opposition to the measure; contending that railroads should reach the wharves, mills and warehouses by some more obscure route, as is being done today, but when the final vote was taken upon the granting of the franchise, his vote was the only one recorded in the negative. He predicted then in his final stand before the vote was taken, that if the railroad was kept off the avenue, that it would be the main business street of the city, extending as it did in its ample proportions from the waterfront to the Central Pacific depot and out toward the tributary country beyond, peculiarly adapted to trade and traffic, and the accommodation of a street car system without interference with this traffic; but this grand avenue being obstructed by a steam railroad, the street railroad which came along soon afterward was forced to ask for a franchise on narrow, contracted Main street, and the city council was forced to grant the same. One can realize now, after thirty years, the foresight of this man at that time. We can remember the long fight to get the steam cars off Weber avenue, and the boom it has taken as a retail street with splendid modern buildings since they were removed and the electric street car system substituted.

In the fall of 1871 Mr. Cunningham was nominated by the Republican party for sheriff

of San Joaquin county and elected by a handsome majority. He took office on the first Monday in March, 1872, thus entering upon one of the longest and probably the most notable career of any sheriff on the Pacific coast. Pessimists on all sides wagged their heads and prophesied that this "harness-maker" would prove a dismal failure when confronted with the duties of his office. A knowledge of the existence of this adverse criticism, in the minds of many, grated harshly upon the sensitive nature of the sheriff-elect, but proved to him a blessing in disguise, for it aroused all the latent energies of his mind and indomitable will; and those gruesome forebodings of ill were quickly put to rest. From that time until his voluntary retirement in January, 1899, he was continuously in office, and during the unsettled period of the early part of his career he had many opportunities of showing his tact and courage. In the saddle, over mountain passes and through swamps, about the campfire and in the stealthy watch of the silent night, on guard for the good of the commonwealth; from the trailing of Vasquez and his band for six thousand miles until they were finally run to earth near Los Angeles in 1873, up to the tracking of the train robbers in southern San Joaquin county in 1898, just before he retired from office, he took a prominent part in every important man hunt in the state; was at the seat of danger wherever there was a disturbance, as in the Moquelemos grant and other settlers' troubles; and was in general a tower of strength on the side of law and order over the wide territory where his influence was felt and his determination known. Many tales could be told of his adventures, his prowess and daring, had we but space to do so; but the collection of weapons taken from criminals in the court house at Stockton is mute testimony of the stirring scenes during his long career in office.

One of the leading characteristics of this remarkable man, that enabled him to hold an office continuously for such a length of time, an office much coveted by aspirants in all parties, who exhausted every expedient to compass his defeat



during that long period, and to the disgust of the strenuous advocates of rotation in office, was his kindly sympathy for even the most hardened criminal, when once he had peaceably submitted to his authority. His manhood life abounded in deeds of charity, known only through the grateful recipients of his bountiful generosity. But between Thomas Cunningham in civil life and Sheriff Cunningham in his constant, fearless and indefatigable efforts for the suppression of crime within his jurisdiction, the line is drawn so sharply, that one is at a loss to understand how these two qualities can combine to such a degree in the same individual. This apparent anomaly was one of the principal factors that so endeared him to his constituents and the general public. When a warrant was placed in his hands for service upon a venerable justice of the supreme court of the United States, growing out of a tragic affair at Lathrop, who of the old timers does not remember the singularly graceful and unobtrusive manner in which that delicate duty was performed under the critical eye of the whole country?

In illustration of the peculiar tact and strategic ability that stood this veteran sheriff in hand throughout his brilliant career, we record the following: When in 1894, during the extreme industrial depression of that year, a branch of that army of unemployed and impecunious men, on their way to Washington to present their grievances to the government, rendezvoused at Sacramento, and remained for months, an incubus upon the city, exhausting the hospitality of its citizens, committing depredations upon property, and disturbing the general peace of the community; there came a time when forbearance ceased to be a virtue, and they received peremptory orders, "to move on." It was then that this army commenced preparation for a descent upon Stockton as their next objective point. Anticipating this unwelcome visit Sheriff Cunningham appeared before the board of supervisors and submitted his plan of operation, asking their co-operation to the extent of appropriating a comparatively small sum of money to enable him by a little stratagem to

prevent this terrible infliction upon the community. The supervisors heartily approved the sheriff's plans, and freely voted the required aid. The "army" was soon on the march; but they had heard of "Tom Cunningham," and approached the borders of this county with nervous forebodings of a hostile reception. On reaching the county line, to their surprise, they were met by the sheriff, wearing his blindest smile, and with assurance of his hearty sympathy for them in their forlorn condition, and that he would do all in his power to forward them toward their ultimate destination. As an earnest of his good intentions he directed them to place their blankets and luggage on wagons he had drawn up for the purpose. After partaking of a lunch prepared for them, they were ready for the march to the camping ground in the city the sheriff had kindly provided for them. Arrived on Banner Island, a grand feast awaited them, comprising all of the substantial and delicacies of the season, of which they partook as only hungry men can, while every breath was laden with blessings for the good sheriff of San Joaquin. The inner man being fully satisfied, you can imagine that they were in excellent good humor. About this time a tug, with two barges, drew up to the landing. The sheriff then informed them he had yet one more proof to offer of his good intentions towards them. He had provided these barges to speed them on their journey toward their destination, to the extent of the navigable waters of the San Joaquin river. This announcement was received with loud acclamations of approval, and they thereupon embarked with alacrity, and were soon ready to bid adieu to Stockton and take painful leave of their good friend "Tom Cunningham."

That is the way and manner in which the sheriff escorted that ragged regiment through his county, and deported them beyond its limits *without prejudice*. As a prominent citizen said at the time, "Sacramento may have her railroad shops and her state capitol, but Stockton has her 'Tom Cunningham.'"

In the conduct of the affairs of his office, with-

ing escaped the sheriff's searching scrutiny; and while kindly disposed towards his subordinates, he could not for a moment look with allowance upon tardiness or dereliction in the discharge of duty; and from his under-sheriff to the humblest attache of the county jail, each in his sphere, manifested the same orderly system and thoroughness in the discharge of the duties assigned him, as was so rigidly observed by the chief himself. Such was his keenness of perception, closeness of observation, and knowledge of human nature, that when an individual suspected of a crime was brought into his presence, he seemed able, from a single glance at the physiognomy of the man, and his general bearing, to determine his moral status and the secret workings of his mind; and evilly disposed persons, having once passed under his scrutinizing gaze, seldom had a desire for a second interview.

As an instance of his influence and reputation among the criminal element we recite the following: A young emigrant from the rural districts of England, after working hard and faithfully for three years on a ranch in the Sacramento Valley, without once leaving the ranch, determined to make a trip to San Francisco and deposit his savings at interest in the Hibernia Bank; so, taking a check for his three years' wages, he took the train for the metropolis. Being of a trusting disposition, and ignorant of the ways of a great city, his fellow boarders in the house where he stopped were not long in finding out the reason of his trip to San Francisco. In a short time he was inveigled into a game of chance, made to endorse the check, and had soon lost every cent. The gamblers then magnanimously loaned him enough money to pay his way back to the ranch, where he arrived heartbroken from the loss of his three years' labor. In due time the check came back with another name endorsed upon it. The case was called to Mr. Cunningham's attention, and on his next trip to the city he took the check along with him. Calling upon his friend, the captain of the San Francisco detective force, he showed him the check and related the story. "Come along with me up the street," said the

captain, "we will see what we can do." Arriving at the gambler's place of business, Mr. Cunningham remained outside upon the sidewalk, while the captain went inside. Upon being shown the check, the gambler grew very indignant. "It was his own fault," said the gambler, "he took a chance at the game and lost his money." "He knew nothing about your game," said the captain; "you have robbed the poor man of his three year's savings, and I want the money back." "Where is your evidence?" said the gambler haughtily. "Tom Cunningham is waiting outside; he has come down especially on this thing; you know he generally gets what he goes after. I guess I will call him in." Like a shot the gambler was at the front door peering out stealthily. In a moment he returned trembling like a leaf. "What are you going to do?" said the captain. "Well, don't make any disturbance and I'll dig up this time;" and he did, in hard gold coin to the amount of the check—such was the terror of the crooked fraternity of the name of "Tom Cunningham."

As may well be supposed of one so painstaking, there had accumulated upon the sheriff's hands, during his long term, vast quantities of curios; mementos of deeds of bloodshed and violence. Rifles, shotguns, pistols, burglars' outfits, counterfeiters' molds with specimens of their work; in short, almost every conceivable device and appliance that savored of crime. These are now a valuable asset of San Joaquin county, and are arranged and labeled, and occupy one of the suite of four rooms set apart for the use and occupancy of the sheriff in the court house and constitute what is popularly known as the sheriff's museum.

Sheriff Cunningham did not live in the age of automobiles, but kept his own stable of well-bred horses for the use of himself and deputies. He had no stated hours set apart for rest or recreation during the whole course of the year; and when a message reached him from any part of the county demanding his personal presence, at whatever hour of the day or night, he did not "stand upon the order of his going," but in a very few minutes was in the saddle, hastening



on his way; and those who thus appealed to him have frequently speculated as to how soon he would appear among them; in fact he seemed almost ubiquitous; and was known and honored by every officer of the law in California, from Oregon to San Diego, and from the mountains to the sea, for his bravery, sagacity, sterling integrity, and self-sacrificing devotion to the duties of his high and responsible office.

For forty-five years Stockton was his home. Anything that came up for its betterment found him a ready supporter. Public-spirited, always giving aid to those less fortunate than himself, the deserving were always given a helping hand; and it will never be known how much he gave away in private unostentatious relief. He belonged to many orders which worked for the benefit of man. He was a member of Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M.; Stockton Chapter, R. A. M.; Stockton Council, R. & S. M.; and Stockton Commandery, K. T. He was also a member of Charity Lodge, I. O. O. F., having joined in 1858; Stockton Lodge, B. P. O. E.; Charter Oak Lodge, K. P.; and Iroquois Tribe of Red Men. He died suddenly of heart disease at Tuttle-town, Tuolumne county, on November 26, 1900, while on a journey to a ratification meeting at Sonora after the political campaign of that year. The news of his death in Stockton and the surrounding country caused, in the words of the *Morning Independent* of that date, "A deeper sensation than any similar occurrence has ever produced." His funeral was attended by prominent men from all over the state, and was the largest in the history of San Joaquin county. His name was known throughout the length of California, and throughout the adjoining states, as a name that carried with it respect and honor among law-abiding citizens and fear among the criminal element; and his name stands out with that of C. M. Weber, the founder of the city, as *one* that Stockton prizes *most* during her first half century of existence.

There is engraved upon his tombstone in the Stockton Rural Cemetery the following quotation emblematic of his life and death:

"Faithful toiler, thy work all done.  
Beautiful soul, into glory gone,  
Virtuous life, with the crown now won,  
God giveth thee rest."

### EZRA FISKE.

Well-nigh sixty years in their swift flight have brought many remarkable changes to California since Ezra Fiske, a young machinist of the east, led by the glittering lure of gold, set sail for the then unknown shores of the Pacific, and finally landed at his destination after having sailed for one hundred and fifty-six days upon the high seas. Around him on every hand were evidences of a hasty civilization, crude in its simplicity, extravagant in its manifestations. Rich and poor mingled together in a common ambition to find gold. Shacks and tents answered the purposes of houses and stores. The refinements of the east were wanting and conveniences were conspicuous by their absence. Travel was by boat or stage-coach. Railroads had not yet been built across the mountains and the desert, to bring into close connection the opposite sides of our continent. Mining was the principal occupation. At first little attempt was made to cultivate the land, but soon some of the shrewdest of the prospectors found that the earth, while a bountiful mother, gave of her riches to a greater degree in the soil than in the mines, and it was these keen-sighted pioneers who eventually accumulated competencies and laid the foundation of prosperity for the commonwealth.

In the little village of Weston, twelve miles west of Boston, Mass., Ezra Fiske was born August 25, 1825, being a son of Ezra and Lydia (Sanderson) Fiske, also natives of the old Bay state, and descendants of families associated with the colonial history of our country. The father,



a farmer by occupation, died when the son was only five years of age, and fourteen years later the mother passed away. Ezra, Jr., was given a common school education and after leaving school served an apprenticeship to the machinist's trade with the firm of Coolidge & Sibley at Weston. After the completion of his time he worked as a journeyman at Camden, N. J., next at Philadelphia, later found employment at his trade in Springfield, Mass., and eventually returned to the shop at Weston where he had learned the trade.

While working as a machinist at Weston, news came to Mr. Fiske concerning the discovery of gold in California and his adventurous spirit at once became fired with restless desires for western experiences. Plans were soon made. During October of 1849 he set sail from Boston on the ship *Richmond*, which made the voyage via Cape Horn. The first stop was at St. Catherine's, Brazil, during the holidays, and there the vessel was held in quarantine for one week. The 22d of February, Washington's birthday, was spent at Valparaiso, in the harbor of which they remained for ten days. No other stop of long duration was made, and on the 6th of April, 1850, the vessel cast anchor at San Francisco after a pleasant and uneventful voyage covering one hundred and fifty-six days. Mr. Fiske and a fellow-voyager, Joseph Adams, late of Stockton, left the ship at Benicia, secured their belongings and proceeded on the steamer *McKim*, for Stockton, where they outfitted for the mines. Their first experience with mining was at Moke-lumne Hill, but favorable indications were not found, and Mr. Adams soon returned to Stockton. After mining without results at Moke-lumne Hill and Rich Gulch until October, Mr. Fiske joined his friend in Stockton and assisted him in his blacksmith's shop. During the spring of the following year he tried mining at Jamestown, but became discouraged at lack of results and returned to Stockton.

After having cut hay during the summer of 1851, Mr. Fiske took up land in the autumn of the same year. Much arduous work was necessary

to get the tract in shape for a crop, and while he was busy with his preparations an unforeseen trouble occurred. Upon arising one morning he was shocked to observe the whole country under water. Nothing was visible above the water except the house he occupied. However, he bowed gracefully to the inevitable, took his team to a large tract where the wild feed was excellent, and then walked to Stockton, where he remained during the winter. In the spring he sowed barley and wheat, being one of the first in the county to undertake the raising of these grains. During the summer of 1852 he was employed by McKay Carson and H. C. Gillingham, who were operating a threshing machine, probably the first used in the entire county. While traveling through this region he availed himself of an opportunity to secure some land whose location he liked. Securing a quarter section by pre-emption, he later acquired surrounding land by purchase, and eventually became the owner of three hundred and eighty acres southwest of Lodi, where he now resides. The ranch is among the best in the locality and its fortunate location has made it a most profitable investment for the owner. In early days he raised grain almost wholly, but of more recent years he has been greatly interested in grape culture, and a portion of his vineyard was planted as early as 1861.

Upon the organization of the Patrons of Husbandry at Woodbridge Mr. Fiske was chosen an officer and from the inception of the movement in 1873 until it was disbanded he held positions of responsibility. At one time he was a trustee of the San Joaquin County Association of Pioneers. On the organization of the Pomona Grange he was chosen the first master and he likewise served as treasurer. He was interested in the incorporation of the Grangers' Union and also served as the first president of the board of horticultural commissioners of San Joaquin county. One of the first schools in the county outside of Stockton was built in 1854 and is now part of a house owned by Mr. Fiske. Through his long association with the county he

has been deeply interested in movements for the local welfare, particularly such enterprises as will benefit the tillers of the soil. On all subjects having to do with the public welfare he is well informed, in business dealings he is conscientious, and in his intercourse with others always considerate of their feelings. His ideas are liberal, his views broad. Dignity of manner modulated by unfailing courtesy, principles of honor, integrity of action and sincerity of purpose have won and retained for him the confidence of the people among whom his lot has been cast.

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#### GEN. THOMAS E. KETCHUM.

So replete is the life of General Ketchum with the history-making events of our country that to depict them in their entirety would be to portray the progress of the nation through two of her most trying wars and also the trials and difficulties which beset that brave band of pioneers who came to the Pacific coast country in the early days of the American occupancy. That he comes of good fighting stock is undeniable, for his grandfather, Israel Ketchum, fought on the side of the Colonists in the Revolutionary war, and in turn his father, also Israel Ketchum, was a participant in the war of 1812. For more than half a century the latter was a resident of the city of New York, where he carried on a large business as a flour merchant, and in many ways was one of the influential men of that metropolis. He passed away in that city in 1858, at the age of eighty-four years. His wife, in maidenhood, Alice Case, was the daughter of Wheeler Case, who was a surgeon in the army and later became a Presbyterian minister in Dutchess county, N. Y., where he organized a church and continued its pastor until his death. One of his sons, Walter Case, was a member of Congress

in 1819, representing the Newburgh (N. Y.) district. An uncle on the paternal side, Thomas Ketchum (after whom the general was named), was a graduate of the military school at West Point, a training which he put to good practice in the war of 1812, where he heroically fought to save the military supplies from falling into the hands of the enemy at Sacket Harbor, N. Y.

Thomas E. Ketchum was born into the home of Israel and Alice (Case) Ketchum in New York City July 8, 1821, the residence being located at the corner of Cedar and Greenwich streets and was for years a well-known landmark of that city. After receiving a thorough education under private instruction Thomas E. Ketchum began his business career by assisting his father in his mercantile enterprise. This did not appeal to him as a desirable life business however, and he gave it up after a short time to devote himself to the study of surveying and civil engineering. In 1844, when he was a young man of twenty-three years, he was honored by appointment to a position in the New York Custom House under President Tyler, but upon the election of James K. Polk he was obliged to give way for political reasons. For a time also he was mail agent between Boston and New York. In 1846 he was employed as chemist, surveyor and agent for a copper-mining company in the Lake Superior country. Work of this character appealed to him strongly and he determined to follow the profession of civil engineer as a life work, but other matters claiming his attention at this time the whole course of his future career was changed.

In 1846 and 1847, at the request of Major General Gaines, Mr. Ketchum served as volunteer aide-de-camp, wherein his first duty was to raise recruits for the Mexican war. September 18, 1847, he left New York by way of Cape Horn on the ship *Swelen*, having on board ninety-eight men to recruit Stevenson's regiment, of which he was made second lieutenant, commanding the second detachment sent out from New York. Arriving at Monterey February 22, 1848, they at once started for Mexico



on the barque *Isabella*, and reached LaPaz on March 15. Captain Turner, who had assisted in raising the troops, resigned his position with the army about this time and left Rio Janeiro for New York. As a result of this the command fell to First Lieutenant Matzell, who after the battle of Todos Santos went to Mazatlan from LaPaz and Lieutenant Ketchum was put in command. At the battle of Todos Santos he was in command of a reserve force that did efficient service under Colonel Burton in deciding the fortunes of the day. He continued in command of the company until rejoined by Lieutenant Matzell at Monterey, where with his regiment he was mustered out October 22, 1848.

This was about the time of the early discoveries of gold in California, and following his discharge from the service Lieutenant Ketchum went to the mines of Tuolumne county, arriving there December 11, 1848. For about a year he mined at Woods Diggings and at Jamestown Flat, and during this time he built the first log cabin in that county. With a friend whose acquaintance he had made while in the service, George A. Pendleton, in 1849 he opened a general merchandise establishment at Jamestown, where they did an excellent business in supplying the miners with necessities. The partnership continued until 1853, when Mr. Ketchum sold his interest. Prior to this he had come to San Joaquin county on a tour of investigation and had purchased some land about ten miles from Stockton upon which it was his intention to settle down as a rancher at some future time. At the time there was little to encourage the purchase, for the little settlement bore small promise of becoming the thriving city that it now is, there being only a few scattering tents besides the house in which Captain Weber lived, at the foot of Center street. His purchase consisted of three hundred and twenty acres, for which he paid \$5 per acre, but he had considerable trouble in securing a perfect title on account of its being grant land. Nevertheless he persevered and was finally able to get a clear title to the property. By making a careful study of the conditions

and needs he developed the land to good advantage, at first raising general produce, and later combining this with the raising of stock. This remained his home from the time he settled there in 1853 until 1891, when he retired from active business and has since made his home in Stockton.

At the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Ketchum again responded to his country's call and in Stockton raised a company of eighty men. His services received due recognition from the government September 16th, when he was made captain of the regiment, and still later, on October 10, he received the commission of senior captain. He saw service among the Indians in Humboldt county, from October, 1861, until August of the following year, during which time the company to which he was attached had killed or captured six hundred and fifty Indians. The first company of his command, Company A, consisted of eighty-four men who had charge of a district on the Van Dusen river at Fort Baker. After his service in Humboldt county he returned to Stockton with his command, and with Companies B and D he was stationed at Camp Hooker. In October he left under orders to join his regiment in Salt Lake, but upon reaching Fort Churchill he was detained for a time and did not reach his destination until the following September. He left on recruiting service in May, coming to Stockton, thence went to San Jose and to San Francisco, and in the latter city was mustered out of service. After three years of continuous service in the cause of his country he resumed the life of the civilian on his ranch near Stockton, his holdings having been increased by one hundred and sixty acres which was given him as a soldier's warrant. Twice General Ketchum has been honored with an appointment of brigadier-general of the National Guard of the state.

In 1852 General Ketchum was united in marriage with Miss Esther Sedgwick, who was born in Columbia county, N. Y., a daughter of Thomas and Phimela (Hodge) Sedgwick. Of the children born to General and Mrs. Ketchum



only two are living, a son and daughter. The son, Frank E. Ketchum, was born on the home ranch where he is now located, thus relieving his father of responsibility and enabling him to enjoy his later years in quiet retirement; he is well educated, in addition to attending the schools of the county, taking a thorough business course in Healds College and also receiving private instruction from a tutor in Berkeley. The daughter, Anna A., became the wife of F. S. Israel; she also received every advantage of an educational character, and graduated from Mills College, Oakland, May 29, 1889.

In looking back over the events that have made up the life of General Ketchum one almost instinctively asks himself, whence comes the indomitable spirit which enabled him to accomplish his purpose at all times in the face of seeming impossibility. The secret is not hard to find when it is known that he inherits in large measure the qualities of the sturdy Holland-Dutch, who count nothing impossible. His maternal ancestors as a result have all been up-builders of the country for generations, and in transmission the qualities have been increased rather than diminished, judging from their expression in the life of the general. During his early life he was a Whig in his political belief, and after the birth of the Republican party gave that party his support. The emoluments of office have at no time been attractive to him, although at one time, soon after he returned from the service, he allowed his name to be used as a candidate to the legislature. His defeat followed, and thereafter he refused to have his name come before the convention for any office. He is a member of the Loyal Legion, and was one of the organizers and the first commander of Rawlins Post, G. A. R., of Stockton. Few if any took a keener interest in the welfare of the farmers in his community than did General Ketchum. He was a member of the Grangers Union and the Farmers Co-operative Milling Company and owned stock in both. Twice he was made master of the Stockton Grange, and he was also lecturer and overseer of the same

organization. It would indeed be hard to find any enterprise promulgated for good ends, whether for the benefit of city, county or state, to which his name and influence have not been given heartily, for his outlook is broad and his heart and hand liberal. During his long life of over eighty-seven years the general has not been exempt from the disappointments and sorrows which come to all, but he has so lived that he can look back upon his life with the consciousness that he has taken advantage of no man and is well deserving of the rest which he now enjoys. Surrounded by every comfort that heart could wish, he makes his home at No. 1143 North San Joaquin street, and both of his children make their homes near by.

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#### JACOB BRACK, Sr.

Many of the tales of pioneer days in California read like an extract from some volume of romance, so different are they from the practical affairs of the twentieth-century work-a-day world. It is difficult to realize that little more than one-half century ago conditions were those of the primeval wilderness and civilization had not yet begun its uplifting influences upon the unknown regions of the west. Great opportunities awaited those who had the foresight to discern them and the courage to hew a pathway to success. Such were the qualifications of the honored pioneer, Jacob Brack, whose name is worthy of perpetuation in the annals of San Joaquin county as that of a pioneer whose faith in its future was itself an incentive to others. Good reason has he to be thankful that he resolved to come to California when he heard of the discovery of gold; the mines did not yield to him of their riches, but the soil rewarded his cultivation with bountiful crops, the lands rewarded

his faith by swift increase in value, and by vessel and by railroad his products were carried to the markets of the world.

This honored pioneer of 1849 was born in Switzerland February 20, 1825, being a son of Jacob and Mary (Kestler) Brack, both natives of that country. After having obtained a common school education he was sent to a gymnasium, where he remained a student until eighteen years of age. About this time he decided to seek a livelihood in the new world and in 1844 he sailed to the United States, landing at New Orleans, whence he proceeded up the Mississippi to Burlington, Iowa, and from there went to Galena, Ill., for the purpose of securing employment in the lead mines. The work kept him steadily engaged, but offered no opportunity for advancement, and when in 1848 he heard of the discovery of gold in California he immediately determined to go to the far west.

As a member of a train commanded by Captain Schoe and consisting of a large equipment of wagons drawn by oxen, Mr. Brack crossed the plains during 1849, and encountered many thrilling adventures while following the trail laid out by Gen. John C. Fremont. Upon arriving at Placerville he tried his luck at mining. A brief experience convinced him that he could achieve greater results at other employment, and accordingly he began to work for Sargent & Brown, prominent stockmen of that day. During 1850 he bought a small tract in the vicinity of Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, and immediately embarked in ranching for himself. The following year he went to the tule lands of the county, where he began to raise cattle and sheep, also raised various general farm products.

With the Sargent brothers as partners Mr. Brack purchased a tract of fifteen hundred acres, the subsequent sale of which brought a fair profit. Next he bought ten thousand acres, for which he paid \$200 to close the deal, and went into debt for the balance of the \$50,000 constituting the purchase price. With shrewd foresight and the utmost confidence in the future of this region, he believed himself justified in

burdening himself with such a debt, and events proved his sagacity. A portion of the land had a frontage on the waterway, which enabled him to begin extensive operations on an independent basis, and he raised large quantities of barley and wheat. Selling one-half of the immense tract, at the end of two years from the time of purchase he still owned one-half of the property and was entirely free from debt.

The business grew to such proportions that Mr. Brack purchased a vessel and shipped his own products to San Francisco and other markets. In addition, to secure facilities for freight by land, he built a railroad from Lodi to Spring Valley, Calaveras county, this being now a branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad. By land and by water his products reached the markets of the state and brought fair returns for his labor and his investment. His name became known as that of a prosperous and sagacious rancher, and when in 1906 he retired from the active management of the ranch and removed to Lodi, it was recognized that his relinquishment of active ranching meant a distinct loss to the agricultural interests of the region. Throughout active life he made ranching his principal occupation, but he had other interests. At one time he was the principal owner of the San Joaquin winery and for a time he also owned and operated a brewery in San Joaquin county, but peculiar visions produced by the products of the latter plant caused him to dispose of it.

The marriage of Mr. Brack in 1854 united him with Miss Lena Meyer, who was born in Germany, came to California in 1852, and died in San Joaquin county in 1906 at the age of seventy-six years. Of their union the following named children were born: Mary, who died some time after her marriage; Henry, who lives on the old home ranch; John; Loretta K., who married John Keller and lives in Pennsylvania; Jacob, Jr., who is living at the old homestead; Lena, a resident of San Francisco; and Anna, who remains with her father.

Seldom is it that even men of great energy and wise judgment meet with the success that



has crowned the life efforts of Mr. Brack. The explanation of his success is that the man and the opportunity met. When he arrived in California he had only ten cents in his possession, but he had intelligence, willing hands, a clear mind and a wise judgment, and these brought him an abundance of prosperity. With one exception he is the largest taxpayer in his county, and this fact without further comment is a striking testimony as to his sagacity and keenness of foresight. Eighty-four years represent the span of his life and he is still well preserved in mind and body, able to enjoy the companionship of family and friends, appreciative of every courtesy rendered him, and fond of narrating to the younger generations stories connected with the Forty-niners or with the early history of our fair commonwealth.

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### JUDGE CHARLES M. CREANER.

Over a quarter of a century has passed since the death of Judge Creaner, which occurred in Stockton December 6, 1882, but he is still affectionately remembered by old pioneers, and those of a later generation remember him also on account of his prominence upon the bench and bar. A native of the east, he was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on Christmas day of 1820, and during childhood attended the schools of his native city. For some reason not stated he ran away from home during his boyhood, going to Florida, and joining the army there, took part in a number of skirmishes. From there he went to Texas and joined the Texas Rangers. During his service in the Mexican war he was wounded in the knee by a ball, and it was the verdict of the physicians that his leg would have to be amputated. He refused to allow the operation, however, and finally the wound healed, although the ball was not removed. After the an-

nexation of Texas as a part of the Union Judge Creaner again entered the field with one of the ten regiments raised there, and served with distinction under General Taylor and General Scott, with whose army he entered Mexico City when that stronghold was conquered. As an appreciation of his distinguished services in that war and gallantry as a soldier, his native state, Pennsylvania, presented him with a sword. In the meantime he had pursued his law studies diligently and had been admitted to the bar in Victoria, Tex. The discovery of gold in California, however, was too alluring to pass his attention unheeded, and early in the year 1849 he was among the number that thronged to the gold fields. His attempts as a miner did not prove satisfactory, so he wisely decided to give up mining altogether and devote his attention to establishing a legal practice.

Judge Creaner opened a law office in Stockton, and it was not long before his ability received due recognition. He was elected to the first legislature under Governor Peter Burnett, and the same legislature appointed him district judge, an office in which he succeeded himself until he served in all thirteen years. During the time which he presided over the Fifth judicial district of the state the circuit was burdened with business requiring the rarest and many of the best judicial qualifications. These he possessed in large measure and he was thus enabled to discharge the legal duties, under an ever present sense of obligation to preserve right and do justice, to enforce law, subserve and promote public good. He was equal to the occasion, and neither flagged nor faltered, his spirit of independence and impartiality taking no thought of parties or persons or self, except to be an upright and incorruptible judge, without fear or reproach.

When Judge Creaner first came to Stockton he found conditions very primitive indeed, the site which he selected for his home being an island entirely surrounded by sloughs, and in order to reach the business portion of town it was necessary to go by boat. He immediately built



tuted measures for the improvement of these crude conditions, assisted in the organization of the first schools, and also St. John's Episcopal Church, which has always occupied its present site. He was one of the most public-spirited men in the community, and assisted not alone in the development and advancement of the city and county materially, but was an important factor in framing the laws of the state. After the close of his long term of office as district judge he retired to private life and became interested in agricultural pursuits, still making his home on the island which had attracted him when he first came to Stockton.

In his marriage Judge Creaner was greatly blessed, for in his wife he found a helpmate indeed, one who did not shrink before the trials and hardships of pioneer life. Before her marriage Mrs. Creaner was Miss Rosa D. Beaumont, who was born in Mississippi in 1831, and in 1851 she went to Texas by way of the Isthmus to join her future husband and was there married. The following year the young people made their way to California and settled in Stockton, as previously related. Nine children were born of the marriage of Judge and Mrs. Creaner, all of whom were born in the old Stockton homestead with the exception of Charles, who was born in Texas while Mrs. Creaner was on a visit there. Three of the children died in childhood, and those who reached years of maturity are as follows: Louise, David (now in Alaska), Anna, Mary and Mattie. Charles met with a sad death in an explosion in 1879, and Mary and Mattie died in later years. During the early days when Judge Creaner was filling the office of district judge his duties were so scattered it made it necessary for him to be away from home considerable. He used every precaution for the protection of his wife and children, however, and when his term expired he settled down to the quiet life of the agriculturist at his island home. Though passed to that bourne whence no traveler returns, the influence of Judge Creaner's life will ever remain an inspiration to those who were privileged to know him. A generosity of

heart and high-mindedness of motive in all acts, public or private, displayed a personality that was broad and deep and one that circumstances or ulterior influences could not alter one iota.

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#### F. H. ARNSBURGER.

In any agricultural community there is no industry of greater importance to the prosperity of the farmers than the establishment and continuance of a well-managed creamery. Such institutions are emphatically a product of modern times and require for their management men of modern education, practical training and wide experience. These qualifications form a part of the endowment of Mr. Arnsburger, whose efficiency as proprietor of the San Joaquin creamery at Stockton has been of distinct aid to the dairymen of the region and at the same time has been a source of profit to himself and his associates. Under his supervision modern machinery has been introduced in the plant, every facility has been provided for manufacturing butter of the finest quality, and modern conveniences contribute to the quantity of the output which during 1907 aggregated one million pounds of butter for the year.

Mr. Arnsburger comes from the great dairy state of Wisconsin, where he was born on a farm in 1866, being the son of a Pennsylvanian who in an early day became a pioneer of Wisconsin, took up raw land, developed a farm and engaged extensively in the dairy business. After having completed the studies of country and high schools of his neighborhood, F. H. Arnsburger learned the trade of a butter-maker with a large firm at Palmyra, Wis., and there he also became an expert in the manufacture of cheese. Upon starting out to make his own way in the world he easily secured employment in the line of

which he had acquired expert knowledge. As an employe of the Elgin Creamery Company, he rose to a position of great responsibility and was required to visit and superintend the creameries owned by that firm throughout the state of Illinois. On resigning that position he came to California and has since resided at Stockton, where in 1906 he erected a splendid modern residence at No. 147 West Oak street. During 1897 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Etta Ladd, formerly of Wisconsin, a daughter of Hon. Calvin Ladd, a soldier in the Civil war and later a member of the Wisconsin state senate.

On coming to Stockton during 1897, F. H. Arnsburger was employed to superintend the making of butter in the Stockton Creamery. He found conditions at a low ebb as a result of unsystematic management, resulting in unprofitable returns to the owners. Under his supervision the machinery was overhauled and new devices were introduced and soon the plant was found inadequate to the supply, hence a new company was organized under the name of the San Joaquin Creamery, who built a large and up-to-date plant at Nos. 5, 7, 9 East Miner avenue, the plant being opened for business in March, 1900; Mr. Arnsburger first superintended the manufacturing, later took the management, and three years later bought out all interests in the plant.

Owing to the constantly increasing business, it was found necessary to make extensive improvements, enlarging the plant and adding more machinery, making the plant the most modern and extensive in the interior of the state, having a daily capacity of over ten thousand pounds of butter. The butter is put out under the name of the Crown brand, which has a wide reputation for quality, being handled in nearly all the large markets of the state.

In 1904 Mr. Arnsburger found that a different system of gathering cream must be introduced for the further success of the business. He therefore installed eight cream receiving stations, all being centrally located, thus affording a nearby market for the producers and at the

same time saving the producers thousands of dollars yearly incident to individual shipping and long hauling. No essential features in economical handling of cream for the producers have been overlooked.

Mr. Arnsburger has published several books on dairying, which have been of great assistance to the dairymen in the community in feeding, breeding, producing and the care of milk and cream. This, together with his liberal way of dealing with his patrons, has earned for him the large patronage which he now enjoys.

The attention of the proprietor is given closely to the management of his business and while naturally progressive, he takes very little interest in politics aside from national elections. He is identified with several fraternal societies.

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#### HON. JOSEPH H. BUDD.

The advancement of San Joaquin county and the upbuilding of the city of Stockton had a progressive promoter in Joseph H. Budd, whose name is synonymous with many of the inducements and movements tending toward development along many avenues. In viewing the growth of Stockton he might truthfully have said: "All of which I saw and part of which I was," for this had been his home from the year 1858 until his death, February 21, 1902, almost forty-five years.

A native of the east, Joseph H. Budd was born in Dutchess county, N. Y., January 13, 1822, the son of James and Ellen Budd, they too being natives of the Empire State and descendants of families who had flourished for many generations in that commonwealth. Joseph H. Budd's boyhood days coincided with those of other farmers' sons of his acquaintance, working on his father's farm and attending school during the short terms it was in session. However, at the



had no special inclination toward following farming as a life work, but on the other hand recognized an inborn leaning toward professional life, he became interested in the study of law when he was little more than a boy. With the idea of preparing himself for the profession of law he supplemented his early school training by a course in Williams College, Massachusetts, graduating from that institution in 1843, at the age of twenty-one years. With this substantial foundation as a basis he gave his attention thereafter exclusively to the study of the law, taking his legal training in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he was duly admitted to the bar. Wisely foreseeing that better prospects awaited him in the less congested states toward the west he located in Wisconsin in 1847 and during the ten years he was identified with the state attained high rank in legal circles. Locating in Janesville, he opened an office for the practice of his profession, at first carrying on his practice alone, but later being associated with Lorenzo Sawyer, ex-judge of the United States Circuit Court, and also with John R. Bennett, of the district court of Wisconsin, both of whom are now deceased. With the record of his successful practice in Wisconsin Mr. Budd came to California in 1858, locating first in Woodbridge, but after remaining there a year, came to Stockton and made this city his home until his death. Soon after establishing his practice here he became associated with W. L. Dudley in the practice of law under the name of Dudley & Budd, and as both were men of brilliant legal attainments and keen discrimination, they built up a large practice and had as clients some of the most influential business men of the city. Politically Mr. Budd was a stanch Democrat, a fact which, coupled with his unique fitness for the position, led to his appointment as successor to Judge Baldwin, and later he was twice elected to the office of Superior Judge of San Joaquin county. He also served two terms as city attorney of Stockton. At the time of his death he had served on the bench fifteen years, during which time he had gained the reputation of being one of the best

jurists in the state, and it is a well-known fact that his decisions were seldom reversed. Many of the most prominent legal cases handled in the county were brought to him for settlement, among them being the well-known Mokelumne grant litigation.

While a resident of Janesville, Wis., Mr. Budd was united in marriage, June 4, 1849, to Lucinda M. Ash, who like himself was a native of New York state. Two children were born to them, James H. Budd, the late ex-governor of California, and John E. Budd, a resident of Stockton. Personally Mr. Budd was beloved by all with whom he came in contact, and with his wife was a member of the Baptist Church. His life was a success, and while succeeding in a financial way, he never neglected his duties as a citizen, and much of the city's advancement can be traced to his foresight and substantial encouragement.

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#### WILLIAM H. CLARY.

With the early development of important industries in California the name of Mr. Clary is indissolubly associated and any resume of his life, however brief, would suffice to show that the progress of the state was enhanced by the citizenship of this pioneer of 1850. By birth a Kentuckian, born at Bowling Green, March 4, 1822, he had no recollection of a father's affectionate care, for that parent was lost (supposed to have been killed by savage Indians) during the infancy of the son. His widowed mother removed with him to Missouri several years after the father's death and settled in Pulaski county, where he grew to manhood amid frontier surroundings. His early schooling was obtained in an academy. Thus he came to possess a fine command of language, which he used with such skill that he was called the "Boy Orator". His studies took him



into the realms of medicine and the law. With persistent and intelligent industry he carried on systematic courses in these professions and acquired a knowledge of each so thoroughly and extensive that he could have secured a license to practice, had he so desired. When less than twenty years of age he was elected clerk of Pulaski county and filled the position with recognized energy and fidelity.

Having determined to join the Argonauts bound for California, Mr. Clary relinquished his associations in Missouri and outfitted for the trip across the plains with prairie schooner and oxen. The journey was comparatively uneventful and came to an end during August of 1850, when he arrived at Hangtown. For a time he mined there and at Diamond Springs, Eldorado county, but in 1851 it was his good fortune to settle at San Andreas, Calaveras county. The location offered opportunities for which he was fully equal. Having investigated mining conditions, he conceived the idea of constructing a water ditch of such immense proportions that more experienced men were staggered by the plan. However, he persisted with his ambitious purposes and by dint of indomitable energy he was able to carry forward the work of constructing the first mining ditch in the state. It was forty-five miles long, extending from the San Antonio river to San Andreas. The improvement stimulated mining interests at all points within its vicinity and proved a source of large revenue to its projector, to whom it brought fame as well as fortune. In addition he developed the Quail Hill and Napoleon copper mines at Copperopolis, Calaveras county, the first copper from which was mined in 1861 and shipped to Baltimore, Md. These were the first copper mines worked in the state and their successful operation greatly enhanced the fame of California as a mining country.

Associated with J. B. Haggin, vice-president of Wells-Fargo Co., and United States Senator Hearst of national fame, Mr. Clary bought the Sheep Ranch mine, of which he remained superintendent for twenty years and which in time became the greatest producer in the entire state.

In 1864, with Andrew J. Moulder and others, Mr. Clary organized and incorporated the first Stock Exchange in San Francisco, thus establishing a body that has been a power in the financial history of the west from that time to the present. Fraternally he had been connected for years with Masonic bodies, and was a member of California Commandery No. 1, K. T. Besides many other interests he was a stockholder in the Wagner Leather Company, also had the honor of assisting in the incorporation of the company organized to lay the cable from San Francisco to Japan.

The marriage of Mr. Clary took place in 1870 and united him with Miss Mary J. Kennedy, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of John Riddle Kennedy, a pioneer of San Joaquin county. Six children were born of the union, namely: William H., Jr., who is engaged in mining; De Witt, an attorney-at-law; Maybelle, wife of C. S. Barrette, president of the Southern Trust Company of South Carolina; Ethel and Merrill, who at present are with their mother at the family residence, No. 137 West Vine street, Stockton; and George, a mining man of Calaveras county. After a long, useful and honored life, filled with successful activities and crowned by the respect of associates, Mr. Clary passed from earth November 27, 1904.

#### D. S. ROSENBAUM

The opportunities afforded by the west to young men of energy and determination are exemplified in the business success of David S. Rosenbaum, one of the leading citizens of Stockton, whose prosperity is the result of wise investments and industrious application since he came to this city more than forty-five years ago. Born in Bavaria in 1843, he received a fair education in his native tongue, and at the age of fourteen years started out in the world to make his own

livelihood. Coming to the United States he spent several years in New York, whence he proceeded via Panama to California in 1862. While he had an excellent position in the east his health was poor and he made the change with the hope of regaining his strength. Not only was this hope fulfilled but also he had the satisfaction of accumulating a large property through his indefatigable energy.

The heavy expense incident to transportation to the United States and later to California had placed a large indebtedness upon the shoulders of the young man, and as his earnings were small prior to the age of twenty years, it was difficult to defray his debts. When he came to the western coast he was still in debt to the amount of \$200, mainly for his passage money. For a time he was variously employed with others and meanwhile the debt grew smaller until the last was wiped out. While clerking for B. Frankenhimer, with whom he remained until 1870, he gained a thorough knowledge of the clothing business. During 1870 he embarked in business upon his own account and with his complete acquaintance concerning the business he at once established a credit. As the trade increased he enlarged the business. His first store, erected by himself, was 26x80 feet in dimensions and two stories in height. Later he purchased a building on Main and Sutter streets, 50x100, at a cost of \$40,000. At this location he has since conducted an extensive clothing business. As the population increased he kept in touch with the growing demands of the people and was prepared to meet their demand for high-grade clothing.

The management of the large clothing business does not represent the limit of Mr. Rosenbaum's activities. With others, in 1888 he was instrumental in organizing the Farmers & Merchants Bank, of which he was chosen vice-president, the other officers being P. B. Fraser president, and James M. Abeel cashier. The institution conducts a general banking business, enjoys a reputation as one of the substantial concerns of its kind in the county, and is well capitalized. Investments in land have given Mr. Rosenbaum

the title to various properties in San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties. Prominent among his estates is a tract of twelve hundred acres in the irrigation district, all of which is leased and devoted to the raising of beans and barley. This land is exceptionally rich black peat, level, easily worked and remarkably fertile. The tract is well situated for shipping purposes, being three miles from the Western Pacific road and three miles from Terminous on the river. However, poor shipping facilities (which it is hoped will soon be remedied and made first-class) have caused the grain hitherto to be hauled to Lodi, twelve miles distant.

A recital of one year's crops from this tract is sufficient to prove its fertility. On the return of Mr. Rosenbaum from Europe early in the year of 1907, he found a great portion of the ranch still under water from the unprecedented floods of the preceding winter. It seemed as if the prospects for a crop were meager. However, the pumps relieved a large part of the tract and this he rented to the Cooper brothers. They put in three hundred acres of barley and three hundred and fifty acres of beans. The barley tract yielded fully eleven thousand sacks, one small tract of eighteen acres giving sixty sacks to the acre. So heavy was the yield that the combined harvester could not pick it up and it was estimated that fully twelve hundred bags of the grain were left on the ground, thus making a rich stubble field for sheep. The portion of the land that was put into beans also showed remarkable results. The beans were planted in long and regular rows. The pinks yielded almost thirty-five sacks to the acre, and the whites almost thirty. All records were broken between seed time and harvest, between the time there was twelve feet of water on the land and the time when a crop worth almost \$20,000 was taken off from it. The renter asserted that "On a calm day one could almost hear things grow out here," and truly there are few tracts in this productive state of such wonderful fertility as this.

The marriage of Mr. Rosenbaum took place in Stockton and united him with Miss Amelia



Hart. Four children were born of their union. The three daughters are married and occupy homes of their own. The only son, a promising young man of thirty years, died during May of 1905, leaving a void in the hearts of the parents that will never be filled. The family have been identified with the upbuilding of Stockton and have been active factors in movements for the betterment of the social and moral condition of the people.

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### CLEMENT V. DARRAH.

An association of more than twenty years with the business interests of Stockton has brought Mr. Darrah before the people as a business man of integrity, energy and high principles of honor. The industry to which he gives his attention, that of contract teaming, varies in importance according to the season of the year and the amount of building in the community, hence its responsibilities are greater than those of a business with fewer "ups and downs." His specialty is the supplying of builders with sand, gravel and other building material, and during the busy season he uses twenty teams and the same number of men. One of his largest contracts was for furnishing the contractors of the Stockton hotel with sand and broken rock; this latter he gets from Folsom. Frequently he has supplied railroads with materials and in addition he has had contracts at Lodi, being recognized throughout the county as one of the reliable men in his line of business.

A native of Ohio, born in Belmont county, August 20, 1865, Clement V. Darrah is a son of Robert and Mary A. (McFadden) Darrah, the former born in Ohio, and the latter a native of Wheeling, W. Va., of Scotch ancestry; he is now a resident of Pacific Grove. While Ohio was yet an unbroken wilderness through which In-

dians and wild animals roamed undisturbed, the Darrah family became established upon its frontier and out of a dense forest the father cleared a farm, from the cultivation of which he earned a livelihood for his family. The children were given as good educations as the day and locality afforded, Clement being sent to school in Wheeling, W. Va., and to a private college taught by Prof. J. M. Frazier. Upon leaving college he devoted himself industriously to farm work.

Starting out for himself in 1887, Mr. Darrah came to California and settled in Stockton, where since he has made his home. For five years he was employed by Whittier, Fuller & Co., dealers in oil, and eventually he became the head of an independent business, and for twelve years built up a large retail business as the result of his perseverance, this being known as the Stockton Oil Company. While thus employed he became interested in the teaming business and eventually he turned his attention exclusively to contract teaming. One of the public-spirited men of the county, he is always to be found in the ranks of those aiming to promote local enterprises, and stands high in the esteem of all with whom he has business dealings or social relations.

The marriage of Mr. Darrah in 1892 united him with Miss Bessie Woods, who was born and educated in California. Two sons bless their union, Earl W. and Clement Guard, both of whom are students in the local schools. Mrs. Darrah is a granddaughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Leffler) Woods, who were married in 1822; he was born October 14, 1768, and she, September 14, 1804. Their son, Andrew, born August 17, 1823, crossed the plains in 1849 with a team of oxen and was so pleased with the country that he determined to remain permanently. Returning to the east he married Jane E. Leffler in 1852, and their wedding journey was a trip across the plains, being accompanied by his father's family. Hugh M. Woods, an uncle (familiarily known as Mitch), came at the same time as did his brother Samuel and both settled near Woodbridge, where they now live. Andrew



Woods died in Tulare county December 5, 1883; his wife, who was born November 28, 1828, died at Stockton June 29, 1903, a little more than fifty years after she had come to the west a young bride. Mrs. Darrah was given good advantages in her girlhood and has spent her life thus far in California, to whose welfare she is loyally devoted. With Mr. Darrah she shares in the regard of acquaintances and the esteem of personal friends. In fraternal relations he is identified with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, the Independent Order of Foresters and Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., to all of which he has been helpful in promoting their philanthropies and extending their spheres of usefulness.

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#### NICOLAS VIZELICH.

Tracing the life-history of this honored pioneer of 1849, we find that he was a Dalmatian by birth, and was born at Ragusa, on the shores of the Adriatic sea, February 18, 1832. After an eventful career that took him into many lands and made him the master of nine languages, he passed from earth at Stockton September 17, 1906, and was laid to rest amid scenes long familiar to him, after the solemn rites of the Catholic Church had been performed. At one time he owned large property interests at Stockton, including Iron Tract park or Vizelich park. The home now owned and occupied by his widow stands on land purchased by him about 1873 and originally comprising one-fourth of a city block. Only one other house had been built to the east, and the place at first furnished the family with a country home, but since then the city has extended its limits and the old homestead has greatly increased in value.

Until thirteen years of age Nicholas Vizelich remained in his native country and attended

school, but at that time, on account of a difference with his teacher, he left and started out to make his own way in the world. The sea, near whose shores his childhood had been passed, had always attracted him by its mystery and its call to far-distant lands. He resolved to become a sailor and without delay shipped as a cabin-boy on an ocean vessel. From a humble beginning he worked his way up to a position of responsibility on board ship. Visiting many lands, he gained a wide knowledge of the world, its people and their customs, and being quick to learn, he mastered many languages in use throughout the civilized world.

Upon landing in California in February, 1849, Mr. Vizelich gave up the life of a sailor and worked in the mines on the Fraser river, later working in the southern mines. He met with some good fortune in the Comstock mines, but he determined to relinquish mining for other activities. Returning to San Francisco, he opened a restaurant at the corner of Leidesdorff and Commercial streets, it being the first coffee-house in that vicinity. Afterward he sold and opened another restaurant, and continued in this way for some time, buying, building up a trade, and then selling. Meanwhile he witnessed the early development of San Francisco and acted as a member of Howard Engine Company No. 3, of the volunteer fire department. The failure of the banking house of Page & Bacon brought him the loss of almost his entire savings and caused him to seek a home elsewhere. Previous to this he had visited Stockton and had been pleased with the location, besides believing that the climate would prove beneficial to the health of a sister; accordingly in 1862 he came here, purchased a location on the corner of Hunter and Washington streets, and opened a restaurant, conducting the same for many years. As he succeeded, he purchased and improved property, and thus became the owner of business sites of increasing value. For a time he owned and conducted a finely-equipped restaurant on Main street opposite the courthouse. He retired from business in 1881.

The marriage of Mr. Vizelich was solemnized in Stockton in 1866 and united him with Penelope Harding, who was born in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, December 31, 1841, and came to California in 1857 with her three brothers and mother, settling at Stockton. Her parents were natives of London, England, and members of the Church of England, in which faith she was reared. Since coming to California she has been connected with the Episcopal Church. Ten children were born of her marriage to Mr. Vizelich, all natives of Stockton. The eldest son, Stephen N., who was connected with the Wells-Fargo Co., died at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving a wife and two children, Bernice I. and Lloyd C. Three other members of the family are also deceased, namely: Lucy M., who died in infancy, and a twin brother, William F., who died at the age of ten years and ten months, and Elizabeth S., familiarly known as "Bessie," who married Frederick G. Bartlett and had one son, Frederick V.; she died February 28, 1909. Three daughters and three sons are still living. Amelia M. A. became the wife of William Bruce of Oakland, and they have two daughters, Penelope Jean and Annie E. Katherine E., the second daughter in the Vizelich family, married Frederick B. Morrill, of Berkeley, Cal., and they have a daughter, Nicolena M. The third surviving daughter, Penelope A., remains with her mother in their pleasant home. The three surviving sons in the Vizelich family are as follows: Nicolas J., an employe of the Southern Pacific Railroad at Stockton; Henry George, also employed with the Southern Pacific; and Stanley E., who is chief clerk of the Sante Fe Railroad at Albuquerque.

Though giving his support to the Democratic party in national elections, Mr. Vizelich was independent in local affairs and supported the men whom he deemed best qualified for office. His tastes did not lead him to the fraternities and he never identified himself with any secret organizations. His experience in the volunteer fire department of San Francisco made valuable his association with Eureka Fire Company No. 2,

at Stockton, and he further was connected with the exempt firemen. For years he was a member of the San Joaquin Society of Pioneers. High in the confidence of the people he always stood and often they solicited him to accept positions of trust and honor, but he had no desire for public life and invariably declined such suggestions. However, he was willing to aid friends in their candidacy for offices and cheerfully gave of his time and influence toward all movements for the general progress of his home city.

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#### WALLACE RUTHVEN LEADBETTER.

Even the most casual observers and readers of California history are impressed with the fact that the east has given to the Pacific coast many men of culture and broad mental attainment. Among them few have excelled the late Wallace R. Leadbetter, whose versatility of mind and force of personality impressed every member of his circle of acquaintances and every locality of his residence. The traits which made him a leader among men came to him as an endowment from a long line of gifted ancestors whose associations with New England date back through many generations. He was born August 14, 1838, in Leeds, Androscoggin county, Me., which at that time was the home of his parents, Harriet and Eliza D. (Shaw) Leadbetter, natives of Kennebec county, same state. After completing his studies in the local home schools he attended Maine Seminary (Wesleyan) at Kents Hill, and also Monmouth Academy, both in Kennebec county. Much of the wherewithal which enabled him to attend these institutions of learning had been earned by himself as a teacher in the common schools, he having begun to teach when only eighteen years old. In 1860 he was employed as a teacher in one of the schools of Augusta, Me.,



but soon afterward was honored by being made superintendent of schools in Leeds.

Resigning his position in 1863, Mr. Leadbetter came to California via the Panama route, and after landing at San Francisco he made his way at once to San Joaquin county. He taught in the public schools of the county for four years, and at the end of this time returned to his native state. His fellow-citizens made much of this opportunity to secure him as their representative in the state legislature, and his election followed immediately afterward. He served his constituents faithfully, looking after their interests with as much care and precision as if they were his own personal affairs, but at the close of his term of one year he was ready and willing to return to the Golden state. April of 1868 found him again in San Joaquin county, and the fall of the following year he was elected county superintendent of schools, and succeeded himself until October, 1874, when he declined further continuance in office in order to give his time to the development of a ranch which he had purchased, and which was located near Collegeville, San Joaquin county. In 1883 he removed to Stockton, with the intention of retiring from the active cares of life, but his abilities were not long allowed to lie dormant, for in 1885 he was again brought into public service through his election to the position of superintendent of schools of this city. Previously, while a resident of Collegeville, he served one term in the legislature, where he gave efficient service on the committee of education, and public buildings and grounds.

In Maine, in 1867, Mr. Leadbetter was united in marriage with Miss Irene E. Nichols, a native of Monmouth, Kennebec county, Me. In all that the term implies she was a helpmate to her husband, her mental equipment making her an exceptionally congenial companion. Like himself, she received her higher training in Kents Hill seminary. Four children were born of their marriage, as follows: the eldest, Jessie E., died in 1870; Horace M. passed away at the age of twenty, while a student in Leland Stanford University; Anita W. became the wife of O. A. Sayles

and resides in this county; and the youngest child, Flora W., is a teacher in the Weber school. Fraternally Mr. Leadbetter belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in both of which organizations he rendered good and faithful service, and his death August 28, 1903, was the cause of general mourning in the various institutions and organizations in the upbuilding of which the best years of his life were spent.

Mrs. Leadbetter's parents, Martin M. and Flora A. (Leadbetter) Nichols, were born in Maine, but from the year 1878 were residents of Stockton, Cal. Throughout his life Mr. Nichols was deeply interested in the activities of the Republican party, and while in Maine was a "wheel-horse" of his party. His death occurred in Stockton September 9, 1904. Mrs. Nichols passed away January 5, 1909, at the age of eighty-eight years. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Nichols, as follows: Irene E., Mrs. W. R. Leadbetter; Miss Nettie S. Nichols; and Nellie W., who in 1877 became the wife of Charles M. Keniston.

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#### RICHARD WILLIAM RUSSELL.

Were a complete history compiled of the cities of Stockton and San Andreas, considerable mention necessarily would be made of "Dick" Russell, the well-known Forty-niner, who for more than half a century had business interests in one or both of these towns and meanwhile gained a wide knowledge of the country and the people. Born in New York city July 19, 1829, he was forced to earn his own way in the world from childhood and at the age of twelve went to sea, enduring countless privations and untold hardships as he slowly worked his way up from the most humble position on shipboard. Early



in 1849 he shipped as third mate from New York on the Elizabeth Ellen, under Captain Truman, and sailed south to Cape Horn, thence along the western coast of America until anchor was cast at San Francisco September 23, 1849, the young man having meanwhile been promoted to the rank of first mate. After disembarking he proceeded via Stockton to the mines on the Tuolumne river at Hawkin's bar, where he met with a little success at placer mining.

Making Stockton his headquarters, Mr. Russell began to carry freight to French Camp. Later he bought twenty-one mules and packed freight to the mines of Calaveras county, receiving \$1 per pound for carrying freight from Stockton to Murphy's. As drivers he employed Mexicans and having them around him constantly he soon learned to speak the Spanish language. The freight charges were paid to him in silver, which he sold at a premium to the gamblers of Stockton. During 1851 he went to San Andreas, near where he mined. Soon he opened a butcher shop and also became proprietor of a livery stable. At one time he owned almost every lot in San Andreas and knew by name almost every settler in the entire region. When a volunteer fire department was organized he was chosen chief and did effective work in quenching the fires that proved so destructive in early days. One day while keeping camp he prospected for himself and during the afternoon found a place where he took out twenty-one ounces of fine gold.

When the railroad reached Milton Mr. Russell secured the mail contract, also handled express, and had lines extending to Angel's, Murphy's, San Andreas, Mokelumne Hill, Sonora and Sheep Ranch, all of which places he reached by stage from Milton. In 1881 he sold out his equipment and came to Stockton. For ten years afterward he carried on a livery, originally established by A. Wolf and later conducted by Haines & Snyder. Some time after he had sold this livery he opened another, which he conducted until 1901, and finally retired after having been in business for about fifty years. Since

1901 he has resided at No. 1021 North San Joaquin street, where years ago he was accustomed to graze his mules. Politically he supports Republican principles. During pioneer times he was a member of the Home Guard of Calaveras county under Captain Barclay, and for two years he was a member of the police and fire commission. Without exception he subscribed to all measures having for their object the upbuilding of this region and the development of its resources. Fraternally he is connected with Morning Star Lodge No. 108, F. & A. M.; Stockton Chapter, R. A. M.; and Stockton Commandery, No. 8, K. T.; while for years his wife was active in the local chapter of the Eastern Star, and also has been prominent in the Women's Relief Corps.

The marriage of Richard W. Russell and Hattie E. Johnson was solemnized on Christmas day of 1860. Mrs. Russell was born in Rhode Island and came to California with her mother, crossing the Isthmus of Panama January 1, 1857, on the second train that made the trip. Her father, William B. Johnson, came to California in 1852 and engaged in mining in Calaveras county, where in 1857 he was joined by his wife and two children. He opened the first bath-house in Santa Cruz, but gave his attention principally to farming and mining, and died in Stockton in 1890, at the age of seventy-two. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary E. Barnes, was born in Rhode Island and died in 1868, at the age of eighty-two years. Their older daughter, Elvira, is the widow of William Miller, of Santa Cruz. The younger daughter, Mrs. Russell, of Stockton, has an interesting fund of reminiscences concerning pioneer times, when theirs was the only white family on the San Antoine ridge, when the isolation was more complete than the present generation could understand, and when the only excitement was a ride on horseback to the market or the mines. Flaggies were not common for years after she had come to the west and all the riding was done on the back of horses or mules, or by stage-coach. Of her marriage there were three children, all

of whom were born and educated in Calaveras county. The eldest, Annie M., is the wife of Joseph A. Adams, of Stockton. The only son, William P., a rancher, resides on Cherokee avenue, Stockton. The youngest child, Grace M., married Harry A. Schmolz, and resides in San Francisco.

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#### WILLIAM THOMAS SHEPARD.

For more than twenty years Mr. Shepard has been identified with the business interests of Stockton and during this period he has risen to a position of influence among the people of the city, who recognize in him the qualities that go to the growth of a town and to the development of its material resources. While he is of Canadian birth, the family of which he is an honored representative traces its lineage to New England and became established in America during the colonial era. The various generations since then have been loyal to the localities in which their lots have been cast. Industry and frugality were ancestral traits and became the inheritance of descendants, who thus attained positions where frugality no longer was necessary and where industry brought ample means for leisure and for the comforts of life.

A skilled mechanic who for many years successfully followed the trade of a pattern-maker in his native Massachusetts, William Thomas Shepard, Sr., eventually removed to Canada, established himself in business, and ere yet he had attained satisfactory success he died in 1868. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Samantha Chapman, survived him many years, dying in 1900. Their second son, to whom was given his father's name, was born near Montreal in Canada, February 23, 1853, and as a boy was sent to the public schools of his home neighborhood, later having the advantages of a course of study

in Waterloo academy, where he availed himself of the excellent opportunities offered for acquiring a fair education.

Upon leaving the academy William Thomas Shepard went to Richmond, Canada, where he remained several years. On his return to Montreal he secured a position as painter in the car-works. As a painter he early acquired great proficiency and indeed was said to be an artist in his line. When he resigned his position in Canada he came to California in 1886 and settled in San Francisco, where he established himself in the paint business on the corner of Sixth and Mission streets, soon beginning to take contracts for painting, in which work he gave employment to a number of men. At the expiration of two years he sold out the San Francisco business and moved to Stockton, where he now has a pleasant home at No. 1303 East Washington street. For eighteen years after coming to this city he was a contractor for the Stockton Machine & Agricultural works. At this writing he is a partner in the Todman Paint Company, an old-established business, owners of a large store fully stocked with paints and wall paper. An extensive business is done in taking and filling contracts for painting, also in selling materials for such work.

Ever since becoming a citizen of the United States Mr. Shepard has voted the Democratic ticket in state and national elections, but he is liberal in his views and no trace of partisanship can be discerned in his opinions. During 1904 he was elected a member of the city council, receiving the support of the Democrats, also of many Republicans among whom he was popular and highly esteemed. During his service the length of tenure of office was doubled and when he was re-elected in 1906 it was for a term of four years. As the representative of the third ward, he attends to the interests of that section of the city and in addition supports movements for the general welfare. In fraternal relations he is connected with Protection Camp No. 163, A. O. U. W., and Stockton Camp, No. 218, B. P. O. E. Domestic ties were established by Mr.



Shepard some time before his removal to California. During 1881 he was united with Miss Anna E. Vaughn, of England. They are the parents of three children, namely: Herbert F., who is in the employ of the Western Pacific Railroad; Gertrude, who resides with her parents; and William Thomas, Jr., also at home, and now a student in the high school of Stockton.

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#### ABNER RICHARDSON ALLARD.

Few of the pioneers of the west became more experienced and expert in the mining industry than Mr. Allard, who, although never making any valuable discoveries of gold and never staking any rich claims, was nevertheless regarded as an accurate judge of mine valuations. Nearly forty years have come and gone since he passed from the scenes of earth. Had his life been spared, undoubtedly he would have reaped the success of which he was eminently worthy, but he was taken in the prime of his strength, ere yet his hopes had been brought to their fruition. Ever since his demise the widow has remained a resident of Stockton, where she has a large circle of friends among those in whose midst so many years of her life have been passed.

Born in Ashland, Mass., February 22, 1834, Abner Richardson Allard passed the years of youth in attendance at school and in learning at home those lessons of industry, integrity and perseverance that proved helpful to him in manhood's years. In the spring of 1857 he set sail from New York City for Panama on the steamer George Law (later known as the Central America). After crossing the isthmus he took passage on the vessel Golden Gate for San Francisco, where he arrived in due time, after having met on the latter steamship the young lady who later became his wife. During the fall of the

same year both of these vessels were lost at sea. The last voyage of the Golden Gate has become historic, owing, not only to the large loss of life, but also to the fact that the vessel carried large amounts of treasures and valuables. Of recent years a wrecking company has been organized to dive for the treasures contained in the ship, and if success attends the effort it will reopen to the world a tragic page in the early history of the west.

On arriving in California Mr. Allard went direct to the mines at Big Oak Flat, Tuolumne county, where he met with fair success. Next he went to Forest Hill, Placer county, and formed a company for the purpose of sinking a shaft adjacent to the famous Jenny Lind mine. For two years mining operations were conducted, but never a touch of color was found. Leaving the mine, he went to San Francisco and became foreman for the Sanford Fruit Company, being engaged in gathering and packing fruit for that concern, and continuing in the position for one year. November 27, 1861, at Stockton, he was united in marriage with Miss Georgiana Shackford, who was born in Boston, Mass., and came to California at the same time with him, the two becoming acquainted on board the ship. Her father, John Shackford, sailed from Boston and arrived in California via the Isthmus of Panama in August, 1849. After following mining for eight years in Amador county he came to the valley and engaged in farming, following this until his death, in 1848.

After his marriage Mr. Allard went to Washoe, Nev., and secured a position there as foreman of the Golden Curry mine, in the management of which he was unusually successful. Meanwhile his brother-in-law, Samuel Shackford, had enlisted in the Union army, joining a regiment of cavalry, and had been ordered to Arizona with his troops. The ranch which Mr. Shackford owned in the vicinity of Stockton was left in the charge of Mr. Allard, who returned from Nevada to take up its management, continuing on the ranch until the return of the soldier from the front. During 1863 he came to Stockton, and here made his



home until he died, December 24, 1871. Meanwhile he had become well known among the residents of the city and had been particularly active in politics as a local worker of the Republican party, in whose interests he had frequently "stumped" the county, using his fine gift as a public speaker for the benefit of his party's candidates. At his death he left one son, Arthur H., and he is also survived by his wife, who resides at No. 626 East Miner avenue, and occupies a high place in the regard of the old settlers of Stockton.

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#### DANIEL SPAULDING AUSTIN.

Many of California's best citizens were drawn hither on account of the mining boom of the early '50s, and of the number a large proportion were swerved from their original intention upon reaching the scene of activities, but nevertheless remained and engaged in other lines of endeavor. Among this number was the late Daniel S. Austin, who from 1850 up to the time of his death, February 14, 1903, engaged in ranching in the vicinity of Stockton, owning six hundred acres of choice land. A native of the east, he was born in Utica, N. Y., June 15, 1830, the son of Daniel S. Austin, and up to the age of ten years attended the schools of that city. The death of his mother occurred about this time, and soon afterward father and son removed to Michigan, where, in Marshall, the son further pursued his studies in an academy. Later he became a clerk in a store, and it was while there that he decided to cast in his lot with the settlers and argonauts then flocking to California. Crossing the plains in 1850, he came direct to Sonora and for five years engaged in mining. He then moved to the vicinity of Stockton, and just east of this city he and a partner obtained one thousand acres of choice farming land upon which for many years they engaged in wheat and stock-raising.

A number of years after locating in the west Mr. Austin was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ellen Downing, a native of the middle west, her birth occurring in Schuyler county, Ill., June 6, 1842. Her father, Major Albert A. Downing, had come to California in 1848, and in 1855 his wife and daughter undertook to join him in the west. They were finally successful in reaching their destination, Stockton, but not without undergoing severe perils and hardships. The journey on the Atlantic to Panama was made on the ship *Northern Light*, and after disembarking they found the settlement in control of William Walker and his band of filibusters, and were thus detained two weeks, whereas one day would have been sufficient time to make the trip across the isthmus. After two weeks of suspense and fear under the reign of terror Mrs. Downing and her daughter walked to the Pacific side of the isthmus, where they hailed with delight the sight of the American flag and the ship *Sierra Nevada*, which was to take them to their destination. The family were reunited and thereafter made their home near Stockton, where the daughter attended school for a time. After her marriage to Mr. Austin in 1859 she made her home on the Austin ranch just outside of the city until after the death of Mr. Austin, since which time she has resided at No. 222 South Union street. At his death Mr. Austin left besides his wife two daughters, Mrs. Kate Mills, a widow, and Maggie May, who married Henry Linne.

The only son born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Austin was Charles Wesley Austin, whose birth occurred on the homestead ranch January 7, 1863. He received an excellent education in the public schools of Stockton and also in Clark's Business College, after which he returned to the home ranch and assisted in its management until called into public life by his election to state assembly on the Republican ticket, 1896. He represented his constituents in Sacramento in the Twenty-seventh assembly district for one term, during the winter of 1896-97, when, owing to sickness, he was compelled to return to his home

in Stockton. At this time he was also honored by nomination for sheriff of the county, but continued ill-health made acceptance impossible. Pneumonia finally developed and within one month he passed away, February 6, 1898. His passing was the cause of general mourning throughout Stockton and vicinity, for he was widely known and highly respected as one of the most promising young men of the county. He was a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West and Oakdale Lodge, I. O. O. F.

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#### ENOCH PEYTON.

The earliest representative of the Peyton family in the United States was the English immigrant Valentine Peyton, M. D., who served with the army of Virginia as surgeon in the Revolutionary war. He married a relative of Gen. George Washington, and among the children born to them was William Washington Peyton, born in Virginia in 1799. He became a man of considerable prominence in his community, and in addition to owning a plantation of several hundred acres, also owned three flourishing general merchandise stores. His marriage with Lucy Mason, who was born in Virginia in 1801, united him with a family of equal prominence with his own, Charles Mason, one of the English engineers who perpetuated his name in the famous "Mason and Dixon line," being a member of this family. She was a daughter of Enoch and Lucy (Roy) Mason, her father being a large planter at Clover Hill, Stafford county, Va., where the death of both occurred when they were only fifty years of age. During the boyhood of Enoch Peyton the family home was transferred from Virginia to Mississippi, the father settling on a cotton plantation near Jackson, and there his death occurred in 1847. His wife had died in 1838, leav-

ing ten children, but of this number only one is now living, Miss Mary E. Peyton, of Stockton, she being the last representative of this old southern family.

Enoch Peyton was born in Stafford county, Va., in September, 1831, and received a limited education in the schools of Virginia and Mississippi. When he was fifteen years old he went to New Orleans to take a position with his brother William W., who was a commission merchant there. It was there he conceived the idea of journeying to the Pacific coast in search of the fortune which all gold seekers hope to find. With another brother, Randolph, and a comrade, William Crow, he set out to make the journey to California by way of the Isthmus in 1850, and on August 21 of that year they landed at San Francisco. Going to the mines on the north fork of the American river, they prospected there for two months, taking out an ounce of gold dust in one day. From there Enoch Peyton and William Crow went to the mines at Sonora, on the way stopping for a short time at Martinez and Stockton. Randolph Peyton, however, remained in Stockton and engaged as clerk in a store. Realizing that there was a larger profit in teaming to the mines than in delving in the mines themselves, Enoch Peyton bought a team and began carrying supplies to the mining camps, and it was not long before he owned six outfits. All supplies for the southern mines went through Stockton, and the hauling business increased in the same ratio as interest in the mines increased. Mr. Peyton's reputation of being the most reliable man in his line gave him practically the monopoly of the hauling on that road, and he followed the business successfully for sixteen years. He also took teams to the mines in Idaho, but he finally sold his outfit and remained in the mines there from 1863 to 1868. In the latter year he returned to San Joaquin county and settled on one hundred and sixty acres near Collegeville, which he began to cultivate the following year. He also owned three hundred and twenty acres above Collegeville. In 1871 he began raising sheep in Fresno county, driving his



flocks to the mountains during the summer months, and grazing them on his own and rented land adjoining during the winters. Oftentimes his flocks numbered six thousand head. In 1875, however, he sold his sheep and opened a public house in Stockton at No. 232 Main street, following this throughout the remainder of his life. He was a member of the Society of Pioneers of San Joaquin county.

In Stockton Mr. Peyton was married in 1868 to Mary V. Bateman, the daughter of Dr. E. B. Bateman, an account of whose interesting life will be found elsewhere in this volume. At his death, November 12, 1894, Mr. Peyton left a widow and two sons to mourn his loss, two other sons having died previously. Named in order of birth the children were as follows: George Nuttall, who died in 1879; Edmund Randolph, a resident of Stockton; Charles Mason, who died in 1879; and Harry W., also a resident of Stockton.

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### STOCKTON IRON WORKS.

Not only is the Stockton Iron Works one of the oldest enterprises in California, but it also claims that honor when compared with industrial enterprises throughout the country. It had its inception in the summer of 1868, when H. L. Farrington, G. C. Hyatt and H. S. Farrington started the business on a small scale under the firm name of Farrington, Hyatt & Co., a successful business being carried on under this name for a number of years. December 23, 1887, H. L. Farrington died, and on April 1, 1889, the business was sold to Tretheway, Earl & Dasher, the new proprietors starting out to expand the business by reaching out into new territory. Up to this time the class of work had been largely agricultural and steamboat machinery, with a few dredges. Mr. Tretheway, foreseeing the

great possibilities in the reclamation of the thousands of acres of virgin delta lands of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys, made extended trips into the tule basins and overflowed tracts to study the needs and to develop and make such improvements in dredge machinery as would justify the effort. Just what results have been obtained by these efforts may be seen by taking a daylight ride by steamer on the San Joaquin river and its tributaries, which form the boundaries of the many islands, containing thousands of acres of the richest soil and most productive lands within the state of California, if not in the world. Around these large bodies of land may be seen many of the ponderous dredges produced by the Stockton Iron Works continuously swinging their long arms day and night, reaching to the bed of the river and grabbing with their huge clam-shell buckets the sand and clay to be deposited on and further strengthen the immense levees now existing, varying from ten to twenty feet high, and from one hundred to two hundred feet wide at their base, of which there are many miles, protecting vast areas of enclosed lands.

In 1899 this company incorporated and elected the following directors: G. C. Hyatt, president; A. L. Farrington, secretary and treasurer; and W. E. Tretheway, superintendent, and the business was conducted under their management until Mr. Hyatt sold his interest and retired. On March 1st, 1907, the company was reorganized with the following directors: W. E. Tretheway, president and general manager; John Grant, vice-president; John H. Thompson, secretary; E. R. Thompson, treasurer, and Mrs. L. H. Tretheway, and W. R. Thresher, assistant managers. The new officers at once purchased a site and commenced the erection of a modern plant especially equipped for the manufacture and repair of dredge and reclamation machinery, and located on the north side of the Stockton Harbor, where they have erected a private wharf for the receiving and shipping of their special machinery. On this wharf they have erected a large crane capable of lifting twenty



tons and loading the same on cars, which are run on a track leading to any part of the works, where it may be taken apart and repaired. On passing down the channel one may often see suspended from this wharf crane, a launch with its stern far out of the water and the mechanics at work upon it, replacing propellers and making repairs to rudder or other parts.

It is the company's aim to expand and grow and further develop their specialty of reclamation machinery, as the business may demand. Their works now cover about ninety thousand square feet of ground, upon which have been erected during the past year a steel building and large cranes for the making of iron castings, with a capacity of fifteen tons per day. Here are made the large gears, frictions, and winding drums and parts for their dredging machinery. Adjoining this building is the brass foundry, where are located four crucible furnaces with a capacity of melting one thousand pounds daily in either brass or bronze castings for their own machinery, as well as supplying the smaller machine shops with this class of castings. The machine-shop building is 62x100 feet, two-story, the machine department occupying the entire lower floor, while the pattern department occupies the whole upper floor. In this building is installed the latest and best up-to-date tools to be had for this purpose. The blacksmith shop is one story, equipped with an electric traveling crane, a modern steam hammer operated by compressed air, also hydraulic presses and pneumatic air tools for the forging, bending, boring and drilling of the special heavy clam-shell buckets which this firm have developed for the digging of tough and hard clay soil which lies within their territory. This branch of their manufacture has been carefully studied and given the personal attention of Manager W. E. Tretheway for the past fifteen years with great success. There are also several other buildings for the grinding and clearing of castings, also storing sheds for coke, sand and coal used in the various departments. The building containing the general offices and the draughting department is built of brick, three

stories high, and supplied with the latest instruments for the designing and blue-printing of the drawings of their special manufactures. At this time (1909) there are five persons at work in this department designing new ideas.

The pattern storehouse is of wood, four stories high, with corrugated sides and asbestos fire-proof roof. In this building are stored the various patterns of their customers, as well as their own, which are carefully guarded against loss by fire, as are in fact all of the buildings of this plant. For protection against fire there has been erected a water tower seventy-five feet high, with a galvanized steel tank of twelve thousand gallons capacity, which is supplied with water from a deep well and a power duplex pump driven by an electric motor. From this tank is an outlet pipe three inches in diameter leading to all the departments, and at eighteen different points there are stationed fire hydrants with twenty-five feet of one and a half inch fire hose attached to each fire plug for immediate use in case of fire. These provisions have been wisely arranged from the suggestions of the officers and employees and insurance inspectors for the better care of and protection to the thousands of dollars of property of the company and its customers.

The attention of the company's officers to the details of their production, the integrity of their business operations and the high standard of work turned out have built up for them a reputation which has brought them a large trade which they are striving to maintain. This company ships their manufactured product as far north as Los Angeles and to Alaska on the north. Architectural iron work and reclamation machinery are their specialties, but they also do a general jobbing and repairing of boilers, pattern making, machine work and blacksmithing, and steel, iron or brass castings made to order. They have at this time about one hundred and twenty-five employees on their pay roll, and room for more as the growing business may demand.

Of the personnel of the company we mention the following: W. E. Tretheway, president and general manager, in 1872, when almost twenty

old, commenced an apprenticeship in the Risdon Iron Works of San Francisco, there obtaining knowledge of the manufacture of mining, marine and sugar making machinery. The last work in which he was engaged in that city was the building of motive power for the California Street Cable Railroad, which is still being operated. In September, 1877, he came to the Stockton Iron Works to take charge of the pattern department, and has been identified with and given his whole attention to these works in the different departments for the past thirty-two years.

John Grant, the vice-president, was born in Scotland and served an apprenticeship in a shipyard on the Clyde. After about ten years of service at sea as ship carpenter he came to California from Australia and settled in Stockton, where he accepted a position with the California Navigation & Improvement Company for a short time. In 1892 he built the wooden hull for the dredger, Roberts Island, which is still working in San Francisco Bay. Since that time, although not taking an active part in the works, he has built all of the dredge hulls for this company, and many barges and other craft for transportation in this state during the last twenty years. He gives his personal attention to this branch of the dredge-building industry, a class of work in which he is not surpassed.

John H. Thompson was born and reared in the town of Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, and is a son of J. C. Thompson. As secretary of the company he has charge of the office and financial work of the institution in which he has been engaged for the past five years. He received his training in the office of the Sperry Flour Company, and was secretary of the Wagner Leather Company of this city for seven years, and is still a stockholder in the latter company. He is also secretary of and prominently identified with the H. C. Shaw Company of this city.

W. R. Thresher, assistant manager, was born in San Francisco, and was educated in Stockton. In 1884 he came from the high school and applied for a position as apprentice in the works and was put to work in the pattern shop under

the charge of Mr. Tretheway. In 1889 he was promoted to foreman of this department, a position he filled with credit to himself and the company. For his faithful service he was rewarded by being appointed to his present position at the re-organization in 1907, a trust which he is fully qualified to fill.

The various departments, office and mechanical, are in charge of competent bookkeepers, foremen, and assistants to execute the orders entrusted to this company and are men of wide experience in their particular line.

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#### WILLIAM O. CUTLER.

The quiet, unostentatious, but faithful, discharge of the duties devolving upon him as a citizen marked the life of Mr. Cutler in California, and when he entered into rest, in June of 1897, there were many to join in expressions of friendship and sincere respect for the one taken from among them. For almost thirty years he had been a resident of California, having come here from the east in 1868, and thereafter he made his headquarters in San Joaquin and Calaveras counties. A native of Massachusetts, born August 16, 1830, he passed the days of boyhood in Canada, having removed to a farm near Quebec with his parents at an early age. The death of his father forced him to seek his own livelihood at an age when most boys were attending school and therefore he lacked the education he would have been glad to receive. When he left Canada it was to cross into Vermont, where he was employed as driver of a stage coach. Later he went to Massachusetts and worked by the day. During 1868, as previously stated, he came to California and secured a position as stage-driver for Sisson & Co., with headquarters at Stockton. Eventually the stage line was transferred to Mil-



ton and afterward he made Calaveras county his home.

The marriage of Mr. Cutler took place in January, 1873, and united him with Mrs. Delphina J. (Eaton) Dennis, an honored pioneer woman of Calaveras county, who during a long residence in the state won a host of warm personal friends. Her character suited her environment, for she was gentle, yet fearless, a capable nurse in sickness, kind to the needy and ever ready to sacrifice her own comfort to aid others less fortunately situated. Her parents, True and Abigail T. (Comins) Eaton, were natives of New England and there lived on a farm for years. During January of 1862 they arrived in California, where Mr. Eaton died in June of the following year. Mrs. Eaton died in Ione, Cal., in 1895, at the age of eighty-four years.

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### FRED O. GARDINER.

Among the younger generation of educators in the west few names are more prominently associated with the educational development in San Joaquin county than that of Fred O. Gardiner, the efficient resident manager of the Stockton Business College. This college is one of the eleven institutions incorporated under the general head known as Healds Colleges, a system which taken collectively has been a tremendous force in preparing the youthful mind to compete with the problems of business life.

Mr. Gardiner is a native of the middle west, and was born in Dallas county, Iowa, January 25, 1872, the son of J. O. and Emily (Tovey) Gardiner, farmers in that county. The early boyhood days of the son were passed on the parental homestead, but as he had no natural inclination toward agricultural life very little of time or effort was spent in the performance of home du-

ties. Instead, his thought was concentrated in preparing his mind and hand for the great business world, and having learned telegraphy, between the ages of ten and twelve he filled a position as operator on the Rock Island Route in Iowa. It was during this time, too, that he recognized his exceptional ability as a penman, a recognition which may be taken as the turning point in his career, taking him from the commercial world and placing him in the no less important educational field. Thus far his school advantages were only such as had been offered in the public schools in the vicinity of his birthplace in Iowa, but in order to perfect himself in the art of penmanship he took a special course in the Highland Park Normal College, of Des Moines, Iowa. Following this he took a general course in the Lincoln Normal University of Nebraska, from which he graduated in 1894, with the degree of master of accounts.

Coming to California in the year 1895, Mr. Gardiner's initiation in the educational world began with his associations in Oakland and San Francisco, where he was interested in the Heald-Dixon College for two years. Selling his interest in the institution in 1896, he then came to Stockton and accepted a position as teacher in the commercial department of the Stockton Business College, filling this with great credit to himself for eight years, when he purchased the entire control of the college. Two years later, in 1900, he sold his interest to Mr. Heald and since then has been resident manager of the institution. He possesses in large measure those qualities which combine to make the successful teacher of the young mind, and as one of the rising young men in this part of California stands high in educational circles in the state.

In Stockton, on Christmas Day of 1898, Mr. Gardiner was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Mylotte, the daughter of Judge Mylotte, of San Francisco. One child, Ione, has been born of their marriage. Fraternally Mr. Gardiner is affiliated with the Odd Fellows, the Masons, and the Woodmen of the World. Mr. Gardiner's gift as an expert penman has given him a repu-



tation exceeded by none on the Pacific coast, and in fact stands in the foremost ranks in that profession in the whole country. He has a personality that is pleasing and winning, and has always been popular with his pupils, a bond which has been a large factor in his success as a teacher.

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### JOSHUA PORTER AUSTIN.

Associated for years with the pioneer activities of San Joaquin county, Joshua Porter Austin made farm pursuits his principal occupation after coming to California, although to some extent he also was interested in carpentering, of which he had a thorough knowledge. A number of the early structures erected in Stockton were built under his personal supervision and bore testimony to his efficient workmanship, but he was more particularly interested in raising grain and stock and enjoyed a reputation as a thorough-going agriculturist. His first tract comprised one hundred and sixty acres secured from the government and later he acquired another quarter-section by purchase, thus becoming the owner of a large acreage suited for the grazing of stock and the raising of grain. Early enterprises for the local welfare received the impetus of his assistance, and he was especially interested in securing good schools, realizing that no region can reach its highest development without the aid of educational advantages. To his district he donated the land for Mount Carmel school. A building stood on the lot known as the Eight-Mile house, and for a time a store had been conducted there by Henry Wright. In connection with the store there was a ball-room where neighborhood parties were held. The building was utilized by the district for school purposes and Mr. Austin further assisted by making the doors, sash, desks and seats. Later the building was

torn down and the lumber utilized in the construction of the present schoolhouse.

The year of 1849, fateful in the history of California, brought Mr. Austin with other Argonauts to the shores of California by way of Cape Horn as a passenger on a ship from New York. Born in Delaware county, N. Y., in 1822, he had attended the schools of that day and place and had gained a rudimentary knowledge of the three R's. During boyhood he mastered the details of the steel square. By the time he arrived at maturity he was proficient in carpentering and cabinet-making, which furnished him a means of livelihood in his native county.

While living in Delaware county Mr. Austin married Miss Susan Bagley, who was born at Big Hollow, Greene county, N. Y., in 1825, and they began housekeeping in a house which Mr. Austin owned. Some years later he left his family there and came to California, where he worked at his trade in Sacramento at \$16 per day. Next he came to Stockton and outfitted for the mines at Sonora, where he met with a small degree of success. Meanwhile he became interested in the hotel business and opened the Irving house, where many times he entertained not only men of prominence and high standing, but also bands of desperadoes intent upon deeds of evil. Having decided that he wished to locate permanently in California, Mr. Austin returned east for his family, and they came with him via the isthmus. At that time there were two children, namely: Mary, who married John Wright, of French Camp; and Clifford, who still lives in San Joaquin county.

After his return to the west Mr. Austin resided temporarily at Santa Cruz, where with a Mr. Shell he built the first sawmill in the town and furnished plank for the paving of Clay street in San Francisco. With another pioneer he erected a building at French Camp that he utilized for hotel purposes. Much of his time, however, was given to his ranch, and far and near he was known as the proprietor of the Pancake ranch, so called because its owner gave his guests pancakes for their breakfast and also enjoyed them

daily for his own breakfast. Politically he voted the Democratic ticket. In religion he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a liberal supporter of the denomination. Fond of hunting and fishing, he devoted many leisure hours to these sports, and delighted to bring to his home the fruits of his skill with rod and gun. A long and happy married life was brought to an end when Mrs. Austin passed away in 1896, at the age of seventy-one years. Less than ten years later, in April of 1905, he followed her to the grave, at the age of eighty-three. In addition to their children born in New York they were the parents of six born in San Joaquin county, namely: Porter, who died at the age of forty-one years, leaving a wife and son; Burgess, a rancher; Gilbert, supervisor of the state asylum; Henry, who resides at No. 119 South Pilgrim street, Stockton; Hattie, who married, but was removed from her home by death at the age of twenty-eight years; and Edward, who holds a position as manager of the Wiley B. Allen Co., of Sacramento.

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### WILLIAM KUHLE

In the era when Stockton was an insignificant hamlet, of importance only as a station from which supplies were hauled to the various mines in the surrounding country, William Kuhl became a pioneer of the village, buying property on the corner of Market and California streets, where the postoffice now stands. For a number of years he made his home in a house that occupied that lot, but in 1858 he traded the property for two hundred and forty-two acres of land near Stockton. Removing to the country, he took possession of the place and began to bring the land under cultivation. Suitable buildings were erected, other improvements were made, and under his industrious supervision the value of the

homestead was greatly increased. Here he made his home until December 16, 1886, when death terminated his activities.

A native of Germany, born in 1817, Mr. Kuhl was brought to the United States by his parents in childhood and settled with them in the vicinity of Beardstown, Ill., where he grew to manhood upon a farm and received a fair education in country schools. During 1851 he joined a party of emigrants bound for the Pacific coast. There were six men in the company, and they provided themselves with an equipment of wagons, oxen and provisions. The journey was uneventful. Indians did not molest them, nor did sickness add to the privations of the trip. Wild game was plentiful and supplied them with fresh meat to be cooked over their camp-fire. During the spring of 1852 Mr. Kuhl arrived in Stockton and soon bought property here, which as previously stated he exchanged for unimproved farm land. He was one of the organizers and a member of the German Methodist Episcopal Church of Stockton, and was a staunch Republican in politics, though he never sought office. He was also greatly interested in public schools and supported all public movements.

Prior to coming west William Kuhl had married Anna Marie Glasser, who was of German descent and grew to womanhood in Illinois, coming to California after marriage and remaining here until her death, December 28, 1898. The parents are survived by two children, the daughter being Mrs. J. H. Farwell, of San Francisco.

The only son of the family, Charles F., was born December 14, 1857, in a house that occupied the present site of the Stockton postoffice. During boyhood he aided in the developing of the home farm and attended the country schools. In 1879 he went to Los Angeles and three years later moved to Portland, Ore., returning to Los Angeles in 1886, and making his home in that city for twelve years. On his return to Stockton in 1898 he opened his present place of business, and in addition to managing the same, he has charge of the old home farm, which he owns, but rents to tenants. By his marriage to Miss Lena

Cordes, of Los Angeles, he has one daughter and two sons, namely: Mrs. Marie E. Curtis, a resident of Montreal, Canada; Bert. C., now in Seattle, Wash.; and Carl F., a student in the Stockton high school. Fraternally Mr. Kuhl holds membership with the Knights of Pythias and his wife is identified with the Pythian Sisters.

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### HIRAM FISHER.

The life which this narrative depicts began in Pennsylvania in 1815, and came to a close in Stockton June 23, 1891. Between these dates is written a life filled with useful accomplishments from a commercial standpoint, as well as one filled with useful deeds in behalf of his fellow-citizens. At the age of eleven years Mr. Fisher left his home in Pennsylvania, and going to Galion, Ohio, there learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in that state for a number of years, and then went to St. Louis, Mo., and assisted in building the state capitol there. Later he engaged in the lumber and milling business in that city, and though he was on the high road to success in this dual occupation, still the attractions of the far west led him to close out his interests and the spring of 1853 found him crossing the plains to California. Six months later, in September of that year, he reached his destination, and came directly to Stockton and engaged at his trade of carpenter.

In his trade Mr. Fisher saw many opportunities to make purchase of property to good advantage, one of these purchases consisting of twenty-seven acres of land in the north-east section of the town, which he laid out into town lots and called it Fisher's addition. What was then, 1856, a comparative wilderness, is now one of the thickly settled portions of the city, and in this locality he also founded the Lincoln school.

Mr. Fisher's marriage occurred in St. Louis, Mo., July 19, 1840, uniting him with Elizabeth Virginia Maddox, a native of Virginia. Of the children born of their marriage those living are: Mary C., the widow of John Wilson, and a resident of Stockton; Mrs. W. H. Beighle, of Pacific Grove; Hiram, a resident of Paradise, Ariz.; Mrs. Sarah Cordelia Aldrich, of Stockton; Mrs. Elvira Ditman, also of this city; and Alonzo, who makes his home in Bakersfield, Kern county. At his death June 23, 1891, Stockton lost one of her best citizens, one whose personal interests were secondary to those of a public nature. For many years he was the efficient justice of the peace of O'Neil township, and he was also greatly interested in the cause of prohibition, as he was also in every cause which tended toward the sanctity of the home and the uplifting of the standard in business life in his community. As a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church he took a deep interest in its various departments of philanthropy and missions, in fact it may be truthfully said of him that his greatest happiness consisted in doing for others.

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### ELIJAH WHITING ATTWOOD.

The life which this narrative depicts began after the close of the Revolutionary war, and his birth occurred in a building made famous from the fact that, at the age of eighteen years, the young Revolutionary patriot, Nathan Hale, had taught school in it. At that time, 1773, it was located at Goodspeed's landing, but after the building was abandoned in 1779 it passed into the hands of Elijah A. Attwood, the grandfather of Elijah W., and was then removed to East Haddam, Conn., and here it was that the birth of the latter occurred November 26, 1815. This old homestead remained in the possession of the



family up to the year 1899, when it was secured by the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the Revolution and is now being carefully preserved as a relic by that society.

Up to the age of thirty years, or until 1845, Elijah W. Attwood followed the sea, engaging principally in the coasting trade between the New England and the southern states, although he also made a number of longer voyages which took him to Africa and other foreign ports. At the time Fort Sumter was being built he was captain of a ship which carried large quantities of stone to be used in its construction.

At Norwich, Conn., Mr. Attwood was married July 15, 1845, to Miss Azubah Beckwith, whose birth occurred in Lyme, Conn., November 27, 1819, she too being a representative of old New England stock. Some years after their marriage and the birth of two of their children, Mr. Attwood set out alone for the far west, reaching California June 29, 1849, having made the voyage by way of Cape Horn on the ship Mentor. Two years later he returned to Connecticut by way of Panama, and in September of 1851, with his wife, daughter and son, came to California to establish his future home. At French Camp, San Joaquin county, he engaged in the hotel business under the name of The LaBarron Company, having as partners in the undertaking, E. H. Allen, W. S. Belden, T. A. Wilson and a Mr. LaBarron. A large business was carried on for those days, especially in the winter season, when the roads out of Stockton became impassable. Mr. Attwood found another valuable source of income by carrying freight by boat to French Camp on the slough and thence by teams to the mountains and mines, he being one of the first white men to make the trip up the stream. This business finally assumed large proportions, and associated with his son Oscar he made a business of freighting and carrying passengers between Stockton and French Camp in a sailboat known as the Lively Sally. Besides the interests already mentioned Mr. Attwood engaged in mining for a time in Calaveras county, and returning to San Joaquin county in 1857 he

purchased a ranch of one hundred and seventeen acres, on the Durham ferry road. This was the homestead of the family up to the death of the wife and mother, which occurred August 5, 1886, after which the property was sold and Mr. Attwood went to Lathrop to make his home near his youngest son. A few months before his death, however, he came to Stockton, to be with his children during his declining days, all the children residing in Stockton at that time. He passed away in this city February 1, 1904, leaving a void in the hearts of his children, who knew him as a loving, indulgent father, and in the community in which he had spent the greater part of his life his death was lamented as a public loss. When he came to California in the famous year of '49 he was a man in the prime of life, and with a large experience, which, coupled with mature judgment, exemplary habits and untiring energy, easily accounts for the success which followed his efforts, and for the large circle of friends and acquaintances which he instinctively gathered about him. No one was more worthy of membership in the Pioneer Society than he, and he was a welcome member of the society in San Joaquin county.

Named in the order of their birth the children born to Elijah W. and Azubah (Beckwith) Attwood are as follows: Annette Viola, born in New London, Conn., May 22, 1846, and was married May 19, 1863, to Dennis Visser, son of the pioneer Sabastian Visser; Oscar Fuller, also a native of Connecticut, born January 26, 1848 and was married May 10, 1877, to Mary E. Keys, daughter of the pioneer Thomas J. Keys; William Allen, born in French Camp, Cal., June 8, 1852, and died July 18, 1857; Henry Beckwith, also born in French Camp, June 21, 1854, died April 25, 1858; Leroy Smith, who was born February 6, 1858, and was married April 24, 1879, to Miss Nellie Alida Gray, of Calaveras county; and John Perry, who was born March 11, 1860, and June 27, 1881, was married to Miss Cynthia Johnson. Leroy S. Atwood is secretary of the Pioneer Society of San Joaquin county, and is proprietor of the Atwood Printing Company, of Stockton, his

son Archie W. being associated with him in the business. Although the father always adhered to the original spelling of the family name, his children shortened the spelling by dropping one of the T's.

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### ROSWELL CHAPMAN SARGENT.

To give a detailed account of the events that made up the life of Roswell C. Sargent would be to depict the progress of California during the period that has elapsed since the American occupancy, a recital which would make interesting reading for the present generation, but limited space forbids more than brief mention of the most important facts. From colonial times New England had been the home of his progenitors and he himself was a product of that section of the country, his birth occurring in Thornton, Grafton county, N. H., March 28, 1821, he being one of the six children (five sons and one daughter) born to his parents, Jacob and Martha H. (Webster) Sargent. The name of Jacob Sargent was well known throughout Grafton county, where he was not only a large land-owner, but wielded a large influence in business affairs in his community as a financier and speculator.

Up to the age of seventeen years Roswell C. Sargent was reared and educated in the midst of a happy home influence, but the death of his mother in 1838 proved a turning point in his career, and from that time forward he rapidly became acquainted with the more serious side of life. Going to Boston, Mass., he worked on a farm in that vicinity for two years, and afterward was for three years engaged in the dairy business. In his next business venture he was associated with his brother, J. P., the two engaging in the ice business for a number of years, but on selling out in the fall of 1847 they went as far west as Chicago. There Roswell C. at-

tempted to fill an ice-house and had partly succeeded before the ice went out, when he purchased a quarter interest in the plant and began selling ice at the rate of twenty-five cents a hundred-weight. As the supply diminished the price increased accordingly, until he finally received as high as \$1 per hundred-weight. On the whole he had succeeded far beyond his expectations, and was finally enabled to purchase the remaining three-quarter interest in the business, as well as the building. At this time he again became associated in business with his brother, J. P., but the partnership was destined to be of short duration, for events were transpiring elsewhere which were to have an influence on their lives and plans.

The finding of gold in California had aroused the ambition of Dr. J. L. and J. P. Sargent to try their fortune in the new west and they wished their brother, Roswell C. to accompany them. Disposing of the ice plant to his former partner, Mr. Sherman, plans for the overland journey were immediately begun, and having secured their oxen, they set out for the eldorado of the west May 1, 1849. Leaving Illinois, they crossed the Missouri river at Independence, Mo., thence went to Fort Kearney, and at this point Roswell C. Sargent assumed the responsibility of driving their nine yoke of cattle the remainder of the way. Having been careful in the selection of their cattle (for which they paid from \$40 to \$100 a yoke) and supplying themselves with ample provisions and other necessities they fared better than many of their fellow-travelers. Among their supplies was a five-gallon keg of alcohol and also one of brandy. To the commander of a passing train they disposed of half of the alcohol for \$300, and later sold the remainder to the same purchaser, as well as an ox to be used for food, for which they received \$100. By the time they reached the top of the mountain Captain Rogers again came to them and negotiated for a part of their brandy. Having followed the route that led by way of Sublett's cut-off, the brothers finally reached Ringgold, Eldorado county, October 13, 1849,



and there built the first house constructed in the town. With this as their headquarters Roswell C. Sargent set out for Sacramento, and there also he erected a building in which he established a trading post. Between these points he made nine round trips in hauling freight, for which he received \$1 per pound, and he also took cattle, boots and other supplies to the mines and there sold them to good advantage. This seeming good fortune was not without its dark side, however, for many and severe were the hardships which he endured, to say nothing of sickness.

As there were no fences or other restrictions to confine his cattle they had become scattered and in the spring of 1850 Mr. Sargent set out to search for them, taking with him \$1,000 in gold dust. Although he had hoped to recover the entire herd of two hundred, after spending the money with which he started he had succeeded in finding only seven and then abandoned the search. This piece of ill-luck, added to the fact that business generally was dull in the spring of 1850, the brothers decided to go to Georgetown, but Roswell and one of the brothers soon afterward returned for some cattle. The other brothers remained at Georgetown, and after purchasing a scythe for \$75 entered upon a hay-making venture that proved a veritable gold mine. They cut and staked about eighty tons, which they sold to the passing emigrants for "a bit" a pound. In the fall of that year the brothers came to San Joaquin county, locating at Woodbridge, and in the following year they built a brush fence around their property, the first fence of the kind in the county. It extended from where Lodi now stands to the river and was four or five miles in length. Thus protected from the encroachments of wandering cattle they sowed their land to grain the first season, and the following year planted one hundred and sixty acres of the land to barley, having in the meantime also carried on a stock business.

The high water of the years 1851 and 1852 led to new difficulties and interfered with travel to such an extent that boats finally became a

necessity. The brothers built a boat and conveyed their goods to Stockton, thence to Calaveras, where they received excellent prices for all commodities. To combat the highwater problem which had confronted them and been a menace to their progress for so many years, in 1862 the brothers undertook the plan of protecting their land by the levee system, and in so doing were the first to use a dredger in California. In building the levee across their land they encountered two large sloughs which they had to dam, each dam being one hundred and twenty feet long and fifty feet wide at the top, while at the bottom they were from one hundred and fifty feet to two hundred feet. The task was tremendous when it is remembered that nearly all of the work was done before any machinery had been brought into the state. The dredger which they used was one of their own manufacture and was the first one used in the state. In 1864, after the dry season, there was a large demand on the Sargent brothers for beef cattle, butchers coming to them to get supplies for their markets from the northern extremity of the Sacramento valley. Besides the home ranch of sixteen thousand acres in San Joaquin county the brothers also owned large landed interests in Santa Clara and Monterey counties. Besides the brothers who for so many years had been associated in a common interest in California (Dr. Jacob L., Roswell C., James P., Bradley V., and Andrew J.) there was also one sister in the parental family, Martha H., who became the wife of Col. S. M. Preston and for many years made her home in Newton, Iowa.

The domestic life of Roswell C. Sargent began in 1858, when his marriage with Miss Isabel Smith was celebrated. Mrs. Sargent was a native of England, but from girlhood has been a resident of California. Born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Sargent were the following children: Clara R., who died in 1877, when in her eighteenth year; Jacob Preston, who was born June 8, 1863, and is now in charge of the family estate; Roswell C., Jr., who died in in-



fancy; Julia Frances, who died in 1885, when in her eighteenth year; Mary Emma, who was born May 20, 1870, and is now the wife of Frederic N. Vail, a civil engineer of Stockton; Charles Bradley, deceased; and Roswell W., who died in 1884, when a child of seven years. Mr. Sargent represented the Republican party from his district in the legislature four sessions and during his term of service was an active member of committees which had to do with swamp lands and claims. Fraternally he was a member of Jefferson Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Woodbridge, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and he was also a valued member of the Woodbridge Grange and the Agricultural Fair Association. His death June 15, 1902, was the cause of universal mourning, for his long association with the growth and upbuilding of San Joaquin county had displayed qualities which won the love and esteem of his fellowmen. While in office he gave his undivided attention to the people's interests with the same fidelity that he would give to his own. Such men as he build for all time and leave a monument to their memory in substantial form, as well as a heritage to their posterity and an example worthy of emulation.

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### JUGURTHA W. GLENN.

A noticeable characteristic of the native-born sons of California is their devotion to their commonwealth. Few there are who seek homes in other parts of the world; the great majority remain in the midst of scenes familiar to their earliest recollections and mingle in business enterprises with an energy inseparable from the equipment of a typical westerner. This is no less true of Mr. Glenn than of other Californians who have spent their entire lives within the limits of their state. Devotion to the commonwealth has

been evidenced in his actions, and he has exhibited the highest faith in the future growth and prosperity of the state.

Shasta county is Mr. Glenn's native place, and June 14, 1854, the date of his birth, his parents being Hugh and Mary (Catna) Glenn, natives of Scotland but reared in America. They became pioneers of the Pacific coast, having crossed the plains in 1853, and settled in Shasta, where Mr. Glenn conducted The American hotel. As early as 1865 he accompanied the family to Stockton and became a student in the public schools. After graduation from the high school he went to Kingsburg, Fresno county, and for two and one-half years engaged in the general mercantile business. On his return to Stockton in 1876 he became an employe of William Baggs in the grain business, filling the position for three years, and during one year of that period he had entire charge of the warehouse. In February of 1879 he became an employe of Hamilton & Greer in the running of steamboats along the river from Stockton, and also on the Sacramento river.

The San Joaquin Improvement Company was organized about 1884 and Mr. Glenn, who had acted as purser for the old firm, was given a position as assistant manager in the new organization. From that position he rose to be secretary of the company. During the following year there was consummated the consolidation of the San Joaquin Improvement Company and the California Steam Navigation Company under the title of the California Navigation & Improvement Company. In the capacity of assistant manager of the combined companies Mr. Glenn acted from about 1889 until 1902, when he was promoted to be general manager of the organization and continued as such for three years. Resigning from that firm, he assumed the management of a new line, the Union Transportation Company. One year later this company sold out to the California Transportation Company and since then he has been retained in his former position, representing the concern in Stockton and vicinity.

The marriage of Mr. Glenn took place in August of 1886 and united him with Miss A. C.

Wellington, a native of Louisiana. They are the parents of two children. The daughter, Marie B., is the wife of Ralph W. Weymouth, of Berkeley, a graduate of the University of California. The son, Jugurtha W., Jr., is a student in the Stockton high school. The family residence is at No. 444 West Oak street. On the organization of Stockton Parlor No. 7, N. S. G. W., Mr. Glenn became a charter member. In addition, he is identified with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, in which for six years he held the office of chaplain. He has always been a Republican and is interested in the growth and advancement of the city and county.

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#### JOHN E. OLIVER, M. D.

The professional circles of Stockton have an able representative in the person of Dr. Oliver, who for a considerable period has been engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in this city, operating a drug store in connection with his medical work. A long and successful experience as a practitioner in Missouri, supplementing exceptional advantages in study in a splendid eastern institution and training under his father, who was a skilled physician, qualified him admirably for successful practice in the city where now he makes his home. Pleased with this country and its climate, he has identified himself with movements tending to the permanent welfare of the region. The fine soil and excellent farming facilities of the county interested him to such an extent that, as a diversion from practice, he allowed himself to acquire permanent agricultural interests, and was the leading promoter of the Miller's Farm Company, Incorporated. This organization, of which he is the president, owns a farm of six hundred and forty acres, devoted to the growing of grain, hay and live-stock.

A native of Missouri, Dr. Oliver was born near Huntsville, Randolph county, March 12, 1863, being the only son of J. C. Oliver, M. D., an honored physician of that region. The father was born in Scott county, Ky., May 1, 1825, and received fair advantages in the study of medicine. In 1850 he was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College. Shortly afterward he opened an office in Randolph county, Mo., where he built up a large practice extending for miles in every direction from his home. In those days a doctor's life was necessarily one of privation and hardships. Long rides and exposure to inclement weather, added to the strain of responsible professional duties, taxed even the most robust constitution, and the doctor succumbed in 1881 ere yet old age had come to him. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Eddings, was born in Virginia in 1833 and died in 1901 in Kansas City, Mo., where her last days were spent.

After having studied in a private school and academy in Randolph county, Mo., John E. Oliver was sent to the William Jewell College at Liberty, near Kansas City Mo., and in that fine old institution he qualified himself for his life work by laying the foundation of a classical education. While still quite young he had gained some idea of therapeutics under his father's instruction and after the death of the father he read alone for a time. In order to receive the advantages of clinics and lectures he entered the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, where he remained until he was given the degree of M. D., in 1885. Immediately afterward he went to Kansas City, Mo., and opened an office, remaining in that city for eleven years, and eventually retiring from practice there in order that he might remove to the most attractive climate of California. Since coming to Stockton in September of 1896, he has built up an important practice, carried on a drug business, formed agricultural associations, and taken a warm interest in all movements for the permanent upbuilding of the city. For years he has been a champion of the philanthropic principles of Ma-



sonry and holds membership at this writing with Stockton Lodge, F. & A. M., Stockton Chapter, R. A. M., Stockton Commandery No. 8, K. T., and the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

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### THOMAS S. LOUITTIT.

Typical of the opportunities which the city of Stockton offers to its native-born sons is the life of Thomas S. Louttit, who although scarcely yet in the prime of mental activities has risen to a foremost position at the bar of his home town. Here he was born July 11, 1876, here the foundation of his education was laid in the common schools, here he enjoyed high-school advantages and here, too, he began the study of the law under the wise and talented preceptorship of his father, the late James Alexander Louttit. Upon the completion of his studies he was admitted to the bar in 1903 before the supreme court of California in San Francisco and at once commenced professional work in partnership with his father under the firm title of Louttit & Louttit, which connection continued until the death of the senior partner three years later. During January of 1907 a partnership was formed with DeWitt Clary under the name of Clary & Louttit and since then the firm has conducted a general law practice in all of the courts. Favored by close association with his gifted father and later by contact with many of the prominent attorneys of the state, Mr. Louttit has availed himself of every advantage for the training of his mental powers and has acquired a knowledge of jurisprudence that his friends believe will place him eventually among the leading lawyers of our commonwealth, with whose laws he is intimately acquainted and to whose progress he is keenly devoted. Hospitality graces his comfortable home in Stockton, and the charm of social amenities is added to the

strength of mental attainments. During 1898 he was united in marriage with Anna, daughter of H. M. and Anna J. (Ortman) Hunter, the maternal side representing one of the old families of this county. By this marriage one son has been born, Thomas Hunter Louttit.

The qualities displayed by Thomas S. Louttit are his by right of inheritance from a long line of gifted Scotch ancestors. Distinction in official positions as well as longevity marked many generations of the race from which he sprang. His paternal grandparents were Thomas Sinclair (in whose honor he was named) and Jessie Ann (Bell) Louttit, the former born in Scotland July 4, 1821, and the latter a native of Inverness, the same country, and five years the senior of her husband. Mrs. Jessie Louttit was a daughter of Alexander Bell, a Scottish Covenanter leader, who attained the age of ninety-seven years, and who was survived by his wife, Jessie Margaret (Robertson) Bell, a centenarian, attaining the age of one hundred and three years. They traced their ancestry to the Orkney Islands, as did also the Louttit family. The generation preceding the senior Thomas Sinclair Louttit had as its head James Louttit, who died at the age of sixty-six years; he had married Mary Sinclair, a sister of Thomas Sinclair, who for several years officiated as lieutenant-governor of British Columbia and who also gained distinction as president of the Hudson Bay Company. The death of Mr. Sinclair occurred when he was sixty-six years of age. Through another branch of the same family came a famous relative in James Hackland of Port Natal, Africa; he was a son of Mary (Louttit) Hackland (an aunt of James A. Louttit), who dying in 1886, at the age of eighty-four years, left nine children.

The founder of the family in America was Thomas Sinclair Louttit, Sr., who crossed the ocean to the United States in 1837, and settled in New Orleans, where he followed the trade of a blacksmith. In that city he married Miss Jessie Ann Bell, who had come to America in girlhood. At the time of the discovery of gold in California he made the tedious and dangerous



journey to the Pacific coast, but, not meeting with the desired success in the mines, he turned his attention to the blacksmith's trade, which he followed until the infirmities of age compelled his retirement from active labors. Afterward he and his wife lived quietly at their home at Moke-lumne Hill, Calaveras County, Cal. Like the majority of the pioneers of 1849, he was bold in spirit, resolute in purpose and dauntless in action. Hardships did not dismay him, and obstacles served only to bring out his determined will in overcoming them. During the early days he organized at Coloma the Vigilantes, a law and order committee whose members were public-spirited citizens determined to enforce the laws and win California from the control of the lawless element. He died April 22, 1896, his wife surviving until August, 1898.

Of the five children that comprised the family of Thomas Sinclair Louttit and wife all are deceased, and were James A., Mary, Thomas S., Belle, and William R. Of these, one was born in Scotland, three in Calaveras county, and James Alexander, in New Orleans on October 16, 1848. He was educated in the country schools of Moke-lumne Hill, and later, under a private tutor, Rev. W. C. Mosher, he became proficient in Latin, Greek and higher mathematics. He was graduated from the State Normal in 1864 and won first honors of his class. For three years he was employed as teacher in the Brooklyn high school of Oakland, when that institution was the only high school in California outside of San Francisco. Meanwhile during his hours of respite from educational duties he took up the study of law, which he prosecuted under the preceptorship of Porter & Holladay, of San Francisco. Having been a diligent student from boyhood and having developed his mind at the expense of his body, James Alexander Louttit found himself compelled to abandon his law books for a time, and he sought outdoor life with the hope of recuperating. It was his good fortune while he engaged in mining to both regain his health and lay the foundation of financial independence.

During October of 1869, James A. Louttit was

admitted to practice before the supreme court of California, and about the same time he bought a set of law books which, by frequent addition, brought him in later life a library more complete than is usually found even in the largest law offices of the state. With customary courtesy he gave to his professional co-workers the privilege of access to his library, in order that the best authorities might be consulted in problems of serious import. Under the sponsorship of Hon. J. G. Carlisle and Hon. Thomas B. Reed, former renowned speakers of the house of representatives, he was admitted to the bar of the supreme court of the United States. During 1871 he opened a law office in Stockton, where the same year he was elected city attorney, retaining the position until 1879. For many years he was the partner of C. H. Lindley, later an attorney of San Francisco. In 1885 he became the senior member of the firm of Louttit, Woods & Levinsky. During 1903 he formed a law partnership with his son, Thomas Sinclair, Jr., and this continued until his death, which occurred July 26, 1906.

Fraternally James A. Louttit was identified with Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F., and he was a charter member of Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E. Politically he gave staunch support to Republican principles. Although his district was Democratic, at the election of November, 1884, he was chosen as representative in congress, carrying the district by a decisive majority. During his service at the national capital he gave a large share of his attention to working for the extension of the free-mail delivery system, and after eight months of tireless effort and unwearied application he was privileged to see the system extended to one hundred and forty-two cities, among these being his home town of Stockton. At the expiration of his congressional term he declined a renomination, preferring to devote himself exclusively to professional work in his home city and neighboring localities. At may be judged from his efforts to secure the free delivery of mail for Stockton, he was intensely devoted to the welfare of this city. Every move-

ment for the welfare of city, county and state received his intelligent co-operation and sagacious assistance, and it is to the progressive spirit of such men as he that Stockton has attained its present high position in the commonwealth.

Fond of home and children, many of the happiest hours of James Alexander Louttit were spent in the society of his family. His first marriage occurred in 1872, uniting him with Ada A. Cory, who was born in California in 1854 and died in Stockton August 6, 1884. Her parents were John R. and Abbie A. (Cory) Cory, honored pioneers of San Joaquin county. By this union the following children were born: Mary B., born in 1873, is the widow of A. M. Young and resides in Council City, Alaska; John Randolph, born in 1874, is in Alaska; Thomas Sinclair, born in 1876, is a resident of Stockton; Jessie Ada, born in 1877, is the wife of Dr. J. M. Sloan and resides in Alaska; and James Alexander is also in Alaska. The second marriage took place in Denver, Colo., in 1890, and united him with Mrs. Kate L. (Stuart) Palmer. The third marriage united him with Nettie O. (Bailey) Walker, who survives him and resides in Stockton.

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#### EDWARD OULLAHAN.

The family represented by the late Edward Oullahan of Stockton came from distinguished Irish lineage and he was a native of the city of Dublin, born in 1830 to Robert and Mary Oullahan, who possessed ample means and the highest social standing. His father, an architect and contractor as well as an eminent civil engineer, was attached to the Royal Engineering Corps of the British army and his name is still associated with a number of the historic engineering works of the United Kingdom. It was the good fortune of the son to receive an education befitting the

family rank, and his surroundings in youth were those of culture. The necessity of earning his own livelihood was not thrust upon him, but when he learned of the discovery of gold in California he and a brother, D. J., became fired with the spirit of adventure and, equipped with ample means bestowed upon them by their father, they sailed forth in quest of the land of gold. Like many young men similarly situated they gained experience at the expense of their endowment, but they never regretted the events that turned their steps toward the Pacific coast and always gave loyal support to their adopted country.

Arriving in New York City, the brothers bought an interest in a vessel bound for California via the Strait of Magellan, bringing as part of their cargo four large iron houses, an investment that did not prove profitable, as the brothers were unable to sell them and they were burned during one of the early fires of San Francisco. The brothers took up a quarter-section of land each, south of San Francisco, and began to raise stock. In 1852 Edward came to Stockton. The next year D. J. joined him here, and for several years the two conducted a teaming business to the mines, also a commission and forwarding business. Afterward Edward became interested in and superintendent of a ranch of one thousand acres on the Calaveras, five miles from Stockton. In 1861 he relinquished this work and embarked in the wholesale liquor business with Mr. McShane. Seven years later, broken in health, he returned to Ireland in the hope that a change of climate might prove beneficial. The hope was destined to fulfillment. He gained in weight from one hundred and sixteen pounds to two hundred and forty pounds in less than one year.

Restored to health, Mr. Oullahan returned to New York by steamer and to California by railroad. Shortly after his return the partnership with Mr. McShane was dissolved and the firm of Oullahan & Porter was established. Three years later he and his brother entered into partnership. In recognition of his services to the Democratic party he was elected city collector and harbor commissioner, serving for one year,



and then resuming his wholesale business, which he conducted until his death in 1896. Meanwhile he had made a second visit to his native land and had taken great pleasure in resuming the associations of youth with such of his old friends as still remained in Dublin and vicinity. From early life he was a member of the Roman Catholic Church and during later years enjoyed the warm personal friendship of Father O'Connor. In all movements for the betterment of Stockton he was deeply interested, and public-spirited principles guided his acts as a citizen. For some time he was a member of the county central Democratic committee and at one election he lacked only a few votes of being chosen for the office of sheriff. Realizing the need of fire protection in the city, he aided in organizing the volunteer fire department and served as a member of the Eureka Company. For a time he was captain of the Emmett Guards, a local military organization. Those who had business dealings with him placed implicit confidence in his honor and integrity, and he was also well known for his kindness of disposition and generosity.

The first marriage of Mr. Oullahan took place in Sacramento in 1870 and united him with Ada, daughter of Daniel Callahan, proprietor of the Golden Eagle hotel. She died in 1871, leaving one child, Kate, who at the age of three years was taken into the home of relatives in Ireland and there died in 1886. The second marriage of Mr. Oullahan was solemnized in 1882, uniting him with Miss Helena Gorlinski, a native of Baton Rouge, La., but at the time of her marriage a resident of Salt Lake City, where her father, Major Joseph Gorlinski, was stationed. Her mother had received the best musical advantages of Europe, and was a pupil of Chopin in Paris. She gave personal attention to the artistic training of her daughter, who in early childhood evinced a decided talent for music. For some time she studied in Washington, D. C., and then returned to Salt Lake City to take up professional work as a teacher of voice culture and the piano-forte. From there she came to

Stockton to teach music and in this city met Mr. Oullahan, who later went to Salt Lake City to claim her as a bride. Ever since coming to Stockton she has been a leader in musical circles in Central California and has made a specialty of teaching the piano and cultivation of the voice. Through the exercise of distinctive genius, with all the advantages of thorough training, she has been able to give to the art a pronounced uplift and her residence in Stockton has been of the utmost value to the aspiring young artists who have enjoyed the advantage of her personal training.

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#### JOHN WESLEY HART.

The life which this narrative depicts began in Chestertown, Kent county, Md., May 18, 1828, and closed in Stockton, Cal., September 13, 1901. Between these dates was enacted a life filled with experiences, many of which were most unusual and trying, but none of them was more harrowing than those he was called upon to bear while crossing the plains in 1849. He had been hired by a party to drive a mule team over the plains to the mining country, but before reaching their destination he was taken sick with mountain fever. When he was no longer able to sit on the wagon box and guide the mules he was put off the team by his inhuman employer and left to die by the wayside. Later, however, he was overtaken by friends, who acted the part of the Good Samaritan, and taking him in their conveyance, carried him through to California. Their first stop was at Placerville, and on the very day of their arrival Mr. Hart and his friends heard that the three men who had proven so unkind to Mr. Hart were to be hung that day for horse stealing.

Mr. Hart finally recovered his health and ac-



cepted the first position that offered itself as a means of making a livelihood in the west. As he was fond of hunting and was considered a good shot he was hired at the rate of \$8 a day by the men at the sawmill to furnish them with deer meat, beef being an unknown quantity there at that time. After working in the capacity of hunter for some time Mr. Hart came to Stockton in 1852, and as he was by trade a carriage-builder and blacksmith, he began to work at his trade at once. Subsequently he was offered and accepted a position as foreman of the A. N. Fisher Stage Company, which operated a line to and from the mines. About three years later, however, in 1855, he resumed work at his trade, this time devoting his efforts to carriage building at the corner of Weber and Sutter streets, in a brick building which he constructed for his own special purpose. Still later he engaged in the grocery business, but after following this for a time he sold out in 1883, and going to Portland, Ore., became interested in the street railway service of that city. Thirteen months later, however, he was compelled to give up his position with the company on account of sickness and return to Stockton, and thereafter until his death he made this city his home.

Soon after coming to Stockton Mr. Hart made the acquaintance of Miss Eleanor Jeffery, a resident of this city, and December 7, 1854, they were united in marriage. The only child of their marriage, Milton G. Hart, is a resident of Berkeley. Mr. Hart took an active part in the municipal affairs of his home city, serving as an alderman for four terms, and soon after the war he was the Democratic nominee for mayor, but was defeated, although running ahead of his ticket. His popularity was shown by the fact that a large number of his votes were cast by Republicans. For two years he served as the chief engineer of the fire department, and thereafter was an exempt fireman. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Honor. Since Mr. Hart's death, which occurred September 13, 1901, Mrs. Hart has lived a very quiet life at the family homestead at No. 645 North Sutter street. Her

fondness for collecting rare antiques and heirlooms has resulted in a fine collection, among which will be found an old cornet which her husband brought across the plains during his memorable journey in the year 1849.

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#### WILLIAM LAFAYETTE OVERHISER.

From the time of his marriage in 1855 until his death Mr. Overhiser improved and resided on the old homestead, known as Oak Home ranch, one of the large rural estates in San Joaquin county, located in close proximity to Stockton. The name is of German origin, and the first to bear it on this side of the Atlantic was the paternal grandfather, who established the name in New York state. In Columbia county, that state, his son Abraham first saw the light of day, and there he continued to make his home up to the time of his marriage. This united him with Miss Mary Burtis, who up to this time had also been a continuous resident of Columbia county. The wedding journey of Abraham and Mary (Burtis) Overhiser consisted of a drive to Northumberland county, Pa., and there it was that their son William Lafayette was born December 29, 1824. Besides the latter there were three other children born to these parents: Hannah J., Mrs. Henry Hart, who died in 1889; Mary, Mrs. Daniel Discho; and Susan Ann, who became the wife of Benjamin L. Bedell. In addition to carrying on a farm in his new location in Pennsylvania Abraham Overhiser had large coal interests, and took the first sample load of Lackawanna coal to New York City, hauling it on a two-horse sled. In 1830, when their son William was a lad of six years, the parents removed to their old home in Columbia county, N. Y., and eleven years later, in 1841, settled on a farm in Queens county, Long Island.

William L. Overhiser accompanied his parents in their various removals, in the meantime getting such an education as he could in the public schools, and assisting his father with the farm work until he was about eighteen years of age. Having determined to learn the blacksmith's trade, he turned his entire energy in that direction and at the age of twenty he went to Hempstead, L. I., to complete his apprenticeship. He finally bought out his employer's interest and continued the business alone. Business matters took him to New York City during the year 1849, and while there he heard such glowing tales of the discovery of gold in California that he determined to dispose of his business and set out for the eldorado on the Pacific coast.

With a party of one hundred and sixty others Mr. Overhiser purchased an interest in the ship *Salem* and its cargo, which lifted anchor and set sail from the port of New York March 12, 1849. They had not gone far when they discovered that their captain was entirely unreliable, and in his place they installed the first mate, a Mr. Douglas, who was in every way competent to fill the position. Not only was the former captain a dangerous and dissipated man, but he was entirely incompetent for the work which he had undertaken, having provided no maps or charts, and as a consequence the vessel was in continual danger. Upon their arrival at Rio Janeiro the matter was put before the American consul, who approved the action taken by the owners. July 4th found them rounding the Horn. Having entered the harbor of Tockawanna by the wrong channel the ship was nearly wrecked, but they finally succeeded in taking on a load of flour, and two months later, October 12, they arrived in San Francisco.

While on the voyage Mr. Overhiser and eight of his comrades from Long Island formed an agreement to work together with a common interest after landing. It was also arranged that five of the number should go to the mines of Mariposa county, while the remaining three were deputized to dispose of the party's interest in the ship and cargo, Mr. Overhiser being chosen

as one of the three. Having satisfactorily disposed of their effects Mr. Overhiser and his two companions set out to join the others of the party, then in Stockton; they boarded a small boat which took them to Benicia. The next morning Mr. Overhiser was overjoyed in accidentally meeting his old-time friend from home, the Rev. Mr. Woodbridge. While the four men were in conversation on the shore expecting to receive some signal from the captain before he set sail, imagine their surprise to find that the ship had quietly started off without giving any warning! There was but one thing to do, and that was to hire a boatman to row them to the vessel; this cost them \$16. The entire trip to Stockton took them seven days, and when they arrived they were greeted by a heavy downpour of rain, for it was then the rainy season. For \$150 they purchased a tent that stood where the Weber engine house is located and put their goods in it. As the rain still continued to fall it was impossible for them to carry out their plans for business, and they were threatened with the necessity of spending all of the proceeds received from the sale of the *Salem*. At this juncture Mr. Overhiser heard of a freighter who was anxious to sell his outfit and twenty-five hundred pounds of goods loaded on the wagon for the mines. Mr. Overhiser closed the agreement to pay for the goods at the rate of fifty cents a pound upon delivery at their destination. Late in December Mr. Overhiser and A. Bennett left Stockton for Sullivans, making the round trip in three weeks, but the next trip was not so successful, as in San Francisco they purchased a load of potatoes which they expected to dispose of at Murphys. Upon arriving there they found that scurvy was prevalent and the market overstocked, so their venture proved a failure.

In 1850 the eight comrades who had entered into the agreement to combine their interests succeeded in getting together at Murphys, the five who started ahead of the others coming from Mariposa. At Murphys they formed what was known as the Nassau Mining and Trading Co., their stock including particularly miners' claims



and supplies, but after continuing there for a time they sold out and established a similar enterprise at Gold Spring. In the meantime Mr. Overhiser had continued the freighting enterprise previously mentioned; finally he asked for a settlement of the affairs of the company and as his share received \$700 in gold dust. With this and a like amount which he borrowed from one of his friends he came to Stockton and purchased a yoke of oxen with which he began teaming on his own account. From time to time as the demand required he added to his equipment, but a dull season overtook him and being unable to use his oxen he turned them on the range. When he later went to look for them he found that six of them had been driven away, one was found in a butcher's pen in Hangtown, and the hides of three others were in another camp. This unhappy situation discouraged the idea of again going into the freighting business, and instead, in 1851, he bought a claim on the Calaveras river. It was about this time that he again met his old friend Mr. Cooper, who in the meantime had also engaged in teaming and after due deliberation they decided to form a partnership in the prosecution of a ranching enterprise. To the land which Mr. Overhiser had purchased they added another quarter section and began at once to prepare the land for cultivation. Meeting with success in their efforts, they felt justified in admitting a third partner, and in 1851 Mr. Judson became interested in their undertaking. Forty acres of the land had been planted to barley, and in 1852 they harvested the first crop of that grain ever grown in the county. After this piece of good fortune they were enabled to add another tract of three hundred and twenty acres to their holdings, a part of this latter purchase forming a part of Oak Home ranch. In 1854 Mr. Overhiser sold his interest in the ranching enterprise to his partners, and the following year erected a house between two large oaks, this suggesting the name by which his property was afterward known. Three years later, in 1858, a division of the property which up to this time had been owned jointly by Mr. Overhiser and Mr. Cooper

was brought about, the latter taking as his portion the lower ranch, as it was called, and Mr. Overhiser taking the Oak Home ranch. After increasing the acreage to seven hundred acres he began business on an extensive scale, making a specialty of raising stock and grain at first. Later he set out twenty acres in an orchard and vineyard, a venture in which he was among the pioneers in the county, his nursery stock being sent to him from the east.

To a man of his breadth of ideas and daring to undertake them it is not surprising that the citizens looked to Mr. Overhiser as their leader in matters of public improvement, and thus it happened that in 1862 he was appointed overseer of the project to open the road from Waterloo to Stockton. This necessitated the building of bridges as well as making roads, all of which was done to the satisfaction of the people and added immeasurably to the upbuilding of both towns interested. A piece of good fortune befell Mr. Overhiser about this time in the discovery of a gravel pit on his ranch and he readily took a contract to gravel the streets of Stockton, and the Calaveras road was also covered with a gravel surface supplied from the same source. A company was formed and incorporated to build a road to the junction of Cherokee Lane and the Waterloo road, Mr. Overhiser advancing the money to promote the plan, but the company failed before accomplishing its purpose and Mr. Overhiser foreclosed the mortgage for \$3000 which he held against the stockholders. It is probable that in its day the Grange movement was one of the most beneficial organizations ever inaugurated among agriculturists, and in the organization and maintenance of the branch in Stockton no one deserved more credit than Mr. Overhiser. For two years he was state lecturer of the organization, was state overseer for a like period, was elected state master in 1887, and the two years following was grand representative to the national body, at which time he worked indefatigably to have the state gathering held in California in 1889.

In December, 1855, Mr. Overhiser was united



in marriage with Catherine E. Hutchinson, who was born in Boston, Mass. Their marriage was celebrated in California, whither Miss Hutchinson had come in girlhood with her mother and two sisters to join a brother, Charles A., who had come in 1850. One son, William Henry, was born to the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Overhiser. It is unnecessary to add that Mr. Overhiser always took an interested part in the upbuilding of his home city and county, for this was practically demonstrated throughout the many years of his residence here. Fraternally he was a member of Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F., was a member of the San Joaquin County Pioneers Society, and served as president of the Rural Cemetery Association. He died March 29, 1905, in the eighty-first year of his age. Mrs. Overhiser is living at the old home place with her son, and at the age of ninety-two years retains her memory.

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### WILLIAM CONFER.

Although a considerable period has elapsed since he passed from life, Mr. Confer is still remembered as one of the pioneer business men of Stockton, where he bore an active part in the material upbuilding of the place and maintained the constant interest in progressive projects characteristic of a citizen of education and broad culture. In a list of our pioneers, to whom in a large degree may be attributed the present commercial standing of Stockton, his name is deserving of mention and his biography is worthy of perpetuation in the annals of the city he helped to develop. Stockton was a hamlet of shacks and one-story wooden buildings when in 1859 he came here from San Francisco, and in his capacity of contracting brick-mason he was able

to accomplish much in the building up of the city.

The first home of the Confer family in Stockton was on the "pepper-tree" property, at Stanislaus and Main streets. From there they moved to California between Main street and Weber avenue. Next Mr. Confer remodeled a brick residence on Weber avenue between Grant and Aurora and in this comfortable home he remained for thirty-six years, meanwhile bearing his part in civic affairs and rearing his family to positions of trust and responsibility. Possessing an excellent education, he realized the advantages of the same and endeavored to give his children every opportunity for acquiring the knowledge that stands at the foundation of all success. At all times he favored good schools and gave educational measures his support. In religion he was identified with the Baptist Church. For some years he was a member of the Volunteer Fire Company, Eureka No. 2, and also was associated with the Exempt Firemen.

The marriage of Mr. Confer united him with Mary L. McArthur, who died February 7, 1904, at the age of seventy-three years. His death occurred at his home in Stockton May 27, 1890, when he was sixty-three years old. They were the parents of six children, namely: Ida, who married D. R. McKinley and resides in Seattle, Wash.; George, of Stockton; Soul, deceased, who was a member of the California National Guard; Hester, deceased; Thomas, who died in infancy; and William J., who was brought to Stockton at the age of six months and is now a resident of this city. Soul and Eli followed their father's trade, having learned the same under his supervision. William J. took up the teaming business and for twenty years or more has followed that occupation in his home city. Meanwhile he purchased the lot at No. 322 North Sierra Nevada street and erected the residence he has since occupied. His marriage in this city in 1861 united him with Miss Minnie Catherine Gleason, a native of California, and they have one daughter, Geraldine Mary. Fraternally William J. Confer is identified with Truth Lodge, I. O. O. F., and

the Woodmen of the World. His earliest recollections are associated with Stockton and he has seen many changes in the city, the growth of which has been a cause of pride with him, as it has been to all public-spirited citizens solicitous for civic welfare.

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### JOHN GRANT.

The ship-building interests of Stockton and the Pacific coast received a vital impetus when John Grant inaugurated his ship-building plant at Stockton in 1888, since which time many of the barges, dredges and boats used in this part of the country have been manufactured under his immediate supervision. Mr. Grant is of Scotch birth and antecedents, and was born in Inverness August 9, 1857, the son of John and Katherine (Corbett) Grant. While still a youth he displayed a taste for nautical life and things pertaining thereto, and going to Clyde, Scotland, he took up the trade of ship carpenter. Thereafter he went to sea and for ten years continued this life uninterruptedly, having in the meantime made trips to Africa, South America, Australia and India. During this time also he made four trips around Cape Horn, on one of these voyages stopping at San Francisco for the first time in 1882. His next visit to the metropolis was in 1886, at which time he sailed from Sydney, Australia. His long life on the sea made the life of the landsman seem especially attractive to him at this time and he decided to give up his former occupation and settle in San Francisco. For two years thereafter he followed the shipwright's trade there, and then, in 1888, came to Stockton, with whose ship-building interests his name has ever since been associated. He had the keen foresight to see that the constant demand for boats of very character meant

success for a competent boat-builder and he forthwith established the nucleus of his present business, conducted under the name of the John Grant Ship Building Company. His plant is located on the river land near the city, and during the twenty years he has been in business here he has built thirty dredger barges, built expressly for reclaiming land, several of which have cost \$70,000. The second mining dredge built on the Feather river was turned out of Mr. Grant's plant.

In Stockton, in 1892, Mr. Grant was married to Mary Coughlin, a daughter of Jerry Coughlin, of this city. The only child born of this marriage, James D. Grant, now fourteen years old, is a student in the public schools. Mr. Grant's rise from humble circumstances to a position of honor and trust shows what a man can do who is bound to become a man of affairs in the community in which he lives. Besides being proprietor of the ship-building plant previously mentioned he is also interested in still another of the city's live industries, being vice-president of the Stockton Iron Works. Personally he is a man of domestic tastes, caring more for the society of his family than for public life, and the only interests which he has outside of his family and his business are his associations in the Masonic and Knights of Pythias organizations. Mr. Grant has every reason to be proud of his success in life, credit for which he gladly shares with his wife, who under all circumstances has been his advisor and helpmate.

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### JOSEPH HEWLETT.

Many and varied were the adventures that befell Mr. Hewlett in his travels by land and by sea. Had he kept a diary narrating his experiences, such a volume would now possess deep

interest for his children, besides portraying to the generations of the twentieth century some of the hardships incident to existence in pioneer times, amid frontier environments. Born at Woodbury, Long Island, N. Y., to the union of Henry and Mary Hewlett, members of colonial families of the east, Joseph Hewlett was reared within sound of the sea. To the south of his childhood home lay the great Atlantic, while but a short distance to the north was Long Island Sound. On every side his island home was washed by the great ocean waves, and ships sailed to and fro carrying the commerce of the world.

With such an environment it is not remarkable that at the age of fourteen years Joseph Hewlett went to sea with the intention of learning to be a sailor before the mast. With his ship he sailed for the south. On one occasion while rounding Cape Horn the vessel was wrecked, he was cast ashore, suffered great privations, but finally was rescued and sent back to New York. During the year 1855 he came to California via Panama, crossing the Isthmus before the railroad was completed. After disembarking at San Francisco he came to Stockton, where a brother was making his home at the time. In this city he worked for Jones & Hewlett.

After a time Mr. Hewlett went to the mines of Nevada, where he worked with success for a number of years. Meanwhile and later he made a number of trips back to his old home on Long Island, and during one of these visits he was married, in December, 1877, to Miss Bertha Stewart Wicks, of Woodbury, Long Island, N. Y. After his marriage he remained in the east for three years, and then moved permanently to California, established his home in Stockton, and here died January 21, 1906. At an early day he had bought a number of lots in Stockton and from time to time he improved these lots with cottages for renting purposes. The latter part of his life was devoted to this work and to the management of the property. His comfortable home in Stockton, erected under his supervision

and now occupied by his daughters, Misses Martha and Mary F., stands at No. 102, North Madison street. Fraternally he belonged to the Masonic Order, having united with the same as early as 1874, in the Port Jefferson Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Long Island, N. Y., and always afterward he was a staunch supporter of the philanthropic work of the order. Devoted to his family, kind in his intercourse with others, generous to the needy, and intelligently interested in public affairs, he was of the type of citizenship valuable in the progress of any community and necessary to the rise of any commonwealth.

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#### WILLIAM BUTLER.

Much of the credit for the prosperity of this country belongs to the agriculturist, and among those who follow this calling in San Joaquin county mention belongs to William Butler, who owns and manages one of the largest ranches in the vicinity of Stockton. As are many of the residents of this state he is a native of the east, his birth having occurred in Oneida county, N. Y., in 1848. His father was a farmer before him, and in performing his share of the home duties he gained the thorough insight and understanding of agriculture which has made him a success in following this calling as a life work.

Mr. Butler remained in the east until attaining his majority, when, in 1869, he came to California, going directly to Stanislaus county, where for two years he was employed on a ranch near Ceres. At the end of this time he came to San Joaquin county and resided near Stockton until 1881, then went back to Stanislaus county and purchased a ranch near Modesto, where he stayed for three years. Selling out in 1884, he came back to San Joaquin county, to the northern part of the county, where he resided for five years and



then rented the place on the Sonora road known as the Commins ranch, where he now resides. A few years ago he rented an adjoining farm, making a ranch of some thirteen hundred acres. The property is located about ten miles from Stockton and comprises thirteen hundred acres of as fine land as is to be found in the county. During the twenty years which he has made his home here he has met with remarkable success in harvesting large crops, all of which is due to an intelligent understanding of fertilization and rotation of crops.

Mr. Butler's marriage occurred in Stockton in 1881, and united him with Miss Louisa Henson. One son has been born to them, William Ernest, who is now attending school at Stockton.

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#### WILLIAM WALTER HUBBARD.

The first association of the Hubbard family with the history of Central California dates back to the year 1851, when Walter Golden Hubbard crossed the plains by way of the southern route and settled with wife and children in Monterey county near the village of Hollister. In early life he had learned the trades of blacksmith and wagon-maker, and these he followed after coming to the west. For a number of years he had charge of the work of large wagon trains, not only repairing their wagons, but also shoeing their mules. The fact that some of the trains had between three hundred and four hundred mules indicates the extensive nature of the business. In an early day he efficiently filled the office of sheriff of a district out of which subsequently three counties were established. Many other activities of that period received his co-operation. By native endowments he was well fitted for the part of a pioneer, for he was fearless, sturdy, rugged in health, and never daunted by obstacles.

When the family crossed the plains in 1851 there was with them a twelve-year-old boy, Sylvester Hubbard, who was born in the city of Austin, Tex., in 1839, and who in early life assisted his father in the blacksmithing shop; but, grown to manhood, he chose other lines of business activity. For a number of years he was employed in the Alameda quicksilver mines. Next he engaged in hauling goods to the mines and carried on a large transfer and forwarding business. Later he carried on ranching pursuits in Tuolumne county. On disposing of his ranch interests he settled in Stockton, where for a short time he engaged in the transfer business. Later he engaged in paper-making with the B. Lane Paper Co., with A. Buell and others. On the opening of the new paper mill he secured a position as shipping clerk, which he held for several years. Altogether he was connected with different mills about thirty-six years. At the time of his death in 1896 he was employed as inspector of cars on the Santa Fe Railroad.

The marriage of Sylvester Hubbard united him with Miss Anne Belle Ray, who was born in Oil City, Pa., and at the age of twelve years came to California in company with her father, William Ray. Afterward she remained in the central part of the state (mainly in Stockton) until her death, which occurred August 11, 1897. William Ray was a California settler of 1867 and for some time successfully engaged in the sheep business. For years he was actively identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in religion he adhered to the faith of the Presbyterian Church, being a prominent worker in the local congregation of that denomination.

The only son of Sylvester Hubbard was William Walter, whose name introduces this sketch, and whose birth occurred in the city of Stockton, July 7, 1878. The excellent schools of his native city afforded him good advantages and of these he availed himself with commendable industry. On leaving school to take up life's business activities, he secured employment on the Santa Fe Railroad, where he was baggageman and also had charge of the United States mail. Of recent

years he has been engaged in the sale of real estate in Stockton. An excellent judge of valuations, he has an accurate knowledge of properties in this region and is well qualified to take charge of important transfers. In fraternal relations he holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Lodge No. 55, in his home city. During 1890 he was united in marriage with Miss Susie Geffroy, of Lodi, daughter of a prominent citizen, who for three years served as sheriff of Monterey county. The only child of the union is a daughter, Wilma Nadine Hubbard.

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### PHILIP GROVES.

The life history of this old pioneer in California dates back to the "days of old, the days of gold, the days of '49" and extends to May 17, 1876, the date of his death. He was born of English parents in Tiverton, R. I., May 15, 1805. On the paternal side he came of a long line of sea-captains, and his father was the owner of vessels engaged in the West India trade. Philip Groves, however, had no inclination for the sea, but instead learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for a number of years and later he went into the grocery business. When the gold excitement broke out in 1848-49, he like many others, ambitious to make a fortune, left home and family to go to the new eldorado. With a number of other argonauts he bought a brig named the Juno, in which they made the voyage by way of Cape Horn, reaching San Francisco in January, 1849. His experience in the mines was not a success, so he gave up mining altogether and came to Stockton, with the intention of settling here permanently. He then sent for his wife and two daughters, the only other child then living, William H., being a student in East Greenwich (R. I.), College at this time.

Mr. Groves owned a block bounded by Lafayette, California, Washington and Sutter streets, where he erected a residence, also works for the manufacture of iron, and much of the product of his plant found its way into many of the buildings in San Francisco, Stockton and Sonoma. He also invented a pick (tempering his own steel) which was used in the mines of Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne counties. In addition to his manufacturing interests he also owned shares in the Panama Steamship line by means of which he carried on quite an industry in shipping coal, iron and furniture from the east.

During the early days, when lawlessness prevailed to such an extent that the safety of the citizens was jeopardized, Mr. Groves joined the Vigilance Committee, composed of the better element of citizens for the purpose of restoring peace and order. He was also a member of the fire department and took a deep interest in political matters. At one time his name was suggested as a candidate for the legislature, but he declined the honor in order to devote his entire attention to his business interests. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow, and in his church associations he was a member of the Methodist denomination. In his private life he was sociable and liberal, and like many of the old pioneers entertained in true "old California style." Many of the notable men of the state were accustomed to gather around his board and enjoy themselves as only "old Californians" knew how to.

Two of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Groves died before the removal of the family to California, and a son and two daughters still survive. A sketch of William H. Groves will be found on another page of this volume. One of the daughters, Annie, became the wife of Col. O. M. Brown, of Richmond, Va., and law partner of Judge Hall, he also being a judge. Colonel Brown's name is also linked with the Mexican and Civil wars and with the military life of this state. He gained fame as an Indian fighter and was sent against the Apaches under General Carleton at the same time General Conner was sent against the Maricopas. He helped to frame

the first constitution of California, and was a large land and cattle owner in Fresno county. Mr. Groves' daughter, Abbie, became the wife of Dr. James S. Skinner, of Columbus, Ohio. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Groves was Susan Deane McFarlan, of colonial stock and a descendant of Miles Standish and William Bradford, Bradford being a family name.

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### HENRY S. AUSTIN.

An intense devotion to the development of California was manifest in the life and deeds of Henry S. Austin. Through the forty years of his identification with the commercial history of the state, he was a factor in its material progress and a contributor to its permanent prosperity. While his memories of his old eastern home were pleasant, he had no desire to return thither for permanent location. The atmosphere of the west, its personnel of progressive pioneers and its prospects for future prosperity, won him from the calm of the settled east, and afterward he never swerved in allegiance to his new home.

During boyhood Mr. Austin was a resident of Baltimore, Md., where he was born in 1826 and where he received a common-school education. January of 1849 found him a passenger on the clipper-ship *Greyhound*, which rounded Cape Horn and arrived in San Francisco after a voyage of one hundred and nineteen days. With one exception this was the fastest record made by any ship of 1849 in rounding the Horn. On his arrival in San Francisco Mr. Austin established the firm of Dall, Austin & Co., as a branch of the Baltimore shipping firm of the same name. For a considerable period he continued in business at San Francisco and meanwhile built up a splendid reputation for executive ability and resourcefulness. Closely identified with many re-

sponsible undertakings of pioneer days, he contributed his quota to local progress and maintained a pride in civic advancement.

As manager of the iron and hardware house established in Stockton in 1852 by T. H. Selby & Co., Mr. Austin came to this city in 1862, and seven years later, with his brother, William B. Austin, he acquired the ownership of the business by purchase, the firm name thereupon being changed to Austin Bros. Acceptance of a partnership in the firm of Austin & Phelps caused him to return to San Francisco in 1875 and there he resided until his death, which occurred May 30, 1890. At various times he held various property interests in both Stockton and San Francisco and identified himself with the real estate development of each, being a man of great public spirit and enthusiastic energy. The California Society of Pioneers numbered him among its influential workers. On the organization of the Church of the Advent he became a charter member and thereafter contributed liberally to its maintenance.

At the time of his removal to Stockton and for some years afterward Mr. Austin was a bachelor, but in 1866 he established domestic ties through his marriage to Miss Kate Freese, whose parents came to California in 1852 by way of Panama and settled in Stockton. The only surviving child of Mr. Austin is Miss Mary Howard Austin, who resides with her mother at No. 307 East Poplar street, and enjoys a large acquaintance among Stockton's most cultured social circles.

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### SAMUEL BOLLIGER.

With the close of the Mexican war many of the participants who had come to the scene of action from the east came to the Pacific coast, either on a tour of exploration or with the object



of finding a desirable permanent location. Among those who came here at that time with the latter object in view was Samuel Bolliger, whose residence in the state dated from the year 1848 until his death in 1883. A native of Switzerland, he was born in Kettinger, Canton Aargau, in 1820, and was reared to manhood years in the neighborhood of his birthplace. In 1845, at the age of twenty-five years, he first set foot on American soil, and for several months remained in the east, visiting the larger cities and places of interest. The breaking out of the Mexican war was followed by his enlistment in the United States service, and at the close of hostilities he completed his journey from the Atlantic to the Pacific by coming to California. This was in 1848, early in the mining history of the state, and he may be classed among the first who mined for the yellow metal in Tuolumne county.

With the proceeds of his mining efforts of several years Mr. Bolliger came to San Joaquin county in 1854 and purchased a ranch on the Copperopolis road ten miles from Stockton which he improved and cultivated for twenty years. In the meantime, in 1861, he had made a visit to his old home in Switzerland, and upon his return to the United States he was married in New York City, whence he returned with his bride to the ranch just mentioned. When he disposed of this property in 1874 it was his intention to make another visit to his boyhood home, but instead, after remaining in Stockton for a short time, he purchased a ranch eight miles from this city, also on the Copperopolis road, upon which he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1883, at the age of sixty-three years.

As has been stated previously Mr. Bolliger was married in 1861, in New York City, following his return from a visit to his home in Switzerland. Before her marriage Mrs. Bolliger was Miss Sophia Hubsch, a native of Bavaria, Germany, born in 1839. Nine children were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Bolliger, but of the number only six are living, namely: John M., an engineer in Stockton, who is married and the

father of two children; Sophia, the wife of A. H. Mapes, of Stockton, and the mother of three children; Nanette, at home with her mother; Elizabeth, the wife of D. E. Young, of Farmington; Lydia B., also at home; and Esther A., who became the wife of Charles Culbert, of Farmington. Samuel, Wilhelmina and Rudolph died at the ages of five, four and twenty-three years respectively. A quarter of a century has passed since the death of Mr. Bolliger, but among old settlers in San Joaquin county he is remembered as one who unselfishly labored to bring about better conditions in the pioneer district in which he settled many years ago.

#### THOMAS JOSEPHUS STEPHENS

One of the esteemed and helpful citizens of Stockton is Thomas J. Stephens, who is proprietor of one of the largest nurseries in this vicinity, regarded as one of the city's leading industries. A native of Indiana, he was born in Marion county September 27, 1854, a son of Christopher S. and Melissa (Walker) Stephens, and was a lad of six years when the family home was transferred to California, so that almost his entire life has been passed on the Pacific coast. He attended the common and high school of Stockton, graduating from the latter at the end of a three-year course in 1874. The death of his mother at this time made further schooling impossible, as his services were needed on the home ranch.

It was in 1875 that Mr. Stephens settled upon a ranch of his own and began independent farming, owning a fine property in the vicinity of Waterloo, San Joaquin county. He disposed of his property in 1892 and, removing to Stockton, engaged in raising and shipping fruit. He continued in this business for about ten years, when he was enabled to purchase from the Clowers &

tate one of the oldest established nurseries in the state, it having been founded in 1854. In its management Mr. Stephens has brought to bear the experience and training of many years along similar lines of agriculture, and it is needless to say he is making a success of his undertaking. It is sufficient recommendation to say that it is conceded to be one of Stockton's most important industries.

In 1876 Mr. Stephens formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Jessie Moreing, who is a native of Wisconsin, but at the time of her marriage had been a resident of California two years. Five children have been born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Stephens, named in order of their birth as follows: Nellie, who is the wife of W. E. Dawson of Stockton and the mother of one child, Dorothy; Theodore and Roy, both of whom are boat builders in Stockton; and Myrtle and Leah, who are at home with their parents, the family having a pleasant home at No. 521 North Stockton street, Stockton.

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### GEORGE E. WILHOIT.

The vice-president of the Wilhoit Abstract & Title Company is a native-born son of Stockton and has spent almost his entire life in this city, where he has risen to a rank among the leading young business men, enthusiastic in promoting movements for local development, interested in all plans for the city's permanent welfare, and a ready supporter of progressive projects aimed to promote the good of the citizens. The eldest son of R. E. and Delia (Dwelly) Wilhoit, he was born March 17, 1863, and received his rudimentary education in the grammar school, afterward attended the high school and still later took a course in the Stockton Busi-

ness College. In 1881, on account of impaired health, he sought a change of climate and accordingly went to the Hawaiian Islands, where he was benefited by the salubrious ocean air. Meanwhile he secured employment in the banking house of Bishop & Co., at Honolulu. After an absence of two years he returned to Stockton restored to health and ready for active business enterprises.

The firm of R. E. Wilhoit & Sons was established May 1, 1886, and continued under that title until the incorporation of the business under the title of the Wilhoit Abstract & Title Company, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and the following directors: R. E. Wilhoit, George E. Wilhoit, E. L. Wilhoit, Edward D. Taylor and C. W. Comstock. The abstract and real-estate business of R. E. Wilhoit was founded in the year 1868, and eighteen years afterward his sons, George E. and Eugene L., were admitted as partners, after which the name became R. E. Wilhoit & Sons. The business increased to such an extent that it became advisable to incorporate and this was done, with the addition to the company of Edward D. Taylor and Charles W. Comstock, both experienced searchers of records.

The record books of the new corporation were commenced by R. E. Wilhoit in 1868 and contain a full, correct and complete abstract of every matter relating to the titles of real property in the city of Stockton and county of San Joaquin. Connected with these books are special maps and plats showing the shape and size of every tract of land in the county, all of which enable said corporation to prepare on short notice reliable abstracts and certificates of title.

Since 1886 George E. Wilhoit has been connected with the company and during this long period he has become closely associated with its responsible activities, being himself an expert in the perfecting of titles. Fraternally he is associated with the Pioneer Society, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Native Sons of the Golden West and Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F. October 2, 1890, he was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Lee Woods, by whom

he has one son, John Newton. Mrs. Wilhoit is a daughter of the late John N. Woods, whose family history appears on another page of this volume.

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#### WILLIAM EDWARD RUFFNER.

A noticeable characteristic of the native-born sons of California is their devotion to their commonwealth. Few there are who seek homes in other parts of the world, the great majority of them remaining in the midst of scenes familiar to them through long association. This was no less true of Mr. Ruffner than of other Californians who have spent their entire lives within the limits of the state. Petaluma, Sonoma county, was Mr. Ruffner's birthplace, and October 26, 1857, the date of his birth. He was one in a family of children born into the home of his parents, Neal and Diana (Holland) Ruffner, who were natives respectively of Virginia and Ohio, and who crossed the plains in 1852.

During the infancy of William E. Ruffner the parents removed to Amador county, where in the vicinity of Jackson the father purchased a ranch and established his family, and there William spent his earliest school days. Subsequently he attended the schools of Lodi and a business college in Stockton. At first he took considerable interest in assisting with the work of the ranch but as his interests began to wane he cast about for a field of activity more in keeping with his tastes. The year 1874 witnessed his removal to Stockton, where in partnership with a Mr. Woolner he established a grocery business, under the firm name of Ruffner & Woolner. Previous to this, however, he had learned the business while serving as a clerk in the grocery establishment of Hammond & Yardley, also of this city. The partnership formed between Mr. Ruffner and Mr. Woolner was maintained with success

for a number of years, Mr. Woolner then disposing of his interest to O. D. Carson, when the name was changed to Carson & Ruffner, and continued as such until the death of Mr. Ruffner May 31, 1904. His demise was deeply deplored, for it cut off in his prime one of Stockton's active business men and one who was interested in and accomplished much for the welfare of the city in which he made his home.

In San Francisco, November 29, 1900, Mr. Ruffner was married to Miss Etta M. Keating, she too being a native of the Golden state. Besides his widow Mr. Ruffner left to mourn his loss a son who bears his name, William E. Fraternally Mr. Ruffner was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World, socially was identified with the Native Sons, and in his political affiliations was a staunch believer in Republican principles. Personally he was a man of many fine qualities, which attracted about him a large circle of friends. Nowhere, however, were his qualities more thoroughly appreciated than in the home circle, where he was known as a loving father and devoted husband. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Ruffner has carried on the affairs started by him, but has been disposing of interests from time to time, selling her interests in the grocery business to Charles Moreing.

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#### JOHN LIESY.

For more than fifty years Mr. Liesy was associated with the development of California, whither he came from New Orleans during the year 1850 and from that time until his death aided in the agricultural development of his locality, assisted in building schools and churches, and contributed to every project for the upbuilding of the



country. Of German birth and ancestry, he was born in Bavaria August 19, 1823, and during boyhood was sent to the schools of his native place, where he acquired a fair education in the German language. Upon reaching the age of sixteen years he began to learn the trade of a tailor and at the completion of his apprenticeship he traveled in various parts of Germany, carrying his knapsack on his back and working at his trade as opportunity offered.

The prospects for future success in his native land not being of the best, Mr. Liesy decided to seek a home in the New World and accordingly he crossed to the United States, settling in New Orleans. From there, in February of 1850, he started for California via the Panama route and thence came on a sailing vessel to San Francisco. In that city he worked at his trade for a short time. Later he came to Stockton and outfitted for the mines, going to Woods creek in Tuolumne county, where he worked for a short time with encouraging success. In this way he accumulated enough money to bring his wife to California and accordingly he returned to New Orleans via Panama, leaving in the fall of 1851, and returning in February, 1852, via steamer to Havana, thence to the Isthmus of Panama. The absence of a wharf obliged the passengers to land from rope ladders into little boats, which, coupled with the roughness of the water, proved a hardship for the women of the party. Mrs. Liesy and four other women walked across the isthmus rather than endure the annoyance of riding muleback. The party camped out for three weeks at Panama while waiting for a vessel to San Francisco, and meantime they bought supplies from the natives, including meat, which was sold by the yard.

When finally a ship northward bound took the party on board, they were delayed by heavy storms, and during the last two days of the voyage suffered from lack of provisions. Thirty days after boarding the ship, anchor was cast at San Francisco in April. From there the party, consisting of Mr. Liesy, a brother and cousin, with their wives (making six in all) proceeded

to Stockton and outfitted for the mines. Less success attended Mr. Liesy in this mining venture than in his first. Expenses were high. Flour cost \$1 per pound and other supplies were proportionately high. The winter of 1852-53 was unusually severe and for thirty days the sun did not shine, thus giving newcomers an impression of the climate which later experiences did not justify. The next headquarters of the Liesy family was at Columbia, Tuolumne county, where they remained until 1859. Thence they came to Stockton and then removed to what is now Atlanta, then known as the Sink house district, where Mr. Liesy bought for \$800 a tract of three hundred and twenty acres, also bought a school warrant for \$300.

From time to time other purchases of land were made until finally Mr. Liesy owned twelve hundred and eighty acres in San Joaquin county, all of which he improved by his own arduous efforts, seconded by the assistance of his sons. One tract of six hundred acres he bought at sheriff's sale for \$20 per acre and this he later sold. In addition he bought land in Tulare county. All of his affairs received his personal oversight, which contributed to his success. Another factor in his prosperity was his wife, a woman of excellent judgment, an efficient housekeeper and a capable cook, yet possessing the economy necessary to the promoting of their success. As her girls grew up, she trained them to assist her and each in turn became a capable housekeeper. During 1891 the family retired from farming and moved to Stockton, establishing their home at No. 348 East Sonora street, where Mr. Liesy died July 5, 1907, at the age of about eighty-four years. The comfortable residence has since been the home of the widow, who has with her a married daughter and the latter's husband.

The marriage of John Liesy in 1848 united him with Margaret Peters, who was born in Bavaria, Germany, April 6, 1829, and at the age of ten years accompanied her parents to America. Prior to emigration she had received the rudiments of a common school education, but afterward she had few opportunities to attend

school. Nine children were born of her marriage. The eldest, Annie Louisa, married Peter Young and lives in Stockton. The next two died in infancy and William P. and John C. are also deceased. Emma, who married Walter Graves, died, leaving two sons, Durward and Charles. Madeline married J. D. Kerrick and they make their home with Mrs. Liesy. George H., who operates the Liesy ranch, married a daughter of John Hitchcock and has three children. Edward P., who is a teacher in Stockton, is married and has one child. The sons and daughters received good educations in San Joaquin county and all are honored members of the community.

During the pioneer period of our county's history Mr. Liesy served as a director of the Van Allen school, which he had assisted generously in building, and he also aided in the building of a Union church. The making and improving of roads received his practical aid, for he was a firm believer in the value of good roads in the upbuilding of any community. During his latter days he was a member of the Old Men's Club. Considering the hardships of pioneer days, the scarcity of markets, the absence of improved machinery, and the undeveloped condition of the land, he secured a degree of success that testified to his skill in agriculture; and, better than his financial success, was his high standing as a man and a citizen, and the confidence reposed in him by all with whom he had been brought in business contact, the universal testimony being that he was as honorable in principle as he was efficient in agriculture. After a residence of thirty years in California he and his wife returned to New Orleans at the time of the cotton exposition and spent six weeks on a pleasure trip. Many changes had taken place during the thirty years. The trip back required only five days, while in coming here they had spent weary weeks of travel under the most fatiguing conditions. Railroads had taken the place of travel by water and had brought the west into close connection with the east. Cities had developed from villages, and the raw waste had been transformed into valuable

farms, whose products penetrated the most distant markets of the world. To the sturdy pioneer and his capable wife belong much of the credit for the transformation of the west from a desert into a region of wealth and culture, where happy, comfortable homes now contain the descendants of the early settlers, whose toil and privations will continue to bear abundant fruit for generations yet to come.

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### SAMSON IRON WORKS.

The manufacturing industry of Stockton received a decided stimulus in the organization of the Samson Iron Works, a name which is representative of the strength and durability of the wide range of the company's output. The business was started January 1, 1898, by John M. Kroyer, for the manufacture of gas engines, after many months of experimenting to bring the machine as near to perfection as possible. That he was successful in turning out an engine that met with popular approval may be judged from the following figures: During the first year the plant was in operation twenty men were required to supply the demand, the second year thirty men, and at the end of three and a half years the original number of men employed was doubled. In July, 1902, the works were incorporated under the laws of the state of California, with John M. Kroyer, president, and F. B. Hubbard, secretary. Immediately after incorporating it was decided to erect a new factory to accommodate the increasing business of the company and accordingly property was purchased on Aurora street. Here was erected a two-story machine shop 61x100, with a store room, testing room and shipping room in connection.

The popularity of and demand for the prod-



ucts of the Samson Iron Works made another enlargement of the plant necessary in December, 1906, at which time the machine shop was extended the entire length of the block, thus making it 303 feet long, and the capacity was doubled by adding new and improved machinery. In the fall of 1907 a fire-proof foundry 100x125 was erected for the manufacture of castings, and was equipped with the latest modern machinery, which has since turned out castings of exceptional quality. At this time also a brass foundry was added, and the plant is now turning out the highest grade of brass castings, which include not only the castings used in the company's output, but also those for outside firms and individuals. In the spring of 1908 the company erected a plant for the manufacture of crucible steel, an industry which has proven very successful from the fact that it is the only one of the kind in the state, thus bringing a large amount of steel casting to Stockton from all parts of the Pacific coast.

When it is considered that Samson Iron Works has been in operation little more than a decade the rapid growth of the plant and the universal demand for the company's products are nothing short of marvelous. The Samson gas engine which ten years ago was not known outside of Stockton and the immediate vicinity is now in daily use all over the Pacific coast. The marine engine which the company manufactures is of the latest and most approved pattern and is rapidly becoming a leader among users, this being especially true in the San Francisco bay, where demonstrations prove the merits of the Samson marine engine second to none.

A further departure of the works is the installation of irrigation plants, contracts for which are taken and furnished complete, irrespective of size or complications. Many large engines from one hundred to two hundred horse power have been supplied by the company, and it is safe to say that they turn out the largest number of engines of any manufacturers on the coast. In addition to the main works in Stockton the company maintain offices at the corner of Market

and First streets, San Francisco, No. 208 North Los Angeles street, Los Angeles, and No. 920 J street, Fresno.

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#### EDWARD JEROME MATTESON.

A native son of California and born in Stockton May 15, 1859, Edward Jerome Matteson has spent his entire life in this city and has been an interested and intelligent spectator of its rise from a mere village to its present place of importance among the western cities. On both sides of the family he comes of eastern stock, his parents, Don Carlos and Catherine (Salisbury) Matteson, both being natives of New York state. There the father learned the trade of blacksmith, and upon coming to Stockton in 1852, he established his shop at the corner of Main and California streets. When his son had reached an age when it was necessary for him to choose a calling he entered his father's shop and under him learned the blacksmith's trade, and after mastering it, the two were associated together in business for a number of years, the son finally being made foreman of the shop.

From time to time, as his means permitted, Don Carlos Matteson invested in property, one of these tracts being on what is known as Rough and Ready Island and consisting of sixty-five acres of land. At the time of his death this property was left to his two sons, who now lease the land. A specialty is made of raising grain and vegetables, to which the soil seems best suited. In 1906 E. J. Matteson entered the employ of the Western Pacific Railroad Company. At first his duties were of a monotonous character rather than those requiring the skilled mechanic, but this was soon changed, for his ability soon became known and his position was changed accordingly, until he became foreman of the yards, the position he now occupies.



Mr. Matteson was married in Stockton in 1881 to Miss Eliza Bissell, she too being a native of California, and one child, Mabel Edna, has been born to them. Fraternally Mr. Matteson is a member of Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., Protection Camp No. 109, W. O. W., and socially he holds membership in Stockton Parlor No. 7, N. S. G. W. Mr. Matteson's taste for mechanics is an inherited trait, and one which brought his father much renown as an inventor. Since his association with the Western Pacific Railroad Mr. Matteson has given his employers the benefit of his expert knowledge of mechanics, and it goes without saying that he is a valuable adjunct to their business. Like his father also, he is investing his means in property as the opportunity offers, and aside from various holdings scattered throughout the county he owns one-half interest in the ranch on Rough and Ready Island, a ranch of seventy-five acres on West's Lane, and also property in Stockton, on east Market street, which is very valuable. As a business man and citizen Mr. Matteson stands well in his community, all admiring him for his honesty and uprightness.

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#### ELI E. THRIFT.

The success achieved by Eli E. Thrift has been the result entirely of his own efforts, for he came to California with nothing but courage, energy and ability as the foundation for the competency he hoped to win. Not only has he gained the object of his quest in a material sense, but what is better still he has won the love and admiration of his fellow-citizens during his residence of forty-three years in Stockton, and has had much to do with upbuilding measures in his home city during this time.

A native of the south, Mr. Thrift was born in

North Carolina November 4, 1831, the descendant of a long line of southern antecedents. He had reach young manhood in his native state and in all probability would have been content to remain there indefinitely had not the news of the finding of gold in California drawn his attention to this western country. Hither he came in 1854, going first to Los Angeles, and from there to the mines, where it is safe to conclude he met with considerable success, judging from the fact that he followed it continuously for ten years. At the end of this time, about 1866, he came to Stockton and associated himself with mercantile interests by establishing himself in the grocery business. He was associated in this enterprise with J. W. Hart, a partnership which proved amicable and mutually profitable for the long term of twenty years, when Mr. Thrift withdrew and established himself in the laundry business, following the latter business continuously for twenty-one years. He sold out the business March 1, 1909, and is now living retired.

It would be an injustice to Mr. Thrift to make no mention of his interest in public affairs, for in spite of the many engrossing cares incident to his business enterprises during past years he found time not only to take a mental interest in the affairs of his city, but was an ardent worker in the ranks of the city fathers. Twice he was elected by his constituents to represent them in the city council, and during President Cleveland's administration he served as postmaster for three years. He has also served as a director of the State asylum for the insane at Stockton, under Governor Haight's administration. All of these offices mentioned came to him at the hands of his Democratic friends, for he himself is an ardent believer in Democratic principles and never loses an opportunity to advance the cause of his chosen party. In all matters that have for their object the advancement of San Joaquin county and California he has always given his hearty co-operation, and in Stockton, where he is best known, he is regarded as one of the city's most dependable citizens. Fraternally he is a member of Stockton Lodge No. 11.

I. O. O. F. From time to time he has invested his means in real estate and now owns considerable valuable property throughout the city. He erected the building occupied by him in the laundry business for nineteen years and also owns one-half interest in the Hart & Thrift building, where they were engaged in the grocery business.

By his marriage, which occurred in Mariposa county September 13, 1866, and united him with Mary R. Givens, Mr. Thrift has three children, one son and two daughters, Catherine M., wife of L. C. Thom, of Stockton; Samuel L., a resident of Sacramento; and Lydia J., wife of A. W. King, of San Joaquin county. The family have a comfortable home at No. 420 East Channel street, which he built about 1869. In 1900 he made a prospecting trip into Alaska and spent three months in that country.

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#### HUGH WARD.

All nationalities have contributed to the citizenship of San Joaquin county, and among those who hailed from Ireland was the late Hugh Ward, who at the time of his death, May 13, 1909, was living practically retired from the active management of his ranch near Stockton. Born in County Westmeath, Ireland, June 28, 1828, he was reared and educated in his native surroundings until 1839, when he came to the United States, and for a time was located in New York City. While there he learned the stone-cutter's trade, and with this as his only avenue for making a livelihood he set out to make his way in his adopted home. Going up the Hudson river as far as Grassy Point, Rockland county, he there secured employment in a brick yard, but after following this for a time gave it up and went to

Massachusetts. In that state he was employed in one of the many factories which abound there, but after a short time he gave up his position and entered the employ of one of the large sugar houses of the east.

From the foregoing it might appear as if Mr. Ward would not locate permanently; in making these changes, however, he was gaining valuable experience, seeing the country, and what was equally important, was laying by for future use whatever he had left after paying his necessary expenses. Having made a thorough canvass of the east he determined to come to the west, and in 1852 he took passage at New York bound for Panama. After crossing the Isthmus he embarked on the old boat Panama on the Pacific side, and in due time reached his destination, San Francisco. As he had done in the east he accepted any honest employment that came his way, and for two years he drove a team in that city, giving it up at the end of that time to try his luck in the mines of Columbia, Tuolumne county. The fact that he continued to follow mining for three years would indicate that he was fairly successful in the venture, but however that may be, he finally gave it up, and coming to Stockton purchased a ranch in partnership with Patrick Donnelly. This partnership was dissolved two years later when Mr. Ward sold out his interest, after which he came to Stockton and entered the employ of David Porter. This association existed for twelve years to the pleasure of both, but at the end of this time Mr. Ward purchased sixty acres of the ranch which he owned at the time of his death, five miles from the corporate limits of Stockton. At the time of purchase this was raw land, but he brought it up to a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Ward's marriage occurred in 1862 and united him with Miss Ann Boyle, who was a native of County Cork, Ireland. She immigrated to the United States in 1859, landing in New York City, where she spent about one year and then came to California. Four of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Ward are living, as follows: John H., who is the active manager

of the home ranch: Lizzie A., Sister Redempta, in the Immaculate Heart College at Hollywood; Mary A., the wife of George Harmes, of Stockton; and Nellie, who is still at home with her mother. The eldest son, William J., died at the age of twenty-five years. All of the children were born, reared and educated in their native county.

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### ARMAND ROLLAND.

Yet another of the old pioneers of California and a resident of Stockton who can recall "the days of old, the days of gold, the days of '49," is Armand Rolland, whose experiences form an interesting chapter, well worthy a place in this volume. He was born in Berthier, Quebec, Canada, November 22, 1826, the son of George and Genevieve (Deligny) Rolland, the father a native of Bordeaux, France, and the mother a native of Canada. During young manhood the father immigrated to the New World and settled in Quebec, Canada, where he became a notable figure in the public life of his community, being a judge and court commissioner for many years. He lived to reach the ripe age of eighty-seven years, and passed away in Canada in 1857.

Armand Rolland received his early education in a private school in Berthier, Canada, where the French language was used entirely, and at the age of sixteen years he was qualified to take charge of a school as teacher in the vicinity of his home. In 1843, when he was seventeen years old, he left home and friends and set out to make his own way in the world. Going to New York City he secured a position with the firm of Lord & Taylor, a large wholesale and retail mercantile establishment, with whom he remained for two years, or until going to Chicago in 1845. The trip to that inland metropo-

lis was made by way of Erie canal to Buffalo, where he took a steamer which brought him to his destination. For six months he held a position with a mercantile firm in Chicago, but as the business was closed out at the end of that time it left him without employment. Returning to New York, he secured a position with the well-known merchant prince of former days, A. T. Stewart, remaining there for three years or until the offer of a better salary induced him to go to New Orleans in 1848. There he was made manager of the silk department in the large dry-goods house of Michael Kernan, located on Chartres street. It was there that the news of the finding of gold reached him, and like many another ambitious young man he gave up apparently good prospects for the uncertainties and hardships which all pioneers are called upon to endure. With four companions, two dry-goods men and two druggists, he set sail on the brig Thomas P. Hart on the 18th of May, 1849, by way of Cape Horn for the gold fields of California. On the way they stopped twelve days in Rio Janeiro, also spent a short time on the island of Juan Fernandez, off the coast of Chili, and finally dropped anchor in the harbor of San Francisco at seven o'clock in the morning, December 10, 1849, the trip having cost him \$250. Mr. Rolland and his companions had supplied themselves with provisions enough to last them two years in the mines, but they decided to dispose of them upon landing in San Francisco.

It was in the early part of the year 1850 that Mr. Rolland came to Stockton, his steamer fare costing him \$10 for the three days passage. Here they engaged for transportation to Angels Camp, where it was understood good mining was to be found, but after working there ten days they found that the inducements had been far more alluring than results warranted, as during that time they took out only \$2.10. Two of the partners became discouraged and left the mines, taking passage to New Orleans, while Mr. Rolland and one companion went to Murphys, which at that time was attracting the attention of miners generally as a rich field. One



week of rather discouraging results sufficed for Mr. Rolland's companion and thereafter for six months he continued mining alone. Convinced at the end of this time that more satisfactory returns could be enjoyed in some other line of endeavor Mr. Rolland wisely decided to give up mining and in doing so he at the same time bought out a butcher business. Meat at that time sold for seventy-five cents a pound, and onions for which he paid sixty-five cents a pound he sold as high as \$1.50 per pound. In October, 1850, he was compelled to sell out his business, as the miners had deserted the mine at Murphys and gone to various parts of the country in search of richer fields. At this time Mr. Rolland went to Sacramento and bought the hotel then known as Cafe de Paris, located on I and J streets. He conducted this successfully until 1852, during which time he had as patrons such well-known men of the time as Captain Dent and Captain Sutter, as well as many others of pioneer fame. It was while Mr. Rolland was conducting the hotel in Sacramento that an ice famine occurred in town, and to accommodate his customers he sent to San Francisco for forty pounds of ice to be shipped by steamer, a luxury for which he paid at the rate of \$1 per pound. A destructive fire finally destroyed the hotel, and thereafter Mr. Rolland came to Stockton and opened a dry-goods and clothing store, which he conducted for a number of years, or until he sold out the business in May, 1862. Thereafter he started on an European trip, in the course of his travels visiting Italy, France, Belgium and Africa. While in Italy he climbed Mount Vesuvius, and also had an audience with Pope Pius IX at Rome. Upon his return to Stockton in the latter part of September, 1863, Mr. Rolland bought out the dry-goods establishment of A. Skogh, a business which he conducted successfully until he sold out the enterprise in 1870. An alluring offer induced him to plan to go to San Francisco, where he was offered a position as European buyer in a large wholesale establishment; however, on the way to the depot, he met H. Bloss, who induced

him to remain in Stockton and purchase a restaurant. Following the advice of his friend, Mr. Rolland made the purchase of the restaurant adjacent to the depot, and for twenty-two years he served refreshments to the traveling public.

Mr. Rolland was married in Stockton to Miss Mary Godsill, the daughter of Richard Godsill, the latter a native of County Waterford, Ireland. One daughter has blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Rolland, Laure, who is now the wife of Augustus Francis Flanagan, a resident of San Francisco. The organization of the San Joaquin County Society of Pioneers was largely due to the efforts of Mr. Rolland, and he has held all the chairs in the order. He is also a member of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association. Though he is now well advanced in years Mr. Rolland is still enjoying good health, and with his wife now makes his home at No. 228 South Eldorado street, Stockton.

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#### OSCAR B. GROVES.

During the last half century three generations of the Groves family have been represented in California, the grandfather, Philip Groves, having planted the name here during the days of the gold excitement. The son of the latter and the father of Oscar B., William H. Groves, came to the state in 1852, and is now making his home in Stockton, retired from the active cares of business life. Both were important factors in the commercial upbuilding of the little settlement of Stockton, which even during the life of the grandfather had grown to be a city of considerable importance.

Not only is Oscar B. Groves a native son of the state, but he is as well a native of his home city, Stockton, his birth occurring here September 17, 1866. After completing his course in the

grammar school he entered the high school. As soon as his school days were over he began to be self supporting, his first position being with the firm of Weller & Langridge, shoe merchants of Stockton. He remained with these employers about three years, when he resigned to accept a position with John Garwood, also a shoe dealer of this city, with whom he continued for about fifteen years. Still later he was associated for three years with the firm of Hudson & King, also shoe merchants of Stockton.

It was in 1903 that Mr. Groves located in Modesto and established a shoe store on his own account, but after conducting it for three years sold out and returned to Stockton, where he has since conducted a flourishing shoe business at No. 415 Main street, being associated in the business with W. J. Perryman, under the firm name of Perryman & Groves.

Mr. Groves' marriage united him with Miss Emma Work, a daughter of Mrs. Henrietta Work of this city. Fraternally Mr. Groves is a member of Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E., and of Stockton Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F., while socially he belongs to Stockton Parlor No. 7, N. S. G. W.

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#### RICHARD S. BATES.

To an unusual degree the reverses and hardships common to those who in an earlier period attempted to develop the resources of California fell to the lot of Mr. Bates, yet, in spite of these untoward circumstances and conditions he toiled on uncomplainingly. Ill-health finally laid its unwelcome hand upon him and for several years before his death he was an invalid. Of eastern birth and parentage, he was born near Essex, Middlesex county, Conn., in 1819, passing his boyhood and youth in the vicinity of his

birthplace, and on attaining manhood years he filled a position as clerk in one of the mercantile establishments in Essex. The breaking out of the gold fever all over the country during the latter '40s found a victim in Mr. Bates, who had accumulated a sufficient sum to defray his expenses to the coast, with a little surplus to carry him for a short while after reaching his destination. Later, in order to replenish his depleted purse, he distributed papers for a time.

Mr. Bates' advent in Stockton occurred in 1852, and shortly afterward he engaged in the buying and selling of grain, continuing this for a considerable time, but he was finally compelled to give it up as it proved a losing undertaking. Still later he purchased a ranch and engaged in the stock business, but lack of experience made the undertaking a failure financially. Thereafter he went to Nevada in 1861 for the purpose of prospecting for silver mines and purchasing timber, remaining there for five years in carrying out the project. Returning to Stockton at the expiration of that time he thereafter filled a position in the State Asylum until failing health made it necessary for him to resign, and a few years later, August 19, 1897, he passed away, at the age of seventy-eight.

Mr. Bates was married in 1862 to Miss Margaret Journeay, who had come to the state five years previously by way of the isthmus from her birthplace, Staten Island, N. Y. Two children were born to bless their home life, Elizabeth Sterling Sperry, born in Nevada, the wife of Fred Gregory, and Wakely J. Bates, born in Stockton, which has ever since been his home. Politically Mr. Bates was a Republican and took a live interest in party affairs, although he never sought or desired public office. With his family he was a member of the Episcopal Church and throughout his life exemplified his belief in the Golden Rule. His kindly, sympathetic nature made him a friend with all, old and young, high and low, and his death was a sad loss to the many whom he had helped either substantially or by words of comfort and cheer. Since his death his wife and daughter have conducted a floral business in

Stockton, this being the outgrowth of the private hothouse which they maintained for pleasure on the home property on Park street. Their success is undoubtedly due to their extreme fondness for flowers. During their residence in Virginia City, Nev., Mrs. Bates gathered about her a fine collection of flowers and plants which attracted sight-seers from all parts of Nevada. Upon leaving the state she disposed of her collection to a prominent mining man for \$150. Mrs. Bates' long residence in the state makes her an interesting conversationalist upon topics of by-gone days, and all who know her love her for her noble, unselfish life.

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#### JAMES CARY ALLEN.

From the time of his arrival in California in 1859 until the present time Mr. Allen has been identified with various enterprises, agricultural and commercial, tending toward the development of San Joaquin county, and he has been no less active and efficient in a public capacity, having served as deputy assessor of San Joaquin county for twenty-two years of this time, and at this writing is filling the office of postmaster at Tracy.

The descendant of a long line of ancestors who had known no other home than the east and especially the Empire state, James Cary Allen was born in Jefferson county, N. Y., May 17, 1832, the son of Thomas and Ann (Austres) Allen, who spent their entire lives in that eastern state. Such opportunities as the time and place afforded for gaining an education were made much of by Mr. Allen during his boyhood, for he was ambitious to get ahead in the world, and after his school days were over he lost no time in preparing himself for a business career. Inclination and opportunity combined to lead his thoughts toward the trade of ship carpenter,

and he forthwith undertook its mastery. He had followed his trade in his native state for a number of years, when having heard of the wonderful accomplishments of other young men who had come to the west he made up his mind to come hither also. Another strong factor in influencing his decision to make the trip west was the fact that his health had become greatly impaired by too close application in his business. These combined objects led him to outfit for the journey overland in 1859, a trip which was destined to live in his memory ever afterward. In crossing the plains the party was accosted by a Mormon disguised as an Indian who shot one of the party, but happily the wound was not fatal. This murderous attempt aroused the vengeance of the others of the party and their first thought was to lynch the assailant, but their more humane judgment finally prevailed and they let him go unpunished. The party who followed Mr. Allen's caravan met with a sadder fate, however, for on the very spot where the encounter with the latter occurred the following party was murdered outright, not one of the party being left to tell the tale.

On his arrival in California Mr. Allen went direct to San Jose, being attracted thither by the fact that he had relatives living there. Securing a ranch in that vicinity he put it under cultivation and at the end of a year found that he had made a large profit on his investment. He then went from Santa Clara county into the redwoods district in Santa Cruz county, where he was employed in the manufacture of redwood lumber for a time. In 1862 he went to San Francisco and worked at his trade of ship carpenter for about a year, when, in 1863, he returned to the redwoods and constructed a logging railway for the Fromente Lumber Company. In October of that year he went to what is now known as Prescott, Ariz., but then showing little prospect of becoming the thriving city it now is, for the hostile Indian made the life of the settler very uncertain. It was on account of the constant disturbance from the Indians that Mr. Allen, after attempting to settle in business there,



finally gave it up at the end of a year and again went to San Jose. Soon afterward, however, in 1866, he came to Tracy, San Joaquin county, and here he has made his home ever since. Securing a ranch in this vicinity, he followed general farming with splendid success for about nine years, when, in 1875, he gave it up entirely and thereafter was variously employed until his appointment to the office of deputy assessor of San Joaquin county, a position he filled acceptably for twenty-two years. Further honors as a public official came to him in July, 1906, when he was appointed by President Roosevelt to the postmastership at Tracy, and is now the incumbent of this position. Fraternally Mr. Allen is well and favorably known in the ranks of the Odd Fellows, being one of the oldest members of the order in San Joaquin county, his membership dating from the first Monday in June, 1853. He is now a member of Sumner Lodge, No. 177, I. O. O. F., of Tracy. All the attributes that go to make up a thoroughly conscientious and substantial citizen are found in Mr. Allen, and all who are brought in contact with him realize and appreciate these qualities.

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#### CHRISTOPHER STURM STEPHENS.

The life history of the pioneer, the man who has braved the dangers, privations and hardships of frontier life, never loses it interest to those who have not experienced frontier life for themselves, but who have been followers instead of leaders in the march of progress. Such an interest we find in following the events in the life of Christopher S. Stephens, whose permanent location in California dates from the year 1861, and his residence on his present ranch near Waterloo from the year 1862.

The Stephens family is of English origin, and

the first of the family to come to the United States was Joseph Stephens, who served for a time in the English army, and at the time of the war of 1812 was a member of the regiment sent to Canada to assist in quelling disturbances. There his army career ended, however, for, crossing over into the borders of the United States, he renounced his allegiance to the Mother Country. Going to Louisville, Ky., he there became a naturalized citizen of the United States and made that city his home throughout the remainder of his life. One of the children born of his marriage with Miss Rosa Kirkpatrick was Christopher S. Stephens, of this review. He was born in Harrison county, Ky., August 28, 1823, and grew to young manhood in the vicinity of his southern home. The death of both parents left him an orphan in 1832, and thereafter he was bound out to serve an apprenticeship of seven years to a man who had leased the woolen mill at Claysville left by his father, Joseph Stephens. This was one of the three mills which the father had established, the others being located at Cynthiana, Harrison county, and in Lewis county, Ky., but both were destroyed by fire. All of the children were apprenticed to learn the same business by their uncle, who was their guardian and the executor of the estate of Joseph Stephens.

When twenty years old C. S. Stephens began to be self-supporting, and at the same time, feeling the restraint of his home surroundings, he went to Rush county, Ind., where for two years he was foreman of a woolen factory. During this time he occupied all of his spare time in improving the meagre education which had been afforded him in the schools of his home town, hiring a private teacher to assist him in his studies. Subsequently, going to Cincinnati, he was employed on an Ohio river steamer for about a year, when, the Mexican war having broken out, he went to Kentucky and enlisted for service. His company was not accepted, however, and still determined to see service he and a companion went to St. Louis, but there, too, disappointment awaited them, for the quota was filled. Mr. Stephens then

applied to the government for a position as teamster, and being accepted, started to drive to Santa Fe, N. Mex. Typhoid fever had worked ravages to the ranks, and as a consequence men were readily accepted for enlistment. At Fort Leavenworth Mr. Stephens enlisted as a teamster and from that point drove a team to Santa Fe. With others he was selected for a peculiarly hazardous duty, being chosen to communicate for General Price with Commodore Stockton. They reached the fleet at San Pedro, Los Angeles county. When they had discharged their duty Mr. Stephens and three other men began the return trip to Santa Fe with an express from Commodore Stockton. Indians attacked them, but were repulsed, and they finally reached Santa Fe in safety. Subsequently Colonel Washington organized four companies there, in one of which Mr. Stephens enlisted and was made first sergeant, serving as such until the regiment was disbanded. In 1847 he was made wagonmaster of the post at Santa Fe, holding this position for eighteen months or until he left for the east in 1849. Because of his skilled knowledge Mr. Stephens was selected to build a grist mill in which to grind forage for the dragoons and cavalry. There were no conveniences at hand, however, so it was with some difficulty that he finally got the mill in running order. This was the first mill ever operated in New Mexico territory, and made a reputation for Mr. Stephens as a millwright, and at Albuquerque he was called upon to complete a mill for the commissary department. With the fall of the Mexican stronghold peace was declared and the soldiers dispersed, Mr. Stephens returning to Santa Fe, where he enlisted as wagon master in the regular army, and remained about eighteen months.

With the close of his army career Mr. Stephens returned to Indiana and once more took up the life of the civilian, establishing a home and engaging in business there for eight years. During this time, in 1853, he built a steam sawmill near Zionsville, Marion county, which he operated in connection with his farm. Closing out his affairs in the middle west Sep-

tember, 1860, found him on the overland journey to California, the trip being made with one ox-team and one horse-team. Arriving at Eldorado, he remained there about a month, during that time engaging in teaming, and afterward he came to San Joaquin county and located on a rented ranch in the vicinity of Lockeford in November. This experience enabled him to familiarize himself with the western mode of farming and also to become better acquainted with land values. In 1862, he put his experience and knowledge to good account in the purchase of a ranch of two hundred acres in the vicinity of Waterloo, and this has been his home ever since the 22nd of September of that year.

Mr. Stephens was first married in Indiana in 1851 to Miss Melissa Walker, and of the five children born to them four are living as follows: Thomas J.; Alice, the wife of Warren Ambrose, of Lockeford; Rosie, the wife of George Bidwell; and Alfred Newton, a resident of Waterloo. The mother of these children died in 1874, and in 1882 Mr. Stephens was married to Miss Levina Potts, three children resulting from this marriage as follows: Christopher S., who with his child makes his home on the old homestead ranch with his father, his wife having passed away in 1909; Margaret Levina, who is a student in Lodi; and Victor, at home. Since the death of the wife and mother in 1902 Mr. Stephens has been ministered to by his children, who are a comfort to him in his declining years. During his more active life Mr. Stephens was deeply interested in the political and legislative affairs of his state and county, serving in the legislature for two terms, in 1882 and 1883, was a justice of the peace for sixteen years, and for fifteen years was school trustee of his district. Mr. Stephens' experience of over a half century since he left his southern home makes him an interesting conversationalist, and probably there is no subject to which he refers with more zest than his experience in the Mexican war. It was during this time that he first came to California, in February, 1847, being commissioned to deliver important messages from General Price to Com-

modore Stockton at San Pedro, Cal. On the return trip to Santa Fe Mr. Stephens and his companions were followed by Indians for two weeks and finally were drawn into a skirmish with their dusky foes, which resulted in almost mortally wounding one of the white men, who recovered after four months careful nursing in a hospital. The other four men of the party made their way in safety to Santa Fe. Mr. Stephens is now in his eighty-sixth year, a link between the past and the present, and has every reason to be proud of his long and useful life.

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#### EZRA MCINTIRE.

Many of California's successful ranchers have gained their initial experience on eastern farms, and among this number may be classed Ezra McIntire, who since locating in the state in 1879 has met with a success far above the average. This is undoubtedly due to the fact that he has made a study of specialized farming and in the raising of watermelons has practically stood alone in this part of the country, and indeed has been called the Watermelon King of San Joaquin county.

Born in Oxford county, Me., in 1833, Mr. McIntire was reared and educated in that state, making his home with his parents on the parental farm until he attained years of maturity. Being ambitious to see something of the commercial life of the east he went to Boston and accepted a position in a mercantile establishment there, but upon giving it up he returned to the homestead in Maine and continued its management continuously up to the year 1879. It was in the latter year that he came to California, and locating in San Joaquin county, began the raising of watermelons on a large scale on the sandy soil in the vicinity of Lodi. Four hundred and

ten acres were devoted entirely to this commodity, the largest patch in watermelons in the United States at the time, hence his title of Watermelon King was no misnomer. His first purchase of land was the old Brannock ranch, six miles from Lodi, but this he sold about 1890. Later he leased land near Linden, upon which he lived for about six years, when he came to the vicinity of Stockton and purchased the ranch upon which he now lives, on Rural Delivery route No. 3. Here he began with six hundred acres, but as his demands increased he added adjoining land until he now has under his control and management two thousand acres, all under cultivation to grain and hay. He ran the Independent dairy of eighty cows for twelve years.

Mr. McIntire was united in marriage with Miss Serena Morse, a native of Maine, and a sister of the late L. M. Morse of Lodi. Mrs. McIntire passed away in 1902. Four children were born to them. The eldest son, Frank, is a contractor by trade and a resident of Stockton; Flora is the wife of William P. Steinbeck, of Stockton; Arthur is a rancher in the vicinity of Farmington; and Ernest is a bookkeeper in the Sperry Mill Company at Paso Robles. For forty-three years Mr. McIntire has held membership in the Masonic organization, having joined the order in Wilton, Me., and he still holds membership in Wilton Lodge No. 156. He is a Republican in politics, but never would accept office; he cast his first vote for John C. Fremont.

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#### JOSE VASQUEZ.

As his name would suggest, Mr. Vasquez comes of Spanish antecedents, and he himself was born under the Spanish flag, on the island of Minorca, one of the Balearic Islands, in the Mediterranean sea, February 24, 1831. He received



his education in his home city, Mahon, the capital of the island, and when his study days were over he apprenticed himself to learn the trade of ship carpenter. Thereafter he worked at his trade until the breaking out of the Crimean war in 1854, when he went to sea, and it was while he was in the harbor at Havana that he was persuaded by one of his countrymen to join an American merchantman ship and come to the United States. Upon landing in New York he was pleasantly surprised in meeting his brother, with whom he visited for about a month, after which he again set out to sea, having in the meantime joined the United States navy. He shipped as steward on the frigate Wabash, under command of Commodore Palden and Captain Engle. On one of his voyages he witnessed the capture of General Walker in Nicaragua in 1857 and thereafter returned to New York and was discharged from the navy. An opportunity to work at his trade induced him to accept a position in the Brooklyn navy yard, but after three months of life on land he again longed for the sea, and going to Boston, shipped on board the Constellation, under command of Commodore Hickman and Captain Wilson. For twenty-seven months the Constellation cruised in the waters around Africa, but at the time of the breaking out of the Civil war the ship was recalled and Mr. Vasquez was discharged in New Hampshire. From there he went to Havana again, but finally returned to New York, and it was at this time that events so shaped themselves that he was induced to come to the Pacific coast.

In 1862 Mr. Vasquez shipped aboard the merchant vessel *Attache Magoo*, under Captain Baker, which sailed around Cape Horn and on the 15th of August of that year dropped anchor in the harbor of San Francisco. While there he heard that his brother was engaged in mining in Tuolumne county and thither he went to join him, remaining there for five years, or until 1867, when he came to Stockton. His first undertaking upon locating here was as proprietor of a small grocery store, which he continued for six years, with increasing success, and was finally

compelled to enlarge his quarters by removal to the corner of California and South streets. Finally he gave up mercantile interests to engage in farming, at first renting land for this purpose. Gratified with the results of his venture as an agriculturist he felt justified in purchasing property of his own, continuing to add to his possessions from time to time, until he now owns considerable real estate. He is not actively interested in its cultivation, however, as he rents the land to tenants and has retired from active business life.

In Sonora county, Cal., Mr. Vasquez was united in marriage with Miss Rosario Villanneva in 1866, and one son and one daughter have blessed their marriage, John and Josie, the latter still at home with her parents, at No. 1404 South California street.

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#### FERDINAND STOETZER.

Although a number of years have passed since the death of Mr. Stoetzer he is still remembered with most kindly feeling by those who had enjoyed his hospitality during the many years he was proprietor of a hotel in Stockton. As the name would indicate, he was a descendant of German ancestors, and he himself was born in Germany in 1842. In keeping with the German custom he was well educated in the schools of the Fatherland, and there also, when of suitable age, he was apprenticed to learn a trade. He had followed the locksmith's trade there for a time when he was compelled to give it up and enter the service of his country, this also being a custom peculiar to the Fatherland. Before the completion of his term, however, he determined to immigrate to the New World, and the year 1862 found him embarking for the United States by way of the Horn. The voyage was made in a sailing vessel, which after much buffeting and

tossing finally entered the Golden Gate and landed its burden of human freight in San Francisco. From the metropolis Mr. Stoetzer came at once to Stockton, where he soon became interested in the hotel business and from that time, 1862, until 1895 his success increased in the same ratio as did his popularity with his patrons. In the year last mentioned he retired from active business and thereafter lived retired until his death, which occurred September 29, 1907.

In San Francisco, in 1871, Mr. Stoetzer was married to Miss Wilhelmina Newhofer, who like himself was a native of Germany, and of the four children born to them two are deceased. Those still living are Otto E., and Lena, the wife of W. O. Bigelow, of Stockton. Fraternally Mr. Stoetzer was a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Druids. Personally he possessed many winning characteristics, his cordial and kindly nature gathering about him many life-long friends, not only from Stockton, but from the countryside in every direction.

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#### CHARLES A. POTTER.

It is always interesting to chronicle the life history of the pioneer, who braved the dangers and hardships of frontier life and put his shoulder to the wheel in the upbuilding of new territory. Such a man was represented in the late Charles A. Potter, who passed away in San Francisco in August, 1880. A native of Connecticut, he was born in New Haven, August 15, 1829, the son of Eber K. and Jerusha (Smith) Potter. When he was little more than a lad Charles A. Potter left his parents' home for the great eastern metropolis, New York City, where he learned the trade of last-making. It was while he was in that city that the news of the discovery of gold in California was spread broadcast over the coun-

try and found him an easy prey to the alluring advantages which the discovery made possible for ambitious young men. With his brother, Francis E. Potter, he set sail for the eldorado in February, 1849, going by steamer to the Isthmus of Panama. When they reached the Pacific side of the Isthmus they expected to find a steamer waiting to take them to San Francisco, but in this they were disappointed and were obliged to make the trip in a sailing vessel. They did not reach their destination until July, and in the meantime they had experienced a mutiny of the crew and were themselves with others of the passengers compelled to take their places before the mast.

Mr. Potter's first experience in a business way was in San Francisco, where he carried on a draying business for about two years, and during this time was a member of Sansome volunteer fire company. At the end of this time he came to Stockton. Here in addition to carrying on a bakery business he also engaged in mining and farming, the three industries combined netting him a fairly good income. Notwithstanding this he returned to San Francisco in 1870 and resumed work at his trade, last-making, establishing the first factory for this purpose on the Pacific coast. During the early history of that city, when law and order were the exception rather than the rule, he became a member of the vigilance committee, which was composed of the better element of citizens for the purpose of bringing order out of the chaotic condition that then existed.

Mr. Potter was twice married, his first marriage uniting him with Caroline Mersfelder December 6, 1855; she was a native of Baltimore, Md., and came to the west in the pioneer days with her parents. His second marriage also occurred in Stockton and united him with Sophia C. Eberhart August 3, 1865, she also being a native of Baltimore. Two children were born of the first marriage, Charles A. Potter, of San Francisco, and Mrs. Carrie H. Martin, of Eureka, Cal. The only child of the second marriage is Frederick E. Potter of Stockton, with

whom the mother makes her home, at No. 1221 North Monroe street. He is married and has one son, Fred A. Mrs. Potter is a woman of pleasing personality and is an active member of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Pioneer Society of Stockton. Fraternally Mr. Potter was a member and past noble grand of Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., a member of the encampment of Stockton, and he was also a member of the volunteer fire department of this city, as foreman of Protection Hook and Ladder Company.

Mr. Potter erected a residence at the northeast corner of Weber avenue and Stanislaus street in 1852, known as the Potter house, and which was in the possession of the family until 1906. He also owned a ranch of nine hundred acres about three miles from Stockton, on the Mariposa road, which among the old settlers is known as the Potter ranch. Here he made his home for a time and engaged in stock and grain raising, and while here brought to the coast the first "Belmont" stock of horses.

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#### GEORGE H. HEIMANN.

Prosperity and adversity, success and failure, wove their web of joy and sorrow around the early years of George H. Heimann, for many years an honored citizen of Stockton, but by birth and ancestry of the Teutonic race. Born in Nassau, Germany, June 9, 1844, he was sent to school in childhood and later supplemented text-book study by private readings, which gave him an accurate knowledge of the history of the world. When only eight years of age he began to help in the blacksmith's shop owned by his father and at the same time he began to learn the trade of wagon-maker. At the age of fifteen years he ironed off his first wagon, being assisted by his father with the heaviest work. It might be

supposed from his arduous labors in the shop that he had no leisure for study, but such was not the case. The time spent by other boys in sport or play was by him devoted to reading and he became unusually well informed concerning the world.

The first important event in the life of Mr. Heimann was the return of his half-brother, Jacob Roentgen, from the gold fields of California, whither he had gone in 1848. This relative was a member of the family made famous by the discoverer of the Roentgen rays. Having spent years in the gold mines, he had much to tell concerning prospects and conditions in California, and the young half-brother was deeply interested in what he heard. Thus it happened that in 1867 he crossed the ocean to the United States. The assistance of Mr. Roentgen and his own diligent study had given him a knowledge of the English language and thus spared him many of the hardships experienced by foreigners unfamiliar with any tongue except the German.

The new steamer *Harmonia* that sailed from Hamburg brought Mr. Heimann to New York City. After arranging for the transfer of his luggage he took passage on the new ship *Nevada* in its first voyage from New York to Nicaragua. Thence he proceeded by vessel to San Francisco and landed with \$50 in money and two trunks of clothing. His first employment was as longshoreman. On hearing of the village of Haywards, he went there, secured employment as a blacksmith, and worked for two months, after which he was engaged to repair a threshing machine and operate it during the season.

Returning to San Francisco, Mr. Heimann took passage on a steamer for Stockton, paying \$5 for transportation, \$1 for bed and \$1 for meals. Arriving at Stockton at five o'clock on the morning of August 16, 1867, he disembarked and started out to find work. At the first place he found open he was hired at \$3 per day, the firm being Matteson & Williams. Later he found he could do better at contract work, so made the change and received as much as \$36 per week. Stockton was a small town of one-story wooden and brick



buildings, bearing little resemblance to the present attractive and important city. After working at his trade for two months he bought an outfit and went to Independence, Calaveras county, where he spent the winter of 1867-68 in the mines. No success coming to him, he returned to Stockton and later worked for wages in Collegeville for six months. During the winter of 1869-70 he worked as an engineer in the mines and received large wages.

Having saved about \$3,000 during the few years of his residence in the state, Mr. Heimann determined to return to Germany, and accordingly made the long voyage, enjoyed a visit among relatives and old friends, and then took up the study of engineering, intending to embark in the contracting business. Some delay on his part caused a failure of his hopes of securing the desired work, and thereupon he returned to California. On the voyage he lost all of his money and so arrived in California wholly without means. For a time he worked at his trade and then went to the mines, but not only did not find any gold, but had the added misfortune of losing all of his tools. On his return to Stockton he resumed work at his trade. He moved his shop to the present site of the county jail. Later he removed to the corner of Stanislaus street and Weber avenue, where he still remains (opposite, however, the site of his earlier location). Working steadily at his trade, he has built up a prosperous business and is known as a reliable and expert workman.

The marriage of Mr. Heimann took place at Stockton in 1877 and united him with Miss Louisa Natt, who was born in Missouri and accompanied her father to California in her girlhood. The two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Heimann are Martha and Bertha, both of whom are with their parents at No. 1246 East Main street, the family home since 1891. The only son, George, died in 1905. Ever since becoming a citizen of our country Mr. Heimann has voted the Democratic ticket and has maintained a warm interest in the welfare of that party. The only office which he consented to fill was that of city

councilman, in which capacity he gave his influence to progressive measures for the benefit of the city. Fraternally he is connected with the Druids and at one time held membership with the Turn Verein and Eintracht.

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#### RANSOM ECCLESTON.

Many of the pioneers who came to California in the early days were disappointed in the primary object of their journey, that is, making their fortunes in the mines, yet turned their energies into other channels, and in so doing became the substantial upbuilders of the commonwealth. Among this number was the late Ransom Eccleston, who passed away in Stockton November 15, 1907. He was a native of Ohio, born in Clermont county September 6, 1825, and was reared and educated in the vicinity of his birthplace. He was a young man of about twenty-four years when the wave of excitement incident to the finding of gold in California passed over his home locality and as a result he was among the number who were attracted to the gold fields. Without loss of time he made preparations for the journey across the plains, and November, 1849, found him in the state ready to learn his fate as a miner. He soon learned, however, that his forte did not lie in this direction and he wisely turned his attention to other means of earning a livelihood. Before settling down permanently, however, he took a trip to the Sandwich Islands, and upon his return to California in the spring of 1850 he located near San Andreas, Calaveras county, where he first became interested in the hotel business, and in addition was proprietor of a general store. Following this, in 1866, he came to Stockton and thereafter made this city his permanent home, following the hotel business. He was successively proprietor of the Franklin house, Eagle house,

Grand Central and Avenue house, all of which were noted for the cordiality extended to guests, as well as for their superior accommodations. At the time of the meeting of the first state legislature in Sacramento he was also proprietor of the State hotel in that city.

In San Andreas, Calaveras county, Mr. Eccleston was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Elizabeth Samsel, the ceremony taking place August 22, 1854, and of the children born of their marriage two are living, as follows: Mrs. W. C. Matteson, of Stockton, and O. H. Eccleston, who was formerly bookkeeper for the Holt Manufacturing Company, but at this writing is engaged in the dairy business at Holt Station.

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#### PATRICK HENRY CODY.

Service in the Mexican war, which led many patriotic Americans from the settled regions of the east to the remote frontier of the southwest, was the means of calling the attention of many of them, for the first time, to the illimitable possibilities offered by the fertile but untilled lands in a country wholly unknown. In this way Patrick Henry Cody saw the southwest for the first time. The long marches of the troops took him into unsettled regions, but he was keen to discern the possibilities of the western empire, and it needed only the discovery of gold to act as an incentive to draw him to the Pacific coast.

The early days of Patrick Henry Cody were passed in a manner common to the period. Born in New York June 22, 1827, he was taken to Missouri in infancy and during boyhood attended the primitive schools of what was then considered the frontier. Nothing of especial importance marked his life until the outbreak of the Mexican war, when he enlisted in the army and went to the front under General Scott. In the trials

of army life, the hardships of forced marches, the perils of the battlefield and the privations of the camp, he bore his part with the courage of a good soldier. In later days it was always a pleasure to him to meet with old soldiers of that struggle and he bore an active part in the Association of Mexican War Veterans.

On returning to Missouri from the war Mr. Cody settled on a farm in the old home neighborhood, but after the discovery of gold he came to California by way of the plains and for a time tried his luck in the mines of Hangtown. No success came to him as a miner and therefore he turned his attention to teaming from Sacramento to the mines, which he followed for a considerable period. Meanwhile he had visited San Joaquin county and received a favorable impression of its agricultural advantages. During 1868 he came to the county and settled near Bellota, on what is known as the Austin ranch. There he continued for years and met with fair success in the cultivation of the nine hundred acres comprising the ranch.

A later period of agricultural activity on the Rogers ranch was followed by removal to the Douglas ranch, which Mr. Cody operated as a renter until his death, April 27, 1901. Meanwhile he had invested his savings in the Baldwin ranch of more than three hundred acres, which after his death was taken charge of by his sons and still remains under their supervision. Reared in the faith of the Roman Catholic Church, Mr. Cody always remained faithful to its doctrines and died in the hope of eternal happiness inspired by its creed. In politics a Democrat, he always maintained a warm interest in party work, but never aspired to official honors for himself. Public-spirited and energetic, he had a large circle of friends in the county, and up to the last retained the activity of younger days. His wife passed away at Bellota in 1905, at the age of sixty-five years. They were the parents of three sons and two daughters, namely: Charles M., who is married; Lillian, who married T. J. Baldwin, of Berkeley, and has three daughters and one son; Latham H., who is married and has

a daughter and son; James I., and Mary E., who married Bernard (better known as Ben) Smallfield and has one son. Of the children Mrs. Smallfield was the only one born in San Joaquin county. Her education was received in local schools and since her marriage she has resided at No. 1527 East Washington street, where she has one of the pleasantest homes in Stockton.

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#### ARTHUR ELWOOD PERCIVAL.

The legal profession in Stockton is well represented by one of her younger generation of citizens, having in Arthur E. Percival one whose legal knowledge, impartiality of judgment and keenness of discrimination make him exceptionally proficient in adjusting such matters as fall to his profession.

Mr. Percival is a native of Minnesota, born in Rock county in 1875, the son of Elwood and Martha (Sturtevant) Percival, who made their home on a farm in Rock county for many years. Their son attended the public schools in that vicinity during his early boyhood, and later assisted his father with the duties of the home farm. When he was little more than a boy, however, when only sixteen years old, he had begun to feel the restrictions of the life which lay before him and at that age, in 1891, he came to California, with Stockton as his destination. During the five years which he spent in that city he accepted any employment that would contribute to an honest livelihood, but during this time the idea was formulating in his mind to study for the practice of law. Locating in Lodi in 1896 he entered the law office of W. C. Green and began the reading which was to prepare him for his profession. Two years later, in 1898, he was elected to the office of justice of the peace, a position which he filled with such complete satis-

faction to his constituents that in 1902 he was re-elected to serve for another term of four years, but at the end of three years he resigned from the office to concentrate his efforts on his private legal practice, having in the meantime, in 1902, been admitted to the bar. In the year following he was admitted to practice in the United States, Circuit and District Courts, and in 1906 he was elected Assemblyman from the twenty-fourth district. For a number of years after establishing himself as a practitioner of the law Mr. Percival was alone, but in 1908 he took in as a partner A. T. Searle, and since that time business has been carried on under the name of Percival & Searle, a name which is continually gaining prestige, for both are men of ability, thoroughly conversant with legal technicalities, as is shown in the careful handling of matters committed to their care. On February 15, 1909, the above named firm opened large and attractive offices for their increasing practice on Main street, Stockton, in the Stockton Savings & Loan Society Building.

Mr. Percival's marriage united him with one of California's daughters, Miss Clara E. Clarke, a native of Maine. One child has been born of their marriage, Madelyn Gertrude.

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#### REES HARRY.

Although it is nearly a quarter of a century since Mr. Harry passed from the scenes of earth he is still affectionately remembered by the old-time residents of Stockton, where he had made his home for about seventeen years. He was a descendant of good old Revolutionary stock, his grandfather figuring prominently in the conflict between the Mother Country and the Colonies, a fact in which he took commendable pride. The family had become well represented in the east



during the years which followed, and in Montgomery county, Pa., Rees Harry was born January 27, 1822. He was educated in the public schools of his native state, and subsequently became a teacher in the vicinity of his home. In the meantime he had made up his mind to learn a trade and take his place in the business life of the community, following this decision by taking up the millwright and carpenter's trade, which he mastered in due time. He had won an enviable reputation as an expert in his line, when, in 1867, he decided to spend the remainder of his life in the west and that year took up his residence in Stockton. Here he found no difficulty in securing work at his trade, and for some time was employed in the Pioneer sash and door mill, a position which he was obliged to relinquish on account of failing health.

In order to be in the open air as much as possible Mr. Harry undertook contracting and building on his own account and for a number of years he followed this business with excellent success. Even this effort proved too wearing on his failing strength and he was finally obliged to give it up altogether. Believing that a change of climate would be a benefit to his health he went to Sacramento, but returned a year later apparently no better than when he left home. He passed away at his home on Lindsay street, September 30, 1884, leaving a wife and children and many friends to mourn his loss.

Mr. Harry had been twice married, two children having been born of his first marriage, Mrs. Cecilia Humphreys, of Philadelphia, Pa., and Joseph M. Harry, a well-known plumber and contractor of Stockton. Mr. Harry's second marriage occurred in Philadelphia in 1861 and united him with Miss Sarah Condry, a resident of that city at the time of her marriage. Four sons were born of this marriage, but only two are now living, Dr. Charles Rees Harry, a prominent physician and surgeon of Stockton, and Sydney C. Harry, who is associated in business with F. E. Ferrell & Co., coal and feed merchants of this city. For over thirty years Mr. Harry had been a member of the Odd Fellows, was an ardent

temperance worker, and was a faithful member of the Episcopal church. Personally he was a man of retiring disposition, sincere in his friendships, and those who were associated with him in any way learned to love and respect him for the genuineness of his character, expressed in every thought and deed. Before her marriage Mrs. Harry had taught school, and when the health of her husband began to fail she resumed teaching in order to lift some of the burden from his shoulders. For fifteen years she followed her calling in the schools of San Joaquin county, eleven years of this time being spent in the schools of Stockton. She now resides at No. 1307 North San Joaquin street, Stockton.

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#### NICOLA MILCO.

To surmount the obstacles confronting one who seeks to gain independence, to live at peace with fellow-citizens, and to gain a reputation for worth of character, this is a record of which one may well be proud, and in attaining this ambition Mr. Milco merited and won the respect of his fellow-citizens. Many of the qualities which were noticeable in his character came to him through a long line of worthy Slavonic ancestors, and he added to the characteristics of thrift and economy the American qualities of energy and resourcefulness. A native of Austria, he was born in Dolle, Dalmatia, September 5, 1822, a son of John and Anna Milco, they too being natives of Austria, where they led useful lives.

At an early age Nicola Milco bade farewell to home and friends and set sail for the New World, the vessel on which he made the voyage dropping anchor in the port of New Orleans. From the extreme southern part of the country he made his way past the limits on the north,

going to the Mackenzie river, in British North America, in 1850, where he engaged in mining operations for about one year. From that northern country he finally came to California, going directly to San Francisco, but after remaining there for a time came to Stockton in 1852. Content with the outlook he determined to make this city his permanent home, and as an evidence of this, established a fruit and confectionery store which he continued to carry on throughout his entire active career. Retiring from business in 1892, from then until his death his time was occupied principally in looking after his mining and property interests. Besides owning property in Stockton, he also had holdings in Bak-ersfield, Kern county.

Mr. Milco's marriage, which occurred May 24, 1869, united him with Miss Maria N. Smerdel, a native of Austria, and resulted in the birth of three children, as follows: Ivan, deceased; and Albena and Anna, both residents of Stockton. Fraternally Mr. Milco was a prominent Mason, having been a member of the order for over fifty years. His death occurred November 13, 1898, at which time the community lost a useful, practical and public-spirited citizen, who was always willing to lend his assistance toward the promotion of well-considered efforts to advance the best interests of the people.

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#### WILLIAM C. MILLER.

For over half a century William C. Miller has been one of the prominent citizens of San Joaquin county, whither he came when a young man intent on making his fortune as a miner. Born in Indiana December 9, 1824, he was reared to a sturdy manhood in that state, in his early years attending the district schools near the parental home, and later working on the home farm and

also in his father's mill. As early as 1846 an elder brother had gone to Oregon, and upon his return home had wonderful stories to tell of the outlook in the west. This interest was redoubled when, after the discovery of gold in California, still greater stories were told of the unlimited opportunities for obtaining sudden wealth. Thus it happened that the two brothers decided to come to California, and going to LaPorte, Ind., formed a company and outfitted for the journey. Leaving LaPorte March 15, 1849, they arrived at their destination, Coloma, Eldorado county, August 2 of the same year, having no mishaps on the way. After working in the mines for two months the company disbanded, and from there the Miller brothers went to Sacramento, and thence down the river about twenty miles. There they engaged in chopping wood until they had sufficient to supply two contracts which they had accepted from people in San Francisco, and after purchasing a boat, carried the wood to its destination.

From San Francisco the brothers again went to Sacramento, where they loaded mules with provisions and started for the mines, and after selling their produce, returned for more supplies and cattle, which they likewise disposed of in the mines. Finally they purchased a ranch on the Stanislaus river and engaged in raising cattle for a number of years, or until 1862, when they moved to Tulare lake. There also they raised stock for a time, but finally sold out the business, after which William C. Miller began raising sheep near Calaveras. Later he removed to Fresno county and after purchasing a ranch, stocked it with sheep, and for seventeen years carried on a lucrative business with his partner, Alexander Gordon. In the meantime Mr. Miller and his brother had accumulated considerable property, owning twelve hundred acres near Stockton upon which they carried on a profitable business for many years.

Although Mr. Miller's various interests made it necessary for him to be away from home a great deal, his headquarters since 1853 have been in Stockton. His first marriage occurred at Gilroy, Santa Clara county, March 18, 1860, and

united him with Miss Missouri Fine, three children being born of this marriage. She passed away in December, 1870, and two years afterward, in 1872, Mr. Miller was married to Miss Jennie Maze, a resident of this city. With his wife Mr. Miller is a member of the Christian Church, and both are active workers and liberal contributors in all its departments of activity. With truth Mr. Miller may be called one of the makers of history of San Joaquin county, and particularly of Stockton, where he has made his home since 1853, and for four years he was a member of the city council.

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#### ARTHUR THORNTON.

As the outcome of his service in the United States government which brought him to the Pacific coast country during the early 50's Mr. Thornton became interested in California and it was not long before he had decided to take up his permanent residence here. Thus it happened that after working for various ranchers for a number of years he purchased property near New Hope, San Joaquin county, in 1863, and for forty-five years has contentedly followed the peaceful and independent life of the agriculturist on his ranch. The passing years have brought many changes, both in appearances and conditions, the old continually giving place to the new, this being especially noticeable in Mr. Thornton's handsome residence.

Mr. Thornton is a native of Scotland, born in Ayrshire in 1838. When he was a lad of fourteen years, in 1852, he came to the United States with his parents, who located in Iowa on a farm. Although he had received a good education in the schools of Ayrshire, he also attended school for a couple of years in Iowa, during this time also working on his father's farm as much as his

school duties would permit. The spirit of adventure took him to Santa Fe, N. Mex., about this time, and there he joined the government service as a civilian under Colonel Steptow. The winter of 1854-55 was spent in Salt Lake City, and in the spring, May 5, 1855, the company took up the march for California. Before reaching their destination, however, they were ordered to Oregon instead, and finally, on July 2, they reached Port Lane, on Rouge river, having in the meantime camped two nights in Surprise valley. Considering their meagre equipment it was quite remarkable that they reached their destination as quickly and as safely as they did, having nothing but a compass to guide them. After resting a week they again took up the march, going first to Cow creek and from there to Red Bluff, Tehama county, Cal., where they took a steamer for Sacramento, and from there on a larger steamer, were taken to Benicia. After receiving his pay Mr. Thornton entered the employ of the Pacific Steamship Company and went to Panama on the old Oregon, the return trip being made on the steamer Golden Gate to San Francisco. A short experience in the mines proved to him that he had no taste or inclination for the calling and he soon afterward gave it up and came to Stockton. In May, 1855, he came to New Hope, where he worked as a vaquero until 1861, and afterward followed various lines of employment for two years, when he purchased the ranch at New Hope, which has since been his home. During his residence in the town he has seen it grow from a mere hamlet and in fact has been one of the most diligent workers to bring about better conditions. Thirty years ago New Hope was made a postoffice, and for the same length of time Mr. Thornton has served efficiently as postmaster. For eight years he was a director of the asylum at Stockton, and for four years was vice-president of the board.

In January, 1870, Mr. Thornton was married to Miss Emma Greives, a native of Steubenville, Ohio, their marriage resulting in the birth of six children, of whom two are deceased. Mary Alverina is the wife of W. J. Bates, and the



mother of one child, Richard Thornton Bates; Clara B., Mrs. Alec Thompson, is the mother of two children, Emma P. and Henry A. Thompson; Maggie F. and Georgie M. are deceased; Jessie C. is at home with her parents; and Alice, the youngest in the family, is the wife of William Koontz, of New Hope. Fraternally Mr. Thornton is a member of Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E., and is a charter member of Lodi Lodge, K. P. Personally Mr. Thornton is popular in the community which his labor and character have helped to build. He is a friend of education and progress, and his sojourn in San Joaquin county, and especially in New Hope, has tended to the widening of its prosperity and opportunity.

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### JAMES W. HISLOP.

Long experience and early practical training in the manufacture of brick admirably qualify Mr. Hislop for his present responsible position as superintendent of the Stockton Fire & Enamel Brick Company, the organization of which was due largely to his effective work as promoter, as its rapid growth may be attributed to his skill in the business. By birth and lineage he is of the Scotch race that has furnished to our country men of thrift, energy and indomitable perseverance. Born September 18, 1865, he was reared and educated in his native land and received such advantages as local schools afforded. At the age of eighteen years he began an apprenticeship to a manufacturer of brick near his old home and for some time he remained in that brick yard, meanwhile gaining the practical knowledge of the business that was indispensable to ultimate success.

Upon starting out to make his own way in the world James W. Hislop came to the United States. After landing in the harbor of New York he

proceeded westward to the Pacific coast and established himself as a permanent resident of California. For fifteen years he was connected in different capacities with the Gladding & McBean Company, of Lincoln, Placer county, and meanwhile he proved his exceptional qualifications for such line of business. However, it was his ambition to superintend a plant of his own inception, and preliminary to such an enterprise he accepted and filled a position as superintendent of the works of the Carnegie Brick Pottery Company in Alameda county near the line of San Joaquin county. From there during 1907 he came to Stockton, where in April of that year he secured the incorporation of the Stockton Fire & Enamel Brick Company, with a capital stock of \$50,000, and with himself as superintendent. Myers J. Gardner acts as president of the company and T. A. Nelson fills the offices of secretary and treasurer.

The plant is situated outside of the corporate limits of Stockton to the south and is equipped with the most modern, up-to-date machinery. The kilns are of the latest and most approved construction. Native oil is utilized for fuel, thus reducing the cost of the product. Five or more electric motors furnish ample power for each department. The clay used in the manufacture of brick is shipped from different portions of this state and by the mixing of different clays various shades of bricks are produced. The drying process can be carried on outdoors during the greater part of the year, but arrangements have been effected so that during the rainy season the brick are dried under cover in a building supplied with pipes through which steam is forced. Therefore no time is lost by changes of weather. Five of the improved kilns are equipped with a down draft so that there is very little loss in burning. The capacity of the plant is two hundred and fifty thousand brick per month. By long experience in the business the superintendent is able to produce superior brick for buildings of all kinds. Many of the face brick are given the glass finish and resemble the finest quality of tile. Wherever the brick has been

used, satisfaction has been expressed with its quality and the company is finding that its best advertisement is a multitude of pleased customers. Undoubtedly a prosperous future awaits the concern, whose upward progress will be of benefit not only to the owners, but also to the city where the plant is located.

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#### GILCHRIST P. ROBERTS.

The commercial interests of Stockton have a resourceful representative in Gilchrist P. Roberts, who as the senior member of the firm of Roberts & Clark is maintaining one of the largest planing mills in San Joaquin county. Mr. Roberts is a native of Missouri, born September 21, 1878, the son of parents who had long made that state their home. His early boyhood was spent in his native locality, where as a student in the grammar schools he was fitted to enter the high school after the family home was transferred to Stockton, Cal., this event occurring in 1896. After his graduation from the Stockton high school he continued his studies in Stanford University and graduated from that well-known institution of learning in 1900.

Leaving college, Mr. Roberts put his recently acquired knowledge to practice as bookkeeper in the planing mill of Thomas & Bell, a position which he filled with great credit to himself and with acceptability to his employers for five years, during this time also devoting much of his time to the interests of the Republican party, having in the meantime been elected a member of the county central committee of that party. During the years spent in the mill just mentioned Mr. Roberts gained a clear and thorough understanding of the planing-mill business, which gave him confidence to undertake a business of his own. In 1905, associated with W. X. Clark, he pur-

chased the milling business of the Gardner Lumber Company, and under the name of Roberts & Clark a general milling business has since been conducted. The plant, which covers nearly half a block, is equipped with the latest and most approved machinery for the manufacture of outside and inside finishings for buildings, this being their specialty, although they also do a general milling business. The building covers a space of about three hundred feet square, and taken all in all the plant and equipment in general is the finest to be found in this part of the country.

Mr. Roberts' marriage occurred in 1903 and united him with Miss Abbie Hammond, the daughter of John Hammond, an old resident and much respected citizen of Stockton. They have two children, G. P. Jr., and Junius D. Although much of Mr. Roberts' time is necessarily consumed in his business affairs, he yet has time to take an interested part in the welfare of his home town, and no worthy measure advanced for the betterment of conditions lacks his support and encouragement. He is also interested in a number of fraternal organizations, becoming a member of the Elks organization in 1901, and in 1908 he was elected exalted ruler of his lodge, to serve for one term. He is also a member of Truth Lodge No. 55, I. O. O. F.

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#### J. C. SILVEIRA.

One of the younger generation of agriculturists in San Joaquin county is J. C. Silveira, who is making a specialty of the raising of asparagus on Roberts Island, where the conditions of soil and climate are especially well suited for the successful cultivation of this vegetable. Although he is not a native of California, having been born in Gold Hill, Nev., in 1876, he nevertheless has spent his entire life in sight of the

mountains and the greater part of it has been passed in the Golden state. His father, Rollin Silveira, came to the coast in 1870, and in the vicinity of Fresno gained considerable renown as a successful sheep raiser, a reputation which he also bore in San Joaquin county and in Nevada. He now makes his home in Oakland.

When he was a small child J. C. Silveira was brought to California by his parents, who for a number of years made their home in San Francisco. In the public schools of that city he gained a good education, and thereafter prepared himself for a business career by learning the plumber's trade, apprenticing himself for this purpose to the firm of Taylor, Adams & Pritchard. In all, he worked at the trade seven years, giving it up at the end of that time, when he came to San Joaquin county. Since that time he has been engaged in the raising of asparagus on Roberts Island, where he owns two hundred and thirty-five acres, of which two hundred acres are entirely devoted to raising this vegetable.

Mr. Silveira's marriage united him with a native daughter of California, Miss Louisa Holmquist, who was born in Merced. Two children, a son and daughter, have been born to them, Leslie and Maria.

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### JAMES WEBB.

It might well be a source of gratification to a man if, in looking back over the years of a busy life, he recalls no deed to cause remorse and regret and no intentional act of wrong-doing toward his fellowmen. As Mr. Webb reflects concerning the activities of over a century, he can face the past without sorrow and the future without fear, for in all his actions he has been guided by the highest principles of honor. Though he has long since passed the point of usefulness in life's

activities, he has as yet signified no intention of relinquishing his splendid grasp on life, and has now (1909) reached the remarkable age of one hundred and three years.

This centenarian makes his home in Fair Oaks, just outside of Stockton, his residence in California dating from 1854. He was born in Kentucky, July 27, 1806, but while he was still a mere infant his parents settled in Tennessee, where he was reared and where he made his home until 1844. It was during the latter year that he went to Missouri and took up agricultural pursuits, following this for about ten years. His restless spirit brought him to California in the fall of 1854, and in the Bellota district and in the vicinity of Linden, San Joaquin county, he followed farming until he was seventy-two years of age. Mr. Webb was deprived of the companionship of his wife many years ago, and since 1895 he has made his home with his son Isaac, who bestows upon him every attention heart could wish. The parental family included five children, four sons and one daughter, and of them we make the following mention: Jesse was born June 23, 1826, and now makes his home in Bellota; Isaac, born September 14, 1830, lives at Fair Oaks, where he conducts a store; Ira was born January 11, 1840; William was born September 22, 1841; while the only daughter, Mrs. Nancy E. Gard, was born September 16, 1834.

James Webb has always been a Democrat and claims the distinction of being the oldest living Democratic voter in the United States. He cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson before he reached manhood's estate, this ballot being cast in 1824. Jackson was not elected at that time, but Mr. Webb had the satisfaction of voting for him again in 1828, when his chosen candidate was elected. It is his proud boast that he has never voted anything but the Democratic ticket, his last one being cast for William J. Bryan, in November, 1908.

In the early part of the nineteenth century James Webb braved the dangers incident to Tennessee mountain life, and as a boy he walked



behind the ox in the corn row of Tennessee, and there also he became familiar with the shrill cry of the wolves and the terrible yell of the Cherokee and Creek Indians. His outdoor life and his splendid heritage of health gave him great strength and valor, and it is said of him that, though he was not a quarrelsome man, he would rather fight than eat. In those early days in Tennessee fighting was as much a part of a man's life as the social activities are now. The warmest friends often engaged in combat "just for the fun of it," often fighting terrible battles and shaking hands with one another afterward without the slightest ill-feeling. Mr. Webb, with his giant strength, his courage and his hardihood, was an opponent worthy any man. By nature he was active, and up to the age of eighty he engaged in the sports of the hunter, but the failure of his eyesight in mistaking a lump of dirt for a squirrel made him decide to give up the sport. All through the years of his life Mr. Webb has taken an interest in the affairs of men, in the seed-time and harvest, which he has seen come and go a hundred times, and is patiently awaiting the summons to come "up higher."

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#### JAMES T. AND WILLIAM E. HOLMAN.

Through the labor and accomplishments of father and sons in San Joaquin county for the past thirty-five years the name of Holman has come to represent all that stands for uprightness in business, in both commercial and agricultural lines. As far back as it is possible to ascertain the history of the family it originated in Missouri, where the father, William Benjamin Holman, was born, and where, in the town of Clifton Hill, he was a successful merchant for many years, or until coming to the west in 1874 and locating in Linden, San Joaquin county, Cal.

Here he continued in mercantile business throughout the remainder of his life, passing away at the age of seventy-three years, in 1903. By his marriage with Miss Martha Jane Prather, also a native of Missouri, seven children were born, but of this number only five are now living. Named in order of their birth they are as follows: James Thomas; Mattie Florence, at home with her mother in Linden; William Edgar; Neil Samuel, a rancher in the vicinity of Linden, San Joaquin county; and Boyd Prather, in charge of the home ranch at Linden.

James T. and William E. Holman were born in Missouri in 1858 and 1868 respectively and came to California with their parents in 1874. After the younger brother had completed his education in the public schools of Linden, where the family settled, he and James T. went to San Joaquin county, and in the vicinity of Milton farmed on rented land in partnership until 1902, when they bought the ranch which is now their home, in close proximity to Farmington. This property comprises five hundred and thirty-seven and a half acres, of which ten acres are in vineyard, and the remainder in grain and hay. Another branch of agriculture from which they receive a good income is the raising of stock. To facilitate the work of gathering their large crops the brothers have supplied themselves with a harvester, which neighboring ranchers not thus supplied are eager to employ during the harvesting season, and this in itself is a source of no small income to the proprietors. Besides the cultivation of their own land the brothers also have adjoining land under their care, farming in all about one thousand acres.

Both brothers are married and settled in homes of their own, James T. Holman choosing as his wife Luella Gertrude Needham, by whom he has one son, Earle Leigh. William E. Holman was married in 1893 to Miss Lillian V. Needham, a native of Santa Clara county, and the daughter of C. E. Needham, who became a prominent rancher and stock-raiser in San Joaquin county. Mr. Needham came to California from Illinois in 1862, settling in Santa Clara

county, and two years later he returned to the east for his family. His advent into San Joaquin county dates from the year 1867, at which time he settled on a ranch near Banta. Mr. and Mrs. Needham became the parents of six children, as follows: Harry Burr, located in San Francisco in the government employ; Cyrus Hal, a rancher; Myrta Lou, the wife of William G. McKean, of Berkeley; James Carson, who is a congressman from the sixth district and a resident of Modesto, Stanislaus county; Lillian Vale, Mrs. William E. Holman; and Luella Gertrude, the wife of James T. Holman. One child has been born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Holman, to whom they have given the name of Charles Edgar. Both brothers are active members of the Odd Fellows organization, James T. having passed through all the chairs of Farmington Lodge No. 296, I. O. O. F., and William E. is now treasurer of the same.

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#### ARTHUR WILLIAM HEWITT.

Glowing tributes have always been paid to the pioneer who blazed his way across trackless plains to the unknown west and inaugurated the civilization which we of today enjoy with little thought as to how it was brought about or what sacrifices it represents. Too much praise and gratitude cannot be bestowed upon the noble men who thus risked life and fortune, but a just meed of praise also belongs to the later generation who are continuing the work laid down by their fore-runners. The above picture clearly depicts the lives of Martin L. and Arthur W. Hewitt, father and son, the former now a resident of San Francisco, and the latter the proprietor of the homestead ranch located two miles west of Farmington.

Martin L. Hewitt was born in Ohio in 1844,

and until reaching manhood was contented to remain in his native community. However, he was finally seized with the western fever and in the early 60's he made his way across the plains by means of ox-teams, making the trip in company with his parents and family. Upon reaching the west he went at once to the vicinity of the mines, but instead of searching for the golden metal in the mines he engaged in a freighting business to Copperopolis and Sonora, which in all probability netted him as satisfactory an income as if he had risked the uncertainties of mining. When the rush to the mines began to diminish the freighting business suffered accordingly, and he finally gave it up entirely. Thereafter he came to San Joaquin county, and upon the ranch he then purchased, three miles west of Farmington, he continued to make his home until 1900, since which time he has been a resident of San Francisco. His wife was in maidenhood Miss Florence Harrold, a native of Iowa, by whom he has two sons, Arthur William and Harrold Luther, the latter still with his parents.

Arthur W. Hewitt is a native of Farmington and was born on what is known as the Harrison ranch in 1878. His early training was received in the district schools and later he took up preparatory work under Professor John York, thus becoming eligible to entrance in the University of California. There his studies were confined particularly to mining engineering, and after the completion of his two-year course he put his knowledge to practice in the mines of Alaska. His trip to the far north was made in 1897, during the early rush to the famous Klondike country. By means of dogs he made his way over the ice to Dawson, and in the fall of 1898 he went to Nome by boat. After a varied experience in the north covering two years he finally returned to San Joaquin county and settled on the home ranch, the management of which has since occupied his entire attention. This comprises eight hundred and fifty-seven acres devoted to grain and hay and is considered one of the best managed and most productive ranches in the vicinity of Farmington.

The marriage of Mr. Hewitt occurred June 27, 1900, and united him with Miss Ida Church, a native of Farmington, and the daughter of M. M. Church, the latter now a resident of Stockton. Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt have one son, to whom they have given the name of Milo Lester. Mr. Hewitt's fraternal affiliations ally him with the Odd Fellows, his membership being in Farmington Lodge No. 296, of which he is past grand. He also holds membership in the Arctic Brotherhood of Alaska.

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#### BASILIO LAOGIER.

Yet another of the pioneers to this western commonwealth who have passed to that bourne whence no traveler returns is the late Basilio Laogier. He was a native of France, born in Nice March 6, 1820, the son of Charles and Josephine (Moisin) Laogier, also natives of that country, the father maintaining a wholesale and retail mercantile establishment and also managing a hotel at Nice. There the son was reared and educated and soon after leaving school he secured a position with the French government in the arsenals and for three years his duties kept him in Africa. At the end of this time he remained there three years longer on his own account, during this time carrying on a profitable business as locksmith and gunsmith. Thereafter he returned to France, and during the month he spent in Marseilles he made preparations to start on an extended tour of the world. From Marseilles he shipped to Rio Janeiro, Brazil, and after stopping there for a time resumed the voyage, rounding Cape Horn and finally reaching the port of Valparaiso, Chile, in safety. From this South American port he continued his travels on the ship *La Princesa Belgoiosa* to San Francisco, arriving at that port January 22,

1850. He had not been in that city long, however, before he was attracted to the mines, for this was the time that the gold excitement was at its height. Going to Mokelumne Hill, he mined there with average success for a few months, and then returned to San Francisco, reaching that city the day following the disastrous fire. Six months later he again went to the mines, but after seven months more of this life he gave it up altogether and thereafter settled in Stockton, where for a time he conducted a locksmith establishment. Believing that a lucrative business could be established in hauling supplies to the mines, he embarked in the pack-train business in 1858, hauling goods to Murphys, Virginia City, and other mining camps in that vicinity. In the course of a few years interest in the mines there began to lessen, and at the same time the cost of fodder for his mules had increased to such an extent as to make continuance at the business almost prohibitive. Some idea of the cost may be gathered from the fact that during the year 1864 the feed for his pack-mules cost him at the rate of \$300 per month. This condition of affairs made it necessary for him to change his location, and from there he went to the mining region about Sacramento, hauling supplies to Red Bluff, Colusa, Tehama and Yreka. He also attempted to take the Indian trail to Klamath Lake, but the Indians resented the intrusion and drove him away, and he then journeyed by way of the lava beds, Warm Springs and Fort Dalles to Dalles. From that point he sent his pack-train overland to Umatilla, while he himself took the steamer for that point, and from there took a cargo to Bannock City. The expedition proved sufficiently profitable to warrant two more similar trips. He then proceeded to Placerville, Centerville, passing through Oregon on his way to Walla Walla, Wash., which city he reached on the 25th of November, in the midst of a heavy snowstorm. From that point he took a steamer for San Francisco, reaching that city January 10, 1865, and after having his gold coined at the mint, continued his journey to Stockton.



After the many years which Mr. Laogier had passed in freighting to the mines he was glad to settle down to a more quiet business and upon coming to Stockton he entered into the brokerage business and also dealt in real estate. Still later he opened a grocery. Finally, however, in 1870, he retired from active business altogether and thereafter lived retired until his death, May 3, 1897.

In Stockton, March 27, 1869, Mr. Laogier was united in marriage with Miss Dionisia Ponce, or as the name was originally spelled, Ponce de Leon, she being a direct descendant of the famous Spanish explorer, Juan Ponce de Leon. Mrs. Laogier was born in Chihuahua, Mexico, and is the daughter of Nemesio Ponce de Leon, a merchant and trader in that Mexican city. Mr. Laogier was a well-educated man, his extensive travels giving him an unusual opportunity to exercise his ready observation, a faculty which added to a keen intellect resulted naturally in a fund of information. His early residence in the state made him eligible to the San Joaquin Society of California Pioneers, of which body he was a prominent member.

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### GRAVEM BROTHERS.

There are probably few men within the limits of San Joaquin county whose knowledge of the bakery business is more extensive than that acquired by the Gravem brothers during their long and successful identification with the industry in Stockton. This dates back to the year 1886, when, on May 12, they bought out a small shop at the corner of Aurora and Lindsay streets whose demands could be supplied by one barrel of flour a day. Under their management the business took on new life and finally twenty-five barrels of flour were needed to fill the daily

demands upon the plant. Under the name of the Stockton Home bakery, business continued to flourish until February 22, 1909, when it was consolidated with the State bakery and incorporated under the state laws of California as the Gravem-Inglis Baking Company. Without doubt this merger represents one of the largest and most important business ventures undertaken in Stockton, and is a source of no mean pride on the part of her citizens. Some idea of the magnitude of the undertaking may be realized when it is said that the Gravem brothers alone have expended \$20,000 in remodeling the plant to bring it up to a point of excellence which their trade demands.

The moving spirits in this vast undertaking are Ole L. and Martin L. Gravem, who were born in central Norway November 12, 1863, and June 29, 1864, respectively, sons of Lars G. and Anna O. (Svesdale) Gravem, the parents lifetime residents of Norway. The sons had received good educations in their native town when, in 1882, they decided to come to the New World and take advantage of the opportunities which awaited the ambitious foreigner. Accordingly they took passage from the port of Christiansand, Norway, bound for Liverpool, England, whence they again set sail for the United States, with Philadelphia, Pa., as their destination. Upon reaching that city, however, they soon made arrangements to go from there to Dallas, Tex., but still dissatisfied with the outlook they continued their journey to the Pacific coast, and finally arrived in Stockton, Cal., with the sum of \$6.50 as their sole capital. This condition of their finances made it necessary for them to seek employment at once, and they were fortunate in securing work on a ranch not far from the city. While thus engaged they carefully saved from their earnings whatever was not actually needed for expenses of living, and in the meantime also were acquiring a familiarity with the English language, which was as necessary to their future success as the financial foundation.

The association of the Gravem brothers with the bakery business dates from the year 1886,

when Martin L. Gravem came to Stockton and entered the employ of C. Sprague, proprietor of the Stockton Home Bakery, taking a position as driver of one of his delivery wagons. He had not been associated with the business long before he became financially interested in it, he and his brother soon afterward buying the business from Mr. Sprague. The new proprietors began business May 12, 1886, at which time a one-barrel output was sufficient to supply the daily demand. From this it steadily grew from year to year until twenty-five barrels were required daily to supply the orders which came to them. The growth of the business and the success which has come to the brothers is remarkable when it is remembered that at the start neither one was familiar with the details of the business. At the start their combined capital was \$900, and they were occupying leased property, but in one year they were enabled to purchase the lot, building and fixtures, all of which represented an outlay of \$3,000. From year to year, as the growth of the business demanded, they continued to enlarge the capacity of the plant, until finally, on February 22, 1909, the Stockton Home Bakery consolidated with the State Bakery and at the same time was incorporated under the laws of the state of California as the Gravem-Inglis Baking Company. As has been previously stated, the brothers have themselves expended \$20,000 in making changes and improvements in the plant. The baking department is under the direct supervision of Ole L. Gravem, while the outside interests of the business are in charge of Martin L., whose duties though of a different character are no less important to the well-being of the business, and taken together they have gathered about them the largest establishment of this character in this part of the state.

Ole L. Gravem was married September 2, 1891, to Miss Margaret Sheehan, a native of California, and three children have been born to them, Orrin, Marie and Harold. Martin L. Gravem formed domestic ties November 11, 1890, when he married Miss Elizabeth Bowers, a native

of the state, and two children, Bernice and Helen, have been born to them. Both brothers are members of Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F., and also of the North Western Life Insurance Company. All matters that have been presented to these gentlemen for the advancement of the public welfare have found them willing supporters, and they take high rank among the progressive young business men of this city.

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#### CHARLES A. BARLING.

There are few business firms in Stockton better known or held in higher repute than that of Lewis & Barling, contractors and builders, evidences of whose skill are seen on every hand, both in the business and residence portions of the city. The junior member of the firm, Charles A. Barling, is not only a native son of the state, but is also a native of his home city, having been born in Stockton in 1872, the son of B. F. and Irene (Parmley) Barling, pioneers of this county and respected citizens. After completing his studies in the schools of San Joaquin county, Mr. Barling began to devote his attention to learning the building and contracting business, and so earnestly did he apply himself to his task that he not only mastered it theoretically in a comparatively short time, but he also had a practical working knowledge of it. For a time he carried on a contracting business alone, but owing to the rapidity with which it grew it seemed advisable to take in a partner, hence his association with John T. Lewis in 1900. Since that date their business has grown with even greater strides, until they now not only are recognized as the leading contractors and builders in Stockton, but bear that reputation throughout the central part of California. Among some of the structures which they have built may be men-

tioned the First National Bank building of this city, of which Mr. Barling had the personal supervision, the palatial residence of F. N. Vail, besides many other buildings, ranging in valuation from \$2,000 to \$40,000.

Mr. Barling was married in 1889 to Miss Etta Stanaway, she, too, being a native of San Joaquin county, and two children, Hazel and Beulah, have been born to them. Fraternally Mr. Barling is a member of Charity Lodge No. 6, I. O. O. F. Politically he is a Republican, but has never been an office seeker, preferring to be unhampered by public duties so that his time can be devoted to his business, which makes heavy demands upon him. Personally he is esteemed for his sterling qualities of head and heart, and also for the stanch business principles exhibited in all of his transactions.

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#### WILLIAM S. BELDEN.

The list of pioneers who came to California at the time of the gold discovery is growing shorter year by year, as one by one they fulfill the years allotted to them and pass to that bourne whence no traveller returns. W. S. Belden was among the number who came to the state in the year so famous in California history, 1849, then a young man of twenty-one years, and for over half a century he lived to witness the transformation which progress wrought in this then undeveloped country. He was born in East Haddam, Conn., in 1827, receiving his education in the schools of that vicinity, and thereafter he remained with his parents on the old homestead until attaining his majority. In the meantime gold had been discovered in California and he like thousands of others became fired with an ambition to try his luck in the mines. Leaving the quiet surroundings of

his Connecticut home he with twenty-six companions prepared for the journey and took passage on the whaler ship *Mentor*, which lifted its anchor in the port of New London, Conn., January 1, 1849, and by way of the Horn made its way to San Francisco after a six-months voyage. The mines had been the chief attraction in bringing him to the state and naturally he lost no time in making his way to them. It is not related that he was disappointed in regard to the outcome of his efforts, but it is safe to say that the returns were not sufficiently alluring to continue the work indefinitely, for after a short time he abandoned mining, and coming to San Joaquin county, became interested in and identified with the little settlement called French Camp. It was in 1851 that he became associated with Ebenezer H. Allen in the purchase of a house which they transformed into a hotel and conducted successfully until 1862. In this year they dissolved partnership, by disposing of the property and thereafter Mr. Allen located on a ranch in San Joaquin county, still later taking up his residence in Stockton, where he conducted the Eagle Hotel up to the time of his death. Mr. Allen and Mr. Belden were boyhood companions, had made the voyage to California together, and until the death of Mr. Allen were close friends.

After disposing of the hotel in French Camp Mr. Belden erected the residence which has ever since been the home of the family, and here his earth life came to a close November 14, 1901. During the thirty-five years in which he filled the office of postmaster in the village of French Camp he knew and became known to the entire population, who revered and respected him, and his death was mourned as a public loss. He also served for a long term of years in the capacity of school trustee, and was in many capacities identified with municipal affairs.

Mr. Belden's marriage united him with the sister of his life-long friend, Ebenezer H. Allen. Their parents, James and Lucretia (Holt) Allen, were old-time residents of New London, Conn., where several generations of the family had flourished. The Holt family can be traced



in direct line to the Brewsters who landed in the Colonies from the Mayflower in 1620, and whose descendants, it is claimed, have never left their New England homes. The Allens are also descendants of good old Colonial stock. Elizabeth C. Allen was born in 1818 in New London, Conn., which continued to be her home until the year 1852, when she came to California to visit her brother, making the journey by way of Nicaragua. This was accomplished in the remarkably short time of four weeks, and at the time was considered the record trip. Landing at San Francisco, she came at once to French Camp, and here the year following, 1853, she was united in marriage to Mr. Belden. Three children were born of their marriage, two daughters and one son. Mary Jane became the wife of J. R. Hardman, and they with their two children are residents of Gold Creek, Nev.; Georgiana S., the other daughter, is unmarried and makes her home with her mother in French Camp; the son, William A., has been in the employ of the Southern Pacific road for the past thirty-five years, much of this time as engineer, in which capacity he is still serving; before her marriage his wife was Miss Ida Parker, of Nevada.

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CHARLES W. DOHRMANN.

Sixteen years have passed since the death of Mr. Dohrmann, but notwithstanding this, his life and accomplishments in Stockton during the thirty years of his residence in this city are still remembered, and the business which he had carried on for a number of years prior to his death is still maintained under the name of P. W. Dohrmann & Son, his wife and only son being the sole owners of the business.

The influences which tended to mold the character of Mr. Dohrmann in his youth were such

as cluster around the German provinces, for he was born in Schleswig-Holstein, his birth occurring June 21, 1846, in the home of William and Frederika (Behrend) Dohrmann. Both parents were natives of the Fatherland also, the father born in 1805 and passing away in San Francisco in 1886, while the mother died in Germany in 1856. Immigrating to the United States during young manhood, Charles W. Dohrmann left New York bound for California by way of Panama and arrived in San Francisco January 6, 1864. His elder brother, Adolph, had preceded him to the New World and was engaged in the grocery business in Stockton, so he readily found employment in his brother's store. In this and at other pursuits he was employed until 1868, when he purchased his brother's business and carried it on for two years, or until 1871. Disposing of the grocery business then, he at the same time established himself in the insurance business, his first interest in the business dating from May, 1868. He instituted the plan of insuring growing crops in this section of the state, and in that, as well as the general insurance business, he built up a prosperous business. He organized the Alta Insurance Company, which he served in the capacity of general agent for many years. Since his death, October 26, 1893, the business has been continued under the supervision of his wife and son, as P. W. Dohrmann & Son.

Mr. Dohrmann was married in Stockton, June 23, 1870, to Pauline Wetzler, she too being a native of the Fatherland, her birth occurring in Saxony. Four children were born of this marriage, and all are living as follows: Augusta E., the wife of William Clayton, of San Diego; Louise B., Mrs. Grant S. Gorman; Marie J., the wife of E. C. Warner, of Santa Cruz; and George W., the only son, who is capably assisting his mother in the management of the insurance business inaugurated by Mr. Dohrmann. In 1864 Mr. Dohrmann joined the National Guard of California, and served on the staff of the Third Brigade with the rank of major. He was also a prominent figure in fraternal circles,

being a Mason, Knight of Pythias, an Elk, and he also belonged to the Ancient Order of Druids and the social order of Turn-verein of Stockton.

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### CHARLES LAMB.

Although he is a native of Iowa, born in Charleston, Lee county, January 18, 1859, Mr. Lamb has no recollection of his birthplace, for when he was a child of only nine months his parents crossed the plains to California, and his life henceforth has been associated entirely with the Pacific coast country. His parents, James and Sarah Lamb, first located in Amador county, but finally settled in the northern part of San Joaquin county. Here their son was reared and educated. As soon as he reached maturity, however, a desire to see the wild western country led him to go to Mason Valley, Nev., and from there he went to eastern Oregon, where for one year he lived the life of a cowboy and spent all of this time practically in the saddle. This experience proved of untold value to him, giving him a rugged constitution which has enabled him to withstand exposure and hardships in later years.

From Oregon Mr. Lamb returned to California and in Tulare county he engaged in the cattle business and farming, following this for fourteen years, or until going to Los Angeles in 1894. During the two years he remained in a street railroad company's employ he had been making plans to go to Alaska, and in the early part of the year 1896 he carried out his plans, reaching the Yukon country in June, 1896, before the discovery of gold made that country so famous. He took up a number of mining claims which yielded large returns and is also the owner of several valuable mines in that country, the most productive being the No. 8 Eldorado creek mine. Since his return to California he has made his

home in Stockton, although in the interim he has made frequent trips to Alaska, thus keeping in close touch with his interests there.

Mr. Lamb was married in Visalia December 16, 1887, to Miss Belle Norcross, a native of Farmington, Me. One child, Edna, has been born of their marriage. Fraternally Mr. Lamb is an Elk, belonging to the lodge of that organization at Stockton. In the best sense of the word Mr. Lamb is a self-made man, and as a compensation for his determined efforts in whatever he has attempted he has met with an unusual degree of success. His experiences in the rugged north would make an interesting volume if they could be written. He vividly recalls his first trip to Alaska, at which time there were no steamboats on the upper Yukon, and he and his companion were obliged to pack their supplies across the summit to the river. There they constructed boats in which they navigated the lake and descended the river. Hardships and privations met them at every hand, as only those can realize who have had similar experiences in this cold northland. It was here that Mr. Lamb's experience on the plains as a ranchman stood him in good stead, for the rough out-of-door life which he then endured strengthened his constitution and made it possible to withstand the more intense hardships which awaited him in Alaska.

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### THOMAS JEFFERSON DRAIS.

One of the most thrifty ranches in San Joaquin county is that of which Mr. Drais is the proprietor, comprising about eight hundred acres and located adjacent to Farmington. Of this tract one hundred and twenty-eight acres are in vineyard, fifteen acres in peaches, and the remainder is in hay and grain. Taken as a whole it is one of the most productive ranches

in this vicinity and exemplifies the tireless energy of the master hand of the proprietor.

Thomas J. Drais comes of a long line of southern antecedents, and he himself was a native of one of the southern states, his birth occurring in Platte county, Mo., in 1850. He is one of seven children born to his parents, Madison J. and Lucinda Jane (Sweeney) Drais, who were born respectively in Virginia and Kentucky. When their son Thomas was a child of two years, in 1852, the family home was transferred from Missouri to California, the trip consisting of several months spent in crossing the plains behind slow-plodding oxen. They finally reached their destination, San Joaquin county, and in the vicinity of Farmington, where the father first located, he made his home until his death, in 1895. Here he took up farming and stock-raising, and also erected a hotel for the accommodation of those on their way to the mines. During the years of the mining excitement his hostelry was well patronized and was a source of no little income to him, but with the decline of interest in mining in that vicinity his patronage suffered accordingly, and he finally gave it up entirely and devoted his time exclusively to ranching and stock-raising. Of the large family of children who at one time were included in the home circle only two are now living, Thomas J. and Alexander Sydney, both of whom are ranchers in this vicinity.

As he was little more than a child in arms when the family removed from Missouri to California Thomas J. Drais has no recollection of any other home than this. He attended the district schools of Farmington during their short terms, and when not in school he was giving his services to his father in performing duties on the home ranch. When he reached years of discretion he selected ranching for his life work, and in fact was his father's successor on the old homestead, for this has always been his home and the scene of his activities. The ranch originally comprised eleven hundred acres, but from time to time, in small lots, this tract has been lessened by the sale of three hundred acres, and the re-

mainder is now in hay and grain, with the exception of fifteen acres in peach trees and one hundred and twenty-eight acres in vineyard. He has also engaged in sheep-raising to some extent.

In Stockton, in 1872, Mr. Drais was united in marriage with Miss Cassie Williams, a native of that city, and seven children were born of their marriage. Named in order of their birth they are as follows: Henry T., Thomas J., Jr., Charles Martin, all ranchers; Lucy, the wife of Amos Ford, of Oakland; Susie and Flora, both at home; and Mabel, who is now a student in the high school at Stockton. Mrs. Cassie Drais passed away in 1900, and in 1904 Mr. Drais married Miss Lucy Hall, a native of Stone county, Mo. Politically Mr. Drais is a Democrat on national issues, but in local matters he votes for the candidate who in his opinion will give the best service, regardless of party name or creed.

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#### DAVID EDWARD YOUNG.

In David E. Young we find not only a native son of the Golden West, but also a native of San Joaquin county, his birth having occurred on the Sonora road, four miles west of Farmington, June 23, 1871. He is the son of an old-time resident of San Joaquin county, also named David Young.

David E. Young was educated in the public schools of Stockton, where he applied himself diligently, and he has ever since been an interested reader of the best literature, the result being that he is one of the best informed men of his community. For a time after leaving school he was employed in the office of J. D. Peters, a large grain merchant of Stockton, but he finally gave up this position to assist his father in the management of the home ranch. The experience



and self-reliance thus gained created a desire to undertake ranching on his own account, and in 1900 he entered into partnership with his brother, J. M. Young. They rented the home-stead ranch of the heirs and have ever since concentrated their efforts in its management. In 1904 they came into possession of this property. In addition to this ranch, which comprises six hundred and forty acres, they control the management of considerable adjoining property, cultivating in all seventeen hundred acres. One hundred and sixty acres of their own ranch is in grapes, a commodity which they raise under favorable conditions with excellent results.

The marriage of Mr. Young was solemnized in 1905 and united him with Miss Elizabeth M. Bolliger, the daughter of Samuel Bolliger, a sketch of whose life will be found elsewhere in this volume. Among the younger generation of agriculturists Mr. Young takes high rank, and without doubt the passing of years will add still greater accomplishments to those already recorded.

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#### HENRY AARON.

An association of more than forty years with the business interests of California, where he continued to make his home from the time of his arrival in pioneer days until eventually death ended his activities, entitled Mr. Aaron to a rank among the honored early settlers of our state, to whom in large measure may be attributed the development of the commercial enterprises of the commonwealth. Of eastern parentage and ancestry, he was born in the city of Philadelphia, Pa., July 12, 1824, and passed the days of youth in an uneventful manner, leaving school in order to learn a trade after he had acquired a fair knowledge of the common branches. The trade which he was made familiar with,

the manufacture of soda water, occupied his attention throughout his active life and furnished him with an excellent income both in the east and the west.

Upon deciding to come to the Pacific coast Mr. Aaron resigned his position in the east and during 1851 set sail from New York for Panama. On arriving at the isthmus he found there was no steamer ready for San Francisco and he was obliged to wait for six weeks until a vessel arrived. Meanwhile he instructed some of the residents in the art of manufacturing soda water, so that he was busily occupied when time otherwise would have dragged slowly. Very soon after landing in San Francisco he secured employment with a Mr. Guyon and remained there until 1853, meanwhile engaging in the manufacture of soda water.

Resigning his position in the autumn of 1853, Mr. Aaron returned to the east, and at Pittsburg, Pa., January 24, 1854, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth J. Ream, who was born and reared in Pennsylvania. The wedding trip took the young couple on a ship to Aspinwall, whence they crossed to Panama muleback in one night. This was said to be one of the quickest trips on record and its speed was due to the fact that Mr. Aaron, on his previous trips to the isthmus, had become familiar with the road from port to port. Mrs. Aaron was the only lady in the party, but she endured the hardships of the journey with remarkable fortitude, bearing with bravery the unusually severe storms encountered on the Pacific ocean.

Settlement was first made at Campo Seco, Calaveras county, where Mr. Aaron engaged in the manufacture of soda water. Eventually he sold the business to Charles Belding, who later removed the plant to Stockton, and Mr. Aaron also removed in 1868 to this city, where for a number of years he acted as manager of the business for Mr. Belding. After a long and honorable identification with the business interests of this city he passed away August 21, 1894, and was followed to his last resting place by tributes of sincere esteem from the people among whom

he had spent so many useful years. Three children survive him, the son being Charles Mackay Aaron, of Stockton. The daughters, Misses Mabel and Blanche M. Aaron, reside with their mother at No. 839 North Commerce street, and have many friends in the best social circles of the city.

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### JOHN LYMAN BEECHER.

Though nearly a decade has passed since the death of John L. Beecher, he is still remembered with affection by the early settlers in San Joaquin county in the vicinity of Stockton, whither he came as early as 1852. A native of New England, he was born in Berkshire county, Mass., May 5, 1828, and he was reared and educated in the vicinity of his parents' home. During his boyhood he dutifully performed the tasks allotted to him as the son of a farmer, and his first independent work was on farms of neighbors. By the time he had attained his twenty-fourth year he had become interested in California through the reports of larger opportunities as compared with the limitations of the east, and in 1852 he was among those who were attracted to the mining regions of Calaveras county, coming by way of Cape Horn. An experience of three months in the mines was sufficient to satisfy him that his forte did not lie in that direction, for at the end of that time he resumed the business to which he had been trained, having purchased a ranch on the old Copperopolis road. This was the scene of his activities for many years, and in addition to the care and management of his ranch he was an active factor in all upbuilding measures promulgated in the vicinity. His public-spirit was especially shown in his efforts to organize the Farmers Union, which he had the satisfaction of seeing well established and of becoming an indispensable organization to the

ranchers of the community. For ten years he served as president of the body and from its organization until his death was on the board of directors. As he succeeded in his operations he added land to his holdings in Merced, Stanislaus, and also in his home county, and while he looked after these interests he devoted a large part of his time to the interests of the Farmers Union. Mr. Beecher returned to his ranch, upon which he continued to make his home throughout the rest of his life, his death occurring January 12, 1899. Mr. Beecher came to the west in 1852 as a single man, but three years later, in 1855, he returned to the east to claim his bride, who before her marriage was Miss Maria Alling, a native of Canaan, Conn. She died in 1905, aged seventy-eight years. The four children born of this marriage are living, and are named in order of their birth as follows: John L., Jr., a resident of Stockton; Clara G., wife of W. F. Sibley, of Stockton; Elliott S., a rancher near Stockton; and Charles A., a rancher on the old home place.

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### STOCKTON BROOM FACTORY.

Not the least of the industries which have added to the well-being of Stockton is the broom factory of which Abraham Hemingway is the proprietor. The business was started in San Francisco in 1876, and some years later came into the possession of Abraham and John Hemingway, who conducted the business in that city until 1883, when, in September, they removed the plant to Stockton, having erected a building suited to their needs at the corner of East street and Miner avenue. Changes in the personnel of the firm took place the following year when John withdrew from the business and was superseded by another brother, Walter Hemingway. Since the death of the latter, which occurred in 1897, the

business has been under the entire management of Abraham Hemingway, a native of England.

From a small beginning the capacity of the factory has been enlarged until today it has a daily average output of sixteen dozen brooms, this large output being made possible through the adequate equipment of special machinery for the purpose. Nearly all of the broom corn used in the factory is shipped from the eastern states, principally from Oklahoma, Kansas and Illinois, and the manufactured product is sent to all parts of the San Joaquin valley and within a radius of two hundred miles of the city of Stockton. This is the only factory of the kind between Stockton and Los Angeles, and is the oldest one on the Pacific coast that has been in continuous operation.

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#### TIMOTHY MINAHEN.

The early pioneers played an important part in the upbuilding of the commonwealth of California, but to the later settler and homemaker a large share of credit is also due for what has been accomplished in the last half century. Among the latter class of citizens mentioned belongs Timothy Minahen, who since 1876 has tilled the ranch on which he now resides, just outside of the city of Stockton, on the Mariposa road. A native of New Hampshire, he was born in North Charlestown, Sullivan county, in 1851, the son of Margaret and Timothy Minahen. His early recollections take him back in memory to his birthplace, where he received his education and gained a thorough understanding of agricultural life on his father's farm. In 1867, when he was sixteen years of age, the parents came to California, making the journey by way of the Isthmus of Panama. They were induced to come to California from the fact that two elder sons and one daughter had located here some time previously

and were successfully engaged in ranching about six miles south of Stockton, on the Mariposa road.

For a time after locating in San Joaquin county Mr. Minahen attended the public school in the vicinity of his home and later began to be self-supporting by working on neighboring farms. This experience made him self-reliant and ambitious to the extent that he wished to become a land owner, and in 1876 he purchased the ranch on which he now resides, consisting of seven hundred acres, and located ten miles from Stockton on the Mariposa road.

January 3, 1882, Mr. Minahen was united in marriage with Miss Agnes Fullerton, the daughter of Margaret and W. D. Fullerton, and at the time of her marriage a resident of Farmington, Cal. Five children, three sons and two daughters, have been born to them, all still at home with their parents. Named in order of their birth they are as follows: Charles Henry, William D., Evaline, Malcolm and Josephine. All of the family are communicants of the Catholic church, and politically Mr. Minahen is a Democrat. He takes a keen interest in the affairs of his chosen party and on several occasions he has served as a delegate to Democratic conventions.

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#### CHARLES HAAS.

Of all the nations that have contributed to the citizenship of the United States none can boast of characteristics more sturdy or praiseworthy than have been bequeathed to those of Teutonic birth or parentage. Wherever they elect to settle the inborn qualities of thrift and progressiveness are apparent, with the result that their citizenship is a lasting benefit to that community. Stockton lays claim to many citizens of German origin, and of the number none has contributed



more largely to her well-being than Charles Haas, who was born in Baden January 12, 1827. He was a young man of twenty-two years when, in 1849, he landed on our shores, the ship on which he sailed casting anchor in the harbor of New York at Castle Garden. After remaining in that metropolis for a number of years he continued his journey by crossing the plains to California in 1852, going direct to San Francisco and remaining there until 1858.

It was in August, 1858, that the name of Charles Haas became associated with Stockton, and with the passing of years it has become increasingly popular, both in business and social circles. In an unpretentious way he established himself in the jewelry business soon after locating here, this being the nucleus of the present large business carried on under the name of Charles Haas & Sons (Inc.), of which he himself is the president, the other officers being his four sons. By those in a position to know, the house of Charles Haas & Sons is conceded to be the most reliable jewelry establishment in Stockton, and ranks favorably with any on the Pacific coast.

In San Francisco, June 20, 1854, Mr. Haas formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Charlotte Merk, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and for over forty years they have made their home in the same residence, No. 38 Fremont street, which during all these years has been the scene of many social gatherings. Mr. Haas was one of the organizers of the San Francisco Turnverein, and is now the oldest living member of the Stockton Turnverein. As an evidence of the regard in which he is held by his fellow members it may be said that for fifty years the honor of carrying in the punch bowl to their annual New Year's celebrations has been bestowed upon him. For ten years he took an active interest in the German school, acting as a trustee during that time, but for the past fifteen years, although his interest in its welfare has not abated, he has not been an active member of the board. In 1872 he was elected to fill the office of city treasurer, serving his constituents faithfully for one term, but re-

fused to serve longer, as he had no taste for public life. Personally he is a quiet, home-loving man, unostentatious and whole-hearted, and during his many years residence in Stockton he has gathered about him many sturdy friends and well-wishers.

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#### WILLIAM H. KEEP.

Since Mr. Keep took up his residence in Stockton in 1859 he has had no reason to wish that Fate had cast his lot in any other section of the west. His earliest years were spent in New England, his birth having occurred in Middlesex county, Mass., September 7, 1835, and until he attained his majority he continued to make his home in the vicinity of his birthplace. Bidding farewell to home and friends at the age of twenty-one he set out for the far west to make his fortune in the Golden state, concerning whose opportunities he had heard so much in his distant eastern home. Going directly to the mines at Marysville, he labored there with average results for two years, when he came to Stockton, although at that time he did not remain here permanently. Among the assets with which he was equipped when he came to the west was a thorough understanding of the machinist's trade, and it was to fill a position in this capacity in the gold mines he went to Oroville soon afterward, remaining there for a number of years. From Oroville he came once more to Stockton, and has made this city his home ever since. As one of the proprietors of the Globe Iron Works he gives employment to a large number of mechanics, and his plant is recognized as one of the city's dependable enterprises.

Mr. Keep was married in 1865 to Miss Isabella Dallas, the daughter of Charles Dallas, who was born in Iowa in 1825 and came as a pioneer to California in 1850. The party with

which he crossed the plains was just a year in making the trip, owing to the fact that they stopped in Salt Lake for some time. Upon reaching the state Mr. Dallas came direct to Stockton, where for many years he was associated with Andrew Wolf in the livery business. Of his children we mention the following: Mary became the wife of L. M. Hickman, of Sausalito, formerly a mayor of Stockton; Robert is a resident of Oakland; John resides in San Francisco; Sarah is still unmarried; and Isabella, Mrs. Keep, passed away in Stockton March 21, 1909. One daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Keep who is now the wife of Fred Gerlash, of Stockton. Ever since 1860 Mr. Keep has been a member of the Odd Fellows organization, having joined Charity Lodge No. 6 at Stockton. He is also identified with the Knights of Pythias, and was the first commanding chancellor of that body in Stockton.

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#### GEORGE HORNAME.

The discovery of gold in California brought thousands of enterprising emigrants from the east and hastened the Americanization of a region that otherwise might have remained for long years a Spanish speaking province, separated from the United States by barriers of a different language as well as the barriers of mountains and deserts. Among the easterners attracted to the coast during the early period of its settlement we mention James Henry Hornage, a blacksmith in Ohio, who was born in Wheeling, W. Va., in 1832, and at an early age settled in Ohio. In that state he met and married Miss Jane Williams, who was born at Bel-laire, Ohio. While still making their home in Ohio a son, Harry S., was born to them, and husband and wife, with their little son, came

together to California, enjoying a pleasant voyage via the isthmus and settling at Forbestown, Butte county, where June 10, 1859, a son was born to whom was given the name of George.

A brief experience in mining brought James Henry Hornage varied success and when he had accumulated a little competency he decided to take his family back to the east. Passage was engaged on the famous ship, *Golden Gate*, but he was delayed and when he and his family arrived at the wharf, they found the ship had started on the long voyage. It proved very fortunate for them, for later came the shocking news of the destruction of the ship by fire, bringing sudden death to its crowd of passengers. After having mined in Butte county, the father engaged similarly in Amador and Calaveras counties from 1862 until he moved to Stockton July 3, 1871, and here he remained until his death in 1896. For some time he worked at the blacksmith's trade. Possessing an excellent education, he was employed as secretary to the chief of police and for fifteen years he filled the position. On various occasions he acted as a deputy sheriff under Thomas Cunningham and he took an active part at the time of the Mokelumne troubles. Politically he was a Republican and in religion held membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. A man of strong views, decided ideas and the utmost sincerity of purpose, he was conscientious and devoted to duty as he saw it, allowing nothing to swerve him from what he considered the path of right and justice. Fraternally he was connected with Campo Seco Lodge, I. O. O. F. His wife was one of the pioneer women of Forbestown and was accustomed to see Indians frequently, but they were friendly as a rule and little fear was expressed concerning attacks on their part.

As previously mentioned, there were two sons in the family. The elder, Harry S., is employed by the Mail Publishing Company. The younger, George, a native-born son of California, was educated in Stockton schools and for a time was employed as a bookkeeper and salesman in a grocery business. In 1888 he married Miss Ella

Bonsall, and they have one daughter, Miss Evelyn B., now a high-school student. For a considerable period Mr. Hornage has conducted a general real estate and insurance business in Stockton. In addition, he is vice president and manager of the Boulevard Gardens Land Company at Berkeley, also a director of the Stockton Savings Bank and identified with numerous other local enterprises of importance. Fond of sports as a recreation from business responsibilities, he is connected with the Newman Gun Club and a life-member of the Stockton Athletic Club. Fraternally he holds membership with Stockton Parlor No. 7, N. S. G. W.; a member of Morning Star Lodge No. 68, F. & A. M.; Homo Chapter No. 50, O. E. S., in which his wife holds office as Worthy Matron; Truth Lodge No. 55, I. O. O. F., in which he is past grand; Parker Encampment No. 3; and Canton Ridgley No. 15, I. O. O. F.; also with his wife holds membership with the Lebanon Rebekah Lodge, of which Mrs. Hornage is past noble grand.

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#### SIDNEY NEWELL HODGKINS.

The first establishment of the Hodgkins family in California dates back to the eventful year of 1849, the original settler being Henry Hodgkins, a man who by wide travel and habits of close observation had more than atoned for lack of early school advantages. Born at Bristol, Gloucestershire, England, he had been obliged to earn his own livelihood from boyhood and for a number of years had served as a soldier in the British army. By carefully hoarding his pay he was finally able to buy his discharge and thereupon emigrated to New Zealand, where he secured employment. Upon the discovery of gold in California he came direct to this state and secured work in Stockton, following any

occupation that afforded an honest livelihood. Eventually he became interested in buying stock for other parties. As a judge of cattle he had few superiors. A glance sufficed to show him their good points or their poor qualities, and his judgment in weight was so accurate that it was unnecessary to go to the trouble of weighing, except to satisfy sellers who were unfamiliar with his reputation in this respect. Almost to a pound he could tell the weight of a herd of cattle. For years he carried on a meat market in Stockton, where he became the owner of a large building on the corner of East Main and San Joaquin streets, also the Yosemite Hotel building and various other properties in the city. He was one of the charter members of the Stockton Savings and Loan Society and the Stockton Savings Bank. After a long and successful business experience in California he returned to England and resided in Cheltenham until his death, in June 1899, being survived by Mrs. Hodgkins, formerly Miss Elizabeth Jordan, a native of England.

The place of his birth, Cheltenham, England, was also the scene of his boyhood experiences in school and at play, and there it was that Sidney Newell, son of Henry Hodgkins, received his rudimentary training in business. At the age of about fifteen he left school and became a bank clerk, filling the position for four years. For some time afterward he was employed in the Stock Exchange of London. Next he spent three years in the employ of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada. His first trip to California took place in December of 1899 and he was favorably impressed with the country where his father had been prominent and successful. Returning to England in the fall of 1900 he remained for four months and during 1901 became a permanent resident of Stockton. A brief experience on a ranch was followed by his entrance into the grain business as a broker in 1903. At the same time he handled potatoes in connection with barley and had offices not only in Stockton, but also in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Disposing of the business in 1907 he formed a part-



nership with P. Herbert Stitt under the firm title of Hodgkins & Stitt and embarked in the real estate business, with offices at No. 313 East Weber avenue. The firm makes a specialty of the sale of ranches they have subdivided, but in addition they have on sale other properties in the country and city. Their business is established upon a substantial basis and the high reputation of the partners gives them the confidence of both buyers and sellers. In fraternal relations Mr. Hodgkins is identified with Morning Star Lodge No. 68, F. & A. M., and Stockton Chapter No. 28. R. A. M., and is a firm believer in the philanthropic principles for which Masonry stands.

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### GEORGE HOUSKEN.

It speaks volumes for a state or county when those who have traveled over practically the whole world select a certain locality as one of all others in which to live in contentment and quiet, and at the same time make a comfortable living. This has been the experience of Mr. Housken, who gave up a sea-faring life of over twenty years in 1866 to take up his permanent residence in San Joaquin county, and during this time he has had no occasion to regret that fortune directed him to this locality.

Norway is Mr. Housken's native home, and December 11, 1838, the date of his birth. At the age of fifteen he went to England, this being his initiation as a sailor, and from there he sailed to East India. Two months were spent in Calcutta, when the return voyage to London was made, only to set out soon afterward for the same port, first stopping, however, at Madras, India. From Calcutta they went to Singapore and Hong-Kong, thence crossed the Pacific ocean to the United States, reaching San Francisco in Au-

gust, 1857. Mr. Housken's first impressions of California were so favorable that he determined to make it his home thenceforward. From that time until 1866, with San Francisco as his headquarters, he followed the sea as captain of the schooner *Reliance*, engaged in a coast trade. The sale of his schooner in the year last mentioned marks the beginning of Mr. Housken's career as a landsman. Coming to San Joaquin county, he purchased a general store at Taison, not far from New Hope, conducting it for eight years, when he sold it and purchased the ranch which he has since occupied, and which comprises seven hundred and sixty acres of the finest land to be found in the county. In 1904 he gave up the active management of his ranch and now is living practically retired, although from force of habit rather than from necessity he is carrying on a dairy business on two hundred and eighty acres which he has rented for the purpose. As an accessory to his dairy he has four hundred and eighty acres in grain. All of the milk is manufactured into cheese on the ranch, for which purpose Mr. Housken erected a commodious and convenient factory.

The marriage which united Mr. Housken and Miss Katherine E. Lenz was celebrated in San Francisco February 12, 1865. She was of German parentage and birth, the daughter of Jacob J. Lenz, and had been a resident of California five years prior to her marriage. Eight children were born to them, but one of them, Oscar L., passed away August 12, 1901. Of the others we make the following mention: George E. was recorder of San Joaquin county for two years, deputy recorder for four years, later deputy treasurer for the same length of time, and is now interested as a stockholder in the Wagner Leather Company, of Stockton; his wife was before her marriage Miss Bertha Wagner. Frank O. Housken is an attorney of Tracy, and his wife was formerly Miss Tena Lammers of that place. William C., now a resident of Stockton, was at one time justice of the peace of Union township, filling the position creditably for four years, and also for six years he conducted a mercantile

establishment at New Hope; by his marriage with Segred Seigelkoff, of Lodi, one child has been born, Merle Lou, the first grandchild in the family. Katie Sophia is the wife of William Fountain, of Walnut Grove. Lillie Augusta is the wife of Jack Maerkamp von Embden, and they make their home in Mount Vernon, N. Y. Laura May became the wife of Russell Julius Coggeshall, of Grand Island. The youngest child of the family, Josie Lou, is still unmarried and resides in San Francisco. Mr. Housken is an active member of a number of fraternal orders, belonging to Jefferson Lodge No. 98, I. O. O. F., of Woodbridge, and of Woodbridge Lodge No. 131, F. & A. M., Mrs. Housken also belonging to Eastern Star Lodge No. 118 of that place.

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#### DAVID KETTELMAN.

Worthy of mention among the sons of the Fatherland who became pioneers of California is David Kettelman, a skillful and successful agriculturist, who for nearly forty years has been engaged in his independent calling in San Joaquin county, his ranch lying about one and a half miles southeast of Lodi, on Cherokee Lane. His earliest recollections are of Osnabruck, Prussia, Germany, where he was born in 1826, and where he was reared up to the age of twelve years. An elder sister had in the meantime emigrated to the United States and as a result of her encouraging reports of the possibilities awaiting the young and ambitious foreigner he was filled with a desire to join her in the New World. With a party of emigrants made up from his home town he made the journey in 1838, landing in New York City, where he remained for about ten years, or until April, 1849.

Mr. Kettelman may be numbered among the

earliest pioneers of California, for it was not long after the reports of the finding of gold in the state that he set sail from New York harbor, bound for the eldorado. Five months were consumed in making the perilous voyage by way of Cape Horn to San Francisco, the Panama, the vessel on which he sailed, dropping anchor in the Golden Gate August 3, 1849. After a short stay in San Francisco he went to Mokelumne Hill, where for about a year he engaged in mining, but with what success the records do not state. It is safe to presume, however, that his efforts did not meet with the results that he had anticipated, for at the end of this time he went to San Andreas, Calaveras county, and inaugurated a mercantile business which he conducted with success for one year. The rush to the mines on Winters Bar, on the Mokelumne river, made it advisable to locate there, and in company with S. V. and J. P. Tredway he established a trading post there, an undertaking which proved entirely satisfactory, but which the partners finally relinquished in order to engage in stock-raising and the buying and selling of cattle. They continued in this line of business for about twelve years, when they came to San Joaquin county, and upon property which they purchased engaged in ranching for a number of years. Upon the dissolution of the partnership Mr. Kettelman purchased the ranch near Lodi which has since been his home, his residence here dating from the year 1871.

The marriage of Mr. Kettelman occurred in 1864 and united him with Miss Margaret Mehrtens, a native of Hanover, Germany, who had been a resident of California two years prior to her marriage. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kettelman, but one of the number is deceased. The eldest, George D., has assumed the care of the home ranch, thus relieving his father of its responsibilities; Rebecca is the wife of George Thompson, of Lodi; Clara May is the wife of S. B. Axtell, the efficient editor of *The Sentinel*, the leading newspaper of Lodi; David Henry is a rancher and stock-raiser near Lodi; and Frederick William is a bookkeeper

in the Sperry flour mills in Stockton. Mr. Kettelman is now in his eighty-fourth year, but notwithstanding his advanced years is in the enjoyment of all of his faculties.

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### WILLIAM J. HICKOX.

The great commonwealth of California was in the initial period of its history when Jeremiah Sarles left his home in the year 1851 and took passage on a sailing vessel for the west by way of Cape Horn. The tedious voyage finally came to an end and the destination was reached in safety. The following year his wife and their daughter, Clorinda M., joined him, coming by way of the Isthmus. A little cabin in Stockton was the early home of the family, and Mr. Sarles formed a partnership with a Mr. Johnson, whose daughter, Amanda Johnson, was the only white child in Stockton with the exception of Clorinda M. Sarles. The only industry in the village was the freighting business to the mines, and this occupied the attention of Mr. Sarles and his partner until 1861, when the partnership was dissolved, and he embarked in the dairy business. During the great flood of 1861-62 he delivered milk to his customers, using a boat instead of a wagon for that purpose. Eventually he sold the dairy and turned his attention to the raising of sheep on the Calaveras river, renting the Weber ranch for that purpose. A portion of the land was placed under cultivation for the raising of grain. After years of agricultural activity he retired from manual labor, settled in Stockton and here remained until his death, June 21, 1898, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife had passed away in November of 1893, at the age of seventy-two.

The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Sarles was Clorinda M., previously mentioned; and she be-

came the wife of F. G. Hickox, a pioneer of 1851 in California. The only son of their union, William J., was born at Castroville, Monterey county, March 16, 1873, and received excellent educational advantages. After having graduated from the Stockton high school he entered the California State University and carried on the studies of the scientific course between the years of 1892 and 1894. Prior to graduation the death of his mother caused him to return to Stockton, where under his father's instruction he learned the trade of a painter. For some years he has taken contracts for painting and paper-hanging, and enjoys a reputation for expert workmanship in his specialties. His comfortable home at No. 528 North American street, Stockton, is presided over by his wife, formerly Miss Annie Smith, who was born at Angels Camp, Calaveras county, and is a woman of education and culture. Though not active in politics and at no time seeking the honors of office, Mr. Hickox has been staunch in his allegiance to the Republican party and always votes the straight ticket. Fraternally he holds membership with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Improved Order of Red Men.

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### LORING GRANT KEENEY.

It is said that only experience can broaden life and give it color and character. If this be true then Mr. Keeney is well qualified to judge of its value, for his experiences have been somewhat varied during the eighty-one years of his long and useful life. He was born in Wyoming county, Pa., August 29, 1828, first attending the primitive district schools in pursuit of an education, later a private school, and finally attended Wyoming Seminary, in Kingston, Luzerne county. With the completion of his school days his thoughts naturally turned toward the more prac-



tical side of life, and as he was ambitious to become self-supporting he lost no time in searching for employment. This he found on the canal in Pennsylvania, occupying a rather menial position at first, but he finally became foreman over a number of employes and remained in this position for one year. Thereafter he went to Laporte, Ind., where he was employed as foreman with the Northern Indiana & Southern Michigan Railroad for a number of years, or until 1852.

It was in the spring of the year just mentioned, 1852, that Mr. Keeney outfitted for the trip which was to bring him to California, arriving at Hangtown in September of that year, after a tedious journey of nearly seven months. The mines had been the chief attraction in bringing him to the west and consequently his first thought was to find an advantageous location for the purchase of a claim. From Hangtown he went to Manhattan Bar and bought a claim, which he mined for a time, thence went to Sacramento, and while there was for a time in the employ of the Sacramento Union. A desire to engage once more in active mining took him to the headwaters of the Feather river, near Spanish Creek, where he mined with indifferent success for four months, also mined three years at Hopkins, Plumas county. Better success awaited him in Butte county, his next location, and in the vicinity of Forbestown he continued mining for six years. In 1861 he went to Pine Grove, Amador county, and after following the search for the yellow metal there for about three years he gave up mining altogether, thereafter becoming interested in blacksmithing and wagon-making for a time. Subsequently he went to Jackson, Amador county, where for a time he was engaged in ranching, but after disposing of his property engaged in the lumber business in the same place. His identification with San Joaquin county dates from the year 1898, at which time he came to Woodbridge and bought a vineyard which he cultivated with considerable success for eight years. He sold this property, however, in 1905 and coming to

Lodi at the same time has since made his home in this village, retired from all active cares, having entrusted the management of his affairs to his sons.

Mr. Keeney was united in marriage in 1866 to Miss Mary Jane Rice, a native of Amador county, and of the seven children born to them five are living, the solace and comfort of their aged parents. Nellie is the wife of W. E. Kent and resides in San Diego; George, who married Miss Edith Lewthwaite, makes his home in Lodi; Cora, who became the wife of James J. Correll, lives in Sacramento; Edward is manager of his father's business affairs in Lodi; and the youngest child, Catheryn, is the wife of W. H. Renwick and a resident of Sacramento.

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#### SYLVANUS URIELL.

Mr. Uriell has lived to see many changes take place in California during the last forty-six years, this being especially true of Stockton, where with his father he located in 1862. They came across the plains with horse teams from Iowa, bringing with them a large band of horses and mules, and for over twenty years lived on a ranch on the Sonora road, not far from Stockton. In the meantime the father passed away and in 1876 Sylvanus Uriell returned to Iowa to settle up his father's estate. When this was accomplished he returned to California and for about two years engaged in farming, giving this up at the end of this time to accept the position of toll collector at one of the wharves at San Francisco. During the nine years which he filled this position he made his home in Oakland, and thereafter returned to Stockton.

With a change of location also came a change in Mr. Uriell's occupation, for after taking up his residence in Stockton he built a number of

buildings for himself. It was in 1900 that he retired from the contracting business and settled on the ranch which has been his home ever since. This is a tract of two hundred and forty acres of land especially well located just outside of the limits of Stockton, on the Mariposa road. Besides this tract he has forty acres adjoining devoted to a vineyard. Taken all in all this is one of the finest ranches in the vicinity of Stockton, and in its care and management Mr. Uriell is demonstrating his adaptability and ability to succeed in whatever he undertakes.

The marriage of Sylvanus Uriell occurred in Iowa in 1878, uniting him with Lilian Stratton, a daughter of Charles Stratton, and a sister of Dr. D. E. Stratton, a resident of Chinese Camp, Tuolumne county. Three children were born of this marriage, a son and two daughters, all of whom make their home with their parents on the home ranch. The son, Jay Uriell, was born in Iowa in 1880, and when he was a child of two years his parents returned to California, where they had previously made their home, but had settled in Iowa temporarily, while settling up the affairs of the grandfather. His early education was received in Oakland, where he resided up to the age of ten years, when his parents removed to Stockton, and here his education was continued in the high school, from which he graduated with honors in 1900.

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#### BURTON A. TOWNE.

But a short distance from Woodbridge, San Joaquin county, lies the property which has received Mr. Towne's attention for the past five years, and which in point of productiveness and thriftiness of appearance is excelled by no other vineyard in the vicinity. Mr. Towne was born in St. Paul, Minn., in 1874, and was reared in his

native state. At the age of twenty-four years, in 1898, he came to California, locating first in Sacramento, where for five years he was in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad. At the expiration of this time, in 1903, he came to Woodbridge and has since been successfully engaged in the cultivation of his vineyard.

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#### JOHN QUINN.

It is now half a century ago since Mr. Quinn settled in Stockton, and during this time he has gathered about him a large circle of friends and well-wishers, who have been irresistibly attracted to him on account of his genial manner and sterling worth. Although he is well advanced in years, now in his eighty-ninth year, he is remarkably well preserved, and can read and write without the aid of glasses. A native of Ireland, he was born in Roscommon March 17, 1820, and until he had attained manhood years he continued to make his home in his native land. The attention of the world was attracted to America about this time on account of the finding of gold in California, and it was this that decided him to cast his lot in the land of unlimited opportunity. Although he landed on our shores in 1851, it was not until seven years later that he came to California, having made the trip hither by way of the Isthmus of Panama. San Francisco was his destination, but after remaining there four months he came to Stockton, and was so well pleased with the outlook here that he then decided to make it his future home.

By trade Mr. Quinn is a painter and decorator, a business with which he was thoroughly familiar, and upon coming to Stockton he established himself in this business and followed it successfully until 1905, since which time he has lived retired from active duties, although he is

interested with his daughter in the management of the Quinn House. This hostelry was erected on property which Mr. Quinn purchased in 1858, on Main street, and in 1905 he built the fine structure known as the Quinn block.

Mr. Quinn's marriage occurred in England and united him with Miss Katherine Tuohy, who at her death in 1893 in Stockton left eight children, as follows: Annie, Mrs. John Collins, of San Francisco; Fannie, Mrs. D. A. MacKinnon, also of that city; Gertrude; Mary; Julia, the wife of William West, of Los Angeles; Mrs. Laura Hill, of Stockton; Belle, also a resident of this city and the wife of Joseph Cuineo; and Luke, a resident of Butte, Mont.

During his younger years Mr. Quinn was an active member of the National Guard and was also identified with the fire department, and though no longer actively associated with these bodies, is still keenly interested in their welfare, as he is in every object that has at heart the betterment of his home city or her citizens.

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#### LUCAS KLEINFELDER.

For almost one-quarter of a century Mr. Kleinfelder was associated with business enterprises in Stockton and when death suddenly terminated his useful activities there was a general expression of regret concerning the loss of one so loyal to the city, so devoted to its progress, and so interested in movements for its benefit, as was this public-spirited citizen. Although he always cherished with affection the memory of his childhood home across the seas, he never regretted that destiny had led him to America, and especially was he interested in the growth of California, which he believed to be the garden-spot of the entire country.

The birth of Lucas Kleinfelder occurred at

Rheinfalz, Germany, November 10, 1840, and his education was received primarily in the grammar schools of his native locality, after which he studied in a gymnasium. In boyhood he displayed considerable musical talent and this was trained until he became a fine musician, and after he left home he traveled in various parts of Germany with a band of musicians. While he was yet a mere lad he lost his father by death and from that time he made his own way in the world, remaining in his native land until 1867, when he emigrated to the United States and settled in California. For a time he was employed in the asylum and for several years he held a position in the brewery owned by Mr. Rothenbusch. Later he entered the employ of Simpson & Gray and for more than seventeen years he held a responsible position in their lumber yard at Stockton, continuing with them until he died, July 1, 1891, from the effects of sunstroke. Physically he was a man of fine physique and robust constitution and had not accident terminated his career, he would have lived to old age in all probability. Fraternally he was identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the United Ancient Order of Druids.

Upon coming to Stockton Mr. Kleinfelder was unmarried and it was not until several years later that he established domestic ties. May 10, 1871, in this city, was solemnized his marriage to Miss Wilhelmina Hoage, who was born and reared in Germany, and during 1869 accompanied the Rothenbusch family to Stockton, where she has since continued to reside. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Kleinfelder was a residence on Ophir near Fremont street, which he erected after marriage and in which his death occurred. The widow remained there until 1905, when she disposed of the property. Since then she has made her home with her eldest daughter. Of her six children a son and a daughter died of diphtheria at the ages of six and eight years. Four are now living, namely: Emma, who married C. A. Ziemer, and resides at No. 927 East Weber avenue, Stockton; Lucas F., Louisa D. and Christie. All were born and reared in Stock-



ton and received their educations in the local schools, remaining together beneath one roof and tenderly caring for their beloved mother in her widowhood. The family has the respect of their large circle of acquaintances.

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### GUSTAVE SOLOMON.

The ranching interests of San Joaquin county are well represented by Gustave Solomon, who for nearly two decades has engaged in raising wine grapes on his ranch on Linden road, just outside the corporate limits of Stockton. The Solomon family is of German origin, and was first represented in this country by the father, Max Solomon, who with others of his countrymen, came to the New World and located at Fredericksburg, Tex. It was while the family were making their home in Texas that the birth of Gustave occurred in 1858. His earliest recollections are of the existing conditions in the Lone Star state during the early 60's, and later for fifteen years his life was associated with the Fatherland, whither the family returned. Fifteen years later they again took up life in the United States, but instead of returning to Texas they came to Stockton, Cal., where two sons, William and August, had previously located. Both of these sons are now deceased, and the only children living are Gustave and his sister, Mrs. Schimelfinig, both residents of Stockton. Here the father also made his home up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1903.

Upon coming to Stockton Gustave Solomon found employment with an uncle, who was engaged in the manufacture of chicory, used in the adulteration of coffee. After remaining with this relative for a number of years he went to San Francisco and for two years engaged in the hotel business. In this undertaking he was

fairly successful, but believing that a larger profit could be made in the produce business he disposed of his hotel and dealt in produce in San Francisco for a time. He then returned to Stockton and established himself in the produce business in this city, following it successfully for about five years. It was at this time that he purchased his present property on Linden road, comprising fifty-six acres of excellent land, which is devoted exclusively to the raising of grapes, which he also manufactures into wine. This combined industry not only makes his ranch a busy place, but brings him in a good income.

Mr. Solomon's marriage united him with Miss A. Broyer, a native of Germany, and three children have been born to them, Liberty, Elsie and Vernon. Mr. Solomon is one of the enterprising citizens of San Joaquin county, and has been an important factor in bringing about the present high standard in agricultural conditions in this locality.

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### THOMAS ANDY JORDAN.

North Carolina had been the home of the Jordan family for many years, and in that state the birth of Malachi Jordan occurred in 1838. He remained in his native surroundings until fourteen years of age, when, in 1852, he made his way across the plains to the Pacific coast country, and for many years was located on a ranch five miles north of Stockton. It was in 1877 that he came to New Hope and located on the ranch which was his home thereafter until his death, which occurred June 23, 1890. Since his death his widow has made her home in Santa Rosa, Cal. Fifteen children were born to these parents, and nine are still living and performing their part in the world's activities. The eldest in the family, William A., is a rancher on Ryer Island; Julia became the wife of Joseph Miller

and resides in Santa Rosa; Hattie, Mrs. Frank Kent, lives in Stockton; George A., is also a rancher on Ryer Island; Daniel is a resident of Stockton; Ida is the wife of L. B. Dick, of Acampo, San Joaquin county; Jesse J. is the next in order of birth; and Fred lives in Stockton.

The second child in the parental family was Thomas Andy Jordan, who was born on the ranch which the father first occupied upon coming to California, five miles north of Stockton. In the neighboring schools of the county he received a good education, for he applied himself diligently to his studies, as he has ever done with whatever he undertakes. Returning to the home ranch with the close of the school days, he was associated with his father in its management until the latter's death, and afterward carried it on alone for a **number of years**, or until 1899, when he purchased the ranch of twenty acres one mile north of New Hope, the same on which he now lives.

The marriage of **Thomas A. Jordan** was celebrated **November 16, 1887**, and united him with a native daughter of California, Miss Ellen Fowler, of Lodi. The only child of this marriage, Alice, died in **March, 1907**.

Mrs. Jordan's father, **Joseph M. Fowler**, was a native of New England, born in Westfield, Hampden county, Mass., July 26, 1825. In 1849 he came by the Mexican route to California in search of gold, and for seven years followed mining on the **Merced river**. During this time, in 1854, he and a brother took up a section of land in San Joaquin county, but he finally acquired the **brother's title** and put the whole acreage in wheat, making the raising of this crop his principal business throughout the remainder of his life. He had come to the west a single man, but in 1857 he returned to Massachusetts and in that year was married to Miss Eliza Bromley, the young people coming to California on their bridal trip. Of the twelve children born to them only six are now living, three sons and three daughters as follows: Royal R., a resident of **Merced**; **Joseph Warren**, of Lodi;

Ellen L., Mrs. **Thomas A. Jordan**; Myrtle, the wife of E. E. Thompson, of Lodi; Addie J., Mrs. D. K. Woods, of Lodi; and Ernest W., also a resident of **Lodi**. **Mr. and Mrs. Fowler** are both now deceased, the former passing away June 4, 1896, and the latter March 25, 1906, at the age of sixty-seven years.

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#### H. T. FANNING.

Years before the discovery of gold in California made this the center of attraction for men ambitious to gain sudden wealth H. T. Fanning came to the state for the purpose of making his permanent residence here, and was not only a pioneer of the state, but was as well one of the first residents of what is now the city of Stockton.

Mr. Fanning was a native of Troy, N. Y., born in November, 1819, and was a brother of the late Howard M. Fanning, also an early settler of Stockton. By way of Cape Horn Mr. Fanning came to California in 1843 and at the time of the breaking out of the Mexican war he went to the scene of difficulty and lent his services. He was in Monterey at the time that city was made the first capital of California, June 3, 1843. After the close of the war Mr. Fanning came to San Joaquin county and engaged in the cattle business in partnership with Captain Weber, driving his cattle from Sacramento to San Jose, and in so doing passed the section of country which is now the site of the city of Stockton. After selling their cattle they went to San Francisco and purchased lumber with which to build a house in Stockton, two weeks being required to transport the lumber by boat to this city. With this material they constructed the first house ever erected in the city, this being located on the water front near the present site of the steamboat

landing. For a number of years Mr. Fanning derived a good income from the dairy business which he established here, and later the produce business, carrying this on up to within a short time before his death, which occurred in 1875. He had never married.

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### ALFRED L. EDDY.

The great commonwealth of California was in the initial period of its history when Alfred L. Eddy came hither in 1849 in response to the attractive inducements that were spread broadcast over the country during that memorable year. He made the journey in company with his brother John, the two coming directly to Stockton, and from here without loss of unnecessary time they made their way to the mines at Winters Bar. While their mining venture was of short duration it yielded them unusually satisfactory returns, and with the proceeds of their year's work the brothers established and maintained a feed stable in Stockton for about one year. From this they branched out into the cattle business, and having in the meantime admitted a third partner, they carried on a very profitable business along this line until 1857, when A. L. Eddy disposed of his interest in the business and purchased the ranch on which he has since lived, near Lodi, San Joaquin county.

This old pioneer and prominent rancher of San Joaquin county was born September 20, 1823, at Taunton, Mass., the son of A. L. Eddy, by profession a chemist and foreman in a large calico printing and manufacturing establishment in that city. Before her marriage Mrs. Eddy was Miss Charity Fields. Alfred L. Eddy was reared and educated in his native surroundings until he was eighteen years of age, at that time going to New York City, where he became a student

and assistant veterinary surgeon in an omnibus stable. His instructor was very proficient in the profession, being a graduate of a French government school at Alfort, France, under whom Mr. Eddy proved himself so apt a pupil that he made rapid strides in his studies and became a great favorite with his instructor. After remaining as second assistant surgeon in the stable for two years, however, he resigned his position, and thereafter traveled throughout the southern states for about the same length of time. He then returned to New York and accepted a position in a foundry of which his brother Samuel was foreman. He had filled this only a short time, however, when he re-entered the employ of his instructor, this time becoming first assistant veterinary surgeon in the stable where he had formerly been a student.

In his southern travels Mr. Eddy had been in New Orleans and in 1848 he revisited that city. It so happened that he was there in January, 1849, and witnessed the sailing of the steamer *Falcon*, the first vessel to make the port of Chagres on the Isthmus of Panama from New Orleans. It was while he was in the latter city that Mr. Eddy heard of the gold discovery in California, and he immediately hastened back to New York City. On June 1, 1849, he and his brother John took passage on the steamer *Crescent City* from that port and nine days later they reached Chagres on the Isthmus. After crossing the neck of land they sailed from Panama on the bark *Tasso*, which landed them in San Francisco in September of that year. They immediately came to Stockton, as previously stated, going thence to Winters Bar, where they mined until the rainfalls began. Their efforts were then devoted to other mining fields, sometimes with success and at other times meeting with reverses, but finally they found a rich field which they worked until the fall of 1850.

In 1850, with the proceeds of his mining venture, Mr. Eddy entered into a partnership with his brother in Stockton, purchasing a feed stable which they conducted for about one year. They then branched out into the cattle business and



after a time admitted Joseph Leonard into the partnership, the enterprise being carried on on what has since become known as Leonard's ranch. This partnership continued to the profit of all interested until 1857, when Alfred L. Eddy sold his interest in the business and at the same time purchased the ranch on which he has since lived, near Lodi, comprising one hundred and fifty acres. He has always been a lover of the horse, and on his ranch may be found a number of the finest breed of animals, in the care of which his knowledge of veterinary surgery has been of incalculable value. Mr. Eddy's marriage united him with Miss Emeline Harp, a native of Tennessee, and four children were born to them, one of whom, John H., has inherited his father's love of the horse and is a well-known veterinary surgeon in Stockton.

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#### GILBERT T. AUSTIN.

Through his connection with the State Hospital as head supervisor Gilbert T. Austin is intimately associated with an institution that has for years proven of distinct usefulness in relieving sickness and suffering, patients coming here for treatment from all over the state. His association with the institution dates from the year 1891, at which time he took a position as assistant attendant, advancing from this step by step until he now holds the position of supervisor over the entire hospital, a position for which he is well fitted by nature, among other valuable traits that of splendid executive ability probably taking first rank.

A native son of the state, Gilbert T. Austin was born on a ranch in the vicinity of Stockton, May 8, 1857, the son of Joshua and Susan (Bagley) Austin, who had located in the state in early

pioneer days. The public schools in and around Stockton furnished his educational training, although he has never ceased to be a student, for his early training has merely served as the foundation on which a superstructure has been reared by observation and well-selected reading. His school days over, he gave his entire time and energy thereafter to his father in the maintenance of the home ranch, the two working harmoniously together until the son was twenty-nine years of age. It was then, in 1886, that he took a trip to Los Angeles, which was then attracting the attention of those interested in land speculation from all parts of the country, and the stories which he tells of happenings during the famous land boom of the years 1886 and '87 are interesting in that they are authentic. It was no uncommon sight to see a piece of land change hands two or three times during a single day, the price of which advanced steadily until it was many, many times the actual value of the property.

Altogether Mr. Austin remained in Southern California about two years, returning to Stockton in 1891, and the same year, as previously stated, became associated with the State Hospital. Close attention to the humbler duties which fell to him in his first position paved the way for promotion and he was duly advanced from time to time until he now holds the important position of head supervisor. In this capacity he has full charge of all attendants in the institution and has full supervision of the food and clothing of the patients. He is a man of fine executive ability and his long experience in a position for which he is so well fitted has made him a valuable adjunct in this well-known institution.

Mr. Austin's marriage occurred in Stockton February 11, 1903, uniting him with Miss Ida Bowdoin, the daughter of the late L. M. Bowdoin, of whom a sketch will be found elsewhere. None of the distractions of social or fraternal organizations have had a part in Mr. Austin's life, but on the other hand all of his time and

strength have been concentrated upon the duties and responsibilities of his position in the hospital. The family home is in a pleasant part of Stockton, at No. 22 North Pilgrim street.

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### HARRY C. CRAFTS.

In the death of the above mentioned gentleman, San Joaquin county lost one of her best citizens, and the family a most kind and indulgent father and husband. The United States is indebted to Germany for many of her sturdy pioneers, and to this class of citizens Harry C. Crafts belonged. He was born December 23, 1833, the son of Christopher and Sophia Crafts, they also being natives of the Fatherland. When Harry C. Crafts was a lad of sixteen years he bade farewell to home and friends and set sail for the New World, to which his attention had been drawn on account of the wide-spread news concerning the finding of gold in California. Hither he came to share in the good fortune which awaited the young and ambitious delver after the hidden treasure. After a long and tedious passage around the Horn he finally landed in San Francisco, from there coming direct to Stockton, and here outfitted for the mines in Tuolumne county. For two years he was successful far beyond his expectations, and with the means which he had accumulated in the meantime he opened a grocery store at Groveland, Tuolumne county, this also proving a profitable undertaking.

It was about this time, 1858, that Mr. Crafts disposed of his business and returned to New York, where he was married to Miss Gesena Koby, who like himself was a native of Germany. Their wedding journey consisted of a trip to California, which was to be their future home, the trip being made by way of Panama. Groveland, Tuolumne county, was their destination,

and here they settled upon a ranch which Mr. Crafts had previously purchased. This was their home until 1869, when they came to Stockton, and after disposing of his ranch property the proceeds were invested in city property at the corner of Stanislaus and Park streets upon which Mr. Crafts erected a store building. This he occupied and conducted as a grocery store for a number of years, when, in 1895, he sold out his business and thereafter lived retired until his death, December 3, 1907. Besides the property just mentioned Mr. Crafts was the owner of ranch property in the vicinity of Lodi, San Joaquin county. Fraternally he was a member of the Druids and the Red Men, and with his wife he was an influential member of and worker in the Lutheran Church of Stockton. By right of his early residence in the state he was eligible to membership in the Pioneer Society, and he took advantage of this privilege by associating himself with the branch of the society in Stockton. Of the children born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Crafts, two are living, Mrs. Sophia Simon and Mrs. Hans Knutson.

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### CHARLES A. BEECHER.

A native son of the state and the son of one of the early pioneer settlers of San Joaquin county, Charles A. Beecher was born on the parental homestead not far from Stockton on the Copperopolis road, March 19, 1870. This has been his life-time home, and since the death of his father he has had entire charge of the property. His first knowledge of books was gained in the district school adjacent to his home, and later he attended a grammar school in Stockton. At the close of this term he took up a course in the California College at Oakland, where he applied himself diligently and graduated with honors.

His school days over, Charles A. Beecher became an employe in the Farmers Union and Milling Company of Stockton, of which his father was the moving spirit. After serving efficiently for five years Mr. Beecher resigned his position in Stockton and assumed the responsibilities of the home farm, which he has since managed with much credit.

Charles A. Beecher was married in 1891 to Miss Nellie V. Brougher, a native of Indiana, but a resident of Oakland. Three children, all daughters, have been born of their marriage, Louise, Euphemie, and Helen. Fraternally Mr. Beecher is a Republican on National issues, but in local affairs he casts his ballot for the man who in his opinion is best fitted for the office in question, irrespective of party.

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### JAMES GALBRAITH.

On the honored list of citizens of Stockton who have passed on to their reward is the name of James Galbraith, at the time of his death a land-holder in this section of the country and prominent in the upbuilding and development of his community's interests. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Chester county in 1818, and at the time of his death in Stockton, February 10, 1902, had attained the venerable age of eighty-four years. His earliest years were associated with his birthplace in Chester county, where he was educated and in turn became instructor in the schools in which he himself had once been a pupil. While filling this position he had determined to enlarge his sphere of usefulness by preparing himself to follow the legal profession, and going to Columbus, Ohio, he gave his entire attention to the study of Blackstone until he had mastered its intricacies and was admitted to the bar. Opening an office in Co-

lumbus, he carried on a very satisfactory practice there for several years, and then removed to Iowa, and in Centerville continued to practice the law. There a lucrative practice was readily established, his thorough knowledge of the law and ability to cope successfully with the varied difficulties which were brought to him for settlement making his services in constant demand. To such an extent did his fellow-citizens esteem him that on two occasions they made him their representative in the legislature of Iowa, and also for eight years he served on the bench as judge in that state.

Notwithstanding all the honors which had come to him and the success which had been his in the practice of law, Mr. Galbraith was not proof against the alluring promises of sudden wealth to be found in the new eldorado of the west. By way of the Panama route he came to California in 1851 and in the mines of Mokelumne Hill, Calaveras county, he worked for two years in the hope of realizing the dream which had brought him hither. It is not definitely stated that his hopes were fully realized, but it is known that at the end of two years he gave up mining and returned east as far as Columbus, Ohio. Few indeed are those who having once fallen under the charm of life in California are content to remain elsewhere for any extended time. This proved to be the case with Mr. Galbraith, and in 1865 he again came to the state, this time by the overland journey, with mule teams. Coming direct to San Joaquin county, he engaged in ranching in the vicinity of Linden for one year, and later secured an outfit and hauled copper from the mines at Copperopolis to Stockton. His next business venture was in Solano county, where after purchasing land he tilled the soil until 1889. His knowledge of the law and his many-sided experiences made him a valuable accession to the public life of the community, and his election as justice of the peace was followed by a whole-hearted service fully in keeping with his ability. In the year last mentioned, 1889, Mr. Galbraith came to Stockton and on the ranch which he then purchased the closing years of his



life were spent. Besides the home property, which was formerly known as the E. N. Sperry ranch, he also purchased one hundred acres on Rough and Ready Island. Although at the time of his death, February 10, 1902, he was in his eighty-fourth year, he still took a keen interest in the affairs of life and was able to superintend the management of his large ranching enterprise.

The first marriage of Mr. Galbraith occurred in 1849 and united him with Miss Cynthia Wilcox, a native of Ohio, and born to them were the following children: Duncan; Elizabeth, the wife of William Donnell, of Solano county; Louella, who became the wife of Baillio Hicklin, of Stockton; Mary, the wife of B. De Dammi, of Solano county; Thomas M., also of this city; and Darius, deceased. Some time after the death of his first wife Mr. Galbraith was married in Centerville, Iowa, in 1863, to Anna C. Moore, she being a native of Pennsylvania. Four children were born of this marriage, namely: Benjamin Franklin, of Stockton; Belle, the wife of Alexander Dunn, of San Francisco; William, also a resident of that city; and Angenette, the wife of Charles Heinemann, of San Francisco.

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#### JOHN A. BRANDT.

For nearly thirty-five years John A. Brandt was associated with the development of California, whither he came from New Haven, Conn., in the fall of 1861, and from that time up to within a short while of his death worked at his trade of carriage-maker and contributed to the general development of the country. Of German birth and ancestry, he was born in Nassau December 17, 1817, and during his boyhood was sent to the schools of his native place, acquiring a fair education in the German language, and at

the age of fifteen he was confirmed. Upon reaching the age of thirty years he went to Paris, France, where he followed his trade of carriage-maker.

However, the prospects for future success were not very alluring either in France or his native land, so Mr. Brandt decided to seek a home across the ocean and accordingly he crossed to the United States, settling in New Haven, Conn., where he became foreman in the carriage works of J. Cook. While there he familiarized himself with the customs and language of the country to a considerable extent, for he was young and eager to learn. It was while in the employ of Mr. Cook that he was seized with the gold fever, and the fact that two brothers-in-law were already located in California made him all the more determined to carry out his plan to come to the west. Embarking on the ship Webster at the port of New York he came by way of Panama and landed at San Francisco, whence he made his way at once to Stockton. Here he saw a good outlook to establish a carriage shop, and on the spot where the jail now stands he inaugurated one of the first carriage manufactories in San Joaquin county, following his trade in this location for many years. A few years before his death, however, he gave up active work altogether, and in the enjoyment of the competency accumulated during many years of continued labor, he rounded out a long and useful life, his death occurring December 9, 1894.

While a resident of the east Mr. Brandt was married to Miss Anna Schrag, who like himself was a native of Germany. Mrs. Brandt passed away in 1882, having become the mother of seven children, of whom two are now living in California; Rose, the wife of C. H. W. Brandt; and Carrie, the wife of A. A. Taylor. A native of Canada, Mr. Taylor came to California in 1879, and the following year was married to Miss Brandt; they have three children, Archie H., O. A. Percy and Herbert. Mr. Brandt passed away after a long and honorable association with the interests of his home city, where he was known and loved by everybody, for he was a

man of gentle, unassuming nature. When the volunteer fire department was established he was the first to offer his services, and after it was made a paid department he was still associated with the department. Fraternally he was a member of the Druids and socially he belonged to the Turn-verein.

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### B. HOWARD BROWN.

Among those who set sail from Boston during the early '50s with the gold fields of California as the goal of their ambition, was the late B. Howard Brown, who for over fifty years had made his home in Stockton. His death, February 20, 1904, added one more to the long list of departed pioneers, whose life and works have meant so much to the commonwealth of California, as well as to the immediate locality in which they settled. As were many of the best of the state's early settlers, Mr. Brown was of New England birth and parentage. A son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Howard) Brown, he was born in Salem, Mass., April 15, 1822. He was educated in the schools of his home town, and as he approached manhood he prepared himself for self-support by mastering the tailor's trade. It was while following his trade in Salem that news of the finding of gold in California fired his ambition to the extent that he relinquished a well-established business to try his luck in the mines.

Leaving his wife and family in Salem, Mr. Brown set sail from the harbor of Boston in 1850 and by way of Cape Horn made the long and tedious voyage to the gold fields. On the way he endured many privations and much suffering, but these were soon forgotten in the excitement which prevailed everywhere. As did the majority of those who came to the state at this time he went immediately to the mines, and it

is safe to say that he was successful in his efforts and had no desire to return to the east, for in a few months he sent for his family to join him. After their arrival, however, he gave up mining and settled down to mercantile life in Stockton, making a specialty of handling produce and grain, a business which he continued with more than average success throughout the remainder of his life.

In Salem, Mass., February 2, 1846, a marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. Thomas Anderson which united the lives and fortunes of B. Howard Brown and Sarah Frances Felton, the latter a daughter of James and Sallie Felton, of Boston, Mass. Of the children born of this marriage we make the following mention: Matilda A., who was born in Salem, Mass., June 3, 1847, was married in Stockton, Cal., August 25, 1869, to George R. Martin; she is a resident of Sacramento; Thomas Howard, also born in Salem, November 21, 1848, chose as his wife Carrie Williams, to whom he was married March 6, 1878, and is now a resident of Stockton; Frances E. was born in Stockton February 27, 1855; and Alice Maria was born in March, 1857, also in this city, and was here married, August 20, 1877, to John P. Kafitz. Mr. Brown lived to a worthy old age, and at the time of his death, February 20, 1904, his loss was mourned by many friends and acquaintances who were endeared to him by long associations. He passed away at the family homestead, No. 1131 North Hunter street, which is still the home of his widow.

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### SCHMITZ & DOBNER.

One of the reasons for the development of Stockton as a commercial center is to be found in the presence of enterprising young men, trained to a knowledge of some specialty, capa-

ble of handling growing business interests and interested in the welfare of the city. The firm of Schmitz & Dobner was formed by two young men, neither a native of America, yet both intensely devoted to the progress of their adopted city and both well versed in the specialty they have chosen. Before coming to Stockton they had gained a thorough working knowledge of the trades of florist and landscape gardener, and thus were qualified to embark in business independently. Establishing their business in 1906, their first move was to purchase two acres of rich land, on which stood a neat house and a building for the storage of tools. Since then they have labored with energy and artistic taste to improve the grounds, which, on account of the fertility of the soil, adequately fills the needs of the owners. Every plant native to the locality is to be found here, as well as many tropical plants and flowers. Many of their most beautiful flowers are grown from the seed. The greenhouse is arranged on the latest plans and contains all modern improvements, giving evidence of the practical ability and skilled training of the partners.

Walter Schmitz was born in Thuringen, Germany, September 11, 1878, and received splendid advantages in a private school and gymnasium. Upon leaving school he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a florist and served until the expiration of his time, meanwhile acquiring a thorough knowledge of the business. Upon starting out as a journeyman he traveled through various parts of Germany and into France, working at the trade as opportunity offered, and meanwhile gaining a practical experience of great value to his subsequent efforts. During 1900 he came to the United States and secured employment at his trade in the east, whence in 1903 he came to the western coast, and has since established himself as a permanent resident of California.

Frank Dobner was born in the city of Tachau, Bohemia (near the border of Germany), September 8, 1859, and received his education in German schools and a gymnasium. Following

his attendance at school was his apprenticeship to the trade of a florist and he served his time in his native country, afterward working as a journeyman in Germany, France and Switzerland. The practical training thus acquired was of inestimable advantage to him in later efforts of his own. During 1889 he came to the United States and after landing in New York City proceeded direct to Philadelphia, where he was employed at his trade for three years. From there he returned to New York City and later worked in a number of the most famous gardens and parks there. The year 1895 found him in California, where his previous splendid training gave him advantages in securing ready employment. During 1906 he came to Stockton and formed a partnership with his friend, Mr. Schmitz. Already the firm has met with a fair degree of success. The artistic ability of the proprietors, their thorough manner of doing business, their constant endeavor to fill the requirements of patrons, and their unfailing courtesy, have brought them a growing patronage as well as a high reputation in the line of their specialty.

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#### LAFAYETTE SELLMAN.

The career which this history narrates began in Canandaigua, Ontario county, N. Y., November 23, 1826, and closed in Stockton, Cal., March 25, 1889. Between these dates are recorded the events of an industrious and useful life, whose later efforts are perpetuated in a prosperous enterprise known as the Stockton City Laundry, one of the most up-to-date and reliable enterprises of the kind in the city. The founder, Lafayette Sellman, was reared on a farm in the east, until reaching young manhood, when, in 1849, he set out for the gold fields of California, coming via Panama. His first and only expe-



rience as a miner was in the mines at Brown's Flats, where he became convinced of the uncertainties attending such a life and wisely determined to give it up and engage in something from which he could hope for more stable returns.

Following his mining venture Mr. Sellman went to Sonora county and for a time engaged in the cattle and dairy business there, but it was not until he came to Stockton that he was satisfied that he had found the place offering the most inducements, both in the way of business prospects and as a suitable place to make his future home. While he was satisfied that he had found the right place for a location, still he had a desire to see Oregon, and thither he went soon afterward, but the fact that he remained only twenty-four hours before returning to Stockton is ample evidence that he had no desire to change his opinion. It was after his return from Oregon, about 1871, that he established the nucleus of the laundry business which with the passing of years has grown to its present large proportions. Since his death the business has been continued by his wife and children, Mrs. Sellman being president, Henry L. vice-president, Grace, secretary and treasurer, and Herman C. Meyer, manager. As president of the company Mrs. Sellman has endeavored to follow out the wise policy of her husband in the management of the business, and that she has been successful is seen in the continually increasing patronage.

Mr. Sellman was first married in New York, this marriage uniting him with Margaret Coon, by whom seven children were born, all now deceased. The mother of these children died in 1875, and on December 18, 1878, in San Francisco, Mr. Sellman married Anna Shafer, a native daughter of San Joaquin county and the daughter of Adam Shafer. Five children were born of this marriage as follows: Henry Lafayette, interested in the laundry business as vice-president of the company; Grace, secretary and treasurer; Maude; Mrs. Elsie Pike, and Ivy Frances. Throughout his residence in Stockton, almost

twenty years, Mr. Sellman was one of the city's most earnest and devoted citizens, and for two terms served efficiently as a member of the city council. He was also a well-known member of the Independent Order of Red Men, holding membership in Iroquois Tribe, in which body he passed through all the chairs, and he was also a member of the Pioneers Society of the county. Mrs. Sellman is a member of Lebanon Lodge, Daughters of Rebekah, Stockton Hive No. 2, Lady Maccabees, and she is also a member of Kawwaunita Council No. 12, Degree of Pocahontas.

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#### HENRY FITCH HUBBARD.

Among the early pioneers of the Golden State who left the east to brave the unknown dangers in an effort to found a commonwealth, mention belongs to Henry F. Hubbard. He was born in Charlestown, Sullivan county, N. H., in 1820, and in the schools of his birthplace he was educated. He had reached the age of thirty years when, in 1850, he and several of his friends decided to try their fortunes in the new eldorado on the Pacific coast. For several months after reaching California Mr. Hubbard tried his fortune in the mines, but at the end of this time gave up his pursuit for sudden wealth, and coming to Stockton embarked in the furniture business with Mr. Lucinger. This partnership lasted for four years, when the business was sold and Mr. Hubbard returned to the east. He came back to California the same year, however, and with the means which he had accumulated he started a money-lending enterprise which he followed from that time until his death. He was a man who was well respected, and it was often said of him that his word was as good as his bond. One banker of the city said he would accept a check from Mr. Hubbard for more money

than any other man in Stockton, so great was his faith in his integrity.

Mr. Hubbard was married in 1867 to Maria S. Debnam, and immediately after their marriage they took up their abode in the residence at No. 849 North Eldorado street, which has been the home of the family ever since. Two children, both daughters, were born of their marriage, Maria, the wife of Adelbert Cronise, of Rochester, N. Y.; and Eliza Fitch, the wife of W. W. Middlecoff, of Los Angeles. Mr. Hubbard was a man who never sought office of any character, his greatest pleasure consisting in the companionship of his wife and daughters. At his death, which occurred in 1887, at the age of sixty-seven years, they mourned the loss of a kind and loving husband and father, and the city a staunch and public-spirited citizen.

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### JACOB SIMON.

Natives of the Fatherland who have contributed to the citizenship of Stockton and been important factors in its upbuilding are not a few, and among the number mention belongs to Jacob Simon. Born in Bosenbach, Germany, in 1852, he was reared and educated there up to the age of fifteen years, when, the opportunity offering, he immigrated to the United States. Without loss of time he left New York with Panama as his destination, and after crossing the Isthmus took passage on the Pacific side for San Francisco. Here he spent ten days in looking about, but finally came to Stockton, and it was not long before he found employment. His first position was in the Pacific Tannery, where he remained for five years, after which for the same length of time he engaged in the liquor business. Giving this up, he established himself in the grocery business at the corner of Main and Grant streets,

where for four years he conducted a successful business, but he relinquished this business also at the end of that time and at the corner of Channel and San Joaquin streets, opened what in those days was known as the Old Columbia house. For over twenty-two years his hostelry was a well-known landmark for the weary traveler, who not only received the comforts of a home during his sojourn there, but also enjoyed to the fullest extent the good cheer of the proprietor, whose sociability and equable spirits were proverbial. This old landmark has now given place to the Western School of Commerce.

After disposing of his hotel Mr. Simon engaged in ranching on his property on Roberts Island, following this for two years, when he took the city agency for the Eldorado Brewery Company and continued in this position for five years. Upon relinquishing his position with the company he retired from active business affairs, and in May, 1908, he left for an European trip, of which he was well deserving. He made a thorough tour of Germany during the four months he was abroad, renewing his associations with familiar places, but at the end of this time was content to return to his adopted home on this side of the Atlantic. Since then his time has been occupied in the management of his various business affairs in and around Stockton.

Mr. Simon's marriage united him with Miss Emma F. Grassberger, who was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., her parents having been residents of the east for many years. In 1859 they came to Stockton, where the name of J. A. Grassberger became well known for the part he took in the city's welfare. During the early days he was proprietor of one of the principal hotels in the town, and later became identified with commercial affairs and was also prominent in political matters. Five children were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Simon, named in the order of their birth as follows: Emma, Elsie, Ruby, Frone and Eda, all of whom are at home with the exception of Elsie, who is the wife of Robert E. Pope, a deputy clerk in the county recorder's office of Stockton.

Politically Mr. Simon is a Republican, but notwithstanding this he received the appointment of police and fire commissioner at the hands of the mayor who is of the opposite political faith. He held this important office for six years, this being the longest period of time that this office was ever held by one man. Fraternally and socially Mr. Simon is a welcome member of the various lodges and societies where his name is enrolled. He is a member of Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E., Druids, Foresters of America, and for thirty-five years he has been a member of the Turn Verein, of which, for twenty-seven years, he has served efficiently as treasurer.

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#### JOHN DYSART DAMERON, M. D.

The medical profession in San Joaquin county has an able representative in Dr. Dameron, who is a gentleman of talent and culture, well educated, and who has had a large professional experience, one which has been of untold value to him since his assumption of the duties of superintendent of the County Hospital, located in the village of French Camp.

Dr. Dameron is the descendant of southern antecedents, and was himself born in one of the bordering southern states, his birth occurring in Chariton county, Mo., in 1867, the son of George Green and Susan T. (Dysart) Dameron, natives respectively of North Carolina and Kentucky. His preliminary school training was received in the public schools in his native county and to prepare for the professional life which he had decided to follow he matriculated in the Missouri Medical College of St. Louis, Mo., which united with the St. Louis Medical College in 1904 and is now known as the Washington University of Medicine. He graduated in March of 1894, carrying with him the highest

honors in surgery of his class, and opened an office for the practice of his profession in Stockton in October the following year.

He conducted a very creditable and constantly increasing practice for the following six years, twice being elected county health officer, a position to which he had been elected by the honorable board of supervisors. So creditable was the record of his services in this position that greater honors were bestowed upon him, and in June of 1901 he resigned his position as county health officer to accept the position as superintendent of the San Joaquin County Hospital, this honor also coming from the board of supervisors.

Dr. Dameron was united in marriage, June 11, 1901, with Miss Mary Ella Wheeler, a native Californian and the daughter of Thomas and Visa Thompson Wheeler. Since their marriage the doctor and his wife have made their home in the hospital, where they have very comfortable quarters. Dr. Dameron grasps every opportunity to keep abreast of the times in his profession, and is thus enabled to successfully cope with the diseases brought to him for treatment in the public institution of which he is the head.

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#### JOHN C. GRAVES.

After many years of activity as a rancher in the outskirts of Stockton, Mr. Graves is now living retired in this city, having a commodious and pleasant home at No. 922 North Edison street, where with his wife he is enjoying the fruits of former years. Mr. Graves is a descendant of Southern ancestors, and was born in Warren county, Mo., February 5, 1842, the son of H. B. and Lurine Howell Graves. When he was a child of about seven years the family home was transferred to Grant county, Wis., where he attended school and grew to manhood years.



While still a resident of Wisconsin, in 1863, Mr. Graves was married to Sarah C. Shanley, who was born and reared in that state, and the following year they started for their future home in the west. They began the long journey from Wisconsin on May 2, their party consisting of one hundred and forty persons, and it was not until September 19 that they reached their destination on the Pacific coast. They followed the old telegraph road all the way, a line which was also followed by the engineers who were surveying for the first railroad across the continent. Among the party were also two other old settlers now living in Stockton, David Reynolds and Nathan Halsdon. It was not an uncommon sight to see Indian camps along the way, but luckily the travelers were not molested by their dusky foe. On their arrival in California Mr. Graves and his wife camped on the sand plains about ten miles southeast of Stockton for a time, and in the meantime Mr. Graves worked out as opportunity offered until he could find a suitable piece of land on which to locate. In 1865, '66 and '67 he freighted from Stockton to the southern mines, hauling supplies with twenty horses and a team of mules in the lead, hauling five wagons and returning by way of Copperopolis with loads of copper ore. He has a picture showing his outfit, that was taken at Tower Hill, Salt Spring valley. In 1868 he devoted his time to ranching, at that time settling on eight hundred acres of fine ranch land which he had purchased close to the city. This was in the possession of the family for thirty-eight years. He sold the property in forty-acre tracts and at this writing (1909) there are fourteen houses on them. Since 1888 the family have made their home in the city of Stockton, whither they moved in order to give their children the benefit of the public schools.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Graves five are now living, as follows: Fannie, the wife of Frank Graves, of Stockton; Lillian and Lulu, twins, the former the wife of George Fox, of San Francisco, and the latter the wife of W. J. Buchanan, in the vicinity of Stockton; Virdie,

also a resident of this city and the wife of Robert Reid; and Henry Thomas, who is married and lives on a ranch near Ripon and where he also conducts a store. All of the children were educated in the schools of Stockton, and have now assumed the responsibilities of home life. Mr. and Mrs. Graves are enjoying the freedom from care which they sustained for so many years in the management of the ranch, enjoying especially the short trips to neighboring cities, and to San Francisco. Every movement that has been brought to Mr. Graves' notice for the up-building of the town or county has met with his hearty co-operation. He is a stockholder in the Citizens Gas Well Company, having been identified with it since its organization.

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#### FORNIA S. CURTIS.

To the honor of being a native of the beautiful state of California Mr. Curtis adds the distinction of being the son of one of the state's sturdy pioneers, Bradner Curtis, who survived only thirty years after locating here, yet lived to see many marvelous strides in civilization and to enjoy many of its benefits. Soon after his marriage he brought his wife to California by way of the Horn, the voyage taking eight months, some delay being due to the fact that the ship lost her course. They finally reached their destination, San Francisco, from there going to the mines in Tuolumne county, and still later settled on a ranch in that vicinity, on the Calaveras river.

Fornia S. Curtis was born on the parental homestead in San Joaquin county May 26, 1850, the youngest of the four children born to his parents. Educated in the schools of his native county, at the age of twenty years much of the care and responsibility of the home ranch fell to him, and thereafter, following his father's

death, he was the sole manager, until about 1892, when he rented the ranch to a tenant and has since made his home in Stockton, at No. 1229 North Center street.

Mr. Curtis was married in Stockton February 8, 1893, to Miss Trinnie M. Helmer, a native of San Francisco and the daughter of William and Trinnie Helmer. Three children have been born to brighten the home of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis, as follows: Benton F., born December 15, 1894; Vernon W., June 1, 1896; and Helmer B., September 5, 1898, all of the children being pupils in the schools of Stockton. In his political sentiments Mr. Curtis is a Democrat, but notwithstanding this he never lets party lines prevent him from voting for the best candidate for the office in question. He was reared in the faith of the Episcopal church and has ever adhered to its teachings, being a communicant of St. John's Episcopal Church at Stockton, and one of its staunchest supporters. Personally he is a man of much worth, integrity and earnestness of purpose, and throughout San Joaquin county, where his entire life has been spent, he is esteemed as one of her noblest citizens.

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### JOSEPH BREIDENBACH.

From the time of his arrival in Stockton in 1860 until his death Mr. Breidenbach was associated with business enterprises in the city and with projects for the material growth of the place. Of German birth and ancestry, he was born in Koenigstein by Frankfurt-on-the-Main, August 26, 1832, and during boyhood he was a pupil in the schools of his native town, after which he served an apprenticeship to the trade of upholsterer. During the year 1854 he immigrated to the United States and settled in Brooklyn, N. Y., where he became the proprietor of a

first-class cigar and billiard parlor. The success attending his efforts enabled him to return to the Fatherland for a visit in 1857, but he had no desire to remain permanently in that country, and accordingly went back to Brooklyn in 1858. Among his many friends in that city he was known as Dr. Eisenbart. On leaving Brooklyn he came to California and settled in Stockton.

The year after his settlement in Stockton Mr. Breidenbach sent east for his intended wife, Miss Marie W. Muench, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany. Following the ocean route she came to California and their wedding took place in San Francisco on the day of landing, September 30, 1861. The bride and groom proceeded to Stockton, where the latter's friends had prepared an enthusiastic charivari in their honor. This celebration occurred at the old Stockton bakery, then a prominent hotel, occupying the present site of the Grand Central hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Breidenbach became the parents of three children, Joseph, Louis and Anna M. The last-named, now Mrs. Kalck, resides at No. 17 West Oak street, Stockton, and is a member of Joaquin Parlor, Native Daughters of the Golden West. The sons are identified with Stockton Parlor, Native Sons of the Golden West. All were born in Stockton and always have made this city their home.

The Philadelphia house, on Bridge street, between Eldorado and Hunter streets, erected by Mr. Breidenbach in 1871, remained under his personal supervision until 1884, when he retired from its management in order to take his family to Europe. Accompanied by wife and children, he went abroad and remained for seven months in the old country. While at Brooklyn, N. Y., on his way to Europe, he called with his family on an old friend from whom he had not heard in many years. The friend's daughter refused admission, stating that her father was under the care of a physician and could not entertain visitors. At last, in response to the importunities of the visitor, an interview was granted. The old friend did not recognize him and Mr. Breidenbach continued to talk to him for perhaps one-

half hour when finally the invalid inquired who he was. "Dr. Eisenbart," was the answer. "Joseph, is it you?" was the eager inquiry of the sick man. An immediate cure was realized, for in less than one hour the old friend was showing his visitor the sights of New York.

Having earned a well-merited rest from commercial cares, in 1891 Mr. Breidenbach retired from business, and thereafter he enjoyed the fruits of former industry. His death occurred September 5, 1907, at the age of seventy-five years, and his wife died October 30, 1908. In their last days both received the loving and solicitous care of their children. Shortly after coming to Stockton he had joined the San Joaquin Fire Company and many times he helped to dig the old hand-engine out of the mud. His certificate of Exempt Fireman is dated September 13, 1870. Proud of his service as a fireman, it was his last request that he be interred in his fireman's uniform, and the request was carried out at his interment. When his body was laid to rest in Rural cemetery, the solemn burial service, as prepared by the late A. B. Bennett for the use of the fire department, was read by the vice-president of the company, and many of his old comrades gathered around the bier to pay him their last tribute of affectionate respect.

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### BRADNER CURTIS.

It is ever interesting to recount the life events of the pioneer, who endured the privations of this new country and passed through the hardships and dangers incident to a sea voyage in a sailing vessel following the gold discovery in California. Bradner Curtis was born in the vicinity of Rochester, N. Y., June 9, 1825, and in young manhood he learned the hardware business; as he was reared in a farming community

he developed quite an industry not only in repairing, but also in manufacturing agricultural implements, a business which he followed up to the time he left for the west.

During his school days Bradner Curtis formed the acquaintance of Miss Kezia Benton, who after attending the schools of Rochester continued her education in Canajoharie Academy, on the Mohawk river, and still later was a pupil in Cortland Academy, both in New York state. She was a daughter of Hiram and Cynthia (Hodge) Benton, on her mother's side being a descendant of John Eliot, who came as a colonist in the famous Mayflower. The acquaintance of the young people formed during school days ripened into a deeper affection that resulted in their marriage September 23, 1849. In December, 1849, they sailed from New York harbor bound for California, on a vessel which had formerly done service as a packet, but had been reconstructed for use as a sailing craft. Eight months were consumed in the voyage, although they were at no time out of sight of land, and while passing Valparaiso they could hear the natives calling to them. Some of the delay was due to the fact that at Cape Horn they were compelled to lay over for one month, owing to heavy storms prevailing at the time. They reached San Francisco in July, and after remaining there two days, having been met in the meantime by Mrs. Curtis' two brothers, Hyland and Byron Benton, the latter conducted them to Mormon Gulch, near Tuttletown, Tuolumne county, where the brothers conducted a supply camp. Mr. Curtis also became interested in mining there, but finally hired a man to work for him at that while he took charge of the trading camp. Mr. Curtis was the first one in Tuolumne to mine with ground sluices. He remained in that vicinity for about three years, during which time he lost considerable money in a poor investment. Thereafter he purchased a ranch on the Calaveras river, and here he rounded out his remaining years, passing away in 1881, when in his fifty-sixth year. Mrs. Curtis still owns a part of this property, although she makes her home in



Stockton, at No. 1245 North Center street. Mr. Curtis was a prominent Odd Fellow for many years, and owned a family vault in the Odd Fellows Cemetery at Sonora, Tuolumne county, where in life he had made his first start and built his last home. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Curtis, as follows: Mrs. Belle K. Jackson, making her home with her mother in Stockton; Frank B. and Forest D., both deceased and buried beside their father in the Odd Fellows Cemetery at Sonora; and Fornia S., of whom a sketch may be found elsewhere in this volume.

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### THEODORE DWIGHT FELT.

Theodore Dwight Felt, of Stockton, is the son of Dr. T. Dwight Felt, a pioneer physician of Humboldt county. The subject of this sketch was born in Hydesville, in that county, in 1855 and was educated in the common schools of his native town and in the Catholic college near that place. At the early age of seventeen he left school and entered the service of a firm engaged in the lumber business and during many years, with comparatively few intervals, pursued that industry, varying it from time to time in assisting his father in his practice, mainly by nursing patients. In this way Mr. Felt acquired considerable knowledge of the practice of medicine, but only exercised it under the direction of his father.

Of an independent spirit, he made his own way in the world from the time he left school and soon after attaining his majority was married to Mrs. Nancy Jane Stockton, of Rohnerville, in his native county. Of this marriage there are eight children, namely: Dwight, of Humboldt county; Emma E., the wife of Guy A. Buell, of San Francisco; Levant, engaged in mercantile pursuits in Stockton; Kate Glenn, a

student of the University of California; Earl G., a resident of St. John, Wash.; Leonard and Ruth, students of the Stockton high school; and Joy, a grammar school pupil. Of the eight, five live in their parents' home and make a happy family circle.

Mr. Felt has been for many years an Odd Fellow and was also a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West, but during recent years his attention has been so much engrossed by his practice of Christian Science healing that he has had no time to devote to those fraternal organizations.

What seemed to the ordinary observer a mere chance, directed Mr. Felt's attention to Christian Science, but by those devoted to that system of teaching, it is recognized as providential. When a very young child he had suffered a prolonged confinement with typhoid fever which left him with a seriously affected liver. His father and another able physician, after a careful examination of his case, pronounced his liver abnormal and beyond the help of medical science. This verdict was pronounced upon him after he had a family and gave him no hope of earthly help. A little later his wife had a lady guest who was pronounced a victim of consumption and whom the physicians gave no hope of recovery or even many months to live. Mrs. Felt, who had learned something about Christian Science, advised her guest to seek the aid of a practitioner who lived in the neighborhood. The advice was adopted and the effect appeared to be magical, for the lady was speedily restored to perfect health. The healing was so remarkable that Mrs. and Mr. Felt, the latter of whom might have been called an agnostic or skeptic, began to investigate what once he scoffed at. The study became absorbing at once and from the first Mr. Felt began to improve in health. The so-called incurable ailment soon vanished, and though much more than a decade has passed, he has not suffered from any affection of the liver, even for a single day.

After undergoing instruction from a competent and accredited teacher of Christian Science.

Mr. and Mrs. Felt began the practice of Christian Science healing and had remarkable success. During six years they practiced in Humboldt county and about ten years ago they were induced to come to Stockton, where they were chosen readers of the branch church in this city and served until a new by-law made them ineligible until after an interval, when both were re-elected and served the legal limit. Mr. Felt is frequently referred to as "Doctor" Felt, but he makes no pretension to medical skill or knowledge. He, like all Christian Science practitioners, relies exclusively on the Divine Mind as the source of all life and health.

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#### EDWARD E. EARL.

A native of the Emerald Isle, Edward E. Earl was born in County Carlow, March 16, 1834, the son of Edward and Mary Earl, who were also natives of Ireland, where their entire lives were passed. During his early manhood Mr. Earl became convinced that larger opportunity awaited him on this side of the Atlantic, and as soon as the way was made possible to carry out his plan he came to the United States in 1854, landing at the port of New York. For business reasons he went to Louisville, Ky., soon after disembarking. The disturbance between the north and south which had been brewing for a number of years finally broke out in the famous year of 1861, and as he was in the south at the time he naturally espoused the southern cause when he decided to take a part in quelling the disturbances. As a member of the First Kentucky Regiment he fought valiantly throughout his term of enlistment, or during the entire course of the war, participating in many important battles, but in all of these experiences escaped injury of any kind.

Shortly after the close of the war Mr. Earl came to California with his wife, being attracted to the west on account of the wonderful tales of the discovery and mining of gold, although it is not related that he himself took any immediate interest in mining. He first located at Lockeford, but later went to Salt Lake City, where for five years he was in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Coming to Stockton at the end of that time, in 1871, he entered the employ of the Stockton Gas and Electric Company and was a trusted employe of the company from that time until his death, which occurred June 2, 1905.

While living in the south Mr. Earl was united in marriage with Miss Annie Reddington, in 1866, and of the children born to them four are now living, as follows: Thomas Henry, a resident of San Francisco; Edward Joseph, who is now in Manila; William, also a resident of San Francisco; and John Sylvester, who is the proprietor of a fine grocery store in Stockton.

Politically Mr. Earl was a Democrat. Personally he was well liked by all who came in contact with him in whatever walk of life, for his genial good nature made friends everywhere, and he was also highly respected for the high moral principles which actuated him in all that he undertook.

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#### CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMPANY.

The California Transportation Company was organized in 1856, when Nelson N. Anderson began to run a line of steamers from San Francisco to Sacramento, touching at all the intermediate points. The company's line of boats includes the following: Captain Weber, *Pride of the River*, *Isleton*, *Constance*, *Reform*, *Onisbo*, *Alvira*, *Aurora*, *Sonoma*, *Fort Bragg* and *Newtown*, No. 2.

The main offices of the company are in San Francisco, while branch offices are maintained in Oakland, Sacramento and Stockton. The Oakland branch is under the management of William Baker, Sacramento under J. E. Crew, while the Stockton office is in charge of J. W. Glenn. The officers of the company are George A. Smith, president, Rudolph Herold, Jr., vice-president, and A. E. Anderson, secretary and manager.

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#### ROBERT NICKERSON HOWES.

From the time of his arrival in California in 1856 until his death fifty-one years later, Mr. Howes was associated with business enterprises in Stockton and also in Pacific Grove, Monterey county, in which latter place his earth life came to a close April 27, 1907. Of eastern birth and ancestry, he was born in Chatham, Mass., April 24, 1834, the son of Robert and Hannah Howes, they too being natives of the same state. The school training begun in Chatham was continued and completed in New Bedford, Mass., whither the parents transferred the family home when their son Robert was a lad of about ten years. Following the completion of his course in school he fitted himself for the business world by learning the trade of carriage-maker. Events in the far west had been transpiring in the meantime, however, that were to have an influence upon his future course in life, and it thus happened that instead of turning his attention to the establishment of a place of business after completing his apprenticeship, he came to California, making the journey by way of Panama.

Disembarking from the vessel at San Francisco, Mr. Howes lost no unnecessary time in making his way to the mines of Calaveras county, which at that time were attracting considerable attention on account of the reported richness in ore.

Mr. Howes was disappointed with the meagre results that followed his efforts, but he was still undismayed and was determined to seek some honest work to relieve his temporary embarrassment. Coming to Stockton, he applied for a position on a ranch in this vicinity and having secured it, gave his best efforts in furthering his employer's interests. While working on the ranch he was making observations as to the advisability of establishing a place of business in Stockton, and when arrangements were completed he came into the city and associated himself with her manufacturing interests. Later an association was formed with H. C. Shaw & Co., whereby Mr. Howes was to furnish all of the iron and steel work for manufacturing headers and plows. This association proved not only an amicable one, but a profitable one as well, and was brought to a close only through necessity, the failure of Mr. Howes' health making his withdrawal from business activities imperative. It was about this time, also, 1886, that he removed to Pacific Grove, Monterey county, and here made his home until his death. On land which he purchased on the water front he erected a number of cottages, from the rental of which he received a neat income. This in addition to other property which he purchased and improved occupied his time sufficiently in its care and management, and he continued to have entire charge of his affairs up to the time of his death, which occurred just three days after the celebration of the seventy-third anniversary of his birth.

In 1868 Mr. Howes returned to New Bedford, Mass., to claim his fiancée, Miss Annie H. Sherman, a native of Massachusetts, the wedding trip of the young people consisting of a journey by the Isthmus to California. At that time they settled in Stockton, Mr. Howes resuming his business, and later became associated with H. C. Shaw & Co., an association which continued until 1886, as previously stated. Fraternally Mr. Howes was a member of Charity Lodge, I. O. O. F., and the Ancient Order United Workmen. When he died, April 27, 1907, it was recognized that one of the town's most progressive citizens



had been taken from the scenes of his activities, and the universal testimony of citizens was that his loss would be deeply felt in Stockton and Pacific Grove.

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#### MICHAEL McCANN.

The chief of the Stockton fire department is a son of a California pioneer, Bartholomew McCann, who was born, reared and married in Ireland, and from the Emerald Isle crossed the ocean to the New World in 1847, settling at New London, Conn., but shortly afterward migrating via the Isthmus to California. With the parents was brought their son, Michael, who was born in Ireland, April 15, 1847, but whose earliest recollections cluster around the then small village of Stockton. Here the father followed various occupations as a means of livelihood and for a time took contracts for the grading of streets and other public work. His death occurred in this city in September of 1873.

Upon leaving the public schools of Stockton to take up work for self-support, Michael McCann learned a trade, but during much of his active life he has been connected with the Stockton fire department. As early as 1869 he joined the volunteer fire department. Soon he proved exceptional fitness for work of that nature and in 1873 he was made driver, continuing until 1886, when he was elected foreman of the company, and served in that capacity until he was appointed chief engineer in 1888. During 1891 he resigned as engineer, left the department and embarked in business on his own account, continuing in that way until August 21, 1907, when he was again appointed chief of the fire department. Selling out his business he resumed active charge of the department, and his ideas are now being considered for the improvement of the department and the increasing of its efficiency.

The marriage of Michael McCann united him with Miss Annie Tye, who was born in Ohio and in childhood came to California with her father, M. Tye, settling in Stockton. Mr. and Mrs. McCann are the parents of seven children. Ellen, the eldest, married A. Lease, and lives in Stockton. Anna is the wife of A. H. Harlan, city editor of the *Stockton Independent*; Margaret Frances married Newton Rutherford, a resident of Stockton; Eva is the wife of J. E. Garraghan and lives in Pennsylvania. The three youngest, Allie, Alvie and Albert, remain with their parents.

On the occasion of the convention of the Pacific Coast Fire Chiefs, held at Victoria, B. C., in 1908, Mr. McCann attended as a delegate, and found the proceedings interesting and instructive. The organization of the Exempt Firemen was largely due to his efforts and he has been active in the same ever since the first. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Columbus and the Foresters of America. The development of the fire department has been his chief work in life and he is proud of the high standing of Stockton's department, although, with characteristic enterprise, he is still urging the adoption of improved methods looking toward its greater efficiency.

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#### WILLIAM EUGENE WILLIAMS.

One of the recent business enterprises established in Stockton is the Wunder bottling works, of which William E. Williams is the proprietor. A wide-awake, energetic man, practical and progressive, he is steadily working his way to a position which will soon class him among the leading business men of this city. A native son of the state, he was born in Calaveras county, at Murphys Camp, in 1860, the son of Edward H. Williams, who came to the state from Ohio in the year of his birth. His object in coming to

the west was to try his fortune as a miner, and he followed the calling with varying degrees of success for many years in Calaveras county and also in Nevada. His death occurred in Stockton June 17, 1906.

When William E. Williams was seven years of age his parents removed to Nevada and two years later they took up their residence in Stockton. Up to this time his chances for obtaining an education were rather uncertain, owing to the fact that he had lived in mining communities for the greater part of his life, so his education practically began in the schools of Stockton. Subsequently he followed teaming for ten years, and still later was interested in a foundry for twelve years. At the end of this time, in May, 1908, he bought the nucleus of the business he now owns, known as the Wunder bottling works, which is rapidly taking its place among the centers of activity in Stockton.

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### WILLIAM S. BUCKLEY.

Innumerable hardships and many privations filled the early life of William S. Buckley, but he courageously met them and turned them to good account, a conclusion which was evidenced in the accomplishment of his high aim to attain distinction at the bar. His earliest recollections were of his birthplace, Wood county, W. Va. There he was born December 17, 1829, into the home of John and Mary (Aulkire) Buckley, they too being natives of that southern state. The time and surroundings of his home were unpropitious for an ambitious boy, and as his parents were in limited circumstances he early realized that whatever he was to have in the way of advantages must come from his own efforts. Thus it happened that at the age of ten years, when other boys of his age were innocent of respon-

sibilities, he began the battle of life by working at any humble employment that offered itself. By working early and late he accumulated a little money, all of which was invested in books or used in paying his tuition in school.

William S. Buckley was a young man of about twenty-three years when, in 1852, he broke away from the associations of past years and came to the Pacific coast country, going directly to Portland, Ore. In the meantime he had formed well defined plans for his future course in life, and in matriculating in the Portland Law school he set these plans in motion. His graduation followed in due time, and soon afterward he was elected assessor of Multnomah county, an office which he filled acceptably for one term. For a number of years trouble had been brewing with the Indians, who resented the invasion of the white man and his usurpation of rights long claimed by the first settlers; matters grew worse instead of better and it finally became necessary to take an organized stand to protect the white man and his family from the deadly purpose of the dusky foe. Mr. Buckley took an active part in the wars which followed in 1856, entering the service as a volunteer, and coming out as captain. With the close of his war service Mr. Buckley resumed the practice of law in Portland, following this for a number of years, when, in 1860, he came to California. In the village of Liberty, San Joaquin county, not far from Acampo, he taught school for a time, this however being but a stepping stone in the accomplishment of his real purpose, which was to find a suitable location to begin the practice of his profession in this state. Opening an office he gathered about him a clientele worthy of his efforts, his clients coming to him from all parts of Sacramento and San Joaquin county. For the purpose of being more centrally located he removed his office to Stockton in the fall of 1867. The year following, 1868, he was appointed city judge by Governor Booth to fill out the term of Judge Green. His re-election followed the completion of this term and for four years more he gave efficient service as judge of city affairs.

Later he was elected judge of the superior court of San Joaquin county, serving five years, he being the first to claim this honorable position.

Mr. Buckley was married May 8, 1865, to Miss Minerva Crawford, a native of Adams county, Ill., and one son was born of their marriage, William L. Buckley, M. D., of Milton, Calaveras county. Fraternally Mr. Buckley was associated with a number of orders, belonging to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masons, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and Knights of Honor. His death in Stockton April 1, 1891, was the cause of general mourning, for his friends were confined to no class, high and low, rich and poor alike honoring him for his honest, straightforward life and for the good which he had accomplished in his home city.

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#### MICHAEL JOHN SANGUINETTI.

As his name would indicate Mr. Sanguinetti comes of Italian antecedents, although he himself is a native of California, his birth having occurred in Stockton in 1875. While he was still a young child his parents removed to Peters, San Joaquin county, where he made the most of the meagre advantages which the schools of that locality had to offer.

Trained to the life of the farmer, it was natural that upon starting out in life independently Mr. Sanguinetti should choose the calling with which he was most familiar, and in the vicinity of Peters he purchased a ranch upon which he lived until 1905, when he bought the ranch of which he is now the proprietor, not far from Stockton on Rural Route No. 3.

Mr. Sanguinetti formed domestic ties through his marriage with Miss Cavanaugh, a native of Calaveras county. Two children have been born

of their marriage, a son and daughter. Mr. Sanguinetti is one of the young, enterprising ranchers in this vicinity, and judging of his future success by what he has already accomplished it is safe to say that much substantial success awaits him.

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#### NELSON B. JENKS.

No names are more entitled to perpetuation in the annals of California than those of the pioneers of 1849, the men who braved the unknown perils of the desert and the mountains, or the equal dangers of a long ocean voyage, in their efforts to reach the great west with its alluring possibilities. It is difficult for people in the twentieth century to comprehensively grasp conditions as they then existed, the isolation of the Pacific coast from the world of commerce and culture, the utter lack of transportation facilities, the danger from hostile Indians, the absence as yet of a permanent form of government, and the wild stretches of land on which not a furrow had been turned. The vision of a prophet would have been required to foresee the splendid farms and great cities of today, and for the present conditions, concerning which we are wont to proudly boast, due credit belongs to the brave Forty-niner.

Numbered in this class was Nelson B. Jenks, who was born at Central Falls, Providence county, R. I., September 2, 1820, and died at Stockton in 1885, aged sixty-five years. Possessing the robust constitution and fine physique which we are wont to associate with the pioneer, he retained his health and strength far beyond middle age and, had it not been for an accident, undoubtedly would have been spared to four score years, but his useful and active life was abruptly terminated while he was still in the full possession of physical and mental faculties. For



ten years he made his home on Sonora street, Stockton, but eventually he erected a residence at No. 1124 East Main street, and for a time he owned one-half block fronting on Main street, being one of the first settlers in this part of the city. A portion of the property has been sold, but the widow retains the old homestead and still resides here, surrounded by all the comforts of existence.

Primarily educated in public schools in Rhode Island, at the age of twenty years Nelson B. Jenks went to New York and became a student in the academy at Avon, meantime making his home in Lima. On completing his academic studies he returned to Rhode Island and represented the Central Falls district in the state legislature for three terms. At the expiration of his term he returned to Lima, N. Y., and learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed for some time in the east. In December of 1846 he married Agnes Wilkinson, who was born at Cincinnati, Cortland county, N. Y. On learning of the discovery of gold in California he left his family and friends and with seven others chartered the ship **Velasco**, on which he sailed by way of **Cape Horn to the harbor of San Francisco**. While en route they were obliged to stop at the Azores for repairs and were thus delayed, but reached their destination safely after a voyage of **eight months**.

There was great need of carpenters in San Francisco and **Mr. Jenks found employment at \$14 per day**. From that city he went to the southern mines near San Andreas. In partnership with **Dr. Austin he took up land one mile from San Andreas and embarked in raising stock and grain**. At the same time he carried on a hotel in the log cabin which he built for a home. Upon settling **affairs at the dissolution of the partnership**, he received the land and a span of horses, and for ten years he remained on the ranch. Meanwhile he had sent for his wife, who joined him in 1855, crossing the isthmus on the fifth train that entered Panama. The change of climate proved beneficial to her health and she still regards the western air and sunshine unsur-

passed by any tonic, for during her long residence here **she has been remarkably free from illness**.

The steady growth of Stockton brought need of carpenters and Mr. Jenks was induced to leave the ranch in order to work at his trade. In addition to regular work he became interested in the building of windmills, being for a time with A. Abbott and later alone. It was his privilege to witness the growth of the city and to contribute thereto by conscientious, careful work as a builder. While devoting himself closely to business, he did not neglect his duty as a citizen, but always was ready to support progressive movements and in politics took a deep interest in the success of the Republican party. During early manhood he was initiated into Masonry and afterward gave stanch allegiance to the philanthropic principles of the order. In his family there were eight children, of whom two sons are deceased, one of these, David W., having been an influential young attorney of Plumas county. The others were born in San Andreas, received **excellent educational advantages** in local schools, and are honored in the various localities of their residence. They are named as follows: Mrs. Clara I. Bingham; Miss Mary A., who remains with her mother and affectionately ministers to the comforts of her declining years; Mrs. Agnes C. Severy, of Santa Rosa; Mrs. Nellie F. Cowden, of Stockton; George A., who makes his home in Berkeley; and Alvin L., a resident of **Stockton**.

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#### ANDREW BROWN INGE.

Actively identified with the farming interests of San Joaquin county is Andrew B. Inge, whose ranch is located on Staten Island. As a rancher he is meeting with well-merited success,

his homestead with its improvements bearing visible evidence of his industry and judicious management. Mr. Inge is a native of the south, born in Eutaw, Greene county, Ala. Owing to the meagre educational opportunities in his home town he received little or no instruction in the public schools, attending instead a private school, where the instruction prepared him for entrance in the University of Greensboro, Ala.

With the close of his school career Mr. Inge was variously employed in the south for a number of years, but in the meantime he had been forming plans for coming to California. This he was enabled to do in 1879, at which time he located in Kern county and for twenty-two years carried on a profitable ranching enterprise there. At the expiration of this time he closed out his holdings in Kern county and in 1901 came to San Joaquin county, where, on Staten Island, he has made his home ever since, being superintendent of the island.

Mr. Inge's marriage, which occurred in 1892, united him with a native daughter of California, Miss Louisa Gallagher, who was born in San Benito county. At her death in April, 1902, she left four children, Louisa, Frances, Edna and Frank, all of whom are attending school.

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#### WILLIAM H. BENNETT.

One of the old and well-established business enterprises in Stockton is the ladies' furnishing goods store of which Mr. Bennett has been proprietor since 1899. Mr. Bennett embodies the sterling traits and energies of the west, intensified by an inheritance of eastern grit and determination, honesty and high-mindedness. He was born in Orleans county, N. Y., July 4, 1863, a son of Norman A. and Augusta (Tilden) Bennett, they also being natives of the Empire state. He was

reared on his father's farm and educated in the village schools of Orleans county, all of this taking place during the first sixteen years of his life, for upon reaching this age his life became associated with the far west. His interest in the west had been aroused by his brother-in-law, Norwall Alling, who was a rancher near Stockton, and hither Mr. Bennett came November 1, 1878. After remaining with his relative for eighteen months he came into the city and took a course in the business college conducted by Dr. Fisher Clarke.

Putting his theoretical knowledge to good account William H. Bennett entered the employ of the William P. Miller Company, and for four years served an apprenticeship at the business. Subsequently, in the spring of 1885, he entered the store of W. J. Belding, and during the three years he remained with this employer he mastered the details of the dry-goods business. In the fall of 1888 he accepted a position with his brother, who was also a dry-goods merchant in this city, and for eleven years the two brothers were associated in business together. During these years William H. had carefully saved his earnings, so that by the time he was ready to establish a business of his own he was financially able to undertake the responsibility. Purchasing a small stock of goods, he began business in a modest, unpretentious way, at first requiring the services of one clerk only, but with the passing of years the demands of the business made the enlargement of all departments necessary. His original location finally became too small to accommodate his constantly increasing trade, and in 1905 he removed to his present location, at No. 338 East Main street, where twenty employes are required to handle the patronage which finds its way to the Unique, as his store is called. One of Mr. Bennett's strongest characteristics is faithfulness to whatever he attempts to do, and this is nowhere better exemplified than in his devotion to his business, and this, coupled with honest dealings and giving good value for money received, has been the keynote of his success.

Mr. Bennett's marriage occurred October 12,



1897, uniting him with Miss Emma Wagner, a native of Stockton and the daughter of a pioneer settler of San Joaquin county. Fraternally he is a member of Truth Lodge No. 55, I. O. O. F., and he is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Stockton.

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### DANIEL ROTHENBUSH.

The life which this narrative depicts began in Bosenbach, in one of the Rhine provinces, Bavaria, Germany, February 19, 1834, and came to an end in Stockton, Cal., October 7, 1906. Between these dates was enacted a life of useful and successful achievements, and in his death the city in which he had made his home for so many years, mourned the loss of one of her most stalwart citizens. The earlier part of his life was spent in his native country, during which time he was educated in the public schools of Bosenbach and had also become proficient in the baker's trade. In 1852, when a lad of eighteen years, he decided to try his fortunes in the New World. The vessel on which he sailed cast anchor in the harbor of Boston, Mass., in due time, and as soon as arrangements could be made for his passage to California he re-embarked on a vessel which brought him to this state via the Isthmus of Panama.

Mr. Rothenbush came at once to Stockton, but had not been here long before he caught the mining fever, the only known remedy for which was a personal experience in delving for the hidden treasure. This he tried and as a result was soon satisfied that a more dependable income was assured those engaged in commercial pursuits. In the vicinity of the mines where he had made his venture, Vallicita, Calaveras county, he recognized the great need of a first-class bakery and restaurant, and forthwith established such an en-

terprise, although he did not relinquish his mining efforts altogether during the time he remained there. Closing out his affairs in Vallicita, he then came to Stockton, satisfied with the business outlook of the then young city, and in January, 1859, he purchased an interest in the Eldorado brewery. This enterprise had been established four years previously by Bush & Dinkelacker and in 1857 Mr. Bush's interest had been purchased by Peter Rothenbush, a brother of Daniel, and the latter bought out Mr. Dinkelacker's interest in 1859. The partnership thus formed between the brothers existed to the profit of both for six years, when, in 1865, Daniel Rothenbush purchased his brother's interest and thereafter conducted the enterprise alone. From a small beginning the business has grown to large proportions and the development of the buildings has been in keeping with the growth of the business, which now enables the Eldorado brewery to rank among the largest breweries in the west.

Soon after purchasing his original interest in the Eldorado brewery in 1859 Mr. Rothenbush took a short respite from business cares and returned to his native home in Germany in the hope of regaining his health. Six months proved sufficient to accomplish this purpose and at the end of this time he returned to Stockton and with renewed vigor took up his duties, with the results already noted. In 1865 he again returned to Germany and while there, in 1866, was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Alexander. After a residence of three years in the Fatherland the young people came to the United States and took up their home in Stockton. Here all of their children were born and here they were all educated with the exception of one, who in addition to his home training in Stockton was a student in the college of Heidelberg, Germany. Named in order of their birth the children are as follows: Emma C., Mrs. Charles Maschek; Louise R., the wife of Edward J. Oullahan; Fred W., who is his father's successor as president of the Eldorado brewery; Alex D.; Alfred J.; and Carl H. About five years before the death of Mr. Rothenbush, A. Waldenmeier purchased an



interest in the brewery and is still associated with the business. Under their management the plant was equipped with all the modern labor-saving appliances known to the business, and the growth of the business has not lessened since the death of Mr. Rothenbush, the plant occupying an entire block of ground.

Personally Mr. Rothenbush was one of the dependable citizens of Stockton, upon whom one could rely unflinchingly for support in any measure for the well-being of the town, county or state. He was a firm believer in the future greatness of Stockton as a business center and lost no opportunity to advance these ideas, and it was due to his enthusiasm that the Imperial hotel became a reality. A devoted husband and father, he knew no greater happiness than to be seated with his wife and children around the family fireside. Public life had no inducements to offer that were sufficiently alluring to induce him to become an office-holder, although at all times he was a supporter of the men and measures that would further the interests of the community. Fraternally he was a member of the Knights of Pythias, and socially he held membership in the Turn-Verein and the Verein-Eintracht.

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#### ROBERT JAMES STANLEY.

The Pine Tree state is represented in San Joaquin county by Robert J. Stanley, who for thirty years has been a resident in the vicinity of Stockton. He was born in Maidstone, Essex county, Vt., in 1847, one of four children, evenly divided as to sons and daughters, born to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Stanley, the father a farmer in Essex county throughout his active years.

Robert J. Stanley received his education in the schools of Maidstone, turning to best ac-

count the rather meager advantages there offered, but by well-selected reading he has ever since continued to add to his store of information and in so doing has kept well abreast of the times. Even during his school days he became thoroughly familiar with agricultural life in helping to perform the duties which fall to the lot of the farmer's son, and it was therefore natural that in starting out on his own independent career he should select the calling with which he was most familiar. It was in 1878 that his interest in California asserted itself to such an extent that he closed out his affairs in the east and settled in the Golden state, where he has since been contented to remain. His first location was in San Joaquin county about two miles from the ranch which he now owns, where he cultivated a tract of four hundred acres for about twelve years. Upon disposing of that property he assumed control of the Wright estate, about two miles below his former tract, remaining there for seven years, or until disposing of it and purchasing his present property, which was formerly known as the Holt estate. This is also located on the Sonora road, not far from Stockton, and during the ten years of his occupancy he has demonstrated his agricultural knowledge and ability in an unmistakable manner.

The marriage of Mr. Stanley occurred in 1880 and united him with the widow of Charles Matteson, by whom she had two children, Arthur Eugene and John J. Matteson, both of whom are residents of Stockton. One son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley, Albert James, his birth occurring on the first ranch occupied by his parents after their removal to California. His earliest education was received in the district schools adjacent to his home, and later he supplemented this training by a business course in a college in Stockton. After the completion of this special business training he was employed in a mercantile house in San Francisco for a time, but is now on the home ranch, in the care and management of which he has assumed a large share of the responsibility. Mr. Stanley's

home was made desolate by the death of his wife in 1903, after nearly a quarter of a century of happy married life.

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#### WALTER LEROY CHANDLER.

Not far from Holt Station, San Joaquin county, may be seen the thrifty dairy ranch owned and operated by Walter L. Chandler, one of California's younger generation of business men, who has practically grown up with the country, for he was brought to the state when a lad of five years and has lived within its borders ever since. A native of the middle-west, he has born in Illinois in 1870, and five years later his parents transferred their home from Illinois to California, locating in Butte county, on a ranch which the father devoted to stock-raising and general farming.

The district schools in the vicinity of his home in Butte county furnished Walter L. Chandler with his first insight into books, for he had left Illinois before attaining school age, and later he was privileged to attend Heald's Business College at San Francisco, graduating from that well-known institution in 1892. When his school days were over he naturally became ambitious to become independent, and as youth and courage were strongly in his favor it was not long before his wish was gratified. In Chico he established a grocery business of his own which he continued successfully for six years, when, in 1898, he sold out, and going to San Francisco, entered the retail milk business. It goes without saying that he was successful in this venture also, but after continuing it for seven years he wisely saw that a larger opportunity awaited him in handling this commodity from the dairyman's standpoint and he therefore sold out his business in San Francisco.

Coming to San Joaquin county in 1905 he found a suitable location for a dairy ranch near Holt, and secured eleven hundred acres of excellent land, upon which he is now grazing four hundred fine milch cows. Everything connected with the ranch, equipment, buildings and accessories, are up-to-date and kept in the best condition, prime essentials in any line of endeavor, although these points are not always recognized by the average farmer. To furnish feed for his large herd Mr. Chandler has seven hundred acres of land sown to grain, alfalfa and rye grass. Six hundred gallons of milk per day are shipped to San Francisco from his ranch to supply a portion of the retail trade in that metropolis.

Mr. Chandler was married in 1892, in Chico, to Miss Madge Clarke, a native of that city, and three children have been born to their marriage, Lewellyn, Lloyd and Laura, all pupils in the public school. Fraternally Mr. Chandler is identified with but one organization, the Masons, belonging to Chico Lodge, No. 111, F. & A. M.

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#### HARRY C. DUNLAP.

On Roberts Island, not far from Holt, San Joaquin county, lies the large ranch which under the supervision of Mr. Dunlap is yielding abundant crops of barley, the entire tract of three thousand acres being sown to this grain exclusively. A native of Missouri, born in 1876, he is a son of C. W. Dunlap, who in 1889 came to California with his wife and child and located at Stockton, where the parents still make their home, living in the enjoyment of the competency gained in former years.

Harry C. Dunlap was a lad of thirteen years when the family home was transferred from Missouri to California, and in the public schools of

both states he acquired his education. His first efforts in his own behalf were as a traveling salesman for the Pacific Hardware Company, a position in which he proved his efficiency during the seven years he remained with the company. Believing that he saw a larger opportunity in the freighting business he became interested in a number of steamboats on the San Joaquin river, where for two years he carried on a fairly successful business. Selling out his interest at the end of this time he came to Roberts Island and assumed the management of the property on which he now lives, making a specialty of the raising of barley.

Mr. Dunlap formed domestic ties in 1907, when he was married to Miss Isabelle Whiteman, of Stockton. Fraternally Mr. Dunlap is associated with but one organization, holding membership in Stockton Lodge No. 218, B. P. O. E. With his past success as a criterion it is safe to say that Mr. Dunlap has a bright outlook before him, for energetic application and unwearied industry have been the underlying principles which have guided him in the past and if followed in the future are sure to be followed by results worth the effort.

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#### FRED CHRIST WITT.

The agricultural community of San Joaquin county is represented largely by those of foreign birth, and among those of German origin mention may be made of Fred C. Witt, who for the past ten years has owned and cultivated his present ranch of one hundred and five acres on Roberts Island. He was born in Germany in 1856, and there he received the best educational advantages which his parents were able to provide. They were God-fearing, hard-working farmers, and when not in school their son was assisting them with such duties as he was able to perform. Finally he undertook farming re-

sponsibilities on his own account, following this life continuously until he was thirty-three years of age, when he was seized with the ambition to try his fortunes in the New World. Coming direct to San Joaquin county, Cal., he located first in Stockton. Naturally he sought employment along the line with which he was most familiar and for two years worked on a ranch on the west side of the river. This experience made him ambitious to become a land owner on his own account and resulted in the purchase of a ranch on the Middle river, which he cultivated for about five years. Selling the property at the end of that time he returned to the Fatherland for a visit to relatives and friends, and at the end of a year's time was willing and even anxious to return to his adopted home.

Upon his return to the United States Mr. Witt once more came to San Joaquin county and purchased the old Lindstrom place, which has been his home ever since, and so contented is he with his surroundings that he has no thought of changing it for another location. The ranch consists of one hundred and five acres and is devoted entirely to the raising of hay and grain.

Before immigrating to the United States in 1889 Mr. Witt had formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Jurgensen, who like himself was born in Germany. They have one son, Theo, who was born in Stockton, and is now assisting his father in the management of the home ranch. Mr. Witt belongs to but one fraternal organization, the Woodmen of America.

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#### BENJAMIN ALLEN WOODSON.

The tract of land forming the ranch which until his death was the home of Mr. Woodson was a source of just pride to its owner, whose efforts had been instrumental in giving it a position among the very finest ranches in San Joa-



quin county. The ranch comprises four hundred and eighty acres, located six miles north of Lodi, and here Mrs. Woodson is continuing the activities inaugurated by Mr. Woodson, she having had entire charge of the property since his death, March 31, 1893. A native of the south and the descendant of a long line of southern ancestors, Mr. Woodson was born in Virginia December 9, 1824, but he had little personal knowledge of his birthplace, for when he was a small child his parents removed to Pike county, Mo., where his education and boyhood training were received. Still remaining in that vicinity he took up farming apparently contented to make the south his lifetime home, when his plans were changed through the encouraging reports which came from the west as an outcome of the finding of gold in California. Having formed domestic ties in the meantime, in 1853, with his wife and child he started for the eldorado, making the journey across the plains with a six-ox team. Going direct to Diamond Spring, Eldorado county, he remained there interested in mining until 1858, when he came to San Joaquin county and purchased the ranch near Lodi which is now the home of his family.

Mr. Woodson's marriage, which occurred October 14, 1852, united him with Mary Ann Bounds, born October 22, 1824, the daughter of John Bounds, who was a native of Virginia, in later life a farmer of Pike county, Mo., and after the early '50s a resident of California. Six children were born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Woodson, and of them we mention the following: William Guilford is a dairyman in Madera; he is married and has three children. John Cameron, a resident of Lodi, is married and the father of four children, and also has five grandchildren. James Gordon, who lives on the home ranch, is married and has one daughter. Benjamin Franklin, a real-estate dealer in Lodi, has two children. George Washington, also on the home ranch, is married and has eight children. The youngest child in the family is Martha Jane, the wife of Robert McCourt, of Fresno, and the mother of two sons and one

daughter. Mr. Woodson's residence of over thirty-five years near Lodi made him well known throughout the surrounding country, a popularity which was well deserved, for his kindly, wholesome qualities made him a dependable friend.

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### JOHN HANCOCK.

A pronounced characteristic of the native-born sons of California is their devotion to their native state. Not many of the native sons seek homes in other parts of the world; the great majority remain in the midst of scenes familiar to their earliest recollections and take part in the business or professional life with an energy which is typical of the true westerner. This has been noticeable in the life of Mr. Hancock no less than in other Californians who have spent their entire lives within the borders of the state. Devotion to the commonwealth has been evidenced in his actions, and he has shown the greatest faith in the future growth and prosperity of the state.

John Hancock was born in San Jose, Santa Clara county. His first knowledge of books was received in the public schools of that city, and to the training received there he added a course in the Normal school, receiving his diploma in this latter institution in 1895. Thereafter he put his knowledge to good account by accepting the principalship of the school in Angels Camp, Calaveras county, a position which he filled acceptably for eight years. In the meantime he had been greatly impressed with the idea of preparing himself for the legal profession, and in 1903 he took active steps in that direction by taking a course in Hastings Law College in San Francisco. His devotion to his studies was rewarded when, in 1905, he was admitted to the bar, after which he at once became associated

with the well-known law firm of Salinsky & Wehe, of San Francisco, being connected, however, with the branch office in San Andreas, Calaveras county. Here his accomplishments have received the warmest approval and have elicited favorable comments as to his ability and professional knowledge.

The marriage of Mr. Hancock united him with Miss Hattie Avery, the daughter of George Avery, whose settlement in Calaveras county dates back to early pioneer days. One child has been born to the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, a daughter, to whom they have given the name of Eleanor.

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#### JOHN F. McCauly.

Back in the early days of colonial history the representatives of the McCauly family showed themselves to be men of courage and high principles of honor, characteristics which were bequeathed to their posterity and have been emulated by each generation in turn. As the name would indicate the family is of Scottish origin, and very early in the settlement of the Old Dominion it became established in the New World. John F. McCauly was born in Virginia, and continued to make his home in the state so long the abiding place of his ancestors until he broke the traditions of years and removed elsewhere to found a home. His migrations took him to what was then considered the far west, Missouri at that time holding little promise of becoming the flourishing and prosperous commonwealth of later years. There he carried on farming operations until attracted to California in 1852, making the journey across the plains in the most primitive method, behind an ox train. Upon his arrival in the state he purchased the Chabello grant of land located in San Joaquin and

Sacramento counties, the tract comprising over twenty thousand acres of land, to the supervision of which he devoted his attention throughout the remainder of his life.

Associated with General Estelle, Mr. McCauly took a lease of the State's Prison at San Quentin, and for five or six years maintained its management with success. Trouble had been brewing in the meantime, however, as was plainly revealed when Governor Bigler endeavored to break the lease given to Mr. McCauly and General Estelle. On the order of Colonel McCauly Governor Bigler was locked up in the prison grounds and held for one week for attempting to take forcible possession of the prison. The outcome of the matter was that Mr. McCauly was finally forced to leave his position, and afterwards he was awarded a judgment of \$500,000 against the state. Thereafter Mr. McCauly and his wife went on an extended trip abroad, spending several years visiting many points of historic and modern interest in the old world. Upon their return to California they located on a ranch near Galt, San Joaquin county, where throughout his remaining years Mr. McCauly superintended the management of his ranch, which returned to him an excellent income. Since his death, which occurred in 1892, his wife has continued his policy of management with the aid of her son, thus maintaining its reputation as one of the most profitable and model ranches in San Joaquin county.

Mr. McCauly's marriage occurred in Independence, Mo., in 1845, uniting him with Miss Caroline Wilson, a native of Nashville, Tenn., and the descendant of a long line of English ancestors, the name having been introduced in America during the Colonial period. Several members of the family defended the cause of the Colonists in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. McCauly's father, Thomas H. Wilson, was a farmer and planter in Virginia, whence he later removed to Missouri, and at the time of the Mormon uprising in that state he served as general of the army organized to banish them from the state. Mrs. Wilson was in maidenhood Sarah



Davis, a cousin of the president of the Southern Confederacy, Jefferson Davis. Mrs. Wilson came to California in 1846 and passed away in 1890, after a life of almost fifty years in the Golden State. After the death of her parents Mrs. McCauly came into possession of her father's large estate in Missouri, property which she still owns. She has been a prominent factor in promoting the agricultural development of San Joaquin county, and in many other ways has lent her aid and influence in the betterment of conditions. Probably the most notable of her benefactions was the building of ten miles of levee on the Mokelumne river, and the erection of the Catholic church in Galt.

Two children blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. McCauly, George B. and Alice, the latter the wife of Guilo Velensin and a resident of Arno, Sacramento county. The son George Beauregard, was a child of two years when taken abroad by his parents. His knowledge of his native country dates from his sixteenth year, for it was not until then that he returned to California, having in the meantime received his education under private tutors. For two years after taking up his business career he engaged in the provision and supply business in San Francisco, but since giving that up he has made his home in the ranch near Galt, having charge of seven thousand acres in San Joaquin county and three thousand in Sacramento county. In June, 1907, he was united in marriage with Miss Hall, of Tehama county, and they have one daughter, Caroline Wilson McCauly, born April 15, 1908.

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#### WALTER EDWIN KENT.

Born in San Francisco December 26, 1855, Walter Edwin Kent was reared in the pioneer home of his father, Edwin A. Kent, and was

educated in the schools of the town. Upon starting out for himself at the age of twenty years, he embarked in the teaming business and, before the railroads were built he hauled freight from Sacramento to the mountains. For a time he had his headquarters at Aqueduct, Amador county, and from there he went to Jackson, same county, where for five years he clerked for the L. Newman Company in the general mercantile business. Next he bought one-half interest in a general mercantile store and became a member of the firm of Levy & Kent, the connection being continued for a time. After selling out, he bought the Globe hotel at Jackson, which he conducted for two years. Upon selling the hotel in 1893 he opened a grocery, which he conducted under the title of W. E. Kent & Co., and at the same time he carried on an undertaking establishment which had been started by his father. During December of 1896 he sold the undertaking business to Hubberty & Gebinoni and the grocery business to the Amador Milling Co., after which he removed to Stockton. Since then he has engaged in the grocery business in this city.

In addition to building up a large local trade in groceries, Mr. Kent acts as local agent for the Amador Milling Co., of Ione, Amador county, manufacturers of the famous Peerless flour. The mill has been in operation about thirteen years and manufactures a superior brand of flour, which is sold in the leading markets of the Pacific coast. For a number of years Mr. Jackson served as city trustee. In fraternal relations he is identified with the Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Native Sons of the Golden West. His family comprises three children, Vivian Blanche, Loring E. and Ward Foster, all residents of Stockton. In the business circles of this city he bears a high reputation for integrity, intelligence and honorable dealings with all with whom he is brought in contact.

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