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SANTA CRUZ COUNTY  
CALIFORNIA

WITH

# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF

The leading men and women of the County, who have been identified with its growth and development from the early days to the present time.

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## HISTORY BY

# EDWARD MARTIN

ILLUSTRATED

**Complete in One Volume**

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# HISTORIC RECORD COMPANY

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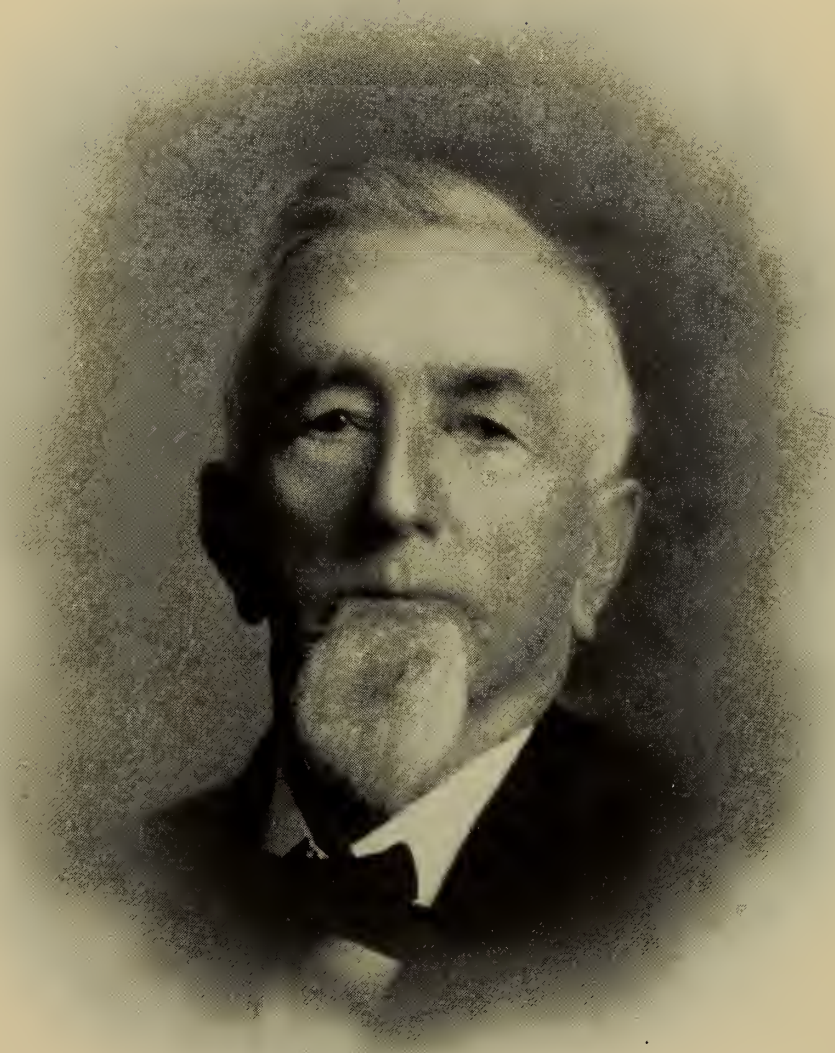
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Edward Martin.

# History of Santa Cruz County.

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## CHAPTER I.

### BOUNDARY OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY.

Beginning at the south corner of San Mateo county at a point in the Pacific ocean south forty-five degrees west, three miles from the intersection of the east line of rancho Punta del Año Nueva with said ocean forming the western corner, thence north forty-five degrees east to said point of intersection thence northerly, following the eastern line of said rancho to its intersection with the south line of township eight south, range four west, Mount Diablo base and Meridian; thence east to the southeast corner of said township, thence north to the northeast corner of section 25 of said township, thence east to the northeast corner of section 26, township 8 south, range 3 west, thence north to the summit of the Santa Cruz mountains being the western line of Santa Clara county; thence southeasterly along the summit of said mountains on the western line of Santa Clara county to the Pajaro river, forming the southeast corner on the north line of Monterey county, thence westerly along said river on the northern line of Monterey county to the Bay of Monterey, and three miles westerly into the ocean forming southwest corner, thence northwesterly along the shore to the point of beginning.

In 1850 the boundary as then established took in a little beyond the town of Pescadero, now in San Mateo county. In 1867 the people who were living in Pescadero petitioned the

legislature to have a certain portion of Santa Cruz county set off to San Mateo county. An act was passed granting the request of the petitioners. This was granted by reason, as stated in the petition, that there was no good road leading from Pescadero to Santa Cruz. Had there been good communication along the coast road Santa Cruz would probably have retained this portion which was taken. From Waddells creek the road ran then, and does now, along the beach. During a severe storm the road is sometimes impassable. At the present time there is no improvement in this portion of the county in the shape of a good road.



## CHAPTER II.

## HISTORY OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY.

Some one has written that "all history is a lie." Another saying is "That you must not believe all that you hear and only half that you see." That inaccuracies and misleading statements may creep in and be incorporated in local histories are not to be wondered at; oftentimes the events related have been colored to suit the narrator. In writing a history of the county of Santa Cruz I believe it will be better to set forth events that have transpired since the occupation of California by those who came here in a very early day, some of them prior to the change of government from Mexico to that of the United States of America, and therefore I preface this with a brief sketch of Mission history. Pioneer history is a source of attraction to many persons, especially to those of the present generation who like to read of the labors of their pioneer fathers and of the part that was taken by them in the upbuilding of this great commonwealth.

Sir Francis Drake, one of the famous navigators and a grand sea-grafter, is supposed to have come very close to San Francisco bay, but appears to have missed entering that magnificent harbor and anchored at the place now called Drake's Bay, where he met the natives. Drake imagined from certain ceremonial performances that the Indians were inviting him to take possession of their lands and accept them as subjects of Great Britain. Drake gladly accepted their proffered allegiance and formally took possession of the country in the name of the English Queen, Elizabeth; this was in the year 1579. After a stay of fifty-six days

Drake took his departure, much to the regret of the Indians. It is said that after a stormy voyage he arrived at Plymouth, England, from which port he had sailed about three years before. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth and accorded many honors. A large stone cross was erected in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, a few years ago in commemoration of Sir Francis Drake, as having held the first service of the Church of England on the coast of California. The early Spanish navigators and explorers apparently paid more attention to Monterey than other portions of California. On the 30th of June, 1770, the Mission of San Carlos Borromeo de Monterey was formally founded with solemn church ceremony, accompanied by the ringing of bells, the crack of musketry and the roar of cannon. Governor Portola took possession of the land in the name of King Charles III. On July 9th Portola sailed in the San Antonio for San Francisco; he never returned to Alta California.

Any one interested in the history of California from the time of the Spanish and Mexican regime can find ample means for their research in Bancroft's History, to be found in the public library of Santa Cruz. It will be conceded, no doubt, that California was discovered by several navigators, but nothing materialized from the discovery until later years, during our own times, in which we are much more interested. At the time of the discovery of gold in 1848 California was almost a "terra incognita" (an unknown land), but not much time was lost in reaching the land of gold, the land of promise to some and of great expectations to others, and a great disappointment to a great number.

The last pueblo founded under Spanish domination was Villa de Branciforte, located on the opposite side of the river from the Mission of Santa Cruz. It was named after the Viceroy Branciforte. It was designed as a coast defense and

a place to colonize discharged soldiers; the scheme was discussed for a considerable time before anything was done. Governor Borica recommended "that an adobe house be built for each settler so that the prevalent state of things in San Jose and Los Angeles, where the settlers still lived in tule huts, being unable to build better buildings without neglecting their fields, may be prevented, the houses not to cost over \$200." (Bancroft's history of Cal. Vol. I.)

Ownership of the lands in the pueblos could not in strictness be affirmed. It amounted to little more than a restricted and qualified right to alienate portions to its inhabitants for building or cultivation and to use the remainder for commons for pasture lands, or as a source of revenue or for other public purposes. This right of disposition and use was in all particulars subject to the control of the government of the country. The right appears to have been common to the cities and towns of Spain from an early period of her history and was recognized in the laws governing her colonies of this country.

The Villa de Branciforte not having a sufficient population for an ayuntamiento of its own, was attached, in 1826, to the civil jurisdiction of San Jose, but in 1828 it was detached from San Jose, together with the ranchos of San Sidro and Las Animas, again becoming subject to the civil and military authorities of Monterey, the ranchos above named, Las Animas (in Santa Clara county on which is located the town of Gilroy), San Sidro, in San Benito county. The following are the names of thirty-four citizens of Branciforte, four of whom were foreigners:

Jose C. Boronda,  
Juan Jose Castro,  
Miguel Villagrana,  
Joaquin Pinto,

Jose Ramerez,  
Marcos Amador,  
Samuel Buckle,  
William Buckle,



Jose Maria Perez,	Francisco Sorio,
Jose Maria Solar,	Jaime Mendoza,
Luis Garcia,	Juan Jose Feliz,
Julian Wilson,	Francisco Roderiguez,
Francisco Gonzales,	Jose Antonio Robles,
Jose Bolcof,	Roman Roderiguez,
Francisco Juarez,	Joaquin Soto,
Luz Garcia,	Manuel Montero,
Joaquin Buelna,	Manuel Tego,
Jose Maria Juarez,	Joaquin Juarez,
Juan Pinto,	Juan Gonzales,
Joaquin Castro,	Macedonio Lorenzana,
Martin Villa,	Serafin Pinto.

None of these are living at the present time, though numerous descendants are now residents of Santa Cruz county. The inhabitants of Branciforte acquired no titles to the lands of the pueblo, they simply held them by sufferance of the authorities of Monterey. We quote from Bancroft, relating to the establishment of the pueblo of Branciforte:

“After the occupation of California by Spain in 1769, the title of land vested in the crown. There was no individual ownership of land. The King held actual possession of the ground occupied by the presidios and a few adjoining lands. The aborigines were recognized as the owners under the crown, of all the lands needed for their support. This arrangement limited the area, thus leaving a portion open to colonization. So it was that under the general law of the Indies four square leagues or their equivalent of land could be assigned to each pueblo. Neither missions, churches or religious orders owned any land, the missionaries had only the use of the land needed for mission purposes, namely to prepare the Indians that they might in time take possession as individuals of the land they were then holding in common-



alty. This purpose once accomplished, the missions were to be secularized and made pueblos, the houses of worship naturally going under the control of the church and the missionaries going to seek other fields of usefulness. It was planned from the beginning that each mission and presidio should eventually become a pueblo, and that other pueblos should likewise be founded, each having four square leagues of land assigned thereto. The settlement of boundaries was left to the future when called for by the increase of the number of the towns. The missions in their temporary occupation were not restricted as to area. The conversion of most of the presidios and missions into towns was finally affected under a law of 1834. This law, according to the spirit of the Spanish laws, involved the distribution of the mission lands to the neophytes.

“The granting of land to natives or Spaniards in California was permitted as early as 1773. All grants, however, were forfeited, by abandonment, failure to cultivate or non-compliance with the requirements of the law. Such lands could not be alienated at all until full possession had been given. At the end of the eighteenth century there were in California eighteen missions and four presidios without settlers, but each was intended to become in due time a pueblo; three towns of Spaniards, so called, with about one hundred heads of families; and finally twenty or thirty men occupying ranchos under provisional permits, which involved no legal title to the lands. In 1822, after the Spanish sovereignty had ceased, the provincial disputation passed an act establishing ayuntamientos (municipal council) for towns, but the change from the old system was only in name and in the addition of a treasurer and secretary to the former list of officials. After the government of Mexico became centralized and the new régime took effect in California, ayuntamientos were

suppressed, being replaced by justices of the peace and prefects. Monterey, a presidio since 1770, was made a town in 1820 and in 1840 was raised to the rank of a city and declared to be the capital of the then department of California."

The following concerning the establishment of the pueblo of Branciforte (Bancroft's Pastoral):

"The necessity of an increase of the Spanish population being fully recognized it was contemplated to establish more pueblos of gente de razon (civilized people). In November, 1795, orders came to select a proper site to found a villa to bear the name of Branciforte, in honor of the Marquis de Branciforte, viceroy of Mexico. It was intended to be a military town, thoroughly fortified, and peopled by soldiers, though in the matter of land grants the existing pueblo regulation and the laws of the Indies were to be enforced. Every officer and soldier was to have his town lot, and between the lots of the officers were others to be assigned to chiefs of Indian rancherias who might wish to live among the Spaniards. The site finally chosen was Santa Cruz, because it afforded facilities for exporting merchandise, with abundance of fish and good building materials. It was concluded that the settlers should be from cold or temperate climes. Houses and granaries were to be built and made ready so that they could immediately after their coming devote themselves to the cultivation of the soil. The scheme of having Indian chiefs among the settlers was given up as impracticable, as there were no suitable chiefs at hand, but the mission Indians might be advantageously admitted in the colony to work with and learn from the gente de razon. Governor Diego de Borica, who was a man of practical views, called for four classes of settlers, to wit: robust tillers of the soil, mechanics, artisans and a few sailors to develop whale fishing, as whales abounded on the coast. The college of San Fernando ob-



jected to the site selected so near a mission, but no heed was paid to it and Borica was directed in January, 1797, to proceed at once with the foundation, which he did, receiving as settlers a number from San Jose and Los Angeles who had no lands. He was promised new settlers and artisans from Mexico, but the people sent out were not the best suited to lay the foundation of a moral, law-abiding community; perhaps it was hardly consistent with the eternal fitness of things that a colony bearing the name of one of the worst men that ever disgraced a country should succeed. Most of the new settlers were vagrants and minor criminals. The ship *Concepcion* arrived at Monterey May 12, 1797, with a party of such colonists in a most pitiable condition from ill-health and destitution.

“Gabriel Moraga, as *comisionado*, carried out the foundation. His instructions were to see that the townsmen lived peaceably; to tolerate no prostitution, gambling, drunkenness or neglect of work. Such offences were to be severely punished. The observance of religious duties was to be enforced; each settler had to produce from time to time a certificate to the effect that he had attended to the church service, the confessional and communion as prescribed by the ecclesiastical authority. The colonists were to maintain the best relations with the friars, to have no intercourse whatever with the natives of the neighboring mission. A number of other useful recommendations need not be detailed. Among them was one to see that the settlers prepared shelter for men and animals before the arrival there of Cordoba, the government engineer; Cordoba arrived in August, surveyed the lands, did something towards erecting temporary houses, began a canal for irrigation and made search for suitable materials for the permanent buildings. He furnished the governor with the estimate of the cost, \$23,405,

which was duly forwarded to the viceroy. In October the works were suspended for want of funds and thus was the greatness of the villa de Branciforte indefinitely put off. Nevertheless the place did not remain empty, there were some temporary huts, nine settlers, the commisionado, and the military guard. These settlers were not convicts, though of a class that Guadalajara, from whence they came, could well afford to part with. They were provided with means to get along, after a fashion, for the first five years, but never showed a disposition for hard work. In 1798 Governor Borica requested Moraga to stir them up against their natural laziness; indeed they were not only lazy but vicious, and the governor pronounced them a curse to the country for their dishonesty and immorality. Down to 1800 there was no change in the number, though a few discharged soldiers were added to the settlement. Moraga was in charge till 1799 and was succeeded by Ignacio Vallejo, a very just man. The crop of 1800 was 1,100 bushels of wheat, maize and beans, and the live stock had reached 500 head of horses and meat cattle. The settlement of Branciforte was the last one attempted during the Spanish or Mexican domination.

“The united population of San Jose, Los Angeles and Branciforte in 1800 was about 550 in a little over one hundred families, including twelve or fifteen men raising cattle in the vicinity, whose families mostly dwelt in the towns. About thirty of these families had been imported from Mexico and the increase resulted from children grown to manhood and discharged soldiers, some of whom were pensioners. Agriculture and stock-raising were the only industries of the townsmen. In 1800 they had 16,000 head of cattle and horses and about 1,000 sheep and raised some 9,000 bushels of grain, the surplus of which found a ready sale at the presidios. Each settler cultivated his fields and delivered yearly to the



common fund a certain quantity of grain, which served to defray the town's expenses. At each pueblo was a guard of soldiers who were practically settlers. The alcalde and regidores had charge of the municipal affairs and the *comisionado* a general supervision. Most of the labor was done by natives not attached to the missions. Father Salazar reported that the settlers were idlers and cared more for gambling and guitar playing than for tilling their lands or educating their offspring. Branciforte was still in debt to the government at the end of 1800." The foregoing may explain why Branciforte and Santa Cruz townships on each side of the San Lorenzo river remained separate and distinct for so many years. Branciforte was founded under such different auspices, near a mission yet not regulated by the laws governing a mission, nor yet fulfilling the hope of its founders as a successful pueblo.

Since the American occupation it has been a township of homes, but few business houses existing, geographically just as pleasantly situated as Santa Cruz, and that it was not a part of Santa Cruz city, difficult to believe. When a special election was called in 1907 to determine if Branciforte and Seabright would become a part of the city of Santa Cruz some opposition was shown, but the necessary votes were received which made it a part of the city. Spanish families are in the minority in that portion of the city and the few remaining probably know little of the founding of the pueblo or the villa de Branciforte.

There is much in Bancroft's history "California Pastoral" that is of interest, giving one much knowledge of the struggle of the missionary friars, the Spanish and Mexican governments and of the early occupation by the Americans. Bancroft worked for years compiling his history, writing personal letters to all persons known to possess interesting data.

The University of California is enriched by the Bancroft library and the county of Santa Cruz is as much an heir to that as any county in the state, more so than some, for every county had not a mission and the history pertaining to it. The mission buildings have long been extinct, but paintings of the buildings or drawings have been preserved and they are pictured today for all the world to see on the ubiquitous and useful picture post card.

October 18, 1868, the United States of America issued to Augustine W. Blair, at that time county judge of this county, a patent for 319 acres of section land in Branciforte in trust for the several uses and benefits of the occupants of the town of Branciforte, according to their respective interests under the act of May 23, 1844, and to his successors and assigns in trust as aforesaid. A. W. Blair, county judge mentioned, in pursuance of an act of the legislature of the state of California approved April 4, 1864, entitled "an Act to settle title to lands in the village of Branciforte," issued an order to the county surveyor to make a full and accurate survey of said village with the lots and parcels therein, designating the same by the names of the owners or occupants and to have made two maps or plats of said village deposited with the county recorder. Notice was ordered published in the Santa Cruz Sentinel "for all claimants to file in the office of the county clerk of the county of Santa Cruz, a statement of his or their claim, describing particularly the lot or lots so claimed; and within sixty days after, December 23, 1864, the grounds upon which said claims were founded and proofs of such claims and payment of the price fixed on the lots or parcels of land claimed," as in said act provided. "No claim shall be permitted to be made after the time prescribed." After the preliminaries were settled and complied with the county judge made and executed deeds to the parties

who had proved their claims to the satisfaction of the judge.

By an act of Congress entitled "An act to quiet title to certain land within the corporate limits of the city of Benicia and the town of Santa Cruz in the state of California," approved July 23, 1866, all the lands within the corporate limits of the town of Santa Cruz were "relinquished and granted by the United States to the corporate authorities of said town and their successors in trust for and with authority to convey so much of said lands as were in the bona fide occupancy upon the passage of said act by themselves or tenants," to such parties. The trustees of the inhabitants of the town of Santa Cruz passed ordinances providing for the survey of said lands and for the issuance of deeds to those entitled thereto and have upon application and due proof deeds issued to such parties. Before this the titles to lands within the city of Santa Cruz (afterwards incorporated by that name) were very much unsettled, also in other portions of the county lands were held by squatters on Spanish grants and much litigation ensued before land titles were finally settled.

An ayuntamiento corresponded somewhat to our common council or board of supervisors; these people were saved from any such infliction, perhaps if this institution had been thrust upon them they might have progressed but it is exceedingly doubtful. They belonged to the land of "Mañana" and "pocotiempo," they lived not only the simple life but a primitive one and stood in no fear of any game warden or fish commission; they were never urged to make improvements, no bridges to build, no roads to keep in order; if they desired to extend their travels outside of their territory there were mountain trails over which no wagon had ever been hauled. This scribe made his entry into Santa Cruz over a mountain trail in 1851 and he retains a painful recollection



of the same. In some places the trail was hardly wide enough for horses in single file to pass. John Gilroy gave some reminiscences of the habits and customs of the people of those days to the *Alta Californian* in 1865. "What little wealth there was in the county was in the hands of the padres; the Missions contained all the wealth of the county, the friars supplied the government and supplied the troops with food from the products of the neophyte's labor. The needs of the common people were easily satisfied; they were not used to luxuries nor were they accustomed to what we would call necessities." Gilroy further stated that at the time of his arrival "there was not a saw mill nor a spoked wheel in California; such lumber as was used was cut with an axe. Plates were rare," and he might have added "knives and forks." Frijoles, tortillas and jerked dried beef were the principal articles of diet among the common people. The late Judge Peckham, once a county judge of this county, informed me that he stopped at Gilroy's house some time in the 40's and was invited to dine; he, with the rest, was supplied with a tortilla and directed to dig into a pot containing a mess of stewed beef and chile; he had to use his fingers, no forks being in sight.

Branciforte came very near being adopted as the name of this county instead of Santa Cruz. In the first session of the legislature held at San Jose in 1850 the name of Branciforte was suggested and reported on. A. A. Hecox and one hundred and forty-one citizens of Santa Cruz forwarded a petition to the legislature protesting against the attaching to or being included in Monterey, the district of Santa Cruz, and praying that a county may be granted them known and styled as the county of Santa Cruz, which petition was read and referred to the committee on county boundaries. This was on January 16, 1850. So it seems there were "kickers" in



those days as well as the present time. Had not this protest been received, very likely the county seat would have been Branciforte instead of being located as the city of the "Holy Cross." The village of Branciforte became a part of the county government and was controlled by the board of supervisors until it was annexed to and became a part and parcel of the city of Santa Cruz. The people of the pueblo of Branciforte never applied to the authorities of Monterey to have commons set off to them or a public square or plaza. It was the custom of the Spanish, likewise the Mexican, government to assign certain lands for the use of the people. The woods in the forests were also deemed to be the property of the public under certain restrictions. Water was also common and to be used by the inhabitants. No corporation could "gobble" up all the water rights; as water rights did not cut much figure in those days, no one thought of appropriating the water of the several streams or rivers. At the present time water is quite a valuable asset of the land, for irrigation purposes and for supplying power for electric and other machinery.

The pabladores, inhabitants of the pueblo of Branciforte, were not oppressed by a complicated form of government; there were alcaldes to take cognizance of offenses against the laws of the land. In 1828 Branciforte is described as bounded by the bay of Monterey on the west, by Amesti rancho on the south, by Santa Cruz and the Sierra on the north and on the east by Santa Clara creek. Guadalupe Castro, who died a few years ago, one of the descendants of Joaquin Castro, used to amuse himself by writing letters to the authorities at Washington, D. C., in support of his claim to the whole of Branciforte territory. He died in penury and want, his "castles in the air" never materialized. The following were alcaldes of Branciforte at different periods: Jose Joaquin

Buelna in 1826, Serafin Pinto in 1827, C. Boronda in 1838, Francisco Roderiguez in 1830, Jose Bolcoff in 1834, William Blackburn in 1847 and A. A. Abbott. Before the state government was fully established, the *alcaldes* exercised considerable authority; Blackburn made several *alcalde* grants of lands in Santa Cruz during his term in office; these grants were not subsequently confirmed, hence the grants were not considered instruments of title. Blackburn also exercised the functions of justice of the peace and disposed of civil and criminal cases; some of his decisions are matters of history and are interesting as his dictum seemed to be law from which there was no appeal. A noted case that he decided was that of a man charged with killing his wife; having been found guilty he was sentenced to be shot. The prisoner was taken out and the sentence was duly carried out. There were no delays tolerated by this *alcalde*, no attorneys were allowed to prolong a trial by technicalities. "It was an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth." There seems to have been a town council for the town of Santa Cruz at this period, probably similar to the *witenagemote* of the English, where the people were given a chance to air their grievances. The members of the council in 1848 were president, Eli Moore, Griffith P. Jenkins, W. H. Hardy and secretary James Boucher. There is among the *alcalde* records a copy of a letter from Governor Riley, dated May 26, 1849, approving the election of J. L. Majors as *alcalde*, also stating that the town council will, until further orders, confine themselves by attending to the internal police of the town and district according to ancient custom and usage. The names of Walter Colton and Col. J. D. Stevenson appear frequently in the *alcaldes'* records as having received grants of land and made transfers of the same to other parties. The town council



appears to have left no records of its proceedings, hence their contribution to the history of the county is lost.

The first election under the United States government was held in Santa Cruz on the first Monday in April of 1850; there were 313 votes cast at this election; A. C. Campbell was elected district attorney; Peter Tracy county clerk; for county judge William Blackburn, formerly alcalde; for county attorney Abram Long; sheriff, Francisco Alzina; county recorder, C. P. Stevenson; for assessor, J. Hammond; for treasurer, L. Majors; and for county coroner, Henry Speels. The town councilmen were L. B. Clements, C. Schulte; for member of the assembly T. Per Lee; he was also assemblyman in the first session of the legislature from the district of Monterey. John H. Watson was appointed judge of the third district court in 1850, comprising at that time the counties of Santa Cruz, Monterey, Alameda and Contra Costa. Watson served until the April term of court in 1851, being succeeded by C. P. Hester, who held office until 1859. Judge Blackburn, county and probate judge, took his seat April 6, 1850. The first probate case was that of Dennis Bennett; Mary Bennett applied for letters of administration on the estate of Dennis Bennett and she was appointed administratrix of said estate. The county court was also designated as a court of sessions presided over by the county judge and two associate justices. George Parsons and Felipe Armas were elected as such associates. At this period this court took charge of the affairs of the county court, levied taxes, issued licenses and generally performed the functions of a board of supervisors until the latter were chosen and held their first meeting July 5, 1852. September 31, 1850, the tax on bowling alleys was reduced to \$16 per month and they to be closed at 10 o'clock P. M. At this time Judge Blackburn

resigned his office as county judge and the Hon. T. Per Lee became the presiding judge in October of that year.

Manuel Jimeno presented two petitions for reduction of taxes. At a special term of court, July, 1851, a tax of fifty cents on each \$100 worth of real and personal property was levied. At the August term, 1851, the court orders that the valuation of the Bolsa del Pajaro be increased to \$50,000; Amesti Rancho raised to \$58,227.50; Aptos Rancho to \$23,000; the upper ranch of Martina Castro raised to \$28,000; rancho of Sebastian Rodriguez reduced to \$34,430; Jose Bolcoff's rancho be reduced to \$45,000; the rancho of Manuel Jimeno be increased to \$81,142. These figures are given to show the valuation of property at that period. The assessor went around with a book carried under his arm and as there were no subdivisions of ranches or city lots to assess, his work was not laborious and involved but a few days time to complete the assessment and he was paid \$432 for his labors. Twenty-seven days at \$16 per diem, no corporations, no franchises, no mortgages to be assessed.

During the term of the court of sessions the law seems to have been administered in an impartial manner, cases were tried promptly and with very little delay, several prominent citizens of that period were arrested for selling liquor to Indians, some pleaded guilty and were fined \$25 and costs, another stood trial, was found guilty and had to pay \$225. Judge Per Lee was succeeded by Henry Rice in June, 1854. The court of sessions was relieved of its duties in the supervision of financial affairs of the county by the organization of the board of supervisors. The board of supervisors organized July 5, 1852, consisted of Elihu Anthony, John Daubenbiss, John Haines, Eli Moore and Moses A. Meader; Anthony was elected chairman. In August, 1852, the claims allowed amounted to \$52, salaries of officers not included. In



1854 the board consisted of only three members—George Parsons, Jesse D. Carr and Montgomery B. Shackelford, with Parsons chairman. In 1860 the board directed the clerk of the board to advertise for a suitable piece of land for the erection of county buildings. F. A. Hihn was elected a member of the board in 1861. The building on Pacific Avenue generally known as the “flatiron edifice” was used for county purposes prior to the erection of a court house. In 1866 Lynch and Gragg were awarded the contract to build a court house for \$20,000. The same year the late R. C. Kirby offered to sell to the county a lot near the upper plaza for \$400; this offer was accepted and afterwards rescinded. The advocates of the “hill” were outgeneraled by those on the “flat.” A court house was eventually built which, at the time of its erection, was considered a wonderful structure, but it was totally inadequate even at that time for the business of the county.

In April, 1866, the Cooper Brothers and T. W. Moore made a deed to the county of Santa Cruz of a lot on Cooper Street, 110 feet square, on conditions precedent that said county should, within a reasonable time, cause to be erected a court house in which shall be held the courts of record of said county and which said court house shall face the northerly side of Cooper street and shall have suitable accommodations for county officials; unless said court house should be erected as thus designated no interest or estate whatever shall vest in the county of Santa Cruz, but shall revert to the grantors. This proved to be an expensive donation as will be seen hereafter.

The spirit of *mañana* was very much in evidence, the habits of the native Californians seem to have permeated among their successors. In trying to be economical the supervisors were in a measure extravagant. The future of the county,

that it might some day increase in population and that the requirements would exceed the wants of the present, seem to have been entirely overlooked. At one time a petition was presented to the board by several citizens suggesting that more land would be needed for county purposes, that it would not be wise to allow other buildings to be erected near the court house, that it would be better to obtain the property now than to await advances in the value of adjacent lands. The board said *mañana*, time enough to consider this proposition at some future date. It is easy at the present time to perceive what should have been done, but we must remember that in the earlier years of this county not much progress was made and if any enterprises were proposed more opposition than encouragement was strenuously put forth.

To many persons, the site of the city should have been chosen on Mission hill, where a few business houses were started in 1850, but in common with many other places the level or flat portion seems to have been invariably chosen for town sites. At the time of the fight over the location of a county building on the upper plaza the Catholic clergy raised a strong opposition to such location, but a jail was built adjoining the Catholic church without any opposition. It was not only a jail, but a veritable dungeon. This jail cost a little over \$8,000 and was a source of trouble for several years. The grand jury made several reports designating this building as unfit for any person to be placed in; it was dangerous to the health of the inmates and taken altogether was considered a disgrace to humanity. Persons that were confined in this place for any length of time came out with the mark of a jail bird; they had no color whatever and were generally very much weakened by their confinement. During their incarceration in this prison house (which

was equal to old Newgate jail in London) the prisoners were paraded through the streets on their way to the court house to be tried for their offenses and returned to prison in the same manner.

In July, 1894, a deal was consummated whereby the county acquired a piece of land adjoining the court house lot for \$16,000, after due notice was given that the board of supervisors intended to purchase the same for county purposes; no objections were made by anyone and the deed passed, securing to the county more room. At the present time there is a court house, hall of records and a jail on the land owned by the county, too much congestion in case of fire. An entire square could have been purchased for a very trifling sum where there would have been less danger from fire. It was not done and it is idle to dwell on what ought to have been done or grieve over the mistakes of the past.

A disastrous fire occurred in 1894, by which not only the court house was destroyed, but all the buildings on the opposite side of the street as far as the Simpson block on Pacific avenue. The destruction of the court house compelled the building of another edifice. An examination of the Cooper deed made it necessary, or at least it was so held by the county authorities, that a small wooden building be erected in the grounds adjacent to the ruins of the court house for the purpose of holding the title to the lot acquired from Coopers et al. It had also to be taken into consideration, in adopting the plans and specifications for a new building, that the entrance should be on Cooper street; this involved a sacrifice and changes in the original plans and specifications and also in additional work being ordered. In April, 1906, the great earthquake that caused so much damage and disturbance in San Francisco, also included the city of Santa Cruz. The tower of the court house tumbled through



the superior court room floor into the supervisors' chambers, knocked the county clerk's office into "pi" and raised a rumpus generally with the various offices. Previous to the rebuilding the county rented offices in different parts of the city; other buildings suffered damage, the F. A. Hihn Co.'s building, the Leonard building and the Pilot building. In Watsonville the Pajaro Valley bank building, the Catholic church and the I. O. O. F. building suffered from the same temblor. Altogether the county escaped luckily compared with other counties.

In several parts of the county landslides occurred, at Hinckley Gulch Mill, operated by the Loma Prieta Lumber Company, a regular avalanche buried the mill and cabins out of sight and killed nine persons. Above Boulder Creek two persons were killed. The Southern Pacific Railroad suffered extensively by the caving in of the tunnel on the narrow gauge road over the mountains between Glenwood and Laurel; this tunnel was rendered impassable for trains for three years, much to the detriment of travel. During the interregnum the road was changed to a broad gauge and a change made by a cut-off from Los Gatos to Mayfield, reducing the time to San Francisco and other places. There was a very heavy earthquake in 1868, but as there were but few large buildings at that time the damage done to property was not excessive. It may be that the earthquake of 1906 was a blessing in disguise, prior to that period we had boasted largely of what we could show in the way of big trees, big crops and other big assets; to all this the eastern people said we belonged to the Ananias club, but the catastrophe of 1906 showed conclusively that on short notice we created quite a sensation when the news of the temblor reached the outside world. It convinced other people that we were not braggarts



of what California had done in the past, in the language of the day "we were keeping up our lick".

Locomotion and means of travel in the old days were for several years by means of horseback riding. A stage line was established in 1854 between Santa Cruz and San Jose via San Juan. It took two days to reach San Francisco, a stop over at San Jose and by boat from Alviso next morning. The roads were horrible, mud in winter and suffocating dust in the summer; in winter the passengers were obliged to leave the stage and assist in extracting the mud-wagon from being mired down. A route was established via Soquel and over the mountains to Watsonville. Another route was established over the Pajaro turnpike mountain road to San Jose from Watsonville. When the railroad was built from San Jose to Gilroy the stage route terminated at the latter town, this lessened the weary drive through dust and mud. In 1871 the railroad was extended to Pajaro, in Monterey county, and Santa Cruz was dependent on a stage line until a narrow gauge railroad was built from Santa Cruz to Watsonville. This road was built mainly through the efforts of F. A. Hihn and was granted a subsidy, the road was opened for travel in 1876. Much opposition was encountered in the construction of this road, rights of way over the route were obtained only in several instances by condemnation suits. The county of Santa Cruz issued bonds by way of a subsidy to this road to the amount of \$100,000; this was done under the act of the legislature authorizing counties to vote subsidies for aid of railroads. An election was held December 11, 1871, submitting the question of this subsidy to the people of the county. The election was carried by a majority of 602, there were only seven election precincts in the county at that period. In 1880 a railroad eighty-one miles in length was completed from Oakland to Santa Cruz over the mountain road via Felton

and Big Trees. This was considered quite an undertaking; predictions were made that it would not be safe to build a road over the mountain route; the road was built by Isaac N. Davis without any subsidy. It was afterwards transferred to the Southern Pacific Coast Railroad Company and subsequently to the Southern Pacific. The first train to Santa Cruz met with bad luck by an accident, the train ran off the track on the grade just before it reached Santa Cruz. By this disaster fifteen persons were killed and more received severe injuries. The company incurred heavy damages, which were settled without recourse to the courts. It is supposed that the road was not sufficiently ballasted and possibly the road was used before it was in a proper condition for travel. There have been no serious accidents since the one mentioned. Excursion trains were run over this road in 1909, carrying a large number of passengers without any injury whatever, much to the advantage of Santa Cruz and other stations.

The people seemed to have changed their views on subsidies to the railroads, when the Watsonville and Santa Cruz railroad was proposed. Before this they were decidedly in favor of granting aid in this direction, were clamoring and crying for better and speedier transportation. There was considerable delay in work being started in constructing the proposed road from Watsonville to Santa Cruz. However, the first installment of bonds was directed to be issued on the first six miles of the road being completed. In 1882 the county conventions of both the Democrats and Republicans passed resolutions directing the nominees for supervisors to withhold further payment on the bonds issued, declaring that the road had not been built according to the provisions of the act of the legislature, that the road should have been extended up the coast, whereas it was only built from Watsonville to Santa Cruz and ended at the latter place. As a



consequence the treasurer of the county declined to pay any more bonds or coupons to the Nevada Bank of San Francisco, which had possession of the bonds. A suit was commenced by said bank and an appeal made to the supreme court of the state. The bank obtained judgment. A writ of error was granted to the supreme court of the United States and proceedings terminated there, nothing further being done.

The county in 1865 had other bonds out for bridges which were refunded at a less rate of interest. Total amount of bonds at that time was \$190,000, which have all been taken up and the county itself has no bonded indebtedness at this time except school bonds of several school districts. This is not written to revive old grievances, but is simply a statement of the history of transactions concerning the construction of this particular road. It was eventually absorbed by the Southern Pacific Railroad and made a broad gauge line. Prior to the construction of any railroad, several schemes were projected at public meetings, but none ever materialized until outside capitalists furnished the necessary funds. For many years a railroad to San Francisco from Santa Cruz on the coast line was agitated. We were regaled with newspaper reports at different times that such a road would surely be built, that capitalists had examined the territory over which a road could be constructed and great expectations were indulged in that we would soon have a competing road. Not until the Ocean Shore Railroad Company was incorporated was any move made towards constructing a road up the coast. The Southern Pacific had a survey made several years ago but nothing had been done by this corporation until the Ocean Shore people commenced operations. This latter corporation has completed the road to Davenport and are running trains regularly to that place from Santa Cruz. In November, 1909, some trouble occurred which caused sus-

pension of work; money was very much needed to further prosecute the work, and a movement was put on foot to reorganize and issue new bonds. J. Downey Harvey is the president of this line and with associates used every effort to secure sufficient funds to finish the construction of the Ocean Shore line. The Southern Pacific has also built a line to the Cement Company's plant at Davenport; surmises are plenty that this corporation will absorb the Ocean Shore road. The ways of railroad people are past finding out. The Southern Pacific has trains running to Boulder Creek and a road into the Big Basin is also contemplated.

Santa Cruz is well supplied at the present time with railroad facilities; seven trains depart daily over the mountain route via Los Gatos to San Francisco and other places; four trains daily via Pajaro to Los Angeles, Hollister, Salinas and Monterey. Nine trains arrive daily via the mountain route from San Francisco, San Jose, Boulder Creek and other stations; four trains arrive daily from the south; a stage line competes with the Southern Pacific to Boulder Creek and the Big Basin.



## CHAPTER III.

## POPULATION, MANNERS AND CUSTOMS, PROGRESS AND INDUSTRIES OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY.

The population of Santa Cruz county in 1850 was 643, the majority living in and about the Mission of Santa Cruz. From Pescadero to the Pajaro river the population was limited to the owners of the several ranches, composed principally of California natives—"Hijos del pais." Previous to the grand rush to California the foreigners who had arrived here associated with the natives on terms of equality, were well received and treated in a hospitable manner. Soon after the rush for gold commenced and the American population increased with the settlers from the eastern states, a line of demarcation seems to have been drawn, and continued to exist between the two races. Very little social intercourse was indulged in, although in some instances marriages had taken place between some of the Spanish families and Americans. For purposes of trade and traffic the Californians were considered desirable customers. "Spanish as she is spoke" was acquired by merchants and others for the purpose of the transaction of business with the natives. In election campaigns the natives were also to be counted upon, fandangoes and feasts were gotten up for their especial benefit just previous to an election and they were a voting force not to be despised. All this is changed by loss of property resulting in loss of prestige. The old dons died off and many of their descendants became scattered so that of late years, what was generally designated as the Spanish vote has not counted as much as it did in former years. There are

numerous other voting elements that are catered to in campaigns of late years, including the American vote. Population of the county did not increase very rapidly. In 1853 there was quite an exodus from the mining counties to the "cow counties," as all counties south of Sacramento were generally designated at that period. From San Francisco to San Diego there were no towns of any great size or population. San Jose was a village, the next town was San Juan Bautista; at Gilroy there was one house only. Salinas was unknown; Monterey, the ancient capital, had a number of inhabitants composed principally of the old Spanish families who dated back to the first settlement for their ancestry. San Luis Obispo, Los Angeles and San Diego were not over populated at this period and were unknown quantities and were the abode of undesirable persons and a rendezvous for horse thieves and desperadoes generally.

At the Mission of Santa Cruz, as it was generally called and designated by all the old settlers for a number of years, some farming was carried on. In 1851 land now right in the heart of the city of Santa Cruz was rented for \$100 per acre for raising potatoes. In 1852 several settlers started for the Pajaro valley. The rich land of that section had been found well adapted for crops of all kinds and a rush was made for that fertile region. About this time Judge Watson, who had resigned from the bench of the third district court, together with D. S. Gregory, an attorney, had secured interests from Alexander Rodriguez in the rancho Bolsa del Pajaro in which the town of Watsonville was subsequently located. The title passed by Watson and Gregory to different persons of the Bolsa del Pajaro, also to lots in the then village of Watsonville, were, after several years of litigation, declared to be invalid. The ranch was patented to Sebastian Rodriguez, a brother of Alexander, and the titles derived from the heirs

of Sebastian were finally settled by the supreme court of the state and declared valid, pending this litigation. In the meantime squatters were numerous and had taken possession of the choicest portions of the ranch and had also squatted on other ranchos to the detriment of the owners. These squatters insisted that it was all government land, and that the grants were fraudulent. Squatters leagues were formed in different portions of the state and held possession for a number of years as squatters. At the rancho Amesti a fort was erected, the squatters were determined to "hold the fort" at all hazards. The strong arm of Uncle Sam was invoked and succeeded in restoring order and quieting titles. For a number of years land titles were in an unsettled condition; the owners were in the meantime complacently permitted to pay the taxes on their lands.

Times have changed and we have changed with them. All sorts and conditions of people were to be found in the earlier days of California life. The language, habits and customs of the new comers were entirely different from those of the present period. From every state in the Union and from nearly every country of the globe, had arrived people desirous of bettering their conditions. The costume of the period consisted of pants held by a belt around the waist (or in some instances copying from the natives a red silk sash), together with a flannel shirt, this being about all the wearing apparel in vogue. Their speech partook of the locality in which they had formerly lived. "I want to know" and "dew tell" were heard constantly. "I vum" was another familiar expression from away down east. The Missourians if asked any question generally replied "the which" and "hit are so"; the Southerners used "thar" and "whar". It was a heterogeneous population of all tongues and creeds. One universal idea prevailed among them that all the land in sight



was theirs, that "Uncle Sam" had bought it right out and paid for it and when the treaty of Hidalgo was mentioned, by which the United States had solemnly agreed to respect the rights of Mexican citizens in California, and should have been respected by all, it was received with derision. Judge Watson was acting as attorney for some of the squatters. I recollect an incident in relation to the matter. I was present at one time when the judge and his clients were holding a conference and he informed them very forcibly that they need not expect to win, that the land grants were valid and would be so declared by the Government, that several of the witnesses that had attested the several grants and had been present when possession was given, were still living and the grants would finally be confirmed; this kind of talk did not suit and was not the kind of advice they were looking for. These were like unto many other clients who in consulting attorneys want legal advice that agrees with their own views; if not furnished with their own ideas an attorney is consulted and, coinciding with the views of his clientele, is employed and the client fees him. After a long trial in court the party so anxious to go to law is satisfied and perhaps has learned experience. "So mote it be." As the people who settled in this county in the first period brought little funds with them, but little progress was made in building up the county by material improvements.

More progress has been made in the development of the county and its several localities during the last ten years than in all the preceding ones since its organization. New style of architecture is everywhere manifest; building with brick has increased and in all parts the march of progress is upward and onward. New people have settled within the borders of the county bringing capital and have invested the same in substantial holdings. The principal towns, Santa Cruz and



Watsonville, give unmistakable evidence of growth and prosperity, also in other towns in the county a marked interest has been awakened and they have caught the spirit of enterprise. The redwood shacks are being replaced by neat and attractive residences. In the early part of the '70s wheat was in demand and brought good prices, farmers received good prices for their crops, money was plentiful enough to enable the producers to buy more land, this was deemed the better way of investing the surplus derived from the sale of the crops and investments in land proved very successful. Land increased in value very materially and has been on the upward tendency since that time and now commands very high prices, especially the rich alluvial lands of the rich valleys. Mountain land years ago that was considered of little value has been and still is in demand at remunerative prices for orchards and vineyards. I. W. Taylor erected a sawmill in a cañon near the mountain road from Watsonville to San Jose some time in 1859. Not being endowed with a great deal of capital he was compelled to give up the undertaking, in fact went "flat broke" and "hiked" his way over the mountains seeking other fields. Going to Nevada, he there engaged in mining, and I believe was successful. The Watsonville Mill and Lumber Company furnished employment to a large number of teamsters, and a long string of teams were busy hauling lumber to the Pajaro depot after the railroad was completed to that point. After the timber was exhausted the land was sold to settlers and is at this time occupied by those who purchased and have set out fruit orchards.

During the years 1868 and 1869 the state of California, under Governor Haight's administration, issued patents to Charles Ford and Lucien Sanborn, for 640 acres, as assignees of Hinkley and Skelly; to James L. Halsted, 160 acres and

160 acres to L. Sanborn; to John B. Brown, 320 acres; to ——— Sanborn, 320 acres; William Williamson, 160 acres; Alvin Sanborn, 80 acres, all timber land. Some time afterwards this was merged into the Watsonville Mill and Lumber Company. This corporation did an extensive business for many years and was a strong corporation materially, and politically was generally known and designated as the "sawdust gang" and was a controlling power in the politics of the county.

A great many quarter sections were squatted on in various parts of the county. The occupants in some instances acquired titles by preëmption; many, however, after the timber was stripped abandoned their claims and allowed the land to be sold for taxes, whereupon other parties made proof and obtained patents for the same. There is no government land in this county at the present time, except there may be some chalk-rock hills, now worth locating. The Spanish grants have been sold, divided into small portions; few of the original grantees own any portion of these large grants and the broad acres, once the pride of the Spanish race, are in the possession of the gringos.

On the Soquel ranch were saw mills, some on government land and on land granted by patent from the United States to Martina Castro. The Loma Prieta Lumber company in 1883 purchased from Carmel Fallon, widow of Thomas Fallon, a tract of land, principally in timber. This concern has done a large business and is still furnishing lumber, pickets and shingles to all portions of the state. A branch railroad line runs from Aptos to the mills of the company. This investment proved a bonanza for the company. The original incorporators were John T. Porter, W. P. Dougherty, Thomas B. Bishop, Alvin Sanborn, Lucien Sanborn, Charles Ford (all dead), A. C. Bassett, J. A. Linscott and N. T. Smith.

Lumber has been a great source of revenue in this county for many years and will be for some time to come. The supply of timber is still quite extensive. There are more extensive establishments at the present time in the shape of saw and planing mills than at any time previous and giving employment to a great number of persons. The total value of forest products in 1908 was \$881,822, this including lumber, railroad ties, shingles, grape stakes, pickets, shakes, car stakes used in shipping apples, fuel and tan bark.

Business improved very decidedly up to 1877 and '78, when there was a very great depression. Silver was below par and hard times was the cry all over the state. In 1878 an election was called for electing delegates to meet at Sacramento to prepare a new constitution. It seemed to be the idea that the old constitution was out of date and not in accord with the conditions at this period. Inequalities of assessments, large tracts of land being assessed at a nominal sum per acre, while small holdings were assessed the limit. A general discontent was abroad in the land and nothing but a decided change of affairs would satisfy the people. In what manner the adoption of a new constitution would relieve the distress was not apparent, "anything for a change" was the cry. It had been the custom for years for the people to discuss political questions and matters of public policy very freely; in the stores, saloons and on the street corners discussions were frequent and at times very bitter. Of late years the people have dropped this mode of discussing public matters and it is seldom that any opinions are expressed in public. The newspapers seem to have taken up the gauntlet entirely in this respect; the sovereign people go quietly about their business and express their views through the ballot without much demonstration. The adoption of the new constitution was carried in the county by a majority of 801 out



of a total vote of 2,553. The contest was very bitter and created a very warm feeling of antagonism for some time after the election. All the wealth and power of the corporations were opposed to the adoption of the constitution; it was carried by the votes of the common people, who deemed it quite a triumph. Though their hopes and expectations were not realized, and the mortgages still remained unpaid and no immediate change in the condition of affairs was manifest, still the people at large claimed a victory. The dreadful evils predicted in the adoption of the present constitution did not materialize; it was predicted that "The tax on actual money will be so onerous that no business can be carried on in the manner now in vogue." "Business will have a long Sunday of rest should the constitution be adopted," "It calls for changes so great and untried that it is revolutionary and dangerous;"—"The liberty of the citizen is imperiled," "A straight jacket for the state." The above are excerpts from some of the newspapers of the day. It is hardly necessary to state that the evils predicted have not come to pass; interest is not as high now as formerly; whatever evils have come to pass and are complained of at the present day are not by reason of the adoption of the present constitution. It did not affect the old order of things or raise any great disturbance of business interests. At the present time no one seems to know or care what kind of a constitution is in force. The people seem to be abundantly able to take care of their own welfare and always will in spite of the political diatribes. In 1894 there was an election for governor and for state and county officers. Governor James Budd, Democrat, was elected. In this county the election was hotly contested for county officers; the calamity howlers were abroad in the land and left no stone unturned to gain their ends. They were defeated after a very exciting campaign. Since that

time the elections have been generally very quiet, without any great excitement. The county and its several subdivisions have gone ahead substantially; a great number of people with means have settled within the borders of the fertile portions of the state and have contributed very materially to its wealth and progress. The population of Santa Cruz county on the census taken in 1900 was 19,270 and in 1910 was 26,140, an increase of 6,870.

Santa Cruz county fronts its entire length on the Pacific Ocean. It lies midway between Oregon and Lower California, and is in the heart of Central California. It is separated from San Mateo and Santa Clara counties by the Santa Cruz mountains, and from Monterey county by the Pajaro river. It is one of the smallest counties, and comprises a narrow strip of mountainous land about forty miles long and eighteen miles broad, forming a vast amphitheater, and sloping from the summits of the Santa Cruz range, whose highest elevation, Loma Prieta, is 4,000 feet, southward and westward to the bay of Monterey.

The curving line of shore and the corresponding curve of the mountain line inclose an irregular, crescent-shaped tract of country, with an average width of twenty miles, which for grandeur, beauty, and variety of scenery equals any expanse of similar size in the world. The sides of the mountains are closely set with forests of pine, redwood, madrone, and other trees, the redwoods having, in many cases, attained gigantic growth.

A number of streams rise in these hills, and bring down the rich alluvial loam into the valleys, which, in their normal condition, teem with native grasses and flowers, and when cultivated yield phenomenal results. These streams are, agriculturally as well as topographically, an important feature, watering as they do every section of land. Besides



these, natural springs are innumerable. Nearing the coast, there are many interesting topographical features. The leagues of wide, high, wind-swept grassy plateaus, which form remarkable grazing and dairy lands; the succession of chalk terraces; the broad amphitheatrical valley of the Pajaro; the salt lagunas, picturesque in configuration and surrounded by park-like groves of live oaks; the high sandstone cliffs along the shore; the magnificent ocean drives—all are materials for pleasant investigation.

Along the coast line, a series of raised benches forms a strip of elevated land. This widens to the south of the city of Santa Cruz, and affords a large area of fruitful soil, which has been brought into a high state of cultivation. From Santa Cruz south the soil consists of light loam, abounding in lime, potash, and phosphoric acid.

In the Pajaro valley there is a great variety from the rich sedimentary alluvial wash to the light, sandy soil of the foothills. In the lower part of the valley a clayey loam predominates. This is followed by a heavy adobe higher up, and then the dark, reddish loam of the plains, the latter being the favorite with fruit growers, for it is here that flourish the best orchards. The average annual rainfall, taken from a record of thirty-four consecutive years, is 25.26 inches, showing that this is a well watered district.

The charm of Santa Cruz is her infinite variety. In lumber products she ranks third in the state. Her butter, cheese and cream might well win her a place in the dairy districts. Hay, grain, potatoes, and the whole range of cereals and vegetables give enormous yields. In the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., there is a record of 130 bushels of wheat per acre raised in the Pajaro valley, and while she does not claim to wear the "citrus belt," yet oranges are raised for home consumption, and the cultiva-



tion of the lemon is a profitable business; but her deciduous fruits, large and small, her table and wine grapes, and her fine wines, are winning renown. From the summit of the range, more than 2,000 feet above the sea, down to the wide and fruitful valleys along the coast, grow and flourish delicious fruits. Prunes, pears, apricots, peaches, cherries, Japanese and native plums, figs, walnuts, persimmons, olives, and nectarines thrive, but the crop of the largest profit is that of apples, their quality and size being astonishing and their yield as much so. From bellflowers in September to Newtown pippins in December the supply is steady. The extent of the apple industry is shown by these statistics, and each year finds a large increase in the crop. During the harvesting of the crop in the Pajaro valley, this industry gives employment to 2,391 males and 698 females, drawing a daily wage of \$6,308.09 and a monthly pay roll of \$198,242.70. The average number of boxes delivered to the packing houses per day totals 57,872 and a total weight of 2,314,880 pounds. Horses used in hauling these number 3,193.

The actual shipment of apples this season was 4,000 cars, shipments being made to Europe and other parts of the world. Independent of these shipments were apples used at the dryers, vinegar factories, canneries, and for home consumption.

This year during the month of October there was held in the city of Watsonville an "Apple Annual" or "show" given over entirely to the apple industry. As its name implies, it is intended to make this show an annual affair.

The fish hatchery at Brookdale and at Scott's Creek Station have produced during the past year silver salmon, steelhead, and rainbow eggs amounting to 2,509,000. There were shipped to the United States Bureau of Fisheries and State Commission 68,000 steelhead eggs.

Many acres have been set out in the last few months to eucalyptus trees, and many more are to be set out during the coming year.

Of the small fruits, the strawberry is the most widely grown and furnishes a practically continuous crop.

In the southern part of the county a large acreage is devoted to the profitable growth of sugar beets, potatoes, beans and onions, and the yield is enormous. Market gardening is profitable.

A great deal of asparagus and rhubarb are grown for outside markets.

Seeds, bulbs, plants, and cut flowers contribute largely to the supply for metropolitan markets.

Dairying is a profitable industry, and thousands of acres of grazing land support well-selected herds of stock.

Poultry raising is a profitable business, the climate and conditions being well adapted for such industry.

Considerable capital is invested in the deep sea fisheries. The fish hatchery at Brookfield, on Clear Lake, has upward of 2,000,000 trout and salmon fry.

During the fall and winter months 5,000 or 6,000 salmon eggs will be hatched and the fry liberated in the bay. Steel-head and rainbow trout abound in all the thirty odd streams.

The forest covered mountains are a retreat for quail and deer, and the many lagoons and the four beautiful lakes in the Pajaro Valley in fall and winter are feeding places for all varieties of wild ducks.

At Santa Cruz the tent city, pavilion, casino and baths, representing an expenditure of \$750,000, were opened two years ago, and this beautiful summer resort had practically the greatest concourse of pleasure seekers on the coast. It is estimated 100,000 people from San Francisco and interior visited our shores during the summer.

Capitola, four miles east of Santa Cruz, can be reached by both steam and electric railroad. This is another beautiful summer resort.

There are two Carnegie libraries in the county well stocked with the latest works. The public schools throughout the county are of a high standard, as are also the private schools and colleges. The many fine churches represent the leading denominations. There are many fraternal societies, and a large number of them hold meetings in fine lodge rooms in buildings of their own. There are fine banks in the county—all sound banking institutions.

The supervisors have done and are doing good work in road building, and the most mountainous places can now be reached by easy grades.

Many industries have developed to the profit producing point. The Santa Cruz Portland cement plant, located twelve miles north of the city of Santa Cruz, represents an expenditure of \$5,000,000, and has the largest capacity for the manufacture of cement of any similar institution of its kind. The power works, tannery, paper mill, soap and glue factory, planing and sawmills, lime kilns and the bitumen industry, are all in active operation, and the general air of thrift and prosperity is apparent. The output of lumber has been large for a great many years, but great tracts of forest still remain. Many of the trees are of ancient growth, and it is not uncommon to see 35,000 feet of clear lumber cut from a single tree.

Santa Cruz, Watsonville, Boulder Creek, Soquel, Aptos, Ben Lomond, Brookdale, Felton, Capitola, Davenport, and Glenwood are the principal towns.



## CHAPTER IV.

## THE FIRST COURT HOUSE.

The first court house of Santa Cruz county was located on the east side of what is now known as Emmet street in the upper Plaza. It was a frame building with a stairway on the outside. The building and lot were conveyed to the county by Thomas Fallon, who built it for a residence and used a portion of it for his business, making saddle trees and leather paraphernalia, for saddles were much in use in early days. Judge John H. Watson was the first judge, Peter Tracey first county clerk, Francisco Alzino the first sheriff. Watson resigned and was succeeded by C. P. Hester. When Hester's term expired Samuel Bell McKee was elected his successor. David Belden was the last judge of the old district court. In the superior court created by the new constitution, J. H. Logan was the first judge, succeeded by F. J. McCann, who died in office. Judge Logan was appointed to fill the unexpired term of McCann. Lucas F. Smith succeeded Logan and is now the judge of the supreme court, elected in 1898 and subsequently re-elected. J. H. Skirm is at present practicing, the only one alive of the old school of lawyers. C. B. Younger (deceased) practiced in the district a number of years, and Julius Lee, who also practiced many years, is also deceased, having passed away in 1910. It is claimed that Judge Hester was defeated on the ground that certain lawyers had a "pull" with him, and that he always decided their cases their way. This has been charged against almost every judge.

Among the lawyers practicing before the district court in

early days were D. R. Ashley (afterward state treasurer), R. F. Peckham, A. S. Gregory and J. H. Coulb. Peckham and Coulb had an office at one time in the old court house. W. T. Wallace, M. H. Patterson and several others practiced before this court.

John H. Garber, whose death occurred a few months ago, was a young attorney at this period. He ran for district attorney on the Democratic ticket, and, much to his chagrin, was defeated. It was the best thing that could have happened to him, a turning point in his career. He left Santa Cruz and went to Nevada, where he gained fame and success. Of late years he resided in San Francisco and was a leading member of the bar in that city.

#### COURT NOTES.

A noted criminal case was that of the People vs. Jesse I. Graham; an indictment was presented by the grand jury at the April term of the district court accusing Graham of the killing of Dennis Bennet on April 22, 1850. Entered on the indictment were the names of the witnesses and also of William T. Wallace, district attorney. Graham left for parts unknown soon after the homicide and the case was forgotten by almost every one except some members of the Bennet family. A bench warrant was issued for the arrest of Graham on April 26, 1888, thirty years later; he was arrested near Fresno and brought to this county for trial. The trial of the case attracted considerable attention; the habits, customs and peculiarities of the time of 1850 were considered ancient history resurrected. An eye witness of the affray was brought from Arizona; his recollection of the event as given by his testimony was clear and distinct. The trial occupied several days. The jury could not agree upon a verdict, and stood ten for acquittal and two for conviction. The jury,

it was reported, took into consideration the time that had elapsed since the commission of the offense and the lawlessness of early days, and the fact that the defendant had been living in the state for some years without any attempt of concealment on his part, and his neighbors testifying that he bore a good character for peace and quietness, no doubt influenced the jury. The defendant was admitted to bail and the case dismissed and he was set free.

A case that rivals the celebrated case of Jarndyce vs. Jarndyce is on record in the district court and the superior court of this county. William H. Moore died in November, 1871, leaving a large estate. Probate proceedings were instituted which dragged along for many years, owing to conflicting interests by the heirs and others who had acquired interests in portions of the estate. Considerable litigation has ensued and the case is not yet settled. The judges that were on the bench have all passed away. The attorneys that were enlisted in the various suits have ceased their arguments and have paid the common penalty of all mankind.

#### COUNTY HOSPITAL.

“Over the hills to the poorhouse.” In the first years of the county government the supervisors of each district were allowed a certain amount of money to be used by them for the support of indigent persons. There were not so many claiming aid as there are at the present time. As the years rolled on indigents and unfortunates increased and a county hospital and poor farm was established. At one time the prisoners in the county jail were fed at the rate of sixty cents per diem, while the inmates of the poorhouse were starved by contrast at about thirty cents per diem. Complaints were made to the board of supervisors monthly of the treatment received, the poor food and ill treatment generally. In 1885 a



new system was inaugurated by which supplies were purchased under the direction of the hospital committee of the board of supervisors, and the inmates received the benefit of this system and have been and now are treated humanely. Very many persons, especially the old Californians, have a "holy horror" of being sent to end their days in the county hospital, preferring to eke out a miserable existence on the pittance allowed them by the supervisors.

Under the present management the inmates have no cause for complaint; they are well cared for, have medical attendance when sick and are treated like human beings. Without any cares or anxiety they live to a ripe old age. One inmate who once owned ten acres of land right in the heart of Watsonville has been a boarder for several years, compelled by his own imprudence to accept a home in the poorhouse. On being asked how he was treated, answered "Just as good as I deserve; we all get good treatment here."

The expenses for taking care of the inmates of this institution average about thirty-five cents per day; this includes provisions of all kinds, clothing and medical attendance. The average monthly number of inmates during the year ranges from sixty to seventy. This institution is conducted on humane principles and reflects credit on the officials of Santa Cruz county.

A suggestion has been made to the board of supervisors to establish an old folks home, for a class of people who have some means and could afford to pay for accommodations at a reasonable compensation; where they might be allowed to end their days among their own surroundings, in a home similar to the Old Peoples Home in San Francisco, but not so expensive. This idea was placed before the board of supervisors some months ago. A communication on this subject was published in three of the newspapers of the

county with favorable comment. As it promises a new departure, it will take some time to develop.

#### MEN OF THE ANTE ORA PERIOD.

Among the first residents of Santa Cruz county was Elihu Anthony, who arrived in California in 1847, moving with his family to Santa Cruz in 1848, and built the first wharf in Santa Cruz; he established the first foundry. P. H. Devoll first reached this coast in 1830. In 1868 he returned to California and in 1872 settled in Santa Cruz and died here. John Daubenbis arrived in California in 1843 in company with John Hames; they built a flour mill and a saw mill on Soquel creek. During the early period of the state John Daubenbis kept open house; all travelers were made welcome.

Francisco Alzino, a native of Spain, came to California in 1846 and to Santa Cruz in 1847; he was the first sheriff of Santa Cruz county. His widow survives him, hale and hearty at eighty years of age. The son, Enoch Alzino, has been the trusted janitor of the court house for twenty-five years. Supervisors and other officials have been changed during this period but "Tokey," as he is generally called, keeps his position because he is trustworthy.

William Blackburn came to Santa Cruz in 1845, and served as alcalde and county judge. Isaac Graham (Zayante), who settled on the Zayante Rancho in 1841, built the first sawmill in California. Paul Sweet arrived here about 1840, and started the first tannery in Santa Cruz county. Joseph L. Majors came here in 1832, and in 1839, he married Marie de Los Angeles. San Augustine Rancho was granted to Majors in 1841, and he was elected county treasurer in 1850.

William Trevethan came here in 1835. William Hardy came here in 1845, and lived on Beach Hill for many years before his death. Jose Bolcolb Rusner came to California in

1814, and occupied the office of alcalde a number of years; he owned the Refuzio Rancho at one time, and died in poverty in 1866. A. A. Hecox arrived here in 1846, served as alcalde, also as county treasurer. Guy Omnes, native of France, who arrived in 1843, was a lumberman. Lajeunesse, generally called Ligeness, Canadian, arrived in 1844 or thereabouts; he was a lumberman. Job F. Dye crossed the Rockies, arriving in this county in the '60s.

William Ware, who came here very early, was associated with Isaac Graham. Prewett Sinclair, who crossed the Rockies in 1830, was a trapper and hunter; he made his home in Santa Cruz many years, and voted at the first election in 1850. At one time in his life he had a dispute over some land with one Dr. Vanderberg; Prewett took down his old rifle and proposed to go for the doctor. He happened to consult Judge Peckham, his lawyer, about the propriety of taking a shot at the doctor; Peckham told him that was not the right method and advised him not to attempt it; Prewett took the advise in good part but thought his way best to settle such disputes, frontier style.

Otis Ashley arrived in California in 1846; he lived on the Zayante Rancho, near Felton, from 1856, engaged in the lumber business and had twenty years of litigation. Lambert B. Clement came to California in 1845, and was justice of the peace at Soquel for several years. Joseph Pellissier landed at Sausalito in 1845, and lived in the Pajaro valley, Monterey county; he married the daughter of Vallejo. Moses A. Meder, who came to California in 1846, owned considerable land at one time in this county. Eli Moore came to this state in 1847; he owned a large tract of land up the coast, also property in the city of Santa Cruz.

The pioneers mentioned have all departed from this mundane sphere and are free from trouble. They deserve a



place in the history of the state. Others have reaped the benefit of their labors and profited by their experiences. With one or two exceptions the probate court was not kept busy settling the estates of the pioneers.

#### PIONEER DAYS.

It must be borne in mind that many of the people that thronged to California in the golden era, especially those who hailed from "away down east," were provincial. They had never traveled outside of their own locality to any extent until they made up their minds to leave for a far distant state and an unknown country. For a person to have ventured 50 miles from home was deemed an undertaking in the year of grace 1848, hence their ideas of their fellow citizens of the south were rather narrow. The western people accustomed to travel were broader in their views of mankind. One elderly person I call to mind whose realm was bounded by Royalton, Vt., deemed that place the center of the universe. Another younger man from Boston knew that city by heart, but outside this his knowledge was limited. He was not aware of any steamships traveling to Charleston, opposite Boston. A ten-acre field was a large farm to some of them; they did not seem to grasp the areas of California ranches; their ambition was to realize on their ventures here and return to the land of their fathers to enjoy the fruits of their labors; very few expected to stay any length of time, and had they been successful and realized their ambition they would have made a trip east if for nothing more than to see the old folks. Fate decreed otherwise and the majority became old settlers and pioneers and rejoiced that they became actual and bona fide residents of the Golden State.

In 1852 land in the town of Santa Cruz, now a well improved portion of the city, was rented for \$100 an acre and a big

crop of potatoes was raised on this land; potatoes that year brought as high as sixteen cents per pound. Flour in the month of December that year was \$50 per barrel. Encouraged by the success of this potato crop many persons migrated from Santa Cruz to the Pajaro valley where J. Bryant Hill in that year had been very successful in farming. He was the first American to start the plow in the Pajaro valley on the Sal-si-puedes rancho that he had leased from Don Manuel Jimeno.

Shipping was carried on by sailing vessels from Santa Cruz to San Francisco. At this period several schooners were wrecked on the beach at Santa Cruz. At Aptos a brig went ashore loaded with grain and potatoes, quite a valuable cargo thus being lost. In 1853 the potato crop was a failure owing to the large quantity raised and no market; prices went down to nothing. The population of the state at this time was not large enough to absorb the immense amount raised and they rotted on the ground; this was a decided set back, as many had depended on the proceeds of this crop to make a stake and had calculated to go home; thus all their hopes were dashed by the collapse of the market. Some never recovered from this misfortune, became reckless and disheartened, others by perseverance and pluck weathered the storm and buckled in again. The latter suffered severe hardships, as it was some years before they realized anything from their labors as farmers; money was scarce and not much in circulation, "no credit" signs hung up in several of the stores. Not until 1857 did times improve, potatoes and other farm products were bringing good prices. About this time better times were in evidence, as noted by the change in dress; frock coats and white shirts were worn and in some cases plug hats. Very little progress was made in improvements, the redwood shanties still being in vogue, though in-

dustries were being started in the shape of saw mills. Isaac Graham, a pioneer, is credited with having erected the first saw mill on Zayante creek in 1842 or '43. Pewett Sinclair, another pioneer, operated a mill on the Corralitos creek, and a very crude affair it was. In the early '50s government land, that is, section land, was being looked up and located. At first this land was taken up by squatters without any attempt to prove up by way of preemption; the land offices paid but little attention at this period to what was going on in land matters.



## CHAPTER V.

## ROADS.

In 1851 the court of sessions divided the county with two townships. All north of Aptos was designated as Santa Cruz township, and south of Aptos as Pajaro township. The same authority appointed road masters for several districts. In March, 1851, the court of sessions directed that all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 45 should work on the roads four days in each year. This archaic system was kept up for several years without much improvement in local road building. At one time the roadmasters were elected by the people and were supposed to be subject to the orders of the supervisor of his district. These officials, being elective officers, considered that they were not subject altogether to the control of the supervisor, but assumed to be "boss" of the situation. Not much improvement was manifest under this system. The roads were still in a deplorable condition. A few years ago, in 1883, the office of road master was abolished and the supervision of the roads was given to the supervisors of their respective districts. Complaint of poor roads and road building is still heard; in some districts the roads are in better condition than in others. The mountain roads were laid out and built by men who evidently were not practical road builders; the road from the city of Santa Cruz to the Big Trees, one of the scenic roads of the county, has been a source of vexation and expense for years. Too much politics is urged as a reason for the inefficiency of road improvement. No one seems in earnest in advocating a system that will relegate politics and institute a practical system. Ephraim is joined to its idols.

To make a change from the old established system would be hazardous and subservient to some people who look upon the system as a vested inheritance and one that should not be disturbed. Bismarck, the prime minister of Germany, in his lifetime is said to have remarked to an American during an interview on national customs, "Mein Gott, what has politics to do mit roads!" If he had ever lived here any time he would have discovered that politics governs all and every department in this state. A plan was suggested at one time by a property holder who had extensive timber holdings, that a general superintendent of roads who was a civil engineer and surveyor should be appointed to take full charge of the highways of the county. This was deemed eminently practical, but the suggestion has not been adopted.

It may be possible to have a better system created, but it will take some time to educate the people at large and infuse new methods. Good roads seem to be the demand of the times, however, and the agitation caused by automobile manufacturers and owners may bring about the desired necessity for better means of travel. It must not be inferred that no improvements have been made in past years, for good and substantial bridges have been built in several of the highways; one of these is between the county of Santa Cruz and Monterey crossing the Pajaro river, a very substantial structure, called the Riverside bridge, which opens up a new traveled road. The bridges built in late years have been designed and constructed in much better shape than formerly and withstand the heavy freshets that occur in the rainy season. There was expended on roads during the last fiscal year the sum of \$40,662.25 and on bridges \$12,389.65; the number of miles of public roads in the county is 458.

In former years the supervisors were limited to the re-

ceipts from the several road funds of the county in the expenditure of road fund. In recent years by amendments to the county government act, the supervisors seem to have been given privileges to draw on the general fund for the purpose of acquiring roads and for road improvements generally. Some months ago the board of supervisors deemed it necessary to purchase a road known as the Highland way, at a cost of \$15,000. This raised considerable opposition and the board was enjoined from proceeding any further in the matter. A suit to determine this matter is now on appeal from the superior court of the county to the appellate court of the state. It was urged by the opponents of this measure that the road question did not serve any great number of people, that it was more of a private than a public road. The advocates of the measure insisted that it was idle to invite people to settle and make improvements in their mountain homes unless they could be assured of having good roads accessible at all times. The decision of the case referred to is anxiously awaited. Unless the supervisors can draw on the general county fund for such purposes, that is to acquire roads, the prospect for improved roads will go glimmering. A large portion of the county above the city of Santa Cruz consists of land located on mountain tracts and on these tracts are located many settlers who are shut off from communication at times by reason of the road being sometimes impassable. Subdivisions have been made of several tracts, divided into lots suitable for residences, and, being located among the redwoods, are sought after for summer residences. It is very necessary that good roads should be laid out in order to accommodate the settlers in such localities. Santa Cruz county is bound to become a spot in time for people of means to erect summer homes; no county in the state affords better advantages in the way of scenery, wooded



retreats, fishing and hunting; the spirit of progress is moving slowly but surely; old customs and ideas must give way to the new and in course of time a realization of the benefits to accrue by the march of improvements will be appreciated. Roads are oiled and sprinkled to a greater extent than in former years. About 30,000 tons of granite rock have recently been ordered by the supervisors, to be distributed in several road districts where needed. This looks as if there was an impetus in road matters and it is hoped it will prove beneficial. In the state at large there is also a revival in road building; the postoffice authorities insist on good roads for free mail delivery for their carriers; "no good roads, no delivery," is the watchword of the postal department.

#### SCHOOLS.

Mrs. Case is credited with having established the first school in Santa Cruz, a private one. The first public school in Santa Cruz was opened in 1853. The first school in Pajaro was opened that same year with Seneca Carroll as teacher. In those days no certificates of qualifications were necessary, the trustees examined the applicants or called on other persons to examine them, but few questions were asked. The teacher had to depend to some extent on the patrons of the school for compensation in the shape of rates for teaching or by subscriptions. There was no regulated system in vogue at that time in country districts; as schools were established the teacher was expected to board around. The salary of the school superintendent was \$600 per annum in 1866, as the incumbent was a teacher he was allowed to teach, in fact he had to earn a living. The salary at present is \$1,800 per annum. There are sixty grammar and three high schools in the county, employing one hundred and thirty and twenty-seven teachers respectively. There is an

industrial department connected with the schools in Santa Cruz and Watsonville, besides which there are five private schools and one business college in the county.

#### NEWSPAPERS.

For several years we of Santa Cruz county could say as did one of the early governors of Virginia, "Thank God we have no newspaper in the colony." The Pacific Sentinel was established in Monterey in 1855 and was moved to Santa Cruz in 1860 and the name changed to the Santa Cruz Sentinel. John McElroy, the editor and publisher, died at the Soldiers home in Yountville several years ago. In 1876 the paper passed into the hands of McPherson and Waldron, by whom it has been conducted since that time, and since 1884 has been published as a daily. The Santa Cruz News was established in 1859 by W. M. Slocum, a brother of General Slocum. This paper was published as an abolition paper ahead of the times and lasted only a year. The Santa Cruz Surf, now published by A. A. Taylor, is the successor of the Local Item, published in 1875 by H. Coffin, and of the Courier Item, published by Patrick and Green Majors. In June, 1883, the first number of the Daily Surf was published and in 1889 the name was changed to The Surf, under which name it is still published.

The Pajaro Valley Times was started in Watsonville by Kearney, McQuillan and Duchow. It was moved to Santa Cruz in 1867 and later was absorbed by the Santa Cruz Sentinel. The Pajaronian was first issued at Watsonville in March, 1868, by J. A. Cottle. C. O. Cummings succeeded Mr. Cottle, and remained until 1876, when W. R. Radcliff bought a half interest in the paper. The latter is now cashier of the Bank of Watsonville and has eschewed newspaper work. The Pajaronian is now conducted by J. G. Piratsky

and George Radcliff, and has been published as a daily for several years. It also issues a weekly edition. The Watsonville Transcript was first published by W. H. Wheeler, afterward by George W. Peckham, and is now published as a daily by the Watsonville Register Company. The Rustler, published in Watsonville by Joe Heatherington, now editor of the Salinas Index, did not fill a long-felt want, and succumbed. In Boulder Creek, in 1889, a paper was started called the Hatchet. It did not last long, as the publisher left the country for the country's good. The Mountain Echo, a weekly paper, is published at Boulder by W. S. Rodgers, who is getting out a good paper under adverse circumstances. He is advancing the interests of his town both materially and morally. The Santa Cruz News, the latest acquisition to journalism, was started November 1, 1907, and published by the Devlin-Judah Company. It is a daily and promises to outlive its predecessor of 1859, of the same name. The Tribune, a weekly paper published in Santa Cruz by the Tribune Printing and Publishing Co. (Day, Fikes & Barrett), has been in existence for about three years. It is used as an advertising medium, free distribution being made with the San Francisco papers on Sunday. It often contains some pithy articles pertaining to the community. There were some other papers started, but as they did not last long it is better to let them rest in peace.

SOME POLITICAL AND LITERARY NOTABLES OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY.

Stephen M. White, United States Senator, son of William F. White, was reared in the Pajaro valley, elected United States Senator in 1893 and served a full term of six years. He died in Los Angeles in 1901. W. W. Stow, the well-known political boss, farmed on the Corralitos ranch; he was twice elected to the assembly of this county, and died in San Francisco. Governor Blaisdell of Nevada once raised "spuds" in



the Pajaro valley. Hon. J. K. Luttrell, who was elected to congress from the third congressional district in 1872, once taught school in Watsonville. Hon. Thomas Beck served as secretary of state from 1875 to '79; he is still living and very active. William F. White, a member of the constitutional convention of 1878, was elected from the senatorial district comprised of Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito counties. Daniel Tuttle was elected to the same convention from this county. Edward Martin was elected also as a delegate from the state at large.

Concerning the literary folk of this county, we mention the following: One of the best known writers of short stories was Dr. James W. Gally; his writings best known to the public are, "Big Jack Small," "Sand," "Frozen Fruit" and "Quarz." He was also a frequent contributor to the *Argonaut*, *Sacramento Union*, and other papers. He died in Watsonville in 1891.

Josephine C. McCracken, who wrote for Harper Brothers and for the *Overland Monthly*, is still living in Santa Cruz and is on the staff of the *Sentinel*. James M. McQuillam, one of the editors of the *Pajaro Valley Times*, was a graceful writer and very much of a poet. He used to print his poetic effusions in the Poets Corner of his newspaper occasionally. One of his poems, "Lost to Society—Lost," was a gem of the first water.

One of the distinguished writers for the *Overland Monthly* was Georgina Bruce Kirby, who came to California in 1850, was married to R. C. Kirby, a pioneer tanner of Santa Cruz, and lived here until her death. She published a very interesting book of her life before coming to California, describing her home life in England, her voyage to and work in America and her life at the noted Brook Farm community. Her California experiences were in manuscript form at the

time of the death, and have never been published. William F. White was quite literary. He was author of the book, "Pioneer Times in California," and he also wrote several sketches for the newspapers. His "Striker" letters are still remembered by the pioneers. He was the best raconteur of the early days I ever met, had an easy flow of language and was always entertaining.

Dr. C. Anderson of Santa Cruz, a regular practitioner for many years, is a noted geologist and conchologist. His scientific articles are well known and his work at the Chautauqua assemblies at Monterey was notable for depth of knowledge. He acquired a very fine collection of shells and sea life. His writings for "Harrison's History of Santa Cruz" are most interesting. He is in very feeble health, known to but few residents, but not forgotten by old friends.

## CHAPTER VI.

## PAJARO VALLEY AND WATSONVILLE.

## EVOLUTION OF EL PAJARO.

About the middle of November, in the year of our Lord 1851, three horsemen were wending their way from Santa Cruz to the Rio del Pajaro, stopping a short time at the village of Soquel to talk to a few of the inhabitants who were interested in knowing where this cavalcade was going and what the object was. On being informed that the destination was Pajaro for the purpose of farming, sundry misgivings were made as to the success of the undertaking. At that period the Pajaro was an unknown quantity and doubts were expressed as to the experiment of farming anywhere but in the vicinity of Santa Cruz. However, good luck and good wishes were freely expressed toward the advance guard, the pioneers of El Pajaro. The trio of horsemen parted company with Soquel and pursued their way. Occasionally they met a coyote which gazed indifferently at the intruders and appeared to be in no fear of being hurt; with these exceptions no other animals were in the road except a pack of yellow dogs from one of the ranch houses; they barked incessantly at the horses as much as to say, "what are you doing on this road." About dusk the trio arrived at the Pajaro river and camped on its bank under the cottonwood trees that lined the banks at that time. When camp was struck, a fire was built and the simple life commenced. There was not a farm house in sight nor any appearance of a habitation; the only houses at that time were the adobe buildings of the several ranch owners. The camp mentioned



was on the Sal-si-puedes rancho, owned at that time by Don Manuel Jimeno, who was then one of the acting governors of California under Mexican rule and to whom a grant of the Sal-si-puedes rancho had been made. J. Bryant Hill, one of the trio mentioned, had leased from the Don, 1,000 acres which he proposed to farm under improved methods, feeling confident that if under the antiquated methods of the natives, and their primitive methods of farming crops could be raised, with the American process much could be accomplished. At this period, 1851, at all the ranchos were congregated thousands of wild Spanish cattle which seemed to own all the land in sight and were ready to contend with anyone that denied them the undisputed possession of the land; coyotes and wolves were numerous and seemed to have formed a combination against the offspring of these wild cattle. The wolves left after a few years, but the coyotes remained to follow the depredations and were generally successful. Wild geese were numerous and as they had never been fired upon were comparatively tame; while riding near them the flock would simply leave the road open, but showed no fear of being disturbed. In due course of time farming implements were brought to the rancho and the first furrow was run about three-quarters of a mile long somewhere near the land now owned by the Sellman brothers. The writer has been credited with turning the first furrow on the Sal-si-puedes rancho, but I think this is a mistake. I assisted in plowing this portion of the land, but as to running the first furrow, if I did, it must have been crooked. However that may be, grain was planted, also potatoes and other crops, which realized good prices. Owing to the insufficiency of the fences the wild cattle broke in and devoured several sacks of potatoes. The Pajaro river took a rise and became rampant and carried

off several more, and as potatoes were worth in San Francisco sixteen cents per pound, quite a heavy loss was sustained.

Toward the close of 1852 quite an immigration poured into the valley, composed mainly of miners who had been unsuccessful in their calling and concluded to try farming. Some of these people went to work for J. Bryant Hill, others dispersed over the valley, became squatters and farmed on their own account. The year 1853 was a disastrous one. Potatoes, which had been planted very largely on account of the prices obtained in 1852, failed to realize any money whatever. The crop was not a failure, but the price fell to nothing and the potatoes rotted in the ground.

Sal-si-puedes rancho, containing 31,000 acres of land, was owned by Don Manuel Jimeno. The United States issued a patent for this rancho to John P. Davison, Stephen W. Tibbets, Joseph B. Crockett, Edward D. Baker, (Col. Baker, who fell at Ball's Bluffs in the Civil war), Mary J. Blair, widow, and Violet Blair, Jessup Blair and Lucy Blair, children of James Blair, deceased. The above were grantees of Don Manuel Jimeno, who conveyed his interests in the ranch to the above parties, subject to the lease of J. Bryant Hill. The principal owners at one time were N. W. Chittenden, F. D. Atherton, Eugene Casserly, Eugene Kelly, W. F. White, Charles de Roe and others. W. F. White was the only resident land owner on the Sal-si-puedes rancho. Mr. White owned quite a large tract of this ranch at one time, but was not successful in his farming operations.

It must be borne in mind that farmers in the '50s labored under many disadvantages. Interest was very high and shipping facilities were poor. The first crop raised by Hill had to be hauled to Aptos for shipment to San Francisco. Afterwards a shipping point was established at the Watsonville landing, now known as Camp Goodall, where produce

was loaded in boats, carried through the surf by Indians and from the boats transferred to schooners. Interest on money borrowed was very high, hence the pioneer farmers of the valley did not reap any great income from their investments; as a matter of fact many went "broke" and their lands passed into other hands. The people of later years profited by the experience of their predecessors and have been more successful than those of the earlier days. J. B. Hill disposed of his interests in the Sal-si-puedes to Jesse D. Carr and purchased a tract of land on the Salinas. The dry season coming on, his investment was a failure. In 1851 Hill was running a threshing machine in this county. Of late years he has been a stock broker in San Francisco and is, I believe, still living at a ripe old age.

Land in the Sal-si-puedes rancho in 1855 was sold for \$30 an acre. Eugene Casserly, in the '70s, divided a portion of his land into fifty-acre tracts and sold the same at \$80 per acre. At the present time this same property commands a much higher price. Nothing but the bare land was offered, no fruit trees of any kind were in sight, and the adaptation of the land for fruit of all kinds had not been considered. To gaze upon the well-cultivated orchards, well-tilled farms, vineyards and other evidences of industry, enterprise and thrift, makes it hard to realize that the Pajaro valley was for a number of years a vast pasture for wild cattle of the native Californians. The people on the Sal-si-puedes rancho were principally employed by Hill and until the latter part of 1852 were a community living by themselves. The county paid but little attention to this quarter until the election of 1852, when a few candidates for office visited this section. In this year (1852) California had four electors who voted for Franklin Pierce: Santa Cruz county voted for Pierce 306; Winfield Scott 186; total vote 492.



## WATSONVILLE.

Situated in one of the richest agricultural valleys of the state, Watsonville was laid out by Judge H. Watson and D. S. Gregory and derives its name from the first-named. In the same year Llewellyn Thrift and wife and Charles McDermott (the latter being one of the three horsemen mentioned at the commencement of the article on the Pajaro valley) started a tavern and general store on Main street about where the Hildreth block now stands, or a little below. Thrift remarked at the time "If there is ever any town it will be right thar." It started "thar," and is a good sized city today. A Mr. Phipps started a tavern about the same time on Main street, generally designated at that time as Pajaro street, near the site of the present Hoffman house. The architecture of that period was rather crude; the buildings were mere temporary shanties but served the purposes of trade and traffic for several years.

The Rancho Bolsa del Pajaro, consisting of 5,496 acres, was granted to Sebastian Rodriguez by Governor Alvarado in 1837 on a patent from the United States issued to Sebastian Rodriguez January 4, 1860. The city of Watsonville comprises a portion of this grant. Considerable litigation ensued between the heirs of Sebastian Rodriguez and adverse claimants to lands of the Bolsa del Pajaro. It was finally settled by a decree of the circuit court in favor of Rodriguez under whom a majority had derived title, and there has been no further law suits affecting the title of Rodriguez.

Those who had squatters' titles only were compelled to purchase or vacate.

The titles to property being settled, improvements were made and new buildings were erected. Many years elapsed, however, before any decided progress was made. The vil-

lage of Watsonville was incorporated by the legislature of 1867. The first trustees of the town were, B. A. Barney, president, H. Jackson, G. M. Bockius, James Waters, Joseph McCollom, Ira Mabbit, clerk; first meeting May 25, 1868.

The first years of the existence of the town were rather turbulent. There was a large number of what have been lately termed "undesirable citizens." So called vigilant associations were very much in evidence. Mob law was too much in vogue. The vengeance of the mob was generally directed toward a class that the courts could deal with and grant no favors. It is not<sup>\*</sup> worth while to be particular in mentioning the crimes that were committed under the name of justice.

Horse stealing was considered the highest crime, while the crime of murder was treated very lightly. In all portions of the state a similar state of affairs existed. All new countries appear to have had the same experience. There was a certain class of bullies who claimed to "run the town." They all died with their boots on. There was an impromptu duel by which the town was relieved of two characters who killed each other, both firing at the same time; there had been a fixed feud between the two for a long time, ending as above. No unpleasant results followed this episode.

Watsonville, like other towns on this coast, had its ups and downs. Town property remained dormant for a number of years. At the present time city property is valued at a high figure. The transposition of Watsonville from a shanty town to that of better and modern buildings has been slow but sure. The public school buildings will compare favorably with any city of the same size.

The Bank of Watsonville, incorporated in 1874, has recently erected a two-story modern building with all the latest improvements and conveniences. The Pajaro Valley Bank

was organized in 1888 and now owns a fine block in the center of the Plaza on Main street. Both banks are prosperous and do a large and extensive business. H. S. Fletcher is now president of the Bank of Watsonville. Hon. W. R. Porter, ex-lieutenant governor, is president of the Pajaro Valley Bank.

The Carnegie Library was opened and dedicated in October, 1905. The building was built through funds obtained from Andrew Carnegie, who makes it his business to donate funds for public libraries on proper application. Before this a library was maintained in a rented building. The nucleus of a library was started in 1864 by the late Judge A. W. Blair, under the name of the Watsonville Library and Literary Association. Pajaro Lodge No. 90, I. O. O. F., also started a library and the books were subsequently turned over to the city library. This library is maintained by funds furnished by the city of Watsonville, raised by taxation; it has several thousand volumes, and the leading magazines and periodicals are also on file. Much interest is taken by the directors and the librarian, Miss Belle Jenkins. This library is situated on Union street, near the Plaza.

The Plaza, which for a number of years remained unnoticed and uncared for (being used at one time as a site for a traveling circus and as a place in which to keep stray dogs) is now one of the beautiful spots of the city, of which the citizens are justly proud. The work of beautifying the Plaza was inaugurated by the Native Daughters of the Golden West, El Pajaro Parlor, and now may be seen a handsome band stand and grounds beautifully ornamented with flowers and shrubbery.

It is hardly necessary to detail all the troubles incident to the early settlement of this portion of Santa Cruz county, on the numerous farms and outlying orchards the past has



been forgotten. A good deal has been written concerning the so-called romantic side of California. There was not much romance in the early days of this portion of the state. The tales of Bret Harte are read with avidity and pleasure, but as a true portrayal of California life they are a failure. The best story of early days in the mines was written by Canfield, whose death occurred recently. For a plain and truthful narrative of California life in the days of old this volume deserves a place in every library in the state. "Truth is stranger than fiction," but the latter is more sought after.

There was a bright side in the life of the settler of the early days. There was more of a community of interest and a closer feeling among them than is to be found at the present time. In times of sickness, in the hour when death entered the house, friends were numerous in offering their services, there were "Mothers in Israel" who were always on hand in attending sorrow or sickness; their services were freely given without money or without price, and they did not expect to have their pictures in the paper or to be extolled for doing a simple neighborly duty. "What is there in it" was never mentioned nor thought of.

Paul Lezere, a promoter, long since forgotten, at one time a resident of Paul's Island, in Monterey county, was the first to insist that a steamer would some day enter Elk Horn slough from the Bay of Monterey and carry freight and passengers. Paul used to visit Watsonville and advocate his scheme and endeavor to enlist supporters, but like other promoters he was ignored and laughed at. In 1860 soundings were made at the mouth of the slough and soon afterward a steamer entered and made a landing at the head of the slough and a landing was established about four miles

from Watsonville. This enterprise was started by Brannan & Co., who were the pioneers in this business. Goodall and Perkins succeeded to the business and ran a line of steamers for several years.

A railroad communication was established in 1871, the depot being at Pajaro, in Monterey county, about a mile and a half from Watsonville. Since that date the road has been extended to Monterey, Salinas and Los Angeles. A narrow-gauge railroad was opened for travel to Santa Cruz in 1876, and is now a broad-gauge road.

#### BEET SUGAR FACTORY.

Several years ago, some time in 1885 or '86, the late Claus Spreckels built a sugar factory in Watsonville to be used for the manufacture of sugar from sugar beets grown in the Pajaro valley. It ran successfully for several years, until it was abandoned and a new sugar factory established by Spreckels in Monterey county, which is running at the present time and is of greater capacity than the one formerly in use at Watsonville.

Beets are hauled from Watsonville and vicinity by the narrow-gauge railway to Spreckels. At the time of the building of the factory at Watsonville Spreckels received a subsidy from the people of this county for several thousand dollars, and recently a deed from the land on which the factory is situated conditioned that if the factory ceased to be used for the purpose intended the site should revert to the contributors. It has not reverted up to the present time.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Watsonville has recently erected a large building on the upper part of

Main street at a cost of about \$35,000, this amount having been raised throughout the valley by private subscriptions. The building is well equipped with the furniture necessary for a gymnasium, and other accessories. It is an institution that the donors take considerable interest in and they are very proud of this addition to the city.



## CHAPTER VII.

## THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ.

The city of Santa Cruz was granted a charter by the state legislature of 1866, amended in 1869 and '70, again in 1875 and '76. A Freeholders charter was established in February, 1907. The common council consists now of a mayor, seven councilmen, city clerk, city treasurer, police judge, city attorney, superintendent of schools, board of education and other appointive officials. The present city officers are:

Mayor, T. W. Drullard; City Clerk, J. L. Wright; City Treasurer, F. W. Lucas; City Attorney, H. R. Osborn; Chief of Police, Hugh Dougherty.

Councilmen, Fred R. Hoew, J. A. Pilkington, W. S. Springer, Frank K. Roberts, Phillip Hynes, H. F. Anderson.

The Fourth ward was rendered vacant by the death of the incumbent, in November, 1909. No councilman had been appointed to fill the vacancy up to January, 1910.

Very little progress was made in building up the city for many years after this incorporation, no perceptible improvements were manifest. In 1872 the late John Brayer, at that time postmaster, decided to move the office from its location at the head of Pacific avenue to the I. O. O. F. building then newly erected. It was considered at that time that the office was being moved out of the way of business, for at that period to be near the postoffice was considered quite an advantage from a business standpoint. The I. O. O. F. building is now in the center of the city. The postoffice is now located on Walnut avenue, off Pacific avenue. On Sunday morning November 14, 1909, the I. O. O. F. building suffered

from a disastrous fire. The main lodge room was completely destroyed, stores on the main floor suffered material damage to their several stocks, loss estimated at \$50,000. May 7, 1899, Sunday, this building suffered from a fire very similar to the last one. It was later re-built and the stores were soon rented.

In 1885 a new board of councilmen was elected, composed of younger men than had heretofore been chosen. Under the guidance of the new council a system of sewers was built; a municipal water system was acquired and several other improvements were made. Bonds were voted for and issued by the city to pay for the contemplated improvements. In 1887 a boom in real estate was started which did not last long and was a failure. Real estate was very much depressed for several years. For the last six years, however, there has been a steady improvement in land values and many new houses have been erected in different sections of the city, many residences of modern architecture have replaced those of an earlier period. Sewers have been quite an important factor in selecting a building site. Of late years, "Is there a sewer" was invariably the question before any attempt was made to purchase a home. The main streets of the city have been placed in a better condition than ever before, and forty miles of concrete sidewalks have been laid. In East Santa Cruz, in the annexed district, about \$50,000 has been expended by the people under the direction of the city government for sewers.

I had almost failed to note the Cliff Drive which follows the sea shore from the lighthouse up the coast, which for those fond of gazing upon the ocean is a trip long to be remembered. The breakers dash against the rock-bound shore, especially during a storm, throwing the foam over the cliff,

which is a magnificent sight and demonstrates the power of the waves when lashed into a fury by a southeast gale.

The San Lorenzo river that runs through the city on its way to the bay of Monterey, with its banks well lined with trees of various kinds, is a very fascinating stream. In the proper season salmon are caught in large quantities, as they enter the mouth of the river and start to run up stream. A visit to the railroad wharf will repay anyone interested in fishing. Here may be seen the fishermen mending their nets in the same manner as the men of Galilee mended theirs, and the boats (some of them sailboats and others gasoline launches), are being made ready for the next trip. The fishermen seem to be a very contented class of people; they do not let the questions of the issuance of bonds disturb their harmony, but work on from day to day totally indifferent to the various troubles of the times.

The sea gulls form an interesting picture; being quite tame, they dart from the wharf to the water to pounce upon the refuse thrown aside by the cleaners. Whales visit the bay during the season for the amusement of the visitors—Fred Swanton has them trained to appear at the proper time.

There are three bridges beside the railroad bridge near the mouth of the river, and another, a very handsome concrete bridge, recently built by the Union Traction Company for its street railway, running towards La Veaga Heights. There is at this time a desire for more bridges across the San Lorenzo river to accommodate the increased travel. The main or covered bridge, as it is called, was built under a contract given to the Pacific Bridge Company in 1874 for \$14,000. The sum of \$15,000 was appropriated for this purpose; bonds were issued to pay for this bridge and also for one across the Pajaro river at Watsonville. The above bridges are built of redwood timber, though the demand at



this time is for concrete structures as being more durable and artistic. As there appears to be conflicting ideas about the cost of the bridge built several years ago it may be as well at this time to state the cost and method of payment which is above noted.

La Veaga Park is a magnificent tract of land located about two miles from the city overlooking the bay. This was a gift from Señor de La Veaga to the city of Santa Cruz and comprises several acres. Besides the natural woods Señor La Veaga planted many eucalyptus and walnut trees and shrubbery of different kinds. Some day this gift will be appreciated more than at the present time.

At the present time, January, 1910, the city of Santa Cruz is wrestling with the question of calling an election for issuing bonds for necessary improvements. The question of municipal ownership of public utilities is also agitating the cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville. Several other cities in the state appear to have similar troubles.

Some years ago Santa Cruz refunded certain bonds that had been issued, but in doing so, before issuing the new bonds, neglected to have the first returned, hence were compelled to pay both. Somebody blundered. Since that time the question of issuing more bonds has received a set back.

#### PACIFIC OCEAN HOUSE.

This hotel needs more than a passing notice. For a number of years it was the leading hostelry of the county. Noted persons from all parts of the state and other lands have found a resting place here. It was the practice for a long time for the guests of the house to sit on the porch in front of the hotel and gaze on the passersby and exchange ideas with some of the old settlers. This custom has been abolished. At this hotel during the term of the old district court

the "bench and bar" made this their headquarters. During campaigns the leading politicians were to be found there. At a room in the Ocean house alley adjoining the hotel was the private retreat of the political rulers of the county. There slates were made and broken. All kinds of political schemes were concocted in that retreat; some of them went astray, the people did not always agree with the conclave.

George T. Bromley, recently deceased, the veteran presiding officer of the Bohemian Club of San Francisco, was at one time "mine host" of the Pacific Ocean house. In his memoirs, "The Long Ago," written by himself, he states that he was not a success as a landlord. Very few of the numerous landlords appear to have been successful financially.

A disastrous fire that occurred November 3, 1907, destroyed the upper portion of the building, together with most of the furniture. Since that time it has ceased to be a hotel. The Sea Beach and St. George hotels are the leading hotels at the present time.

#### THE BEACH AND ITS ATTRACTIONS.

On June 5, 1906, the casino, plunge, swimming bath and restaurant were destroyed by fire. This unfortunately happened as the summer season approached. A big canvas tent was procured and set up on the ground for temporary use until a new building could be erected. In this tent the Republican state convention was held that nominated Governor Gillette. The Grand Lodge of the Odd Fellows also met here the same year.

A larger and better structure has been erected on the site of the former casino, a larger and more commodious bath house and swimming tank also. A scenic railway is in full operation during the summer season, with other amusements. Santa Cruz has been a noted bathing resort for many years

and with the increased facilities and accommodations since the building of the casino and the tent city, thousands have flocked here in the summer season for rest and recreation. The scenic views in and around Santa Cruz are numerous, among them a trip to the Big Trees, where are to be seen several giants of the forest, a remarkable group of Sequoias. This is a choice spot for picnics. Here President Harrison was entertained during his visit to California, May 13, 1901. President McKinley was invited, but could not come owing to the illness of his wife. John Hay and some other notables, part of McKinley's cabinet, were entertained there. President Roosevelt, during his visit here March 11, 1903, was entertained by a grand barbecue at the Big Trees and expressed himself as "highly dee-lighted." In 1908 the officers of the Atlantic fleet squadron were feted in grand style, also the "Jackies." Santa Cruz has the name of being able to entertain larger crowds and in a better manner than any other place of its size in the state. Numerous other suburban retreats will repay a visit. Leaving the Big Trees, a trip to Felton or Ben Lomond, on to Brookdale and Boulder Creek, and from there on into the heart of the redwoods, where the scenery is of the grandest kind.

#### SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARY.

On April 14, 1904, a new and elegant building for the library was completed and furnished at a cost of \$20,211.

It has become the fashion in recent years to associate municipal libraries with the name of Andrew Carnegie. Santa Cruz had a library, and a good one, a generation before Mr. Carnegie was heard of in connection with library affairs. Originally organized by a voluntary association in 1868, our local library was adopted by the city in 1881, and has been supported and encouraged, generously and ungrudgingly



through all its history as a city institution. The year 1902 was perhaps the darkest of our municipal life, though it preceded only a short time the most prosperous era in our history. Early in that year the supreme court of the United States decided the Santa Cruz refunding bond case in favor of the bondholders, and almost simultaneously Mr. Carnegie donated the city first \$15,000, then an additional \$5,000, making \$20,000, for a public library building. Notwithstanding our embarrassed financial condition, the gift and its heavy obligations were accepted with equal cheerfulness, and preparations for a suitable site and a new building were at once begun.

In 1902 Santa Cruz had a population of about 6,500, a library of 13,204 volumes and a circulation for home reading of 45,704 volumes. The site of the new building, 100x200 feet, facing on two streets, was acquired by a special monthly payment contract with F. A. Hihn in 1903, under the administration of ex-Mayor D. C. Clark, a member of the present board of library trustees. On April 14, 1904, the new building was completed and finally furnished at a cost of \$20,211, the acquiring and filling of the lot, constructing and furnishing the building and installing the books in their new quarters having been carried out without any extraordinary demands on the city treasury.

For a number of years after removal to the new building, the circulation of books was disappointing, though after the first year a steady increase was noted. In 1906 the circulation had climbed to 48,890; in 1907, to 54,774; in 1908, to 64,595, and the year ending June 30, 1909, showed the extraordinary circulation of 77,096 volumes. It should be borne in mind that this does not include books consulted in the library, but only those carried out of the building for home reading.

On July 11, 1907, a branch library was opened at Sea-

bright, from which during the past year 6,900 volumes were taken by residents. During the present year a second branch was opened at Garfield Park, which promises to be another successful extension of the work. At the present time the number of volumes contained in the library, excluding government reports, is 17,000, the wear and tear due to the very large circulation, preventing a rapid increase in the collection.

The Santa Cruz Public Library is, and always has been a popular institution. Students find it a well equipped workshop and frequently testify to the value of its contents and the high character of the service it renders. But professional students form only a small proportion of those who use the library. All sorts and conditions of men, women and children find within its walls refreshment, instruction and inspiration. No institution was ever more thoroughly democratic, and no effort is spared to make the humblest citizen feel that his or her co-partnership in the ownership of the building and its precious contents is a genuine fact, resulting in real, tangible privileges and benefits.

#### SOCIETY OF SANTA CRUZ PIONEERS.

For several years the pioneers have kept up an organization, keeping anniversaries of Admission Day in September of each year. F. A. Hihn is the president and has taken great interest in the welfare of his pioneer brethren. The membership at the present time is rather small and growing less every year. Soon the last of the pioneers will be summoned by the grim reaper, and the society of the pioneers will cease to be. To the Native Sons and Daughters is bequeathed the work that their fathers inaugurated, and by them must their memories be kept green.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Some amusing incidents occurred in the early days, at a time when persons called themselves by any name that suited; no questions were asked of Tom, Jim or Jack, and the surname was not often used. A Mr. Williams who had been appointed a justice of the peace while taking a stroll encountered an old man who looked very anxiously at him and finally addressed him. It turned out that Williams had met his own father unexpectedly; explanations ensued and Williams was thereafter known as Winfield Scott Pearson. Why he had adopted the name of Williams was not explained or inquired into, it was not essential.

ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING AND ROMANTIC INCIDENTS IN THE  
HISTORY OF SANTA CRUZ.

The Indians at the Santa Cruz Mission in the early days were not all of the same tribe, but perfect harmony prevailed, and when the season of work was over, many paid visits to their countrymen and seldom returned alone, for the good friars had the art of making labor attractive. The regulations of the mission were uniform. At daybreak the bell summoned all to the church for prayers and mass, from which they returned to breakfast. Then all joined their respective bands and proceeded to their regular labor. At eleven they returned to dine and rested till two, when labor recommenced and lasted till the angelus, which was rung an hour before sunset. After prayers and beads, they supped and spent the evening in innocent amusements. Their food was the fresh beef and mutton plentifully supplied by their folks, cakes of wheat and maize, peas, beans and other vegetables. Four soldiers and a corporal stationed near the mission were enough to keep hundreds of Indians under subjection, or, with



more truth, it was the kindness and religious influence of the good friars that had gained a hold on the hearts of the poor Indians. However, for proper precaution, the Fathers were not allowed to travel far from the mission, or go out at night without the escort of a soldier of two.

The neglecting of this system proved fatal to Father Quintana in the year 1812. Late at night he was called down to the orchard, where an Indian was said to be sick. The friar, in order not to disturb the soldiers from their sleep, went alone with the Indian. While he was returning from the sick Indian, those who were lying in ambush got hold of the priest, and ordered him to prepare for death, since he would not see his native place any more. All his entreaties were of no avail. He was hung from a tree, just where the track of the Felton railroad now passes, not many yards from the tunnel. When he was dead, they brought his body in and put it in his bed, and covered it as if he were asleep. They could do this, because his associate priest was that night away to Monterey, and Quintana was here alone. His attendant called him at the usual hour in the morning, but found him dead. He was buried as if he had died a natural death. Nevertheless, his friends had suspicions, and they took prompt measures to ascertain the truth. From an old paper we see that a surgeon came from Monterey to examine the body of the murdered man, having in his hand an order from the commanding officers in Monterey to the surviving missionary to allow the disinterment of his remains. The truth was then discovered. But who had done the deed? That was the dark and terrible secret. And long was it kept a secret; for years was it kept. In a singular enough manner it was discovered.

An Indian major domo went from the mission on business to New Year's Point. He knew the language of the Indians

living there, but those Indians did not know that he knew it. While his dinner was being prepared by them, he overheard some of them saying between themselves: "This fellow is from the Mission Santa Cruz. Don't you remember how we killed Father Quintana there so many years ago?"

"Yes, we remember it well, but it was never found out."

"Well, let us kill this fellow, too, before he gets away."

The listening major domo pretended to be asleep while this talk was going on, but he heard and understood it all. Leisurely arousing himself pretty soon, he said to the Indians: "Don't hurry about the dinner till I come back; I don't feel very well; I want to go down to the beach and take a bath."

He went down to the beach, but among the rocks he quickly got out of sight, and soon found a horse that he could mount, and so escaped their designs. He made his way over the mountains to Mission Santa Clara, and there told his story and revealed the long-kept secret of the authors of the murder of Father Quintana.

Information was at once sent to headquarters at Monterey, and the guilty parties were taken into custody. But, through the exertions of the missionaries their lives were spared; however, it is said they all died a filthy death, eaten up by leprosy.

Father Quintana was buried at the side of the old church, and it has been the intention of the present priest to find his grave and have him decently buried, and convert that place into a kind of mortuary chapel, where the old mementoes of the mission will be preserved.—Harrison's History of Santa Cruz.

The above sketch has been recently published by the Santa Cruz Sentinel. It is too late at attempt to canonize Father Quintana, further more he does not deserve it. "In the Foot-

steps of the Padres," by Charles W. Stoddard, makes very pleasant reading, but hardly conforms to the facts. Without any desire to belittle the works of the friars and speak disparagingly of their labors, yet the facts of history when examined closely will show that Father Quintana deserved the fate meted out to him. Anyone desirous of further information has only to examine Bancroft's History of California, to be found in the Public Library of Santa Cruz, and it will be ascertained that it is better to let Father Quintana rest in peace.

#### INTERVIEW WITH THE OLDEST RESIDENT OF SANTA CRUZ.

It may be interesting to the reader to learn of an interview which the scribe's assistant had with the oldest resident (so far as is known) of Santa Cruz. One would hardly expect to find a woman of eighty years of age so engrossed with household and week-end duties that a call on Saturday afternoon was almost an intrusion. Nevertheless, with the persistence of a reporter, the scribe's assistant accepted the invitation to go in, even though Señora Alzina said she was very busy. A dear little old lady she is, appearing to be not more than sixty, active physically and alert mentally. "What were the questions to be asked?" "About the Mission." Did she remember the old Mission? "Why, she and her husband were married in the old Mission."

Señora Alzina has lived in Santa Cruz for eighty years, and an account of her eightieth birthday and the party given to her by her children and grandchildren was in a local paper of the day before. Eighty years lived in one place and that place of the Holy Cross!

Señora Alzina was born in Santa Cruz in 1828. Her father, Señor Gonzales, a native of Spain, came to Santa Cruz from the Santa Clara valley. Their home was the property now



occupied by the homes of Charles Cassir, Señora Alzina and Henry Willey. She was married to Francisco Alzina, also a native of Spain. They reared a large family and many are the kind acts told of Señora Alzina, of her knowledge of the medicinal value of native herbs and the use she had made of it in ministering to the sick. The scribe's assistant wished for some magic means to open up the pages of history stored in the Señora's memory, but she was rather reluctant to talk about old days with a stranger.

In answer to the question "Why was the Mission not kept in repair?" She replied "Because there was no priest here for a long time to take charge of things." "Do you remember much about the Indians?" "Yes, there were lots of Indians who had huts over back of the church on the Potrero." She remembered, too, of Indians who lived on the hill where the high school building now stands, who had charge of the wool and wove blankets. "Do you know who bought them?" "May be Father Junipera Serra." "Was the Plaza always there?" "Yes, always, and Sylvar street and the street leading down to the Potrero." (What a misnomer that Sylvar street should be named for a resident who acquired property of her father, rather than to be named for an old Spanish family!) "Were there many houses about the Plaza?" "Yes, and all of adobe," the house now occupied and owned by Miss Neary being one, and the house just under the Mission school another. She remembered well the time when California passed from Mexican to the American government. "Did any of the Mexican governors ever visit Santa Cruz?" "No, Monterey was the scene of all social activity, being the capital, and I often went there to visit my sister, making the trip on horseback." "Do you think often of old Mission days?" A shake of the head was the answer. It was evident to the interviewer that the duties of each day

occupied her mind to the exclusion of past days, and the knowledge of the Saturday's work still undone moved the interviewer to take leave. As we stood on the porch looking towards the Catholic church, I asked "Can you see it all as of old?" "Oh, yes, just the same." And pointing to the lot east of the church, she said that the old Mission stood there and occupied the entire frontage of the present property.

## CHAPTER VIII.

## BIG BASIN REGION.

This tract of land situated in the northern part of Santa Cruz county has an area of about two thousand acres. It is easily reached from Boulder Creek by stage or automobile. In this tract are some of the very best redwood trees in the state. Attention was called to this magnificent tract by F. L. Clarke, a gentleman of literary tastes, and a suggestion was made several years ago that it should be acquired by the state for a state park. One of the San Mateo newspapers advocated the acquisition of this natural park by the state. The Santa Cruz Surf and other papers then took up the matter and it was advocated that the state purchase it for a park for the people. The society of San Jose pioneers and other societies joined in the demand for a state park. Several well known writers contributed their quota to the newspapers of the entire state in advocacy of acquiring this superb redwood forest. After considerable agitation had been kept up, the legislature of the state passed a law by which about 3,800 acres of this basin was purchased and placed under the management of the state board of forestry. To enumerate all the persons that were active and used their influence towards acquiring this redwood park would be impossible at this time. Among those more prominent in the case were Hon. George Radcliff, member of the assembly from this county; David Starr Jordan; United States Senator George C. Perkins, and H. S. Middleton, an extensive land holder, assisted materially in completing the purchase. W. S. Rodgers, editor of the Mountain Echo of Boulder Creek,



devoted a great deal of his time and energy towards consummating the purchase for the state.

In years to come, when electric roads are built to this sylvan retreat, it will be a source of attraction for visitors from all parts of the United States. Senator Perkins has said, "I have traveled through the forests of Mariposa, and I have driven through the wonderful forests of southern Germany, yet I have never seen the equal of California Redwood Park." There are numerous streams running through the park which afford abundance of fishing for the disciples of Isaac Walton, game is also very plentiful.

"Who saved the Big Basin?" "I," said Duncan McPherson, "for I went there in person." "Not much," said J. F. Coop, "it was my gentle whoop that saved the Big Basin."

"I'm not giving you a fill," said A. P. Hill, "What else could be truer with my camera obscura? I saved the Big Basin."

"Nay," said Professor Dudley, fresh from the campus, "I was once pinched for a trampus, by a wicked constabulus of the town of Soquelibus. With my dissertation I saved the Big Basin."

"What are you giving us," said Assemblyman Walker; "my work in committee saved the Big Basin."

"Listen to me," said George Radcliff, "Me and Senator Tom Flint gave the governor a hint that saved the Big Basin."

"Come off," said Governor Gage, "'Twas my pen on the page that saved the Big Basin."

The above argument occurred during the discussion over the cutting of timber in the Big Basin a few years ago. The circumstance created considerable excitement among the friends who labored for the purchase of this site by the state. Every

one that had ever heard of the Big Basin seemed to come forward and insist that he was the saviour of this forest park.

Professor Dudley, dressed as a hobo, was near Soquel hunting bugs when the constable arrested him and brought him to Santa Cruz, where some of the pedagogues recognized him and secured his release.

#### REMINISCENCES OF STAGE TRAVELING DAYS.

The knights of the whip have received due notice of their achievements in driving stage over mountain roads in the good old days of stage travel. These old drivers have been historically considered from the time of Hank Monk, the driver who brought Horace Greeley over the Sierra Nevada mountains in time for his lecture. "Keep your feet, Horace, we will bring you in all right," was Monk's salute to the noted editor when the stage threatened to dispossess him of his seat. Santa Cruz county can boast of a stage driver that savors somewhat of a romance. Charley Parkhurst, also known as "Cock Eyed Charley," as much by the latter title as by his original name, drove stage several years in Nevada, also between Santa Cruz and San Juan Bautista. This individual masqueraded under a disguise that was not discovered until death unraveled the mystery. Charley was a typical stage driver, swore at his horses and when necessary took his "nip" at the various stopping places on the road, carried the United States mail, performed his duties faithfully and was a general favorite on the road. Being tired of handling the reins, he started a half-way house, furnishing refreshments for man and beast, took care of the relay teams, bought twenty-five acres of land and settled down. In 1879 Charley sold his ranch and went to live in a cabin on a ranch owned by one of his friends, lived alone and avoided people

as much as possible; he took sick and died in 1879. While the necessary offices of the dead were being performed it was discovered that Charley was of the gentler sex, in other words Charley was a woman. This event was very extensively circulated. It was first written for the San Francisco Call by the writer, copied by all the eastern papers and very much embellished by a story of a fair maiden in New Hampshire becoming disappointed in love and leaving her native state disguised in the habiliments of the sterner sex. A poem on the subject was written by a local poet. Charley succeeded in preserving her secrets very effectively and was buried with them. Letters of administration were issued on the estate of Charles D. Parkhurst, deceased, for the purpose of quieting title to a certain piece of property. No heirs ever made any inquiries or endeavored to assert any claim to any property that may have belonged to the estate. Some persons were found digging about the cabin where Parkhurst resided, under the impression that some wealth was there buried, but none was ever found. On the great register of the county is found the name of Charley Darkey Parkhurst, nativity New Hampshire, occupation, farmer, age fifty-five. Date of registration 1867. Charley exercised the right of suffrage in spite of the law against women voting.

#### BANKING FACILITIES.

There are five banks in the county, three at Santa Cruz and two at Watsonville. Each bank has also a savings deposit bank carried on under the same management; they are all in a flourishing condition, using their own buildings, fitted in modern style with every convenience and are all in a very prosperous condition. Before the banks were established money was deposited in the safes of the merchants for safe keeping or in some instances deposited by the owners in



some safe place known only to themselves. If a party wanted to borrow money he would apply to some one supposed to have money to loan and after arrangements were made by the execution of a mortgage or other security, the deal was closed, the documents put on record and the transaction was generally closed thus: "Well, whose treat is it? Guess it's mine." "Cum less take a drink." Written application for a loan and abstracts of title were seldom asked for in the days of old; interest was from ten per cent a month in the '50s and stood at three per cent a month for many years; it ranges now from eight per cent per annum on ranch property to ten and twelve per cent per annum on city property. Some years ago there was a demand that mortgages should be taxed; the borrowers thought this would be an advantage; experience has proved that the borrower gained little or nothing by this method; he was left at the mercy of the lender. "The borrower is a servant to the lender," was written centuries ago and the same law has prevailed to the present time.

#### RELIC OF SLAVERY DAYS.

George H. Williams, of Watsonville, formerly of Cape Girardeau, Mo., having owned and held the bearer, a negro man called Alexander Nurenberg aged about fifty-eight years, a slave in the said county from 1841 until my emigration to California in 1852 and having brought him here to California with me under an agreement with him that I would emancipate him in consideration that he would serve me well and faithfully for two years; and he having tendered to me good service for the term of two years, to my full satisfaction, I do by these presents emancipate and set free the said Alexander Nurenberg to the intent that he be and remain his own freeman forever. Signed, sealed and acknowledged before G. M. Bockius, County Judge. Armed with this document

Alex left for Missouri and on arrival he presented the above to the proper authorities and he was allowed his freedom. Another old darkey did not fare so well. Uncle Dan Rogers contended that he would like to go back on a visit to Arkansas and was given his emancipation papers; on his arrival his papers availed him nothing; "Golly, Massa," he told me on his return, "dey had dis nigger on de block and sold him." He had to buy his freedom and returned to Watsonville and attained the age of one hundred years. On a visit to San Francisco to see some of his relatives he was run over by a street car. Another colored man, James Brodes, brought here under an agreement that he should be free after working two years in the mines, came to the conclusion that the agreement was not to be carried out, hence he "skipped" to the Pajaro valley. For several years he was in terror expecting his owner to come and claim him. The fifteenth amendment released him of any further danger. He lived to accumulate quite an estate; the property known as Watsonville Heights was conveyed by this man, James Brodes, to the present owners. "Nigger Jim," as he was first called and after having acquired property was designated by name, died in 1906 and his estate was distributed to his heirs.

Martina Castro, one of the numerous Castro family and daughter of Joaquin Castro of the San Andres, obtained a grant of the Soquel rancho from Governor Figueroa November 23, 1833, for 1,668 acres, which was confirmed by the land commissioners on a patent issued by the United States government. She also obtained a grant for the Soquel Auymentation rancho of 3,272 acres and a United States patent was issued to her. This second tract contained vast forests of redwood timber, live oak, Madrona and other wood; these tracts of land were conveyed by Martina Castro to other parties and a partition was made by the district court.

allotting the several interests to the respective owners. She was married first to Michael Sage and after his death was married to Louis Depeaux. She died in December, 1890, and at the time of her death she was not in possession of any of the broad acres acquired by the grants referred to. On December 12, 1895, a petition for special letters of administration was filed in the superior court of this county by M. Elizabeth Peck, a grand-daughter of Martina Castro, setting forth that there was considerable real estate belonging to the heirs of the late Martina Castro Depeaux, and it would be necessary to commence action at once to recover the property belonging to the estate, before the statute of limitations expired. M. Elizabeth Peck having been appointed special administrator, in due time the filing of suits against several hundred defendants who had obtained titles to their lands which were supposed to be valid, was quite a surprise, as no claims were ever made during the lifetime of Martina to any portion of the lands conveyed by the grants in question. After some litigation the suits came to an end and the various owners felt greatly relieved. It was urged that Martina was "non compos" at the time she transferred her interests, but as forty years had elapsed before this claim was advanced it fell to the ground. About the last order made was that directing the suits instituted by M. Elizabeth Peck dismissed. This was the first case where the party had rested so long a time without attempting to enforce his rights.

It is no uncommon thing for descendants of the owners of ranch grants to entertain a belief that by some means they are still entitled to share in some portion of the land conveyed by their ancestors. How these tracts were transferred, what influences were brought to bear by designing individuals it is unnecessary to inquire at this late day. Manifest destiny



and the survival of the fittest have entirely changed the aspect of affairs. The land on which Capitola is located was included in the suits referred to.

JOURNAL OF A VOYAGE FROM THE CITY OF BALTIMORE TO SAN FRANCISCO VIA CAPE HORN BY C. SCHULTZ, A PASSENGER.

Books suitable for records were probably difficult to be obtained in the early days. The book from which this reminiscence is copied has written on the fly leaf "Edward M. Abell, Edward Myers, Charles Myers, Peter Tracy, county clerk of Santa Cruz and from the state of California. James Kirk, Francis Kirk, both of San Francisco, lately from California." Five pages of the book contain judgments written in several cases before the county court. The journal commences January 24, 1849, the day prior to our leaving Baltimore on our perilous, yet I hope, prosperous expedition. In the announcement which appeared in the newspapers for several days before our ship (Jane Parker) was to sail, passengers were requested to be on hand at the appointed time; however, not only passengers, but crowds of spectators, both ladies and gentlemen, numbering some eight or ten thousand, filled the wharves, rigging and ships; all the neighborhood were anxious to witness the departure of their friends on so lengthy an expedition. The Independent Blues brass band was stationed in the forecastle and discoursed excellent music, adding much to the pleasure and excitement of the scene. The Junior Artillery had their cannon posted on the wharf ready to fire a parting salute; such a scene was never before enacted on the departure of any ship from any port, not even excepting the celebrated Christopher Columbus voyage of discovery. The writer regrets that the leave-taking had to be gone over again on the next day, as the ship was detained. Amidst the cheering crowds and the firing of the

artillery, notwithstanding all this joyous demonstration, the parting at the last moment was very sad. A meeting of the passengers was held shortly after leaving the city, at which resolutions were passed complimentary to the citizens of Baltimore and to the artillery, and were ordered published in the city newspapers. At 10 P. M. we came to anchor and then, as one of the passengers observed "the last link was broken" and many a longing look was cast towards shore.

About two hundred yards from us lay the ship Silas Richards, bound for London, waiting for a fair wind. He invited us to visit his vessel, which some of us did and were treated very nicely and found the captain a gentlemanly and very agreeable man. After enjoying his hospitality we returned to our own vessel, and the weather being very cold the passengers flocked to the cabin, where a scene of confusion was presented which I will not attempt to describe. After clearing my bunk (a sailor's word for berth) of the almost numberless amount of bundles which were crammed into it---here the journal ends abruptly, the leaves of the book being torn out, and whether Mr. Schultz ever finished his journal or what became of it will remain a mystery.

The journal shows the feeling at that time (1849) of the sailing of a vessel for California; the fears for a safe voyage round Cape Horn and the hopes for a safe arrival in port and the return of the voyagers with their fondest expectations realized. In these days the sailing of a vessel for California excites no more interest than the sailing of a vessel from San Francisco to Santa Cruz. The sailing days were generally set for Sunday, that being considered a lucky day, besides it was a "dies non". Edward M. Abell was a voter in Santa Cruz at the first election held in 1850 in April, and at one time kept a hotel on Grant street in partnership

with R. J. F. Scott. They subsequently moved to Watsonville. C. Schultz was also a voter at the same election. All have long since ended their earthly voyage. This fragmentary journal may be of interest to the pioneers who reached California by way of the Horn; it will remind them of their own leave taking, leaving with high hopes and expectations of acquiring a competency in a few years and returning to the land of their birth to enjoy the same. To the Native Sons it may have an interest in depicting the hardships endured in reaching the Golden State, and their efforts in building up and clearing the way for others to follow by a much easier route.

As some reference has been made to squatters, a brief sketch of some of the troubles may not be out of place.

On the 14th of August, 1850, the city assessor was killed and Biglow, the mayor, was mortally wounded, others were killed in the same fight, among them Maloney, the leader of the squatters. Dr. Charles Robinson, who afterwards became governor of Kansas, was severely wounded. On the following day in a continuation of the same fight a few miles out of the city of McKinney, the sheriff of the county, and several others were killed. There were swarms of squatters in San Francisco and fights were frequent. Three hundred men, squatters on the Fitch Pana and Berressa grants, situated about Healdsburg on the Russian river and in Napa county, banded together for mutual protection in movements for defense and aggression. Sonoma and Santa Rosa valleys, in common with almost all parts of the state covered with Mexican grants, have been the scene of repeated assassinations. In April, 1858, armed men attacked the government surveyor, Tracy; acting under instructions issued by Mandeville, surveyor general, they seized and tore in pieces his papers and informed him if he valued his life he had



better go home; he thought it was good advice and acted upon it and retired. Fights between squatters in Santa Clara were frequent and several were killed; in some way the sentiment got abroad that the owner's title was of no value, that anyone might settle on an unoccupied spot; the treaty of Hidalgo when ratified became a part of the constitution of the United States and was supposed to be respected, but was not taken into consideration. "Did not the United States buy all this land when California was purchased from the Mexican government? Certainly we bought it and the land is ours, treaty of Hidalgo be damned." This was the argument used in support of the position of the squatters.

Years of litigation ensued before order was restored. In this county happily no fights took place, no lives were lost in any conflicts between squatters and ranch owners. In Santa Clara the district court adjourned at one time not being able to have orders obeyed. S. B. McKee, the judge of the court at that time, remarked that "if the processes of his court could not be enforced, he would adjourn until they could be." The squatters were strongly organized, sufficiently to defy the officers of the court. I append here an extract from an article by the late M. M. Estee. "I was once employed by some public land men or squatters, as they were termed, and I advised them to appeal to the laws of their country and quit fighting. They said they would and in a few months one of their number called on me and said they were prepared for a peaceful mode of settling their land troubles. I was much surprised and asked him how? He replied that they had formed a squatters league and that every man but one within ten miles of his place belonged to it. Soon after I was called down to the so-called fighting line where they were going to try some forcible entry cases. When I got there I found they had a jury summoned, every

one of whom was a member of the league; the justice and constable were members and the verdict was necessarily in favor of that body. After the trial the grant owner asked the men who had cut his hay, if they would pay the taxes on the land as they were in possession of it; they answered that government land could not be taxed and they did not want to astonish the government by paying taxes on its own property."

#### SPANISH DOCUMENTS.

Spanish documents relating to the Branciforte pueblo have been in the custody of the officials of the court house for many years; so far as can be ascertained they were transferred from Monterey to the authorities of Santa Cruz county. In 1850 the legislature of the state authorized certain documents to be procured from Monterey and in 1851 arranged for classification and indexing the same, as well as their disposition; those relating to land titles were delivered to the office of the surveyor-general, while those that pertained to the prefectorate remained. At the present time no one seems to know how these Spanish documents got here. I thought that perhaps some papers relating to the history of this county might be found and of some interest to the people. I find nothing of very great interest among these so called Spanish archives, it seems that the people of that period had troubles of their own similar to those of the present day. They told their troubles to the alcaldes, who appeared to have dispensed justice in their own manner. I find a call for a meeting of citizens written in the French language asking that they assemble in accordance with the laws of the United States, purpose not stated. I also find a complaint against Joven (Young) Felipe Gonzales in 1845, alleging that he was guilty of conducting himself in a manner

distasteful to the authorities. Felipe was afterwards a respectable citizen of Watsonville and died there universally respected by all persons. A letter dated Monday February 4, 1799, from Diego Borica to the authorities of Branciforte recommending that they put in wheat, corn and beans so that they can be sure of an abundance of provisions without depending on the pueblo of San Jose. A communication addressed to Governor Micheltorena signed by Diego Guillermo Weeks, Alberto Fernando Morris, J. L. C. Majors, William Barton, Paul Sweet, Charles Heath, Samuel Buckel, stating that they are not responsible for the acts of Capt. Isaac Graham and assuring His Excellency that they are law-abiding and respect the law of Mexico. At Santa Cruz, in June, 1843, it was reported that lumber valued at \$7,000 was destroyed by fire supposed to have been incendiary; as this was a very grave crime the authorities were commanded to make a rigid investigation and apprehend the authors of the crime if possible.....y Libertad, Jose R. Estrado.

I find nothing of a historical nature save a proclamation by the several Mexican governors, relating to the administration of affairs in the pueblo. If any other documents were ever deposited with the authorities at the time of the establishing of American authority they have disappeared; there were several communications from Father Real, the padre of the Mission, recommending that attention be given to better observance of the church festivals. Some one complained that he found three horses in possession of George Chapel and accused him of being a *ladrone chief*. There was at one time quite a feud between Chapel and Leggett, both foreigners (*estrangeros*) resulting in the killing of one of them. Micheltorena, brigadier-general of the army, called the department assembly to meet at Monterey on August 28, 1844, Don Pio Pico, Francisco Figueroa, Don Narcisco Borello,



Don Esteran Murray, Don David Spence; this session was called to take into consideration the actual condition of the state of affairs, that the country was threatened with war (Guerra Estrangeros), and it was necessary that something should be done. It is dated at the governor's palace of California at Monterey, August 28, 1844, signed Manuel Micheltoarena, Manuel Jimeno, Sio del Despacho. At this meeting Don Narcisco Borello was elected secretary in place of Zenon Fernandez, deceased. Among the first settlers of Branciforte were many undesirable citizens sent from Mexico, probably their characteristics descended to their successors. The Viceroy Branciforte, after whom the pueblo was named, was recalled to Mexico and his property confiscated owing to some troubles between him and the higher powers. Manuel Jimeno, April 30, 1844, issued an order that Diego Guillermo Wikes (Weeks) must not be molested by any person whatever in the land he now occupies. In 1845 the authorities were informed that five sailors had deserted from La Fragata Argo, and were supposed to be in hiding at the house of Jose Buelna, and the officials were directed to find the deserters and return them to their vessel.

One interesting bill is on file and made the subject of a suit of one Rousillon to Graham and Naile, itemized

1 bottle grog.....	1
1 gallon " .....	4
1 bot. " .....	1
1 Bbl Aguardente.....	60
1 gal. grog..	

and so on down to a keg of nails, a few nails to several gallons of grog.

The bill receipted, marked paid through the court at Monterey.

Pasted in one of the alcalde's records is a notice written in Spanish of which the following is a translated copy:

August 14, 1849.

Suiz Lucaz. agrees within three days after the arrival of Padre Anzar he will obligate to marry Marie Dolores Mojiza or pay \$500 as a fine in default.

Signed before J. S. Majors, Alcalde.

Whether the parties were married or whether the \$500 was paid the records do not disclose.

These documents are of little value at present. I suggest that they be divided between the two principal libraries, where some future "Dryasdust" may have the privilege of examining them.

## CHAPTER IX.

## STATISTICS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY 1907 AND 1908.

## REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Area, 500 square miles, or 320,000 acres.

Number of farms .....	1,765
Number of acres assessed .....	262,938
Value of country real estate .....	\$ 4,640,260
Of improvements thereon .....	1,625,800
Of city and town lots .....	4,962,155
Of improvements thereon .....	2,753,045
Of personal property .....	1,903,765
Total value of all property .....	\$15,885,025
Expended on roads last fiscal year .....	\$ 40,662
Expended on bridges last fiscal year .....	12,389
Number of miles of public roads.....	458
Road levy per \$100 in 1908.....	60c
Value of county buildings .....	\$162,500
Railroads, steam—miles 51.49; assessed value.....	802,244
Railroads, electric—miles 15; assessed value.....	55,045
Electric power plants, 2—assessed value.....	52,085
Electric power lines—miles, 70; assessed value.....	18,500
Number of acres irrigated.....	1,200
Ocean Shore R. R. has 25.6 miles of road but it is not subject to assessment as yet.	

*Number of fruit trees and vines:*

Total fruit bearing .....	889,015
Total fruit non-bearing .....	121,585
Total nut bearing .....	6,555
Total nut non-bearing .....	3,175



Total acres grapes bearing .....	1,370
Total acres grapes non-bearing .....	2,615
Total acres berries bearing .....	625
Total cereals acres 2,600; tons 2,259; value.....	\$ 85,510
Total hay acres 6,215; tons 11,467; value.....	157,637
Total fruits and vegetables and this includes berries, apples, figs, grapes pounds production 114,954,945 valued at .....	\$1,860,030
Total dried fruits pounds 9,277,100 valued at.....	423,842
Total canned fruits cases 10,500 valued at.....	25,855
A case of apples contains 12-1 gal. cans.	
3,000 cars actual shipment of apples does not include 815,495 boxes that were handled by the driers, vinegar plants and canneries.	

*Live stock industry:*

Total stock of all kinds 20,095; value .....	\$663,890
Manufactured output includes bituminous rock, cement, cigars, box shooks, lime, malt, hides, lard, meats, tallow, paper, glue, soap, powder, leather, barrels, and this is figured in tons, pounds, barrels, kegs, and thousands.	
Total value of forest products .....	\$ 881,822
Miscellaneous products, such as bees, sugar beets, melons, etc. ....	173,865
Total manufactories of all kinds employ 1,200, value of output .....	4,600,415
Poultry and eggs, value .....	213,818
Wine, brandies, beer, vinegar gals. 1,202,025, value	272,460
There are 12 wineries and 3 breweries.	
Fish industry, pounds, 1,419,133, valued at.....	\$42,575

*Dairy industry:*

Butter 245,535 pounds, value.....	\$76,115
Cheese, 475,660 pounds, value.....	47,560
Gals. cream, 11,195, value.....	12,315

Number of dairies 20 and besides there are the products of several dairies that are delivered to home consumers.

Of the men who worked on the Sal-se-puedes rancho for J. Bryant Hill in 1852, Louis Martinelli and this writer are the only survivors of the days that "tried men's souls." Charles McDermott, one of the three horsemen mentioned in company with Hill, died several years ago in Arizona. All of the original merchants of Santa Cruz and Watsonville have ceased their labors except F. A. Hihn of Santa Cruz, who started as a merchant in 1850 and is now still active and interested in large undertakings.

I have seen this county grow from a population of 350 to that of 25,000 and have seen great changes during the last half century. The advantages and possibilities of Santa Cruz county are yet in their infancy, awaiting development by the people who will be attracted here by climate and other attractions for homes and investments. It is one of the beauty spots of the state, in a climate equable the year around and where men can work out of doors with their coats off at all seasons. In how many cities in the Union can the school children be seen eating their lunches seated on the lawn in the months of December and January, as they often do in Santa Cruz?

With best wishes for the prosperity of Santa Cruz county, I conclude this imperfect sketch.

EDWARD MARTIN.

## CHAPTER X.

NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF THE FRUIT INDUSTRY OF SANTA  
CRUZ COUNTY.

BY

C. H. RODGERS.

HORTICULTURAL COMMISSIONER AND PRESIDENT

OF

PAJARO VALLEY ORCHARDISTS' ASS'N.

The information contained herein was obtained largely from the survivors of the earliest white settlers of this county whom I have interviewed at various times for more than a decade.

This being the case, of course the data are necessarily incomplete and fragmentary. Nevertheless it will doubtless be of interest to our successors to be able to trace out the beginnings of what has developed into the greatest interest of our county.

The first fruit trees and vines planted in Santa Cruz county were located at the Mission of Santa Cruz, which was founded in 1791. My researches have not enabled me to ascertain the date of the planting of this orchard by the Mission founders, but in accordance with their usual custom it is fair to assume that the planting was made shortly after the founding of the Mission. According to the best information the area of this orchard was about ten acres and the varieties of fruits consisted of pears, olives and a few grape vines.

The pears were of a variety unknown to the Americans, but possessed good eating qualities. They ripened in the early autumn but did not keep well. The olives were of the



ordinary Mission variety. The few grape vines which were planted did not produce good grapes probably on account of the fact that the variety planted was not adapted to coast conditions. A few of those ancient pear trees are still living, but the greater part of the orchard was washed away by the floods of 1861-62. At the time of the arrival of the first Americans in the county, this was the only orchard, although an occasional pear tree was found growing near some of the old adobe ranch houses.

The first planting of fruit trees by Americans was made at Soquel, during the winter of 1847-48, according to the statement of A. Noble, a pioneer of the state and resident of Soquel since 1856. He writes: "On the west side of Soquel creek John Daubenbiss, a pioneer of 1842, and John Hames, a pioneer of 1843, each planted a small orchard during the winter of 1847-48. Daubenbiss told me that they sent to Oregon for these trees. The varieties of apples planted were Virginia Greenings, Baldwins and Rhode Island Greenings. These were the first apple orchards planted in Santa Cruz county." Some of the apple trees and one or two of the cherry trees planted at that time by those men still remain.

According to the best authentic information, the next orchard plantings were made in 1853, by Judge William Blackburn, in Santa Cruz, and Jesse D. Carr, in Pajaro valley. (Further details concerning the last named will be presented later in this article.)

Regarding the first planting in Santa Cruz, Thomas Beck, a pioneer resident of that city, writes:

"In the spring of 1853, Judge William Blackburn planted an orchard of ten acres of various kinds of fruit trees, on the southwestern portion of the Santa Cruz bottom land, and where a part of the town is now built. It extended from Pacific avenue westward to the slough, and from the Ocean

bluff northward. In the following year (1854), an orchard of about twelve acres of apples and peach trees was planted by James Williams, on the same bottom land, west of Pacific avenue. The land upon which this orchard was planted is now the very center of the city.

“In 1855 I bought an acre of this orchard, facing on Pacific avenue, from Mr. Williams, upon which there were about seventy trees, and upon which I built myself a residence. On this property there are now several fine stores. In this year (1855) J. B. Arcane and Captain Cathcart planted small orchards on the east side of Pacific avenue, and immediately opposite the land of Mr. Williams.

“In 1854 Jacob A. Blackburn planted an apple orchard of ten acres in what is called the Blackburn gulch on the Branciforte river, about six miles from Santa Cruz. The varieties I do not remember. I think that it was in this year that Hiram Imus put out a small orchard on his land in the small valley northeast of the Catholic Church property, in Santa Cruz.”

J. H. B. Pilkington, of Santa Cruz, formerly one of my associates on the Board of Horticultural Commissioners, and to whom I am indebted for material aid in collecting information around Santa Cruz for use in this article, writes in part as follows:

“There are also cherry and apple trees planted by David Gharkey still standing in the Kron orchard on River street, Santa Cruz, planted in the '50s. One cherry tree produces yearly the earliest cherries ripening around here. It is a fine spreading tree, in good health and produces heavily.

“F. A. Hihn, one of the first inhabitants of Santa Cruz, and at present the owner of the most extensive apple orchard in this county, states that in 1856 he planted an orchard of about four acres adjacent to his present home in

Santa Cruz. Two pears and one cherry of the original trees still remain and bear fruit.

“From the same authority, we learn that the first successful vineyard in the county was planted in 1852 or '53 by one René, a Frenchman. It was located one mile north of the old Mission and its area was about two acres.

“Mr. Hihn also informs us that the first extensive venture in grape growing occurred in 1858, when George and John Jarvis and others planted about three hundred acres at Vine Hill, seven miles northeast of Santa Cruz. The product of these vineyards proved of excellent quality and this successful demonstration signaled the beginning of grape growing in an extensive way.”

On the question of the first planting of grapes there seems to be a difference of opinion. Concerning this question Mr. Pilkington writes:

“Samuel Morgan tells me that the first grapes here were planted on the Potrero, near the Indian reservation, northerly from the old Mission and west from what is now Kron's tannery and within the present limits of Santa Cruz, by David Gharkey. They were Isabellas brought across the plains in 1852, by him and planted the next year and claimed by him to be the first Isabellas grown in California.”

The orchard and vineyard industries in the middle and northern parts of the county made but slight advancement prior to 1880, most of the plantings being for family use, or at most a few acres.

Some of the more prominent early growers in the above-named districts aside from those already mentioned were: J. Parrish, A. A. Hecox, H. Daubenbiss, V. Humphrey, J. Morgan, B. Pilkington, H. Morrell, Taylor, Burrill, Curtis, Schultheis and C. McKernan.

Strawberries were first grown for market about the year



1860. Our informant, Duncan McPherson, also adds that these first strawberries sold at \$2 per quart.

The far-famed Loganberry and Mammoth blackberry were originated by Judge J. H. Logan in Santa Cruz and were first introduced to the world in 1853.

The early plantings of the various fruits had demonstrated that soil and climatic conditions existing in the valleys, foothills and cañons of the Santa Cruz mountains were ideal for the production of the highest type of the various fruits which had been tested.

Encouraged by this knowledge and the prevalent attractive prices, owners of tracts of land suitable for fruit growing began to plant more extensively. This was about 1880 and this period marks the beginning of commercial fruit growing in that part of the county, since which time there has been a slow but steady increase in the area devoted to fruits.

French prunes predominate in acreage and the quality is equal to the best raised in the state.

Grapes rank second in acreage and for size, color and flavor and keeping qualities they cannot be excelled. Both table and wine grapes are grown in a wide range of varieties.

Peaches, plums and apricots reach a high state of perfection but are not extensively grown.

Some of the choicest cherries produced in the state are raised around Highland, Skyland and other districts of considerable elevation. The Royal Anne and Black Tartarian are the favorites.

Red varieties of apples—the Spitzenburg, Baldwin, Jonathan and others—attain highest perfection around Boulder Creek, Castle Rock, Bonny Doon and other places, in elevation ranging from 1,000 to 2,500 feet. Bartlett and other pears succeed well at those elevations also.

While all districts of the county are well adapted to the

growing of fruits and are undergoing development along these lines, the topography of the territory is such that Pajaro valley district has taken the lead in commercial growing of fruits on a large scale.

It should be explained here that while Pajaro valley district is mainly within Santa Cruz county it also embraces a strip of the northern part of Monterey county and in this case it is virtually necessary to include said strip in the Pajaro district, as the two constitute a unit when the fruit industry is under consideration.

The first orchard in this valley was planted as stated before, in 1853 by Jesse D. Carr. Its location was two miles east of Watsonville on what is now known as the old Silliman homestead. This orchard was about two acres in area and contained a general mixture of fruit for home use. Some of the original trees are still bearing fruit.

The second orchard planted was by William F. White, in 1854. During the next two or three years several small family orchards were planted. The Coopers and others planted a few trees on their town lots. Scott planted fruit trees on a portion of what is now the plaza. The latter were still standing as late as 1870. The writer recalls eating fruit from those trees at that time.

G. M. Bockius was one of the early planters, he having set out fifty-two trees of mixed varieties in 1857.

The first commercial orchards were set out by Isaac Williams and Judge R. F. Peckham in 1858. Williams planted thirteen acres to apples principally, on land now owned by K. F. Redman. Peckham planted six acres on what is now called the Gaily place. The Moss peach orchard and the Sanford orchard were planted about the same time. These orchards were located on the Santa Cruz road at the extreme western limit of the valley.

As these early orchards were entirely experimental it was the rule to plant many varieties. With apples the popular varieties were Smith Cider, Rhode Island Greening, Rambo, Gravenstein, Jonathan, Newton Pippin and Bellflower. The favorite plums were the Egg plum, Washington, Jefferson and Green Gage. In cherries, Governor, Wood, Napoleon, Bigerreau, Blackheart and Black Tartarian. The Crawford was the favorite peach. In apricots the Royal and Moorpark were planted but the Moorpark proved a failure, as it flourishes only in warm dry climates. With pears the favorites were Winter Nellis and Bartlett. Most of the trees were procured from San Jose nurseries, and were hauled in wagons, there being no other means of transportation. These trees cost at the nurseries from \$1 to \$1.50 each.

In 1860 the total amount planted to fruit trees in our valley did not exceed fifty acres. By this time it had been demonstrated that our soil and climate were well adapted to the production of a great variety of fruits. Our apples particularly showed the highest perfection. High prices stimulated the planting of quite an acreage of apples during the next five years, or between 1860 and 1865. People began to plant on a larger scale—some planting as much as fifteen acres.

In the winter of 1861-62 Jacob Blackburn planted an apple orchard of twelve acres. This was for many years the model orchard of the valley. This tract has recently been subdivided into town lots, but many of the original trees remain and bear good fruit.

Blackburn might well be called the father of the apple industry in Pajaro. He, above all others, through the experiments which he conducted, demonstrated the most profitable varieties to plant. Being a man of keen observation and rare judgment, thorough in all that pertained to the management of his orchard, and enthusiastic in the industry, his



advice, always cheerfully given, was much sought and his orchard methods widely adopted.

The same winter, that of 1861-62, James Waters planted 1900 apple trees on the bottom land now owned by William Birlem, and the adjoining piece belonging to the orphanage. After the abatement of the renowned flood of 1862 not one tree was left. All were either covered with debris or were washed away. Some pear trees which he planted on the hillside near by still stand.

Louis Martinelli, Daniel Tuttle, Charles Smith, Lum Smith, Thomas Beck, Mike Gagnon, Dunlap and others, followed with their plantings within the next year or two. In 1863 G. M. Bockius planted a pear orchard of ten acres.

As this valley was so isolated on account of such poor shipping facilities, and as other sections more favorably situated were raising enough to supply the markets, prices ruled low and few trees were planted during the period between 1865 and 1875.

To illustrate of how little consequence apples were considered during this time, when J. M. Rodgers planted an orchard of four acres, in 1868, he was derided by some of his friends and neighbors for planting so much. They said he would have more than enough for family use and could not sell the remainder. Their prediction proved true for a time, for during the next few years orchardists were glad to get twenty-five or thirty cents per box for their apples.

This was not the case with pears at this time, however, for the late G. M. Bockius informed us that in 1868 Porter Brothers of Chicago came here and paid him \$2.50 per box for his pears, and they furnished the boxes and did the packing.

Jacob Blackburn and James Waters planted the first nursery in 1876.

The first shipment of apples from Pajaro valley was made by Isaac Williams. They were shipped by way of Hudson's landing to San Francisco. Charles Williams, a merchant of Watsonville, was the first to buy fruit on the tree and handle it after the manner of our present system. This was in 1869. In 1870 the space devoted to fruit trees in Pajaro valley did not exceed two hundred and fifty acres. The handling of our fruit was greatly facilitated on the completion of the railroad into our valley in 1870, but this did not stimulate tree planting.

The first strong lasting demand for Pajaro apples dates back to the decline of the industry in Santa Clara and other bay counties which had been supplying the markets of the state with apples. Almost simultaneously two of the worst pests of the apple made their appearance in those districts, the pernicious or San Jose scale from the Orient appearing in 1873 and the codling-moth from Europe, by way of the eastern states, in 1874. Unable to check the inroad of these pests, the orchardists of those sections became discouraged and one by one, dug up their apple orchards, so that by 1880 there was scarcely an apple tree left of over a million that originally had been planted.

With the decline of the industry in the sections mentioned, dealers began to search for apples in localities in which the pests had not secured a foothold.

Marco Rabasa was the first apple dealer to come to Pajaro. This was about 1876. L. G. Sresovich followed shortly afterwards. Up to this time he had no fruit pests. Codling moth was brought into our valley in old boxes shipped in by these men in 1877. San Jose scale made its appearance in about 1880 and probably originated from nursery stock brought from San Jose.

The continued decrease in the output from San Jose, with

consequent increase in demand and prices, greatly stimulated the planting of trees, and yearly from that period up to 1901 there was a constantly increasing acreage planted. That year witnessed the most extensive planting in the history of the district, 156,000 apple trees or 1,780 acres being planted, the varieties almost exclusively Newton Pippins and Bellflowers.

These early dealers paid the orchardists from \$100 to \$150 per acre for the fruit on the tree, and in turn sold it at from \$2.50 to \$4 per box in San Francisco. It is said that one season in the late '70s, Rabasa secured the fruit on the Blackburn orchard for \$1,800. After selling enough to pay for the fruit he sold the remainder to L. G. Sresovich for \$8,000. The acreage planted to trees in 1880 did not exceed 500 acres.

Another factor which figured in the increased acreage during this period was the strawberry industry. The completion of the Corralitos water system in 1878 afforded water for irrigation purposes and in the early '80s large acreages were planted to strawberries. As trees planted among the berries grew vigorously, and required no special care, and as berries could be profitably grown until the trees attained bearing age, the thrifty berry grower made it a rule to plant out all berry fields to apple trees. The greater portion of the orchards on level land north and east of Watsonville were originally planted to strawberry fields.

J. M. Rodgers, in 1882, planted the first prune orchard, comprising four and a-half acres. In 1887, when the trees were five years old, the prunes in this orchard sold on the trees for \$1,800. This sale was the primary cause of such a large acreage being planted during the next seven years. In 1894 there was close to 1,500 acres devoted to Petit prunes. Prices were so low by 1896 that most of the prunes in the valley proper were dug up and replaced by apples.

To give an idea of the extent of the industry when at its



height, the reports for 1896 from the different drying plants in our valley give the total of 2,269,800 pounds green. The Pajaro Valley Fruit Exchange handled about one-half of these. With the decline of the prune the apricot came to the front in the foothill sections and is proving a profitable crop. Some portions of the district raise a very large, handsome canning apricot. The Royal is the favorite. By 1890 the area devoted to fruit trees was about 2,500 acres.

While there was a steady increase in the acreage yearly planted to apples during the decade succeeding 1880, the most extensive planting in the history of the industry began about 1890. By this time those who had hesitated fearing that the business would be overdone now gained confidence in the stability of the apple market. The chief factor, however, in bringing about this accelerated planting of trees was the establishment of the sugar factory in 1888. The farmer soon learned that he could raise trees and at the same time make the land yield a good profit by raising beets between the trees. To such an extent was this plan carried out that about 1895 the sugar factory officials, becoming alarmed lest no beet acreage would be left, and to discourage tree planting, refused to give out contracts for planting beets in orchards, stating, among other reasons, that they did not propose to ruin their own business by encouraging fruit-tree planting. This, however, did not deter the farmer in the least, as he could raise other crops—beans, potatoes and corn between the trees.

While it was demonstrated in the '60s that the Newton and Bellflower attained their highest perfection here, and while, as time wore on, they continually gained in public favor, and were mainly planted, yet there were those who, thinking these two varieties would be overdone, planted other varieties, their preference running to red apples.

Between 1885 and 1895 considerable acreages were planted to Missouri Pippin, Red Pearmain, Lawver and Langford Seedling. As these had to come in sharp competition with the eastern red apple, and as our Newton Pippin and Bellflowers were more in demand and commanded higher prices, the two last-named varieties were planted almost exclusively between 1895 and 1905. During the last few years a strong demand with attractive prices has arisen particularly in Australia and New Zealand, consequently the tendency is again toward planting the red varieties.

At present there are in round numbers 1,000,000 apple trees planted on 14,000 acres in Pajaro district. Of this number fully seven-eighths are Newtons and Bellflowers, in the proportion of three Newtons to two Bellflowers. The remainder is made up of almost every known variety, with Red Pearmain (Pomme de Fer), Missouri Pippin, White Pearmain, Lawver, Langford and Smith Cider predominating in the order named. Less than one-half of the trees are in full bearing.

The output of apples in 1890 in Pajaro district amounted to about 150,000 boxes and increased ten fold, or to 1,500,000 boxes during the next decade. The yield for this season, 1909, closely approaches 3,000,000 boxes. Of course, this amount is not all shipped out green; as will be seen further on, quite a percentage is converted into the by-products.

The amount shipped green this season totals 3,200 car loads or considerably over 2,000,000 boxes, returning a sum exceeding \$1,500,000.

The dried apple product amounts to more than 3,200,000 pounds, yielding in return \$190,000; and to produce this it required 750 car loads or 500,000 boxes of apples. Four hundred and twenty car loads or 275,000 boxes of apples

were converted into 12,000 cases of canned apples, 600 barrels of cider and 6,000 barrels of vinegar, valued at \$255,000.

The area devoted to apricots is about 1,500 acres and the dried product amounts to 2,000,000 pounds, returning to the growers \$140,000.

The prune industry has dwindled down to 400 acres producing about 950,000 pounds, dried, and returning about \$20,000. Of pears there are all told about 5,000 trees. Cherries amount to about 4,000 trees. There are about 200 acres planted to grapes both table and wine varieties.

Pajaro valley has been for many years the leading berry producing district of the state. At present there are 1,000 acres devoted to berry growing. The varieties, acreage and yield are as follows:

Strawberries, 500 acres yielding 50,000 chests.

Blackberries, 200 acres, yielding 12,000 chests.

Loganberries, 200 acres, yielding 8,000 chests.

Raspberries, 100 acres, yielding 4,000 chests.

The returns of these berries this season amounted to upwards of \$250,000.

According to the best information at hand, Santa Cruz county contains 772,410 apple trees, 83,014 apricot trees, 25,541 cherry trees, 12,908 peach trees, 19,324 pear trees, 132,606 prune trees and 1,022,800 grape vines.

To close this article without making mention of the struggle against insect pests and diseases affecting the fruit-bearing plants would leave untold the story of a hard-fought contest, the outcome varying at times from hope to despair and without which struggle, ending as it did in a means of control over all those pests, the fruit industry of this county would have been reduced to such insignificance that a history of it would not be worth the while.

For the first twenty-five years in the history of the fruit



industry of Santa Cruz county our fruits were practically immune from insect pests and diseases.

There was neither a spray pump nor need of one prior to about 1877, at which time the codling-moth made its appearance in our county and the pernicious or San Jose scale about three years later.

Viewing with alarm the advent of those and other noxious pests, and with a hope of checking their inroads, a number of orchardists in the early '80s appealed to the board of supervisors, with the result that a board of horticultural commissioners was appointed whose duty it was to advise best remedies and supervise destruction of the pests. The men who constituted this commission were B. Pilkington, Dr. C. L. Anderson and Samuel Drennan. These men put forth their best efforts in the performance of their duties, but accomplished little, as at that time there were no well-defined remedies known for successfully controlling the various noxious pests.

This board served for a number of years and was succeeded by other boards of commissioners who successively served until 1895, at which time the commissioners then in office, discouraged by their inability to control the ever-increasing insect enemies of the orchards, resigned and announced their belief that the situation had resolved itself into a case of the "survival of the fittest" as between the fruit trees on one side and the pests on the other. Thus for five years matters drifted, without a board of commissioners and orchard pests increasing. However, in the meantime, scientists elsewhere had evolved remedies, amongst which were, paris-green for the codling-moth and kindred insects and the lime-sulphur-salt wash for the scale insects.

In 1899 a number of far-seeing orchardists alive to the situation and aware of the fate which would surely befall their

business unless prompt and heroic measures were adopted, petitioned the supervisors to appoint another board of horticultural commissioners. The request was granted and the new board consisted of J. H. B. Pilkington for the Santa Cruz, or northern district; H. R. Dakin for the Soquel or central district; and the writer for the Pajaro or southern district. On December 27, 1899, the appointees met and formally organized. Plans were mapped out and each went at the work in earnest in the territory assigned him.

Mr. Dakin served about one year and was succeeded by F. W. Hitchings, the present incumbent. Mr. Pilkington served about four years and was succeeded by L. N. Trumbly, who is still in office. The duties of the commissioners at first were not the most pleasant, for the orchardists in general were ignorant as to best remedies and their application. Then, too, many were prejudiced against the use of remedies recommended and skeptical as to results. Taken altogether, quite a percentage of the growers rather resented the advice of the commissioners, preferring to drift and take their chances.

Realizing the power of organization in the matter of moulding public opinion and the absolute necessity of united action in this case, the writer, in the spring of 1900, issued a call and named a committee for the purpose of outlining a plan of organization. Through the recommendation of this committee the board of trade and the Pajaro Valley Orchardists' Association were launched, the latter as a branch of the board of trade, thus securing the influence and co-operation of the business men in the movement aiming toward the protection and improvement of the fruit industry.

A campaign of publicity was inaugurated by the Orchardists' Association. Meetings were held for the consideration of the various problems confronting the orchardists. The

life history of the various pests was studied and best remedies discussed. Specimens of the injurious together with the beneficial insects were placed on exhibition for the benefit of the uninitiated. The columns of both the local newspapers were generously proffered and liberally used by the association for the dissemination of knowledge of importance to the orchardist. Experiments were conducted for the purpose of testing remedies and the results of those tests announced. Millions of lady-birds, as well as many varieties of other beneficial insects, were brought in and liberated in the orchards.

Within two years even the most skeptical were convinced that the scale insects could be controlled, the lime-sulphur-salt wash proving most effectual for this purpose. All remedial measures used, however, in the attempt to control the codling-moth proved disappointing and often disastrous to foliage. Paris-green, the sovereign remedy in dryer climates, injured the foliage every time it was applied in this locality.

Discouraged by repeated failures, while the ravages by codling-moth increased yearly, the Orchardists' Association, in 1902, appealed to the agricultural department of the State University for scientific aid. In response the university authorities in 1903 placed Prof. C. W. Woodworth, chief of the Entomological Department in charge of the project, with Prof. W. T. Clarke as field assistant. Acting upon the belief that high-grade paris-green would prove safe and effectual this remedy was recommended and widely used that year. The result was as always before, disastrous to the foliage.

W. H. Volck succeeded Prof. Clarke in 1904 in the experiment work. During that year and the next he tested every known remedy suggested for the codling-moth, including the various brands of arsenate of lead then on the market.



These tests demonstrated that properly prepared arsenate of lead was the only safe remedy, but all the various brands of this material proved variable, hence unreliable.

The necessity of evolving a stable compound became apparent, hence in 1906 Chemist E. E. Luther was detailed to assist in the work. Co-operating with Mr. Volck, the two perfected an arsenate of lead which has proven absolutely safe under our peculiar climatic conditions and entirely effectual in combatting the codling-moth.

The problem which the university had undertaken being satisfactorily solved, Mr. Volck, in 1907, was employed jointly by Santa Cruz and Monterey counties to continue the research work with a view to simplifying and cheapening the methods of control of orchard pests. In 1907 a factory was established in Watsonville under the management of Chemist Luther for the manufacture of spray chemicals needed by the growers of orchards.

Aside from the great results accomplished through the university, the services of the U. S. Department have been enlisted. Since 1906 experiments have been conducted by government experts with a view to improving the keeping qualities of our apples, in both natural and cold storage. In 1908 an exhaustive soil survey of Pajaro valley was made for the purpose of determining whether the different kinds of soil effect the keeping quality of our apples.

In 1909 W. S. Ballard, a government plant pathologist, was detailed to this locality for investigation work with a view to devising remedies for diseases to which some of our fruits are subject, particularly aiming to control the powdery mildew of the apple.

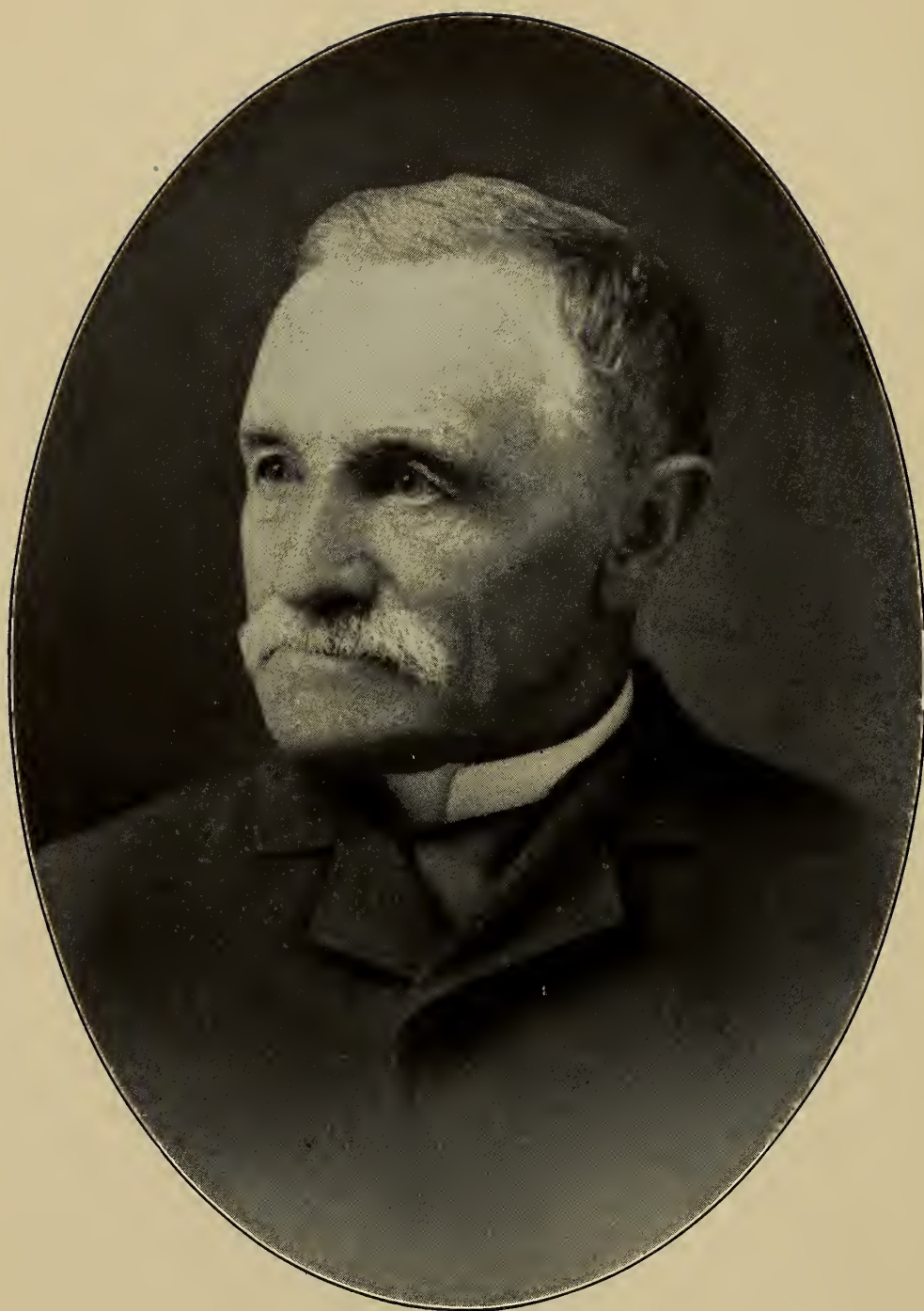
Though the few have had to bear the brunt of the reform work carried on unceasingly during the decade now ending, it is gratifying to note that the pest problem is solved and

that no further doubt exists on the part of the orchardist regarding the efficacy of remedies now prescribed. Further, that our people as a whole are at last awake to their best interests and are profiting by applying those remedies.

With a skilled entomologist, plant pathologist and chemist all working for the improvement and cheapening of remedies, together with the existence in our midst of a factory which furnishes the growers the necessary compounds for pest-fighting at prices twenty-five per cent less than is charged for like materials in any other section, our district is enjoying advantages protectively unequaled anywhere.







Augustus Noble

## AUGUSTUS NOBLE.

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An English family of the middle class, hearing concerning the opportunities to be found in the United States, took passage on a sailing vessel during the year 1820 and crossed the ocean to the new world. Their original home in this country was in Baltimore, Md., and there in 1823 a son was born to whom was given the name of Augustus. During 1828 the family removed to Salem, Mass., and there the boy was sent to the public schools, obtaining a fair education. After leaving school he served an apprenticeship to the trade of cooper and on the expiration of his time he worked as a journeyman. As soon as news reached Massachusetts of the discovery of gold in California he determined to seek his fortune in the west and joined an expedition consisting of two hundred and twenty young men, hardy and brave, such youths as formed the flower of New England. Buoyant and ambitious, the young adventurers set sail from Boston on the ship Capitol, bound for the golden shores of California, by way of Cape Horn. The voyage consumed six months. Out of the large number of young men composing the party only two now survive. The others have taken the last long journey to the shores whence no traveler returns.

Mining for a time occupied the attention of Augustus Noble, who went with two companions to Sacramento and mined on the American river near Folsom, later followed the same occupation at Marysville, also on a fork of the Yuba river. The average was about \$15 per day for each man.

The rainy season of November drove him from the mines and he returned to Sacramento. There he noticed a large demand for whiskey kegs, to be loaded on the backs of mules and transported across the country. Procuring the needed tools, he started to work at his trade. Business flourished and soon he had five coopers in his employ. One of these men earned as much as \$30 per day, but notwithstanding high wages and high rents, he prospered to such an extent that by November of 1851 he had accumulated \$10,000 in his venture. Selling out the shop, he took his gold with him and returned to Boston, where in 1852 he married Miss Johanna Shaw, a native of Massachusetts.

On leaving California it had been the intention of the young cooper to invest his \$10,000 in the east and remain there permanently. The first part of his plan he carried out, but with such disastrous results that in a few months the money was gone. It was easier, he ascertained, to lose money in the east than to earn it in the west. Therefore he decided to return to California and in 1852, accompanied by his bride, he came west via the isthmus. When he reached Sacramento he found that the town had been destroyed by fire. Then he went back to San Francisco, bought a cooper shop for \$1,000 and began to work at his trade. At the end of three years he had earned another \$10,000. With this as a capital he came to Santa Cruz county in 1856 and settled in the village of Soquel, investing the money in the purchase of the ranch that he still owns. The family residence occupies a very healthful location, on high land, overlooking the village. Ten mountain springs furnish pure water for the stock and for family use. The ranch comprises one hundred and twenty-one acres of tillable land, of which he has planted forty acres in an orchard of apples and cherries. In addition he owned one-twelfth interest in thirty-three thousand acres of moun-



tain and timber land. The ranch originally was owned by the Castro family, prominent in the Spanish history of California, it having come into their possession through one of the Spanish grants. The adobe house, in which the Spanish family lived and reared their children, still stands to this day, an interesting landmark of the era of Spanish domain in our state.

For a long period Mr. Noble has been connected with the Society of California Pioneers. Possessing an excellent memory, his many tales of early days are interestingly told and, if published, would form a valuable addition to the pioneer history of our state. In his family there are six children. The eldest son, George, is engaged in ranching at Visalia. The second and third sons, Edward and Walter, have operated the home ranch since the retirement of their father from active agricultural cares. Next to the youngest son, Charles, a man of classical education and fine mental attainments, occupies a chair as professor in the University of California at Berkeley; he has crossed the ocean many times and visited points of interest throughout the world. The two daughters are Mrs. Lawson of Berkeley and Mrs. Frederick Cox of Santa Cruz, the former being the wife of the manager of the Wells-Fargo Company at Berkeley.

## HON. GODFREY M. BOCKIUS.

During a noteworthy portion of his career the personal advancement of Judge Bockius was coincident with the progress of the Pajaro valley. When he arrived here for the first time, during the latter part of the year 1852, he found the beautiful valley in the primeval state of nature, destitute of roads or houses or fences. The few settlers who had preceded him were dwelling in tents. It would require an optimistic faith to predict for the region its present condition of material and commercial development. The little band of pioneers possessed such optimism and with a faith born of an inward vision of the future they labored unceasingly, each in his own narrow sphere accomplishing little, but all by their collected, harmonious efforts accomplishing much for the permanent welfare of the locality.

Tracing the history of Judge Bockius, we find that he was born in Philadelphia in 1818, member of an old and well-to-do family of that city. Primarily educated under private tutors, he early displayed a fondness for the study of the sciences, and in order that he might enjoy exceptional advantages along that line he became a student in the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, where he remained for four years, graduating before he had attained his majority. Though Destiny led him into commercial and agricultural pursuits, he never lost his fondness for scientific subjects and his readings during his last years were almost wholly confined to works upon his favorite themes. His marked preference for scientific experiments led him to serve an apprenticeship in the manufacture of scientific apparatus, including mathematical and optical instruments.

Soon after Daguerre discovered the process by which pictures were produced on chemically prepared surfaces by the

action of light, Mr. Bockius entered into the manufacture of photographic apparatus and material in partnership with the late Dr. Kennedy, who afterward obtained distinction as a scientist and as president of the Philadelphia Polytechnic Institute. The art of photography was then in its infancy. Its disciples were so few in number that there was little demand for material and equipment; hence the new firm met with little success and its affairs were closed up by its projectors. The next venture of the young man led him from the field of scientific experiments into the domain of merchandising. First in Philadelphia and then in New Jersey he engaged in mercantile pursuits. The success of these ventures would have satisfied many, but Mr. Bockius was ambitious to earn more than a mere livelihood and he determined to seek a new domain of activity in the west. As early as 1844 he had established domestic ties, being united with Miss Harriet Rambo, of Camden, N. J. When they started west their family consisted of two children, and these were carried across the Isthmus of Panama on the backs of natives. Arriving at the Pacific coast it was found that the cholera was raging and soon one of the children fell a victim of the dread disease. The ship, *Golden Gate*, which at San Francisco was reported to have been lost, was in the harbor, detained by an outbreak of plague among the passengers and the crew. Eventually the ship left the port and the surviving passengers were finally landed in San Francisco without further disaster.

The first occupation which engaged the attention of Mr. Bockius in the Pajaro valley was the butchering of cattle and the selling of meat to the ocean vessels. The meat was delivered by means of surface boats. The work was profitable but exceedingly distasteful, and as soon as possible it was abandoned for agricultural pursuits. Throughout the re-



mainder of his life he was more or less interested in the raising of grain, having acquired an interest in the great Pajaro valley ranch. By buying and selling farms and town property he made considerable money and laid the foundation of subsequent success. A portion of the Pajaro valley ranch was subdivided and the land laid out in town lots, which were sold at a fair profit. For years he loaned money with land as first mortgage and the interest being high in those days he found the business quite profitable. From the organization of the Bank of Watsonville in 1874 until his death in 1905 he was intimately associated with its history, first as a stockholder, and after 1884 as president. The other officers were as follows: H. S. Fletcher, cashier; Charles Ford, H. S. Fletcher, G. M. Bockius, William G. Hudson, Thomas Snodgrass, Lucius Sanborn and Edward White, directors. With a paid-up capital of \$100,000 and a surplus of \$25,000, the bank rose to a high position in the confidence of business men and controlled a large share of the business of the valley.

Politically a stanch believer in Republican principles, Judge Bockius was prominent in his party during the early days. In 1856 he was elected associate justice with Judge Rice. At the expiration of his term he was elected county judge and filled the position with eminent success, notwithstanding the fact that he had never received a law education. During 1872 he was elected to the state legislature, where he took a warm interest in movements for the benefit of the community with whose prosperity his own success had been identified. In 1874 he was bereaved by the death of his wife. Seven children had been born of their union. Four are now living, namely: Edwin S., director and vice-president of the Watsonville Savings Bank and also the owner of considerable ranch property; Belle, wife of H. S. Fletcher, of Watsonville; Godfrey and Charlotte S., also of Watsonville. The death

of Judge Bockius was deplored as a loss to the city where so many years of his useful life had been passed. He entered eternity with the well-merited honors of his fellow-citizens, and their tributes of respect formed a garland that sought visible expression in fragrant flowers strewn over the new-made grave, where the body was laid to rest beside all that was mortal of the wife of his youth.

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### HOWARD V. TRAFTON.

The sheriff of Santa Cruz county enjoys the distinction of having been the first native of this county to be chosen for the office he now holds and in addition, when elected marshal of Watsonville some years ago, it was announced that he was the first native of that city to be chosen for the position concerned. The record he has made as an official is one of which he may well be proud. His fearless, strong and forceful qualities eminently adapt him for the task of enforcing the laws and administering justice to offenders. Though genial and companionable, he can be stern when occasion demands and his bravery has never been called into question. Repeated election to offices calling for the qualifications he possesses indicates a recognition of his ability on the part of his fellow-citizens.

Born in Watsonville, June 11, 1871, Howard V. Trafton is a son of George A. and Melissa (Matthis) Trafton, natives respectively of Canada and Illinois. Elsewhere in this volume will be found extended mention of the father, a pioneer of Santa Cruz county, having settled at Watsonville during the year 1859, since which time he has been prominent in business affairs. Howard V. Trafton was educated in the public schools of Watsonville and at the age of sixteen years

began to work on a ranch near that town, where he remained for two years. On returning to town he entered the employ of the Watsonville fire department and continued in the capacity of engineer until his election as marshal. It was during April of 1902 that he was chosen marshal, as the successful competitor of C. W. Bridgewater. In November of the same year he was elected sheriff of the county on the Democratic ticket, defeating Milton Besse by four hundred and fifty votes out of four thousand votes that were cast. At the expiration of his term, in 1906, he was re-elected in a three-cornered contest, there being two candidates against him. This time he received a plurality of sixteen hundred and eighty-eight votes out of a total of forty-three hundred. The increased plurality at the second election bore testimony to the recognition by the people of his efficient service in the office.

The first marriage of Howard V. Trafton was solemnized in 1895 and united him with Miss Beatrice Soto, who died in 1901, leaving one son, Frank. The following year he was united in marriage with Miss Rose Veldaz, by whom he has one son, Chester. The majority of the fraternal organizations in the county number Mr. Trafton among their members and in several of them he has held important positions. Like others of his family, he is identified with the volunteer fire department of Watsonville. His father was one of the first chiefs of the department and others of the name have promoted the welfare of an enterprise so indispensable in a growing city. Other movements for the benefit of town and county have had his aid as occasion offered and he has displayed a progressive spirit in promoting measures calculated to prove of permanent advantage to the people.







Col R. G. Abbott

## COL. A. G. ABBOTT.

Of that noble band of young men who, fired by loyal devotion to the Union cause, offered their services to their country during the Civil war and went forth to do battle for the great end of universal freedom, comparatively few are spared to enjoy the fruits of their sacrifices and to witness the remarkable prosperity of a reunited country. Among those who served faithfully and well and who remain among us, mention belongs to Colonel Abbott of Santa Cruz, whose service was so impressively loyal as to bring him an honorary commission as lieutenant-colonel from Governor Sloane of Wisconsin. To this rank he arose from his service as a private soldier, solely through his personal bravery, unaided by the prestige of influential friends or those other adventitious aids to success.

The northern part of New Hampshire, where he was born in 1839, was the scene of the childhood home of Colonel Abbott, who received his schooling largely across the line in Canada. During 1854 he accompanied his father from New Hampshire to Wisconsin and settled near Columbia, a village not far from Madison. The father took up land and undertook to clear the same preparatory to cultivation. In this arduous pioneer task he was aided by the son for four years. At the expiration of that time the youth started out to earn his own way. Under a trained and skilled "boss" he served an apprenticeship to the trades of blacksmith and wagon-maker, and while he was thus employed the Civil war broke out in all of its fury. Immediately he determined to leave his work and go to the aid of the Union. September 19, 1861, he enlisted as a private in the Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, and was sent to the south shortly afterward, joining the force commanded by General Grant at Shiloh just



previous to that famous engagement. He remained at the front and took part in many engagements. It was his good fortune not to suffer a day from illness during his entire service. During the siege of Vicksburg he helped to take a battery of six guns and one of these guns was later mounted and placed on the grounds of the state capitol of Wisconsin. While at Shiloh he witnessed the drowning of the war governor, Harvey, of Wisconsin, who was at Shiloh looking after the condition of the Wisconsin troops. After the surrender of Vicksburg, which occurred on the 4th of July, 1864, Colonel Abbott was mustered out of the service. Although never ill, he had endured misfortune in battle, receiving two wounds in the shoulder and suffering the loss of his right eye.

The residence of Colonel Abbott in California dates from 1870, when he settled at Newcastle, Placer county, and erected the first brick building in the village. For twenty-three years he made his home in that town, meanwhile following the trades of blacksmith and wagonmaker, and also for some time working in the construction department of the Central Pacific Railroad. Upon the organization by the Knights of Pythias of Foothill Lodge at Newcastle he became one of the charter members and afterward took a warm interest in the philanthropic efforts of the order. In addition he became a charter member of the lodge of Odd Fellows at Newcastle and was further identified with the Improved Order of Red Men. During those years he passed through all of the chairs in the different lodges. The Grand Army of the Republic has received his sympathetic support and he welcomes with an undying fervor the reunions of the veterans, when the old soldiers meet to tell their campfire tales of war and danger and battles bravely won. Politically he has been a Republican ever since casting his first ballot. While still living in Wisconsin he married, December 31, 1866, Miss Martha

Abbott, a native of that state and a woman possessing many graces of character and attainment. Three children came to bless their union, namely: Glencora, wife of Jack Wener, of Santa Cruz; Abbie, who married J. J. Clancey, a gunner in the United States navy; and Guy E., residing at Elmhurst. During 1893 the family removed to Santa Cruz, hoping that the climate would prove beneficial to the health of Colonel Abbott. The expectation was justified by the results and he is now the sole owner of the San Lorenzo livery stable, in which for a time he owned one-half interest, but subsequently purchased the interest of his partner, and since then has managed alone the large business there established.

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#### GEORGE ARTHUR TRAFTON.

The discovery of gold in California was the direct cause of the removal of the Trafton family from their quiet home in a Missouri town, where a sojourn of years had brought them many warm friends, to the newly settled regions of the west, where an arduous struggle awaited their courageous efforts. Misfortune and bereavement came to them in the course of the journey, which began auspiciously at St. Joseph, Mo., on the 1st of May, the expedition comprising almost forty wagons. Young Trafton, who was then about sixteen years of age, was given charge of six yoke of oxen, and to the others similar duties were assigned as desired. There had been considerable anxiety as to hostility on the part of the Indians, but the red men did not molest them; on the contrary, their troubles were of a radically different nature, but no less alarming. Cholera had thrown its dread shadow over many of the expeditions and had depleted their numbers more rapidly than the bullets of an enemy. The disease broke out

among the members of this company and thirty days after leaving Missouri the elder Trafton was taken from his family by a swift attack of the epidemic. The body was buried on the plains and the bereaved wife and children hurried forward with the expedition, eventually entering California by way of Carson Pass. During October of the same year the mother with her children took up land on the Cosumnes river.

The adventurous spirit of the sixteen-year-old son would not allow him to remain contentedly on a ranch until he had made an effort to mine for gold. Accordingly he went to the mines of Amador and Sacramento counties and prospected for a time. Since then he has been interested in mining at different times and in various localities, but after he had attained his majority he ceased to devote his entire attention to that occupation, returning instead to the pursuit of ranching. For a time his mother remained on the home ranch, but eventually she came to Watsonville and here passed her declining years. Of her five children three are living, namely: John, of Monterey county; George Arthur, of Watsonville; and Mrs. O. H. Willoughby, also of this city. The brothers engaged in ranching in partnership for some time, buying land in the Pajaro valley, whose fertile soil and healthful climate had attracted them to its citizenship.

The marriage of George A. Trafton was solemnized in Sacramento in 1858 and united him with Miss Melissa A. Matthis, who was born in Illinois and came to California in 1852. It was the pleasant privilege of Mr. and Mrs. Trafton to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, on which memorable occasion they were the recipients of congratulations from a host of devoted personal friends. Their union was blessed with six children, but one of these died in infancy. Those who attained mature years were as follows:



Mrs. Mary Emma Jameson, now deceased; Hon. W. A. Trafton, who is associated with his father in business and has been honored with the office of mayor of Watsonville; Mrs. Alice Amelia Evans, of Watsonville; Howard V., who holds the office of sheriff of Santa Cruz county; and Mrs. Ida Evelyn Trimble, a resident of Bakersfield. The children were educated in the schools of Watsonville and were carefully trained by wise parents in order that they might be fully qualified to meet the responsibilities of life.

Many of the qualities that individualize Mr. Trafton come to him from a long line of English ancestry. Shortly after the new world began to be colonized members of the Trafton family crossed the ocean to Maine, where several generations struggled bravely in an endeavor to wrest a livelihood from a sterile soil. A young couple of that name crossed the line into lower Canada and established a temporary home within the British possessions. While living there a son was born to them October 5, 1834, and this child was given the name of George Arthur. However, his earliest recollections are not of Canada or New England, for during infancy he was taken to Missouri and there passed the years of early youth, his father being a manufacturer and merchant at Rocheport, Boone county, that state.

Possessing a temperament that led him to become interested in speculative affairs, Mr. Trafton was not content to pursue the quiet round of ranch duties, but while yet living in the country he formed large interests in the potato-raising business. Over-production brought a heavy decline in prices and he suffered large losses. During 1863 he disposed of his farm holdings and came to Watsonville, where he bought and sold farm products, principally grain. During 1868 he established the first exclusive hardware store in the town and for seventeen years he conducted business along that line,

meanwhile buying real estate and in 1872 erecting a brick building for store purposes. The building, which adjoins the Lewis house, was at the time of its erection considered one of the finest business structures in the entire county. Fortune favored Mr. Trafton in the quiet round of business enterprises, but his fondness for mining speculations proved his financial undoing, and after an experience of ten years in the development of quicksilver mines in Santa Clara county he found himself bereft of fortune and hampered by an indebtedness aggregating about \$75,000. Eventually his debts were paid and no one but himself lost by his reverses. For four years, beginning in 1881, he conducted a partnership in mercantile pursuits with A. J. Jennings under the firm name of Trafton & Jennings. After disposing of his interest in the business, he resumed the buying and selling of grain and with M. A. Hudson as a partner he built up the largest trade of its kind in the Pajaro valley, the partners owning a large storage warehouse at Watsonville.

At this writing Mr. Trafton is interested in gold mines in Mexico, and he has a patent from the government for land fifty miles south of Hollister, where he located the vein of coal that now is being developed as the Trafton mine. Through all of his long and active career he has been warmly interested in movements for the well-being of the community. Particularly in educational matters has he been alert to aid plans for the furtherance of the free-school system. A service of four years as a member of the school board gave him an opportunity to favor measures for the raising of the standard of education in the local schools. For fifteen years he was a member of the board of town trustees and during seven years of that period he held the office of chairman of the board. The inauguration of a movement looking toward the establishment of a volunteer fire department met with his

hearty approval, and he became identified with the same. After years of faithful service his name was transferred to the honorary list, in which association he continues to the present time. In fraternal relations he holds membership with the Watsonville Masons, being identified not only with the blue lodge, but also with the chapter and commandery. It has been his aim to exemplify in his life the teachings of philanthropy and brotherhood for which the order stands.

Foremost in movements for educational, fraternal, civic and social development, the name of G. A. Trafton is indissolubly associated with the upbuilding of Watsonville. Whether we consider him as a business man, willing to sacrifice his own funds in an effort to develop local enterprises; or as a citizen, serving gratuitously for years as a town trustee and school director; or as a neighbor, stanch, faithful and true, we must accord him a high position in the citizenship of the place where for almost one-half century he has made his home. As proprietor of the grist mill, which he established about 1889, he proved a factor in the growth of an important local industry. With commendable enterprise he equipped his mill with the latest approved machinery needed in the preparation of graham flour, corn meal and other products. From the first the mill proved of great advantage to the farmers of the valley and its proprietor added to the prestige of his enviable business reputation. It is to such progressive men as he that the valley owes its high standing throughout the state and its established reputation in the west.

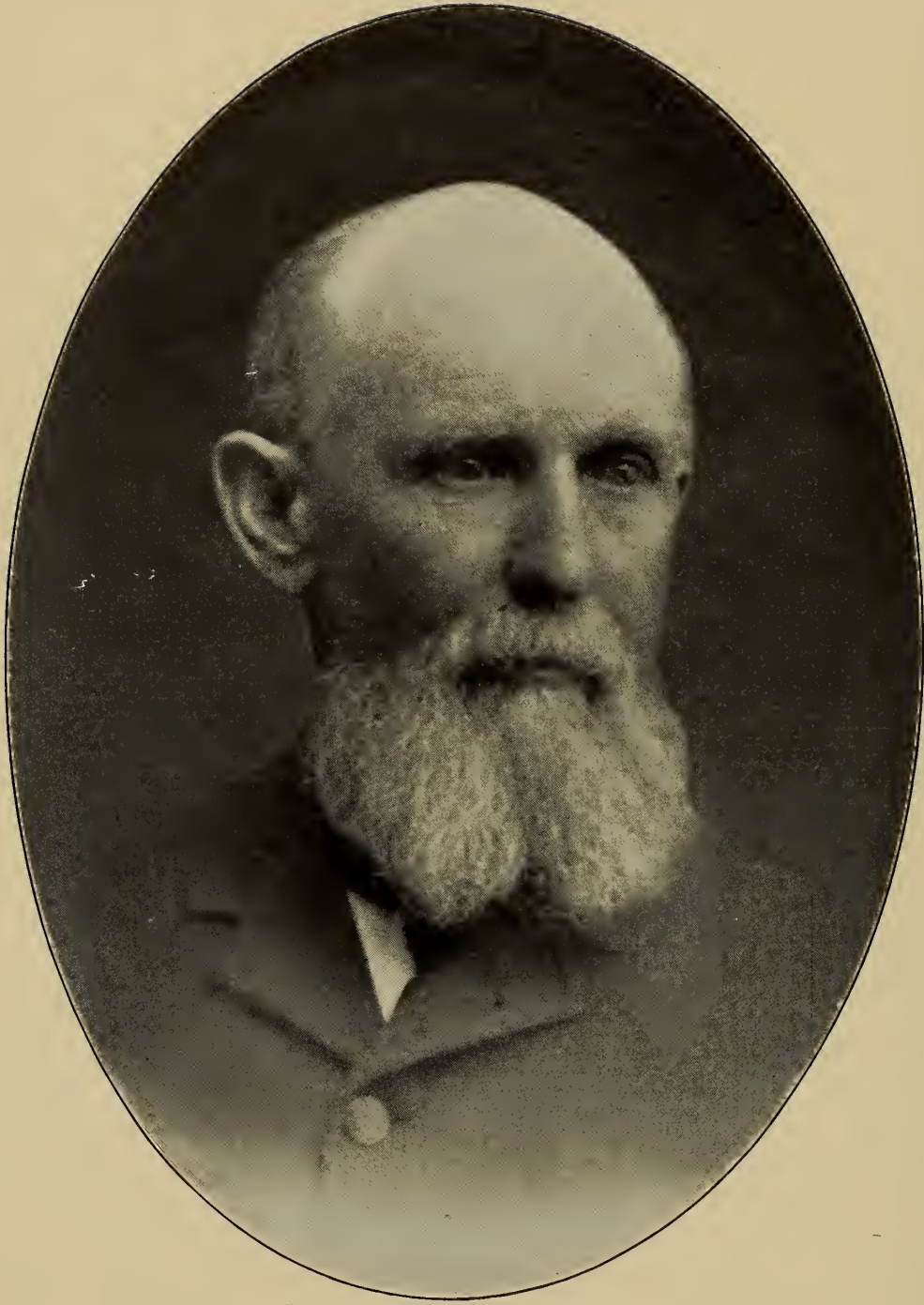


## WILLIS R. CONGDON, M. D.

In the character and professional attainments of the physicians who have engaged in practice in its towns, Santa Cruz county has been particularly fortunate, and of its practitioners perhaps none is more prominent than the present incumbent of the office of county physician, Dr. Willis R. Congdon, who has met with encouraging success in the practice of *materia medica*. Prepared for his tasks by a thorough training in one of the most famous institutions in the country, fortified by a thorough classical education, and still further aided by the encouraging counsel of his father, a talented and experienced physician of the old school, he thus had the assistance of those adventitious circumstances that silently but surely determine our destinies. Of this favorable environment he availed himself to the utmost, thereby acquiring a thorough knowledge of the science which enables him to complete his diagnoses with accuracy and to apply promptly those remedial agencies suited to the particular case.

The son of Dr. J. R. Congdon, who practiced medicine for many years in Indiana, Willis R. Congdon was born at Bristol, that state, April 20, 1868, and from an early age was destined for the medical profession. It was his good fortune to attend Notre Dame University in Indiana for a number of terms and he benefited greatly by the thorough training for which that institution is famous. Later he took a course of lectures in Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1889. Upon receiving his diploma he returned to Indiana and began to practice in his native town, whence later he went to Chicago to engage in professional labors. During 1896 he came to California and settled in Santa Cruz, where since he has built up a growing and important practice. To the office of county physician, which he now holds, he was elected in





J. W. Perry



1906 on the independent ticket, and in addition he has been honored with the presidency of the Santa Cruz County Medical Society.

The marriage of Dr. Congdon was solemnized in September, 1901, and united him with Miss Edith Case, a native of California. One son, Willis R., Jr., blesses the union. To a gentleman of Dr. Congdon's genial temperament, fraternal affiliations appeal with inviting emphasis, and we find him prominent in various orders. Included among these may be mentioned the Masons of the Knight Templar degree, the Maccabees, Foresters and Druids, and in a number of the lodges he has officiated as physician. In addition to the affiliations mentioned he is a member of the naval militia of California, with the rank of lieutenant, and is acting assistant surgeon of the Staff. In his citizenship he has been progressive, alert to promote the prosperity of his adopted city, generous in his praises of local advantages and slow to criticise where such criticism would deter the desired growth of civic enterprises.

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### JOSEPH W. PEERY.

Occupying a picturesque location in a valley in the heart of the Santa Cruz mountains lies the village of Boulder Creek, its site being at the junction of the San Lorenzo river, Bear creek and Boulder creek, from the last-named of which it receives its name. The village has an elevation of four hundred and eighty-four feet above sea level. Between it and the ocean there is a high range of mountains that provides protection from the raw trade winds and the heavy fogs. While the village is small from the standpoint of population, it is not lacking in enterprise and progressive

spirit, as it evidenced by the fact that there are several churches and public halls, as well as a free library and a school occupying a substantial building well equipped for educational uses. The Southern Pacific Railroad runs through the town and affords facilities for the shipment of the farm products raised in the neighborhood. In every respect the village offers a comfortable home and an opportunity to earn a livelihood amid healthful surroundings.

A portion of the land upon which the village was built originally belonged to Joseph W. Peery, who still is a large property holder as well as an influential citizen. He is a member of a southern family and was born in Cabell county, W. Va., October 2, 1830, being a son of Hiram and Ruth (Lesley) Peery, natives of Tazewell county, Va. Hiram Peery was a soldier in the war of 1812 and at its close engaged in operating a farm in West Virginia, but later removed to Kentucky, where he owned and conducted a plantation. The family proceeded still further west in 1842 and settled in Missouri, where Joseph W. assisted in transforming a raw tract of virgin prairie into a fertile farm. During 1850 he crossed the plains with a large caravan of emigrants who traveled in "prairie schooners" drawn by oxen. For three years he tried his luck in the western mines, but in 1853 he returned to Missouri and took up farm pursuits in that state, where he remained for six years. During 1859 he became a pioneer of Nebraska, where he unsuccessfully endeavored to wrest a livelihood from the occupation of farming.

Discouraged by the failure of his agricultural efforts in Nebraska, Mr. Peery in 1862 started across the plains, accompanied by his wife, who was in poor health. When they were in the neighborhood of Austin, Nev., Mrs. Peery became worse and soon died, leaving him to proceed alone, after her body had been laid to rest near the place of her death.

Thirty-seven years afterward the remains were brought to Boulder Creek and buried in the cemetery at this place. After coming to California Mr. Peery settled in the San Joaquin valley and engaged in farming. Three years were spent in Stockton, and he then came to Santa Cruz county. The following year (1868) he settled at Boulder Creek and bought a water-power sawmill. Afterward he engaged extensively in the sawing of lumber, giving employment to several men and clearing eighteen hundred acres of land in Santa Cruz county. At this writing he owns a farm of two hundred and sixty acres and he also has been a large property owner in the village. After settling permanently in the west he married Mrs. Thomkins and they have an adopted daughter, Eva N. By her former marriage Mrs. Peery has the following-named children: Willis E.; Josephine; Thomsen; Jennie, the widow of George Bowen; Walter T., a soldier in the Spanish-American war; Julia, Alice and Elmer. The family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal church and assist generously in its maintenance, as well as in the support of its missionary and social activities. During the existence of the Whig party Mr. Peery supported its principles, but after its disintegration he became an adherent of the Republican party and had the pleasure of voting for Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant for the presidency.



## F. D. BALDWIN.

The earliest recollections of Mr. Baldwin are of his boyhood New England home in Plymouth county, Mass., where he was born April 18, 1847. There it was his privilege to receive good educational advantages for the times, and he made the best use possible of his opportunities, to the end that while still quite young he was thoroughly equipped for the teacher's profession, for which he had a natural adaptation. At the age of nineteen years he went to West Stockbridge, Mass., taking charge of a school there, and in 1867, came to California.

Thus far in his life Mr. Baldwin had had no practical experience outside of the school room, but this proved a valuable asset, for his knowledge and ability were soon recognized and put to good account in Marin county, where he taught for two years. During this time he was also interested in dairying, but at the end of this time he gave up his interests in Marin county and for the following year was located in Monterey county. It was at this time that he was seized with a desire to visit his old home in the east, but a stay of a few months sufficed to satisfy him that the west was the place for a young man of push and determination, and he therefore returned and once more took up the struggle with conditions that existed at that early day. For him, as for many others, mining with its alluring possibilities of sudden wealth, had its attractions, and for one year he experienced all the hardships, joys and hopes of the miner, but at the end of that time he gave it up to engage in something with more dependable returns. It was therefore with considerable satisfaction that he resumed teaching and for three years he followed it in Placer county, the scene of his mining experiences. Going to Monterey county once more, he secured a position as teacher

in the public schools, where he taught for two years, and in addition to his professional duties also engaged in the dairying business on his own account. This proved to be a business well chosen and one for which he was well adapted, for he not only followed it successfully in Monterey county, but also for twenty-three years in Santa Cruz county, five years of this time being passed in Watsonville, and sixteen years in Santa Cruz.

In 1896 Mr. Baldwin retired permanently from dairying and in its place took up apple-raising, an undertaking which has proved eminently successful and one in which he has engaged for fifteen years in the fertile Pajaro valley. Personal affairs, however, have not absorbed all of Mr. Baldwin's time and abilities, as those know who are familiar with his life and accomplishments. In the year 1890, as a candidate on the Republican ticket, he was elected supervisor of Santa Cruz county, a position which he filled with efficiency for four years, and in 1898 he was again the successful candidate for this position, and during both terms of four years each he gave his time and energy conscientiously to forwarding the best interests of his county. In 1904 he was chosen chairman of the Republican central committee of Santa Cruz county. He was a member of the board of freeholders who framed the present city charter, as he was also of the former board, which drafted the preceding charter. Wise, conservative judgment has made Mr. Baldwin's opinion in financial matters command the consideration of all with whom he is associated in the banks with which his name is identified. In 1900 he was made a director of the City Bank of Santa Cruz and also of the City Savings Bank, and in 1902 he was elected president of both institutions, the City Bank having since then been changed from a state bank to the First National Bank of Santa Cruz. That Mr. Baldwin is giving satisfaction as the head of these

institutions is amply attested in the long list of satisfied depositors and patrons.

In 1873 Mr. Baldwin was united in marriage with Mary A. Baldwin, a resident of Santa Cruz and the daughter of James and Lydia (Race) Baldwin. She is a native of Massachusetts. Four children were born to the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, but one is deceased. Those living are Grace, a teacher; Arnold, the present county surveyor; and Roscoe, an orchardist of the Pajaro valley.

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#### HON. WARREN R. PORTER.

While fortuitous circumstances may bring temporary prominence, yet permanent success presages ability, energy and an honorable ambition, and it is to the possession of these attributes that Ex-Lieutenant-Governor Porter owes his commercial standing, his political pre-eminence and his social popularity. Wise parental influence inspired his early youth. The inestimable blessing of a judicious father and a cultured mother was his, yet it may be asserted confidently that, under an environment less congenial, he would have emerged into the limelight of an assured success. From boyhood he has been intensely loyal to the progress of California. This was not merely the loyalty of the patriot to the state of his nativity, but in addition it was the loyalty of a progressive citizen inspired by the wonderful possibilities of his commonwealth and enthused by its genial climate, fertile soil and open-hearted people. The hopes of his boyhood have not drifted into the sea of oblivion, but have met with a rich fruition in the rise of California to a position among the leading states of the Union.

Born in Santa Cruz, March 30, 1861, Warren R. Porter is



the only son of the late John T. Porter, a man who unaided by others worked his way upward from humble labor to the ownership of large landed holdings and the presidency of one of the leading financial institutions of his part of the state. This example before him, the pioneer's son had every incentive for study. He availed himself of the excellent advantages offered by St. Augustine College at Benicia, this state, and on his return home secured employment as a bookkeeper in the Bank of Watsonville, founded by his father. During 1884 he was chosen bookkeeper for the Loma Prieta Lumber Company at Watsonville and two years later he became secretary of the concern. When the headquarters of the company were removed to Loma Prieta he went to that village and continued the management of the business affairs. While he returned to Watsonville in 1899 he did not resign as secretary of the company until June, 1901, and since then he has remained a member of the board of directors.

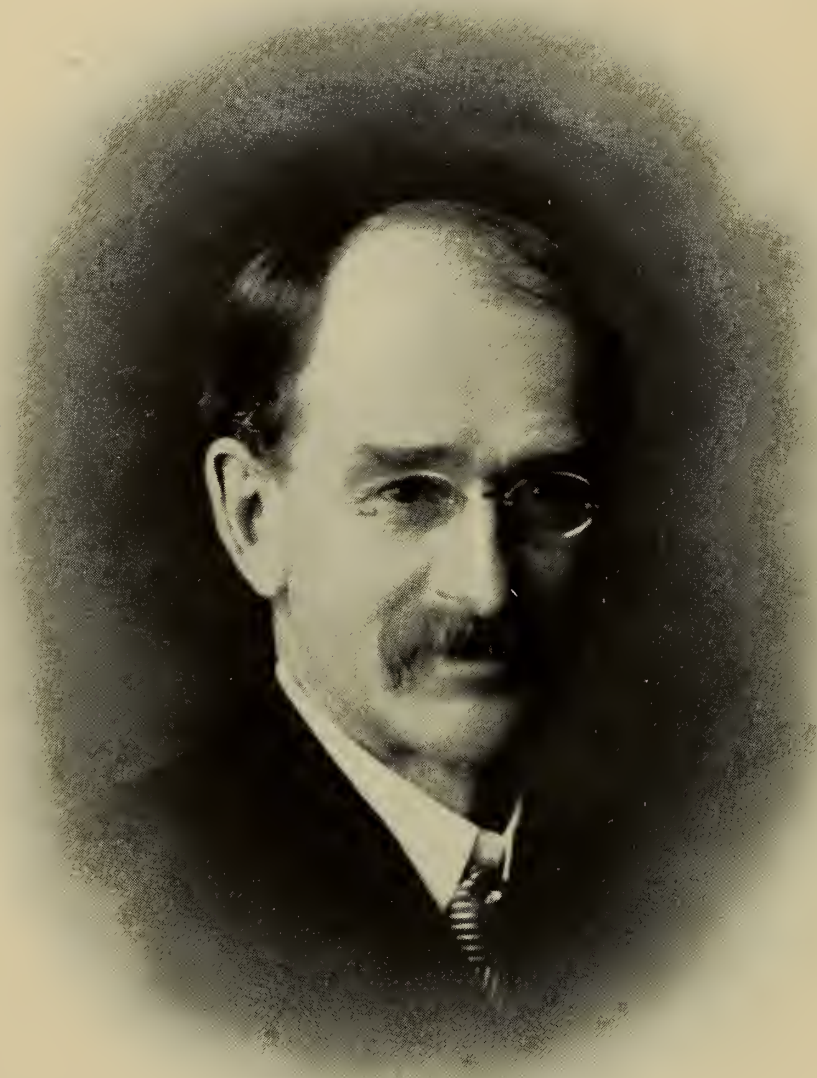
Upon the incorporation of the Pajaro Valley Bank at Watsonville Mr. Porter was chosen a member of the board of directors and upon the death of his father in 1900 he succeeded him as president, since which time the financial policy of the institution has been guided by his progressive spirit and shaped by his sagacious judgment. Throughout the valley the bank has gained a reputation for soundness, conservatism, wise investments and courteous consideration of all, and this reputation is in large part due to the intelligent supervision of the Porters, father and son, assisted by a corps of painstaking officials and directors. For some years after the elder Porter died the estate was conducted by Warren R., as vice-president and manager of an incorporated company, and his wise oversight proved of the greatest assistance to the heirs. In addition to many other interests he found leisure to investigate lands and from time to time he

made purchases, until he acquired holdings in every county comprising the sixth congressional district. The management of his vast interests does not tax his energies, however. On the contrary, he has found leisure for participation in county and state political affairs and has also been prominent in society and in various fraternities. On the organization of the Watsonville Parlor No 65, Native Sons of the Golden West, he became a charter member and afterward was honored with the office of president. In addition to being a member of the local blue lodge of Masonry he is associated with Watsonville Commandery No. 22, K. T., and ever has been staunch in his allegiance to the principles of charity and kindness represented by the order.

The marriage of Mr. Porter was solemnized August 23, 1893, and united him with Miss Mary E., daughter of Rev. G. A. Easton, rector of St. Mark's Episcopal church at Berkeley. They became the parents of the following-named children; John Easton; Warren R., Jr., who died at the age of fourteen months; Mary Frances and Thomas B. From boyhood Mr. Porter was an enthusiastic defender of Republican principles. At an early age he had been taught by his father concerning the various parties and their platforms, hence he maintained an intelligent interest from youth. For many years he has been prominent in his party. In 1900 he was a presidential elector and an alternate delegate to the national Republican convention at Philadelphia. His political prominence led to his appointment by Governor Gage as a member of the board of state prison directors and this appointment, tendered in June of 1901, was received by his friends with the heartiest approval. Further political honors awaited him as a result of duties intelligently performed and in 1906 he was honored with the office of lieutenant-governor of California, which position he filled four years. His election was received with







*Frank L. Heath*

enthusiasm throughout all of Central California, where he has hosts of warm friends and earnest political supporters.

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### FRANK L. HEATH.

Although primarily a people of commercial instincts and strong preferences for business avocations, Americans are not blinded to the beautiful in landscape and in art by the lure and the glitter of gold. While the strictly utilitarian appeals to their stern sense of duty and feeling of personal responsibility for financial success, they maintain nevertheless a love of all that appeals to the highest tastes in mankind. The beautiful in art pleases their eyes and the beautiful in music touches the hidden tender chords of the soul. Not in vain, therefore, does the artist depict upon canvas the harmonious hues of sea and sky, the sweet faces of childhood and the dainty flowers of the forest. Long after the hands of the painter shall have been folded in rest, the picture will live to breathe into heart-hungry humanity its message of hope and happiness.

It has been the good fortune of Frank L. Heath to attain prominence in art while yet in the prime of his strength, with the hope of many years of usefulness in art before him. Throughout the west his fame as a painter in oil has become known and his skill recognized, while in other parts of the country he enjoys a growing reputation as his works are becoming more widely known and their beauty more deeply appreciated. Born near Salem, Ore., July 3, 1857, he is the son of the late Hon. Lucian Heath, a pioneer of 1852 in Oregon and distinguished as its first secretary of state. During the fourteen years of his residence in Oregon he formed a large circle of acquaintances among the pioneers of that

commonwealth, where his fine powers of mind aided in the decision of early problems of state importance. Coming to California he became a pioneer of Santa Cruz in 1866 and opened one of the first mercantile stores on Pacific avenue, continuing in successful business for many years. In this city he passed away in 1889, mourned by the many warm friends he had won by his kindly disposition, high principles of honor and recognized ability.

A brief experience as clerk in his father's store convinced Frank L. Heath that he had no inclination toward commercial affairs. Indeed, from his earliest recollections he has been fond of drawing and a lover of art. The wise oversight of his father rendered possible excellent training along the line of his specialty. During 1877 he went to San Francisco and entered as a student the California School of Design, which later became known as the Hopkins School of Art. In that institution he had the advantage of training under specialists. For three years he continued his studies in drawing in that school and later he took lessons in sketching in the studio of R. D. Yelland, a well-known artist of San Francisco. Since then he has worked alone, developing his talent with no other aid than his own unerring tastes. Outdoor scenes form the greater part of his collection of paintings. To secure studies he has traveled throughout the United States. Many landscapes of beauty in mountain and valley and sea have been transferred to his canvas, and in every instance his faithful rendition of Nature's handiwork has elicited the warmest praise. His paintings are to be found in every part of the United States. The walls of many of the most elegant residences in the country are adorned with specimens of his work. Many charming scenes, outlined on canvas by his brush with the utmost realism, may be seen in his pleasant studio at No. 19 Third street,



Santa Cruz. The same rooms contain attractive specimens of the artistic ability of his wife, whom he married in 1897 and who was Miss Lillian J. Dake, a native of Milwaukee, Wis. Her talents have led her to make a specialty of water color and china painting. Her work in California fruits has attracted particular attention. Those who come to admire Mr. Heath's paintings seldom leave without words of praise for the dainty specimens of his wife's skill with the brush.

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### JULIUS LEE.

It would be difficult, if not indeed impossible, to mention a name more intimately identified with the history of law and jurisprudence in Santa Cruz county than that of Julius Lee, who from the year 1862 until his death had made his home in Watsonville and who from the time of his arrival until his retirement during the opening years of the twentieth century occupied a position of the highest influence at the bar of his home city. Liberally endowed by nature with logical reasoning faculties and fluent command of language, he supplemented his native endowments by the most arduous application and acquired a thorough knowledge of the laws of this and other states, as well as a familiarity with the classics, with literature of all ages and with art. From an intellectual standpoint he presented the spectacle of a man well-rounded in character, well-informed in the profession of his choice and well qualified to attain a position of eminence throughout the locality where the efforts of years were centered. In addition to the valuable practice which he established in his home city and county, he became known elsewhere as a counselor of sagacious judgment, and he was frequently called to the counties of Santa Clara, Monterey and San Benito, for

consultation with local attorneys. The fees accruing from his extensive practice were invested with the sagacity characteristic of his every act and resulted in the accumulation of important property interests.

The reputation which Mr. Lee acquired in the law was enhanced by his readiness at repartee. Professional antagonism oftentimes was converted into friendliness by the choice *bon mot* that fell from his lips. The most difficult situation was relieved by his good-humored sallies. Friends familiar with his mental characteristics were never surprised at his epigrams, but to a stranger they always came with a shock of surprise, for the appearance of the attorney suggested meditation rather than humor. Of an impressive physique, his smooth-shaven face gave no hint of his age, but revealed the strong features that marked the man. On one occasion a friend inquired of him regarding his ancestry. His quickness at repartee is shown in the fact that he immediately replied by quoting these lines:

“My ancient though ignoble blood  
Has flowed through rebels ever since the flood.”

The reply though apt was not wholly germane to the case in hand, for the Lee family is not of ignoble origin. Its branches, both in the north and in the south, have been honorably associated with the history of their places of residence and have displayed a love of home and a valor in war that entitles them to rank among the best citizens of our country. One branch of the Lee family became established in New England very early in the colonization of the new world. Though less conspicuous than the southern Lees, they were not less valiant in war and industrious in the arts of peace. Julius Lee descended from the Connecticut branch of the race and was born in the village of Granby, near Hartford,

May 25, 1829. When he was not yet four years of age he was bereaved by the death of his father; the surviving members of the family removed to Ohio, settling in the hamlet of Hiram, afterward famous as the home of James A. Garfield and the scene of his educational activity as president of Hiram College.

On the completion of the studies taught in the Hiram public schools, Julius Lee found himself ambitious for greater opportunities, yet lacking the means necessary for a college course. In early youth he had mastered the classics to an unusual extent. Destiny seemed to call him to a high place in the world of thought. Eager to prepare himself for achievement, he sought the means of enlarging his fund of knowledge. A favorable opportunity soon came. While studying at the Twinsburg Institute in Summit county he was also a teacher there of those parts of the curriculum with which he was most familiar. In that way all expenses were defrayed and he was enabled to devote particular attention to the study of higher mathematics. When about twenty-two years of age he entered the sophomore class of Alleghany College and by teaching was enabled to meet the expenses of the college course as he had those in the academy. In 1853 he was graduated with the honors of class salutatorian and valedictorian of his college society.

A service of two years as tutor in the Twinsburg Institute was followed by an acceptance of the chair of Greek and Latin in the Washington College near Natchez, Miss. One year later, at the age of twenty-seven, he retired from educational work. While pedagogy was used by him merely as a stepping stone to the law, he was unusually successful as a teacher and that portion of his career was no less gratifying than later labors along another line of mental activity. Leisure hours in his experience as an instructor were de-



voted to the study of law and then for a year he studied under the preceptorship of Hon. Thomas A. Marshall, of Vicksburg, Miss., after which he was admitted to practice in the supreme court of that state. It was not, however, his intention to remain in the south. The west had already cast its fascinating spell upon him. Its opportunities appealed to his aspiring energy. The country which a few years before had drawn eager Argonauts from all parts of the world seemed to him to present other opportunities besides those of the mines and he made his plans to remove thither.

The large and carefully selected library which indicated Mr. Lee's love of study was shipped around the Horn, but he chose a quicker route to the coast and came via the Isthmus of Tehauntepec, landing in San Francisco on the last day of June in 1859. Pending the arrival of his library he accepted a position in the office of Hon. S. W. Holladay, city attorney of San Francisco and one of the leading lawyers of the state. A few months later the library arrived safely and the young lawyer thereupon brought the books to Monterey, where he opened an office. Shortly after his arrival Mr. Gregory resigned the office of district attorney in order to attend the Charleston convention and Mr. Lee was appointed to the position. At the expiration of the term he was duly elected to the office, which he filled until the election of his successor in the fall of 1862. Earlier in the same year he had removed to Watsonville, where he served as district attorney for two successive terms. Later the Republican party nominated him for superior judge, but he declined the nomination for the reason that an election would necessitate removal to Santa Cruz, thus causing the loss of the excellent law practice he had established in his home city. While serving as district attorney he engaged as his deputy at the county-seat J. H. Logan, who afterward served as district attorney of this

county and also was honored with the office of superior judge. During the year 1869 Mr. Lee married Marcelia Elmore, a native of New York. They became the parents of a son, Julius Elmore Lee, now of Watsonville, who was educated at Heald's Business College at San Francisco and the University of the Pacific in San Jose.

In closing this article we wish to quote from the Pacific Coast Commercial Record of San Francisco. While the mention of Mr. Lee made by that paper occurred over twenty years ago, in 1889, it applied appropriately up to the time of his death, with the exception that he was retired from practice and transacted no professional work other than acting as advisor in various very important cases. "As an office practitioner and counselor-at-law, Mr. Lee is recognized as possessing great ability, judgment, and a close and intimate knowledge of precedents and authorities on legal questions of all kinds. He is quick to grasp the salient points of any case brought to his consideration, and being a master of English, with a remarkably fine command of language, expresses himself in an extremely forcible and convincing way. He is impressive in address and possesses the faculty of presenting his argument to the court and jury in a concise and powerful manner, which carries with it great force and effect. His predominating characteristics may be summed up as *suaviter in modo, fortiter in re*. This gentleman is familiar with and is a recognized authority on land titles and matters. He has made this branch the subject of his special study, and has been retained as leading counsel in important suits arising from disputed or apparently confused land grants from the Mexican government previous to the cession of California to the United States.

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"Personally Mr. Julius Lee is a man of strong individual-

ity, a gentleman of education not only in his profession, but in general subjects. He enjoys the respect and esteem of the community, both in a professional capacity and as a private citizen. Though Mr. Lee has just passed his sixtieth year, his age sits very lightly upon him, and at an age when many men are thinking of getting old, he is robust, active and vigorous in mind and body. This gentleman has great faith in the future advancement of the city of Watsonville and of the Pajaro valley and lends his support to any enterprise having as its object the good of this charming locality."

The death of Mr. Lee occurred in Watsonville March 28, 1910, and was the occasion of universal mourning in his home city and surrounding country, for his was a personality that drew all men to him, none knowing him but to love and revere him.

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### MICHAEL GRIMES.

Ancestors of this progressive farmer of Santa Cruz county resided in the Emerald Isle as far back as the lineage can be traced. Each generation was characterized by loyalty to country and devotion to family, and in their humble spheres of activity they labored long and faithfully. The unyielding soil of their native country was made to return them a living only after the most arduous labor, and from year to year conditions seemed to grow worse in this respect rather than better. It was this condition of affairs that led Michael Grimes to consider the advisability of coming to the United States and establishing himself in a country where opportunity held out a welcoming hand to the young man of push and enterprise.

Born in county Galway, Ireland, in 1831, Michael Grimes continued in the land of his forefathers until 1854, when he







*S. Martinelli*

came to the United States. He remained in the east for some time after his arrival, principally in New Jersey, where he was variously employed for six years. Having in the meantime become interested in California he determined to come to the far west and cast in his lot with her citizens, which he did in 1860. He first went to Oakland, but after remaining there for about six years he came to the Pajaro valley and took up the property upon which he now lives. This consists of one hundred and thirty-two acres of land well located, and altogether he has one of the most thrifty ranches in this part of the valley. For many years hay and grain were his principal products and still are, although in the meantime, 1898, he set out an orchard of thirty acres in apples which has been very productive and added considerable to his income.

The marriage of Michael Grimes united him with Catherine Murry, who like himself was a native of Ireland, and all of the eight children born to them are still living. They are as follows: John, a resident of Monterey county; Thomas and James, of Watsonville; Annie, the widow of Charles McGreer of Berkeley; Katie, the wife of William Webb, also of Berkeley; Sarah, Mrs. Frank Strode, residing in Salinas; Rose, at home; and Ella, a resident of Alameda.

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#### STEPHEN MARTINELLI.

Far removed from his old home and birthplace in Switzerland Mr. Martinelli finds in Santa Cruz county, Cal., a climate not unlike that with which he was familiar during his childhood and youth, and here he finds an opportunity for progress in business unknown in his native country. When he came to the new world over fifty years ago he was a young



man of about seventeen years, full of enthusiasm and courage not easily daunted by adverse conditions, and with the passing of years he has accumulated a competency and become an important factor in the business community of Watsonville.

Born in the canton of Ticino, Switzerland, January 5, 1843, Stephen Martinelli is a son of parents who passed their entire lives in sight of the mountains of Switzerland, where as farmers they made a modest living and reared their children. When Stephen was seventeen years of age he had reached the conclusion that the business outlook in his own country was limited and circumscribed, as completely indeed as the country was hedged in by the mountains. Many of his countrymen had realized this condition before him and found an outlet for their ambitions and a field of labor in the United States, and hither he came in 1859. The vessel on which he made the voyage landed him in the harbor of San Francisco June 5 of that year and from the metropolis he came direct to the Pajaro valley, where for over half a century he has made his home uninterruptedly. His first experience was as a farm hand in the valley and during the two years he remained with this employer he gained a fund of experience along agricultural lines that has stood him in good stead throughout the remaining years of his life. Finally he undertook the maintenance of a ranch of his own, carrying this on until 1866, when he gave it up and entered upon a widely different venture. This was the manufacture of soda water and other soft drinks, a line of endeavor which he has ever since followed with unqualified success. After a few years, however, he became convinced that by specializing on one product of unexcelled quality he could get better results than by scattering his efforts and it was at that time that he began the manufacture of apple cider, the superior quality of which

has made his name a household word throughout this part of the state. At all state fairs his product is entered for competition and invariably it receives the highest awards, this being especially true of the Mid-winter fair in San Francisco, where he received a special gold medal for the best apple cider. At the state fair at Sacramento he was awarded a silver medal and at the exposition at Atlanta, Ga., he received the same recognition for the excellence of his product, besides seven diplomas of honor from various expositions throughout the United States where his special brand of cider has been exhibited. He takes a commendable pride in the fact that his cider is the only brand that has been awarded a medal in the United States.

In connection with his cider mill Mr. Martinelli maintains an orchard of forty acres all in Bellflower apples. Without doubt this is the most highly developed orchard of its age in the county, and the fact that Mr. Martinelli has offered a prize of \$100 to anyone in the vicinity or elsewhere who can show trees more highly developed than his own has stimulated an interest in this branch of agriculture which is highly commendable. He is strongly opposed to the one-time practice of cutting back fruit trees, which practice injures the tree, causes it to become forked as well as developing a lot of suckers that have to be cut back the next season. He is also opposed to winter pruning, for when the tree is dormant it causes the bark to split and peel off and the tree to decay. To do so when the tree is growing heals over the wound at once and no suckers will grow from the place where cut. Dating from about the year 1900 Mr. Martinelli has been the means of practically changing the method of the fruit-growers in the valley. He believes in assisting nature, not in destroying it.

A marriage ceremony performed in Watsonville July 3,

1890, united the lives of Stephen Martinelli and Jennie Leask, the latter a sister of Samuel Leask of Santa Cruz. Three children, two sons and one daughter, Stephen, Annie C. and Leask, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Martinelli, all of whom are pupils in the public schools of Watsonville. Outside of his business as an orchardist and manufacturer of cider Mr. Martinelli found pleasure as well as profit in instructing and leading what was known as Martinelli's Band and later the Swiss Band of Watsonville being connected with them for about thirty years. Fraternally he is affiliated with a number of orders, being a member of Pajaro Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F., of Watsonville; Santa Cruz Lodge, K. P.; and the Rebekahs of Watsonville. Mr. Martinelli is counted among the live, enterprising citizens of his home city, and as a member of the Watsonville Board of Trade he contributed immeasurably to her standing as a progressive business center of the state.

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### JOHN T. PORTER.

The life which this narrative delineates began at Duxbury, Plymouth county, Mass., in 1830, and closed at Watsonville, Santa Cruz county, Cal., in February of 1900. Between these two dates an era of activity brought financial success, high-standing as a citizen and wide influence for good. Of eastern parentage and ancestry, fate had reserved Mr. Porter for pioneer labors in the west. Ere yet he had reached his majority he was startled by the news of gold in California. With boyish enthusiasm he determined to migrate to the coast and remain at the mines until he had accumulated \$10,000, when he would return east and establish a permanent home. Prior to that time he had led an uneventful exist-



ence, the chief event of his youth having been a sojourn in Wisconsin, whither his father had taken him in order to have his aid in farming and saw-milling operations and also for the purpose of terminating his apprenticeship in the drug business, which he had commenced to learn. A common-school education qualified him for ordinary business affairs and he opposed his father's plans for a collegiate course.

As the family would not consent to a California trip he formulated plans in secret, but was prevented by sickness from joining his party. Upon recovering his health he returned to Boston, where Capt. Caleb Moore, of the ship *Herculean*, agreed to take him without the customary signing of articles, but with merely a verbal promise to remain with the vessel until discharged at San Francisco. Meantime the elder Mr. Porter had heard of his son's proceedings and endeavored to prevent their consummation. Upon ascertaining that it was too late, he tactfully withdrew his strenuous opposition and bade the youth farewell with prayers for his success. In due time the *Herculean* rounded the Horn and entered the Golden Gate. The most of the crew made a rush for the mines, but three or four, including Mr. Porter, stood by the captain, who showed his appreciation by handing his young assistant \$50 after the cargo had been unloaded, Captain Moore also offered him unusual inducements to make the return trip to Boston, but the offer was declined.

Upon the banks of the Yuba river and in other localities Mr. Porter mined for gold, but soon he found that the \$10,000 of his dreams hung further aloof from his ambition than the famed castles of the air. Leaving the mines he went to Sacramento and thence to Stockton, where he was employed as contractor to load a hay-boat bound for San Francisco. Next he engaged as buyer of supplies for the Webb street

house in San Francisco and later was employed by Thomas H. Selby & Co., on California street near Battery. In a few months he refused a liberal advance offered by the firm and embarked in the draying business for himself. At the end of two years, in the fall of 1853, having secured the necessary capital, he came to Santa Cruz county and embarked in mercantile pursuits with Edward Porter at Soquel. During the autumn of 1855, owing to bad crops and scarcity of money, he was obliged to relinquish his business, after which he engaged in farming for a year or more.

At that time Santa Cruz county unwillingly harbored many of the worst characters in the state. The last and greatest vigilance committee in San Francisco, that of 1856, drove a horde of desperadoes from that city and they took refuge in Santa Cruz county, where their presence proved disastrous to safety and progress. Society soon became almost disorganized. Property was in constant jeopardy. In such a crisis it was necessary to elect a sheriff able to cope with a desperate situation and the people decided that Mr. Porter possessed the qualifications necessary for the difficult task. In 1856 he was elected sheriff and entered upon his duties with fearlessness. The people were not disappointed in him. For two terms of two years each he discharged his hazardous duties. Criminals and outlaws were captured and brought to justice. Those not captured were so terrified that they soon fled to other places and eventually peace settled down upon the county.

Upon retiring from the office of sheriff Mr. Porter accepted an appointment as collector of the port of Monterey, tendered him by President Lincoln. During 1865 he resigned this position. Afterward he engaged in different kinds of business in various parts of the state. Few pioneers were more familiar with California than he, and in the course of



his activities, both as official and as business man, he traveled over a wide range of country. The favorite mode of travel was on horseback. For some years he spent a large part of his time in the saddle. When evening came a camp-fire was lighted and a lunch prepared and enjoyed, after which he slept in his blankets upon the prairie with the earth for a pillow and the sky for a counterpane. Physically he was admirably qualified for such an existence. Fully six feet tall, he was built in proportion and possessed a sturdy constitution upon which hardships and exposure left little impress. In 1876, after an absence of nearly twenty-seven years, he returned to his old eastern home, but the changes there had been many. Few of his kins-people or friends remained, but with such as were left he enjoyed a renewal of the pleasant associations of youth.

During 1859 Mr. Porter married Miss Fannie Cumming, a native of Canada and the recipient of a thorough classical education. In young womanhood she taught several terms of school and proved as efficient in that profession as in her later duties as a home-maker. The only daughter of the union is Mrs. Florence Pfingst. The only son, Hon. Warren R. Porter, served as lieutenant-governor of California. The family residence has been in the suburbs of Watsonville ever since 1874, when Mr. Porter was a prime factor in the organization of the Bank of Watsonville. The residence was surrounded by forty acres of grounds and formed a beautiful rural homestead. In addition Mr. Porter acquired two hundred and eighty acres in the same neighborhood as well as six hundred acres further up the Pajaro valley. Numerous other holdings here and elsewhere also passed into his ownership from time to time and at his demise he left a large and valuable estate. During September of 1901 the heirs incorporated the John T. Porter Company, with the son as vice-presi-



dent and manager, the object of the incorporation being to administer the estate for the best interests of all concerned.

The establishment of the Pajaro Valley Bank in 1888 was largely due to the efforts of Mr. Porter and he became its first president, the other officers being A. Lewis, vice-president, and J. J. Morey, cashier. The first board of directors comprised the following-named gentlemen: J. T. Porter, A. Lewis, P. McAllister, F. Mauk, A. B. Chalmers, E. L. Goldstein, John Sheehy, W. R. Porter, P. Cox, L. J. Beckett and G. W. Sill. The bank was organized with a capital of \$100,000. One of the first results of its establishment was a reduction in the rates of interest charged to borrowers, a matter thoroughly appreciated by farmers and business men. During August of the same year (1888) the Pajaro Valley Savings and Loan Society was established as an outgrowth of the original institution and with practically the same gentlemen at the head of its affairs, the presidency, however, being held by A. Lewis, while P. McAllister officiated as vice-president.

After the organization of the Republican party Mr. Porter was steadfast in his allegiance to its principles. The state conventions, which he almost invariably attended, felt the impress of his virile personality and his devotion to the party welfare. It was his privilege to be a member of the first convention that nominated Leland Stanford for governor of California. In politics as in business his strong individuality commanded attention and won respect. Frank and outspoken in manner, he was yet affable and courteous to all, and the eminence that he attained was merited by the possession of qualities which enabled him to rise from humble manual toil to large financial responsibilities.





*Rev. Father Jassett*



## REV. P. HASSETT.

Long before the town of Watsonville came into existence a Catholic church had been built in the Pajaro valley, on Amesti lake, where is now located the Pajaro valley orphan asylum, this being the only church of the denomination between San Juan and Santa Cruz. As the population increased the need of another church to supply the spiritual requirements of the community became apparent and Father Roussel, who was in charge of the orphan asylum, conceived the idea of establishing a parish in the young and growing town of Watsonville. It was in 1864 that Father Roussel began the erection of St. Patrick's from plans furnished by James Waters. The style of architecture was Romanesque, and the structure had a frontage of forty-eight feet and a depth of one hundred and ten feet. Built of redwood, it rested on a foundation of brick which was manufactured in the locality, and the window and door frames, as well as the sash and mouldings, came from San Francisco. Only the exterior of the church was finished at that time, and it was not until 1874 that the building was completed. The bells which called the worshippers together formerly did service in the old San Antonio mission, in the lower part of Monterey county, and were brought to Watsonville by permission of Bishop Amat. Accompanied by Joseph Pallisier, John McAuliffe and James Waters, Father Roussel set out in April, 1865, to get the bells, which without doubt had hung in the tower of the mission for three-quarters of a century. An eventful trip of four days brought them to their destination, and after a stay of several days at the mission, in charge of Father Ambrose, the bells were loaded on the wagon and the visitors returned with their precious burden, by way of San Juan, to Watsonville.

Father Roussel was the first pastor of the new church, dividing his attention between this and the orphan asylum, for a number of years, or until 1869, when Father Mahoney became its first resident priest. A few years later, in 1874, a contract was made with the pastor to take up the work of church completion, and after several months of unremitting labor the edifice was finished in the interior and furnished with pews and other necessary furniture. Personally Father Mahoney was a man of high mental and moral equipment, added to which was rare business judgment, and under his administration the affairs of the parish were arranged on an orderly and substantial basis, the church edifice was completed and the church debt practically liquidated during his pastorate of ten years.

In 1879 Father Mahoney was promoted to a charge in Los Angeles and the same year Father M. Marron became rector of the church. Not unlike his predecessor he was a man of many noble qualities, working long and earnestly for the welfare of the parish, but a stroke of paralysis in 1897 compelled him to retire from his labors. It was during this same year, 1897, that Rev. P. Hassett was placed in charge of the affairs of the church, although it was not until April 17, 1905, that he received his regular appointment. Upon assuming charge of the work of the parish Father Hassett readily perceived the necessity for a larger house of worship, and to him more than to any other person is due the present magnificent church edifice, which is the pride of every resident of the community and which elicits the admiration of the stranger. Work on the present house of worship was begun in 1901 and was completed in 1903, at a cost of about \$50,000, including furnishings. During this time the parsonage had also been remodeled. The earthquake of April, 1906, wrought considerable damage, and necessitated repairs to

the extent of \$3,000 on the church and a like amount on the parsonage. The old church edifice which had done duty for over forty years was raised at this time, at an expense of \$2,000. At the time of the earthquake the bell in the tower rang loudly, owing to the swinging of the tower, which was all but thrown down. Since Father Hassett assumed charge of the affairs of the parish he has expended for buildings, repairs, etc., over \$70,000.

As has been stated, work was begun on the new church in 1901, the contract being signed on September 10, and on January 1, 1903, it was completed and ready for occupancy. The structure is sixty-eight feet wide and one hundred and thirty feet deep. The English Gothic style of architecture has been adhered to throughout the general design, being modified only where necessary to suit local conditions. Strength and durability were not lost sight of in the construction of this beautiful structure, as may be judged by the statement that three hundred and fifty thousand brick were used and the heavy concrete foundations required over four hundred barrels of cement, in addition to the necessary rock, sand and crushed granite. The slates on the roof are fastened with copper nails, which makes the roof practically indestructible, besides which about three tons of sheet lead were used for plashings, gutters, etc., and one ton of copper was used in the spire. From the level of the sidewalk the spire rises one hundred and thirty-two feet and is the crowning feature of this magnificent structure. The front entrance is of buff terra-cotta, with Gothic ornamentation, and oak entrance doors open into the spacious vestibule. The choir loft has a seating capacity of fifty persons, and the auditorium, which is made with sloping floor, will accommodate six hundred persons.

A valuable adjunct to St. Patrick's church is the Moreland



Notre Dame Academy, the gift of Mrs. S. M. Moreland to the Sisters of Notre Dame of San Jose. Its original cost was \$30,000, and after the earthquake repairs to the extent of \$7,500 were necessary to put it in proper condition.

Rev. P. Hassett is a native of Ireland, born in County Tipperary in 1872, the son of Michael Hassett. Early in life he evinced qualities requisite for the priesthood and his parents wisely directed his training along this channel. Soon after his graduation from All Hallows College, in 1896, he came to the United States, making his way direct to California, where, in Santa Cruz, he was appointed assistant to Father McNamee. He held this position until coming to Watsonville in 1897, in the meantime gaining a knowledge of inestimable value to him in coping with problems and emergencies. Personally Father Hassett is beloved by his parishioners, who find in him a sympathetic leader in whom they place implicit trust.

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#### OWEN TUTTLE.

Agricultural pursuits occupied the attention of Mr. Tuttle for many years both in Iowa and in California and brought him a degree of success commensurate with his intelligent industry and merited by his arduous application to daily duties. Born in Richland county, Ohio, December 30, 1827, during 1838 he accompanied his father, Hiram Tuttle, to Iowa, settling on a tract of unimproved land in Van Buren county on the Des Moines river. During the years of youth he left the home farm in order to learn the trade of a stone-cutter, but later he returned to farming. After the demise of his father he bought the old homestead and there he remained until the failure of his health through bronchial

trouble caused him to removed to California. His first trip to the Pacific coast was made in 1850 during the memorable excitement caused by the discovery of gold. For four years he worked in the mines near Placerville and during that period he became so favorably impressed by the country that, when he left Iowa, in the fall of 1872 he came to the Pajaro valley and spent the winter and in 1873, there was no hesitancy in his decision to settle in the west. After his arrival in Watsonville he bought seventy-five acres near town. Twelve acres were in hops and he enlarged this crop to forty-five acres, building kilns and storage houses for the care of the product. For some years he was one of the largest hop growers in the Pajaro valley, but a decline in prices led him to give more attention to the raising of apples. However, it was not until 1901 that a marked decline in the price led his estate to abandon the hop industry.

Purchasing the old Scott boarding house on Main street opposite the plaza in 1891, Mr. Tuttle removed the building to the rear of the lot and remodeled it for a barn and this has been again remodeled into a residence. On the front of the lot he built a comfortable and substantial residence and here he remained until his death, which was caused by heart failure, July 2, 1899. Of his family one child died in infancy, and a daughter, Mrs. Annabel Radcliff, passed away eight months after his death. The other members of the family are as follows: Hiram D., an attorney of San Jose; Morris B., living near Watsonville; Emory O., of Alameda, this state; Nannie, widow of R. L. Craig, of Los Angeles, president of the R. L. Craig & Co.; Adella, who married Dr. Aaron Schloss, of San Francisco; Iowa H., who lives on the home place near Watsonville; and Victor H., a member of the firm of R. L. Craig & Co., wholesale grocers of Los Angeles.

Surviving Owen Tuttle is his widow, Mrs. Mary E. (Burns)

Tuttle, who was born and reared in Iowa. Her parents, James and Mary (McDonald) Burns, were natives of Venango county, Pa., the latter having been of Pennsylvania parentage but of Scotch ancestry. The mother of James Burns was a daughter of Hector McNeal, who served in the Revolutionary war. At an early day James Burns removed from Pennsylvania to Iowa and settled in Van Buren county on the Des Moines river; on the homestead there established the daughter grew to womanhood and there in 1855 she was married to Owen Tuttle, with whom she came to Watsonville in 1873. Her father died in Iowa, but her mother afterward came to California and made her home with Mrs. Tuttle until 1892. Mrs. Tuttle still owns the property they purchased shortly after their arrival in this state and has an income sufficient to provide for her the comforts of life. While rearing her family she had little time for outside activities. The housework on the farm, the family sewing, the care of a large family and the many duties falling to a farmer's wife, left her no leisure for participation in movements for the public welfare, but after the removal of the family to town in 1891 and after the children had left the parental roof for homes of their own, she devoted her splendid energies and fine mind to enterprises for the upbuilding of the community and the intellectual advancement of the people. In her support of the suffrage movement she has been ardent and steadfast, believing with Patrick Henry that taxation without representation is tyranny and believing further that much good accomplished by the heroism and self-sacrifice of women has been wrongfully credited to men.

The establishment of a public library in Watsonville was a philanthropy that for years received thoughtful attention on the part of Mrs. Tuttle. During her work with the Women's Christian Temperance Union she became aware of



the urgent need of a reading room and library for the boys and girls growing up in the town. The suggestion she made was carried out by the Union and the library always has been under the management of the women. The movement was organized under the legislative act of 1880, which authorized cities of a certain class to levy a tax of one mill on the dollar for library purposes. Influential citizens signed the petition circulated by the women and the board of trustees levied one-half of the tax allowed by law, amounting to five cents on the hundred dollars. Two years later this amount was increased to seven cents, which thus brought about \$840 per year for the rent, fuel, librarian's salary, subscription to periodicals, and purchase of new books. Personal donations have been of the greatest aid to the library fund. The Ford estate contributed \$250, which was invested in books, and the lodge of Odd Fellows donated their library.

In addition to aiding in the many duties connected with the establishment of the library, Mrs. Tuttle has not neglected other enterprises for the benefit of the community. Few women are more conversant than she with the industries that give prominence to the valley. Long experience with fruit-growing on the farm gives her a broad fund of information on this subject. The Watsonville Register, of December 19, 1908, published an article from her pen concerning the history of the apple industry in the Pajaro valley. The account showed her familiarity with one of the enterprises that has brought fame to the Pajaro valley, and we quote from it as follows: "Fifty years ago there were few apple trees in Pajaro valley, and it was many years before there was a market for the surplus. Less than thirty-five years ago great quantities of fruit rotted on the ground underneath the trees. The lumbermen, who were then engaged in stripping our canons of the giant redwoods, thought nothing of filling a few barley

sacks with apples as they passed an orchard, and would have resented with indignation any suggestion of paying for them. If a few pickets were knocked out of the fence, it was all set down to the credit of the freedom of pioneer days. At this time nearly all of the valley was sown to grain, and the threshing machine made its annual visit. There was scurrying of busy feet to the tune of three meals a day for twenty-five or thirty men, and the orchard then was a never-failing source of good things for the hungry men, and also for the anxious cooks. Apples, pears, plums, apricots and peaches, just ready to drop from the trees in luscious ripeness, were to be had for the picking and never seemed to pall on the taste of the busy, hungry people.

“A healthy lot of care-free youngsters roamed the orchards biting into anything and eating only what suited their tastes. There was usually a picket missing at a convenient place, and a well-worn path which strangely went out of the way and sought only favorite trees. Even neighbors' orchards were noted for varieties of wonderful excellence and were sampled on the way home from school. About this time there appeared a stout old man by the name of Marco Rabasa, who offered to buy fruit on the trees. In the parlance of the present day, people sat up and took notice. This was the beginning of the apple business in Pajaro valley. For years the old orchards were gradually enlarged, but the old happy-go-lucky selection of fruit was at an end. Bellefleurs and Newtown Pippins took the lead. The old orchards were cleared up and soon took on a commercial aspect, missing pickets were attended to, and it even became desirable to have the roads sprinkled, to keep the fruit clean. For years the apple business was a growing success. The Australian market was to be supplied. Rabasa divided his business with an increasing number of people who affixed an “ich”



to their names, and a new and peculiar style of architecture was apparent about town. Packing houses sprang up in the most select neighborhoods and Watsonville, by reason of its appearance and odor, deserved the name of Appleville.

“We boasted of our wormless apples; for, although the woolly aphis, like the poor, was always with us, the damage had been slight, and except that Mr. Nugent required Rabasa to disinfect his often-used boxes, before bringing them into his orchard, there was no precaution used against insects. We thought that the fog and cool nights would not foster pests. But one of the famed Pandora boxes came this way and was turned upside down over our great valley orchard. The war began and the result is not yet told. We have sprayed until the orchards during the spring have shocked the artistic soul of many residents by their ghastly appearance, making nervous, sensitive people shiver with dread as they pass them in the night. The orchardist has groaned in spirit, not only in sympathy with the appearance of his orchard, but because of lime, sulphur and salt in his eyes and on his clothes, horses and harness. Paris green has been used as well as other solutions suggested by the many bugmen. And kill the bugs we will, if every orchardist is sacrificed in the war. Verily, when Pandora’s box was emptied there were other things besides caterpillars inside.

“The whole valley has become an immense orchard. The packing houses have become segregated near the railroad, the business in taking permanent shape. There are changes in the management of trees. Weeds, which were a horror to old orchardists, are now allowed to grow, and are later turned under the plow to enrich the soil. It would seem that a soil which produces mustard as high as a horse hardly needs any more nitrogenous food, and that possibly the mustard takes more of moisture and other properties from the soil than it



gives back. The neat little pea vine used in Southern California between the rows of orange trees, to be plowed under, would be much to be preferred in point of beauty and perhaps in utility. But, after all, the thorough cultivation of former days had many advantages over later methods. Usually our orchards are kept in good shape, but occasionally the trees are permitted to grow scraggy and go unpruned, until one wishes she might act as forester for awhile, to chop out the old trees and substitute young ones. Many women in Pajaro valley own and manage orchards, and when it comes to packing apples, we could hardly do without them. Hundreds of women work in the packing houses during the season, and many make boxes quite as well as men."

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#### A. N. JUDD.

Very early in the colonization of New England, in 1636, the Judd family became established along the bleak Atlantic coast. Authentic annals of the colonial era record that one of the name, who had married a sister of the illustrious Roger Williams, suffered banishment and exile from Massachusetts by reason of his religious views. Accompanying Williams through the unsettled country toward the south, he aided in the founding of Providence and Newport. Three hundred years later Williams and Judd were restored to citizenship by the legislature of Massachusetts. Descended in the third generation from this famous pioneer was George B. Judd, who prior to the free-trade act of 1856 operated an iron foundry at Great Barrington, Mass., but closed out the business when a change in the tariff laws made it no longer profitable. For some years he was engaged in the lumber industry. One of his cousins, Hon. Norman B. Judd, repre-

sented Cook county, Ill., in the United States congress for a number of terms and during the period of his public activity he had the honor of nominating Abraham Lincoln for president when that able statesman was as yet comparatively unknown throughout the country.

The death of George B. Judd occurred at Loudon, N. H., and there both he and his wife, Mary Ann, were buried. They were the parents of five sons and four daughters, but only two of these ever came to the west, namely: A. N.; and Belinda, who married W. S. Morse and settled at Los Angeles. Mrs. Mary Ann Judd was a sister of Hon. William H. Bissell, the tenth governor of Illinois, born in New England in 1811 and deceased in Springfield, Ill., in 1860, during the period of his service as chief executive of the state. During the Mexican war he had fought with distinction and bravery and at the battle of Buena Vista he was seriously wounded. Later he became one of the leading statesmen of the north and for years represented his district in the United States congress. At one time he was challenged by Jefferson Davis to fight a duel, an altercation having arisen as to the honor due the Second Illinois Infantry for results in the war. Governor Bissell had the privilege of choosing the weapons and he named muskets loaded with buckshot at a distance of forty yards, with permission to walk up to within ten paces.

Had the duel been fought with Governor Bissell as winner, the history of the Civil war would have been different, for it would not have contained the name and personality of Jefferson Davis. However, before the time set for the meeting, the father-in-law of General Davis interfered and brought the matter to an amicable settlement, no apology being asked for from Governor Bissell. The story of the affair has since become known and is often told among the members of the Bissell family and their connections. After having risen to

prominence solely through his own abilities and sagacious judgment, Governor Bissell died in the midst of his public service and was followed to the grave by tributes of admiration and respect. Over his last resting place is a stone erected by the State of Illinois, in 1874, bearing the words, "Hero, Statesman and Patriot."

During the residence of the Judd family at North Lee, Berkshire county, Mass., A. N. Judd was born April 26, 1843. At the age of fourteen years he went to Wisconsin and at Rubicon, Dodge county, he served an apprenticeship to the trades of painter and wagon-maker. Later he worked in a sawmill at Whitewater, Wis., and from there he removed to Iowa to work at the painter's trade. August 9, 1861, he enlisted at Anamosa, Iowa, as a private in Company H, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and accompanied his regiment to the south, where he took part in the engagements at Springfield and Fort Henry. His third battle was at Fort Donelson, February 15, 1862, and there he was wounded in the neck. While in the "hornet's nest" at Shiloh he was taken by the enemy, together with practically all of Tuttle's brigade, of which he was a member. However, before they had reached Corinth he managed to escape with some other prisoners and made his way to the Federal lines at Crump's Landing on the road to Pittsburg Landing. Soon afterward he was transferred to Company A, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, which received marching orders under General Sully March 16, 1863, and traveled northward, where he served until the close of the Civil war, principally in the Dakotas and along the Canadian border. Among the principal engagements of that part of his service were the battles of White Stone Hill, September 3, 1863; Big Knife river, July 28, 1864; and the Bad Lands, August 7-8-9, 1864, which routed the Indians so that thereafter it was safe for immigrant trains to travel without es-



cort. His military service ended under General Sully and he was honorably discharged at Davenport, Iowa, November 27, 1865, after a service of four years and three months.

Going to Chicago and taking up work at the painter's trade, Mr. Judd was busily occupied thus for a few years, but when the first railroad was completed across the continent he determined to come to California. During July of 1868 he traveled with the first excursion on the railroad and arriving in the west he settled at Watsonville, where ever since he has made his home. On the present site of the Watsonville Bank he conducted a painter's shop and in addition he followed other lines of work for some years. During 1873 he became interested in farming and in 1886 he began to plant fruit trees, making a specialty of apples. At this writing he owns a fruit farm of fifty-two acres west of the city and he also owns a comfortable residence at No. 263 East Lake street, Watsonville. Throughout all of his active life he has been interested in public affairs. Strong in his opposition to graft in every form, he believes in electing officials who will give the public clean, pure and faithful service. Concerning the various forms of graft noticeable among many public men throughout the country he does not hesitate to express his views in strong terms. The only office he has held was that of deputy assessor. Had he been chosen for others, he would have given the public the same faithful service that he gave to his country during the four darkest years of its history. Fraternally he is connected with Pajaro Lodge, I. O. O. F., and R. L. McCook Post No. 26, G. A. R., in both of which he is warmly interested.

The marriage of Mr. Judd and Caroline Williamson was solemnized July 22, 1872, and was blessed with five children. The eldest, Carrie Belle became the wife of Jesse Wood, of Watsonville. Elbert Hayes died at the age of twelve and

Ida May at the age of sixteen years. Hugh William, a clerk in the Watsonville postoffice, married Jessie Tinan, of San Jose, member of a pioneer family of the Pajaro valley. Oswald Bissell, a farmer and surveyor, married Franc Turney and resides at Watsonville. The father of Mrs. Judd was William Williamson, a native of Ireland, who came from Illinois to California during 1854 and afterward engaged in lumbering in the Santa Cruz mountains. He aided in the establishment of the Pioneer flour mill and at one time he was interested in mining and merchandising at Forest Hill. At the age of sixty-five years he passed from earth, his death occurring at about the same time as that of his devoted wife, Artimesia (Sands) Williamson, and both were interred in the cemetery at Watsonville near the scenes familiar to them for years. They were respected by all who knew them and he was said among friends everywhere to be one of Nature's noblemen, a man with acute reasoning faculties, warm-hearted to the point of self-sacrifice, kindly toward all, fond of little children and thoughtful toward the aged, possessing the cheerful optimism characteristic of his race blended with the energetic temperament of the American.

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#### F. S. MACQUIDDY.

No work transcends in importance and far-reaching results that of an educator. The minister appeals to a weary humanity. The physician labors to help those handicapped by disease. The lawyer pleads for justice and the observance of our laws. Indispensable as are these professions, that of teaching surpasses all of them in importance and future influence upon our race. To the teacher come the sturdy little children to be taught the laws of health and hygiene. Thither



come the inquiring minds to be taught good from evil. The bright and the dull, the quick and the slow, alike come under the influence of the educator, and the results cannot be measured by the present, but extend into the shadowy future. Many thoughtful students of history maintain that our government could not long survive the enormous foreign element added to the population each year, were it not that the children of these immigrants, through their studies in our free schools, become transformed into intelligent, loyal and patriotic Americans, ready to die, if need be, for the preservation of our nation.

The profession of teaching has occupied the mature years of Professor MacQuiddy, who holds the responsible position of superintendent of the Watsonville schools. He enjoys the honor of being a native-born son of California. Born in Hanford, Kings county, in 1879, he is a son of J. T. MacQuiddy, and a grandson of Major T. J. MacQuiddy, whose association with the early settlement of California is recorded in the annals of our state history. Primarily educated in the grammar-schools of Hanford and Traver, he later attended the high school of Hanford and in 1898 was graduated from the Stockton high school. After leaving that school he was employed for one year in the office of the Stockton Register, but resigned at the expiration of that time in order to devote his attention to advanced study. During 1899 he matriculated in the University of California, from which he was graduated in 1903 with the degree of B. S. During the last year of his university study he acted as assistant in the zoological department and accomplished results as an instructor that would have been creditable to a teacher of wide experience.

For two years after leaving the university Professor MacQuiddy acted as principal of the high school of Winters, Yolo county. During 1905 he came to Watsonville as head



of the science department. Early in the year 1907 Superintendent Townsend resigned his position and Professor MacQuiddy was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation. Since then he has given his attention closely to his many responsible tasks. There are under his supervision thirty-one teachers and about one thousand pupils, and only those who have undertaken similar responsibilities realize the magnitude of his work. The results, fortunately, are justifying the mental strain and physical effort. Steady progress is noticeable in every department of the work. The deep respect which the whole student body has for the superintendent is a powerful factor in his oversight of the school. Kindness has inspired respect. Yet, while kind, he is also firm. These two elements are so mingled in his administration that he has gained wide recognition as a disciplinarian. Without prejudice he can view every side of a case of discipline, which enables him to be just in the treatment of offenders. His influence has never been doubtful, but is always positively on the side of the elevating and the noble in life.

During his residence at Winters as principal of schools Professor MacQuiddy formed the acquaintance of Miss Vivian Englehart, whom he married in 1905 and by whom he has a son, Malcolm. Mrs. MacQuiddy is a daughter of the late Edward Englehart, who came across the plains to California in 1850 and from that time until his death many years afterward, remained a resident of this state, loyal to its welfare and interested in its growth. Since his death Mrs. Englehart has continued to make her home at Winters. Both Professor and Mrs. MacQuiddy are members of the Episcopal church and stanch believers in the doctrines of the denomination, while fraternally he has identified himself actively with both the Masons and the Elks.

## JAMES WATERS.

It is a tradition among the present representatives of the Waters family that they are descended directly from an Englishman who accompanied the colony of John Smith to America during 1607 and settled in the southern part of Maryland, where a grant of land was tendered by Lord Baltimore. From that time to the present the land has remained in possession of the family and is still cultivated by descendants of the original immigrant. On that old homestead Joseph Waters was born and reared, and thither he brought his bride, Elizabeth Jane Ayres, a member of an honored Scotch-American family. Not many years afterward death entered the home and removed the young wife. The only daughter died at the age of seven years. This left the father alone with his boy, James, who was born in Somerset county, Md., October 18, 1828, but accompanied his only surviving parent to Baltimore at the age of six years. There he gained a common-school education and at the age of sixteen years began to learn the trade of carpenter under his father's oversight. In the four years following he acquired a thorough knowledge of the occupation.

The discovery of gold in California proved the direct means of transferring the citizenship of Mr. Waters from Maryland to the western coast. During June of 1849 he embarked on the brig Osprey and rounded the Horn and cast anchor at San Francisco after a long and tedious voyage. It had been his intention to immediately embark in mining, but an offer of \$1 and hour as a carpenter proved too tempting to decline and for a time he was busily and profitably engaged in building enterprises in the western metropolis. From there he went to the mines on the Feather river and on the banks of the American, where he remained for two years,

but the fortune so ardently desired did not come to him. Returning to San Francisco he resumed work at his trade. The failure of the banking house of Page, Bacon & Co., in 1855, brought him a heavy misfortune in the loss of the savings he had accumulated since coming west. His claim against the bank he sold for \$500 and then he removed to Santa Cruz, where he took charge of the saw mill owned by Major Hensley. With Thomas Beck as a partner in 1857 he began to take building contracts. Two years later he came to the Pajaro valley for the purpose of rebuilding the Catholic church and St. Francis college. Immediately he determined to remove hither as soon as his business affairs would permit him to do so, and in 1860 he bought his first holdings at Watsonville.

From boyhood Mr. Waters had evinced a love for the study of plant life. Horticulture fascinated him with its possibilities. Naturally he decided to improve his new property with fruit and he chose apples and strawberries as being especially adapted to the soil and climate. Trees were planted in sufficient numbers to render possible the establishment of a nursery business in a few years and meanwhile he supported himself by carpentering. Eventually, however, the nursery demanded his entire attention. During 1860 he bought forty acres and planted more than two thousand apple trees, but this immense orchard was entirely ruined in 1862 by an overflow of the river and he then sold the land to the Catholic church. With J. A. Blackburn as a partner in 1867 he planted five acres of nursery stock, and in 1873 he bought his partner's interest, becoming the sole proprietor. Upon purchasing twenty-seven acres from Captain Sudden he moved the nursery to the corner of what was then known as Sudden and Fourth streets, Watsonville. His next purchase consisted of fifty acres adjacent to the Sudden



tract and the new property he set out in strawberries, but eight years later he planted the fifty acres to apples, from which large crops have since been harvested. Meanwhile the nursery business had outgrown its quarters and he thereupon moved his plant to his new acquisition of fifty-two acres near the Pajaro depot in Monterey county. Later he purchased adjacent land, so that eighty acres were devoted to nursery stock.

The demand for the products of the nursery increased so that orders were not limited to California, but came from Oregon and even from Australia. By years of experience and experiment the proprietor reduced the business to a science. The stock was mainly raised from seed or from cuttings, but large importations were made from France and other foreign countries and in this way rare varieties of fruit were started. Every variety of seed and stone fruit was raised as well as trees for shade and ornamental purposes, and although no traveling men were ever employed, orders were constantly booked ahead of the supply ready for delivery. At the 1889 exhibition of the Pajaro Valley Fair Association, of which Mr. Waters was then president, he displayed a tree of the French prune variety, only six months from the bud and raised without irrigation, but already more than twelve feet tall. For the past few years he has experimented with seedlings and some of these experiments have met with gratifying success. Of the small fruits strawberries have especially interested him. As early as 1875 he sent east for Cinderella strawberries and planted five acres to that variety. He shipped the first strawberries from Watsonville to the San Francisco market. The variety, Linda, once very popular, was originated by him and named in honor of his wife. Many of the large strawberry beds in the valley were started from stock bought at his nursery and, as he made it his aim

to keep only the best varieties, the berries of the valley have acquired a widespread reputation for size and sweetness of flavor.

Civic duties have not been neglected by Mr. Waters, notwithstanding his heavy business responsibilities. In politics he always has favored the principles of the Democratic party. From 1877 to 1879 he served as county supervisor, having been elected on the Democratic ticket. As one of the first trustees of Watsonville he aided in early movements for the benefit of the little town. Realizing the need of adequate banking facilities, he assisted in the incorporation of the Bank of Watsonville and the Pajaro Valley Bank, purchased stock in both, became a member of their boards of directors, and at this writing acts as vice-president of the Pajaro Valley National Bank. In earlier years he was prominent and active in Masonry, and is past master of the blue lodge, past high priest of the chapter and past eminent commander of the commandery of Knights Templar. It was his privilege to attend the 1887 convention of the Knights at St. Louis and at its adjournment he proceeded to Maryland, where he visited scenes familiar to his youth. For years he was one of the most influential and active members of the Santa Cruz branch of the Society of California Pioneers.

The marriage of Mr. Waters was solemnized September 9, 1860, and united him with Malinda J., daughter of Stephen Short. Three children blessed the union, but death removed the only son, Willie, at the age of twelve years, and the elder daughter, Lola, Mrs. James Walker, at the age of twenty-five years. The younger daughter, Adele, alone survives. Mrs. Waters came across the plains in 1852, with her parents, from Henderson county, Ill., where she was born July 28, 1841. They came direct to Santa Cruz and from there to Watsonville, which has since been Mrs. Waters' home. In

September, 1910, Mr. and Mrs. Waters celebrated their golden wedding at their home and the occasion called together many old-time friends and pioneers. The family hold membership in the Episcopal church, of which Mr. Waters is a vestryman. Mrs. Waters is a sister of Mrs. J. A. Blackburn and is a member of a family of eight brothers and sisters, all of whom were spared until the eldest had attained a very advanced age. Their mother also lived to a ripe old age and there was no break in the family circle until about 1887, when Mr. Short met with an accident that resulted in his death.

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#### HON. WILLIAM H. LAMB.

The commercial and real-estate enterprises associated with the modern development of Santa Cruz owe much to the public spirit and judicious energy of Mr. Lamb, who since coming to this city in 1893 has been identified inseparably with the advancement of movements tending toward its permanent prosperity. Throughout the greater part of his active life he has been closely connected with the building up of towns and the improvement of property, than which no greater task can fall to the lot of an American citizen, cognizant of the rich but undeveloped resources of our great land. While working for the material growth of the country he has at the same time developed a noble, honorable character, the most valuable contribution a man can make to posterity. The richest bequest he will leave behind him at death will be an example of integrity never questioned, energy never daunted and responsibilities never evaded.

Born in Norwich, Chenango county, N. Y., January 15, 1838, William H. Lamb was graduated from the high school of his native town at the age of eighteen years and then went



to Boston, Mass., where he secured employment in the wholesale and retail dry-goods house of George W. Warren. Shortly after his location in the east the country became involved in the memorable Civil war. At the opening of the struggle he enlisted in the Second Battalion, Independent Riflemen of Boston, but was rejected. Undaunted by the failure he at once went back to his old home in New York, where he was accepted as a member of the Forty-fourth New York Regiment of Infantry, commanded by Colonel Ellsworth. After a time he was transferred to the Ninetieth New York Infantry. His service in the Union army covered a period of four years and eight months and included at its close considerable reconstruction work in the southern states. With Generals Grant, Hooker, Reed and George B. McClellan, he participated in many of the most important engagements of the war, and six times he was wounded while in battles, but fortunately he escaped serious injury.

At the close of the war the young soldier returned to his old home at Norwich, N. Y., with a splendid record for military service, in which he had been honored with many promotions from the ranks as a fitting recognition of his bravery and intimate knowledge of war tactics. Taking up the avocations of peace, he entered into business at Norwich, where he remained for six years. At the expiration of that time he was engaged by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company to act as their land agent in South Dakota. The road had recently built out into Dakota and its officials were solicitous to open up that country for settlement. Accordingly Colonel Lamb laid out and established the village of Clark in Clark county, S. Dak., and, while acting as land agent for the road, also conducted a general real-estate business and was proprietor of a hardware store. Taking up land from the government, he laid out towns on the railroad from Watertown, Cod-

ington county, as far west as Redfield, Spink county. Meanwhile he had gained the warm confidence and high regard of the pioneers of the region and their admiration for his abilities found recognition in his election to the state legislature, as representative of a district embracing nine counties, or about one-third of the entire state. Through able service in the assembly he was instrumental in benefiting his district, and few of the pioneers were more closely associated with local development than he, his time, means and influence for years being given to the task of promoting interest in that part of the northwest.

The failure of his health obliged Colonel Lamb to seek a less rigorous climate and with that object in view he came to California in 1891, settling at Petaluma, Sonoma county, but removing to Santa Cruz in 1893. Shortly after his arrival in this city he purchased a hardware store, one of the first established in the town, and since then with his two sons he has been active in its management, carrying a large stock of hardware and serving customers from all parts of the county. Aside from his commercial activity, he has been prominent in local politics. During his service as mayor of Santa Cruz he was instrumental in promoting many needed improvements and largely through his personal efforts the state militia decided to hold here its annual encampment. In partnership with T. L. Bell he located the site and erected the famous hotel Rowardennan at Ben Lomond in the Santa Cruz mountains, ten miles from the city of Santa Cruz. For many years he acted as president of the corporation, with H. F. Anderson as secretary, and under his executive leadership the enterprise met with encouraging success. Recently, however, he sold his interest in the company, in order that he might devote more attention to other important matters. With a number of other business men he organized a company and



purchased the Anthony property on Pacific avenue. It is the intention of the company to extend the avenue through the land, thereby increasing the value of the surrounding property.

The first wife of Colonel Lamb was a Miss Hart of Boston, who died leaving a son, John R. During 1869 he was united in marriage with Miss Anna D. Peck, daughter of Hon. S. S. Peck, a member of the Canadian parliament. Two children were born of the second marriage, namely; William H. J., and Anna Louise, the latter a recent graduate of the Santa Cruz high school. Fraternally a Mason, Colonel Lamb has taken all of the Masonic degrees up to and including that of Knight Templar. During the summer months the family occupy their picturesque summer home, Edgewood, situated near Ben Lomond and surrounded by a well-improved estate of eleven acres. In Santa Cruz he purchased what was known as the Chinese Garden on Mission hill and afterward extended Davis street, which has become one of the finest residence streets in the city. In addition he owns forty-four acres of valuable shore property near Capitola on the ocean front. Whatever community might be chosen as the scene of his labors, it would be safe to predict that his identification therewith would be intimate, for Nature endowed him with the abilities that everywhere would bring prominence and popularity. It was the good fortune of Santa Cruz that its charms of scenery and climate attracted him hither and led him to throw his splendid energies into the task of developing property and attracting settlers, in which labor he has enjoyed the comradeship of men equally loyal to the city and equally solicitous to advance the local prosperity.



## HIRAM DANIEL SCOTT.

Even before the era made famous by the discovery of gold there had been adventurous men, attracted by the soil and climate of California, who had sought homes on these fair western shores and had brought to the Spanish aristocracy of the region a glimpse of the energy and enterprise for which Americans are famous the world over. Among those who identified themselves with the west during the Spanish regime, mention should be given to the late Hiram Daniel Scott, for years one of the prominent ranchers of Santa Cruz county. In common with the majority of the pioneers, he was fond of mining and experienced all the changes of good and ill fortune incident to that occupation. When he came to this county there were few Americans, but he found the Spaniards friendly, and the Indians as well (of whom there were still a large number), gave him the kindest of treatment, their friendship at times proving of great personal benefit to him.

Born at Pittston, on the banks of the Kennebec river in Maine, January 28, 1822, Hiram Daniel Scott was a member of a large family, all of whom were forced to assume the task of self-support at the earliest possible age. Taking up the life of a sailor he rose by steady promotions until he was made second mate of a ship and in that capacity he sailed the high seas, visiting many of the ports of the western hemisphere. As second mate of the sailing vessel J. C. Whiting, he sailed into the beautiful bay of Monterey during the year 1846. The ship had sailed from New York and had rounded the Horn on its way to San Francisco. Life as a sailor had grown distasteful to the mate and the view of the land near the bay was so inviting that he deserted the ship. For several days the captain waited for him, mean-

while instituting a thorough search, but a Spanish family befriended him until the vessel had left the port. The little Spanish settlement of Santa Cruz presented no resemblance to the present progressive city. The houses were made of rough boards and shakes and contained no furniture not absolutely essential. As a rule, they were barren of comforts, yet the people were happy and contented in their peaceful community by the sea.

When in 1848 news came of the discovery of gold at Sutter's mills, Mr. Scott and a companion were building a vessel on the beach, at a point in front of the present site of the Sea Beach hotel. The vessel was large and was being built for trading purposes along the coast. Although only about one-half completed when the news came, the men dropped their tools and abandoned the boat in order to hurry to the mines. It is not known how long Mr. Scott remained at the mines, but his remarkable success at that time is known. On leaving the mines he went to the present site of the city of Stockton, where the firm of Scott, Bonsall & Doak built and controlled the ferry and also built and operated a large hotel. This was known as the St. Charles and was the first hotel in Stockton; it was built at a cost of \$100,000. Hundreds of cattle crossed the ferry every day at a rate of \$1 per head, and other charges were in proportion, so that money came easily.

Returning to Santa Cruz county in 1852 Mr. Scott bought for \$25,000 a tract of land which was known as the San Augustine ranch, but which is now known more commonly as Scott's valley. The ranch was situated six miles from town and was utilized for the raising of potatoes, hay and fine horses. In addition he bought a ranch on a creek that afterward was given his name. During 1850 he was joined by two sisters, namely: Lucy, who afterward became Mrs. Ferguson,

of Linden, San Joaquin county; and Sarah, who married Thomas Cooper, of Watsonville. The two girls came by way of Panama and their passage cost \$1,000. A few years later the father, Capt. Daniel Scott, and two brothers, Edward and Joseph, came to the western coast. During 1854 Hiram D. Scott returned to the old Maine homestead and after a visit with old friends brought to the west the remaining members of the family, including his step-mother and two younger brothers, Henry and Frank; also a sister, Delia, who afterward became the wife of Jerome Porter; and another sister, Victoria, now Mrs. Snow, of Watsonville; together with the youngest sister, Carrie, now Mrs. Sanborn, of San Francisco. The only surviving members of the once large family are Mrs. Sanborn, Mrs. Snow and Frank Scott, of San Francisco.

The marriage of Hiram Daniel Scott took place in San Jose August 11, 1861, and united him with Miss Agnes Cumming, a native of Ontario, Canada, and a woman of endearing qualities of heart. Three children blessed their union, namely: William N., of Sacramento; Frances A., wife of E. H. Ford, of Wilmington, Del.; and Miss N. Maude, who resides with her mother at No. 19 Vine street, Santa Cruz. The framework of their residence was brought around the Horn in 1849 on a sailing vessel and is still in a fine state of preservation. The house was one of the very first frame structures erected in the town and was then, as now, the center of a warm hospitality graciously extended to all whose good fortune it was to be entertained within its walls. During his latter days Mr. Scott retained his interest in mining ventures. At one time he was connected with the Silver Mountain mine in Alpine county, but that prospect had a disastrous termination. After an absence of five years from Santa Cruz he abandoned mining temporarily and returned



to his home in Santa Cruz, but the fascination of the mines still lingered with him and a few years later he began to mine near Phoenix, Ariz. A fair degree of success was rewarding his efforts in that region when, in 1887, he died at Casa Grande, near the location of one of his mines. Many years have come and gone since he passed away. Changes have been wrought in the landward aspect of the beautiful bay on which his vision first rested from shipboard in 1846, but the same sun still brings harvests of grain and fruit and the same balmy air wafts contentment and happiness to the dwellers by the sunset sea.

Mr. Scott employed several Indians and was put in charge of the grandchildren of Captain Frukee of the Piutes. Many of these have become famous, among them Chief Natchez, who became chief of the Piutes. Sarah afterwards became prominent as a lecturer, known as Princess Sarah, and others have also attained prominence. Princess Sarah was educated in a convent by Mr. Scott for a period, this constituting the foundation of her education.

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#### HON. JAMES A. HALL.

While the profession of the law has engaged the attention of Mr. Hall throughout the greater part of his active career, its practice by no means represents the limit of his activities. Versatile in mind, energetic in temperament, resourceful in action, and logical in reasoning faculties, his broad and rounded abilities qualified him for intelligent identification with enterprises widely different in their sphere of usefulness. As district attorney he displayed a comprehensive knowledge of the technicalities of the law; as legislator he accomplished much in the interests of the struggle against

monopolies, and more recently, he has added to his fame by the writing of a book entitled, "Starving on a Bed of Gold," which narrates with thrilling vividness his actual experiences in Alaska.

The Hall family was established in California many years ago. Richard F. Hall, who passed away February 4, 1901, was long identified with the ranching interests of Central California and contributed his quota to the material advancement of this part of the state. His wife, who passed from earth in 1873, was the mother of James A. Hall, who was born near Salinas, Monterey county, November 9, 1857, received his primary and grammar-school education at Watsonville, and completed his studies in the Santa Clara College and the University of California. The study of law was prosecuted in the Hastings Law College and in the office of Judge A. S. Kittridge, also with Judge Logan. The funds necessary for his education in the classics and in the law he obtained by teaching school, which occupation he followed in the country during a part of the three years beginning with 1878. When examined before the supreme court he answered every question correctly and this splendid record not only gained for him admission to the bar, but also brought him the high compliments of the court.

Entering upon the practice of his profession at Watsonville in 1880, Mr. Hall was elected district attorney two years later and at the expiration of his term he removed to Santa Cruz, but about 1888 returned to Watsonville. During the year last named he was elected to the state legislature, where he introduced an anti-trust bill that caused widespread comment throughout the state. His labors in behalf of anti-monopoly legislation formed the most conspicuous portion of his public service. Shortly after his retirement from the legislature he removed to San Francisco in 1891 and formed

a partnership with ex-Senator Cross under the firm name of Cross & Hall. Two years later the title was changed to Cross, Hall, Ford & Kelly, continuing as such for two years, when the partnership was dissolved, and from that time until 1900 Mr. Hall continued alone in San Francisco. In 1902, after having recovered his health that had been seriously impaired by Alaskan experiences, he returned to Watsonville and has since practiced in all of the courts, but makes a specialty of probate court work. A service as city attorney for several terms has enabled him to promote the permanent welfare of his home town, in which labor he has had the further advantage of a practical experience as president of the board of school trustees of the city of Watsonville. Civic affairs owe much to his loyal spirit and thorough knowledge of the law relative to villages and cities. Fraternally he is connected with several orders. In 1911 his friends insisted upon his becoming a candidate for mayor of Watsonville.

The marriage of James A. Hall united him with Louise Marie, daughter of Joseph McCarthy, a pioneer of San Jose, where Mrs. Hall was born and reared. On the completion of her studies she began to teach school and for ten years she followed that profession with signal success and now holds a life diploma. Of her marriage there are two children living, Warren J. and Alice Marie, Hazel Louise having died in infancy. In the family of Mr. Hall's father there were four children, namely: Sarah Rebecca, who died in girlhood; James A.; Alice, wife of George W. Sill, who cultivates the Hall homestead; and Adelia, who is the wife of William G. Taffinder. The father left a large estate at his death. Of the paternal property James A. Hall inherited one hundred and thirty-six and one-half acres. This he sold to the Pajaro Fruit and Land Company on the incorporation of\* that organization.



Any sketch of the life of James A. Hall would be incomplete were mention not made of his experiences in Alaska. Desiring a northern trip for the purposes of rest and recreation, as well as to gain a knowledge of our country's peninsular possession, April 23, 1900, he started for Alaska via the steamer Thrasher. On the 15th of July he started from Teller, Alaska, with two companions, for the purpose of prospecting. It was the intention to return in three days and ample provisions were taken for a trip of that duration. His equipment consisted of blankets, army knapsack with provisions, a cup and a sheath knife. During the first day his companions suggested that they use his provisions as theirs were in tablet form. He acceded to their suggestion. During a heavy fog the next evening he became separated from his companions and was left without compass, with no food but a small slice of bacon, and with only a few matches. Unable to get his bearings, he wandered day after day. In spite of hoarding his bacon, it was finally gone, and he then subsisted on the few berries he could find. Soon, however, he could discover no more berries and he then began to eat grass and even snails. Many would have succumbed, but will power kept him on his feet week after week. After a time he began to suffer greatly from the heavy rains and cold nights, and it became a question as to whether freezing or starvation would first conquer him. For four days and nights he remained on the ground, momentarily expecting death. Toward noon of September 22 he heard voices. Too feeble to raise his head, he called out, "Help! Help!" With untold joy he heard the response, "Hello!" His rescuers were Jack O'Brien and Frank Hanson, both of Nome. They took him to their camp seven miles away and thence to Teller, where careful nursing finally restored him to health, although it was long ere he felt himself again to be a strong man, none the worse

for his agonizing experience. Many western papers recounted at length the story of his trials and spoke of his heroism in terms of the highest praise.

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### J. S. MENASCO.

By the hosts of friends drawn to him by noble characteristics, and by the many business and other associates who profited by his unusual executive and financial ability, J. S. Menasco is remembered as one of the representative citizens of Watsonville, whose well-being he advanced in an unmistakable manner. The excitement that was aroused by the Southern Pacific Railroad Townsite Company when it undertook to establish a town at Pajaro is within the memory of old pioneers. In order to create sentiment along this line a free excursion was run from San Francisco, to the music of a fine brass band, and literature exploiting the project was in evidence everywhere. The residents of the town of Watsonville arose in defense of their rights for recognition, and with Mr. Menasco as leader a public meeting was arranged, at which those present pledged themselves to discourage the proposed establishment of the river town. On the day of the excursion, farmers, merchants and citizens of the valley who possessed vehicles went to Pajaro en masse and when the excursion train arrived, invited the people to Watsonville, where every effort was made to prove to them the advantages of that locality over the proposed one as a railroad terminus. Here they found the metropolis of the valley alive and active, needing only the recognition of the railroad company to make it the thriving town that it has since become. It is generally conceded that this action on the part of Mr. Menasco saved the town of Watsonville, and it

is the opinion of at least one of Mr. Menasco's warm admirers that the erection of a monument on the plaza would be a fitting way to commemorate the event.

The hero of the event just mentioned was born in Arkansas in 1852, the son of southern parents, who, while he was a small child, left that part of the country and came to California to establish a home and rear their children. While he was still quite a small boy Mr. Menasco became a clerk in the store of J. S. Payne, on the Pajaro side of the river. Naturally painstaking and energetic, the diligence with which he performed his tasks made him a desirable employe and he had no difficulty in securing advancement. Later he was taken into the stationery store of Hon. Ed. Martin, where in addition to his other training he learned telegraphy. This latter knowledge he subsequently put to practice at Sargent, where in the capacity of railroad agent he was employed at the time the incident above recorded was being arranged. Sargent was at that time the terminus of the Southern Pacific Railroad, as well as the end of the southern stage line, no change being made until the railroad was extended to Salinas. With the approach of the railroad toward Pajaro Mr. Menasco resigned his position with the railroad to accept a position in the general merchandise store of Ford & Sanborn as clerk in Watsonville. This was in 1875. Here as in his previous positions, his diligence, industry and honesty were quickly recognized, and when Lucius Sanborn retired from the firm Mr. Menasco was taken into partnership, the name of the firm then becoming Ford & Co. This was in 1880, just five years after he had entered the store as clerk. Some years later the business was incorporated under the name of Charles Ford Company, with Mr. Menasco holding the larger part of the stock aside from that held by Dr. Ford. After having actively managed the store for several years he was



offered and accepted the presidency of the company, a position which he still held at the time of his death. Not only is he remembered as the head of one of the largest mercantile firms in south central California, but he was equally well known as president of the Watsonville Oil Company and as one of the largest and most prosperous apple orchardists in the Pajaro valley. With justice he may be called the father of the apple industry in the valley, carrying out his ideas on a large scale near Corralitos, Santa Cruz county, and his wisdom and forethought are now perpetuated in the orchard on his old home place.

No more account of the business success of Mr. Menasco's life would have meaning, if to that were not added the causes which paved the way. Being the son of honest, God-fearing parents, his start in life was a good home training, an honest character, a clear head and a willing pair of hands. In every purpose of his life he was self-reliant, self-respecting and honest for honor's sake. It was with all this as a basis that he began the work which was to ultimately bring him the large fortune which he acquired, not one cent of which was tainted by dishonor or stained by usurious methods. In view of what has already been said of his characteristics it would be superfluous to say that he was modest and unpretentious in whatever he did, avoiding rather than seeking laudation for his accomplishments or benefactions. His life is an open book which may be read with profit by all, both old and young. As a son, he was dutiful, appreciative and helpful; as a husband, tender, considerate and congenial; as a father he was kind and indulgent; and as a friend he could be trusted implicitly. Besides his wife, he left a son and daughter, S. T. Menasco and Mrs. L. R. Fulmer, of Chico, a mother, Mrs. Martha J. See, and a sister, Mrs. Ed. Henry. As a mark of respect for one of her most devoted and best-

beloved citizens, business was suspended for three hours in Watsonville during the funeral exercises which preceded the burial of the remains in the beautiful cemetery of the city he called home.

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#### HON. T. W. DRULLARD.

Probably no citizen enjoys a wider acquaintance among the people of Santa Cruz than does Dr. Drullard, who for more than twenty years has engaged in the practice of the dental profession in this city and meanwhile has established a reputation that is not limited to recognized professional skill, but also extends into municipal affairs and commercial activities. Implanted deep in his heart is an intense affection for the city of his adoption. Its increasing popularity as a residential point and its attractions of climate constantly winning wider recognition, interest him not alone as a resident and property-owner, but more especially as a citizen proud of his home town and loyal to its charms. In his office of mayor, which he holds at the present writing, he has been enabled to promote movements for the local welfare and supports with enthusiasm yet with sagacious judgment those measures calculated to leave an impress upon the city of permanent value.

The mayor of Santa Cruz is a native of Illinois and was born in Naperville in 1848. The local schools afforded him advantages superior to many institutions of that period and he developed into intelligent, resourceful manhood. Meanwhile the Civil war had cast its dark shadow over the land and when he was thirteen years of age he witnessed the national strife with its culmination of war. From the first he was ardent in his support of northern principles, but he was too young to enter the service and had to satisfy himself with a



careful reading of all accounts of battles. At the age of sixteen he was accepted as a volunteer and assigned to the Twenty-third Illinois Infantry, in which he served at the front until the close of the Rebellion. After the end of the war he returned to his Illinois home and there remained until 1871, when he came to California, settling first in Stockton and taking up the study of dentistry. In order to earn the means necessary for continued study he engaged in teaching school. Upon the completion of his dental studies he opened an office for practice in Modesto, where he built up a growing patronage in the line of his specialty. For fifteen years he remained in Modesto and then removed to Santa Cruz, where he has since engaged in professional practice.

While making his home in Stockton, during the year 1874, Dr. Drullard there married Miss Coralinn Meseroll, who was born and reared in California, her parents having been pioneers of the state. Dr. and Mrs. Drullard have two daughters, one of whom is the wife of W. H. Raymond, of Seattle, Wash., and the other, Marjorie, is with her parents. Fraternally Dr. Drullard holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masons and during his identification with both organizations he has been steadfast in his support of their philanthropic principles. While by no means a partisan nor a politician, he has been active in civic matters and has contributed his quota to local advancement. Those who recognized his executive ability, resourceful mind and keen intelligence urged him to accept nomination for the mayoralty of Santa Cruz, and his consent being obtained he was elected to the office in 1906, remaining in the position for one term. Again in 1909 he was elected to the office on the independent ticket and in his second term, as in the first, he has been conspicuous for his support of movements having in view the welfare of the city and the prosperity of the people.



## HAMPTON E. MAKINNEY.

For more than forty years prior to his death Mr. Makinney was identified with the history of Santa Cruz county and during eighteen consecutive years of the period he held public office. Preceding his service as a county official he was identified with the educational interests of the county and after the close of his labors as a county officer he was engaged actively in the abstract business as a partner of L. J. Dake under the firm name of Makinney & Dake. The searching of records and bringing down of abstracts enabled him to acquire a thorough knowledge of the real-estate interests of the county. Indeed, perhaps no citizen became more conversant than he with the values and titles to the various properties that were bought and sold in late years. After his death his partner purchased the business, which is now conducted under the name of L. J. Dake.

Mr. Makinney was born at Eaton, Preble county, Ohio, July 31, 1843, and was a son of John and Basheba (Wilkins) Makinney, natives respectively of Ohio and Delaware. Primarily educated in local schools of Ohio, he was a youth of seventeen years when the family took up the trail toward the west and became pioneers of Iowa. As he had received a better education than most of the young people of the community where he settled, he was induced to accept a country school and for three years he engaged in teaching in the vicinity of the parental home. In the meantime he had married, and with his wife came to California. The Civil war was in progress and the Indians had become very hostile to emigrants, many of whom were massacred by the savages. The government had its troops mainly in the south and was therefore unable to furnish needed protection for travelers on the plains. After many narrow escapes from the Indians,

the young couple finally arrived in California none the worse for the perilous journey.

After having taught several terms of school at Placerville, Eldorado county, Mr. Makinney removed to Santa Cruz county, arriving in the city of that name on the 29th of December, 1866, and immediately after his arrival he began to teach school. In a very short time he received an appointment as school superintendent and during 1867 he was elected to the office, which he filled with conspicuous success for a period of six years. Upon retiring from the superintendency in 1873 he was elected to the office of county clerk, the work of which also included the filling of the positions of county recorder and auditor. It was recognized that he possessed qualifications admirably adapting him for official labors and he was retained in the clerk's office for a period of twelve years, retiring in 1885 to engaged in business for himself. Besides his work as an officer of the county he also served as a member of the city board of education for many years and in that position he favored all movements for the upbuilding of the schools. His experience as a teacher fitted him for successful work as a trustee, for he realized the needs of the schools and the trials encountered by a painstaking instructor.

Supplementary to the other offices he held, Mr. Makinney acted as deputy district attorney from 1885 to 1887 and filled the position with accuracy notwithstanding his lack of a college course in the law. The Republican party received his stanch support throughout his life and he was ever firm in his allegiance to the principles for which the party stands. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masons numbered him among their members in the Santa Cruz lodges of the orders and he was generous in his aid of their work. At his death, October 8, 1910, he left a wife and two children, Fred W. and Pearl. The daughter remains at home, but the

son has secured a position in Honolulu and at this writing resides on the Hawaiian Islands.

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#### HON. S. A. PALMER.

The president of the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce has made his home in California from early childhood, but is a native of the east, having been born at Springbrook, Erie county, N. Y., October 4, 1856. The family came to California during the year 1863, leaving the associations dear to them by the ties of years and making their way by boat to the Isthmus, which they crossed, then by boat again to San Francisco. The boy of seven years was old enough to be impressed by the journey, although too young to appreciate the vastness and possibilities of the country to which they traveled. On his arrival in the west he settled with the family in Sacramento and soon was attending the city schools, gaining a fair education and at the same time becoming favorably impressed with the western country. When a little less than eighteen years of age he was graduated from the Sacramento high school.

The first business experience gained by Mr. Palmer was as a clerk in the drug store of E. B. Polhemus, then under the management of A. C. Tufts. Upon leaving Sacramento he went to San Francisco and secured employment with A. L. Lengfield during the spring of 1875. In order that he might secure a more thorough knowledge of the drug business he matriculated in the California College of Pharmacy in the autumn of 1876 and took a complete course of study along the line of his specialty. After a residence of five years in San Francisco he returned to Sacramento and became a clerk with M. S. Hammer, a prominent druggist of that



city. Forming a partnership in 1882 with James C. Sepulveda, he purchased a drug business owned by J. S. Trowbridge and established the firm of Palmer & Sepulveda. Since that time he has owned drug stores in different parts of the state, including Livermore and Oakland. It was during 1887 that he came to Santa Cruz and purchased the drug business that he has conducted up to the present time. As a pharmacist he is skillful and prompt and in the handling of drugs he combines accuracy with dispatch, by which means he has gained a reputation equalled by few men in his business.

Upon removing to Santa Cruz and establishing a home in this city, Mr. Palmer brought with him his wife, whom he had married three years before and who bore the maiden name of Sarah S. Livermore. Various fraternal organizations of Santa Cruz have the benefit of his earnest co-operation, notably the Order of Foresters, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, U. P. E. C. and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, becoming identified with the latter order at Sacramento. Devotion to educational advancement is one of his hobbies and for eleven years after coming to Santa Cruz he rendered able assistance to the cause of local education by serving as a member of the school board. During a portion of the time he was honored with the chairmanship of the board. In his opinion few local movements can compare with the schools in importance, both as relating to present results and to future civic growth. Along another line he is promoting municipal prosperity through his labors as president of the Chamber of Commerce. From 1907 until 1909 he officiated as mayor of Santa Cruz. It may be said with justice that no mayor surpassed him in amount accomplished for the up-building of the city. During his period of service in the mayor's chair new streets were opened, new sidewalks were constructed, the east side sewer (that has since been com-

pleted) was started, several miles of sewers in the main part of the city were built, plans were formulated and specifications drawn for a new bridge across the San Lorenzo river, and a general advancement was affected along many different lines, all of which proved the energy and progressive spirit of the then incumbent of the office of mayor.

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### HON. J. B. MAHER.

In point of years of active association with the lumber industry Mr. Maher has the distinction of being the oldest dealer now engaged in the business at Santa Cruz. When he came to California during the year 1884 and settled in the city where he still resides, he turned his attention to the buying and selling of lumber as offering an excellent field of labor in a growing community. Few men had preceded him as lumbermen in the region and he was a pioneer along the line of his specialty. From the first he was able to earn a fair livelihood. Encouraged by the start, he decided to continue in the enterprise and devoted his time to building up a larger trade. It soon came to be known that all of his orders were filled with the utmost promptness possible and also that he endeavored to secure the best grades of lumber obtainable. The Casino at the beach was constructed of lumber furnished by him under a contract and many other structures in the city and surrounding country were built of lumber purchased from him, so that this name is associated with many local building enterprises of importance.

On a farm in Columbia county, Wis., where he was born in 1852, J. B. Maher passed the years of boyhood and meanwhile acquired the habits of industry and self-reliance that characterize his manhood. Ever since he was sixteen years

of age he has been interested in lumbering, for at that age he went into the woods as an employe of a lumberman. Later he acquired a knowledge of mill-work. For a considerable period he worked in the Wisconsin woods, but in 1875 he started for the west, going first to Idaho. For some years he engaged in freighting in that state, Oregon and Washington. His principal work was the hauling of freight to mining camps, and he drove the first large freight teams from Wood river in the Salmon river district to the mines of Idaho. The wages were excellent, but the work exhausting and the surroundings unsatisfactory, so he was led to remove to California in 1884, since which year he has made Santa Cruz his home.

The Democratic party has received the ballot of Mr. Maher in local and general elections ever since he attained the right of franchise on reaching his majority. On that ticket he was elected a member of the city council of Santa Cruz. In his work as councilman he displayed no partisanship, but ever made manifest a desire to aid the general welfare of the city, and his service of fifteen years in the position reflected credit upon his patriotic spirit and intelligent civic pride. As the Democratic nominee in 1908 he was elected a member of the state assembly, and there, as in the council, he manifested the same devotion to the common welfare characteristic of his private life. Although not an office-seeker, he has excellent ability for service along public lines and the positions he has filled are conspicuous for his faithful work therein. During 1890 he was united in marriage with Miss Zena A. McClosley, member of a Santa Cruz family. Fraternal relations have brought him into membership in the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, and he had held official chairs in both branches of the Odd Fellows.



## WILLIAM H. VOLCK.

Since the modern era in the history of our commonwealth has witnessed a diminution of interest in mining and an increase of activity in horticulture, various new problems have been brought up for solution and numerous specialties have been created for the benefit of the industry so indissolubly identified with modern progress. Among these problems are those connected with the insect pests so fatally destructive to our orchards. During the early period of fruit culture in the Pajaro valley the locality seemed happily immune to pests and it was believed by many that the fogs and cool nights would prevent them from developing to any serious extent. Ultimately, however, the valley was called upon to solve the problems that had fallen to orchardists in all other parts of the state and during 1903 the Orchardist's Association urged the California State University to take up the study of the codling moth. The following year, by an arrangement between the association and the University, Mr. Volck was sent to Watsonville to take up entomological work. In 1906 the counties of Santa Cruz and Monterey authorized an appropriation sufficient to make the position permanent and since then Mr. Volck has acted as county entomologist. The wisdom of the act was proved by the solution of the problem connected with the codling moth, the most serious enemy of the apple and pear crop, and in solving this important question his labors were recognized as being of the greatest value.

The Native Sons of the Golden West number Mr. Volck among their members, Riverside having been his native city. His father, Stephen Volck, was born in Germany, but was brought to America at an early age by his parents. During the Civil war he enlisted in the Union army and was stationed at Washington as a member of the celebrated Lincoln

Guard. The close of the conflict brought him an honorable discharge and he thereupon turned his attention to civic affairs, settling in Pennsylvania, from which state he came to California during the year 1873. After he had settled in the west he married Miss Ella Hunter, member of an old family of Virginia, where she was born. Her death occurred in California and in the southern part of this state Mr. Volck still makes his home.

Born in Riverside September 24, 1879, W. H. Volck was reared principally in Long Beach and received advantages that were exceptionally good, even for the young men of this state. Being a diligent student, he availed himself to the utmost of the opportunities granted him. After his graduation from the Long Beach high school he matriculated in the University of California, where he made a specialty of the scientific study of insects. While all departments of zoology appealed to him as interesting and important, he was particularly impressed with the value of entomology by virtue of his connection with the fruit industry, and he therefore specialized in that branch. During 1902 he was assigned to his first field work. For a time he acted as assistant to the entomologist for the State University in the orange section. Later he enjoyed a varied experience in other parts of the state.

From the first it was evident that he possessed a peculiar adaptability for his selected task. Quick to comprehend, eager to learn, untiring in experiments, and logical in reasoning from cause to effect, he conducted his investigations with unwearied patience and sagacious judgment. His laboratory and office are located on Rodriguez street, Watsonville, while many of his experiments are made on the ranch of C. S. Rodgers. After certain methods have been given a thorough test and unvarying results have been se-

cured, he issues bulletins to the orchardists and gives them the benefit of the tested methods. The value of his work cannot be overestimated, for the pests if uncontrolled would in a brief period wipe out the present prosperity of our orchardists, which they have gained through energetic labors with a fertile soil and in a genial climate.

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### M. O. BOYLE.

The annals of Santa Cruz county record the name of M. O. Boyle as a pioneer of 1858, from which year until that of his demise (1890) he was intimately associated with building and business enterprises of local importance. Born in Ireland in 1805, he was a young man of twenty years when in 1825 he crossed the ocean in a sailing vessel and settled in Massachusetts. During youth he had learned the trade of a stonemason and had acquired singular proficiency in that line. It was not long until he was qualified to take contracts for stone work and he was thus occupied after settling in Worcester, Mass., where he had the contract to build the famous stone arches that are standing to this day. In addition he constructed the foundations for many of the large mills of that city. From his undertakings in the east he acquired wealth and influence, but being fond of travel and adventure, when he learned of the discovery of gold in California, he determined to make the long voyage to the Pacific coast. As early as 1849 he landed in San Francisco off a vessel from the Isthmus of Panama. Without any delay he went on to the mines of Tuolumne county and began to prospect for gold. Two years passed there busily and with some degree of success, but at the expiration of that period he was called back east by the death of his wife, who had remained in Worcester



with their children. After he had settled her estate he came back to California, accompanied by a part of the family, for whom he built a house in Tuolumne county. During the fall of the same year (1852) the other members of the family came to the west.

Leaving the mines in 1858 Mr. Boyle came to Santa Cruz county, of which he was a pioneer. At first he was engaged as inspector and receiver of the Major flouring mills, of Santa Cruz. After he had straightened out the financial affairs of the mill he began to engage in contracting, also farmed for a short time. During 1875 he erected the first cement reservoir on the brow of the hill on Logan Heights in Santa Cruz. The reservoir still stands, as substantial as when constructed. Besides this he superintended the building of the stone jail, which for many years stood as a landmark of pioneer times, but recently was torn down to be replaced by a modern structure. In different parts of Santa Cruz he owned valuable real estate, including one-third interest in the Colt property on the east side. A man of honesty and integrity, he enjoyed the esteem of his large circle of acquaintances and was accounted a citizen of worth. Frequently he was chosen foreman of the grand jury and in that responsible position he proved reliable, impartial and a logical reasoner. From the time of becoming an American citizen he upheld Democratic principles and it was always a matter of pride with him that he had the privilege of casting his ballot for John Tyler as the tenth president of the United States. Both by precept and by example he gave his influence to the cause of prohibition, and for years he maintained an active part in the workings of the Sons of Temperance and the Temple of Honor.

## WINFIELD SCOTT RODGERS.

The struggles and hardships incident to frontier existence formed the daily portion of the boyhood of Winfield S. Rodgers, a native Californian, born at Placerville, October 28, 1853. Around his memories of childhood there cluster thoughts of eager prospectors gathering from all parts of the world; recollections of the crudities and lawlessness of the mining camps, with their swarming thousands of excited miners; and serious, saddening reminiscences of a devoted mother, toiling all day and far into the night, in order that she might give proper care to her beloved family. The death of that dear mother, in the autumn of 1868, was the heaviest bereavement of his boyhood and cut asunder forever the ties that bound him the closest to the parental home. He was the youngest of fourteen children and had few of the advantages that come to the present generation. On the other hand, he was obliged to earn his own support while yet young. However, he was not wholly deprived of advantages, for the mother made every sacrifice in order that the sons and daughters might attend school. After the family moved to the Sacramento valley in 1858 he was sent to the public school at Walnut Grove and there secured a knowledge of the three R's. During 1866 the family removed to San Mateo county and settled at Lahonda, where the mother died.

When in his seventeenth year, in 1870 Mr. Rodgers came to Boulder Creek, Santa Cruz county, but later returned to the Sacramento valley and secured employment on a ranch. From there he went to San Mateo county in 1871 and during the summer months worked with the crew of a threshing machine. Returning to Boulder Creek in the fall of 1872, he became a resident of Santa Cruz county, where later he took

up a raw tract of land from the government. Patient devotion to the improvement of the land brought its ultimate reward in an increased valuation, which was further enhanced by the growth of the county, and he now has the satisfaction of owning a valuable tract of land. His marriage took place January 25, 1877, and united him with Miss Cleo E. Wood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Wood, of Boulder Creek. This estimable lady died January 17, 1889, leaving, besides her husband, seven children to mourn the demise of a devoted, sacrificing mother. The children are, named in the order of their birth, as follows: Elwin D., of Albuquerque, N. Mex.; Jesse, who died December 30, 1907; Myrtle, the wife of Charles Kreesmayer, of San Francisco; Seymour W., a resident of Santa Cruz; Dalton C., who died in the fall of 1889, at the age of four and a half years; Winfield S., Jr., of Boulder Creek; and Olin, who died in infancy. After the death of the mother of these children Mr. Rodgers was married again, April 18, 1892, to Miss Fannie E. Brimblecom, the daughter of Capt. Samuel E. and Sarah (Ware) Brimblecom, pioneers of Boulder Creek, locating here in 1869. In 1890 Mr. Rodgers moved from the ranch into town and has since made it his home. In 1897 he sold his ranch. In 1896 he and his brother, C. C. Rodgers, started the *Mountain Echo*, a newspaper which W. S. Rodgers has conducted to the present time.

During 1888 Mr. Rodgers was elected county supervisor by a large majority and filled the office for one term, meanwhile giving his support to such enterprises as he believed to be conducive to the general welfare. In April, 1905, he was appointed city recorder of Boulder Creek, an office which he has held continuously ever since. He is very actively identified with a number of fraternal organizations, being a member of Boulder Creek Lodge No. 152, I. O. O. F., in which



he has held all of the chairs; Santa Cruz Encampment, I. O. O. F., and Lodge No. 251, Rebekahs, of Idlewild Lodge; Court Wildwood No. 633, I. O. F., in which he has also held all of the chairs, besides serving as financial and recording secretary for many years; Boulder Creek Lodge No. 323, A. O. U. W., of which he has been financier since its organization in 1898; and Santa Cruz Parlor No. 90, N. S. G. W.

Personally Mr. Rodgers is a man of unostentatious demeanor, but beneath a quiet exterior is hidden a strong, forceful individuality and much force of character. Accommodating in his relations with neighbors, courteous to strangers, generous to the needy and helpful in community enterprises, he furnishes another example of the type of progressive ranchers who have promoted the development of Santa Cruz county. In religion he and his wife hold membership in the Unitarian Church of Santa Cruz.

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#### CHARLES SMITH.

A residence in the west extending over a period of many years has given Mr. Smith a broad knowledge of the resources of the region, as well as a patriotic and affectionate regard for our commonwealth. None have been more loyal to the welfare of California than those who have witnessed its growth, contributed to its progress and aided its development through a long period of activity. This in brief may be said to describe Mr. Smith's association with the state, which dates from the year 1860. A native of the east, he was born in Saratoga county, N. Y., March 20, 1839, and up to the time of attaining his majority his life was associated with the vicinity of his birth. A combination of circumstances conspired at this time, however, to change the whole course of

his life. The ill-health of a brother-in-law made his removal to a more salubrious climate than prevailed in the east necessary and Mr. Smith was selected to accompany him to California. Going direct to Santa Clara county, they were located in San Jose for some time, or until 1864, when Mr. Smith came to Watsonville for the second time, having been here in February, 1861, when he was held by rain for seven days. Later he returned to San Jose for a short time, but the fall of the year 1865 found him in Santa Cruz county once more and here he has been content to pass the remainder of his life.

What was known as the old Judge Peckham ranch near Watsonville was the scene of Mr. Smith's first undertaking in the west, making his home on the property for three years, and thereafter he had charge of the Bockius ranch for one year. The latter property was a large tract of choice land and was a fair representative of the large ranches that prevailed in that day, being held intact from one generation to another. Being favorably impressed with this section as a desirable place to live Mr. Smith prevailed upon Mr. Peckham to subdivide his property and at once purchased forty-two acres of it. This was the first of the ranches to be subdivided and was the beginning of a new era in the history of agriculture in the state. Mr. Smith then subdivided his ranch into small farms, selling one-half of the tract to his brother-in-law previously mentioned, and later selling ten acres of the remainder to Thomas Leon. After making his home on the remainder of the tract for twelve years he disposed of it, and coming to Watsonville, built a home for his family. With this city as his headquarters, he had charge of various farms in the vicinity until 1875, when he went to Hollister and bought a tract of one hundred and twelve acres, carrying this on for two years. Having contracted rheumatism, in the meantime, however, he had to give up the enterprise and after renting

his ranch to a tenant he returned to Watsonville. Three miles from town he purchased a ranch of eighty-six acres which he set out to fruit trees, this being the first orchard of any size in the valley at the time, 1878. Six years later he had a thriving orchard of twenty acres, the fruit from which he himself retailed from a cart, and five years later he sold the ranch and orchard in order to enlarge his business outlook. This he found in the Stony Ford ranch of five hundred and ninety-four acres, upon which in addition to carrying on general ranching he also set out an orchard of ten thousand trees. This is still his field of activity, although in the meantime, 1893, he moved upon the property which he now occupies, having erected thereon a fine residence suited to the needs of his family.

In the spring of 1866 Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Jane Wilcox, of Watsonville, and eight children, six sons and two daughters, have been born of their marriage. The eldest of the children, Charles F., lives on the home ranch with his wife and three children; Walter Scott, who also lives on the ranch, is married and has four children; Florence, unmarried, also makes her home on the ranch; Albert Eugene is a carpenter by trade and makes his home in Watsonville; Clarence Howard is an employe of the Ford store in the same place; Helen Grace is the wife of F. Rodgers of Watsonville; Harry Ellsworth is interested with his brothers in maintaining the home ranch, as is also the youngest of the family, Henry Augustus. Mr. Smith is proud in the possession of fourteen grand-children.

Watsonville can claim no more public-spirited citizen than she has in Charles Smith, who has watched her progress in years past and has lived to see many of his hopes in her behalf realized. He has not been an idle witness, however, but on the contrary has taken an active part in bringing about



present conditions. This is especially true of the sewer system, which was brought about during his term of service as trustee. He also served as trustee and clerk of the board of Railroad district school, served in the same capacity for four years in the Vega district, and was the moving spirit in having the latter district established. This is a thriving school district which maintains two schools and has seventy pupils in attendance. While living on the ranch in San Benito county he had good roads built to his ranch and on to Gilroy, giving land for that purpose through his ranch and working indefatigably to bring the matter before the board of supervisors. He has always been favorable to every movement for progression that has been brought forward in whatever locality he has made his home. Fraternally Mr. Smith is an Odd Fellow, holding membership in Watsonville Lodge No. 90, I. O. O. F.

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#### PETER J. THOMPSON.

Those who are familiar with the stock-raising industry in Santa Cruz county recognize the intimate association therewith of Peter J. Thompson, a native of the Pajaro valley and one of its most successful ranchers. Born in 1857, he was one of eleven children comprising the family of John Thompson, who for many years prior to his death engaged in farming and stock-raising and held a high rank among the valley's pioneer ranchers. A stanch believer in education, he gave liberally of time, influence and means to the establishment of the early schools of the county and impressed upon his children the necessity of study in order that they might be qualified for the responsibilities awaiting them in the world of activity. Other worthy movements besides those connected with the schools received his support. Especially

was he interested in the introduction into the valley of high-grade stock and by his own efforts in this direction he gave an impetus to the stock industry. His was the task of the pioneer, but it was also his privilege to enjoy the results of his labors and in his later days he was surrounded by the comforts rendered possible by assiduous application to farm pursuits.

After having completed the studies of the district schools Peter J. Thompson began to assist his father in the handling of stock and soon acquired a thorough knowledge of that department of agriculture. At the age of twenty-five years he left home to embark in ranching and stock-raising for himself and from the first he met with gratifying success. About 1886 he was united in marriage with the widow of P. J. Kelly and their union has been one of happiness and mutual helpfulness. Mr. Kelly, who had owned a ranch in the Pajaro valley, was a nephew of Eugene Kelly, member of the firm of Donohoe, Kelly & Co., bankers of San Francisco, New York City and Savannah, Ga. At his death he left to his widow a valuable ranch, the supervision of which fell to her personal care. Her father, Patrick McAllister, was a wealthy pioneer of the Pajaro valley and she had been reared in comfort, yet from childhood had been taught the inestimable advantage of habits of industry, self-reliance and intelligent application to an honorable occupation. In young girlhood she became the wife of Mr. Kelly, with whom she lived happily until his death in 1882, and four years later she married Mr. Thompson, the friend of her childhood days. Of her first marriage there were four daughters and two sons, and to them she gave the excellent educational advantages rendered possible by the financial standing of the family.

During young manhood Mr. Thompson gained a wide

reputation for his skill in the management of horses. The Mexican vaqueros could not surpass him in the unerring accuracy with which he threw the lariat and in all California probably no horseman was more expert and accomplished, and of later years he has built up a good business in high-grade cattle, having a reputation throughout the coast country as a successful stockman. The family homestead, situated three miles northeast of Watsonville, is surrounded by an immense acreage, a portion of which is rich valley land, unsurpassed by any soil in the entire state. The ranch begins in the center of the fertile plain at the base of the foothills and extends over the low spurs of the Santa Cruz mountains into the adjoining county of Santa Clara. Outside of the valley land that is well adapted to grain and fruit, there is a large tract of hill and bench land, affording pasturage for cattle and also to some extent utilized for the raising of grain. The finest breeds of cattle and horses may be found on the ranch. The building up of a herd unsurpassed for quality has been a matter of interest to Mr. Thompson, who has few superiors as a judge of live stock.

Concerning the family home we may appropriately quote from the Pacific Coast Commercial Record: "The family residence is one of the finest in the Pajaro valley. A number of evergreens, beautifully trimmed in various designs, are especially noticeable. The residence, also the several outbuildings in the background, are nicely painted in white. In its interior furnishings and adornment, the elegant structure is in full keeping with its external appearance, and readily betrays the taste and refinement of its fair mistress. From one of the several elevated points on the Thompson ranch a view is obtained of exceeding grandeur and beauty, and embracing in its scope a vast range of the surrounding country. On one side lies the charming valley of Pajaro,



dotted with orchards, farms and vineyards, with Watsonville and Pajaro near at hand, with Monterey and Santa Cruz and the water of the broad Pacific in the distance, and with the double line of willows which fringe 'the river' winding through the scene. In other directions are spread out the adjoining counties of Monterey, Santa Clara and San Benito, where the unaided eye of the observer may easily see the towns of Salinas, Gilroy and Hollister set like jewels in this masterpiece of Dame Nature's handiwork. This is indeed a scene of grandeur and beauty fit for the poetic pen of a Longfellow or for the brush of a Van Dyke."

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#### EDWARD WHITE.

Ever since the discovery of gold in California the White family has been identified with the history of the coast country, its founder on the shores of the Pacific having been Hon. William F. White, a pioneer of 1849 who had enjoyed no educational advantages, yet who was able to achieve more than ordinary success. A native of Ireland, he had immigrated to the United States with his parents in 1820 and had settled with them in the city of Binghamton, N. Y., later, however, removing to the south. During 1848, in Savannah, Ga., he was united in marriage with Miss Fannie J. Russell, a niece of Hon. Stephen M. Mallory, one of the most distinguished citizens of Florida during the Civil war era and a member of the cabinet of Jefferson Davis, holding the chair of secretary of the navy. The late United States Senator Mallory of Florida added lustre to the family name by his long and brilliant public career.

The young married couple determined to seek a home in the far west and during January of 1849 they left New York

for California as passengers on the clipper ship *South Carolina* that sailed around the Horn. There were three hundred passengers on the ship, Mrs. White being the only woman. The ship passed safely to the end of its cruise, entered the Golden Gate and cast anchor in the harbor of San Francisco, June 10, 1849. In a very short time Mr. White had become familiar with the cosmopolitan city of his adoption and had purchased a lot on the corner of Bush and Montgomery streets, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits with John A. McGlinn and D. J. Oliver as partners. The disastrous fires common to the early history of San Francisco destroyed his store building and merchandise on two different occasions and caused him to determine to locate elsewhere.

Under a partnership formed with Messrs. W. T. Sherman, E. D. Baker and Montgomery (the first two prominent attorneys and the last-named a member of the cabinet of Abraham Lincoln), William F. White acquired for \$40,000 an interest in the *Sal Si Puedes*, comprising thirty-two thousand acres in the Pajaro valley, and purchased from Don Manuel Jimenez. Moving to the large tract, he thereon erected, at a distance of five miles from Watsonville to the northeast, the first substantial house in the valley. The outside lumber was shipped from Maine and was of such high-grade quality that the building is even now in a fair state of preservation. One of the ranch-partners, Colonel Baker, was killed in the battle of Ball's Bluff. Mr. White retained his interest in the estate until 1889, when he sold out and moved to Oakland. In that city he died the following year. His widow survives and makes her home in San Francisco. Throughout his long identification with the history of California he maintained a warm interest in all movements for the upbuilding of the state. Intelligence and

broad-minded patriotism brought to him considerable prominence and the highest esteem of acquaintances. During 1880 he was a candidate for governor on the Workingman's ticket, his opponents being George C. Perkins and Hugh J. Glenn. Later he was appointed to the position of bank commissioner and in that capacity he continued for eight years. In addition he enjoyed the honor of serving as a delegate to the constitutional convention which drafted the last constitution of California. Other public honors came to him in the course of his long life and his labors for the people won the warmest praise of all classes of citizens.

In the family of William F. White there were eight children, two of whom were sons. One of these, Senator Stephen White, attained to national prominence. The other, Edward, while of a more retiring disposition and therefore less widely known, was none the less successful in his special sphere of labor. A native of San Francisco, he was born June 25, 1851, in a little house that stood on what is now the corner of Turk and Taylor streets. At the time this was the only house in a distance of two miles. As a boy he attended local schools and afterward became a student in Santa Clara College, where he completed his studies. From an early age he was interested in ranching and aided his father at home. When the time came to select an occupation his tastes led him to choose agriculture, but he has since specialized as an orchardist. The Calabasa ranch, which he purchased in 1884 and has since owned, lies about six miles from Watsonville and contains a very valuable orchard of fifty acres. In addition to the supervision of the ranch he is identified with the Orchard Realty Company, also has extensive lumber interests, was one of the original promoters of the Watsonville Oil Company and in many other ways has aided in the up-building of the locality.



The marriage of Edward White was solemnized July 1, 1889, and united him with Anna R. Royce, daughter of John Royce. They became the parents of eight children, namely; Edward, Ellen, Stephen, Lucille, Raymond (deceased), William, Mildred and James. Politically Mr. White always has been staunch in his adherence to Democratic principles and has supported with enthusiasm the men and measures advocated by the party. For four years he represented his locality as a member of the county board of supervisors. At this writing he holds office as trustee of the Agnew State Hospital at San Jose, which he had filled by appointment for sixteen years. The Knights of Columbus, of which he is state deputy, have enlisted his allegiance and secured his intelligent aid in influential capacities, and in addition he also has fraternal associations with the Native Sons of the Golden West.

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#### JACOB SCHWAN.

The passing of this California pioneer October 14, 1910, was the cause of general mourning in the locality which had been his home for so long a period. He was born at Hessian, Frankenburg, Germany, on the 22d of February, 1822, and received the excellent advantages offered by the schools of his native land. Upon leaving school he served an apprenticeship to the trade of a baker and afterward worked as a journeyman. The military service obligatory in Germany was displeasing to him and to avoid the same he determined to emigrate to America, but this he could not do without first resigning all claim to any property in his possession. Hence he had nothing whatever to bring with him when he crossed the ocean in 1848, but he was hopeful, brave and strong, and the lack of capital did not daunt him. Immediately after his

arrival in New York City he secured employment in a bakery. Soon he formed the acquaintance of Miss Elizabeth Trust, who had come to America in 1846 from the same district in Germany as himself. Their marriage was solemnized in 1849 and they began housekeeping in the eastern metropolis.

During the year 1853 Mr. Schwan and his wife took passage on the ship *Helen*, under Captain Langdon, bound for San Francisco with twenty-two passengers and fifteen hundred barrels of flour. Before starting from New York on the long voyage one of the men passengers asked the captain what kind of food would be served on board ship. His reply was, "The same as you get at home, turkey every day." The man taking the answer in earnest, asked (after they had been out a few days) where the turkey was, but the captain answered, "You can't expect turkey every day." With the exception of a stop of four days in Valparaiso the ship made few pauses on the voyage. On the way up the Pacific ocean a small schooner was seen with the signal of distress floating. A leak had sprung and the danger was great. The large ship took the crew on board their vessel and then the schooner was set on fire by the captain, in order that it might not become a derelict and an obstruction to navigation.

San Francisco was reached after a tedious voyage of six months. In subsequent years Mr. and Mrs. Schwan often mentioned the excitement of the morning when the ship sailed into the Golden Gate and the passengers watched the sun rise over the hills of the land where they anticipated happiness and prosperity awaited them. Of the hopes that filled the hearts of the emigrants, many were doomed to disappointment, but it may be said for Mr. and Mrs. Schwan that the years brought them all that they dared to hope for. Health and usefulness were their portion; friends and a competency rewarded their energetic, honorable labors. They found San Francisco a

city of tents and crude buildings. The residential section was limited to Telegraph Hill. They built a house on what is now the corner of Post and Taylor streets, and Mr. Schwan also built and operated a bakery. During 1860 they drove down over the mountains to Santa Cruz, paying toll on many of the roads. The trip was made in their bakery wagon, a substantial affair that remains in this section to this day, although its period of usefulness is over.

Shortly after his arrival in Santa Cruz county Mr. Schwan took up from the government one hundred acres near Santa Cruz at what is now known as Twin Lakes (he being the founder of this community). In 1862 he built a house, which still stands in excellent condition. From this place he moved to the home in which his last years were passed, on the banks of Schwan lake. The land cost him originally \$1.25 an acre, but, while land was low, commodities were high. When he arrived at San Francisco he found that potatoes were selling at eighteen cents a pound, eggs were \$3 per dozen, six loaves of bread were \$1 and apples were \$1 each. As an increased number of people became interested in gardening and farming prices were lowered, but he was able to command fair prices during the greater part of his active career as a farmer.

In November of 1909 Mr. and Mrs. Schwan celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage. All of their children had died at an early age, but on the anniversary their adopted daughter, Mrs. William Hance, of Berkeley, with her family, was with them, and many relatives and friends came to offer congratulations and warmest wishes for future happiness. Many changes had been wrought in the locality between the time of their settlement here and their sixtieth anniversary. Twin Lakes, midway between Santa Cruz and Capitola, had become prominent as the site of the summer conventions of



the Baptists, Mr. Schwan having donated a large acreage for that purpose, as well as the right-of-way for the street railroad to Capitola. Extensive improvements followed in quick succession and what was formerly farming and grazing land was converted into a thriving settlement. It was the privilege of Mr. and Mrs. Swan to celebrate their golden wedding, but the sixtieth anniversary was even more important and appreciated. The house was appropriately decorated, and in the center of the dining room was a large bridal cake, with the inscription, "1849-1909," the gift of Elias Trust, a cousin. Telegrams of congratulations were received from several unable to attend, but with few exceptions the invited guests responded personally. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. H. E. Milnes, assisted by Rev. H. K. Hamilton, and the bride and groom were attended by their nephews and nieces. Their health was toasted appropriately after the dinner had been served, and the guests departed, after having bestowed upon them congratulations merited by an occasion so unusual, interesting and important. During his long residence here Mr. Schwan was prominent in the work of the Methodist Episcopal church and labored unweariedly in the cause of Christianity, counting no effort too great that would upbuild the kingdom of the Lord on the earth. Mrs. Schwan is still actively interested in the various organizations of this church. The work that she and her husband accomplished should be an inspiration to young people starting out in life, with a future of great usefulness possible to them. Invariably they put public interest before private gain and labored for the spiritual and moral upbuilding of the many rather than for their own material advancement. Mr. Schwan died October 14, 1910, at his home in Twin Lakes, and was buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery at Santa Cruz.

## L. J. DAKE.

An intimate identification with occupations of various kinds during different periods of his long residence in California has given to Mr. Dake a knowledge of the resources and possibilities of the state and has made of him an ardent champion of the golden west. Like the majority of the men who have come from eastern homes to earn a livelihood on the coast, he possesses an enthusiastic faith in the future of this region. This future, from his standpoint of vision, is not limited to agriculture, but covers the domain of commerce, facilities for which will be greatly enhanced with the development of the west and with the shipment of our products in an ever-increasing amount to supply the crowded countries of the Orient. The completion of the Panama canal will also open another avenue of commercial activity, so that the future lies bright before our sunny land.

Mr. Dake was born in New York City March 24, 1858, and is a son of Moses and Eliza J. Dake, both natives of New York. At an early age he accompanied the family to Chicago and there attended the public schools, later becoming a student in the schools of Milwaukee. On the completion of his education he began to earn his own livelihood. During 1879 he came to California and settled in Santa Cruz, where since he has been associated with sundry occupations. For a time he studied surveying. Later he worked as a bookkeeper in a flour mill. With W. Gardner as a partner, he conducted a flour, feed and provision store, under the firm title of Gardner & Dake. Upon selling his interest in the store he went to Tulare county and established a sheep business, but two years later he abandoned the industry and returned to Santa Cruz, where he acted as deputy in the office of the county recorder. For a period of twelve years he acted as court re-

porter in the superior court under Judge Logan and Judge McCann. During almost this entire period he also served as chairman of the Republican county central committee and took a prominent part in local politics.

After a comparatively brief experience as a proprietor of the California market on Pacific avenue, an enterprise in which he had as a partner George A. Chittenden, during the year 1897 Mr. Dake became interested in the abstract business with H. E. Makinney as a partner, the firm title being Makinney & Dake. The junior partner proved of the greatest assistance to the older member of the firm by his accuracy in the searching of records. Much of the detail work was placed in his hands and in all of the important tasks committed to his care his accuracy was never questioned. Upon the death of Mr. Makinney in October, 1910, he purchased his interest and is now carrying on the business under name of L. J. Dake. Personally Mr. Dake possesses a genial disposition, is companionable and entertaining, and has a host of friends in business circles, as well as in the organizations of which he is an influential member, including the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (lodge and encampment), the Masons, Foresters and Ancient Order of United Workmen. His marriage united him with Miss Clara I. Chittenden, a native daughter of California and a lady of education and culture. They are the parents of two sons. The elder, Clarence G., is employed in his father's office. The younger son, Irving, is a student in the Santa Cruz schools.



## JOHN H. SINKINSON.

The gratifying degree of success that has attended the persevering efforts of Mr. Sinkinson shows what may be accomplished by patient industry, honorable dealings and unwearied application to such duties as the day may bring. When he came to the United States he had no moneyed capital, but he possessed a sturdy constitution, willing hands and true moral principles, and with these as a foundation he has laid the superstructure of personal success. While wealth has not come to him, he has attained a fair competence and in the afternoon of life's busy day he is surrounded by all the comforts that enhance the pleasures of existence. During the long period of his residence in Santa Cruz he has risen to a position of influence among the business men and also has been most helpful in religious work, his labors in that line having been associated with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is an earnest, sincere and liberal member.

The early years in the life of John H. Sinkinson were passed uneventfully in the north of England, where he was born April 7, 1847, and where he received a common-school education. When a mere boy the necessity of self-support led him to take up the trade of wood-turning and he served an apprenticeship under a master who impressed upon him the importance of careful, painstaking application to the trade. In this way he received thorough preparation for life's responsibilities and when he immigrated to the United States in 1870 he was fitted for efficient labor in his special line. Settling in New Jersey, he secured employment in the factory of the O. N. T. Cotton Co., and continued in the same place for three years, his work being the turning of spools. Next he went to Ithaca, N. Y., and worked at his trade of a wood-turner. At the expiration of two years he returned to the

employ of the O. N. T. Cotton Co., but remained a short time only, having decided to migrate to the west. On the 4th of July, 1876, he arrived in Santa Cruz and since then he has made California his home.

Business men of Santa Cruz of the present generation have a vivid recollection of their boyhood days thirty years ago and of the delight they found in playing with Sinkinson's tops as well as the other toys manufactured by the same friend of the children. Having no capital, Mr. Sinkinson was forced to begin in a very small way and he rented a corner of the Grover planing mill. This was transformed into a shop, where he engaged in the manufacture of toys, tops, feather dusters, etc. The utmost economy was necessary. Patient toil ultimately brought its merited reward. Eventually he had accumulated some capital and was able to embark in the planing-mill business. At this writing he owns the largest plant of the kind in Santa Cruz and engages in the manufacture of boxes, doors, sash, shingles, etc., and also saws lumber direct from the logs. The steady improvement in his financial condition shows what may be accomplished by perseverance, close attention to business and honest, straightforward dealings.

The marriage of Mr. Sinkinson united him with Miss Sarah Lynam, a native of England. They are the parents of the following-named children: John W., who was born in Newark, N. J.; Thirza A., now Mrs. Webb, who was born in San Francisco; Edward J., born in Soquel, Santa Cruz county; Eva, now Mrs. L. Rittenhouse, born in San Francisco; Frederick A. and Ernest J., natives of Santa Cruz. The family are prominent in social circles of Santa Cruz and maintain a warm interest in the work of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which, as previously stated, Mr. Sinkinson has been a leading worker for a long period of years.



## CHARLES OSCAR SILLIMAN.

The thirty-five years covering the period of Mr. Silliman's residence in California represented an era of great activity on his part, resulting in the accumulation of property interests, as well as in the attainment of an honored position as an upright man, generous friend, accommodating neighbor and sagacious citizen. The welfare and progress of his adopted home were ever near to his heart, and the climate of the coast country he always held to be unrivalled.

A native of Ohio, Charles O. Silliman was born in Zanesville on the last day of the year 1818, and his boyhood recollections were replete with experiences common to a locality as yet on the frontier of civilization. Needless to say the time and place were not propitious for gaining an education, but nevertheless he applied himself diligently to self instruction at home, and in this way and by observation and contact with others of more experience and knowledge he became a well-informed and useful citizen. During young manhood he left the home of his youth and sought an opening further west, going to Missouri, where he made his home for many years. His first experience was in Rocheport, that state, but later he located in Warrensburg, where he built up a successful legal practice. The attractions of larger prospects in the west brought him to California in 1865, when he came to the Pajaro valley, in Santa Cruz county, and purchased the property on which the remainder of his life was passed. This consisted of two hundred and fifty acres of land formerly owned by Thomas Hildreth and since the death of the father has been under the management of his sons. When Mr. Silliman first located on the land it was without improvements of any kind, so all that the property now is, is due to the united efforts of father and sons in years past and since the death of



the father the reputation of the place as one of the high-class ranches of the county has been maintained through the efforts of the sons. A specialty is made of the raising of apples, fifty acres being devoted to orchard (which is now owned by Charles O.), while the remainder of the land is given over to general farming.

While living in Rocheport, Mo., Mr. Silliman formed domestic ties by his marriage in 1849, with Miss Phoebe A. Trafton, a native of Canada. After a happy married life of over fifty years the unity of the family was broken by the death of Mr. Silliman May 5, 1900, and two years later, August 20, 1902, occurred the death of his wife. Seven children were left to mourn their loss, all of whom with one exception still live on the old family homestead. Named in the order of their birth they are as follows: Wyllys A., a resident of Pacific Grove; Charles O., Jr.; Deborah I.; Mary E., the wife of Z. M. Edrington; Jessie L.; George Francis; and Walter T.

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#### A. E. JOY.

As a member of the Watsonville Globe Real Estate Company A. E. Joy is exercising a strong and marked influence on the business affairs of this city, where he has made his home since 1893. A native son of the state, he was born in Yuba county April 19, 1864, the son of parents who came to the state during its early history. Alfred Joy was a native of Waterville, Me., while his wife, in maidenhood Mary A. Wood, was born and reared in Palmyra, N. Y. Both left the east and located in California in the same year, 1853, Mr. Joy making the journey alone, while Miss Wood came across the plains with her brother. The mining opportunities in Placer county had been the object of Mr. Joy's journey to the

west, and from the fact that he continued operations there for fifteen years it is safe to conclude that his efforts were at least fairly successful. Removing from there to Ventura county, he began raising flax, an undertaking which was well chosen, for it proved a success from the start, and in connection he also raised cattle extensively, both industries proving successful above the average and ranking him among the most flourishing ranchers in that section of country. In the town of Ventura, where he had lived retired for fifteen years, he passed away March 21, 1908, at the age of seventy-four years. Politically he was a stanch supporter of Republican principles, although he never sought nor cared to occupy public office. The wife and mother passed away July 31, 1910, at the home of her son, E. J. Beekman, at Sespe, Ventura county, when she was seventy-nine years of age.

The parental family originally included nine children, but of this number only three are now living, as follows: A. E.; Arthur W., of San Jose; and Jesse, of Laurel, Mont. Soon after the birth of A. E. Joy his parents removed to Ventura county, and it is with that locality that his boyhood experiences are associated. Up to the age of seventeen years he was a pupil in the schools of Ventura, after which he entered upon an apprenticeship to learn the carriage-maker's trade, completing it three years later, and thereafter he followed the business for five years. Giving up the business at the end of that time, he became interested in the insurance and real-estate business at Ventura, an undertaking which was more in keeping with his taste and one which he followed with increasing success until 1893. His identification with Watsonville dates from the latter year, and it was during the same year that he inaugurated his present business, carrying it on alone until 1900, when, on October 31, he formed a partnership with David F. Maher, and the association then formed

has continued to the present time. In October, 1908, however, the business was incorporated under the name of the Watsonville Globe Real Estate Company, with a paid-up capital stock of \$25,000, Mr. Maher acting as attorney for the company. The business transacted by the company is not limited to Watsonville or even to the county, but extends to all parts of the state, including transactions in real estate, and the placing of insurance and loans. As an indication of the discriminating care which has always been a prominent feature of the company it may be said that during the seventeen years of its experience as money lenders not one cent has been lost. A rule of the office made years ago has never been deviated from throughout its history, in that, during business hours, the doors of the office have never been closed, this in itself proving the officers to be men of alert business acumen.

In Ventura, Cal., October 20, 1885, Mr. Joy was united in marriage with Miss Maggie E. Grainger, a native of Warrensburg, Mo., and five children have come to brighten their fireside, Florence A., Myrtle E., Richard A., Elmer R. and Clifford. Fraternally Mr. Joy is identified with the Odd Fellows, and politically he is a believer in Republican principles. It has been Mr. Joy's privilege to travel extensively throughout the United States and Canada, but he has found no place more congenial than his home in the west, to which he has always returned, contented with his lot.



## JAMES INGHAM.

For many years closely identified with business enterprises in Watsonville, Mr. Ingham made his home in this city from his arrival in 1871 until his death in 1895. Born in England in August of 1829, a son of James Ingham, he traced his lineage to a long line of Anglo-Saxon ancestry and belonged to a family honorably associated with the material development of Great Britain. When less than a year old he was taken by his parents from the old English home across the Atlantic to the new world. It was while the family were on board ship that he learned to walk. In the prosperous city of Rochester, N. Y., the family found a home and work and friends, and there he received fair advantages in the public schools, later taking up the trade of a wagon-maker and wood-worker, in which he acquired remarkable proficiency. From Rochester he came to California during 1851 and settled in Sacramento, securing employment at his trade. Later he was similarly occupied in Marysville. His next place of employment was in San Jose, where he remained for ten years. From that city he came to Watsonville in 1871 and here he secured work as a blacksmith and wagon-maker. A few years later he embarked in business on his own account.

The manufacture of spring wagons was a specialty of Mr. Ingham. The line that he made was particularly suited to the requirements of ranchers of this section and proved far more satisfactory than wagons of eastern manufacture, made for eastern roads. A large business was done in the repair of wagons and agricultural implements. From four to six skilled mechanics were employed, two of these being farriers, competent to sustain the reputation of the shop for satisfactory horse-shoeing. Two years after starting his wagon shop Mr. Ingham added a warehouse for agricultural im-

plements, selecting for this purpose a building, 28x100 feet, on Main street, directly opposite his blacksmithing and wagon shop. In the warehouse he kept wagons, buggies and agricultural implements, suited to the needs of the locality. He had the exclusive agency for the Oliver plows, the Studebaker wagons and the harvesting machinery of the D. M. Osborne Manufacturing Company, of Auburn, N. Y., at that time one of the principal concerns in the country.

As the Democratic nominee in the election of 1883 Mr. Ingham was chosen for the office of town councilman. The following term he was again elected. The next election found him again chosen for the office and at the time of his death he was serving as president of the village. Movements for the benefit of town and county received his active co-operation and substantial assistance. A progressive spirit characterized his citizenship. Though genial, friendly and accommodating, he was nevertheless so modest in the recognition of his own abilities that he failed to give due credit to his own personal labors in the upbuilding of the community. It was his disposition to minimize the results of his activities and emphasize the patriotic labors of other citizens. Fraternally he was from youth an ardent disciple of Masonry and its teachings of philanthropy won his loyal support. While still living in Rochester he rose to the degree of Knight Templar. After coming west he was a charter member of San Jose Commandery No. 10, K. T., also of Watsonville Commandery No. 22, K. T., and at the time of his demise he was identified with the organization last-named as eminent commander.

During young manhood Mr. Ingham was married, but shortly afterward he lost his wife. His second marriage occurred four years later. March 2, 1872, in Watsonville, he was united with Miss Inez Snow, a lady of excellent educa-

tion and noble character, and a member of one of the honored pioneer families of our state. She was born in Franklin, Mass., being a daughter of Cyrus and Victoria M. (Scott) Snow, who came to California in 1860. The father died in Santa Cruz in 1884 and the mother is now making her home with Mrs. Ingham in Watsonville, occupying a beautiful residence at No. 517 Main street, and surrounded by every comfort that enhances the pleasure of existence. It is worthy of note that Mrs. Ingham's homestead has been in the family for more than fifty years and was purchased direct from the old Spanish owners. Mrs. Ingham has only one child, a daughter, Elsie, who married Howard Smith of Watsonville and has one son, Lowell Ingham Smith. Hiram Scott, a brother of Mrs. Snow, came to California at the time of the gold excitement in 1849. Two of his sisters joined him here the following year. One of them, Caroline, became the wife of Lucius Sanborn, for years one of the leading citizens and successful merchants of Watsonville. The other, Sarah, became the wife of Thomas Cooper, who also conducted a store in this city. Somewhat later the elder Scott joined his children in California and continued to reside here until his death.

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#### T. D. ALEXANDER.

The life of Mr. Alexander has been filled with successful undertakings, and his practical retirement from active participation in business is the sequel to duties well performed, meriting the reward of a peaceful and harmonious existence such as can be found at its best in central California. He was born in Washington county, Mo., April 2, 1827, the son of John P. Alexander. The records show that the Alexander family is of Scotch origin and became identified with



this country during the early years of its history. For many years members of the family had contributed to the citizenship of the south, and from Raleigh, N. C., where he had been reared and educated, John P. Alexander removed to St. Louis, Mo., in 1805, when it was a small village of about six hundred souls. He was then a young man of twenty years, full of life and enthusiasm, and the history of the young town in which he settled is in part the record of his own life and accomplishments. He lived to see many of his hopes realized for the upbuilding of his home town, and as was fitting, he passed away in the midst of scenes familiar to him during the most useful years of his long life.

No less energetic and useful to the upbuilding of Watsonville, Cal., is T. D. Alexander, who though now retired from active participation in business affairs, is still as keenly alive to the interests of his home town as in the early days of his residence here. He clearly recalls the organization of the first fire company in Watsonville, which was then a bucket brigade, and as a member of the company he as readily recalls the difficulties under which he and his comrades labored and notes a marked contrast between those days and methods now used in fire-fighting. Mr. Alexander was a young man of about twenty-five years when he settled in California in 1853, having been variously engaged in Missouri prior to that time. An elder brother, W. T. Alexander, had made two trips to California previous to this for the purpose of bringing cattle to the west, and on his journey to the west T. D. also brought a band of cattle across the plains. The party with which he came consisted of fifteen men, who left St. Joseph, Mo., in the latter part of March, 1853, and reached Volcano, Amador county, August 24. In that locality he engaged in the cattle and butchering business until the fall of 1854, when, though still retaining his interest in the ranch

and cattle business, he tried his luck as a miner. It is safe to presume that his mining experiences were not of the most alluring order, for it is known that in the following year, 1855, he took a renewed interest in the cattle business. It was in that year that he went to Los Angeles, making that his headquarters while purchasing cattle throughout Southern California, which he later drove north and fattened for the market. Altogether he followed this business for about three years, during which time he brought north about six hundred head of cattle. Though he found the life of the cattleman an interesting one it was at the same time a strenuous one, and on one of his trips he stopped for a much needed rest at Watsonville, where two of his sisters were living. The immediate effect of this visit was renewed strength, and so pleased was he with the locality that it later became his permanent home.

Upon taking up his residence in Watsonville Mr. Alexander readily saw a business opportunity in the erection of a hotel in the thriving town and the Pacific Exchange was the practical development of this idea. This famous hostelry was erected on the present site of the Mansion house, and many old settlers are still living who can recall the hospitality and good cheer dispensed at this wayside inn, which was no less famous than was its genial host, T. D. Alexander. Besides the management of his hotel, Mr. Alexander also engaged in mining to some extent, and still later became interested in the real-estate business. As a development of the latter business he was entrusted with the handling of a number of large estates, among which may be mentioned in particular the Atherton and Spring estates. A keen foresight and accurate knowledge of real-estate values made his

undertakings a success, and it is conservatively estimated that he bought and sold more property in the valley than any other man in his line of business.

Mr. Alexander's marriage in 1857 united him with Catherine Curley, who at her death September 21, 1906, left two children, W. P., a resident of Seattle, Wash., and Josephine, the latter residing with her father in Watsonville. Since taking up his residence in Watsonville many years ago no measure for the upbuilding of the town has failed to receive the hearty support of Mr. Alexander, who is generally recognized as one of the town's most active and interested citizens. Fraternally he is identified with but one order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

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#### JAMES BEECHLER, M. D.

The talents possessed by Dr. Beechler are signally diverse, yet happily and harmoniously blended to form a character well rounded in those attributes that bring material success. The startling contrasts of his native endowments are indicated by the statement that he is a poet, the author of many beautiful verses; further, that in youth he was a noted local wrestler and fighter, and after he entered the Civil war he came to be known as "Fighting Jim" Beechler. With the dreamy nature of the poet and the sturdy robustness of the fighter, he combined the qualities that have brought him prominence and success in the practice of medicine. So great has been his success in the treatment of asthma that during the past four years he has treated more than one thousand persons at the institution he has founded, Beechler's White Cross Sanitarium.

The native place of Dr. Beechler is Bryan, Williams county,



Ohio, and 1840 the year of his birth. From early boyhood his studies were directed with the medical profession as the end in view. For a time he attended Bennett Medical College at Chicago, Ill., and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and in 1871 he was graduated from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania. Thereafter he practiced his profession in Chicago and later in New York City, also for a year held the chair of anatomy in Bennett Medical College and for a short time was an instructor in the University of Pennsylvania. Meanwhile he had achieved prominence through his service in the Civil war, having enlisted in 1862 as first lieutenant of Company H, in the Ninth Ohio Cavalry. At first he made a specialty of recruiting soldiers for the volunteer service. Later he was ordered to report to General Boyle at Louisville, Ky., and afterward he gallantly served his country on the Mississippi and Cumberland rivers. To him was given the command of gunboat Liberty No. 1, which took all of the forts on the river and was the only boat out of seven to get through the lines without capture. While serving as adjutant-general on the staff of General Walker he was wounded so seriously that he was taken to the hospital to die, but a strong constitution and careful nursing enabled him to recover.

After a brave participation in the famous seven-days' fight from Nashville to Murfreesboro, Dr. Beechler received an ovation from Generals Thomas and Walker for his gallant service. He was the only commanding officer who survived the battle with the gunboats on the river, where he had thirty-six transports under his charge. Among the famous battles in which he took part were Forts Henry and Donelson (2d). Later he saw service in the west with the Indians and under General Miles he held the rank of surgeon in the United States army. During his service in the army he gave

his time and energy to his country, free of charge. Prior to his first army service he was married in 1860 to Miss Jeanie Fairfield, a native of Ohio, who was reared and educated in the city of Bryan.

Coming to California in 1895, Dr. Beechler entered upon professional practice. During 1901 he came to Santa Cruz county and settled at Soquel, where he opened a sanitarium on the hill overlooking the village. Later he added to and improved the property and now owns one of the best-appointed places of the kind in the state. Modern appliances have been introduced. The equipment includes electric lights on the ground, the roof and the piazza, as well as in all the rooms. A beautiful white cross of lights appears on the front of the house and can be seen at night for miles in every direction. This gives to the sanitarium the name by which it is known throughout the state. Sun verandas are provided for patients. Fine baths have been installed with a modern system of plumbing. The operating room also is thoroughly equipped with modern appliances. Mrs. Georgia Henderson, the head nurse, who has filled the position since 1905, is a graduate trained nurse and much of the success of the institution is due to her intelligent oversight.

While many diseases have been treated successfully by Dr. Beechler (rheumatism, appendicitis, gangrene, male and female diseases and cancer) he makes a specialty of asthma. For years he suffered with the latter disease and vainly tried all known remedies. Finally he discovered a remedy which cured himself and has cured many others. For the secret of this cure he has been offered \$100,000. Out of one hundred patients treated, he has cured ninety-five, and once cured, the disease never returns.

Asthma he discovered to be a yeast plant of fungus growth in the stomach and this is cut loose by medicines, being

thrown out entirely by an emetic. Some patients recover at once, but others, in more serious state, recover more slowly. As previously stated, almost all that are treated recover, and these form the most enthusiastic advertisers of the sanitarium, their unsolicited testimonials being the cause of the coming of other sufferers, until at times the rooms are filled and the treatment of additional patients necessarily must be postponed. By the alleviating of disease and the curing of chronic sufferers, the doctor is proving himself to be a true philanthropist, while at the same time he is reaping the financial reward merited by his arduous application to the work.

The following poem from the pen of Dr. Beechler has received favorable notice from many critics, among them John Uri Lloyd, president of Lloyd's library and museum at Cincinnati, Ohio.

#### OUR MYSTERIES.

We know not what it is, dear, this sleep so deep and still;  
The folded hands, the awful calm, the cheeks so pale and chill;  
The lids that will not lift again, though we may call and call;  
The strange white solitude of peace that settles over all.

We know not what it means, dear, this desolate heart pain,  
This dread to take our daily way and walk in it again.  
We know not to what other sphere the loved who leave us go,  
Nor why we're left to wonder still, nor why we do not know.

But this we know: our loved and dead, if they should come  
this day—  
Should come and ask us what of life—not one of us could say.  
Life is a mystery, as deep as ever death can be;  
Yet, oh, how dear it is to know—this life we live and see.



'Then might they say, these vanquished, and blessed is the  
thought,  
So death is sweet to us, beloved, though we may show you  
naught;  
We may not to the quick reveal the mystery of death;  
Ye cannot tell us if ye would the mystery of death.

The child who enters life comes not with knowledge or intent;  
So those who enter death must go as little children sent.  
Nothing is known; but I believe that God is overhead.  
And is life to the living, so death is to the dead.

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#### LAWRENCE P. HELMER.

Experiences giving him an insight into conditions in various parts of the world were culminated by the arrival of Mr. Helmer in California, where he has made his home since 1867 and where for years he was interested in a ranching enterprise. Born in Schleswig, Germany, in 1843, he was apprenticed to the trade of blacksmith at the time of leaving school and at the close of his term he worked as a journeyman in Schleswig. The daily round of duties thus imposed upon him did not prove congenial to the youth of stirring impulses and at the age of twenty-two he set sail for the United States and landed at the harbor of New York. He did not remain long in the east, but soon located in Chicago, and was interested there and in the middle west for about one year. The far west, however, appealed to him more strongly, and hither he came at the end of this time, coming directly to Watsonville, Cal., in 1867.

Mr. Helmer's knowledge of the blacksmith's trade stood him in good stead and as soon as he came to Watsonville he sought

out a suitable location in which to establish himself in business. This he found in 1870, on the spot where the town hall is now located, and there he continued in business uninterruptedly until forced out by a disastrous fire. Following this he went to Freedom and established himself in the same business, but gave it up after a few years and turned his attention to agriculture. Directly north of town he bought a ranch of ninety acres in the Alvarado tract, well adapted to general farming, which he conducted with success for many years or until 1901, when he subdivided the ranch and sold it off in small parcels. Since then he has lived retired from active business, making his home in Watsonville, where he owns valuable real estate. Besides the present beautiful residence occupied by the family Mr. Helmer has erected and occupied six different houses on his property from time to time, one giving place to another until in his present home may be found all that is modern and up-to-date both in architecture and conveniences.

A marriage ceremony performed in Watsonville in 1871 united the lives of L. P. Helmer and Anna Jensen, the latter a resident of this city at the time of her marriage. Four children, equally divided as to sons and daughters, have been born into their household, and all have grown to maturity and are taking their place in the world's activities. Named in the order of their birth they are as follows: Peter; George; Anna, the wife of L. Cleveland, of Watsonville; and Elita, the wife of Charles Thume, of Pleasanton, Cal. In whatever locality circumstance has placed him Mr. Helmer has taken an interesting part in its activities. Fraternally he is a member of the Odd Fellows order, holding membership in Pajaro Lodge No. 90, in which he has acted in the capacity of trustee for twenty-two years.

## JOSEPH F. ASTON.

Though not a native of California, Mr. Aston has been a resident of the state ever since he was six years old and is thoroughly in touch with the progressive element of Watsonville and the Pajaro valley. He was born in New York City July 6, 1858, the son of Franklin and Maria (Mannion) Aston, natives respectively of Baltimore, Md., and Ireland. They had made their home in the east for some time when, in 1864, they decided to come to the west and grow up with the new country. The voyage was made by way of Panama, landing them at San Francisco, where they settled and made their home for a number of years, or until April, 1872, when they came to the Pajaro valley and located in Watsonville. Here Mr. Aston opened a furniture establishment to which he later added undertaking, a combined business which he carried on very successfully for a number of years. His popularity among his fellow-citizens and his fitness for office led to his election as county assessor in the early '80s, a position which he filled acceptably for one term. His death occurred in August, 1894, at the age of sixty-two, while his wife survived until 1899, her death occurring in April of that year. Seven children were included in the parental family, all of whom, five daughters and two sons, are living.

As has been stated, Joseph F. Aston was a lad of six years when removal was made to the west, and in the public schools of San Francisco and Watsonville he received his education. Even before his school days were over he began to make himself useful in his father's store, and at the time the latter was occupied with his public duties as county assessor the management of the business fell almost exclusively upon the shoulders of the son. At the time he was only twenty-three years of age, but he proved his capability and the experience



which he then gained he has been able to put to good account in later years. In 1884, after his father resumed charge of the business, he went to San Francisco, from there to Tulare and Los Angeles, remaining altogether about four years, when he returned to Watsonville and opened an office as architect and builder. During the eleven years in which he followed this business he erected a number of substantial buildings in Watsonville and vicinity. It was in April, 1899, that Mr. Aston purchased a half interest in the business with which his name has since been associated with Mr. Wycoff, under the name of Wycoff & Aston, the leading undertakers of Watsonville.

Mr. Aston's marriage, December 18, 1882, united him with Miss Mary Ellen Welch, a native of Watsonville, and the daughter of Richard R. Welch, an old-time resident and pioneer of Santa Cruz county. Fraternally Mr. Aston is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Knights of Columbus, Eagles, and Foresters of America, and though interested in political affairs, has no ambition to fill public office, preferring to conserve his energies for his business efforts.

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#### WILLIAM F. HORSTMAN.

So pronounced has been the success attendant upon the persistent, arduous and long-continued labors of Mr. Horstman in the occupation of a vineyardist and fruit-rancher, that his name has become well known far beyond the confines of his home county of Santa Cruz and the reputation of his product extends into other states of the Union. The Table Mountain ranch on Two-Bar creek (formerly known as the John L. Rose tract) has been developed from a raw area of wild, mountainous country, into a rich, productive and attractive fruit

farm, whose rich soil, with the aid of the warm sun and the genial breezes, responds to cultivation with an ardor and promptness amazing to men familiar with locations less fortunately situated. The contrast between the original appearance of the tract and its present cultivated condition proves the persistence with which the owner has labored through all the years of his residence here, and the productiveness of the land may be attributed to his wise judgment in selecting for cultivation only such fruits and such varieties of grapes as are especially adapted to the soil and climate.

William F. Horstman was born in St. Louis, Mo., May 30, 1863, and at an early age accompanied other members of the family to Kansas, settling in Manhattan, whose excellent schools furnished him with desirable educational advantages. Upon coming to California he settled in Santa Cruz county, where ever since he has made his home. In those days mountain land was deemed undesirable and could be obtained at low prices, large tracts being still subject to the homestead laws. Going to the mountains near Boulder Creek, he took up two hundred and eighty acres of wild land and started to transform the property into a productive acreage. As a result of his unceasing labors he now has a vineyard of forty acres, which yields annually twenty thousand gallons of fine wine, representing an output of eighty tons of grapes. The vines originally were imported by Mr. Horstman, who will plant none but the very choicest qualities. While he has a variety of mixed fruits on the ranch, he makes a specialty of grapes and expects soon to increase the acreage in the vineyard, having found by experience that this part of the country is particularly fitted to raise wine grapes of choice quality, due to the sun exposure on the hillside and also to the fine soil. The California Wine Association of San Francisco purchases the entire output of the vineyard.

A man of prominence in Santa Cruz county, Mr. Horstman possesses a large circle of friends, whose confidence he has won through recognized business qualifications and through sturdy, virile qualities of mind and heart. As secretary and treasurer he is identified with the Santa Cruz Grape Growers' Association, in which from the time of organization he has been a leading member. He is identified with the Saw Mill and Wood Workers' Lumbermen's Union as vice-president and an influential worker. Upon the erection of the Union high school at Boulder Creek he was chosen a trustee and for three years gave faithful, energetic service in that position, in addition to which he filled a similar position with the Bear Creek school for a period of eleven years. Politically he has been a local leader of the Republican party and as its candidate made a strong race for county sheriff against Howard V. Trafton in the election of 1906. His marriage in 1883 united him with Miss Kate Frost, a native of San Francisco and a daughter of a gallant captain, who served with distinction as an officer in the Civil war. There are four children in the family of Mr. Horstman, namely: Lorene, Stanley, Willis and Hazel. A number of fraternal organizations in the county have the benefit of his membership, among these being the Druids and the Ancient Order of United Workmen, but perhaps he has been most active in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, for in addition to the lodge work he has been influential also in Canton No. 33, Military Camp of Santa Cruz. It is to such men as he, energetic in action, determined in purpose, patient in the discharge of daily duties and undaunted by hardships, that the county owes its high standing and its assured prestige throughout the state.



## H. C. WEISENBURGER.

Throughout the country about Watsonville the name of Weisenburger is by no means unfamiliar and carries with it the true western perseverance and determination. In the store on Main street The Weisenburger Company carry a complete and up-to-date line of house-furnishing goods, including furniture, glassware, stoves, notions, tinware and crockery, besides which they are equipped to do upholstering and repairing of furniture, cleaning and laying carpets, as well as picture framing. From this it will be seen that there is little in the way of household demands which they are unable to supply, this one fact alone being sufficient to make their place popular, but when to this is added the pleasing personality of the manager the reason for their success is understood.

A native son of the state, Mr. Weisenburger was born in Downieville, Sierra county, February 2, 1864, the son of Conrad and Catherine (Heitz) Weisenburger, both of the latter natives of Bavaria, Germany, but early immigrants to the United States. Their first location here, in the early '40s, was in Peru, LaSalle county, Ill., whence the father came to California by wagon train in 1852 and became interested in mining in the vicinity of Downieville and Nevada City. Five years later, in 1857, he returned to his family in Illinois, and the following year went back to Downieville and again took up his mining interests. The accumulations of five years enabled him to send for his wife and children, and thereafter he continued mining for a number of years, although during the latter years of his life he followed farming. He passed away in Nevada City in 1902, at the age of eighty-two years, leaving behind him a record of a life well and worthily spent, in a moral as well as a material sense.

The mother also died in the same city at the age of seventy-two years. Eight children blessed the marriage of this worthy couple, four of whom were born before the family settled in the west. The children are as follows: C. C., a resident of Nevada City; J. J., deceased; Louisa, the wife of L. W. Nicholson, of Nevada City; one daughter who died in infancy in Illinois; H. C., the subject of this article; E. A., a resident of San Francisco; Mary E., the wife of D. D. Calkins, of Watsonville; and one child who died in infancy. The three children first mentioned came to California with their mother from Illinois in 1863 via Panama.

H. C. Weisenburger received his education in the public schools of Nevada City, and subsequently prepared himself for a business career by learning the carpenter's trade, and later he and his elder brother followed contracting in Nevada City for a number of years. In the meantime, when he was about twenty years of age, he went to Bellingham, Wash., where for one year he was interested in the butchering business. Returning to Nevada City at the end of the time he and his brother again became associated in business, this time making a specialty of handling mining machinery and equipment. In the year 1890 they embarked in the grocery and feed business and were on the high road to success when their entire establishment was destroyed by fire and thereafter for a time they again took up contracting. H. C. Weisenburger later bought out a planing mill which he conducted for three years, but sold it out in 1898 and the same year came to Watsonville, which has since been the scene of his activities. For a time after locating here he carried on contracting and building, the last house which he built being the residence of Dr. Watters. Later he accepted a position with the Charles Ford Company, in the furniture department, and at the end of one year, in 1901, bought the

nucleus of his present flourishing business which he conducted individually for six months when it was incorporated as the Weisenburger Company, of which he has been secretary and manager ever since. A small beginning was added to from time to time, until they now have one of the leading furniture and house-furnishing enterprises in Santa Cruz county. The company has built up a large and extensive trade and occupies the entire first floor of the Weeks block on Main street, besides which they have a well-equipped shop and warehouse in the rear. Mr. Weisenburger, as secretary and manager, is conceded to be one of the most successful merchants in Watsonville, an honor which he worthily merits, for he has worked indefatigably to build up the patronage which the company enjoys today.

Mr. Weisenburger's marriage, April 6, 1889, united him with Miss Mary R. Shurtleff, at the time of her marriage a resident of Nevada City, although she is a native of Kentucky, her birth having occurred near Paris. The greater part of her life has been passed in the west, however, her parents having located in California during the early days. One child, Alice M., has been born of this marriage. No citizen of Watsonville has her welfare more keenly at heart than has Mr. Weisenburger, who for four years was a member of the city council, and previous to locating here he served as assessor of Nevada City for one term. Politically he believes in prohibition and with his voice and vote does his part to overcome the traffic in liquor. In his religious affiliations he is a member of the Christian church, and fraternally he is identified with the Masons, Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World and Native Sons.



## FRED P. KROUGH.

The well-conducted drug store in Watsonville owned and managed by Mr. Krough is one of the popular as well as one of the substantial places in town, the two causes contributing to this success being the complete line of needed commodities and the personality of the proprietor, who dispenses his wares with so much geniality and good-will.

Mr. Krough is a native son of the state and of the town as well, his birth having occurred in Watsonville November 10, 1872. His parents, Peter and Botella (Sandberg) Krough, were both natives of the province of Sleswick, at the time when it was under the Danish flag. By trade the father was a sea-captain and in this capacity had sailed from Denmark to many of the world's largest ports. On a number of occasions he was sent out on expeditions by the Danish government. He had visited the port of San Francisco in the capacity of sea captain several years before taking up his residence in California, which he did in 1870. Locating at that time in Watsonville, he found employment with the well-known firm of Charles Ford Company, as representative of their lumber department, and the lumber interests of the town today are directly traceable to his efforts in early days. He passed away at the early age of forty-seven years, in 1881, while his wife survived until October 4, 1909.

One of a family of five children born to his parents, Fred P. Krough received his education in the public schools of Watsonville and Salinas, the greater part of this being accomplished prior to the age of twelve years, for after that he combined work in a drug store with his studies, and finally gave up the latter altogether after he had saved up the means with which to perfect himself for the druggist's profession. Going to Chicago, Ill., in 1893 he entered Northwestern Uni-

versity, from which institution he graduated with honors the following year, taking all of the three prizes offered, besides receiving honorable mention on account of the high average attained in all branches of studies. After his graduation he remained in Chicago for a time and upon coming to the west located in Sacramento, where for a time he filled the position of prescription clerk in a drug store. From there he came to Watsonville and took up similar work, and in the spring of 1897 established the business of which he has since been the proprietor, located in the Cooper block on Main street. Here may be found a complete line of pure drugs and medicines, also a fine line of fancy goods and supplies usual to a well-equipped drug store.

Mr. Krough's marriage was celebrated in 1895 and united him with Eleanor Fouts, of Watsonville, and two children, Lucile and Thelma, have been born to them. Though the duties of his business absorb a great deal of his time Mr. Krough is not neglectful of his duties as a good citizen and is always ready to aid any measure that has the well-being of the community at heart. He served on the board that drafted the charter of Watsonville. Politically he is a Republican, and fraternally he holds membership with the Elks, Odd Fellows and with the Native Sons.

## MATT J. MCGOWAN.

Numerous philanthropic and religious movements have contributed their aid to the moral upbuilding of Watsonville and among these none has been more successful in its efforts or more permanent in its influence than the Young Men's Christian Association, of which since 1902 Mr. McGowan has officiated as president. For the year previous to his election as chief executive he served as a director. The history of this organization proves that it has met a long-felt want, offering to the young men of the community an excellent opportunity for the broadening of their lives along lines of the greatest helpfulness. A membership of forty-five constituted the nucleus of the present body. With that number as a start others were drawn into the movement and each year witnesses a substantial increase. The Association maintains a just pride in its building, a substantial structure with a frontage of fifty-nine feet and a depth of three hundred feet, erected at a cost of \$22,000, on a lot valued at \$5,000 occupying a central location in the town. The building is equipped with the appurtenances necessary to a modern and model structure having for its object the development of the bodies and the training of the minds of the young.

The McGowan family is of remote Scotch lineage, but at the time of the religious persecutions in Scotland some of the race crossed into Ireland and established homes there. John McGowan, who was born in Ireland, lost his father by death when he was a small child. In his youth he brought the widowed mother and the younger children to the United States and settled in New Jersey, near Trenton, where he made a successful but desperate struggle to support the family out of his small wages. In time other members of the family were able to work and his own wages were increased,



so that the necessities of existence were never lacking from the home. After he had lived in New Jersey about seventeen years he came to California in 1864 and embarked in farming on the Hughes ranch. From that time until his death, in March of 1901, at the age of about seventy-eight, he devoted his energies wholly to ranch pursuits.

The marriage of John McGowan united him with Eliza Jarvis, who was born in Ireland and died in California about the year 1872. Six children were born of the union. All attained mature years and all are still living except James, who in 1905 was killed by a falling tree. It is a noteworthy fact that the five survivors reside within three miles of one another and all have comfortable homes of their own. They are as follows: W. J., Sadie, R. H., Matt J. and H. T. At the family home in the Pajaro valley, Monterey county, near the line of Santa Cruz county, Matt J. McGowan was born October 30, 1866. The schools of the valley afforded him a fair education. During early manhood he devoted his attention to general farming, but eventually he turned his attention to fruit-growing. His ranch of one hundred and fifty acres lies three miles in a direct line from Watsonville and contains twenty-two acres of orchard, besides a large bed of strawberries.

While superintending the place personally, Mr. McGowan resides in Watsonville, where he has a pleasant abode at No. 551 Main street. During 1892 he married Miss Louisa Thompson, of Watsonville, who died October 7, 1902, leaving four children, namely: Alice, John and Cecil (twins) and Jarvis. His present wife was formerly Miss Jessie Ryason, of Watsonville, a lady well known in this city and universally admired for attractive qualities of mind and heart. Both Mr. and Mrs. McGowan are earnest communicants of the Presbyterian church and since about 1900 Mr. McGowan has

officiated as a member of the board of trustees of the congregation. Fraternally he has been prominent in the local parlor, Native Sons of the Golden West, and is now past president of the order. In addition he has been warmly interested in the Woodmen of the World, while his wife has been equally active in the Woman's Circle of Woodcraft, and at the present time (1911) she is serving as president of El Pajaro Parlor No. 35, Native Daughters.

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#### DAVID FRANCIS MAHER.

Personal qualifications of a superior order combined with thorough training for his profession have made the name of David F. Maher well known in legal circles in Watsonville, where for ten years he served efficiently as city attorney, and since retiring to private practice has gathered about him a clientele which speaks eloquently of his knowledge of the law and of his ability to cope successfully with intricate legal questions. A native of the city in which his name and abilities are so well known, he was born in Watsonville November 10, 1866, the son of Thomas and Hannah (Mackey) Maher, both of whom were born and reared in Ireland. By trade the father was a machinist and blacksmith, his thorough knowledge of which he found of inestimable value, when, as a young man, in 1856, he came to this country and located in Watsonville, Cal. On Main street he established a machine and blacksmith shop, where now is located the city hall, and maintained a thriving business until 1874, when he met with an accident in his work that affected his eyesight so seriously that he was compelled to retire from active duties. In 1877 he went to Minnesota, but two years later returned to California and located in Sacramento, in 1882 came to Santa

Cruz, and in 1884 located once more in Watsonville, where he was making his home at the time of his death in 1898, at the age of sixty-seven years. Five children comprised the family of Thomas and Hannah (Mackey) Maher, but one of the number is deceased.

David F. Maher received his preparatory education in the public schools of Sacramento, Santa Cruz and Watsonville, and thus laid the substantial foundation upon which in later years he builded so wisely and well. Ambition rather than necessity led him, while still a boy, to begin his independent career, and for a time he filled the position of roller boy in the office of the *Pajaronian*, a newspaper in Watsonville, and subsequently he entered the office of the Watsonville *Transcript* for the purpose of learning the printer's trade. Being an apt pupil he readily acquired a knowledge of the printing business in all of its details and finally was made foreman of the *Transcript* office. It was while filling this position that he began reading law, the greater part of this being done after his day's work at the office was over. Finally, in 1891, he resigned his position in Watsonville, and going to San Francisco secured a similar position and at the same time continued his legal studies. Having in the meantime completed his studies he finally returned to Watsonville and was admitted to the bar before Judge McCann in 1893. It was about this time also that he received his appointment as city attorney, a position which he filled acceptably for ten years altogether. In order to perfect himself in his profession he took a course in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, graduating from that institution with the degree of LL. B. Mr. Maher's entire legal career has been passed in Watsonville, where from the first he had received the patronage of the best class of citizens, who recognize and appreciate his ability and in giving him their accounts, do so with the knowl-



edge that their interests will be protected. At first Mr. Maher had a partner in L. D. Holbrook, business being carried on under the name of Holbrook & Maher, but after about six years the partnership was dissolved and since then Mr. Maher has continued in practice alone. In addition to his private practice he acts as attorney for a number of corporations.

In Ann Arbor, Mich., June 23, 1897, Mr. Maher was united in marriage with Marie E. Bruegel, a native of that city, and three children, Waldo, Oscar and Rolland, have been born to them. Since 1893 Mr. Maher has been qualified to act in the capacity of notary public. Fraternally he belongs to the Masonic order, Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World, Elks, Knights of Pythias and also to the Native Sons of the Golden West. In his political leanings he is and always has been a staunch Republican.

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#### HENRY A. PETERSEN.

The owner and proprietor of the Watsonville bottling works has been a resident of California ever since a youth of seventeen years, at which time, in 1884, he secured employment in the sugar factory owned by Claus Spreckels and located in San Francisco. Being entirely inexperienced, at first he received only meagre wages, but his salary was increased as his usefulness was demonstrated and in a very few years after he had started with the company he had risen to a position of considerable trust. During the year 1888 the company sent him to Honolulu to fill an important position in their plant on the Hawaiian islands, where he continued for three years, being sent back to San Francisco in 1891 to resume work in the plant at that point. In the interests of the

same company he was requested to come to Watsonville in 1893 and it was in this way that he became a resident of the city with whose commercial enterprises he has been personally connected ever since his arrival.

After having filled the position of sugar-boiler for the company for a considerable period, Mr. Petersen began to find a salaried position unsatisfactory and he decided to embark in business for himself. It was during 1895 that he embarked in his present business as proprietor of a bottling plant and since then he has built up the largest business of its kind in Santa Cruz county. The satisfactory result attained may be attributed to his determination and energy. When he started he had nothing, yet in a comparatively brief period he has developed an industry profitable to himself and capable of further development. To the already extensive business in 1904 he added a plant for the manufacture of soda and since then he has kept on hand practically every kind of soft drink to be found on the market. In addition he acts as agent for the sale of a variety of mineral waters. The plant is situated on Kearney street, Watsonville, and contains the equipment necessary for the successful prosecution of the business. In October, 1910, he erected a comfortable home, modern in appointments, on Lake avenue, and here he makes his home with his family.

Keenly interested in political issues and firm in his advocacy of independent principles, Mr. Petersen has been active in civic affairs ever since he became a citizen of Watsonville. During 1907 he was elected a member of the board of aldermen for a term of two years and at the expiration of the time in 1909 he was again chosen alderman, this time for a term of four years. In the council he favors progressive enterprises and is ever on the alert to further movements for the general welfare, believing that the growth of a town is

commensurate with the public spirit and ambition of its people. In fraternal relations he is connected with the Knights of Pythias, Order of Eagles, Foresters of America and Knights of the Royal Arch. With a number of these organizations he became identified as a charter member upon their establishment in Watsonville. The work of the fire department has enlisted his support and as a volunteer in the same he has been of use in promoting a civic enterprise of accepted importance. The marriage of Mr. Petersen was solemnized in 1897 and united him with Miss Minnie Nohrden, by whom he has one child, Violet, born in 1899. The entire life of Mrs. Petersen has been passed within the limits of California and she has many friends among those who have enjoyed her acquaintance. Born in San Francisco and reared in Watsonville, she is a daughter of the late Henry Nohrden, who for years before his demise occupied a high position among the influential citizens of Watsonville.

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#### WILLIAM W. REYNOLDS.

Now retired from the active business cares which have engrossed his attention for so many years, William W. Reynolds is rounding out the years of a well-spent manhood in his comfortable and substantial residence at No. 196 Water street, Santa Cruz, having been a resident of this city for over half a century. Mr. Reynolds is a native of the south, his birth having occurred in Eastern Tennessee April 1, 1833. He is a son of Nehemiah and Phebe (Woolsey) Reynolds, both of whom were descendants of old southern families. The history of the Woolsey family can be traced as far back as 1793, and included among its members are the Rev. W. B. Woolsey, who founded Woolsey College, in Greene county,



Tenn. Nehemiah Reynolds was born in 1811 and passed away in 1874. Between these dates was enacted a career that partook largely of the sterner side of life, not the least of his trying experiences being his expedition across the plains in 1850. With him came his son William W., who was then about seventeen years old, and who made the entire distance on foot, with the exception of three days, when he was obliged to ride on account of sickness. The wife and mother died in Missouri in 1850, one month after the father and son started for California. The lives of the travelers were in constant jeopardy on account of attacks from Indians, and Mr. Reynolds still has a scar on his leg where he was shot by one of them. After reaching their destination father and son went to the mines, first in Amador county, later in Placer county, and still later in Calaveras county, following mining altogether for about five years. Being a carpenter by trade William Reynolds was frequently called upon to build flumes and sluice-ways for the miners, work which was not only congenial, but furnished him with a dependable income.

Giving up work in the mines in 1856, William W. Reynolds came to Santa Cruz county the same year and locating in the town of the same name, began to work at his trade of carpenter and builder in earnest. The fact that he was one of the first builders to locate here necessarily enlarged his opportunities, and so conscientiously did he carry out the contracts entrusted to him that those who employed him once were sure to seek his services on their next contract. Many of the buildings erected by Mr. Reynolds during the early days are still standing, in an excellent state of preservation, and bear silent testimony to his splendid workmanship. He assisted in building the Odd Fellows block, which has three times been partially destroyed by fire, and he also assisted in building the old clock which adorns the tower. Ever since

locating in Santa Cruz in 1856 Mr. Reynolds has made his home here continuously, with the exception of two years spent in Mexico following his trade, during which time he erected the old custom house at Ensenada. He enlisted for service in the state militia and was mustered in the Union army as a member of Company G, Fifth California Volunteer Infantry, just before the beginning of the Civil war in 1861, becoming first lieutenant of his company. He was kept in California, however, so was prevented from taking part in active service.

The marriage of Mr. Reynolds, which was solemnized January 4, 1865, united him with Mary Simpson, a native of Scotland. She passed away October 4, 1909, mourned by a large circle of friends who had been endeared to her by her many kindly traits of character.

George W. Reynolds, a brother of the subject of this sketch, was captain under Gen. Joseph Lane in the Indian wars on the Pacific coast for the United States government. By profession he was a physician and surgeon and subsequently served in that capacity for the government.

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#### EDWARD J. KELLY.

The first member of this branch of the Kelly family to locate in the United States was Eugene Kelly, one of four brothers, and a grand-uncle of Edward J. Kelly, who came to this country from Ireland in the early part of the nineteenth century, and ultimately became one of the first land-owners in the Pajaro valley, Santa Cruz county, Cal. A man of penetration and possessing a keen business understanding, he grasped opportunities as they presented themselves and in time became a prominent factor in the upbuilding of his community. His abilities however were not confined to this

locality, but extended to San Francisco, where he was the founder of the wholesale dry goods establishment of Murphy & Grant and one of the founders of the Donohoe-Kelly Bank, also the founder of the Eugene Kelly Co. Bank, of New York City.

The father of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, Edward Kelly, was also a native of the Emerald Isle. In young manhood he immigrated to the United States, and for a time made his home in Illinois, but finally came to California. Returning to New York City from Illinois, he embarked on a vessel bound for the west, and after a voyage attended with the usual experiences and hardships he finally reached the Pajaro valley in 1850. He at once entered upon a farming and stock-raising enterprise which he continued for over thirty years, or until his death in 1884. His wife, who in maidenhood was Ellen McAleer, was like himself a native of Ireland, but has been a resident of California since 1873. Two children were born of the marriage of Edward and Ellen (McAleer) Kelly, Mary E. and Edward J.

Born near Watsonville in 1876, Edward J. Kelly was reared and educated in the vicinity of his birth. After graduating with credit from the grammar school of Watsonville he took a course of instruction in Santa Clara College, graduating therefrom in 1897. A predilection for the legal profession determined him to take a course in Columbia University in New York City, from which he graduated in 1902 with the degree of LL. B. The same year in which he graduated he was admitted to the bar in New York City and practiced his profession there for one year. Returning to California at the end of that time, he located in Watsonville but instead of following his profession at that time, he engaged in raising apples on one hundred and fifty acres of land in this vicinity,



on the border of Kelly lake. He continued this business exclusively for six years, when, having in the meantime (1908) been admitted to the California bar, he opened an office for the practice of his profession in Watsonville and has since built up a satisfactory practice. He still maintains his orchard, which increases in value and productiveness from year to year. Fraternally Mr. Kelly is identified with but one order, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Santa Cruz, holding membership in Lodge No. 824.

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#### HIRAM JACOB WOOD.

Old Father Time has brought many changes to Watsonville since first Mr. Wood established his home in this then village, almost forty years ago. An unattractive hamlet, crude in architecture and barren of adornment, met the eyes of the few visitors whom the search for homes or the demands of business brought hither. In the transformation wrought during the passing years Mr. Wood has borne his part. The contribution that he has made to material advancement is of especial value, by reason of the fact that as a contractor and builder he has introduced needed changes in architecture whereby the style of building has been brought into harmonious relationship with the climate. While utility has not been made secondary, greater prominence has been given to the artistic element in building. As a result the architecture of Watsonville and the surrounding valley elicits the warmest encomiums from those whose delightful privilege it is to visit the city.

New York City is the native home of Mr. Wood and June 21, 1847, the date of his birth. The family comprised but two children, the elder being John W., who died in 1868, at

the age of twenty-five years. The father, Abraham Chase Wood, a native of Orange county, N. Y., and for some years an employe of an ice company in New York City, came to California in 1853 and engaged in mining for some years. In 1858 he became interested in ranching in Monterey county. Next he engaged in the teaming business in Watsonville and also did a large business in breaking colts, for which work he had a special aptitude. While living in Monterey county in 1861 he became a Mason, while before he left New York he had identified himself with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His death occurred in Watsonville in August of 1900, at the age of seventy-six years and six months. A year before he died he had lost his wife, Charlotte A. (Robinson) Wood, who passed away at the age of seventy-two years and six months.

It was on the 31st of December, 1856, that Hiram Jacob Wood, with his mother and brother, arrived in San Francisco, where they for a time made their home and where he attended the public schools, later learning the trade of a carpenter. From 1868 to 1872 he worked at his trade in San Juan, and during November of 1872 he removed to Watsonville, where he worked as a carpenter under James Waters. At the expiration of four years he began to take contracts for building. The first house that he erected stood on the east side of the plaza and is now owned by S. H. Fletcher, but was built for Jerome Porter. The fine workmanship noticeable in the Moreland Notre Dame Academy is due to his conscientious labors during the filling of the contract. The Spreckels residence in the town of the same name was erected by him, also the John T. Porter building, as well as banks in Watsonville and Gilroy, and residences in these two cities, also at Salinas and other places. At various times he erected houses for himself, but these were

sold to other parties, and he had now completed for his family a commodious house on Jefferson street. Many carpenters have been furnished employment by him during the busy times and he has taken pride in the prompt filling of all contracts.

While devoting his attention closely to the building business, Mr. Wood has neglected no duty falling upon a progressive citizen. Helpful to local enterprises, he has been quick to respond to appeals for aid in cases where the object to be attained was without question one of value to the growth of the place. Under the new city charter he was elected a member of the board of aldermen and has given faithful service in that position for a number of years. His marriage united him with Annie, daughter of Asa Ross, of Santa Rosa, a native of Missouri. They are the parents of five children, namely: Jesse C., a plumber by occupation and married to Carrie B. Judd, of Watsonville; Lottie B., a teacher by profession who died January 17, 1907; Annie May, wife of H. L. Towle of San Francisco; Estella H.; and Leona Gertrude, at home.

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#### BENJAMIN K. KNIGHT.

The district attorney of Santa Cruz county has been a lifelong resident of the city of Santa Cruz, where he was born August 28, 1874, and where since attaining manhood he has been an influential citizen and successful lawyer. His father, Benjamin Knight, M. D., came here from Rhode Island in 1869 and continued in professional labors from that time until his death during December of 1905, meanwhile attaining high rank for skill and success in the treatment of disease. For some time before his demise he had the distinction of be-



ing, in point of years of active practice, the oldest physician in the entire county. While especially prominent through his professional associations, he was also a leader in civic movements and bore an active connection with many projects of undoubted value in the permanent welfare of the community, so that his death was a loss not alone to the medical fraternity, but also to the entire citizenship.

The early education of Benjamin K. Knight was secured in the schools of Santa Cruz, and after he had completed the course of study connected therewith he secured employment in the office of District Attorney Lindsey, where he remained for one year. In 1891 he matriculated in the Hastings Law School at San Francisco, and there pursued his studies with steadfast devotion. In order that he might enjoy special advantages for professional work, during the fall of 1893 he entered the law department of the University of Michigan and there took the regular course of study, graduating in 1895 with an excellent class standing. On his return to Santa Cruz he entered the office of the district attorney as an assistant during September, 1895, and continued to fill the same position until the fall of 1898, when Mr. Lindsey retired from the office and Mr. Knight was elected. Since then he has filled the position with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the people. During January of 1897 he was married, in San Jose, to Miss Helen Bliss, a native of Nova Scotia. By the union he is the father of three children, Benjamin B., Marion and Edith. The Native Sons of the Golden West number him among the leading members of the local parlor, and he also is very prominent among the Elks, having been honored with the office of exalted ruler of the Santa Cruz Lodge on the occasion of the second election held in the history of the organization. Like his father, he is progressive and public-spirited, warmly interested in measures for the

common welfare, eager to advance local prosperity, enthusiastic in his faith in the possibilities of his native city and a generous contributor to the advancement of projects for the benefit of town and county.

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### M. V. BENNETT.

The suns of many summers have ripened the rich harvests of grain and have tinged with red and golden hues the luscious fruits grown on California's fertile soil, since M. V. Bennett passed out of active identification with the development of Santa Cruz county and from this life entered into the life eternal. Notwithstanding the long period that has elapsed since his death, his memory lingers green and fresh in the hearts of the older citizens of Santa Cruz. Among the pioneers his name is often mentioned and his personality is unforgotten. To the generation that has grown to maturity since his demise he is known principally through their profound admiration for his widow, who interests the young people by narrating many stories connected with pioneer days in Santa Cruz, depicting before their vision the many changes wrought through the arduous efforts of the early settlers. In her comfortable home, an attractive bungalow on Mission street, she entertains friends by vivid accounts of pioneer experiences, concerning which she retains a minute recollection. In the old Roman Catholic church of this city she was an active worker and she and Mrs. E. A. Culverwell sang there as members of its first American choir. Not only religious activities, but also the most cultured social functions, received the benefit of her refined tastes and enthusiastic leadership.

Born in Arkansas October 18, 1836, M. V. Bennett was only six years of age when the family came to the west. In those



days little attempt had been made to settle the regions west of the Missouri river. The wild mountain fastnesses and dreary plains were given over to the buffalo, to other wild animals and to the savages. To attempt to cross the plains was to face an almost certain death, yet the emigrant family, with courage unsurpassed, joined the first emigrant party that ever crossed the plains. The year 1842 witnessed the removal of the caravan from the regions of civilization through the deserts and over the plains to the unbroken and untilled lands of the northwest. Oregon was the destination of the party and through manifold dangers they traveled thither. No friendly hands had blazed a path for them to follow. Their task it was to find a fording place across the streams and to open a highway through the dense forests.

The expiration of eight months of travel found the party in Oregon, but the Bennett family very shortly proceeded southward to California, where as yet few Americans had preceded them. The father became the owner of land in Santa Clara county and property in San Francisco that afterward acquired great value. When he came to Santa Cruz he built the first saw-mill in the county, locating it on Love creek near the village of Felton. The boyhood days of M. V. Bennett were spent principally in Santa Clara county and he was educated in the Methodist College at San Jose, where he was a schoolmate of C. B. Younger and other men afterward prominent in the history of California. After leaving college he was sent east to Rhode Island and took a course of study in civil engineering at Providence. On his return to California he associated himself with his father in the lumber business near Felton. Later he removed to Santa Cruz. For eight years he served as county assessor and for a long period he also officiated as county surveyor. While filling the latter position he had charge of the re-survey and subdivision



of the famous Lompoc rancho of forty-seven thousand acres, also the San Julian rancho in Santa Barbara county, both of these extensive properties being owned by Colonel Hollister, who was one of the leading men in the early history of this part of the state.

The high standing of Mr. Bennett as a civil engineer led to his appointment in 1881 to fill a position as mineral surveyor in Mexico, and he remained there in the employ of a large mining company until his death, March 28, 1884. The passing of this prominent citizen was mourned in Santa Cruz county, where he had been a leading man of affairs and the owner of valuable property interests. Fraternally he was connected with the Knights of Honor and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His marriage had been solemnized in Santa Cruz May 6, 1861, and united him with Miss Mary J. Boyle, a native of Massachusetts, and a member of a pioneer family of the western coast. Six children were born of their union, but the sole survivor is Mrs. C. E. Towne, of Santa Cruz.

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#### C. E. CANFIELD.

To a period antedating the American occupancy of California the identification of the ancestors of Mr. Canfield with the history of the coast country may be traced and he himself has been a lifelong resident of the state, his birth having occurred in the city of Monterey October 31, 1865. His maternal grandfather, James Watson, was an honored and distinguished pioneer of Monterey, where he opened and conducted a general store, one of the first to be established in that place. Among his friends none was more prominent than Gen. John C. Fremont and it was his privilege to assist that great "pathfinder" in his early explorations under the aus-

pices of the United States government. The two men formed a warm friendship which neither time nor absence served to lessen. They were alike in their fearless temperaments and in their desire to promote the settlement of the west.

The father of C. E. Canfield was no less prominent than the grandfather. Colbert A. Canfield, M. D., the first physician resident at the Presidio and for years an official of the old custom house at Monterey, contributed greatly to the development of Monterey county along lines of permanent value. His knowledge of the west brought him recognition throughout the entire country. The possessor of varied talents, which found their outlet in many fields of usefulness, he became most widely known through his articles published in magazines and through his profound ability as a writer and thinker. During a long period he acted as Pacific coast agent for the Smithsonian Institute. Conchology was one of his leading hobbies and it was possible for him to gratify his desire for study in that specialty. A splendid collection of shells rewarded his assiduous labor. Articles on the subject from his pen frequently appeared in leading periodicals and he was recognized as an authority concerning the shells on the Pacific coast.

The public schools of Monterey and Santa Cruz afforded C. E. Canfield an opportunity to acquire a fair education. Upon leaving school he secured employment as a clerk in a grocery in Santa Cruz, and later in 1892 he started in the grocery business on his own account with F. H. Stikeman. After two years he bought out Mr. Stikeman and continued the business alone until 1898, when he sold out, after which he became a commercial traveler for a wholesale house. Two years were spent on the road. Later he engaged in promoting the oil business in Bakersfield and at Santa Maria, but more recently he has been interested in the real-estate and

insurance business, transacting a brokerage business in real estate throughout the entire state. As agent for fire, life and accident insurance companies, he has established a business of considerable importance, the work of which demands much of his time. The only fraternal organization with which he is identified is the Native Sons of the Golden West and in the work of this order he has been interested and active. His attractive residence in Santa Cruz is presided over by his accomplished wife, whom he married April 19, 1893, and who was formerly Miss Cora B. Picknell, member of a pioneer family and herself a native of the state. They are the parents of two sons, Carlton E. and Laurence P., who are now students in the local schools.

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#### CHARLES M. CASSIN.

Perhaps no profession has proved more alluring to ambitious and educated young men than that of the law and among the many who have chosen its practice with every reasonable hope of success, mention belongs to Charles M. Cassin of Santa Cruz. It is his good fortune to possess the natural endowments of mind without which professional prominence is impossible. Supplementary to these splendid native endowments is the education which has enabled him to utilize these gifts and enlarge their field of usefulness. In the past he has laid the foundation of broad knowledge of the law without which success cannot be reached. For the future there are not wanting friends to predict an increasing prominence and professional influence. His popularity among the members of the bar led to his election as president of the Santa Cruz County Bar Association and in that honored post he is now officiating.



The Cassin family belongs to sturdy pioneer stock. During the year 1859 Michael Cassin migrated to California and settled in San Francisco, where his son, Charles M., was born January 10, 1868. During the infancy of the son, in 1868, the father became an early settler of Monterey county. For many years he engaged in ranching in the Pajaro valley and from there he came to the city of Santa Cruz during the early '80s. Establishing a home in a comfortable cottage, he continued to reside here until his death in 1907. Possessing the fearless courage and hardy constitution necessary to frontier labors, he was well qualified for the tasks confronting the pioneer, and during the long period of his residence in California he aided in the material upbuilding of the state.

It was the privilege of Charles M. Cassin to receive excellent educational advantages. Upon completing the studies of the Watsonville public schools he entered Santa Clara College and there prosecuted the regular course, graduating in 1888 with a high standing. From early youth he had planned his life with a view to entering the profession of law and he took up the study of the same in Notre Dame University in Indiana, but later took the regular course in the University of Michigan, besides which he had the advantage of study in the office of Judge Maguire in San Francisco. In the spring of 1891 he was graduated from the law department of the University of Michigan, where he had made a study of the general laws of our country, while his studies in San Francisco were along the line of our state laws. January 1, 1893, he opened an office in Santa Cruz, where for two years he served as city attorney and where eventually he formed a partnership with H. C. Lucas under the firm name of Cassin & Lucas. At this writing he holds the presidency of the Santa Clara Alumni Association. The Native Sons of the Golden West number him among their active members. In addition

he has been very prominent in the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, having been honored with the office of exalted ruler as well as numerous less conspicuous positions. During 1896 he was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Murphy, who was born and educated in Watsonville. They are the parents of six children, Katherine, Charles M., Jr., Marion, Gerald, Anna and Robert.

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### LOUIS MAJASTRE COX.

Many of those who have become important factors in the making of this western commonwealth have been men of eastern birth and breeding, who with their quick perceptive faculties, practical judgment and energetic activity entered heartily into the upbuilding of the cities and towns in which they settled. As one of this number may be mentioned Louis M. Cox, of Santa Cruz, who at the time of his death in 1898 had been a resident of this city for ten years. Accomplishments, however, rather than length of years mark one's value to a community, and in justice to Mr. Cox it may be said that wherever he chanced to make his home he supported heartily all uplifting measures and was one of the most enterprising and progressive citizens in his community.

Born in New York City in 1828, Louis M. Cox was the son of Joseph and Clara (Majastre) Cox, of English and French nativity respectively, who rounded out lives of useful activity. The father was a wholesale and retail silver merchant of England, and young Louis made frequent trips with him to the old country, acting in the capacity of interpreter, for from his earliest childhood he began to learn the French language and finally became a fluent French scholar. Upon reaching his majority he entered the employ of the New York



Central Railroad at Batavia, N. Y., first in the capacity of assistant ticket agent and later as freight agent of the line. Altogether he continued with the company for many years, during this time advancing steadily in the esteem of his superiors, and it has been said that he was one of the best book-keepers ever in the employ of the company. Too close devotion to his duties, however, made inroads upon his health to such an extent that he decided to give up his position with the railroad company and come to California. The voyage was made by way of Panama, and January 9, 1869, witnessed his arrival in San Francisco. In order to recuperate his health he wisely selected an occupation that would necessitate his being in the open air and in undertaking sheep raising he readily benefited in health. He was associated in the enterprise with Joseph Guibal, and together they carried on an extensive sheep ranch on the Los Uvas creek, in Santa Clara county, eleven miles from Gilroy. The business was continued with great success for fifteen years, when Mr. Cox sold out his interest and removed to Watsonville, later was in San Bernardino for a time, and finally, in 1888, located in Santa Cruz. While in Watsonville he found frequent opportunity to make use of his knowledge of French, receiving for his services as interpreter \$10 per day. After his removal to Santa Cruz he did not enter into active business affairs, but nevertheless he took a keen interest in the activities of the business world and was alert to foster and advance progressive measures.

In New York City, October 2, 1851, Mr. Cox was united in marriage to Miss Frances A. Fryer, who was also a native of that metropolis and was a friend of his school days. Five children were born of this marriage, as follows: Louis M., a resident of Los Altos; Victoria I., the wife of W. H. Farthing, of San Jose; Mary, the wife of M. K. MacDonald, of San



Francisco; Albert, of Santa Cruz; and Joseph, who is head engineer of the Santa Clara Valley mill, in the city of that name. The mother of these children makes her home in Santa Cruz, in a pleasant residence on Ocean street, and is highly esteemed by her large circle of friends and acquaintances. She is a communicant of the Episcopal Church. The death of Mr. Cox, November 15, 1898, was not only a deep bereavement to his family, but also to his many friends, to whom he had become endeared through the possession of refinement of manner and other personal qualities. During his younger years he was a personal friend of Grover Cleveland, and was a frequent visitor at the home of the latter in Albany, N. Y.

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#### A. W. COX.

The general manager of the Charles Ford Company is a native of New Zealand and was born in 1865. His parents, both of whom are now deceased, spent many years in New Zealand, but during the year 1876 came to California and settled in San Francisco. Eventually the father, E. J. Cox, organized the Bank of Santa Cruz county and became its cashier, filling that responsible position for fourteen years. At the completion of a common-school education and his graduation with the class of 1883, A. W. Cox became a student in the Chestnutwood Business College, where he completed the course and received a diploma. For about two years he held a position as bookkeeper, but resigned in order to enter the employ of the Loma Prieta Lumber Company. June 8, 1887, he came to Watsonville in the capacity of bookkeeper for the Charles Ford Company and upon the incorporation of the company in 1890 he was chosen secretary, but later became general manager. In fraternal rela-

tions he is identified with the Masons and Elks, but the responsibilities of his business associations have been such as to preclude activity in the fraternities or in political affairs. His pleasant home in Watsonville is presided over by his accomplished wife, formerly Miss Mabel Goodwin, a resident of Santa Cruz.

Ever since the establishment of Ford's store, its name has been a synonym for square dealing with all. As early as 1853 Dr. Charles Ford "kept store" after the primitive fashion of the period, occupying a frame building of limited capacity. The proprietor had as a partner Lucius Sanborn and their commercial connection lasted during the lifetime of the principals, who meanwhile became important factors in the business affairs of Santa Cruz county. They laid the foundations of the business broad and deep and strong. To-day those who conduct the business are reaping the benefit of their wise management years ago, and the store is especially a monument to the energy, enterprise and public spirit of the man whose name it bears. All of these qualities entered into the enterprise and contributed to its success.

The business in time assumed large proportions and in 1880 Mr. Sanborn retired, after an active connection with the company covering not much less than thirty years. A. A. Morey and James S. Menasco, capable men who for years had been in the employ of Ford & Sanborn, were admitted into partnership and the title was changed to Charles Ford & Co. Later the Charles Ford Company was incorporated, February 28, 1890, with the following officers: Charles Ford, president; J. S. Menasco, vice-president; A. W. Cox, secretary; and F. A. Kilburn, treasurer. After the death of Dr. Ford, which occurred November 16, 1890, Lucius Sanborn was elected president and for five years remained in that posi-

tion, after which F. A. Kilburn was chosen for the office. The death of Mr. Menasco July 5, 1909, removed another veteran official of the company, a man who for years had been intimately associated with the development of the business and had labored unweariedly for its success. At this writing Judge Hiram D. Tuttle is president, A. W. Cox general manager, F. A. Kilburn first vice-president and treasurer, and Eugene Kelly, secretary.

The largest block in the city is occupied by the company for the display and sale of goods. The store has a frontage of two hundred and thirty-eight feet on Main street and one hundred and fifty-five feet on East Third street. The frontage of the various departments is as follows: dry-goods, sixty-five feet; groceries, twenty-eight; men's clothing, forty-five; crockery, twenty; hardware, twenty-five; furniture, thirty-five; and feed and produce, twenty. Three immense warehouses and a yard covering three acres give the company the largest storage facilities of any concern in the central coast counties. An adequate corps of salespeople courteously fills the needs of customers, whose comfort is further enhanced by the perfect system of ventilation adopted throughout the block, the excellent method of lighting, and the orderly as well as artistic arrangement of the goods in every department.

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#### ABRAM BARDMESS.

While the average Californian is usually an experienced traveler, few residents of the state have traveled as extensively by wagon as has Mr. Bardmess of Watsonville, who by the use of the "prairie schooner" has covered altogether almost twelve thousand miles. By this means he has gained a much more thorough knowledge of the country than can



be gained by the tourist gazing from the car window. As the afternoon of his busy life draws toward its evening, he is content to abandon his travels and in his pleasant home at No. 129 Main street he frequently recounts tales of the past, with the stirring adventures that came to him in his trips from place to place.

The colonial era witnessed the arrival of the Bardmess family in America from Germany. The first settlers chose homes in Pennsylvania. About one hundred and eight years ago some of the name proceeded west as far as Illinois, where Peter Bardmess, a native of Pennsylvania, spent the greater part of his life. However, eventually he removed to Missouri and at the age of sixty-five he died at Greenfield, that state. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Dorcas Keith, was born in Kentucky of German lineage and died in Douglas county, Mo., at about eighty-three years of age. Fifteen children comprised their family, nine sons and six daughters, and all but one of these attained to mature years. Only four are now living, Abram being one of the survivors. Born near Pinckneyville, Perry county, Ill., August 23, 1836, he passed the years of early youth in industrious application to farm labors. In 1864 he enlisted in Company F, Thirteenth Illinois Cavalry, assigned to the Thirteenth Army Corps, under General Steele, and he remained in the service of the Union until after the close of the war, being mustered out at Pine Bluff, Ark., August 1, 1865. On his return to Illinois he aided on the home farm for a year and then spent a year on a farm near Neosho, Newton county, Mo., after which he sojourned at Batesville, Ark., for about five months.

Going back once more to Illinois, Mr. Bardmess remained in that state for eighteen months and then returned to his former location in Missouri. Next he settled on a farm in Dade county, Mo., and from there went to a farm near Green-

field. Meanwhile he had read much concerning the west and his love of travel and desire to see the western country led him to dispose of his Missouri possessions in 1881, when he came across the country to Nevada, settling on a farm near Winnemucca, Humboldt county. Agriculture he found to be conducted along different lines there than in his previous locations and a study of the changes in soil, climate, and crops proved interesting to him. At the expiration of three years he returned to Douglas county, Mo., but in 1890 he again went to Humboldt county, Nev., this time remaining for five years. His next removal took him to Mendocino county, Cal., where he sojourned for a year. During the year 1894 he arrived in Watsonville. Two years later he went to Pomona, where he remained only seven months. His next removal took him through the Mojave valley to Eureka, Nev., where he remained for eighteen months, returning thence to Watsonville by wagon. Since then he has remained in this city, where he has a large circle of warm friends.

The first wife of Mr. Bardmess, who bore the maiden name of Sophronia Lipe, died in Arkansas two years after their marriage. The only child of that union is a son, Sherman, now residing in Watsonville. Later Mr. Bardmess married Katie Witter, a native of Germany, but she was taken from him by death only two and one-half months after marriage. His present wife, a lady of estimable character and energetic disposition, was Nancy R. Gardner, a native of Missouri. Seven children were born of this union, namely: Ira M., of Watsonville; John, who makes his home at Eureka, Nev.; Albert, living in San Francisco; Mrs. Maggie Morgan, whose husband was accidentally killed in the lime quarry in 1906 and who makes her home in Watsonville; Garfield, of Eureka, Nev.; Cyrus, of Watsonville; and Lyda, wife of Bert Stacey, and a resident of Mayfield, Santa Clara county. Promi-

nently identified with the Grand Army of the Republic, Mr. Bardmess has filled almost all of the chairs in the post and in 1909 he represented his post in the Salt Lake encampment. In politics he gives stanch support to Republican principles, but never sought nor held office.

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### G. B. V. DeLAMATER.

A native of the east, G. B. V. DeLamater was born in New York City October 23, 1828. He was a boy of ten years when the family removed to Indiana and settled in the small village of Mishawaka, where he attended the schools and obtained a common-school education. The discovery of gold in California turned his thoughts toward the undeveloped riches of the far-distant land beside the sunset sea. Undaunted by the long distance to be traversed through dangers seen and unseen, he resolved to seek his fortune in the region whither Argonauts were wending from all parts of the world. During the spring of 1850 he began the arduous journey in company with a large expedition, among whom were Charles Crocker and his two brothers, H. S. and Clarke Crocker, of whom the first mentioned became prominent in California affairs. The caravan moved slowly but in safety across the plains and arrived at its destination, Sacramento, in the autumn. There Mr. DeLamater made his home for a number of years, being interested in mining in that vicinity, and experiencing the miner's luck of hope and discouragement, good and ill fortune. During 1868 he abandoned further efforts at mining and with the means he had accumulated he embarked in general merchandising at Santa Cruz, where he erected the first brick building on Pacific avenue. In a short time he had established a satisfactory trade and had formed a large ac-



quaintance among the people of the community, many of whom were among his warmest friends throughout the remainder of his life. Eventually he closed out the mercantile business and secured a position in the purchasing department of the Pacific Improvement Company at San Francisco, where he continued as a trusted employe until his death in 1896. Meanwhile, however, he had retained his home at the old location, No. 77 Ocean View avenue, and here his family still retain their abode, occupying the residence that commands a charming view and forms one of the many comfortable homes for which Santa Cruz is famous. Fraternally Mr. DeLamater took a warm interest in Masonry and politically he favored the principles of the Republican party, but did not maintain an active connection with politics. Surviving him are his widow, formerly Miss Eliza Cope, whom he married in 1864 and who was a native of Missouri, and the following children: Schuyler C., of Santa Cruz; May, who married J. B. T. Tut-hill and resides in San Jose; Jessie, the widow of J. Enright; and Grace, who married W. Williamson and is living in Santa Cruz.

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#### THOMAS J. ALBRIGHT.

The chief of police of Watsonville has spent his entire life in the city whose police department for some years has been under his capable charge. The excellent schools of the town afforded him a fair education in preparation for the responsibilities of business affairs. Now in the prime of manhood (his birth having occurred August 2, 1876) he is well qualified to advance the material prosperity of his native city by his efficient labors as a private citizen; while in addition he has restrained vice and minimized crime through his fearless, energetic administration as head of the police department.

Many of his leisure hours have been devoted to base ball, a game of which he is enthusiastically fond, and during the seasons of 1909 and 1910 he acted as manager of the Watsonville team, which won the pennant both seasons largely as a result of his skilled supervision.

The Albright family was founded in the Pajaro valley during the year 1865, when Joseph Albright crossed the plains from Iowa, his native commonwealth. After coming here he made the acquaintance of Jane Bonton, a native of Oregon, and they were married in the valley, beginning to keep house in the city of Watsonville, where he died July 26, 1908. Since his death she has remained a resident of this city. All of their six children are still living. William resides in Watsonville; May married Frank Tuttle; Josephine married George H. Leland, of Los Angeles; Myrtle is the wife of Edward J. Kelly; Thomas J. and Etta live in Watsonville. Thomas J., who was next to the youngest among the six children, passed the years of boyhood and youth in the parental home and after leaving school began to learn the trade of a blacksmith, in which he became unusually proficient. Ever since learning the trade he has been interested in blacksmithing and among the people he has a reputation as one of the most skilled farriers in the entire valley.

Political questions have always interested Mr. Albright. When a mere boy he spent considerable time in puzzling over problems as to the tariff and other matters of national importance. The result is that he possesses broader information than most citizens upon issues confronting our nation. Yet no partisanship spirit is discernible in his work; on the contrary, he is said to be liberal in views and willing to concede to others the freedom of thought he demands for himself. Some years ago he was selected as possessing the qualities necessary in the office of chief of police and at this

writing he is serving his second term in the position. As an official he has been conscientious and resourceful, and his re-election furnishes abundant testimony as to the satisfactory nature of his labors. In fraternal relations he is connected with the Elks. His pleasant home is presided over by his wife, formerly Miss Eva Aston, whom he married August 26, 1900, and who is a member of a family of this city. They are the parents of two children, Melva and Doris.

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#### HARRY D. FREIERMUTH.

An inspiring impetus has been given to the development of America by the immigration hither of sturdy, healthful and energetic families from the older countries of the world. Especially are we indebted to Germany for a desirable accession to our citizenship. The Teutonic race has mingled with the Anglo-Saxon in peace and harmony, the two laboring side by side in the building up of homes in the new world. The Freiermuth patronymic indicates the Teutonic origin of the family, but several generations have resided in the United States and the present representatives are ardently loyal to the institutions of our country, public-spirited in civic affairs and well-informed regarding governmental problems. It was during the year 1853 that the name became established in America, the original emigrants settling in Minnesota, where P. J. Freiermuth, then a child of three years, received a fair English education. At the age of eighteen years, during the year 1868, he left Minnesota to seek a livelihood on the Pacific coast, being induced to come to Watsonville by reason of the residence here of an uncle, George H. Freiermuth, a pioneer of the Pajaro valley and for years the proprietor of a plumbing and tinner's shop.



Thorough instruction given by the uncle in every detail of the trade enabled the young man to gain a knowledge of the plumber's business that has since proved of the utmost assistance to him. In addition he learned the tinner's trade so that he became competent to do such work with promptness and skill. With the exception of a year spent in the plumbing business in San Francisco he remained with his uncle until 1882, when he began to operate a hardware store of his own, combining with the same a tinning and plumbing shop. The remainder of his life was devoted to business pursuits and he continued at the head of his store until his death, which occurred March 29, 1904. About two years before his demise he had been bereaved by the loss of his wife, Permelia (Chapin) Freiermuth. Throughout the entire period of his residence in Watsonville he maintained a warm interest in civic affairs and on one occasion he was elected town trustee, which office he filled faithfully for one term.

There were five children in the parental family. The older daughter is the wife of Philip Sheehy, an attorney of Watsonville. The three youngest children are George, Vincent and Theresa. The eldest son, H. D., has been a lifelong resident of Watsonville, where he was born October 17, 1879, and where he received a common-school education, later having the advantage of study in St. Mary's College at Oakland. Upon the completion of the course of study in that institution in 1898 he became identified with his father's store. Previous to this, during school vacations, he had acquired a knowledge of plumbing and tinning. The business is still conducted under the name of its former owner, P. J. Freiermuth, the son, H. D., acting as manager in the interests of the estate. A complete assortment of hardware and all of the equipment necessary for plumbing and tinning may be found in the store, which occupies an excellent location in the

Freiermuth block, at Nos. 247-249 Main street. Many of the present customers are citizens who began to trade with the former proprietor twenty-five or more years ago, while in addition there is an excellent patronage from among the people more recently identified with our citizenship.

In common with many other native Californians Mr. Freiermuth finds enjoyment and interest in his association with the Native Sons, his membership being in the parlor of Watsonville, his native city. Other fraternal relations include connection with the Knights of Columbus, the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the American Order of Foresters, in each of which he maintains a warm interest, contributing to their charities as his means permit. Like his father, he is warmly interested in public affairs and believes it to be the duty of every public-spirited citizen to keep posted concerning the issues before state and nation. For three years he has been a member of the city council and during that time he has been a stalwart champion of progressive enterprises looking toward civic growth. He has a pleasant home in Watsonville, presided over by his accomplished wife, whom he married January 25, 1903, and who was formerly Miss Lou Webb, of Oakland. They are the parents of two sons and two daughters, Peter, Arthur, Ruth and Elizabeth.

## ROBERT BURLAND.

Comparatively few remain among us of that noble band of pioneers known as the Forty-niners. By far the greater number of them have crossed the shadowy river of death and have anchored their frail life-crafts at the harbor of eternity. The Golden Gate that has opened unto their vision immeasurably surpasses the one that burst upon their welcome sight at the end of the long cruise toward the land of the Argonaut. To such of the pioneers as are spared to the twentieth century, comes the inestimable privilege of witnessing the prosperity of the rich commonwealth whose resources they first exploited abroad. Not theirs alone to toil and strive far from civilization's uplifting influence, but theirs also to reap the rich harvest of the seed sown many long years gone by.

It has been the privilege of Robert Burland, an honored pioneer of 1849, to witness the remarkable development of California, and as he studies the history of its past he might appropriately exclaim, "All of which I saw and part of which I was." No occasion for regret has ever come to him, but on the other hand he rejoices that Destiny turned his steps from the bleak land of Canada, where he was born, January 1, 1827, and from the rigorous climate of Massachusetts, where he was reared, from the age of nine years, to the fair land of California, where the twilight of his useful existence is being happily passed in the enjoyment of comforts rendered possible by years of activity. A son of Benjamin Burland, he was only nineteen years of age when he came to California via the Isthmus of Panama, and landed at San Francisco, thence removing to Sacramento. Like the majority of the early-comers he engaged in mining for a time, going from Sacramento to Downieville and thence to Michigan Bluff, Placer county, where also he conducted a livery and a stage



business. In conjunction with the California Stage Company, he operated a stage from Yankee Jim's to Michigan Bluff. While engaged in the stage business he met many of the most enthusiastic miners of that period and also became acquainted with a number of men afterward associated with the history of the state.

Coming to the Pajaro valley September 15, 1859, Mr. Burland at once decided to settle in a region whose soil he found to be rich and whose climate was exceptionally attractive. Soon he was able to secure land suitable for ranching and stock-raising and he continued extensively engaged in the stock business until the severe drought of 1864 entailed upon him a very heavy loss. Later he became interested in horticulture. The raising of fruit proved to be a profitable venture and enabled him to wipe out the losses caused by the memorable season of 1864. His fruit interests are still large and important, but he gives less attention to them than in younger years. For some time he has been practically retired from active cares and is making his home in Watsonville, where he has a large circle of warm personal friends. A life of more than eighty years has given him a broad experience and a wide knowledge. Age has not impaired his memory nor lessened his interest in public affairs, but he remains now, as in the past, a progressive, patriotic citizen. As early as 1852 he was made a Mason in Michigan Bluff Lodge No. 47, F. & A. M., in Placer county, and ever since then he has been a warm champion and defender of the principles of Masonry. He is a member of the Society of Pioneers of Santa Cruz county.

A few years after coming to the west Mr. Burland formed the acquaintance of Jemima Hudson, a native of Jefferson county, Iowa, who had crossed the plains in 1852 with her parents and settled at Bidwells Bar, in the central part of

this state. Their marriage was solemnized in San Francisco, in May, and three children came to bless the union, namely: William Henry, who is a resident of Los Angeles; Benjamin, who has charge of the home ranch; and Jennie Victoria, Mrs. Linscott, who resides at home. The family enjoys the high regard, not only of the pioneers acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Burland for many years, but also of the younger generation now prominent in civic and agricultural affairs.

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### JOHN W. BAXTER.

Although of comparatively recent inception the Pajaro Valley Mercantile Company is the offspring of enterprises long and honorably associated with the commercial development of Watsonville. The incorporation of the business enterprises headed by Otto Stoesser and W. A. Speckens with the J. A. Baxter Company was effected during May of 1905, at which time John W. Baxter, as the active representative of the company last-named, was elected vice-president of the new organization, the steady growth of which he has promoted by his keen commercial sagacity and capable discrimination. The central location of the store, at Nos. 337-339 Main street and 13-17-19 West Third street, affords admirable facilities for the handling of a large trade, in which the securing of satisfied customers is made the chief object of the proprietors. As a result of their sagacious judgment in the wholesale purchase of goods as well as their devotion to the interests of their customers, the business has shown a gratifying profit ever since its inauguration and now the prospects for continued success are the brightest.

The vice-president of the company is a native Californian and enjoys also the distinction of being a son of a Forty-

niner. The father, John A. Baxter, started for the west immediately after the discovery of gold and sailed on a vessel that rounded the Horn and slowly proceeded northward until San Francisco was reached. The young emigrant was fired with an ambition to engage in mining and for ten years after his arrival he led an existence of hardship and self-sacrifice in his efforts to discover gold in paying quantities. The occupation presented a radical change from the life with which he had been familiar prior to the westward migration, for he was a member of a prosperous and cultured family of Quincy, Mass. (his native city), and had received excellent educational advantages in the east. Upon relinquishing his mining interests about 1860 he embarked in merchandising and was thus engaged at Crescent City and Gilroy, making the latter town his home from about 1869 to 1884, when he removed to Watsonville, attracted hither by the promise of a prosperous future for the beautiful valley of the Pajaro. The store which he started at Watsonville carried a stock of paints, oils, wall paper and similar articles, as well as wagons, hardware and agricultural machinery. From the beginning of his business career he made it his undeviating rule to buy for cash. In this way he was able to secure lower prices than those who bought on credit and his customers reaped the benefit of these discounts. It was his claim that the secret of his success lay in his purchases for cash and that this one thing formed his sole advertisement with the public during a long career.

The marriage of John A. Baxter united him with Miss Leonora Wendell, who was born in Maine and came to California with her father as early as 1854. Since the death of Mr. Baxter, which occurred in 1907, his widow and son have continued to make their home in Watsonville.

John W. Baxter was born at Gilroy and received his edu-



cation largely in the schools of that town. From an early age he aided his father in the store and his broad knowledge of mercantile pursuits was acquired during the receptive period of youth, when impressions formed upon the plastic mind are most lasting. Like his father, he has always possessed a genuine liking for the valley and a profound faith in its ultimate high standing as one of the most fertile regions of the west. Movements for the commercial development of Watsonville receive his staunch co-operation.

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#### GEORGE A. MOREHEAD.

Through an intimate association with the commercial and agricultural enterprises of the Pajaro valley, Mr. Morehead has gained a thorough knowledge of the possibilities of this portion of California and has contributed his quota to the development of local resources. Since coming to the valley in 1875 he has studied the locality from the standpoint of a business man as well as a land-owner. Observations extending over this long period have convinced him that few places excel this valley in the opportunities it affords those desiring a healthful location with abundant facilities for the earning of a livelihood. His comfortable home in Watsonville occupies an attractive location at No. 613 Main street, and here his leisure hours are happily spent in the society of family and friends. During the busy season of recent years he has often spent considerable time in the country, packing and shipping apples, in the raising of which he has been extensively interested.

With one of the band of settlers that crossed the ocean to the colony of Virginia the Morehead family became established in America. Several successive generations lived and

labored in the Old Dominion. From there George W. Morehead with his wife, both Virginians by birth and education, crossed the mountains into Kentucky and from there proceeded westward to Missouri, where they took up a tract of raw land near the then small village of Mexico. During the remainder of their lives they were busily engaged in transforming their property into a comfortable and profitable homestead, and they both died at the old place. On that farm occurred the birth of their son, George A., in 1843, and there he was trained to habits of industry, self-reliance and intelligent labor. At the age of nineteen years he came to California and settled in the Sacramento valley, where he remained for twelve years, meanwhile attending for a short time the Atkins' Business College in Sacramento and later devoting his attention wholly to farming.

Upon coming to Watsonville in 1875 Mr. Morehead secured a position as bookkeeper with the Corralitos Lumber Company, in whose employ he continued during the five following years. At the expiration of that time he purchased the Watsonville drug store and for sixteen years he continued in business as a druggist. Upon selling out in 1896 he turned his attention to the fruit business and since then he has owned and sold several ranches. Shortly before he came to the Pajaro valley he established domestic ties, being united in marriage, April 11, 1875, with Miss Abbie Woodworth, who was born in Iowa, but at an early age in 1863 accompanied her father to California, settling in the Sacramento valley. The schools of that locality offered her fair advantages and enabled her to acquire an excellent education. Three children were born of her marriage, namely: Frank A., a druggist in Watsonville; Ada, who married C. F. Reynolds, of Chico, this state; and Elmer, who died aged twenty-two years. In fraternal associations Mr. Morehead has been identified with

the Foresters of America ever since the founding of their camp at Watsonville. Political problems command his attention to an unusual degree. It has been his aim to keep himself posted concerning the issues of the age, but as a rule he has declined nominations for public office, the sole exception to this having been his service of one term as city trustee. The volunteer fire department was one of the early enterprises of the town that enlisted his active help and at the expiration of his time as a fireman his name was transferred to the exempt list.

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#### ALBION P. JORDAN.

Several generations of the Jordan family lived and labored in the east, and one of its leading members, Capt. Peter Jordan, a shipbuilder by trade and a manufacturer of lime, served with distinguished gallantry as a captain during the war of 1812. Albion P., a son of the brave captain, grew to manhood at the old eastern home and there learned the lime business, also the trade of an engineer. Coming to California in 1849, at the age of twenty, he secured employment as engineer on a steamboat plying from Sacramento to San Francisco. While thus engaged he worked with another engineer, I. E. Davis. By accident they learned of a place where lime stone could be found. This Mr. Jordan's partner tested by burning it in the furnace of the steamboat engine and it proved to be of fine quality. The importance of the discovery was great. Previous to this no lime had been found in the vicinity of San Francisco and to ship it from the east was too expensive, so that the two young men realized that their discovery would bring them a fortune, if rightly managed. Resigning their positions, they started to walk to



the lime deposits. The journey was exhausting and the weather very cold, but hardships could not daunt them. Immediately after their arrival they built a kiln at the foothills near Redwood City and there manufactured the first lime used in the state. San Francisco furnished a convenient market and the extensive business brought wealth to the two partners. Removing to Santa Cruz in 1853 they engaged in the same business until 1864, when the failure of Mr. Jordan's health caused him to sell his interest to H. Crowell. Thereafter Mr. Jordan lived retired from business cares until his death, which occurred November 14, 1866. His partner, I. E. Davis, died September 25, 1888, having been spared to enjoy the fruits of his energy and wise judgment.

The marriage of Albion P. Jordan took place March 4, 1859, and united him with Miss Mary E. Perry, a native of Falmouth, Mass., but after 1853 a resident of Santa Cruz. Her father, John B. Perry, came to the west in 1850 and embarked in mining, but the failure of his health caused him to remove to Santa Cruz. Building a house, he sent back east for his family, who joined him in 1853. For many years he followed the carpenter's trade in the village and surrounding country, and many of the buildings which he erected in Santa Cruz and vicinity are standing at the present time. He also drew his own plans to work from. His family comprised his wife, Elizabeth (Green) Perry, and three children, Mary E., Charles C. and Alphonso B. When the daughter was fifteen years of age she taught a private school in the front room of her father's house and had about twenty-five pupils. Later she was engaged as assistant to Mrs. Eliza Farnham in teaching the first public school in Santa Cruz. By her marriage to Mr. Jordan three children were born. The eldest, Mary E., died at the age of two and one-half years.

The younger daughter, Marian A., Mrs. Herbert E. Cox, passed from earth at the age of thirty-eight years, leaving an only daughter, Gertrude J., who died August 12, 1902, at the age of sixteen years and ten months. The only son, Peter A. Jordan, now vice president of Dodge, Sweeney & Co., wholesale commission merchants, also importers and exporters of San Francisco married Blanche Hartwell, and has the following children, Loraine, Albion P., Marian E., and Hartwell, who are receiving the best advantages their home city affords.

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#### ISAIAH HARTMAN.

When it is remembered how many men have come from every part of our country, and even from other parts of the world, and have achieved signal success in California, it is not surprising that our state has risen to a position foremost among the commonwealths comprising the nation. The mineral wealth that first attracted emigrants proved to be of less value to permanent development than the wealth of soil, of timber and of commercial opportunities. These resources have called, with silent but intense force, to the young men of the world and the response has been quick, the result being that many have come to develop the vast resources of the region. The growth of the country has brought prosperity to the men connected therewith, while for the future the promise is even greater than for the past.

It was the good fortune of Isaiah Hartman to be brought to California in childhood and to acquire an early knowledge of the resources of the state, as well as the opportunities afforded to young men of determination and energy. He was born in Canada October 12, 1870, and spent the days of infancy in the parental home in that country. His father, John

Hartman, had immigrated to America from his native Germany, settling in Canada at the age of about twenty-five years. Before leaving the old home he had served an apprenticeship to the weaver's trade and had worked as a journeyman. The same occupation engaged his attention after he had settled in Canada. There he met and married Miss Barbara Kaufmann, a native of Germany. They became the parents of seven children, namely: Jacob, who came to Boulder Creek at an early age and is now engaged in mercantile pursuits; John, a resident of the state of Washington; Daniel, a member of the Hartman Mercantile Company at Boulder Creek; Menno, a resident of Santa Cruz; George, who is engaged in the lumber business at Boulder Creek; Charles, living in Santa Cruz county; and Isaiah, the youngest of the seven sons, and a resident of Santa Cruz county since he was a child of six years.

Primarily educated in local schools. Isaiah Hartman later was sent to a business college in the city of Santa Cruz, where he prepared for commercial activities. During 1890 he came to Boulder Creek, where he has since engaged in the real-estate and insurance business, also to a considerable extent has been interested in the buying and selling of lumber. Not only has he handled for others many properties in town and country, but in addition he has purchased land for himself from time to time. At this writing he owns more than three thousand acres of valuable land in the vicinity of Boulder Creek and is said to be among the largest property owners in Santa Cruz county. The acquisition of so large an area of territory represents the results of arduous labors. A firm believer in the value of our lands, he has invested in real estate from time to time as a favorable opportunity was offered, and all of his investments have been made in land.

Politically firm in his allegiance to Republican principles, Mr. Hartman has had local prominence in the party. During



1892 he was chosen constable. In August of 1896 he was appointed justice of the peace. To the same office he was regularly elected in 1898. This position he filled with impartiality and justice, displaying a knowledge of the law surprising in one not an accredited student of Blackstone. Upon establishing a home of his own he married Miss Maude Young, by whom he has four children, Barbara, Henry, Doris and Jean. Mrs. Hartman was born in the state of New York and came to California with her brothers and sister, who settled in Santa Cruz county in 1889.

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#### GEORGE R. HODGDON.

The history of the Hodgdon family in the United States dates from Revolutionary days, and was well and favorably known throughout the New England states for many generations. The first to depart from ancestral surroundings and establish the name on the western coast was George R. Hodgdon, who was born in Pittston, Kennebec county, Me., October 4, 1834, the son of Asa H. and Elizabeth (Parcher) Hodgdon, who were also natives of that same state.

The prospects of finding wealth in the mines of California was the thought uppermost in the minds of the seventy-five passengers who on October 13, 1852, set sail from Boston, Mass., on the ship *George Raynes*, under the guidance of Captain Penhallow. Among those on board besides George R. Hodgdon were the following members of the Scott family, whose achievements in Santa Cruz county have meant so much to the upbuilding of that part of the state: Capt. Daniel Scott, Joseph Scott, Caroline Scott (now Mrs. Sanborn, of San Francisco), Edwin Scott and wife, and John Scott. The voyage was made by way of Cape Horn, and

contrary to the general rule the weather proved unusually favorable, fair winds and favorable weather prevailing throughout the entire voyage of one hundred and twenty-seven days. During the passage they ran short of water but were able to take on a fresh supply at the island made famous by Daniel Defoe in his story of the experiences of "Robinson Crusoe." Only a few of the seventy-five original passengers who made the voyage in 1852 are now living.

Mr. Hodgdon came to Santa Cruz on a small schooner in 1853, hiring out on a farm owned by Hiram Scott in Scott's valley. For his services he received the munificent wage of \$75 per month and board, which was a large advance over the remuneration which he received in Maine, \$8 per month and board. After he had worked for Mr. Scott for twenty-one months and saved \$1,000 he decided to undertake a ranch of his own, on land which he rented from Mr. Scott. The venture did not prove as satisfactory as he had anticipated, however, and after giving it up he undertook mining at Shaw's Flat, Tuolumne county. One winter's experience sufficed to prove that he was not fitted for the life of the miner, and thereafter he returned to Santa Cruz and clerked in a store for a time. A longing to see his family and friends in Maine took him back there on a visit about this time, but the intense cold weather prevailing there at the time was the means of bringing him back to California sooner than he had originally planned. The return voyage was made by way of the Isthmus, and not by Cape Horn, as formerly.

Going to Redwood City in 1861, Mr. Hodgdon took charge of a ranch owned by a Mr. Hawes, managing it for about six months. The breaking out of the war between the north and south led to his enlistment in the service of the Union October 4, 1862, at San Francisco, in the Third United States Artillery. After the expiration of the term for which he en-

listed, during which time he was employed in garrison duty in the various forts in San Francisco bay, he re-enlisted in the United States Artillery and was stationed at Fort Riley, Kans. It was while there that he had a few skirmishes with the Indians on the plains. After the close of hostilities and his discharge from the service Mr. Hodgdon made a second visit to Maine, but as before he was willing to leave that locality and take up his life work in a climate less rigorous than prevails on the north Atlantic coast. Going to the middle west, he became interested in farming in Michigan and later in Iowa, remaining there altogether for fifteen years, when, in 1890, he went to Olympia, Wash. An experience there of a year and a half found him willing to return to California, which he did in 1890, and since then he has been a continuous resident of Santa Cruz. From 1895 until 1901 he served as superintendent of the county hospital in Santa Cruz, but since retiring from that position he has not been actively engaged in any business, finding all that he cares to do in looking after property which he owns in this city, besides which he owns a ranch in Soquel.

In Morley, Mecosta county, Mich., a marriage ceremony was performed in 1872 that united the lives of George R. Hodgdon and Miss Mary Vredensburg, a native of Barton, Steuben county, N. Y., and one daughter has been born to them, Marian T.



## L. B. McCORNICK.

Although not establishing a permanent home in Santa Cruz until 1883, Mr. McCornick had enjoyed a previous acquaintance with the town and had made a sojourn here as early as the year of 1870. Long identification with the citizenship as well as prominence in the building business gives to him a wide circle of acquaintances. Nor are his friends limited to the city of his residence. On the contrary, he is well known throughout the county, into every part of which his interests as a contractor have called him. Not only is he the pioneer builder of the town, but in addition it is said that he has erected more structures here than have been built by any other carpenter. Altogether, some one hundred or more buildings in and near Santa Cruz have been put up under his supervision and a number of these are public buildings and residences equal to any to be found in the large cities of the state.

Born in Western Canada April 8, 1844, L. B. McCornick had no special educational advantages, but he possessed the advantage of a thorough training as a carpenter. Canadians follow the old English custom of giving an apprentice the most rigorous training in his trade. Incompetency is not permissible among them. Intelligent industry is insisted upon in the smallest task, and the young carpenter therefore was thoroughly prepared for future responsibilities. Upon leaving home to earn his own way he went to Chicago and secured employment as a carpenter, but soon returned to his old Canadian home, whence in 1866 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. For two years he followed his trade in San Francisco, for one year worked at San Rafael, Marin county, and for a year also found employment near what is now Dixon, Solano county. During the

White Pine mining boom he went to Nevada in 1869, spending a year at those mines and in Virginia City. On his return to California he followed contracting in Santa Cruz. Next he went to the southern part of the state and took charge of a large flock of sheep, which he drove across the country through Nevada, Idaho and Utah, later disposing of them in Wyoming.

As early as 1876 Mr. McCornick had the contract for building the Pope house on Mission street, Santa Cruz. Later he built the Gatt school, an addition to the Brancefort school, and a livery barn on the corner of Vine and Mission streets. Other buildings he here erected are the Hageman hotel, Neary block, Staeffler block, and an addition to the St. George hotel, all on Pacific avenue. Several fine residences were built by him on Beach hill, as well as many beautiful homes on Ocean View avenue, also the Unitarian church and church house on Center street, the residence of Rev. Dr. Stone on High street and the Fagan house on Mission street. The old Mansion house at Watsonville was partly built by him, also the high school and a livery stable in the same town. In politics he votes with the Republican party, but he has been so busily engaged with business affairs that he has had no leisure for participation in politics and for office-holding. For thirty years he has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and during all of that long period he has contributed of means and influence to aid the philanthropic activities of the organization. His marriage, solemnized in 1877, united him with Miss Margaret Ketchum, by whom he has two daughters. The elder, Mary Vance, is the wife of Thomas Marquis, of San Francisco. The younger, Lucile, married S. W. Coleman, who holds a position as manager of the Union Traction, Gas and Electric Light Company, of Santa Cruz.

## JOHN WILLIAM MORGAN.

The influences surrounding the early years of Mr. Morgan were so varied and diverse that he developed a personality as unique as it was interesting. Under any circumstances and in any environment he would have been fearless and self-reliant, but these qualities became especially prominent through the associations that called them forth. Thrown upon his own resources at an age when most boys are pupils in school, he learned to depend upon himself and not to permit temporary failures or discouragements to lessen his determination to attain success. Whatever of prosperity came to him (and that was considerable) it may be attributed to his own indomitable energy, his courage in overcoming obstacles, his quiet persistence in any task attempted and his wise judgment gained in the great school of experience. His life was spared for many years after he made his first memorable journey across the plains in 1849 and it was his privilege to witness the remarkable rise of the state of his adoption, whose admission to the Union he learned of, when with a companion, John Baxter, he rowed out from shore to the American ship that brought papers announcing the glad tidings.

John William Morgan was born in Scioto county, Ohio, December 13, 1829, and in 1837 was orphaned by the death of his father, John Sanders Morgan. Afterward his mother, whose maiden name was Margaret Collier, became the wife of a Mr. Bergen and removed with him to Amhurstburg, Canada, but a year later left that place for Detroit, Mich. The son left home and returned to Canada, where he secured employment in a sawmill. While visiting his mother, during the spring of 1844, he was persuaded by his brother-in-law, David Gharkey, to accompany him on a trip to St. Louis, Mo. The



two traveled by steamboat to Chicago, from there by stage coach to Peru, Ill., and thence down the river to St. Louis, later going to Jefferson county, Mo. October 17, 1848, he there married Jane C. Pitzer, a native of St. Louis, and a daughter of Duiguid and Sarah (Myers) Pitzer. In infancy she lost her mother by death and afterward remained with her maternal grandparents for a time, but at the second marriage of her father she returned home and continued there until her marriage.

During March of 1849 Mr. Morgan joined an expedition bound for California, starting from St. Joseph, Mo., with a train of twenty wagons, commanded by Dr. Bassett as captain. The journey was pursued without event of importance until dissatisfactions arose, whereupon Mr. Morgan and two companions left the others. When they reached the Platte river they disposed of one of their three wagons. When finally they arrived in California they had little except the clothing they wore. Mr. Morgan's first occupation was the driving of an ox-team. Soon, however, he began to try his luck in the mines and met with some success. His accumulation of the gold-dust he kept concealed in an old boat in his cabin, but one night when he returned from work he found his precious savings had been stolen. To this discouragement was added the trouble caused by heavy rains, which rendered continued search for gold almost out of the question. Thereupon he abandoned the mine and went to Sacramento. Later he went to Negroes Bar, one mile below Norman's island, on the American river, where he entered into an agreement to manage a hotel for Francis Fowler on the Auburn road near Sacramento for \$300 per month. At the expiration of three months of hard work he had received only \$30, so he sought other openings. Later he mined at Ecker's bar until February of 1851, when he gave up the

work, took passage on a ship for the Isthmus of Panama, thence proceeded to his home in Missouri.

After having engaged in the manufacture of flour and lumber on the Big river in Jefferson county, Mo., until the spring of 1854, Mr. Morgan then started across the plains, accompanied by his wife. During August of the same year they reached Santa Cruz, the home of Mr. Morgan's sister and her husband. For two years he had charge of the wharf at this point and afterward he followed other occupations. Sixty acres of raw land near Santa Cruz became his property by purchase in 1864 and are now owned by his widow. Removing to Bear valley the next year, he entered the employ of Gen. John C. Fremont and continued in the same position until he took charge of the Hamlin mills on the Merced river. After returning to the farm near Santa Cruz he bought an adjacent tract of one hundred and twenty acres. Through general farming and stock-raising on this land he accumulated a competence. A man of great capability, he achieved a fair degree of success in spite of hardships and obstacles, and it was his pride to give each of his large family of children an excellent education, thus preparing them for the responsibilities of life. Not only did he take great pride in his children, but he also was proud of his adopted state and a believer in its possibilities. Devoted to the welfare of our country and a true patriot at heart, he cheerfully offered his services to the Union at the time of the Civil war and was prominent in a cavalry company organized at Santa Cruz, but to the disappointment of its members this company was not called into active service.

The death of John William Morgan occurred November 8, 1896, and removed from the county one of its most honored pioneers and public-spirited citizens, a man in every respect worthy of the high honor accorded him. The well-

improved farm was left to the widow, who remained on the homestead for a considerable period and gave personal management to the estate. Eventually, however, she removed to Santa Cruz, where now she owns and occupies a comfortable residence at No. 36 Washington street. Her family comprised the following-named children: John Sanders, a resident of San Francisco, who married Cornelia Moger, by whom he has one son, Harry; Samuel David, a resident of Oakland, who married Miss Tennessee Beal, and has a daughter, Mrs. Ethel McCabe; George D., who married Julia Walker and has six children, George, John, Harold, Frank, Walter and Donald; Sarah, who is manager of the Woman's Exchange of Santa Cruz; Martha, who is at home; Charles, who married Elizabeth Trevethan and has six children, Mabel, Earl, Lucile, Everett, Lottie and Madaline; William, who married Eva Trevethen and has two children, Genevieve and Alexander; Bertha, the wife of Alexander Marquess, of San Francisco and the mother of one son, Pierre; and Jeannette, who died March 7, 1910.

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#### WESLEY P. YOUNG.

The early years in the life of Wesley P. Young were uneventfully passed on a farm in New Hampshire, where he was born in May of 1838, the descendant of an honored pioneer family of New England. The old homestead, around which his earliest recollections are centered, occupied a location where the rocky soil and rigorous winters offered only a scanty livelihood in return for the most exhausting labors, and in his boyhood he determined to seek a location where Nature smiled more readily upon the efforts of man. As soon as he had attained maturity he started out to earn his



own way and was attracted to the Pacific coast by its recognized opportunities and enjoyable climate. During 1858 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Having gained a thorough knowledge of dairying in the east he sought employment at the occupation with which he was familiar, and followed this for a short time. Subsequently he conducted a dairy ranch on his own account in Marin county for five years, having a herd of three hundred cows and employing fourteen persons. Subsequently he established himself on a dairy ranch near Pescadero, San Mateo county, remaining there eight years, after which he started a dairy near Salinas on a ranch owned by David Jack.

In 1867 Mr. Young was induced to come to Santa Cruz, the change of location appealing favorably to him as it was convenient to his two ranches, and also on account of the genial climate. Here he engaged in butchering and also in the grocery business. At this writing, and since about 1900, he has been proprietor of a large dyeing and cleaning establishment located at No. 20 Locust street, Santa Cruz. In this line of work he has been a pioneer and the success of the venture shows that it met an appreciated want. Since coming to this city he has bought real estate and identified himself closely with the interests of the community. Particularly has he been active in local political affairs. From youth he has been steadfast in his devotion to Republican principles and he feels a pride in the fact that it was his privilege to cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln. Twice he was elected to the council of Santa Cruz and during both of these terms he contributed his quota to the movements for local betterment. For a number of years he served as a member of the city school board. In fraternal relations he has been connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for a long period and meanwhile has been honored with

election to all the chairs in the local lodge. Twice married, his first union took place in 1862, his wife being Miss Linora A. Walker. Five children were born of their marriage, namely: Elrey E.; Etta, who is the wife of H. B. Arnold and resides in San Francisco; Percy, who makes Santa Cruz his home; Josephine, the wife of Normal Martin of San Francisco, where he is employed in the office of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and Foster, who during youth studied for the law, received admission to practice before the supreme court of California and is now an attorney in San Francisco. After the death of his first wife, which occurred in 1887, Mr. Young was united in marriage with May Rose McKay, a native of France. Among the substantial citizens of Santa Cruz he occupies a place. Public spirited in act, generous in disposition, loyal in patriotic devotion to the community, he represents that type of citizens so indispensable to the permanent progress of the state.

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#### J. B. PERKINS.

Numerous villages, scattered throughout the central coast counties, owe their prosperity and commercial standing to the progressive spirit displayed by a few men who readily are accounted as the most prominent citizens of their respective towns. Such a man is J. B. Perkins, who for a long period has been identified intimately with the business affairs and civic interests of Boulder Creek and has contributed largely to the upbuilding of enterprises calculated to advance the general welfare. Life has brought to him experiences in various parts of the country. In early years he resided in the east, but in mature manhood he became identified with the central states and eventually he came to the

western coast. Of these various regions, he gives the preference to the west, and he has never regretted the decision that he made to cast in his lot with the people of this favored section.

The first representative of the Perkins family in California was Abel Perkins, a pioneer of the historic year of 1849, but not a permanent resident of the west. From his home in New Hampshire he started across the plains with a large expedition of gold-seekers and after a tedious journey with ox-teams he arrived at his destination during the autumn of the year that brought thousands of Argonauts to the western shores. Until 1852 he engaged in mining in Amador and Placer counties. A fair degree of success rewarded his efforts and with the accumulations of those months of labor and self-denial he returned to his old eastern home, content there to spend his remaining years. He had married some time before going west and his son, J. B., had been born in 1843, in Unity, N. H. During his boyhood the parents moved to Claremont, N. H., and there he was educated, and there also he learned lessons of industry on the home farm. It was not his desire to remain in the east and as soon as he was permitted to start out in the world for himself he went to Missouri, where he took up land and engaged in farming for about ten years. Coming to California during 1878 he settled at Boulder and since then he has made this village his home.

Various enterprises have occupied the attention of J. B. Perkins since he came to Santa Cruz county. The lumber business afforded him a means of livelihood in early days. Ranching also engaged his time with a fair degree of success. Principally, however, he has been interested in mercantile pursuits, having been identified with the same since about 1894, and since the year 1901 he has acted as manager



of the Boulder Creek Mercantile Company, a flourishing corporation transacting a large business in its special line. Besides filling the duties of manager, he has been prominent in civic affairs and at this writing efficiently fills the office of treasurer of the town. While living in Missouri he married Miss Nellie Robinson in 1868 and they are the parents of a daughter, Edee, wife of C. S. Perkins, of Boulder Creek. The family has a high social standing and enjoys the friendship of their wide circle of acquaintances.

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#### SEDGWICK J. LYNCH.

This prominent pioneer of 1849 was born at Sandy Lake, Mercer county, Pa., April 25, 1822, and was a son of John and Mary (Fowler) Lynch, natives respectively of Ireland and Scotland. Upon completing a grammar-school education he was apprenticed, at the age of fifteen, to James D. Moore, a carpenter of Mercer, with whom he remained until the expiration of his time, and later he worked as a journeyman. During the spring of 1845 he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, as foreman for a contracting firm, in whose employ he later went to Nashville, Tenn., for the purpose of building a flouring mill and a distillery. Other work in his line kept him at Nashville until the discovery of gold in California, when he went to New Orleans and took passage on a vessel bound for Panama. Arriving at the isthmus he found about six thousand Americans anxiously awaiting a steamer to take them up the Pacific ocean to San Francisco. It was four weeks before he was able to secure passage for himself and he then embarked on the ship Senator, which cast anchor at San Francisco October 5, 1849. Later this ship ran on the Sacramento river and Mr. Lynch was employed as repair man on the

vessel for some time. Meanwhile he also carried all letters and mail packages from San Francisco to Sacramento, receiving from forty cents to \$1 each. For a time he worked for Frank Ward at \$20 per day and assisted in the erection of several buildings on Montgomery street, Sacramento.

Anxious to try his luck in mining, Mr. Lynch sailed by ship as far as possible on the river and then traveled with pack-mules for a considerable distance, afterward walking through snow six feet deep. Scarcely had he and his companions arrived at Downieville when a snow storm began and for fourteen days they suffered the inclemencies of the weather with scant shelter and scarcely any food. Their starving condition forced them to seek another camp, although they were obliged for a time to walk through snow eight feet deep and not sufficiently hardened to bear their weight. When finally they reached the mines it was some time before they had recuperated sufficiently to begin work. As a miner Mr. Lynch met with some luck, his first venture bringing two and one-half pounds of gold per day. Returning to San Francisco in June of 1850 he engaged in the building business and also served as a member of the vigilance committee. During 1851 he came to Santa Cruz and opened a carpenter's shop in the building subsequently occupied by Henry Crowell. After a time he disposed of the business to Jordan & Davis and then erected the first planing mill in Oakland. As a member of a surveying expedition he assisted in surveying from the base of Mount Diablo through the state to the Colorado desert, where two of the party were killed by the Mojave Indians. On his return to Santa Cruz in 1854 he built for Jordan & Davis the first wharf erected on the open coast of California. On the completion of the wharf he took other contracts for buildings of all kinds and formed a partnership with George Gregg,

of Santa Cruz, the two building a planing mill and store and opening lumber yards at Los Angeles, Wilmington and Compton.

The partnership was dissolved in 1870 and afterward Mr. Lynch became interested with J. M. Griffith, of Los Angeles, in a factory for the making of sash, doors, blinds and general mill work. Success continued to reward the efforts of the partners until the retirement of Mr. Lynch in 1876 and his return to Santa Cruz, where he erected an elegant, attractive residence, in the midst of spacious grounds, adorned with flowering plants and ornamental trees. From that time he lived in retirement, enjoying the fruits of years of intelligent activity, and holding a position among the most prominent men of his home town. At the organization of the first bank here he had purchased stock and in many other ways he had been a promoter of early financial and commercial enterprises. Fraternally he held membership with the Masons and when he died May 30, 1881, he was buried with the solemn rites of that order. Although it has been long since he engaged in the building business many of his structures remain, to bear testimony to his skill in carpentering. Among these buildings are wharfs and bridges, mills and stores, as well as a large number of the most substantial residences of those days.

The marriage of Mr. Lynch was solemnized February 16, 1858, and united him with Miss Jane Donohue daughter of Thomas and Jane (McKee) Donohue. The father of Mrs. Lynch died while yet a young man and later his widow was married to Frank Shields. After the death of her second husband she came to California and made her home with her daughter in Santa Cruz, where she died in 1891, at the age of seventy-nine years. The death of Mr. Lynch was a deep bereavement to his wife and children, as well as a distinct loss



to the citizenship of Santa Cruz. After his demise Mrs. Lynch made her home at No. 118 Riggs street until her death, October 21, 1910, surrounded by the comforts of existence, ministered to by her surviving children and respected by a host of old-time friends. Two of her sons, both of whom were named in honor of their father, Sedgwick J., Jr., and Sedgwick J., died in early life. One of her daughters, Elizabeth, died at the age of fourteen years, and another daughter, Alice, Mrs. Elmer E. Simpson, died in young womanhood. Of the family there now remain four children, namely: Mary J., who is the wife of Charles E. Withee; Fannie, Mrs. William E. Craig; Almira, the wife of L. Hunt; and William J., of Santa Cruz.

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#### JOHN H. COVELL.

A modern enterprise, successfully conducted in Watsonville, is the Watsonville Garage Company, on Fourth and Main streets. The present manager and half owner acquired the old Watsonville garage October 20, 1908, at which time there were only about four cars maintained in the valley, where now there are one hundred and twenty-five. January 1, 1911, Mr. Covell sold a half interest in his business to W. H. Weeks and the firm has since been known as the Watsonville Garage Company, of which he is manager, and ten men are now employed. Keeping pace with the demand, the proprietors have increased their stock until they now carry a line of about twenty machines, ample facilities for their care being afforded by the large room, with a frontage of seventy feet and a depth of one hundred and fifty feet. The necessary equipment has been provided for the repairing of automobiles and a general machine shop and vulcanizing plant is conducted in connection with the renting of cars. Mr. Covell

is an excellent judge of machines, recognizes their superior points at a glance and with equal promptness discerns their defects, if such they possess. In addition he is a skilled chauffeur.

Of Californian birth and eastern parentage, John H. Covell was born at Albitos, Santa Cruz county, September 29, 1875, being a son of W. H. and Maggie (Horen) Covell, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. At a very early day the father came to California by way of Cape Horn and afterward followed the occupation of lumbering, being employed for years as a head-sawyer in lumber camps. The prosecution of this work took him successively into Yuba and Monterey counties, then to the redwood region and finally to San Benito county. After years of activity in his chosen occupation he passed from earth in 1906. His wife survived him, dying in September of 1908. All of their five children still survive. The education of J. H. Covell was acquired in the schools of Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. The family had only enough for their daily needs and each child, as soon as old enough, was obliged to take up the burden of self-support, his early tasks being such as fall to a day laborer. For a considerable period he was employed on a hay ranch and while working in that occupation he gained a thorough knowledge of the industry.

Coming to Watsonville in 1900 Mr. Covell embarked in the hay business on a very small scale, his original capital being limited to \$25. Within two years he had greatly expanded and enlarged the business and was considered among the leading hay merchants of the county. This result had not come to him accidentally, but was achieved by tireless energy and a careful study of the occupation to which he was devoting his attention. Until he acquired the garage he continued to buy and ship hay, meanwhile having many large

and prominent customers. For a considerable period he represented the Wells-Fargo Company and Summers & Co., of San Francisco, shipping to their city addresses all of the hay, straw and feed that they needed in their large plants.

In politics Mr. Covell always has been staunch in his allegiance to the Republican party and on that ticket in May of 1906 he was elected an alderman, serving for one term as a member of the board. In religion he is of the Catholic faith and his parents lie buried in the cemetery of that denomination at Watsonville. The church has received his generous support and he has been staunch and loyal to its doctrines. Fraternally he holds membership with the Foresters of America, the Eagles, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Native Sons of the Golden West, and on three different occasions he has been honored by being chosen a delegate to the state camp of the Foresters. Many of his warmest friends are members of the fraternal orders to which he belongs, but in addition he has a large circle of other friends, for he possesses the genial disposition, energetic temperament, companionable manner and warm heart that always bring their possessor many firm friends in every circle of society. January 1, 1911, Mr. Covell sold a half interest in his business to W. H. Weeks and the firm has since been known as the Watsonville Garage Company, of which he is manager and ten men are now employed.



## FREDERICK THURWACHTER.

Experiences giving him an insight into various parts of the old world and the new were culminated by the arrival of Mr. Thurwachter in California, where he has made his home since the year 1854, and where for years he has been engaged in ranching. Born in Rheinpfalz, Germany, May 26, 1833, he grew up under native skies until he attained his seventeenth year, at which time the family home was transferred to the United States. This was the period of the great gold excitement in California, when many thousands of emigrants found a home on our hospitable shores, many of whom came hither for the purpose of founding a home for their growing families where advantages were more promising, than with the expectation of delving in the mines. From New York City, where the family landed in 1850, they went to Syracuse, N. Y., the same year, and there they continued united and contented for four years, when the ties were broken by the departure of Frederick for the Pacific coast country.

Returning to New York City, Frederick Thurwachter there boarded a vessel bound for the Isthmus of Panama, and after reaching the western coast of the isthmus, took passage on a vessel which landed him in San Francisco October 13, 1854. A short time was there passed in visiting points of interest, after which he came to Santa Cruz county and located at Soquel. During the year passed there he became interested in mining, and going to Calaveras county, engaged in this business successfully for three years. With the proceeds of his labor he then returned to Santa Cruz county, reaching Watsonville July 16, 1858, and since that time he has been interested in ranching pursuits continuously. His first endeavor was on rented land in this vicinity, an undertaking which fully met his expectations, and at the end of eight

years, in 1866, he became proprietor of a ranch of his own, on the Beach road. This consists of one hundred and thirteen and a-half acres which at the time of purchase was barren of all improvements, and all that it has since become has been the work of his own hands. The improvements include a fine family residence and commodious barns suited to the needs of his ranch. Fifteen acres of the ranch is in Bell-flower apples, which yield abundantly and add a neat sum to the annual income.

The marriage of Mr. Thurwachter, October 13, 1862, united him with Miss Catherine Sweeney, a native of Ireland, but a resident of San Francisco at the time of her marriage. Of the children born to them three are living, Margaret Caroline and Ella Teresa at home, and Frances Louise, wife of Henry Schroder, also a resident of Watsonville, and the mother of one child, Catherine. Politically Mr. Thurwachter is a Republican.

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#### R. S. TAIT.

The chief of the fire department of Santa Cruz, who also holds the responsible position as manager of the Santa Cruz City Water Company, was born in San Andreas, Calaveras county, this state, in November of 1863, being the son of pioneer parents identified with the west from an early period of its occupancy by Americans. From the age of four years he has lived in Santa Cruz, where he received a grammar-school education and afterward learned the trade of plumber. Throughout all of his active life he has been identified with movements for furnishing water to the city. By efficiency and perseverance he worked his way upward until he was appointed manager of the Hihn Water Company and for ten years he filled that responsible position, eventually resigning

in April of 1905 in order to take the position of City Electrician and which he held for four years, and during the year 1909 was appointed by Mayor Drullard to the position of Superintendent of the water works. This municipal movement has proved satisfactory to customers. From its reservoir is supplied the most of the water used in the city. Worthy of note is the fact that the company supplies water free to all of the churches, the public schools and the public library, by which act the interests of the tax-payers are considered.

In early life Mr. Tait acquired a thorough knowledge of electricity and for four years he filled the position of city electrician with the greatest efficiency. However, he is doubtless most widely known through his long and intimate identification with the volunteer fire department of Santa Cruz, which he joined in 1884 at the age of twenty-one years. When the department was still in its infancy he ran with the old hand-cart to answer alarms of fire. It was while he was serving as foreman (to which position he was appointed in 1894) that Chief Ely reorganized the entire system and converted it into a pay department. The present complete organization and excellent equipment may be attributed to his persevering efforts. Realizing the need of adequate protection in case of destructive fires, he has spared no pains to secure the latest improved equipment. The present equipment, although a great advance upon that of other years, is not satisfactory to him, and he is urging the advisability of providing an automobile fire equipment. That now in use consists of a combined chemical and hose firewagon, one hose cart with horse, and three hand hose carts. The water pressure of eighty-five pounds can be increased to two hundred pounds, if needed. The water reservoir covers seventeen acres and has a capacity of sixty million gallons. After he



had filled all the other positions in the fire department, Mr. Tait was elected chief in 1899 and ever since then he has remained at its head, diligently advancing its interests, enhancing its usefulness and developing its equipment as the means at hand will permit. The system of alarms consists of twelve boxes and is operated by electricity, being thoroughly modern in construction. Indeed, the entire plant is modern and complete, to such degree as the available funds will allow, and there is little doubt that future years will witness an increasing interest in the needs of the department and an increasing desire to institute an equipment second to none among cities of this size throughout the state.

It has not been possible for Mr. Tait to take an active part in politics, by reason of the multitude of private duties. However, he is a stanch Democrat and never fails to cast a ballot for the party ticket. Fraternally he holds membership with the Maccabees, the Foresters of America and the Knights of Columbus. His comfortable home in Santa Cruz is presided over by Mrs. Tait, formerly Miss Margaret Peterson, a native of the state. Their family comprises five children, May, Harry, Margaret, Robert and Josephine, to whom have been and are being given the best educational advantages the city of Santa Cruz affords.

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#### WILLIAM A. HORTON.

The county assessor of Santa Cruz county is one of the young officials whose life presents an instance of a gradual rise from humble circumstances to a position of trust and responsibility. Not to his humble roof did fate bring the opportunities showered upon many unappreciative lads. It was not even possible for him to attend school regularly,

for the necessity of self-support was laid upon him at an early age. Notwithstanding this handicap he won his way forward. Self-reliance was developed through force of circumstances. Habits of observation and of careful reading brought to him a fund of knowledge superior to that boasted by many a graduate. Thus a stern and uninviting environment became the foundation by which he rose to honor and trust. A kindly interest in others, the result of his own early struggles, and a genial, companionable temperament, have brought him popularity among acquaintances and prominence in the city of his adoption.

Illinois is the native state of Mr. Horton. He was born in Bureau county, October 3, 1870, and from boyhood earned his own livelihood. At the age of fifteen years he came to California with other members of the family and settled in Stanislaus county, but a year later removed to the city of Santa Cruz. Chance led him into the plumbing business in boyhood and he served an apprenticeship to the trade, but the work was not congenial and he never engaged in it as an occupation. During 1888 he entered the employ of Williamson & Garnett, a large grocery company in Santa Cruz, and in their store he remained for fourteen years, meanwhile rising from a lowly clerkship to a position of trust as salesman. During 1902 he resigned his position in order to become under-sheriff of the county with Sheriff Trafton and he continued thus for four years. The year 1906 found him a candidate for the office of county assessor. To that important office he was elected on the Democratic ticket by a majority of nine hundred and eleven. In the city of Santa Cruz, where he is popular with all parties and classes, he polled a very heavy vote. November 8, 1910, he was re-elected under the new primary act, being a candidate on both party tickets, Republicans and Democrats endorsing him.

The marriage of Mr. Horton took place in 1891 and united him with Miss Susie C. Trimble, a native of California and daughter of a pioneer of the Pajaro valley. Of this union he has two sons, Allen and Stanley. It has been a source of pleasure to him to identify himself with various organizations and in some of these orders he has had the further advantage of insurance protection. Included among the societies of which he is a member may be mentioned the Woodmen and Foresters, the Knights of Columbus and the Maccabees. Since his election to office he has devoted his time closely to discharging every duty incumbent upon him. Painstaking care is one of his characteristics as an officer, and combined with that quality he has exhibited the traits of accuracy, promptness and courtesy indispensable to successful service of the public.

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#### SAMUEL E. MILLER.

The former superintendent of the county hospital of Santa Cruz county was born on one of the islands in the St. Lawrence river, April 5, 1859, and the recollections of his early childhood center around the picturesque environment of that region. Although isolated from the world of commercial and educational activity, he was not deprived of education, but by the study of the text-books of that day he gained the information necessary for practical contact with business affairs. As a means of livelihood he took up the occupation most intimately associated with his boyhood, that of steamboating, and for five years he was employed on the river boats, meanwhile making many trips to Montreal and other important ports along the St. Lawrence. On discontinuing work on steamboats he settled across the river in New York, where



for two years he was engaged in a butter and cheese factory at Massena and later he held a clerkship in the Hartford house at Massena Springs.

Coming to California during the year 1883, Mr. Miller settled in Santa Cruz, where he secured employment with the Grover Lumber Company. In a short time he became connected with Swan's bakery, after which for three years he managed a dairy for Messrs. Baldwin and Wilder. On leaving the dairy he returned to work in the bakery. Later he was employed by the Southern Pacific Company at Tulare. His next venture was as a grocer and for three years he operated a business of his own, after which he engaged in ranching in the mountains. The outdoor labor and mountain air proved effective in restoring his health, which had been injured by the confinement incident to indoor pursuits. When he left the ranch he entered the meat business with Walti & Schillings and for five years he continued in that connection, resigning in 1901 in order to accept the position of superintendent of the county hospital. After filling this position acceptably for many years he resigned February 1, 1911, and has since been retired from active business, finding all that he cares to do in looking after his investments and real estate. Fraternally he holds membership with the Maccabees, Foresters and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In 1886 he married Miss Anna Harris, a native of Santa Cruz, and by the union there is a daughter, Loraine A. Miller.

The Santa Cruz county hospital is one of the best-equipped institutions of its kind in the state, and many of its improvements were made under the supervision of Mr. Miller, who gave satisfaction to all in the position of superintendent. A great transformation was wrought in all parts of the institution during his eight or more years of service, and for this work he is deserving of due credit. New buildings and im-

provements were added to the equipment during the latter part of his incumbency at a cost of \$16,000. Noticeable among the improvements is the commodious modern kitchen, where crude oil has replaced wood at a saving of \$35 per month. For use in the kitchen Mr. Miller invented an oil burner that proved very successful. The latest invention to be installed in the kitchen, was a Fearless dishwasher. The hospital has its own laundry with a complete equipment for such work. A new woodhouse was built, 40x20 feet in dimensions, and a dining-room was added, seating one hundred persons. A modern operating room was installed in the hospital under the direction of Dr. W. R. Congdon, the county physician. New hospital wards and modern plumbing, with well-equipped bathrooms, were added, making of the hospital one of the most complete and modern in the whole state. The grounds around the hospital are adorned with flowering plants and shrubs that lend a touch of beauty to the scene, while utility also was considered in the large vegetable and fruit garden that furnished ample supplies of their kind to the well-kept table, and the hospital dairy furnished butter and milk in abundance. Altogether, under the superintendence of Mr. Miller the hospital was conducted along utilitarian lines satisfactory to the people, helpful to the patients and creditable to the energy and sagacity of the superintendent.

## F. D. PRETTYMAN.

The vice-president and manager of the Watsonville Canning Company has been a lifelong resident of the west and traces his lineage to a long line of honored and industrious American ancestors. Many generations remained in the east. The ties that bound them to friends and kindred along the Atlantic coast were too strong to be broken by the lure of the west, and it was not until near the middle of the nineteenth century that the name was transplanted on the Pacific shores. During the year 1847 David D. Prettyman, a stalwart lad of fifteen years, accompanied his parents from his native Delaware across the plains to Oregon, where he grew to manhood, took up the active duties of life, and remained for many years, honored by all who knew him. Four years prior to his decease he came to California and settled in Oakland, where he spent his remaining days. His widow, who is now seventy-nine years of age and a resident of Los Angeles, was born in Iowa and bore the maiden name of Sarah Ann Riggs. They were the parents of only two children, F. D. and L. C., the latter living in Los Angeles. The former was born in Portland, Ore., April 24, 1857, and received his primary education in the Salem grammar school, after which he studied in the Willamette University.

Various occupations have afforded Mr. Prettyman a livelihood at different times in his life and various localities, both in Oregon and in California, have benefited by his progressive citizenship. For a time after leaving school he was employed as a clerk in Salem, but at the expiration of three years he resigned the clerkship and turned his attention to the nursery business in Salem. Two years later he gave up that occupation in order to engage in general farming. Next we find him in Idaho, where he followed ranching from 1886



until 1888, and this brief period represents his sole experience with affairs elsewhere than in Oregon and California. Coming to this state in 1888 he settled in the lower part of Monterey county and for three years engaged in ranching. Later he was connected with the Southern Pacific Railroad as a baggageman. Meanwhile he made his home at Pajaro. Upon resigning the position in 1892 he came to Watsonville, where he since has made his home. A careful investigation of horticultural interests in this locality convinced Mr. Prettyman that an opening existed for a business in the packing and shipping of fruit. Accordingly in 1892 he began to buy from the orchardists of the valley and this fruit he shipped to various markets. The quality of the output was so satisfactory that his original customers continued to send orders and others learned of the fruit, so that new customers were constantly being added to the list of patrons. After a few years the proprietor found that cider could be profitably manufactured from apples not sufficiently perfect to ship. The making of cider led him also into the vinegar business in 1900. Five years later the plant was enlarged so that fruit could be canned during seasons when it was not profitable to make shipments of the fresh article. It is worthy of note that the firm canned the first fruit ever preserved on a large scale in Santa Cruz county. From that small beginning a large industry has expanded. During 1907 the cider and vinegar business was sold to a gentleman from Louisville, Ky., and the principal products are now canned apples and berries. From 1892 until 1902 the business was conducted under the title of Prettyman & Wolf. During the year last named the Prettyman-Wolf Co. was incorporated with Mr. Prettyman as president, and in 1906 the Watsonville Canning Company was incorporated, with the following officers: George H. Hooke, San Francisco, president; F. D. Prettyman, vice-

president and manager; and William Hooke, of San Francisco, secretary.

During the entire period of his residence in Watsonville Mr. Prettyman has been warmly interested in movements for the advancement of the city. Since 1902 he has acted as a member of the Republican county central committee and at this writing he is also a member of the city council, having been elected to the position in 1907 for a term of four years. In fraternal relations he is associated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World. During 1886 he was united in marriage with Miss Etta Smith, of Salem, Ore., whose father was one of the Illinois pioneers of Oregon. In religious connections Mr. and Mrs. Prettyman hold membership in the Episcopal and Christian churches respectively.

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#### J. D. CHACE.

In the pioneer days of the state of California J. D. Chace came to the Pacific coast to take up life under new and untried conditions. That his efforts for the welfare of his adopted state were prolific of results is evidenced by the place given him in the annals of Santa Cruz county, where he was known for years as one of the prominent factors in the development of natural resources. He was born in Hamden, Delaware county, N. Y., March 29, 1830, and was reared in the east, remaining there until he was twenty years of age. Gold had been discovered in California in the meantime and a commendable ambition to participate in the benefits to be derived therefrom brought him to the west in the year 1850. The voyage to the Isthmus was made on the steamer Ohio, and on the Pacific side on the steamer Republic, from which

he debarked at San Francisco August 25, 1850. His first mining experience was near Auburn, and from there he went to the mines of Calaveras county, and altogether he followed this with varying success for three years.

Following his mining experiences, from 1853 until the early '60s, Mr. Chace was variously occupied in San Francisco, after which he came to Santa Cruz county and became associated in the lumber business with George Liddell, the pioneer in this industry in the county, and after Mr. Liddell's retirement from business Mr. Chace continued the business alone for a number of years. Finally he too withdrew from the business and locating in Santa Cruz engaged in the butcher business, becoming one of the pioneer market men of the town. Besides the Washington market in Santa Cruz, he also maintained branch stores in Felton and Soquel. All of the meat handled in his markets was supplied from his own large cattle ranch of four hundred and eighty-five acres near Santa Cruz. His success in business was truly enviable, but was the natural outcome of the combination of qualities that make for success, indomitable perseverance, care of detail and the application of high moral and business principles in all of his transactions. Popular as he was in business circles, he was even more so in the public life of his community, and the two terms in which he served as mayor of Santa Cruz, from 1881 to 1884, mark a period of the city's greatest progress and usefulness.

Mr. Chace's marriage in 1859 united him with Miss Elizabeth Liddell, who was born in England, the daughter of one of the state's early pioneers, George Liddell. Born of this marriage are the following children: John R., who is a prominent business man in San Jose; Elliott G., a resident of San Juan; Harriet E., Mrs. Cotton; Minnie L., the wife of Fred Hihn, of Santa Cruz; Jennie, the wife of J. W. Lewis,



of San Francisco; Charles H., a resident of San Jose; George, deceased; Herbert, of San Jose; and Mabel, the wife of S. F. Groves. Fraternally Mr. Chace was identified with a number of orders, among them the Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, and such was his interest in them that he frequently attended meetings pertaining to their progress and welfare held in the east. Personally he was a man of large sympathy and great tenderness, and possessed in large measure the happy faculty of making and retaining friends in whatever position he was placed. This was nowhere more noticeable than during his incumbency as mayor, perfect harmony being the rule rather than the exception in the council during the two terms that he filled that position. One of the most important accomplishments of his administration was the opening of the Cliff road, which has been of incalculable benefit to the country round about.

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### JOHN LEIBBRANDT.

No name has been more intimately identified with the development of Santa Cruz as a seashore resort than that of Leibbrandt. Due credit should be given to the members of the family for their activity in promoting the material prosperity of the city along a line of permanent value. By inaugurating improvements on the water-front they gave an impetus to a movement which resulted in the city attaining a position among the favorite and beautiful coast resorts of the state. Their civic labors extended into other lines and a number of movements indispensable to local progress owe much to their sustaining aid. Side by side with the names of many other patriotic pioneers stand the names of the members of this stalwart family of pioneers, and in the an-

nals of local history they are worthy of conspicuous mention.

The founder of the name in California was John Leibbrandt, Sr., who came to California in 1857 by way of the Isthmus of Panama and who for years prior to his death in 1895 held a prominent position in the citizenship of Santa Cruz. During young manhood he had married Miss Christina Custer, who was born in the south, descended from ancestors identified from colonial days with the history of America. It is a matter of history that her progenitors were among the first settlers in our country from the old world, and she was one of the original heirs of the spoliation claim. Her father and George Washington were own cousins. Many other relatives were prominent in securing independence for the land during the Revolutionary struggle.

When the family came to California in 1857 the father, John, Sr., settled in Trinity county and became interested in mining, meeting with fair success in these ventures. The year 1859 found him a pioneer of Santa Cruz. Shortly after his arrival he bought thirty acres of water-front property, on the site of which now stand the beautiful Casino and bath-house. To him belongs the honor of conceiving the idea of making Santa Cruz a seaside resort. The initial step in that direction was taken in 1868, when he built a swimming tank, bath-house and entertainment hall on his property. From time to time the buildings were enlarged as needed and he continued to manage them until his death. John, Jr., who was born in Fort Wayne, Ind., November 20, 1849, was associated with his father and later with his brother, David, in the management of the seashore resort. The property was sold to the Casino Company in 1905 and since then he has lived practically retired from business responsibilities. When the father died the estate was equally divided among the children, and John, Jr., and David thus acquired large

mining interests in Trinity county. Trinity street in Santa Cruz was named after their gold mine and Leibbrandt street was named in honor of the family. In 1889 John, Jr., was united in marriage with Miss Clara Horthorn, a native of Ohio, and by this union he has one son, Clyde. In fraternal relations he is identified with the Knights of Pythias.

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### MRS. NANCY MYRICK.

It has never been conceded even by the most prejudiced that the greater part of the credit for the pioneer development of California is due to men alone. Indeed, women have ever been the abiding inspiration of the men who came as pioneers to the west and the credit due them for their helpfulness must ever overshadow anything that man has accomplished. Among the noble and self-sacrificing women who have witnessed the development of California from the days of the mining excitement until the present is Mrs. Nancy Myrick, who came to the west when a child of ten years and has literally grown up with the country.

Near Galena, Jo Daviess county, Ill., Mrs. Myrick was born in 1842 into the home of her parents, Henry and Lucy Minerva (Imus) Ryse, and until she was ten years of age her life was associated with her birthplace. Her father, who was a native of North Carolina, had followed farming for many years after his removal to Illinois, apparently contented with his lot until the finding of gold in California created an interest in the far west that made him wish to participate in its advantages. With the household goods and sufficient supplies for the long journey across the plains the family set out from Illinois in the spring of 1852 behind ox-teams and finally, after a long and tiresome trip, landed at



Santa Cruz. Accommodations for caring for the newcomers to the west at this time were limited indeed as compared with the demands, a fact which Mr. Ryse readily recognized upon locating in Santa Cruz and his decision to open a hotel in the town proved a wise one. In addition to conducting his hostelry for many years he also served as judge for four years and for one term represented his county in the state legislature. Subsequently he purchased and located upon one hundred and ninety-two acres of land four miles from Santa Cruz, which he ran successfully for twenty-eight years or up to the time of his death, September 29, 1889.

When she was only fourteen years old, in 1856, Miss Nancy Ryse was united in marriage in Santa Cruz with Samuel Myrick, who died two years later in Mazatlan, Mexico, where he was interested in mining and milling. After the death of her father Mrs. Myrick took up the responsibilities of maintaining the ranch, and continued his policy in making a specialty of raising live-stock and hay. Later, however, she gave her efforts more particularly to raising fine blooded stock, and was one of the few women who have made a success of the business. Notwithstanding her success Mrs. Myrick sold out her ranch about 1905 and has since lived in quiet retirement in Santa Cruz, in a neat little cottage on Branciforte street. Having made her home in this locality for over fifty years Mrs. Myrick has a fund of reminiscences of pioneer days from which to draw which seems inexhaustible, and the fact that they are her personal experiences gives an added charm.

## FRED R. WALTI.

The president of the Santa Cruz Brewery and Ice Company was born March 27, 1861, in the canton of Basel, Switzerland, near the banks of the historic river Rhine, on whose opposite shores stood the province of Alsace, now a part of Germany. Amid such scenes he passed the years of childhood. At the age of sixteen he came to the United States and secured employment in a brewery in New York City, but two years later he made his way to the plains of Nevada and took up the life of a cowboy. Coming to California in 1881 he secured employment in a brewery in San Jose. After two years he resigned the position and went to Hollister, where he conducted a brewery for one year.

Immediately after his removal to Santa Cruz in 1884 Mr. Walti bought the old Vienna brewery on Soquel avenue and, in partnership with a Mr. Peters, conducted the business for eight years, when he sold out to the Bausch Brewing Company. The next enterprise that engaged his attention was the management of a meat business on Pacific avenue, he being owner and proprietor of the Eldorado and Central markets. During 1906 he organized the Santa Cruz Brewery and Ice Company, of which he now officiates as president. The establishment of the business was in response to his opinion that a demand existed for a first-class brewery. The plant is modern and well equipped, surpassed by none in the entire state. There are those who believe that its equal cannot be found in all the west. The original cost was great, approximating \$125,000, but the money proved to be well invested. By means of modern machinery imported from Germany beer can be manufactured and bottled at an annual saving, over the old process, of \$15,000, the benefit of which saving is reaped by the retailers. Twenty-five men are fur-

nished employment in the brewery and the capacity of the plant is fifteen thousand barrels per year. By the use of the new machinery five men can bottle beer from forty barrels in the same time that it formerly required to bottle only fifteen barrels. The product, beer and porter, is sold extensively throughout the county and the company plans to branch out into every part of the state. Recently they established an agency at San Jose, where there is a steady demand for the output of their plant. The company's ice plant has a capacity of twenty-five tons per day and is the only one in the city, which, before the building of the same, shipped into town all the ice needed for local consumption.

Interested in the progress of Santa Cruz, foremost in its activities, and for four years a member of the city council, Mr. Walti has used his influence to promote measures of local importance and easily holds a foremost position in the citizenship. No one is more loyal than he to his adopted city and his progressive spirit has evidenced itself in the support of worthy projects. Fraternally he is identified with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. In early manhood he lost his first wife, who left one child, a son, F. W., now a student in the Berkeley University. After her death he was again married, his marriage in 1892 uniting him with Miss F. Shillings, a native of San Francisco and a lady of education and culture. Of the second marriage there is a daughter, C. M., who is attending school in Santa Cruz.



## GEORGE LIDDELL.

At the time of the gold excitement in California George Liddell left his home in England, where for a number of years he had followed his trade of civil engineer and contractor, and with a ship load of iron houses set sail for California, where, in San Francisco, he hoped to find his houses in great demand. The venture did not prove a success, however, so the following year, 1851, he abandoned the idea and turned his efforts in another direction.

Coming to the Santa Cruz mountains at this time Mr. Liddell built a steam saw mill and also constructed a water mill and began taking out redwood lumber. The venture proved a complete success, prospering far beyond his expectations, and the creek on which his mills were located finally became known as Liddell's creek. This was the pioneer effort in lumbering in the redwoods of Santa Cruz county, an enterprise which finally developed into a thriving industry. Receiving an injury in the mill which incapacitated him for active service Mr. Liddell retired from business and thereafter made his home in Santa Cruz, where his death occurred.

Mr. Liddell had come alone to the United States in 1850, but as soon as his milling enterprise was established on a firm basis he sent to England for his family, consisting of his wife, formerly Elizabeth Elliott, and eight children. They made the entire journey from England to California, around Cape Horn, in a sailing vessel which encountered many perilous storms, but finally landed its passengers safely in the harbor of San Francisco. Mr. Liddell was a man of true pioneer mold and the work which he accomplished in the lumber interests of this locality as well as along other lines of activity have been of inestimable value.

## J. M. GRIMMER.

As an example of what may be done by persistent energy in the face of serious obstacles, the life of J. M. Grimmer presents lessons of encouragement to young men starting out for themselves, without the aid of means, influential friends or those other accidents of environment that oftentimes determine our destiny. When he came to America he found himself in a land of strangers, with whose language he was unfamiliar, and whose opportunities he was unable to grasp because of lack of means. Born in Germany September 23, 1832, he had been favored by a fair education in the German schools, and also had been apprenticed to a trade while still quite young. Thoroughness is a Teutonic characteristic and he had been thoroughly taught all the details of the blacksmith's trade, so that he was well qualified to earn his livelihood by following the occupation. After having landed at New York City in 1853 he worked on a New Jersey farm for five months and then proceeded to Michigan, where he found similar employment. During 1860 he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and on the sixth day of November he first saw Watsonville, the home of his future efforts. That day is memorable in the annals of our country as the date of the first election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency.

It was not long after his arrival that Mr. Grimmer was earning a fair livelihood as a blacksmith and he was profitably engaged in that occupation until 1864, when the heaviest misfortune of his life came to him in the loss of his right arm through the accidental discharge of a gun. The catastrophe precluded further efforts at the blacksmith's trade. It thereupon became necessary to seek a means of livelihood possible to one so afflicted as he, and the growing of fruit was

selected as offering a favorable opening. A pioneer in horticulture, he became an authority concerning the occupation and his thorough understanding of the soil has been of advantage to himself as well as to others. For many years he made a specialty of the berry business, but eventually he concentrated his attention upon the raising of apples and at this writing he owns an orchard of one hundred and twenty-five acres, the greater part of which is in bearing, the apples being of those varieties ascertained to be best adapted to this soil and climate. In the twilight of his busy life, the owner no longer devotes his entire time to the orchard, but is living practically retired, in his comfortable cottage at No. 222 East Lake Street, Watsonville, where he is surrounded by the comforts rendered possible by years of patient industry and unremitting toil.

Very shortly before his migration to the western coast Mr. Grimmer was married in Michigan to Miss Catherine Christner, who was of German birth and ancestry. Five children were born to their union, but death removed three of their number from the family circle. The two survivors are Carrie and Mabel. The former is the wife of Frank Thompson and resides in San Francisco. The younger daughter married Frank Rodgers, who is connected with the drug store in Watsonville. Throughout his long identification with the commercial and horticultural development of Santa Cruz County, there has never been a time when Mr. Grimmer has wavered in his steadfast faith in the country's prosperous future and by his own energetic efforts he has hastened the consummation of the prosperity to be attained by the intelligent cultivation of the soil of this region. For four years he served as a member of the board of town trustees. The only order to which he belongs is the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and for more than twenty-five years he has acted



as trustee of the local lodge. During the period of his trusteeship, in 1893, he was closely identified with the building of the order's substantial office structure on East Third Street, where on a lot valued at \$2,250 the lodge erected a building that cost \$19,000. Somewhat later the lodge acquired, at a cost of \$1,200, the lot adjoining their first purchase, so that their holdings now represent a large outlay of capital. The wisdom of the undertaking has been justified by the returns received from the investment, while in addition the lodge has had the pleasure of owning their own society hall, equipped in modern style, and offering abundant facilities for the entertainments of members and friends.

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#### FRED W. SWANTON.

Difficult if not impossible would it be to name any citizen who is more closely connected with the modern development of Santa Cruz than Mr. Swanton, whose reputation for aggressive energy and success in promoting enterprises is not limited to his home city, but extends throughout all of the central coast counties. A list of the movements he has fostered would be practically a list of all the enterprises contributing to civic progress, for no measure has been presented of present or future value to the city that has lacked his cooperation. His support has been withheld from no project necessary to local development. Whatever of prominence Santa Cruz has gained throughout the west as a popular resort and attractive city, the credit for such result belongs to him in no small degree.

Illustrative of the identification of Mr. Swanton with local measures, we mention the following: In 1881 he enthusiastically fostered the movement that resulted in the installa-

tion of the first telephone system in Santa Cruz. In 1883 he built the hotel Swanton and in 1886, the first athletic park. During 1888-89 he promoted the first electric light plant, and in 1890-91, the first electric railroad. During 1893-94 he built the plant of the Big Creek Power Company. In 1895-96 he aided in securing the consolidation of the concerns forming the Santa Cruz Electric Light & Gas Company. In 1900 the consolidation of the Santa Cruz street railroads was effected and the following year the Monterey & Pacific Grove electric railroad was erected, similar work being done in 1902-03 for the Santa Cruz & Capitola electric railroad. During 1903 he was one of the progressive men who enthusiastically began to "boom" Santa Cruz, calling the attention of people elsewhere to the natural advantages possessed by the city. In 1904 he promoted the Co-operative electric light plant and built the first Casino and bathing pavilion, also the Tent City and electric pier. For 1906 the special works were new beach improvements, promoting the Casino, Natatorium cottage city and the famous board walk on Santa Cruz beach. The completion of the Casino, Natatorium and beach improvements marked the year 1907, while the next year was marked by the opening up of the Swanton beach park along the Cliff drive and the Swanton beach. This forms a residence district unexcelled for beauty. The year 1909 was characterized by the drawing of plans for a new hotel, to cost \$500,000, which Mr. Swanton proposes to erect in 1910 on the property adjoining the Casino.

Born in Brooklyn, N. Y., April 11, 1862, Fred W. Swanton was four years of age when he came to California with his mother, the father, Albion Paris Swanton, having preceded them. In 1867 he came with the family to Santa Cruz and soon afterward became a pupil in the public school. During 1881 he was graduated from Heald's Business College, after

which for a year he was employed by the Madera Flume & Trading Company, of Fresno, and for a year was with the Santa Clara Valley Mill & Lumber Company. About this time he made a trip to the east and secured the state right for a telephone patent. Later he devoted considerable attention to the construction of telephone systems. In 1883, with his father, he erected the Swanton hotel, and this the two men conducted until it was destroyed by fire in June of 1888. At the same time he acted as manager of the Santa Cruz opera house. After the dissolution of the partnership he established the Palace pharmacy, but sold in fifteen months, and immediately became interested in the project to light Santa Cruz with incandescent electricity. Associated with Dr. H. H. Clark, in October of 1889, he put in a machine of three hundred lights. At once the price of gas dropped from \$3.50 to \$2.50 per thousand feet. The demand for the lights was so great that it was necessary to add a machine of six hundred and fifty lights. Within two years they were supplying five thousand incandescent lights. The success of the work rendered a new organization necessary and the Santa Cruz Electric Light Company was founded with the following officers: H. H. Clark, president; A. P. Swanton, vice-president; F. W. Swanton, secretary and manager, as well as the largest stockholder. In the fall of 1895 the plant was sold to James McNeil.

The Big Creek Power Company was established in 1896 with the following officers: Henry Willey, president; William Rennie, vice-president; F. W. Swanton, secretary and manager; and C. E. Lilly, treasurer. Eighteen miles were built along the mountains and the entire line was finished in sixty days from the time it was started. In 1900 Mr. Swanton sold his interest to J. Q. Packard and F. W. Billings. It is worthy of note that Mr. Swanton introduced into Santa Cruz



the very first incandescent lights used in California and that his was the first long-distance electric power plant in the state. Its capacity was increased from twenty-five hundred to ten thousand lights, and light then was provided for Watsonville and Capitola as well as Santa Cruz. After having disposed of his interest in the power plant Mr. Swanton visited the Alaskan gold fields. On his return he organized the Santa Cruz Oil Company to operate in the Bakersfield oil fields, with Henry Willey as president and J. J. C. Leonard as vice-president. During 1901 he began the organization of a new electric street car company to run from Santa Cruz to Watsonville by way of Capitola, and this work occupied his attention in the next two years. Later he became extensively interested in building up the beach and his name is associated with numerous buildings along the coast, his chief association, however, being with the Swanton beach and the park of the same name. Here he plans to erect a magnificent hotel, equipped with modern conveniences and provided with all the comforts necessary to the successful management of a hotel catering to cultured and refined guests.

The marriage of Mr. Swanton was solemnized December 25, 1884, and united him with Miss Stanley Hall, daughter of Richard Hall, of Santa Cruz. Mr. and Mrs. Swanton, with their daughter, Miss Pearl Hall, occupy a modern residence in the midst of beautiful grounds and affording a charming view of the city, ocean and the mountains. In fraternal relations Mr. Swanton holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights of Pythias and Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

## PIERCE B. FAGEN, M. D.

The marvelous changes wrought during the latter half of the nineteenth century were witnessed by Dr. Fagen and in a number of them he bore an interested part. Fate had reserved for him an active participation in pioneer tasks and for such arduous labors had qualified him by bestowing upon him an infinite degree of patience, an intense love of his country, a constitution adapted to the endurance of hardships and a sagacity of judgment as keen as it was of formulative importance in frontier history. The profession which he chose for his life-work was one for which he was adapted by natural endowment and acquired education. The science of materia medica had in him a thoughtful student. To study and to conquer disease seemed to him a task unsurpassed in magnitude by any other object appealing to the higher ambitions of mankind. Hence we find him concentrating his intelligent, earnest attention upon therapeutics, with such gratifying results that he gained a reputation for skill in diagnosis and promptness in applying the correct remedial agencies.

The life which is herein depicted began at New Lisbon, Columbiana county, Ohio, November 22, 1818, and closed at Santa Cruz, Cal., in February, 1901, thus spanning a considerable portion of the nineteenth century, but brought to a close at the beginning of the twentieth century. The family represented by Dr. Fagen was one of colonial importance and considerable means, hence it was possible for him to secure desired educational advantages. The best institutions of the east qualified him for the responsibilities of life and his degree of M. D. was tendered to him by the medical department of Kemper College, St. Louis, Mo. To him belonged the honor of being the first physician at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and he had the further honor of assisting in laying out and



platting the city of Des Moines. On the west side of that city he bought eighty acres and laid the land out in lots. With the early history of the capital city of Iowa his name was indissolubly associated and his talents were utilized in pioneer work of importance to future local development.

Not until the discovery of gold in California was the attention of Dr. Fagen called closely to the resources of the vast west. A study of the country led him to desire participation in its activities, and we find him the leader of a caravan of Argonauts that crossed the plains with horses and wagons in 1850. For a time he engaged in mining at Nevada City and later in Placer county, where he became prominent among the pioneers, being a leader in all movements for the benefit of the people and the development of local resources, and in both places he also practiced medicine. It was about 1869 that he came to Santa Cruz and in a short time he had acquired high professional standing, building up a practice that was limited only by his time and strength. In spite of professional demands he did not forget the duties devolving upon him as a citizen, but bore a part in local enterprises, served as trustee of the public schools, filled the office of county coroner, became a large real-estate owner, and served as president and vice-president of both banks, besides being a member of their boards of directors. Fraternally he was connected with the Masons and Odd Fellows.

Shortly before he came to California Dr. Fagen had married in 1849 Miss Melissa Hoxie, who died in Placer county, Cal., leaving two sons, Clarence E. and Herbert D., now residents of Santa Cruz county. The second marriage of Dr. Fagen was solemnized February 27, 1873, and united him with the widow of Albion P. Jordan. This estimable lady survives him, making her home at No. 172 Mission street, Santa Cruz, where she owns one of the most elegant residences in



the city. For years she has been a leading worker in the Congregational church and one of the principal members of its Ladies' Aid Society. The missionary and philanthropic enterprises of the church receive her earnest co-operation and many a large gift, the fruit of her generous helpfulness, has proved a blessing to the cause for which it was donated. She has also been a large contributor of both time and means to all the charities and civic improvements of her city.

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### OTTO STOESSER.

For a period covering very little less than one-half century Mr. Stoesser was intimately associated with the commercial development and civic progress of Watsonville and his name is inseparably connected with the local annals. Death alone had power to terminate his activities. Many of the qualities that distinguished his career came to him by inheritance from a long line of thrifty Teutonic ancestors, but these attributes were supplemented by characteristics notably American and more especially typical of the pioneer Californian. To a man thus endowed a complete failure is impossible. For a time success may hold aloof its laurel wreath, but eventually determination and industry win the goal. Such proved to be the case in the career of this German-American, whose activities aided in the material upbuilding of the Pajaro valley and whose personality was a virile force in every important undertaking for the general welfare.

The childhood home of Otto Stoesser was situated in Gaggenau, near Baden-Baden, in the grand duchy of Baden, Germany, and there he was born November 18, 1825, being a son of Dominick Stoesser. The excellent schools of his native land afforded him fair opportunities and of these he availed

himself until the time came when the necessity of self-support precluded further educational advantages. While yet a mere lad he heard much concerning America as a home for the poor young man. As soon as he attained his majority he bade farewell to relatives and friends and set sail for the new world, landing in New York City June 25, 1846. From there he went to Norfolk, Va., where he was employed for eighteen months, and next he worked for a short time successively at Wilmington, N. C., Columbia and Danville, Pa., after which he worked for John Hagan, at No. 308 Market street, Philadelphia. Resigning that position February 22, 1850, he prepared for a voyage to California and five days later he embarked on the *Zenobia* for San Francisco. Slowly the vessel proceeded southward to the Horn and thence up the Pacific. Only a very few stops were made, one of these being at Valparaiso, Chile, where the vessel anchored for four days.

After having landed at San Francisco on the 13th of August after a voyage of almost six months, Mr. Stoesser secured employment with M. L. Wynn, manufacturer of Wynn's golden syrup. While there he witnessed the celebration attendant upon California's admission as a state. Like all new-comers, he was ambitious to try his luck in the mines and with this purpose in view he traveled to a mine near Agua Fria, but he was so unfortunate that when he returned to San Francisco on Christmas day he had only \$4.85 in his possession. The first employment he was able to secure was that of cabin-boy on board the *Columbia*, bound for Panama, and he returned on the same ship in March of 1851. Hoping to meet with better success in the mines, he went to the Feather river and Rich Bar mines, but the same bad luck befell him and he was discouraged from all further efforts in mining. Returning to San Francisco he was about to ship as a cabin-boy, but happening to see a sign "Wanted: a Dishwasher," he en-



tered the restaurant and secured the job. Ten days later he secured work as a pastry-baker on Kearney street, but twenty-four days after he went there the restaurant was burned. However, he soon found similar employment and in time received large pay.

Having been induced by Dr. Vandeburgh to go to Santa Cruz and engage in mercantile pursuits, Mr. Stoesser brought a stock of goods via the steamer Major Tompkins, March 10, 1853, and opened a store on Front street, near the old Santa Cruz house. At the end of a month he packed his goods in three wagons and started for Watsonville, where he arrived on the 10th of April. Three months later he bought the interest of his partner, Dr. Vandeburgh. After a time he built a residence next his store, but this he eventually removed to Rodriguez street. In 1873 he erected a double store building, two stories in height, and there he carried on a large business until his death. The profits of his business were wisely invested. In time he became the owner of stock in the Pajaro Valley Bank, also a valuable farm near town and valuable city property, including his modern residence on the corner of Third and Rodriguez streets. For years he was said to be the largest tax-payer in Watsonville and his extensive holdings were the result of his unaided exertions in a land far distant from the home of his birth.

Any office within the gift of the people of Watsonville would have been tendered to Mr. Stoesser had he been willing to accept, but with one exception he declined all official positions, the exception being the position of city treasurer, which he held for thirty years by successive re-elections, until finally he declined to serve longer in that capacity. The first fire department in Watsonville was organized largely through his energetic efforts and he never ceased to be interested in the success of the department. For some years he served as



vice-president of the Santa Cruz County Pioneers and always he was warmly interested in that organization, but he never allowed his name to be presented for membership in any other society or fraternity. While still actively managing his large enterprises he was taken ill and after an illness of two weeks he passed away, May 18, 1902, leaving to mourn his loss his widow and their two children, Julia M. and Otto D. Mrs. Stoesser, prior to her marriage in 1861, had borne the name of Elizabeth J. Doran and was a daughter of Edward and Julia (O'Farrell) Doran.

Predominant among the characteristics of Mr. Stoesser was his warm interest in workingmen. This was in part due to his thoughtful disposition and in part to his own early struggles for a livelihood. His employes found him considerate and kind and a situation in his employ was said to mean "for life or during good behavior." As his means became larger his ability to aid the distressed and needy became correspondingly greater, and many a struggling soul owed to him practical help as well as words of encouragement. The business that owed its remarkable success to his capable oversight continued unchanged for some time after his demise, but in May of 1905 it was incorporated with the firm of W. A. Speckens and the J. A. Baxter Company, under the title of the Pajaro Valley Mercantile Company, thus forming an organization of great financial strength. A general mercantile business is transacted at Nos. 327-329 Main street and Nos. 13-17-19 West Third street, Watsonville, and the modern merging of various interests will increase the usefulness of concerns planted by honored pioneers of our city.

## FRED W. MILLER.

If there is one characteristic noticeable in the native-born sons of California more than another it is their devotion to their commonwealth. Comparatively few seek homes in other parts of the world and the great majority remain in the midst of scenes familiar to their earliest recollections. This is no less applicable to Mr. Miller than it is to other Californians who have spent their entire lives within the limits of the state. Devotion to the commonwealth has been evidenced in his actions and he has exhibited the greatest faith in the future growth and prosperity of the state.

Mr. Miller was born in San Francisco in 1859, the son of parents who appreciated the value of good educational advantages and the fact that they lived in the metropolis made it possible for them to give their son exceptional opportunities in this respect. His earlier training was in the Lincoln school of San Francisco, and later he took up a course in the University of California at Berkeley, graduating therefrom in 1878. When the time came for him to decide upon his business future he came to Boulder Creek, Santa Cruz county, and in Kings Creek valley he bought two hundred and ninety-three acres of mountain and valley land, four miles from town. This has been his home and the scene of his activities ever since, and it is needless to say that the passing years have witnessed many wonderful changes in this part of the country, due to the unremitting efforts of such enterprising ranchers as Mr. Miller. Here he has seventy acres in orchard, planted to a fine variety of pears and apples, and he also has a vineyard of forty-five acres. The grapes are of the finest quality and produce a grade of wine which is unexcelled.

A marriage ceremony performed in Boulder Creek in 1882

united the destinies of Fred W. Miller and Carrie B. Morrill, the latter also a native of the state. Three children, two sons and one daughter, have been born of this marriage, as follows: Casper B.; Adelia, a student in the University of California; and Robert. Mr. Miller finds pleasure and recreation in the gatherings of the two fraternal organizations of which he is a member, his name being on the membership roll of the local lodge of the Masons and Odd Fellows. One of Mr. Miller's strongest characteristics is faithfulness in whatever he undertakes to do, and this is nowhere better exemplified than in his vineyard and orchard, both of which are in a high state of cultivation and rank among the best in the valley.

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#### WILLIAM OLIVER.

There are very few of the residents of Santa Cruz county whose identification with its ranching interests antedates that of William Oliver. In these days of change, when a restless spirit influences many to seek new locations or new avenues of commercial activity, it is significant of the quiet, home-loving disposition possessed by Mr. Oliver, that he has been content to remain at the same homestead for a period of fifty years. During this long period he has witnessed a remarkable transformation in the surrounding country. Towns have been founded, farms have been improved, large crops of fruit and grain have been raised, and the railroad has come with its splendid facilities for the shipment of the products of this favored locality. In all of this progress he has wrought with quiet, yet forceful industry, and his labors as a rancher have combined with the efforts of other resourceful men in the development of the locality, proving to the world its large capacity for production.



If the mature years of Mr. Oliver have been characterized by quiet devotion to duty without change of location, his earlier days presented a marked contrast, for in that era of his life he traveled far and wide as a sailor on the high seas. The home of his childhood was in the southern border of Sweden, near the shores of the Baltic sea, and there he was born in 1829, the son of parents in humble circumstances. While still a mere lad he began to take up the burden of self-support and at the age of eighteen he went to sea as a sailor, which occupation he followed for seven years, meanwhile visiting the principal ports of the world. When he heard of the discovery of gold in California he determined to come hither, but it was not until 1852 that he landed at San Francisco, having sailed from London by way of Australia. After an experience of one year in the mines of Tuolumne county, in 1853 he went to San Francisco and secured employment along the water-front. Wages in those days were high. He was paid \$6 per day, with \$1 per hour for overtime. For two years he worked in the New Orleans warehouse, but at the expiration of that time he became eager to return to the mines.

After having engaged in mining for one year in the northern part of California around the Klamath river and for two years in the southern part of Oregon, Mr. Oliver returned to San Francisco, the richer for \$5,000 in gold-dust. Desiring to wisely invest this amount, he came to Soquel, Santa Cruz county, in 1859, and bought the land out of which he has developed his present well-improved homestead, consisting of one hundred and fifty acres, mainly in hay and grain, with a bearing orchard of nine acres. His first marriage occurred in 1865, and after the death of his first wife he married the present Mrs. Oliver, in 1874. In his family there were only two children and both of these have estab-

lished homes of their own. The daughter, Caroline E., is the wife of Horatio Angell and resides at Soquel. The son, William Henry, is a civil engineer by occupation. While Mr. Oliver has devoted his attention very closely to ranching and has had little leisure for participation in public affairs, he has ever been ready to give his enthusiastic co-operation to movements of undoubted value to the general welfare and he has likewise been interested in fraternal work as a member of the Masonic Order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.









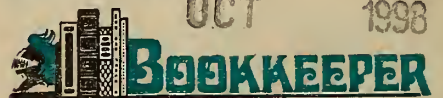




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