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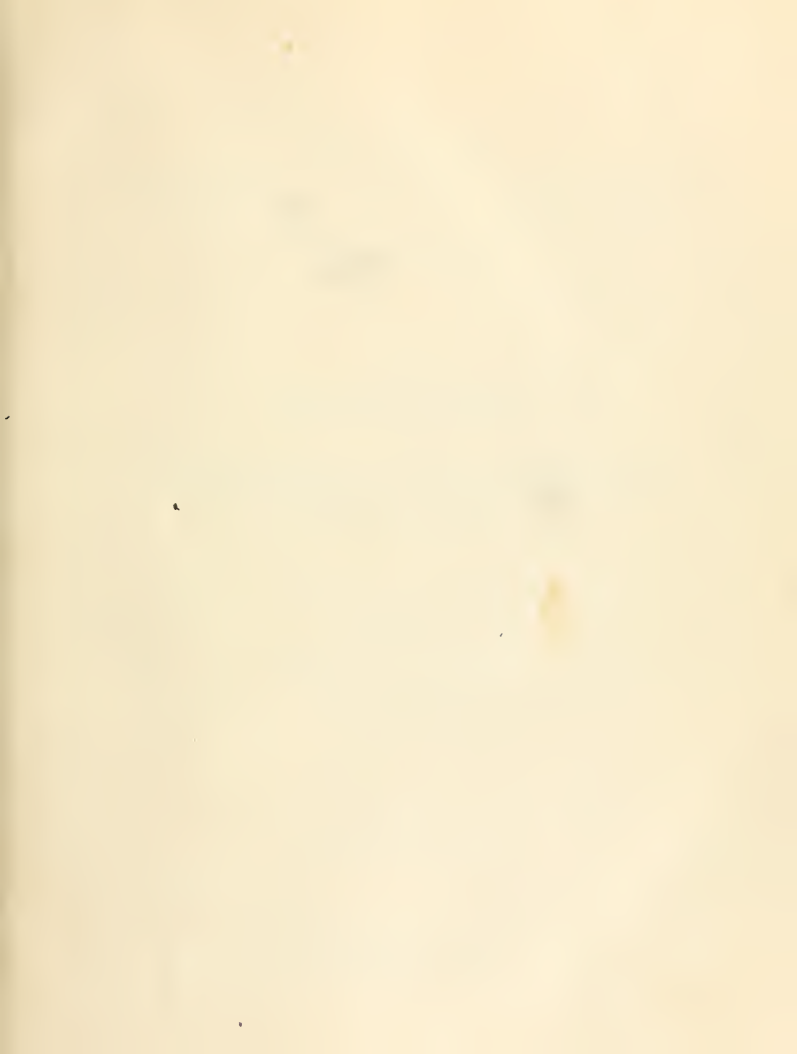


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HISTORY OF
TULARE *and* KINGS COUNTIES
CALIFORNIA

WITH

Biographical Sketches

OF

*The Leading Men and Women of the Counties Who Have Been Identified
With Their Growth and Development From the
Early Days to the Present*

HISTORY BY

EUGENE L. MENEFEE
AND
FRED A. DODGE

ILLUSTRATED

COMPLETE IN ONE VOLUME

HISTORIC RECORD COMPANY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
[1913]

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HISTORICAL

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY TO HISTORY OF TULARE COUNTY

By Eugene L. Menefee.

A preacher and a teacher, it appears, curiously enough were the two first white leaders to enter what is now Tulare county. Each bore the name of Smith. Jedediah S. Smith, the preacher, arrived in 1825 or '26, accompanied by about fifteen trappers, he being the first white man to cross the Sierra Nevada mountains. Entry to the valley was made via the Tejon pass. Thousands of naked Indians were seen. Tulare lake was observed and successful trapping for beaver was conducted along the upper reaches of the Kings, San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers. In 1827 Smith made a return trip, entering through Walker's pass.

It should be understood that Jed was not an ordained minister, but being a strong and aggressive Christian, he endeavored to convert to that faith the reckless and lawless men who joined his band. Bible readings, prayers, exhortations mingled with reproofs were features of each day, no matter how wearisome had been the march. It is said, however, that his efforts at reform were not entirely successful.

"Pegleg" Smith, the teacher, visited our vicinity in 1830, and was eminently successful. "Pegleg" did not hold a degree nor even a certificate. He was a horse-thief by profession and he took up quarters among the Indians, establishing friendly relations with them and thus obtained a place of refuge and a rendezvous for the round-up of stolen stock when ready to proceed on the return journey to the Santa Fe country. In return for the hospitality extended him, Mr. Smith allowed some of the Indians to accompany him on raids to the ranchos of the coast and taught them all the elements of appropriation. Due, no doubt, to Mr. Smith's ability as an educator, these lessons were not forgotten and the practices inculcated by him were so persistently followed that in the course of time the Indians gained the merited title of "the horse-thieves of the Tulare."

One of Pegleg's party met a tragic fate. Missed from camp on Kern river, near the site of the present Keyesville, he was found dead alongside the carcass of a huge grizzly, his body mutilated and his head crushed. There had evidently been a deadly fight in which both contestants had succumbed. The rude wooden cross which

marked his lonely grave still stood in 1856, when the Kern river gold rush took place.

Closely following Jedediah Smith came Ewing Young and party, who started trapping in the San Joaquin valley in 1831, finding beaver plentiful. Young hunted in the vicinity of Tulare lake for a short time and then took his way northward. During the next decade several other groups of trappers passed through the San Joaquin valley. Between the Tulare valley and the Calaveras river there was at that time an estimated Indian population of 20,000.

For any accurate knowledge of the county as it existed then we must await the coming, in 1846, of John C. Fremont, an account of which will be given in a later chapter.

History—human history—began to be recorded in what is now Tulare county at a time long prior to the events just related.

So remote is this date that we of the present day can scarcely hazard even a guess as to the number of centuries that have elapsed since this civilization flourished. Probably it existed co-eval with that of the mound builders of the Mississippi—with that of the cliff dwellers of Arizona. It is probable that at that time the waters of the Pacific filled the valley of the San Joaquin so that the area of our county was once smaller than it is now. These surmises are based on the fact that in numerous places throughout the Sierra Nevada mountains are found picture writings of the origin of which our latter day Indians have not even a tradition. They cannot interpret them, nor do they possess any knowledge of the art of making the indestructible paints used.

On a bluff near the railroad bridge across the Kaweah at Lemon Cove, at Rocky Hill, near Exeter, in Stokes valley, at Woodlake, at Dillon's point, at Hospital Rock on the middle fork of the Kaweah, some thirteen miles above Three Rivers and in many other places these pictures are found.

In several instances the arrangement of the figures is in columns. This would seem to indicate that they are tribal or genealogical records. Swords and spears, weapons absolutely unknown to present-day Indians, are among the objects represented. Others are bears, birds, pine trees, man, the sun, a fire, circles, crosses, etc. Up to the present time no key has been found to these hieroglyphics. A facsimile of the paintings on Hospital Rock has been sent to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, but as yet the learned men there have been unable to decipher the record. As the fund of knowledge regarding the sign-writing of all tribes throughout the world is constantly increasing, as they are studied and compared and grouped in systems, and certain meanings definitely established, it is not improbable that at some future time the first chapters of Tulare county's history may yet be translated into English. Even so, then would

elapse a period of thousands of years without a line. No tradition existed here among the Indians as to any migration or separation from another tribe. They believed themselves to be aborigines. Yet there were trails known to them by which the Sierras could be crossed.

No reports from the passing bands of trappers hastened the coming of settlers. With them a country was good or bad according as many valuable pelts could or could not be there obtained, and no note was taken of its adaptability for agriculture. Neither was it by the accounts set forth by Fremont, which were meager and of a scientific nature.

The fact was that in the '49 rush to the gold fields of California many trains came by the southern route and passed through the Four Creeks country, as this section was then called. Out of a desert they came, and pursuing their way northward, back into what was then almost a desert they went. We can well imagine their delight at the sight of the vast, oak-forested delta covered with knee-high grasses. We can imagine, too, their chafing at the delay here occasioned by the necessity of getting their animals in condition to proceed farther. All were keenly anxious to reach the foot of the rainbow. And when, after toil and trouble, hardship, misfortune and ill-luck, they failed to find it, we can imagine them as keenly anxious to return to the delightful land they had left.

The first to really settle there was a trader named Woods, who with a party of about fifteen men arrived in December of 1850. This party came from Mariposa and was well equipped with saddle and pack animals, arms, implements of building, etc. They located on the south bank of the Kaweah river, about seven miles east of Visalia, where they built a substantial log house. Of the fate of this party accounts vary somewhat. The accepted version is that in the spring of '51, an Indian bearing the name of Francisco, speaking some Spanish, and probably one of the renegades from the ranchos of the coast, with a number of Kaweahs, of whom he appeared to be chief, ordered the settlers to leave that section of the country within ten days, with the alternative of death if they remained beyond the allotted time. The settlers agreed to go and made preparations for their departure, burying the provisions and such farming implements as they possessed and proceeded to gather their stock. While thus engaged the tenth day passed, and the Indians returned to fulfill their threat. Ten of the settlers were killed while hunting their stock, two made their escape, one of whom was wounded.

The savages then approached the house in which was Woods and another. They professed friendship, and thus removed the apprehensions of their victims, who were unconscious of the fate of their fellows. One of the whites was asked to hold up a target that the

Indians might exhibit their skill with the bow and arrow; he complied, whereupon the treacherous Kaweahs turned their aim upon him and quickly shot him to death. Woods fled to the cabin and fastened the door. This the savages attacked with great fury, but it was strong and resisted their assaults. Woods had a single rifle and a short supply of ammunition, and with this he attempted to defend himself. Of all this we have the reports of Indians only, as from the time the two escaped none other was left to tell the story of the treachery and the tragedy. The entrapped man determined to sell his life as dearly as possible. As opportunity offered he fired through the apertures of the logs and with deadly effect, as during the contest seven of the Indians were killed. At last the scanty ammunition was exhausted, and the despairing condition of the helplessness overcame the brave Woods. The assailants, finding their prisoner no longer able to do them harm, renewed their efforts on the door, until it at last gave way and the enemy was in their power. Woods had made a brave defense, had slayed and wounded many of their number and a revenge in consonance with the Indian spirit was determined upon. This was nothing less than flaying him alive. The doomed man was bound down and while defying his torturers, his skin was taken from his body and afterwards nailed to an oak tree.

According to Stephen Barton the cause of the outbreak as given by the Indians was that Indians from the north sought the aid of the Kaweahs as allies, representing that the whites were seizing their country and driving them out. When the tribes of this valley declined to assist the visitors, these made war upon them and captured many of their women. The majority of them fled to the hills, the few remaining slaughtering the Woods party. Other accounts are that from seven hundred to one thousand Indians took part in the butchery.

A party headed by a man named Lane arrived within a day or so after the massacre and rescued a wounded man, whose name was Boden, and carried him back with them to Mariposa, where he recovered. To C. R. Wingfield, Boden gave a detailed account of the fight at the Woods cabin.

A report of the massacre was taken to Fort Miller, on the San Joaquin river, and a detachment of troops in command of General Patten marched to the scene. The log house stood intact and evidence of the brave defense, the massacre and the butchery remained. What was left of the bodies was buried and work was commenced on the construction of a fort about half a mile from the Woods cabin, but before its completion the troops were withdrawn.

The above story is essentially as given by Stephen Barton in his early history of Tulare county, his data being obtained from several of the first settlers. In the issue of the *Visalia Sun* dated

September 5, 1860, Abraham Hilliard, who arrived in the spring of '54 and lived for three months in the Woods cabin, gives practically the same version, placing the date of the massacre, however, as December 13, 1850.

Gilbert M. L. Dean, who arrived in the Four Creeks country when a lad about twelve years of age, states that his father's family came from Texas in a party conducted by Nat Vise. Both the Vise and Dean families remained for a time at Los Angeles, and Vise, taking young Dean with him, left for the northern country, traveling on horseback, and with a pack outfit. They remained a few days near the Kaweah. Vise decided to push onward to the mines and left the Dean boy with Loomis St. John (for whom the St. John river was afterwards named), who then had a cabin near the river, about a half mile from that afterwards constructed by the Woods party. Thus the general belief that the latter structure was the first permanent habitation erected by white men within the present limits of Tulare county is disputed by Dean, who was living in St. John's cabin when the Woods party arrived to establish their settlement.

St. John and his young companion, who were glad to have neighbors of their own race, went over one day where they had before seen Woods and his men felling trees and building their house. They were surprised to hear no wood-chopping or other noise when they approached, and when near the cabin, which was almost completed, they were horrified to see the body of a man lying on the ground. The skin had been removed and was fastened to the bark of a large oak tree hard by on the bank of the stream. They were unable to find any other member of the party, alive or dead, and saw no Indians.

Soldiers and others arrived within a day or two, among them being some of the men who had been with Woods. They stated that Woods had gone to the cabin to prepare dinner or had remained there after breakfast and was attacked by the Indians when alone at the cabin. The others heard the firing of Woods' gun and the shouting of the Indians, and being unarmed or poorly armed and unable to reach the cabin to assist Woods, they hid their axes and mauls and saved themselves by flight.

Dean says he never heard of any other person than Woods having been killed at that time, but does not remember to have heard whether any of the survivors were wounded or molested by the Indians. The Woods cabin was used for a schoolhouse afterwards, and Dean and his brother attended school there later, when, after his return to Los Angeles, the Dean family came to the Kaweah settlement to reside permanently. Dean was therefore at this place as a pupil in the first school in Tulare county and he still has a vivid

recollection of the locality. When visiting the place, with others, a few years ago he at once recognized the tree on which Woods' skin was hung by the Indians and pointed out the location of the house and about the spot where Woods' body lay, and an involuntary shudder was noticed to pass through the old gentleman's frame as he stood there. Although the oldest resident of Tulare county, the pioneer of Tulare pioneers, he is still vigorous, retains all his faculties perfectly and remembers distinctly the principal events of that early time, many of which he participated in.

Apparently unterrified by the fate of the Woods party, settlers and traders continued to straggle in. In the fall of 1851, C. R. Wingfield and A. A. Wingfield arrived from Mariposa. On the way they met two men named McKenzie and Ridley, who had been trading with the Indians for several years and who were somewhere in the neighborhood when the Woods party was slain. A bridge had been built across the Kaweah near the Woods cabin, but there was no settlement. The Wingfields settled near the cabin, laying claim to the land from the river southward. They found the Indians friendly and sociable, and although their outfit was within the reach of hundreds of this people and contained a multiplicity of small articles, yet they never missed so much as a needle.

In December of the same year, Nathaniel and Abner Vise came to what is now Visalia and built a log cabin on the north bank of Mill creek. On the site of the camps of these two pairs of brothers were afterwards built the two towns that contended for the honor of being the seat of justice of Tulare county. These two pairs of brothers, between whose camps were seven miles of almost unbroken jungle, appear to have been the only settlers in the country with a fixed domicile. They were unknown to each other and ignorant of the other's whereabouts.

The state legislature was in session. Many first-class politicians at Mariposa were either out of a job or possessed of one the emoluments of which were not satisfactory. These events and conditions would not have interested either the brothers Vise or the Wingfields. Yet so interwoven are the strands of destiny that life or death to the Wingfields was later to depend on the activity of the Mariposa schemers and their "pull" with the legislators. It was at the behest of this horde of hungry office-seekers that the legislature passed an act and the same was approved April 20, 1852, as follows:

"The county of Mariposa is hereby subdivided as follows: Beginning at the summit of the coast range, at the corner of Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties; thence running in a northeasterly direction to the ridge dividing the waters of the San Joaquin and Kings rivers; thence along the ridge to the summit of the Sierra; thence in the same direction to the state line; thence southeasterly

along said line to the county of Los Angeles; thence southwesterly along the line of Los Angeles county to Santa Barbara; thence along the summit of the coast range to the point of beginning.

"The southern portion of Mariposa county so cut off, shall be called Tulare county. The seat of justice shall be at the log cabin on the south side of Kaweah creek, near the bridge built by Dr. Thomas Payne, and shall be called Woodsville, until changed by the people as provided by law.

"During the second week of July next there shall be chosen for Tulare county one county judge, one county attorney, one county clerk, one recorder, one sheriff, one county surveyor, one assessor, one coroner and one treasurer.

"The county judge chosen under this act shall hold his office for two years from next October, and until his successor is elected and qualified. The other officers elected shall hold their respective offices for one year, and until their successors are elected and qualified. The successors of the officers elected under this act shall be chosen at the general elections established by law, which take place next preceding the expiration of their respective terms."

James D. Savage, M. B. Lewis, John Boling and W. H. McMillen were appointed commissioners to carry out the law and conduct the election.

The prime mover in this scheme to form a new county was William H. Harvey. He and his associates knew of the massacre of the Woods party and, fully expecting to have to fight their way to the Four Creeks, placed the expedition under the command of Major James D. Savage.

Orlando Barton says: "Major Savage's party as it left Mariposa was composed mostly of men on horseback. Many men with families prepared to follow with teams. The first general rendezvous was on Grand Island. A settlement was already forming on Kings river. I have heard it stated that the office-seekers from Mariposa hired enough Whigs to come with them to outvote the Democrats on Arkansas Flat. On Grand Island, July 8th, the commissioners held their first meeting. They ordered an election to be held on July 10, 1852, and appointed William J. Campbell to act as the inspector at Poole's Ferry and William Dill to act as inspector at Woodsville. These were the only precincts established. All the wagons with the women and children stayed on Grand Island, while Major Savage marshaled the fighting men for the advance on Four Creeks.

"Including the board of commissioners they were fifty-two strong and on the morning of July 9th they started from Poole's Ferry to cross the plains. It lacked about an hour and a half of sundown when they arrived in the outskirts of the timber at the foot of Venice hills. Here they saw hostile Indians. Major Savage's party rode along the

southwest side of the Venice hills, firing right and left at every Indian they saw.

RESCUE OF THE WINGFIELDS

"On the morning of July 8, 1852, three hundred armed Indians came to the Wingfield brothers' camp and took them and an Indian boy who was with them prisoners, and marched them across the Kaweah and St. John rivers. Near the north bank of the St. John, the Indians tied the Wingfield brothers and their companion hand and foot and laid them on the ground. The Wingfields were kept in this place all one day and the succeeding night. The 9th of July was hot and sultry. The Indians were morose and sulky. They stayed at a distance from the Wingfields and talked only to themselves. Neither the Wingfields nor their companion could understand the cause of their imprisonment. They knew nothing of the advance of Major Savage's party. They did not know that their captors constituted one of the forces sent to hold the fords of the St. John against the men from Mariposa.

"If I were a novelist I would now tell what the Wingfield brothers thought at this crisis in their lives. I would tell how they were tormented by swarms of flies, armies of ants, and cold lizards with poisonous fangs. But as I am only an historian I can tell only what I know. Charley Wingfield said that he did not know what was to become of them. The fate of Woods was fresh in their minds and we may reasonably be permitted to guess that they expected to be skinned.

"The sun was about an hour high in the west when an Indian came running around the southernmost of the Venice hills holding one of his arms straight up in the air. His arm, which was covered with blood, was shot through with a bullet. Some of the Indians who were guarding the Wingfields ran forward to meet him. A short palaver was held. Then three or four of them went to the place where the Wingfields were tied down. They untied them and then all the Indians suddenly disappeared.

"The Wingfields went to the river and after swimming it, were climbing up on its south bank, when they saw Major Savage's party coming around the point of the hill from the direction of Mount View Park. The Wingfields re-crossed the river and joined the party.

THE ELECTION

"As soon as Major Savage's party arrived, the commissioners commenced to prepare for the election. For this purpose they selected the tree that stood farthest out on the open ground. This was done so that they could get the benefit of any breeze that might be blowing. There has been recently a sign placed on this tree and any person can find it. It stands about half way between the Tulare Irrigation company's flume and the Southern Pacific railroad bridge across the St. John river. The pioneers occupied the ground between the election

tree and the river, and utilized the shade of several other trees. Messengers were sent back to Poole's ferry and several found the Mariposa adventurers in possession of the camp that the captors of the Wingfields had so recently occupied."

The poll list of the Woodsville precinct was as follows: Augustus John, S. D. F. Edwards, Early Lyon, Martin Morris, J. B. Marsh, John A. Patterson, T. Hale, Richard Matthews, J. M. Snockters, R. P. Cardwell, S. P. Carter, C. Keener, Benj. Mettors, A. B. Gordon, J. M. Jackson, Henry Crowell, Wm. B. Hobbs, John Reefe, Clark Royster, S. M. Brown, J. G. Morris, P. F. Hesberp, B. B. Harris, A. H. Corbitt, L. B. Lewis, William Pedersen, W. C. McDougal, George H. Rhodes, Joseph A. Tivy, W. H. Howard, Charles J. Jones, Isaac McDonald, Joshua Sledd, W. H. Erving, James D. Savage, Robert F. Parks, J. L. Avenill, William Dougle, W. W. McMillen, William Dill, Penny Douglas, George H. Rogers, L. St. John, James Wate, A. J. Lawrence, Thomas McCormick, B. B. Overton, James Davis, A. A. Wingfield, R. Schuffler, A. M. Cameron. C. R. Wingfield voted at Poole's ferry, as did Nathaniel Vise.

In looking over this poll list the observer is at once struck with the infrequency of well-known names of early pioneers. This was because there were few bona fide settlers in the settlement.

After the election the commissioners remained in camp, received the returns from Poole's ferry and canvassed the entire vote. The following officers were elected: for county judge, Walter H. Harvey; county attorney, F. H. Sanford; county clerk, E. D. F. Edwards; recorder, A. B. Gordon; sheriff, William Dill; surveyor, Joseph A. Tivy; assessor, James B. Davis; coroner, W. W. McMillen; treasurer, L. C. Frankenberger.

On July 12th, the county officers took the oath of office and the county seat remained for some time under the election tree, although most of the county officers returned shortly to Mariposa.

Edwards, the county clerk, was killed in a quarrel with a man named Bob Collins, shortly after his arrival in Mariposa, and soon afterwards Major Savage was killed by Judge Harvey. Frankenberger, in a fit of delirium tremens, wandered off into the swamp and died. Later in the season, Dr. Everett was engaged in gambling at Woodsville with a man named Ball and a dispute arose about \$5. Everett asked Ball if he was armed. Ball replied that he was not, whereupon Everett commanded him to go and arm himself. Ball said that he would and started for his camp. Everett said he would go with him and see that he did it, pulling out his pistol at the same time. Ball then told him that the best way was to leave the matter till another day and it would probably be settled. "No," said Everett, "one of us must die now." Ball stooped over and carelessly rubbed his leg, saying, "If I must fight, I shall fight for blood," and

at the same time suddenly lifting his pantaloons and drawing a revolver from his boot, shot Everett dead without drawing the pistol from its scabbard. Ball was examined before a justice of the peace and discharged. W. J. Campbell and Loomis St. John were justices of the peace and they, acting as associate judges with the county judge, constituted the court of sessions by which county affairs were administered.

At the first meeting of the court of sessions held October 4, 1852, Judge Harvey presiding, a license for a ferry on Kings river and for a toll bridge at the Kaweah was granted. Thomas McCormick was appointed assessor to succeed Everett, and P. A. Rainholt was named to succeed J. C. Frankenberger. An election proclamation was issued for the general election to be held on the first Tuesday of November, 1852, for county and state officers and for presidential electors. Bona fide settlers had now commenced to arrive. Among the first were S. C. Brown, A. H. Murray and family, three Matthews families, three Glenn families, Colonel Baker and family, Bob Stevenson and family, Abraham Hilliard and family, O. K. Smith, Samuel Jennings, Tom Willis, Tom Baker, G. F. Ship, J. C. Reed, John Cutler, Nathan Dillon and Edgar Reynolds.

Nat Vise induced most of these parties to accompany him to the neighborhood of his claim, where they could, he said, find better land. They were pleased with this locality and got Vise to release his title to the claim he had first taken up, with a view to laying out a town and having it become the county seat. For protection against Indians a stockade was built large enough to hold the wagons and supplies and several log houses. This fort was situated on ground now bounded by School, Bridge, Oak and Garden streets, and was constructed by setting puncheons upright in a ditch about three feet deep. An extension of about four feet was made at each corner which permitted a raking fire on the side to be directed against an attacking party, should an attempt be made to climb over.

The naming of the new settlement appeared to be the occasion of some dispute. The majority of the citizens favored naming it after its founder, Nathaniel Vise, but the board of supervisors designated it Buena Vista. The word Visalia first appears in the record of the court of sessions in August, 1853, when an order was entered dividing the county into townships. Woodville and Visalia townships were divided by a line running north and south from the crossing of Canoe creek.

Its derivation is believed by some to be from Vise and Sally or Salia, the name of Vise's wife. Others believe it to be a combination of Vise with Sa-ha-la, the Indian name for sweat house, and still others think it merely the termination "alia," as in Vandalia, Centralia, etc., chosen on account of its pleasing sound.

In October of 1853 was held the first session of the board of supervisors. Town lots were parceled out and the record shows the entry, "Ordered that the seat of justice be Buena Vista." In the records of the court of sessions for February, 1854, the name Buena Vista appeared for the last time, all subsequent proceedings being dated Visalia. On the 11th of March, 1854, the board of supervisors entered an order granting the prayer of certain petitioners that the name of the seat of justice be Visalia. So much concerns the dispute over the name. The election by which the transfer of the seat of justice from Woodsville was effected was held in 1853. Judge Cutler was the champion of Woodsville and Judge Thomas Baker of Visalia. The vote was very close and bribery and corruption were alleged to have been used. The friends of Woodsville charged that the result in favor of Visalia was from the bribery of two or three voters and there was at least one notable case where one man obtained an eligible location a half mile south of the site of Visalia and that he thus seemed to desert his Woodsville friends.

Although Baker carried the day in respect to his choice of county seat, he was defeated for judge, as Cutler proved far the more popular. There was constructed a sort of courthouse of rough boards affording an enclosure and a shelter and records were kept on scraps of paper and deposited in a wooden box. Much of the proceedings and accounts were kept in memory.

At the session of the board of supervisors in March, 1854, many town lots were sold and an order was entered for building a jail sixteen feet in the clear inside and ten feet between floors. The building to be two stories high, to be built of hewed logs eight inches square, dove-tailed and pinned at the corners; the wall to be double with a space between six inches wide, to be filled with broken rock. The floor was to be of logs of similar size, planked, and the planking to be held down by "double tens," one nail in every superficial inch. This order was to be published in a Mariposa newspaper. Although this was the first jail and courthouse in the new county, it was not built in time to accommodate the first prisoners or to furnish a place in which to hold the first trial.

The first arrest in the county was that of Judge Harvey for the killing of Major Savage, but nothing came of it. As previously related, Ball was acquitted for the killing of Everett. The first case tried in the county was before a justice of the peace. It was that of a young Indian charged with shooting an arrow into a work-ox whereby the animal was more or less disabled. At this time few persons had allowed themselves to think of a lighter punishment for an Indian than that of summary execution. All concurred in the opinion that such mischief should not be tolerated. The mass of the Indians were disposed to be friendly, but

were not disposed to take the same view of the necessity of adopting a more severe penalty for the Indians than was meted out to whites for similar offenses. The chief was anxious to preserve peace and volunteered his services to aid in the arrest of the culprit. The officers deputized to make the arrest were C. R. Wingfield and Jim Hale. They, in company with the chief, went to Cottonwood creek, near Elder Springs (Woodlake). Here the old chief suggested the plan of having the officers remain under a tree while he should go and make the arrest.

Among these Indians the province of a chief is to advise rather than command, and the old chief perhaps regarded it as uncertain whether the young men of the camp would acquiesce in the surrender until they knew what the character of the punishment would be. The chief's pony was well jaded and Wingfield suggested an exchange of horses. After the officers had remained under the trees until they began to grow impatient, they saw two or three Indians on foot approaching from a distance. They came up and sullenly seated themselves under the tree. Soon after three or four more appeared. They were bountifully supplied with bows and arrows and Wingfield made the comment that they were going to be able to make an arrest quite beyond the scope of their original purpose. He saw no other plan, however, than that of awaiting the return of his horse. Soon the chief made his appearance with the prisoner, followed by about forty Indians fully equipped for war.

When they came up, the officers, assuming a bold front in an unpleasant emergency, took the prisoner in charge and started for camp, a distance of about ten miles. Arriving there the procession halted in front of the office of the justice of the peace, *i.e.*, under the election tree. The Indians were resolved to allow no punishment which they did not sanction to be inflicted. The whites, of whom there were eighteen, were unaccustomed to brook anything like insolence from an Indian without shooting him down, and, having started in with the case, they saw no means of retreat without feeling a loss of dignity.

Such an astounding capture, though unexpected, was fully comprehended and both parties were well assured that the first display of force on either side until the matter was arranged would lead to indiscriminate slaughter. For two days and two nights the matter was angrily discussed and finally the Indians submitted to having the case tried in the white man's way. The evidence on both sides was heard, and a judgment rendered that the accused Indian pay a fine of fifty buckskins to the owner of

the ox. The Indians accepted this verdict as being perfectly just, the fine was at once paid and good feeling re-established.

In the new settlement, by the close of '53 and the beginning of '54, many enterprises had been undertaken and much activity along many different lines manifested. Warren Matthews was building a millrace and a gristmill, using largely Indian labor. Nathan Baker had opened a store; a man named Ketchem started a saloon; many settlers made the trip to Stockton for seed, implements and provisions. A school was started with about half a dozen scholars. Children had been born, Commodore Murray being the first and "Sieb" Stevenson the second. O. K. Smith put up a sawmill for cutting oak timber, about half a mile east of Visalia.

But we will pause here in the narration of historical events, while we have the opportunity, to survey the conditions in which the settlers found themselves. In 1853 the Williamson topographical survey party, in search of a railroad route through the interior of California, passed through this valley. The impressions of mineralogist William B. Blake, set down at the time, are so vivid and interesting that they are reproduced here.

"Kings river to the Four Creeks, Aug. 1, 40.4 miles: Left camp on the borders of Kings river and travelled along its right bank to Poole's ferry, twelve miles below.

"From the banks of the river at this ferry, there is nothing to obstruct the vision across the whole breadth of the Tulare valley, and the coast mountains may be dimly seen rising above the limits of the far-stretching plains. The Sierra Nevadas also present a magnificent spectacle from this place. The chain appears to reach a great altitude and to rise abruptly from the surrounding subordinate ridge. The outlines of the distant chain were sharply defined and the prominent peaks showed out boldly against the clear blue sky. Snow was resting on the summits in broad white fields that glistened under the rays of an unclouded sun and by its rapid melting kept the rivers well supplied with water.

"From Kings river to the Four Creeks the surface of the ground shows but few undulations and may be considered as nearly level. The soil contains a large proportion of clay and must necessarily become soft and miry during the rainy season. About three miles northward of Elbow creek a large area of surface is composed almost wholly of clay without any admixture of sand or gravel and has evidently been nearly fluid in the wet season. This was shown by the deep tracks of animals in the then hard, sun-baked surface, and by great numbers of skeletons of cattle that have sunk in the deep, thick mud and been left

there to die of starvation. Their whitened bones stood upright in the clay like posts around a grave. The drying up of this clayey ground has produced deep shrinkage cracks and fissures similar to those observed in the rich soils around the bay of San Francisco.

“Four Creeks: From the level of the arid and treeless plain (what is now our richly productive tree and vine covered Alta district) bounded on the west by equally barren mountains, we made a sudden descent of about ten feet to the bottom land of Four Creeks. Here the aspect of the landscape suddenly changed. Instead of the brown, parched surface of gravel, to which the eye is accustomed on the surrounding plains, we find the ground hidden from view by a luxuriant growth of grass and the air fragrant with the perfume of flowers. The sound of flowing brooks and the notes of the wild birds greet the ear in strange contrast with the rattle produced by the hot wind as it sweeps over the dried weeds and gravel of the plain.

“The whole scene is overshadowed by groves of majestic oaks and the eye can wander down long avenues of trees until lost in the shadows of their foliage. This scene of natural beauty is the result of natural irrigation, the ground being abundantly watered by the Pi-piyuna river, which supplies the water that forms the Four Creeks * * * In fact, a broad delta is here formed between the Tulare lake and the mountains, and the profuse vegetation may not only be referred to the presence of water, but to the fertility of the soil, which is alluvial and is frequently enriched by overflows of the creeks.”

Visalia at this time was practically situated in a jungle surrounded by a swamp. On the plains beyond and in the more open portions of the oak forest, deer, elk and antelope abounded. Here, too, were numerous bands of wild horses.

Capt. Thomas H. Thompson, in his history of Tulare county thus graphically speaks of these: “The region, too, as early as the summer of 1850, had been visited by large numbers in the pursuit of wild horses, these being in droves of thousands on the plains and about the lake. Westward but a short distance were the great ranchos of the Spanish period and from these the Indians had driven large bands of horses which became wild on the plains and increased in vast numbers. These animals in their wild freedom, their grace and beauty, their long flowing manes and tails, their speed and numbers, had attracted the attention and won the admiration of the immigrant of 1849, as he, with feeble ox or wornout mule, passed from the southern deserts through the valley on his painful journey to the mines farther north. He was fascinated with the beautiful and

romantic sight, as great troops of the fat and glossy animals galloped past. Many of these immigrants and many other adventurous spirits returned the following year in the hope of wealth by capturing the wild horses of the Tulare plains. Large corrals of brush and fence and tule with branching wings were constructed, pits were excavated and other devices were essayed; fleet horses with skillful riders with lassos were employed, and all the efforts possible were made to capture the wild horses. Many were taken, a comparative few were tamed and subdued to use; great numbers were killed, and so vigorous was the onslaught that but a year or two elapsed when the wild horse was a rarity in the valley. They were beautiful animals, and in numbers a grand sight in their wild state, but when captured difficult to tame, always dangerous to handle, skittish and nervous, retaining during life their wild and untamable spirit. At least, such is the experience the writer of this had with the wild horses from the Tulare in 1850."

CHAPTER II

INDIAN WAR OF '56

In the growth of the settlement Indians materially aided. They were docile, friendly, willing to work and were employed in taking care of stock and in farm and household work. And yet in 1856 the settlers had trouble with them of so serious a nature as to develop into what has been called the "Indian War."

For an account of this we are principally indebted to Stephen Barton, writing in 1874, when the principal actors in the drama were still alive and he had every opportunity to obtain an accurate version of the matter. Additional facts secured through the researches of George W. Stewart in 1884, are linked in with the narrative which we present here.

In the spring of this year there came a rumor that a large band of cattle on Tule river had been stolen by Indians and driven off. Without investigation hurried preparations for war were at once begun. Scores of young bloods were ready to spring to the service of their country at once. Now, the Indians were generally employed by the settlers in farm work of all kinds, in the care of stock and as household servants, and were proving themselves honest and trustworthy. Therefore, a few of the settlers conceived the idea of hearing both sides of the story and inquired of the Indians what they knew of the stealing, and were soon astonished to find that as a matter of fact, no cattle had been stolen. The Indians said a young man by the name of Packwood had married an Indian girl and that according to their custom her tribe had assembled for a feast. Packwood contributed a yearling calf taken from his father's herd. Thus dwindled to almost nothing the rumor that five hundred cattle had been stolen.

Nathan Dillon, Wiley Watson, Mr. Kenney and several others, feeling that it was an outrage to drive the Indians to the wall on so slight a pretext, undertook to remonstrate. These men were among the most high-minded and substantial citizens of the county, but their arguments proved without avail. The tribe camped a mile below Visalia were ordered to surrender their arrows and to move their camp up to the western edge of the town. A party of mounted men went to the camp of the Yokos, near Exeter, and with yells and shots dispersed the Indians there, who fled, terror-stricken, to the swamps. A band of ruffians met one Indian on the road near Outside Creek and killed him without provocation.

A crowd of lawless men in Visalia conceived the idea of be-

sieging a camp of about forty unarmed and friendly Indians of all ages and sexes, about two miles east of town, and of putting them to death by night. D. B. James and a few others, hearing of this diabolical scheme, brought the Indians into town where they could receive the protection of those averse to the shedding of innocent blood.

Meantime, the tocsin of war continued to sound. Settlers and miners from distant parts gathered and a military organization was effected under the command of Captain Demasters. These preparations frightened the Indians and they fled to join their companions on Tule river. The command of Demasters, numbering fifty or sixty men, started in pursuit and the same day a party of nine mounted men followed the trail of a band of sixty Tejon Indians, who were traveling southward in the direction of the White river. Captain Demasters' company, after reaching Tule river, continued up the north fork several miles, where columns of smoke pointed out to them the location of the camp. They found the Indians occupying a strong position, which, to their surprise, was well fortified. The location was admirably chosen, and the defences would have done credit to an experienced military engineer. A line of breastworks from two to four feet high, composed of boulders and brush, extended a distance of eighty rods along the face of a hill at the head of a little cove, or plain. Immediately in the front of the position the ground was rough and broken, but to reach it it was necessary to traverse the open plain mentioned, exposed to a fire from behind the fortification. At either end, and in the rear of the defences, was a dense thicket of chaparral extremely difficult to penetrate. The position was defended by a force numbering in the neighborhood of seven hundred warriors.

Demasters, confident of the superiority of his men, small as their numbers were, ordered an attack. To protect themselves against the arrows of the Indians while attempting a breach of this enclosure, a portion of the troops had uniformed themselves in a sort of petticoat made of duck, padded inside with cotton. The petticoat brigade marched boldly to the fray, but their shields proved more vulnerable than anticipated and the whites made a precipitate retreat to a point about a mile distant to await re-enforcements.

The party of nine men previously spoken of, on the trail of the Tejon Indians, kept in their saddles all day and night, and about daylight on the following morning, near where the village of Ducor is now situated, came upon the Indian camp. The dogs began barking and one of the Indians, painted and decked with feathers, stepped forward to a little knoll that commanded a view in all directions, to ascertain the cause of the disturbance. John W. Williams, afterwards city marshal of Visalia for several years, directed the

man nearest him, who had a rifle, to shoot. The Indian dropped dead, and the Americans charged, firing rapidly at the Indians, who scattered precipitately, leaving five dead. Williams and party then rode back to Tule river to join the force under Demasters. It was the supposition at the time that this party of Tejon Indians had been implicated in cattle stealing in Frazier valley, and had gone on a marauding expedition to White river to massacre the few whites living along the stream; but nothing was heard of them afterwards, and as they had a few women with them, they were probably only returning home to their own tribe.

When the party of whites rejoined the command under Demasters, it was decided to dispatch Williams to Keyesville for assistance. Williams set out immediately, going by way of Lynn's valley, Poso Flat and Greenhorn mountain. At Lynn's valley he changed horses and William Lynn, after whom the valley was named, agreed to accompany him part of the way. During their ride, after dark, through a heavily timbered region, where bears were plentiful, an incident occurred that is worthy of note. After riding a short distance into the forest they heard a noise behind, and turning, saw a large, black animal following them. Williams was mounted on a fractious mustang which became frightened and darted up the steep mountain side, but floundered back into the trail. Soon they reached a small opening and here they determined to try the effect of a shot at the brute, which followed them persistently. Lynn discharged a load of buckshot and the bear fell at the first fire, greatly to their relief.

Sixty miners from Keyesville armed themselves and accompanied Williams back. On the return the "bear" killed by Lynn was found to be a large black mule owned by a settler. It took \$90 to square with the mule's owner, but that was the least of it. For a long time afterwards the mere mention of "bear oil" was sufficient to cause either Williams or Lynn to stand treat and before the joke wore out it had cost them in the neighborhood of \$500.

When the Keyesville party arrived the entire force, numbering one hundred and forty, was placed under the command of W. G. Poindexter, sheriff of the county, and a second assault made. During this attack two young Americans, Danielson and St. John, were severely wounded and one other, Thomas Fallbert, was shot in the thigh. These were the only whites injured. The attack proved futile and Poindexter ordered his command to fall back. A portion returned to Visalia, the remainder remaining encamped nearby awaiting re-enforcements. Of the force which returned to Visalia Stephen Barton says: "Now commenced one of the most disgraceful scenes connected with the history of this valley. Having ingloriously fled from the field of battle, this force now sought a cheap

plan of retrieving a reputation for heroism by turning on those citizens who had counseled moderation and fair dealing. The Visalia Indians had been compelled to surrender their arms and camp at the edge of town. The same authority which required this now required that those who opposed the war should, at the peril of their own lives, as well as of the lives of the Indians involved, convey the Indians out of the settlement. Dillon, Watson, Keeney, Judge Baker, the Matthews and several others were the men who now found their lives imperiled by the fury of a lawless mob, for no other reason than that of having used words of moderation during a moment of popular frenzy. * * * Dillon gave \$10 and a thousand pounds of flour, the Matthews gave flour, and the other parties named gave in proportion and Jim Bell was hired to take a heavy ox team and haul the poor outcasts to Kings river."

The "soldiers" left in camp occupied themselves in searching out and destroying the caches of provisions which the Indians had made at different points along the foothills. These were found without difficulty, as they were usually placed in the forks of oak trees and covered with thatch.

In a few days a company from Millerton, under command of Ira Stroud, and one from Coarse Gold Gulch under command of John L. Hunt, arrived. From Fort Miller was sent a detachment of twenty-five soldiers under Captain Livingston, bringing with them a small howitzer; and from Fort Tejon half as many mounted cavalry under the command of Alonzo Ridley, an Indian sub-agent. Captain Livingston assumed the chief command of the force which now numbered about four hundred and comprised nearly all the able-bodied men of the valley. After all had reached camp a consultation was held and it was agreed to divide the command into four divisions and attack the Indians at daybreak the following morning, from the front, rear and both flanks. Parties were sent out to view the country so that the several divisions might be guided to their respective positions without confusion, and Captain Livingston with his soldiers and about sixty volunteers ascended an eminence commanding the Indian fortification in order to select the most advantageous position for mounting their howitzer.

The Indians unexpectedly made a vigorous attack on this party, precipitating the engagement. Livingston ordered a charge and with his officers, led the men in. They forced their way through the brush, at the same time firing upon the Indians, who became demoralized and fled from their strong position into the mountains where they had left their women and children. The Americans continued the pursuit for several days but, failing to discover another camp or any large body of Indians, retired to the valley. Several dead braves were found inside the fortification and there was evi

dence of many having been borne off through the brush. This was the last real engagement and the loss to the Indians in killed and wounded from the first breaking out of hostilities was estimated at about one hundred.

Although the whites posted detachments to prevent the Indians from returning to the valley, several parties of mounted Indians succeeded in reaching the plains at night and killed or drove off quite a number of cattle. They also burned a few houses in the foothills, and all but one along the Tule river and Deer creek, thirteen in number, the owners having deserted them for the time being. These raids continued for several weeks, until William Campbell, the sub-agent at Kings river, sought the Indians out in the mountains and found them willing to come to terms. The war had lasted six weeks, when the Indians returned to the valley and they have remained friendly from that time to the present day, although a little more than a decade later, a few murders committed on Tule river caused the government to send troops from San Francisco and force the Indians of that section onto a reservation set apart for them.

George Stewart says: "Thus ended the Tule river war of 1856; a war that might have been prevented had there been an honest desire on the part of the white settlers to do so, and one that brought little glory to those who participated therein. The responsibility cannot now be fixed where it properly belongs. Possibly the Indians were to blame. Certainly the whites were not blameless, and it is too seldom, indeed, that they have been in the many struggles with the aboriginal inhabitants of this continent."

The period between 1854 and the beginning of the Civil war was chiefly remarkable for the discovery of gold and the mining excitement and boom following, and for the Indian war of 1856.

D. B. and Brigham James made the first discovery of the precious metal in 1853 at Kern river. A stampede followed in which several thousand miners participated. Nearly all returned disappointed. However, other discoveries at White river, Keyesville, Owens river, in the Slate range and in the Coso district caused other mining booms so that for some seven or eight years there was a large population of miners, and the supplying of their wants became an important feature of business.

Two trails were cut across the Sierra Nevada mountains over which pack trains carrying supplies were sent. A wagon road was also constructed from Visalia through Keyesville to Lone Pine and Fort Independence.

As early as 1858 there were three quartz mills in operation in the Kern river district. These, by the way, had a greater value according to the assessor's figures than all the taxable real estate

in the county. A few years later several other stamp mills were constructed to mill the ore of the Coso and Owens river districts and the freighting of supplies became a business of great magnitude.

Unfortunately, while rich strikes were found in all these localities, it appeared that the gold generally was found either in pockets or in leads that "pinched out," and no permanent wealth producing camps resulted.

INDIAN TROUBLES IN OWENS RIVER DISTRICT

The war of 1856, with its final engagement at Battle mountain, settled completely all trouble with Indians in Tulare county proper, or that portion lying on this side of the Sierra Nevada mountains. For many years, however, sporadic trouble in the Owens river valley caused much uneasiness to our people. At times these assumed such magnitude that several troops of regular cavalry were employed to subject the fighting red men.

Nearly every Visalian of prominence was at this time interested in either the Coso or Owens river mines. Valuable cargo trains were at all times on the road and the menace to these as well as to the lives of smaller prospecting parties at times assumed serious proportions. These troubles culminated in 1862 and 1863. It is impossible to obtain sufficient data to give a connected account of the different uprisings, but the dangerous character of the warfare and the difficulties in the way of providing protection to settlers and miners may be judged by the following:

In the spring of 1862, Visalians sent a party with stores of arms and ammunition to render assistance and gather information. Warren Wassen reported in part as follows: "Being unable on my arrival at Amora to obtain provisions or transportation for the company organized there to receive the arms sent in my charge, I was compelled to leave them and proceed, accompanied by Lieutenant Noble and his command of fifty mounted men. We arrived at the upper crossing of Owens river on the evening of April 6. On the next morning we met with Colonel G. Evans with Lieutenants French and Oliver; Captain Wynne of his command having been left with seven men to garrison the stone fort forty miles below. These were under Colonel Mayfield of Visalia.

"It appeared that during the past winter the Indians had been in the habit of killing cattle, which had led to the killing of some Indians, after which the Indians availed themselves of every opportunity to kill whites.

"The whites finally collected their cattle at a point about thirty miles above the lake, fortified themselves and sent messengers to Visalia and Carson for relief. They were reinforced by a party of eighteen men who left Amora on March 28. About noon on the 6th there was a very brisk engagement in which C. J. Pleasants of

Amora, Mr. Morrison of Visalia and Sheriff Scott of Mono county were killed. The whites took refuge in an irrigating ditch, whence they fired, inflicting some damage. At night, after the moon went down, the Indians ceased firing and the whites retreated, leaving behind seventeen or eighteen of their horses and considerable ammunition and provisions.

“Colonel Evans the next day met this party and persuaded about forty-five of them to return to the pursuit. The remainder retreated to the fort. Our party joined that of Colonel Evans and we camped that night on the battleground of the previous day. The next day, about noon, the Indians were reported located in a canyon. The command was divided into three columns, one under Colonel Evans, one under Lieutenant Noble and the other under Colonel Mayfield. We proceeded up the mountain, facing a terrific snow-storm which prevented our seeing three yards ahead of us. Failing to find Indians, we returned to camp. After dark the Indians were located by their campfires as being in a canyon about a mile north of the one we had ascended, and in the morning a reconnoitering party, under Sergeant Gillispie, was sent out. After advancing some three hundred yards they were fired upon. Gillispie was instantly killed and Corporal Harris severely wounded.

“Lieutenant Noble was sent to take possession of the mountain to the left of the canyon. This position he gained with difficulty, facing a destructive fire and, unable to maintain it without severe loss, was forced to retreat. Colonel Mayfield, who accompanied him, was killed.

“The whole party under Colonel Evans were forced to retreat down the valley, the Indians following. Colonel Evans, being without provisions, was compelled to return to his former post near Los Angeles. Lieutenant Noble accompanied him as far as the fort for the purpose of escorting the citizens in this direction out of the valley with their stock, which numbered about four thousand head of cattle and twenty-five hundred head of sheep.

“There were not over twenty-five Indians engaged in this fight but they were well armed and from the nature of their position could have held it against any odds.”

In the following year numerous other outbreaks occurred. Visalia again despatched a wagon-load of arms to protect the Coso mines. In the skirmishes of this season, the whites were generally successful.

In one battle the Indians posted themselves in a ravine near the lake, whence they were dislodged and utterly defeated after an engagement lasting over four hours. Only a small number made their escape. Of these, “Joaquin Jim,” a noted chief, succeeded in reaching a rancharia near Visalia where he was killed while try-

ing to escape capture by a detachment of soldiers sent to bring him in.

In July, 1863, the Owens river Indians were as a body thoroughly subdued. Practically the entire tribe, to the number of nine hundred, were marched to the Tejon Indian reservation. They were escorted by one hundred cavalry men under command of Captains McLaughlin, Noble and Ropes.

Minor outbreaks and outrages continued to occur for a few years following, since which time a lasting peace has ensued.

HOSPITAL ROCK

About ten miles above Three Rivers, on the middle fork of the Kaweah river near the present extensive construction works of the Mt. Whitney Power company, stands an enormous rock, undercut in such a way as to form a considerable shelter.

It is covered with the painted sign writing of a prehistoric race and until recent years was the abiding place for a settlement of Indians. The name "Hospital" rock arose through an accident that befell A. Everton in 1873 or 1874. Mr. Everton, in company with George Cahoon, was hunting and trapping in the vicinity and had out several set guns for bear. One morning the finding of fresh blood on the trail indicated a wounded bear and Everton started to return to camp to get dogs. On the way he accidentally sprung one of the set guns, receiving the load in his leg, a nasty wound from which he could scarcely have recovered had it not been for the Indians. These carried him to camp and the squaws nursed him back to health, applying such embrocations of herbs as were suited to the case. As Hospital Rock it has therefore since been known.

CHAPTER III

THE EFFECT OF THE CIVIL WAR ON TULARE COUNTY

When the Civil war broke out Tulare county was peopled largely by southerners. In addition to the permanent settlers there were quite a number of stockmen from Texas and Arkansas who had driven their cattle here for the purpose of fattening them and of later driving them on to the Mariposa mines to sell.

Sympathy for the South was very strong and yet the people here did not feel called upon to take an active part in the rebellion. They were now citizens of the sovereign state of California, which had no cause for revolt. Their homes and property were here secure; personally they had no quarrel with the government. The counsel of the cooler heads was to be moderate in speech and quiet in demeanor, confining their activities to the passing of resolutions condemning the action of the Republican party, and objecting to the coercion of the South. This course of action naturally did not appeal to the younger hot-blooded element. They wanted action and the young bloods went around with chips on their shoulders and hurrahs for Jeff Davis. There were not lacking among the supporters of the Union cause those also whose blood ran warm and who were quick to take offense and eager to resent insults.

If anything more was needed to cause trouble to start it was whiskey, and there was whiskey galore. At every corner was a saloon—some Union, some Rebel. Courage and recklessness were purchased freely and street brawls became common.

Following a request of the Union men for protection, a company of troops was sent into Visalia to maintain order. The arrival of these by no means put a stop to brawls, altercations and street disturbances. Many bullies were among the number and these, knowing the irresistible power that lay behind their organization, became very insulting and overbearing in their conduct, especially when under the influence of liquor.

A particularly disgraceful episode occurred on the 4th of July. A crowd of drunken soldiers filled one of their wooden canteens with whiskey, draped around it the American flag, and marched up and down the street demanding of each person they met that he drink with them to Abraham Lincoln and the Union. Those refusing, among whom were Wiley Watson, Doctor Riley and John Williams, prominent citizens, were arrested and taken to Camp Babbitt.

UNION MEETING HELD

On May 25, 1861, in response to a call which was signed by more than one hundred names, the Union men of Visalia and vicinity met in mass meeting at the courthouse and expressed their adherence to the cause. The meeting was called to order by S. R. Dummer, who nominated W. N. Steuben for president. This motion was carried and Mr. Steuben took the chair. Messrs. D. R. Douglass, Joseph H. Thomas, D. G. Overall and Peter Dean were chosen vice-presidents and James H. Lawrence and H. G. McLean secretaries.

Previous to the regular proceedings of the meeting Miss Louisa Kellenberg, beautifully attired as the Goddess of Liberty, came forward and presented on behalf of the ladies of Visalia a beautiful national flag made of silk. The banner was received by A. J. Atwell, who returned thanks in an eloquent speech.

S. R. Dummer, J. M. Hayes, E. E. Hewitt, F. Bacon and B. B. Lawless were appointed a committee on resolutions and after a short speech by S. C. Brown, they presented a set which were adopted. Among the resolutions were these:

“That the constitution of the United States is not a league or confederacy of states in their sovereign capacity, but a government of the people of our whole country founded on their adoption, and creating direct relations between itself and the people.

“That no state authority has power to dissolve these relations.

“That we are opposed in the present condition of affairs to the formation of a Pacific republic, and will discourage any attempt to induce California to violate her allegiance to the Union.”

SOUTHERN SYMPATHIZERS MEET

In the following month, June, a mass meeting of those espousing the cause of the Confederacy, or at any rate believing in the doctrine of states' rights, was held.

This meeting was held in a grove near the courthouse, where seats and a rostrum had been provided, and was very largely attended. W. D. McDaniel had been chosen marshal of the day and the audience formed in procession in front of Warner's hotel and marched to the scene to the tune of Yankee Doodle.

Thomas R. Davidson was elected president and Messrs. Wiley Watson, William Coddington, Capt. E. Hunter, Robert Coughran, R. K. Nichols and R. B. Lawless vice-presidents. R. P. Gill and R. C. Redd were chosen as secretaries. The committee on resolutions, consisting of Joseph H. Clark, E. E. Calhoun, W. A. Russell, William B. Poer, Burd Lawless, L. T. Sheppard, James L. Wells and Wiley Coughran, presented the following, which were adopted.

“Resolved, That as American citizens imbued with a spirit of fidelity to the constitution and the laws and seeking only the hap-

pinness, prosperity and preservation of our common country, we deem it our duty in view of the declared hostility to the South and her institutions by the Republican administration to oppose the same by all constitutional means; that we regard President Lincoln as the exponent of a sectional party whose avowed policy towards one section of our country, pursued through a series of many years, has been the fruitful source of all our national evils; that the war now being waged by the Republican administration is unjust, inhuman and unconstitutional, having for its object the subjugation of states, the obliteration of state lines, the political degradation of their people and the deprivation of their property, and should meet and merit the just condemnation of all true friends of constitutional liberty; that we believe that the best interests of the country demand, and her political existence as a nation depends upon the speedy inauguration of a peace policy characterized by a spirit of concession and an honorable compromise as the only proper basis for the satisfactory adjustment of the differences between the northern and southern states."

On May 23, 1861, a meeting was held at Music Hall in Visalia for the purpose of organizing a military company. G. A. Botsford presided. It was decided to call it the Visalia Mounted Rifles, and the following officers were elected: Captain, G. W. Warner; first lieutenant, J. H. Kennedy; second lieutenant, G. W. Roberts; third lieutenant, Robert Baker; sergeants, William C. Hill, William Ely, R. Peppard, G. Francis and T. J. Preston; corporals, H. Chapman, H. E. McBride, William Baker, Orrin Barr; permanent secretary, Horace Thomas.

It will be noted that there was no lack of officers.

In 1863 a volunteer cavalry company called the Tulare Home Guards, was organized at Outside Creek with sixty-one members. The following officers were chosen: Captain, W. S. Powell; first lieutenant, George W. Duncan; senior second lieutenant, J. T. Collins; junior second lieutenant, William C. Deputy.

Company D, Second Cavalry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Evans, arrived in September, 1862, crossing the mountains from Independence by trail. A wagon-load of melons was donated them. In October they took up headquarters at Camp Babbitt, a mile north of Visalia, now known as the "Cain" tract.

Company I, Second Cavalry, arrived from Placerville in October, and Company E, Second Cavalry, called the Tuolumne Rangers and supposed to be the ones who destroyed the office of the Equal Rights Expositor, completed the brigade of regular troops. It would appear that three companies of federals and two of militia should have been ample to preserve the peace, but it seemed that they rather served to provoke disturbances and many quarrels result-

ing fatally were laid directly to their presence.

In accordance with the appeal of the sanitary commission for funds to aid the sick and wounded, W. N. Steuben took the matter in charge at Visalia, J. M. Harer at Tule River, J. M. Keyes at White River and J. F. Ewing at Kern River. About \$300 was raised.

On October 27, 1862, Senator Baker, Tulare county's most prominent citizen, was arrested, charged with discouraging enlistments in the United States army and of uttering treasonable sentiments, and being denied a parole, was placed in the guardhouse.

THE KILLING OF VOGLE

On November 29, 1862, Eugene Vogle, a soldier of Company I, Second Cavalry, California Volunteers, was shot and killed by Frank Slawick, bartender at the Fashion saloon. This place, kept by "Ki" O'Neal, was known as a "rebel" saloon and threats had been made by soldiers to do up its proprietor. About midnight, a crowd of drunken soldiers entered and ordered drinks for which they declined to pay. They then ordered cigars, which Slawick refused them, saying "I have no cigars for your kind." A row started and Slawick reached under the bar for his gun, which was accidentally discharged. A fusilade followed in which Vogle was killed. Slawick was shot in the arm and two soldiers were slightly wounded. O'Neal was struck in the forehead by a glancing shot and knocked senseless.

Slawick made his escape and was taken by "Uncle" Billy Cozzens to his place near Lime Kiln (now Lemon Cove) to be cared for. A meeting of citizens and officers was held in consequence of the affray to devise means of keeping the peace. Col. George S. Evans, in command of Camp Babbitt, said if the soldiers were the aggressors he would punish them, or give them over to the civil authorities, but he would punish none for resenting insults to them or the flag. He would expect them to protect themselves.

KILLING OF STROBLE

On August 6, 1863, Charles Stroble, sergeant of Company I, Second Cavalry, California Volunteers, was shot and killed by James L. Wells.

It appears that the trouble started near the corner of Main and Church streets. Tilden Reid, who afterwards became sheriff, had been drinking some and yelled "Hurrah for Downey" (the Democratic candidate for Governor). Jim Donahue, a soldier, told him that he would shoot him if he said that again. This trouble caused quite an embroglio in which Wells joined. Reid was arrested and taken to the guardhouse at Camp Babbitt, and Wells started home.

He had been preceded by Donahue and Stroble, who, for the purpose of picking a row, awaited him at the entrance to Knoble & Krafts restaurant (near Rouse & Sons' present place of business). Donahue here kicked a chair at Wells, which struck him in the leg, saying "I meant that for you." Wells declined to take up the proffered insult and walked on, Donahue and Stroble following, making insulting remarks. Wells stepped inside the doorway of a tin shop at the corner of Main and Court streets, and, sheltering himself behind a pillar, secured his revolver. Donahue saw this action and yelled, "Look out! he's got a gun!" Wells fired, killing Stroble and took repeated shots at Donahue, who escaped into the Union saloon across the street. A stray shot is said to have cut G. A. Botsford's necktie.

Wells ran through the alley to the Overland stables (across the street from their present location) and secured a saddle horse which he rode to the edge of the swamp belt near the site of the sugar factory. While this was going on, Bob Houston and Gordon Douglass, friends of Wells, drew their six-shooters and were taken in charge by soldiers. Wells had narrow escapes from capture. At one time, when he was hiding under a log, several of the pursuing soldiers came up and sat on it. He wandered as far east as the Cottage postoffice, where his friend, Jesse Reynolds, secreted him and supplied him with provisions. He later disguised himself, got to San Francisco and from there went to Mexico. His relatives took up the matter and secured a change of venue to Merced county, whereupon Wells returned, submitted to trial, and was acquitted.

During the night following the affray, Wells' house in Visalia was burned, a deed generally believed to have been committed by the soldier comrades of Stroble.

THE ROWLEY AFFAIR

Some time in '63, a half-witted boy named Denny McKay, had secured a pair of pants from a soldier, and was wearing them. Hugh McKay, a brother, happened along and said, "Hello, Denny, are you going to be a soldier?" and made some contemptuous reference to the soldiery. Richard Rowley, a private of the Second Cavalry, took up the matter and chased McKay, who was unarmed, firing as he ran. A volunteer, seeing the pursuit, also took a shot at McKay, but he escaped unharmed.

On March 4, 1868, Rowley was assassinated in Porterville while sitting at dusk before the fireplace in the hotel, the cause being at first attributed to the war-time incident. It developed, however, that Rowley had an implacable enemy in one Smith Fine. Rowley, it was alleged, had gone to Fine's house in his absence and at the point of a revolver compelled Fine's wife to dance for his amuse-

ment. Fine was acquitted of the murder, however, through lack of evidence.

DESTRUCTION OF NEWSPAPER PLANT

In 1862 L. P. Hall and S. J. Garrison established a paper in Visalia called the *Civil Rights Expositor*, later changing the name to *The Equal Rights Expositor*. The office was located above the Visalia House. It was a red-hot secession newspaper, ably edited but extremely radical in its utterances, and at once gained great favor with its readers and acquired a large circulation.

On account of his open advocacy of the southern cause Hall was arrested and taken to Camp Babbitt, where he was forced to take the oath of allegiance. After this incident the editorials in the *Expositor* were more bitter and inflammatory than ever before, angering beyond measure the soldiers and volunteers. Among the choice utterances were:

"We have said that Abraham Lincoln has perjured himself, and have proved it. We now tell those who participate in this detestable war, to the extent of their support, that they participate with Lincoln in the crime of perjury."

"Let our states' rights friend look around them and note the passion slaves of the President, who prate about rebels and traitors, while they hug their chains with the servility of a kicked and cuffed hound."

Dr. Davenport, owner of the building in which the printing office was located, fearing that Hall's vituperative utterances would incite a riot and damage be done to his property, ordered them to leave the premises. The office was removed to Court street adjoining the lot on which the *Times* office now stands.

On the night of March 5, 1863, a party of soldiers from Camp Babbitt, together with a number of townspeople, entered the office, tied Garrison up, threw the type into the street and destroyed the printing presses. Guards were posted at the street corners to prevent interference with the diversion. So resentful of this act were Hall and Garrison's friends in Mariposa that a party of seventy or eighty armed men came down for the purpose of "cleaning up" Camp Babbitt. These hid themselves in the swamp, expecting to be reinforced from Visalia. Cooler counsel among the leaders of the southern sympathizers here prevailed, however, and they were induced to disband and return to Mariposa.

Hall and Garrison for several years tried to get a bill through the legislature compensating them for the money loss incurred, and, in 1868, succeeded in doing so. Governor Haight, however, vetoed the bill on the ground that the property had been destroyed by soldiers under the authority and control of the United States, for which the state was not responsible.

CHAPTER IV

VISALIA

Necessarily the history of Tulare county was to all intents and purposes, in the early period, the history of Visalia, as the activities of the entire population centered here.

The early beginnings are familiar. It will be remembered how, in 1852, alone in the wilderness, Nathaniel and Abner Vise located for a future homestead the site of the city; how the first immigrants thought it necessary to build a stockade to defend themselves from Indians. Also will be remembered Nat Vise's generous offer to donate his claim to the people if they would locate the county seat here; how the offer was accepted and by the election of 1853, ratified.

The first enterprises tending to making a town here have also been detailed in the general history; how Baker started a store and Matthews a mill; how a school and church and a two-story log jail, planked and "pinned with double tens" followed.

Nearly three score years have passed since these things were, and here is only space for the bare mention of the milestones of progress Visalia has since passed. Many of these, too, marking as well the progress of the county as a whole, are treated under separate headings. Thus the first two causes tending toward increased population were the discovery of gold as early as 1856, and the establishment of the Overland stage route through the town in 1859. For a number of years following the town showed a rapid, if what might be, perhaps, termed a hectic, growth.

Those were the days of easy-going ways, the day of dollars easily acquired, easily spent. Between 1856 and 1860 it was estimated that from five and six thousand miners passed through Visalia, en route to the gold fields. Outfitting and freighting and the accommodation and transportation of travelers developed into a business of magnitude. And the miners, whether going or coming, whether hopeful, successful, or discouraged, were always thirsty, and whether they had been lucky or unlucky, were still always ready to take another chance.

And catering to these wants, saloons and gambling flourished; dance halls were enlarged, musicians imported. Faro, roulette, monte, poker and dice games all assisted in the general scheme of the retention of a goodly portion of the traveler's coin. And when the lull in mining began to make itself felt, the Civil war, with its pay days for soldiers and its grafting quartermasters, again made

VISALIA IN 1863



life of this kind pleasant and profitable. New mines in the Owens River district were discovered and business flourished anew.

During these years, of course, the population had been increased by the addition of all classes of men. There were now keen lawyers, shrewd merchants, skilled physicians. There were teachers and preachers. Two newspapers had been established, the *Delta*, by John Shannon in 1859, and the *Equal Rights Expositor*, by S. J. Garrison, in 1862. The Masons and Odd Fellows had organized. With it all, however, was lacking the element of stability. The fact was that although set in the midst of a most fertile section, and being the only town within a score of miles, the community, while apparently prosperous, was not really self-supporting. This arose from its location remote from markets and the lack of communication and transportation facilities. For a few years retrogression set in.

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And now, before we consider the next era, let us take a survey of the old town and try to visualize it as it existed before the war.

A view taken from the Palace hotel corner on Main street, looking east, will serve for a foundation for a correct mental building of the picture. The Exchange hotel appears on the left and S. Sweet's store in the right foreground. Certainly it is a vision of ramshackle neglectfulness, of general unkemptness and untidiness. No sidewalks, no curbs, no cleanliness.

Commencing on the south side of Main street, at the corner of Bridge, was located the general merchandise store of O. Reinstein, a two-story building, almost the only one in this neighborhood. The Birley and Pierce blacksmith shop adjoined on the west and at the corner was Swat and Wells emporium.

At the corner now occupied by the balconies was a brick building used as a general store by John G. Parker. The Cosmopolitan saloon was next in order, then a little brick drug store, opened by Henry Bequette. Then came a general store kept by a Mr. Johnson and at the Uhl corner, an old frame building housing the general merchandise store of D. K. Douglass. At the corner where is now located the Citizens bank, stood the Masonic Hall building, then Hockett's, then Rogers' stores. In the middle of the block was Keener's butcher shop, then the Fashion saloon, the Bostwick's tin shop. Around the corner, where is now the Harrell building, was Peter Goodhue's stable. The National Bank site was occupied by the dwelling house of John Majors, which later made way for a two-story building erected by H. and I. Cohen, the lower floor used for the St. Charles saloon and the upper for Music Hall.

Commencing once more on Main street, opposite our point of beginning, we find Turner's blacksmith shop occupying the site of the Ballou building. On the Harvey House corner stood a two-

story brick building run as a hotel originally by L. R. Ketchum and G. G. Noel. In 1858 G. W. Warner assumed charge, calling it the Exchange hotel.

At the American hotel corner was the appropriately named Deadfall saloon, dance hall and bowling alley. Between there and the corner was a dwelling house and then a restaurant and two stores, occupying the lower floor of a building located on a portion of the Visalia House site.

The *Delta* office, built by Shammon, its first proprietor, stood at the corner now occupied by the National Bank; in the neighborhood of Lipscomb's pool hall was a two-story frame building occupied as the general store of H. Mitchell. At the Palace hotel corner stood Dick Billip's hotel, which later came to be called the Exchange hotel. Nothing now until about the site of the Carnegie library, where was located the steam flouring mill originally built by Wagg, later operated by Jack Lorenz, son-in-law of Dr. Matthews.

On east Main, in the block where now the Santa Fe depot is situated, stood the Eagle hotel, kept by Capt. S. R. Dummer, and later by G. W. Warner. Matthews & Co. flour mill of hewn oak timbers, operated by a little turbine wheel set in the race, stood about where the present flouring mill stands. The wasteway cut across Main street and emptied into Mill creek near the depot site.

Outside of some minor shops, the above constituted all the business houses, although a big stable and barn, surrounded by a high brick wall, was built at the present location of Armory Hall by the Overland stage company in 1859, when the route was established through Visalia. Townsend's saloon, in the neighborhood of Huffaker's stables, also came into existence.

It must be remembered that there were no sidewalks except those of plank in front of the different business establishments; there were no pavements, no curbs, no sewers, no lights. Remember that this constituted the entire business section of town and that the dwellings, with the exception of a few brick residences, such as Wiley Watson's and A. J. Atwell's, were mere shacks, scattered, separated from each other by dense growths of brush, weeds, briars and a general tangle of vegetation. Streets, while laid out, were not necessarily strictly followed where cut-offs enabled one to reach main roads by a more direct route.

Such was Visalia in the late '50s, and it was a good town and a growing town; there was life and gaiety, brisk business and abundant money. A spreading oak tree, just visible in the background of the photograph, stood in the street at the corner of Bridge. The American flag, one made by Mrs. G. W. Warner, was stretched from it to the Warner hotel and flung to the breeze for the first time in Visalia in 1856.

The first firecrackers, imported in 1858, were hailed with delight

by the fun-loving populace and sold readily at from \$1 to \$1.50 a pack. Horse-racing was a sport in those days entered into with great enthusiasm. Local stock was used and a large portion of the available cash was in the hands of stakeholders before the start was made. Sometimes the races were postponed until late in the day that visitors from a distance might all have a chance to arrive and "get their money up." Some pleasures were more expensive then than now. Seven dollars was the usual price for a ball ticket, although on exceptionally swell occasions, such as the opening of the St. Charles hotel, a \$10 charge was made.

That the love of "red licker," while natural, and, in fact, essential, might be carried to extremes and that therefore the appetite should be somewhat curbed, was early recognized. The Visalia Dashaway Association, for the furtherance of temperance, was formed and many able citizens joined, and speeches of impassioned eloquence were made. As some slight stimulant was necessary to exalt the mind to a degree of inspiration in the preparation of such speeches, and as it was necessary in some measure to recuperate after the violent physical effort of delivery, report hath it that some of the officers of this association were often inclined to overrate their capacity for the cup that "brightens and invigorates the consciousness."

We pass on. Came the Civil war. Of the duel to the death in the campaign preceding it; of the organization of home guards and the coming of troops; of the street brawls and murders and house burnings and newspaper destroying during the period, there are accounts elsewhere.

After the war, the need for rail transportation facilities made itself severely felt and for a long period of years untiring efforts were made by Visalia's leading citizens to secure some such. The production of wool was becoming important, wheat farming offered prospects but excessive freights caused development to halt. When it became known that the Southern Pacific company had definitely left Visalia off the map by leaving it seven miles to the east, R. E. Hyde, the leading financier of the city, with assistance from many enterprising citizens, built the Visalia and Goshen railroad, completing it in 1875.

In the meantime the city had been incorporated. This measure had been defeated by vote at an election held in 1860, but it was not until February 27, 1874, that the approval of the legislative act gave the rank of city to the town. The first officers were: S. A. Shepard, M. Mooney, I. A. Samstag, W. B. Bishop and W. G. Owen, trustees; J. C. Hoy, marshal and tax collector; Julius Levy, assessor; J. A. Nowell, school superintendent and city clerk; S. C. Brown, S. H. Collins, J. C. Ward and W. F. Thomas, school directors, and A. Elkins, recorder.

Arthur and James Crowley established a water works system in 1875, gas works soon followed and electric lighting came in 1891.

Increased railway facilities were necessary for growth and tardily came. The Visalia-Tulare steam motor road was built by local capital; the Santa Fe, originally the San Joaquin Valley railroad, arrived in 1896; the Southern Pacific made connections with the east side branch at Exeter in 1897, shortly afterward taking over the Goshen-Visalia road; in 1907 the Visalia Electric road to Lemon Cove, and now on to Woodlake and Redbanks, was built, and in 1912 was inaugurated the Big Four electric railroad, which will connect Tulare, Porterville, Woodville and Visalia.

Prior to 1890 municipal improvements were of a very minor character, in fact, only within the past few years have they become such as befits a modern, rapidly growing city.

The prevention of the flood waters of Mill creek from overflowing the town had always constituted a problem, and in 1891 the channel was deepened and straightened and confined to a plank-covered flume, which answered with more or less success until the excessive high water of 1906. During that season the town was repeatedly flooded and adequate protective measures became necessary. For the purpose of securing immunity from this danger bonds in the sum of \$70,000 were voted, and in 1910 was constructed, according to the design of the city engineer, M. L. Weaver, a cement-lined concrete aqueduct over half a mile in length, the same covered for nearly all the distance with a re-enforced concrete construction.

Prior to this, in 1902, a sewerage system extending throughout the city had been built at a cost of about \$80,000, and a commencement of street paving had been made in 1895, by the laying down of twelve blocks in the business section.

In 1909 a very handsome and convenient city hall of mission design was built in re-enforced concrete, at a cost of \$30,000. Among other recent municipal improvements we may cite the magnificent new high school, now building in the western part of town, to take the place of the \$40,000 new building completed in 1911, and burned to the ground in the same year.

One of the serious passages in Visalia's recent history has been the numerous agitations, controversies and elections over the liquor question. This matter first came before the voters in 1874, and the proposed no-license measure was defeated by a vote of 178 to 120. About twenty years elapsed before the sentiment against saloons reached proportions. This became especially pronounced in 1906, when nearly all the precincts in the county outside of incorporated towns voted "dry."

After repeated efforts, the anti-saloon forces succeeded, in 1911, in inducing the city trustees to call an election for the purpose of

securing by a test or "straw" vote, the sentiment of the people. Twelve hundred votes were cast at this election, the "drys" winning by one hundred and forty-one. At the city election in April following, city trustees favoring no-license were elected, the majority in their favor being, however, only about eighty. An ordinance closing saloons was immediately passed.

The state legislature had in the meantime passed the Wyllie local option law, providing for a submission of the question to the people upon the filing of a petition signed by twenty-five per cent of the voters. The advocates of the saloon cause, confident that sentiment was changing in their favor, as shown by the recent vote, and that this would become more pronounced upon the falling off of business incident to the closing of saloons, determined to avail themselves of the provisions of the new law.

A petition having three hundred and four signatures was filed and an election held July 17, 1911. The "wets" obtained a majority of six votes at this election, there being five hundred and sixteen votes for license, five hundred and ten against and nine thrown out on account of being blank or incorrectly marked. The city trustees decided that as the saloon advocates had not received a clear majority of all ballots placed in the box, the "drys" had won, and refused to issue licenses. Intense bitterness was engendered by this action and the case carried into court on mandamus proceedings. Judge Wallace decided that the election was carried by the "wets," but that as the Wyllie law did not provide that the liquor traffic must be licensed following a majority vote, therefore the writ of mandamus would not lie.

It was, in other words, optional with the board to follow the expression of the will of the people. The trustees, standing on their legal rights, and justifying their action by the contention that illegal votes were cast, maintained their position. The saloons thereupon gave up their fight for a time, but in the spring of 1912 a final effort was made to secure a lease of life. This took the form of initiative legislation. An ordinance providing for the licensing of saloons under regulations so strict that it was thought that they would meet with the approval of the less radical opposition element was prepared, and the requisite number of signatures was affixed to a petition asking the trustees to call an election to determine whether or not it was the will of the people that the ordinance go into effect. At this election, held in April, 1912, women for the first time participated in municipal affairs. The measure was defeated overwhelmingly, thus finally settling a controversy that had existed for years.

The fact that Visalia, the oldest town in the San Joaquin valley, has allowed some to distance it in population and many to outstrip it in rapid growth has been the cause of comment.

Three principal factors there are which have contributed to this state of affairs. First, may be placed the fact of its not being on the main line of railway, although at present the facilities for shipment, and for travel are the same as if it were on three main lines. Second, is the fact that land in the vicinity has been held in large tracts by owners who did not desire to sell. Not until recently have any tracts suitable for colonization been placed on the market. Third, is the fact that elsewhere the prospective settler has in the past been able to find cheaper land. In many other localities, lands of low original value were rendered suitable for settlement by irrigation or other enterprises, and with the cost of this and promoters' profits added, could still be sold at a low figure.

In the rich delta sub-irrigated district, tributary to Visalia, land values on undeveloped tracts have been maintained for the reason that their conversion into income property was at any time an easy matter. The pressure of a flood of homeseekers is now at the barriers, and an exceeding growth and an increased prosperity will undoubtedly result.

Visalia today is a busy and growing modern city of 6000 inhabitants. In addition to the municipal improvements previously spoken of, such as the new city hall, new high school building, recent extensive street paving, adequate sewer system, etc., there is a handsome public library building, a delightful city park, a building in which are housed the chamber of commerce displays and which affords a meeting place for all civic bodies.

The city is peculiarly pleasing to the eye on account of the extent of shade tree bordered streets. Situated as it is in the center of the sub-irrigated belt, natural perennial green grasses flourish and the lawns and foliage never indicate by failing verdure the parching effects of summer heat. Many oaks, remnants of the solid groves that once were a feature of the landscape, remain and add to the charm.

Quite a large number of pretentious residences, with carefully kept lawns and gardens, grace the environs. Cement sidewalks have generally been well extended towards the outskirts, and the streets, outside the paved district, are usually oiled and kept in good order.

In a business way, modern requirements are fully met. There are three banks with deposits of nearly \$2,500,000; two canning factories; two dried fruit packinghouses; two creameries; two green fruit packing concerns and a beet sugar factory.

The amount of money expended by these concerns in payrolls and payments for the products of orchard, dairy and farm reaches an enormous total, and forms the foundation for permanent prosperity.

CHAPTER V.

TULARE COUNTY'S CITRUS FRUIT

The eastern slope of Tulare county is covered today with almost one continuous orange grove. In the amount of capital invested, the culture of citrus fruits is by far the most important industry in the county. In yearly revenue it equals or exceeds any other.

Roughly speaking, there are about twenty-seven thousand acres set to oranges and lemons, one-third of which is in bearing. The production last year was four thousand carloads, having a value of \$2,500,000. A conservative valuation of these orchards with their equipment would be \$13,500,000, and a fair estimate of the income when the present acreage reaches bearing would be \$7,500,000. This wonderful development has been wholly accomplished within the past twenty years, but a few words relative to the very earliest efforts in this direction may prove of interest.

The first orange tree planted in Tulare county was in 1860, when Mrs. H. M. White, in Frazier valley, planted the seed from an orange brought from the South Sea islands. As one passes now through miles of groves heavy with golden fruit or laden with odorous blossoms, the symbolism of this act appeals to the imagination. It seems as if, endowed with the supernatural powers of one of the fates, she performed the ceremony of transferring to this inland vale some of the spicy fragrance and some of the easy opulence of those languorous isles.

Returning to facts, Deming Gibben, in 1863, also planted a few orange trees in his yard at Plano. At dates not exactly known, Peter Goodhue set out a tree in Visalia and J. W. C. Pogue at Lemon Cove planted a few. To trace the extraordinary growth of the industry from those days until the present, when trainloads are shipped daily throughout the season, would fill a volume. And yet progress in the beginning was hampered in many ways. Few of Tulare county residents believed in it. It was expensive, the cost even in the beginning reaching \$300 per acre for bringing an orchard into bearing. The area of adaptable land was thought to be confined only to certain foothill slopes, or coves with certain kinds of exposure. Hog-wallow land was deemed unfit. Failure to obtain water on the first trial in some districts was considered evidence that none was there. But when numerous crops came into bearing and the fruit was being harvested some six weeks earlier than that from Southern California, when this fruit reached the eastern markets in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas markets

and sold for exceedingly high prices, there came visitors from the southern orange districts who perceived at a glance the great possibilities of the section.

In 1870 W. J. Ellis, county assessor, in his statistical report submitted to the surveyor general, listed one hundred orange trees in the county. In making up his large total, however, he had recourse to including about ninety young trees still in the nursery. At this period there was no thought in the minds of anyone that orange growing would develop as a commercial industry. This did not occur until 1890. In that year George Frost, a prominent orange grower and nurseryman of Riverside, took a look at the county. In Southern California there existed a firm conviction that orange growing north of Tehachapi was impossible. While Mr. Frost looked at the country with doubtful eyes, he was more unprejudiced than the majority. Besides this, he was anxious to find a market for nursery trees. At the time he had on hand a large stock, which he was unable to sell. In the San Joaquin valley for Mr. Frost's inspection there were at the time the following groves only: at Porterville, five acres; at the ranch of H. M. White, a few trees; at Plano, one acre; at Lemon Cove, one and one-half acres; at Centerville, six acres; and at the old General Beale's place, south of Bakersfield, a five-acre tract planted to a general assortment of citrus fruits.

The prospects for a new district appealed so strongly to Mr. Frost that he engaged in a deal with the Pioneer Land company of Porterville whereby, on land owned by the corporation, he was to set out one hundred acres of orange trees and care for them for two years. Then he was either to buy the property for \$100 per acre or the land company were to repay him for the trees and labor expended.

Immediately following the expression of opinion of Mr. Frost that the district was adapted to oranges, numbers prepared to engage in it, and the next year witnessed a planting that would prove a commercial factor. Albert and Oliver Henry of Porterville, who already had a few trees in bearing, became the pioneer enterprising growers and boosters for the Porterville district.

In 1891 Capt. A. J. Hutchinson, together with Messrs. Patten and Glassell, purchased the Jacobs' place at Lindsay and in the following year set out three acres at Lindsay, which became known as the home place. In 1893 planting became general. So well pleased was Mr. Frost with his original venture at Porterville that he purchased and proceeded to set out an additional tract of seventy-five acres.

Captain Hutchinson organized the Lindsay Land company, and proceeded to subdivide his tract into small holdings, agreeing to

care for the groves of non-residents. No ditch water for irrigating was available at Lindsay. Wells were therefore sunk and steam pumping plants installed, the first in the county. Water in abundance was found at a depth of about seventy feet, which rose to within twenty feet of the surface. The experiment generally disbelieved in proved an unqualified success. A high water level in the wells maintained itself in spite of the drain of constant pumping and the supply appeared then as inexhaustible.

Thomas Johnson, Joe Curtis and other influential men of San Jose, became prominent in promoting the Lindsay district. About four hundred acres, mostly in ten acre tracts, were planted. Between two hundred and fifty and three hundred acres, also in small blocks, were planted near Porterville.

Exeter entered the field in 1904 through the operations of George Frost. This gentleman, with Messrs. Merryman, Carney, Hamilton, Davis and others, set out about four hundred acres east of Exeter, naming it the Bonnie Brae orchard. In passing, it may be noted that Mr. Merryman later absorbed the interests of his associates and greatly increased his holdings by the purchasing of adjoining property. In addition to several hundred acres of undeveloped land and a considerable acreage devoted to olives and deciduous fruits, there are seven hundred and fifty acres devoted to oranges. It is the largest grove in the county and this, together with the elegant residence, large, beautiful gardens and grounds, make it one of the "show places" of the district.

Development at Lemon Cove did not lag behind this movement, promotion work there being first accomplished by Messrs. Hammond, Berry, Levis, Overall and Jordan of Visalia, who organized the Kaweah Lemon Company and set some two hundred acres to trees. The Ohio Lemon Company shortly thereafter set another similar tract to this fruit.

By 1904 development had been thoroughly launched in the Porterville, Lindsay, Exeter and Lemon Cove districts. We turn now to the commercial disposition of the product.

In 1892 there were boosters a-plenty for the new industry. It was deemed desirable to show the world that a new citrus district, producing fruit unequalled, had been discovered. The World's Fair at St. Louis was to open January 1, 1904. Above all things it behooved growers here to make a big showing. P. M. Baier was selected to prepare such an exhibit. The first full carload to leave the county was the fruit for this display and it required practically all grown in the county to fill it. The exhibit was first shown in the Mechanics Pavilion in San Francisco, and then forwarded to St. Louis, and received creditable mention at both places.

In 1893 there were four carloads at the Frost orchard, and in

the next season both the Exchange and the Earl Fruit Companies entered the field, getting out a pack of sixteen cars. This fruit reached the eastern market in time for the Thanksgiving and Christmas markets and sold for extra high prices. As this period of ripening is several weeks in advance of Southern California a great deal of attention was attracted to this locality and many southern growers came, saw the results accomplished, and invested.

Old residents of Tulare county, however, generally held aloof from venturing into this field. In fact, the whole business of the promotion of the sale of orange lands and their planting appeared to them as a rank swindle. The selling of foothill land at \$25 to \$50 per acre, or with water developed at \$75 to \$100, seemed to them as merely a scheme to catch suckers. Only within the last few years, in fact, have numbers of our own citizens taken an active part in the enterprise, these now freely paying for lands treble the price that they formerly believed extravagant.

During the first years of the rapid extension of acreage devoted to citrus fruits investors were very chary of straying far from the original bearing orchards. Objections innumerable were in fact advanced toward all other lands.

The Hutchinson tract at Lindsay was held to mark the extreme westerly boundary of the thermal belt; only slopes and coves in the hills with certain exposures were suitable; south of Plano there was no water; hog-wallow land was unfit; failure to obtain water in the first trial in a new district was considered evidence that none was there; and so on, endlessly, with able reasons why the only true citrus lands had been planted by the first growers. Largely in consequence of this attitude, the bearing orchards today generally lie in the districts tributary to Porterville, Lindsay, Exeter and Lemon Cove.

Commencing some seven or eight years ago, however, there has been a bold exploitation of new districts, led by promoters with capital, energy and optimism. These have by actual demonstration shown conclusively that the citrus belt is not bounded by such narrow limits. Water in quantities has been developed almost everywhere. Dimba, Orosi, Stokes valley, Yettam, Orange Heights, Klink, Venice Cove, Redbanks, Woodlake, Naranjo, Frazier valley, Strathmore, Zante, Terra Bella and the entire district from Plano south to the county line, including Terra Bella, Ducor and Richgrove, are each now capable of demonstrating by showing hundreds of acres of thriving orchards that they are adapted to this culture.

With the exception of Dimba, Orosi, Yettam and Redbanks, which have other sources of income, all of these new districts are solely dependent upon citrus fruit culture for support. In this connection the solid improvements at Woodlake, Strathmore and Terra Bella, particularly in the way of substantial business structures,

hotels, banks, newspapers, municipal water supply, cement sidewalks, etc., indicate the confidence of moneyed men in the potential productive capacity of the community.

All of this expenditure in the way of permanent municipal improvements, together with the outlay of capital incident to the installation and maintenance throughout the entire district of electric power systems, necessarily forms a portion of the entire sum today invested in the citrus fruit industry of the county. The estimate of \$13,500,000, given at the commencement of this sketch, is shown, therefore, to be far too low. Twenty million would perhaps come nearer. Likewise, with reference to the present income. The estimate of \$2,500,000 of present return was based on a production of four thousand carloads, four hundred boxes to the car, value \$1.50 per box. The cost of labor for handling and packing and the salaries and profits of the men engaged in this business were not included. Thus a fairer estimate of the present revenue from this source would be \$3,000,000.

The first plantings were seedlings, but practically all have since been replaced by Washington navels. The present pack of four thousand carloads consists of about two hundred and fifty cars of lemons, four hundred and fifty cars of Valencias and the remainder navels. There are thirty-five packing houses in the district, and double that number will be needed as soon as the present new acreage comes into bearing.

Tulare county now ranks fifth in the state in the production of citrus fruits, but it appears certain that within four years it will take first place.

TULARE COUNTY'S DIMINISHED AREA

The present area of Tulare county is 4,863 square miles.

It is still a large county and its diversified topography and productions cause it to seem a veritable empire. How vast the area once included in its bounds can be seen by the following slices that have been taken from its territory: In 1856, Fresno county, with 6,035 square miles; in 1866, Inyo county, with 10,224 square miles; in 1866, Kern county, with 1,852 square miles; and in 1893, Kings county, with 1,375 square miles.

CHAPTER VI

THE GENERAL RODEO

Three things were necessary in the early days of cattle raising in Tulare county to insure success. These were a branding iron, a range claim and a number of active cowboys.

There was a law at that time which had been passed by the legislature of '51, entitled "An act to regulate rodeos," which caused this condition. This law provided for a general rodeo on every stock farm, and if a rancher failed to make it, it could be made by any of his neighbors at his expense; and provided further that no man should mark or brand his stock cattle except at one of these general rodeos.

Of the law and its workings, Stephen Barton, writing in 1874, says: "The cap sheaf of the enactment, however, was this section: 'All unmarked neat cattle, the mothers of which are unknown, shall be considered the property of the owner of the farm on which they may be found.' These provisions of law resulted in this county in the unoccupied public domain being divided into range claims, and he that was unable to make a general rodeo soon found that he had no business to keep cattle, while those who undertook it found that the business of the year simplified itself to the task of assembling on his rodeo ground as many unmarked neat cattle without mothers as it was possible to do. Can it be wondered at that, under such circumstances, cattle stealing should rise to the dignity of a science, and finally to that of a fine art? The business of manipulating a rodeo was at once more simple than that of stacking a deck of cards or that of picking the pockets of an unwary traveler. Further, it was more respectable and required, in one case, less capital, in the other, less courage."

In 1907 occurred an incident at White River which at once illustrates the wealth once frequently found in the gold pockets of this section and brought to light a story of a mysterious disappearance, buried treasure and unfounded suspicion strange as any fiction.

It develops that in the early '80s Tom Bradford, a miner thought to have been quite successful, suddenly disappeared. No clue was obtained to his whereabouts; it was believed that he had met with foul play, and suspicion rested on J. M. White. At this time, so the story goes, Dave Hughes and old man Caldwell were interested believers in spiritualism and gave seances and table rappings. At one of these performances they announced that Bradford had met his death at the hands of White. Great excitement ensued in the camp and White's denial of guilt was not believed.

Mr. White, by means of letters to almost every town in the state, finally located Bradford and received letters convincing the neighbors of his innocence. In one of these letters Bradford stated that he had buried some gold in Gordon's Gulch, described the location and told White to get it and keep it to repay him for the trouble he had experienced. Mr. White and his sons searched Gordon's Gulch over and over, but failed to discover the treasure.

In 1907 Bradford returned, having lost his eyesight and one arm through a dynamite explosion, and is now known as "Blind Tom." Securing a guide, Tom Willard, in Delano, Blind Tom arrived in Gordon's Gulch and by describing the location, which was by a chimney and near a flat rock surface, was conducted to the spot. A little digging unearthed gold in various tin cans to the amount of twenty-five pounds.

Following the Civil war the failing output of the mines caused a lessened prosperity. The lack of transportation facilities was severely felt and many endeavors were made to secure rail connections.

Cattle raising continued profitable and herds were increased. The discovery of the immense grazing territory of the Sierras gave an impetus to sheep raising, and wool became the principal product.

The completion of the railroad through Goshen and Tulare in 1872, with the westward branch through Hanford in 1877 caused a rush of settlers. These either purchased land of the railroad or acquired title by pre-emption of homestead. The population increased very rapidly and farming on a large scale had its inception. Irrigating enterprises on a large scale were inaugurated.

It must be remembered that the county by this time had been greatly reduced in area, Kern having been cut off in 1856, and Fresno and Inyo in 1866.

The "No Fence" law of 1871, passed just before the coming of the railroad, rendered farming practicable and now commenced the era of wheat growing. Immense ranches were sown to the cereal, an acreage of from five to twenty thousand in one body not being unusual. A section, or 640 acres, was considered a small farm. Tulare became the banner wheat producing county of the state. Fourteen thousand carloads were shipped in one season. The construction in 1888 of the east side branch of the Southern Pacific, passing through the Dinuba, Exeter, Porterville and Ducor country, brought an immense acreage of fine wheat lands into cultivation. Sheep raising, meanwhile, since the disastrous drought of '77, had been declining.

In 1890 the county experienced what may be termed its third boom. The extraordinary yields and profits of fruit raising had

been demonstrated by the crop sales of orchards in the two preceding years and now a general rush to plant trees took place. Probably fifteen thousand acres were set to trees and vines in this season.

The discovery of the adaptability of the foothill belt to citrus fruits, the finding of subterranean rivers, and the exploitation of the power of the mountain streams were incidents of the succeeding years. Dairying, conducted at first on a small scale with inconsiderable profit, became shortly, from the increasing necessities of the rapidly growing city of Los Angeles, an industry of great importance.

In general, the history of the county during the last fifteen years has been the prosaic development caused by the flourishing growth of industry, accounts of which are given under separate headings.

CHAPTER VII

EXETER AND OTHER TOWNS

When, in 1888, the railroad construction crew struck the town-site of Exeter they found themselves in the grain field of John W. Firebaugh. Behind them and before them stretched other fields of wheat. A few farm houses were in sight, but there was no vestige of a town, nor did it appear likely that there ever would be.

The Pacific Improvement Company, who had platted the town and owned the "city," found the sale of lots slow indeed. A blacksmith shop, opened by John Hamilton, a store conducted by George W. Kirkman, a saloon and later a hotel constituted for several years the Exeter business establishments, and it was not until 1892 that a second general store, opened by R. H. Stevens, became necessary. At this time there were only two brick buildings in town, and the remainder consisted largely of mere shacks.

Not until 1894 did the first stirring of life manifest itself. George W. Frost and associates in that year commenced the extensive orange plantings at "Bonnie Brae," a short distance east of town. Not, however, until about half a dozen years after this, when these orchards came into bearing, did the community realize the value of the land adjoining and since then growth has been very rapid. A bank, now called the First National Bank of Exeter, became necessary as early as 1901, and in 1912 the banking business had so grown as to justify the advent of another, the Citrus Bank.

Exeter now has a population of thirteen hundred, with an assessed valuation of city property of \$388,000. The business section is constructed almost wholly of brick, many of the buildings being of two stories with handsome pressed brick fronts. Business is not confined to a few large emporiums, but distributed among a score of prosperous merchants.

At two elections attempts to incorporate Exeter were defeated because of the opposition caused by the inclusion of much farm property within the proposed corporate limits.

On March 2, 1911, the measure carried and under the leadership of the following officers the city commenced its career: Board of Trustees, G. E. Waddell, president; W. P. Ballard, J. F. Duncan, James Kirk, W. A. Waterman; city marshal, C. E. Mackey; city treasurer, E. H. Miles; city recorder, W. B. Moore.

The first important measure for the city's welfare undertaken was the establishment of a municipal water system, a public service previously in private hands and furnishing inadequate service. Bonds

in the sum of \$42,000 were voted in 1911 and this year witnessed the completion and commencement of operation on a fine municipal plant. About nine miles of piping thoroughly cover the city and provide for its needs for several years. Four wells furnish a more than adequate supply of pure water and a storage capacity of 100,000 gallons gives good fire protection.

Modern school buildings are a feature, the high school building, constructed in 1910 at a cost of \$10,000, being particularly handsome. The high school has been in operation but four years, yet six teachers are employed and a seventh has become necessary. In this connection illustrative of the city's recent rapid growth it may be stated that last year's attendance was just double that of the preceding year.

A very progressive Board of Trade has for many years materially aided the advancement of city and county interests. Through its efforts a citrus fair was held in 1909 which attracted great crowds of visitors, not only from the county but from the large centers of population. Both financially and as a promotion enterprise this fair was an unqualified success.

At the present time the Board of Trade is engaged in the construction of a handsome brick structure which will house the city officers, afford room for meetings both of the board and the city council and furnish the abode for an exhibit of the products of the surrounding section.

Hunt Bros., a big firm of fruit canners who are also owners of a large orchard in the vicinity, have recently established a large canning factory which gives employment through the season to several hundred people.

Prior to the completion, in 1899, of the connecting line with Visalia, Exeter was quite a stage and teaming center. Even after this, Exeter remained the terminus for the Lemon Cove and Three Rivers stages and when the orange and lemon orchards of the Lemon Cove district came into bearing, the product, amounting to about a hundred carloads per season, was hauled to Exeter to be placed aboard cars.

The Visalia Electric Railway, completed in 1907, necessarily wiped out this traffic, but by increasing trading, traveling and shipping facilities, has been a great benefit to the city.

Exeter now has first class transportation facilities in four directions. It may be said to be on the main line and two branch lines of the Southern Pacific as well as having an electric railway.

Aside from these connections and its central location, Exeter is situated in a peculiarly favorable position by reason of its being practically on the line separating the farming, dairying and deciduous fruit district from the citrus belt. Of course, there is no real line of demarcation and the land immediately surrounding the town is adapted

and devoted to both cultures. Orange groves, alfalfa fields, peach orchards and vineyards of table grapes adjoin.

Generally the farming and general fruit lands extend from the lowlands to the west to the neighborhood of the town, and eastward to the hills orange growing is in almost exclusive vogue.

The result is that the prosperity arising from the valuable productions of the fertile soil is not intermittent, but constant throughout the year. The facilities for caring for these products are of the best. In addition to the cannery, there is a packing house for the shipment of fresh fruit to eastern markets, and four orange packing establishments.

MONSON

The station of Monson, on the line of the Southern Pacific north of Visalia, is in a fine farming section and there are a number of orchards and vineyards in the vicinity. It is a small village; the school employs one teacher.

KAWEAH

Two miles north of Three Rivers is the postoffice and stage station known as Kaweah. It is located beside a picturesquely tree and vine bordered streamlet that is a feeder to the north fork of the Kaweah river. Much tillable land in large part devoted to apple orchards lies hereabouts and the neighborhood is, for a mountain settlement, well populated. There is a daily stage to Lemon Cove and during the summer months a stage is run from this point to Giant Forest.

NORTH TULE

North Tule is the name given to the fertile valley of the Tule river after it issues from the western slopes of the Sierras, in the southeastern part of Tulare county. The valley is about thirty miles long with an average width of five miles and with numerous side valleys entering it. The soil is very fertile and has long been known for its fine apples. Many villages and settlements are found along the valley, among which are Milo, Cramer, Baldwin Flats, Duncan's Flat, Springville, Globe and China Flats.

PIXLEY

Another of the stations of note on the line of the Southern Pacific is the flourishing town of Pixley. It is in a rich farming district and is an important point for grain dealers. It is in the artesian country and large alfalfa fields have been sown, and dairying is coming to the front. There is a fine school house, hotel and several mercantile houses. Much of the lands about the town were owned by people of San Francisco and they named it in honor of the talented Frank Pixley, founder and editor of the *Argonaut*.

TIPTON

The town of Tipton had its origin with the coming of the Southern Pacific Railway and was made a depot. It is in the midst of a rich farming and dairying country, and some of the people have planted orchards. It is the natural shipping point for a large part of the lower Tule country, but the town has not grown with the rapidity of other places. It has a number of mercantile and other business houses and the business men are confidently expecting that in the next few years there will be a large influx of people. There are a number of artesian wells in the vicinity and the dairy business is growing to be of great importance.

ALILA

The most southerly town in the county on the line of the railroad is Alila. It is in the country between the sinks of Deer creek and White river, and in the artesian belt. It thus has a rich and valuable country around it. There are good warehouses and a large amount of grain is handled here. The school and church are well represented and there are a number of business houses in town.

POPLAR

Poplar is not the name of a town, but rather of a rich farming country west and south from Porterville, and being southeastward from the Woodville country. It is a famous stockraising section and also a fine country for grain. In the early days the land owners here united and brought in a supply of water from the Tule river. This was by means of the Bid ditch. A co-operative company was formed and established a general merchandising house that is still doing business.

FRAZIER

One of the most beautiful sections of Tulare county is Frazier valley, which lies about twenty-five miles east and south of Tulare City. It borders the Tule river above where the river emerges into the more open plains. It has a postoffice and a number of farms and orchards. It is, with its side valleys, some fifteen miles long and five miles wide. The valley is now attracting much attention as being a choice locality for early fruit and vegetables. It is finely watered and is comparatively free from frosts.

WOODVILLE

The name Woodville was given to a rich farming country lying along the south side of Tule river, eight miles west from Porterville and twenty miles south of Visalia. It derived its title from the extensive groves of white oak covering the country. A store was established at an early date and a postoffice located there, besides

a schoolhouse, and people in the neighborhood are beginning to put out orchards and hope in a few years to have a prosperous town there. The soil is very rich, and alfalfa fields are becoming numerous and much attention is paid of late to dairying.

STRATHMORE

One of the late towns to spring up in Tulare county is Strathmore, and it has from the first shown a lusty growth. On the line of the railway between Lindsay and Porterville it is the depot for one of the fine orange districts of the county. At the citrus fair held in Visalia in 1910 Strathmore made a remarkably fine exhibit of citrus and deciduous fruits, olives, pomegranates and other products.

ESHOM VALLEY

A few miles east of Badger lies the mountain dale called Eshom Valley, one of the beauty spots of the county. The valley is several miles long and in places a mile wide. Though situated at a high elevation not far below the edge of the pines, the soil is warm and fertile and farm crops, vegetables, berries, apples, etc., produce exceedingly well. There is much good grazing land in the vicinity and the hills being thickly wooded with acorn-bearing oaks, hog raising has proven a profitable branch of the stock raising industry.

The climate is so tempered by the altitude that it has become a resort favored by tourists in summer. Eshom Valley is of historic interest as being once the home of a great tribe of Indians whose powerful chief, Wuk-sa-che, more than once led them to victory in battle with the Monaches. The Indian name of the valley was "Cha-ha-du," "a place where clover grows the year round." Orlando Barton states that when he first visited the valley, in the '60's, he saw droves of Indians eating clover there.

The valley was visited as early as 1857 by James Fisher and Thomas Davis, and derived its name from Mr. Eshom, one of the first residents, who settled there and engaged in farming. In 1862 Jasper Harrell laid claim to the valley but did not succeed in holding it. His foreman, J. B. Breckenridge, was killed by the Indians in 1863.

ALPAUGH

In early days Tulare lake covered a much greater area than at present. Near its southeastern end existed a large island owned by Judge Atwell of Visalia, and known as Atwell's Island. Long since the waters of the lake have subsided, the island no longer exists, but its location is marked by the growing town of Alpaugh. The whole section hereabouts was for many years used by Miller & Lux as a pasture for their immense herds of cattle. The lands were deemed unfit for agricultural purposes.

In 1905 a syndicate of Los Angeles capitalists obtained control of 8861 acres, comprising Atwell's Island, and placed it on the market in small tracts on easy terms. A large number of purchasers were found and these, with their families—two hundred and twelve persons in all—came up to settle. So general was the idea among old residents of the county that this land was worthless that the enterprise was "knocked" on all sides. Every Alpangh colonist was told that he was an "easy mark." The Visalia Board of Trade seriously considered the passing of a resolution condemning the land sale as a swindle, but were dissuaded from hasty action by Ben M. Maddox.

The colonists did have trouble. With most of them funds were scarce, and many had to leave temporarily. There was trouble in getting a supply of good water. Perseverance overcame these obstacles. A school district was organized in 1906, a church and school house erected and home building was recommenced. Successful experiments in raising alfalfa and vegetables were conducted, artesian wells were sunk and a supply of water obtained, this not sufficient, however, for irrigation purposes. But the wells put down were found of double value. Besides water, they supplied a natural gas that can be used for heating and lighting.

The colonists have increased in numbers and much activity is shown in raising vegetables. Quite a business has been established in the canning of tomatoes, peas, etc. The raising of garden seeds for the market has proved especially profitable and it has been found that the fine silt soil is peculiarly adapted to the production of asparagus, onions and other vegetables. The colonists have arranged to get a bountiful supply of water for irrigating purposes from the Smyrna wells, distant a few miles south.

South and west from Alpangh much work is being done in the reclamation of submerged lake lands by the construction of levees. Alpangh is situated eight miles south and west from Angiola. The Santa Fe railroad contemplates the building of a spur to connect Alpangh with the main line, and this, it is believed, will not be delayed, as shipments fully warrant it.

TAGUS

While the name Tagus, applied to the switch on the Southern Pacific track about midway between Goshen and Tulare, is not worthy of mention, the neighboring country, or Tagus district, is. The Tagus ranch of several thousand acres devoted to dairying, alfalfa and grain farming has proven exceptionally profitable, especially since the experiment on it of raising sugar beets. Of necessity cultivation for this purpose was very deep and thorough and crops since have been extraordinarily large. The neighborhood is

almost exclusively devoted to alfalfa and dairying. Probably no district in the county delivers more butter fat to the creameries in proportion to its area than the Tagus section.

GOSHEN

The town of Goshen, seven miles west of Visalia, dates its history from the completion of the railroad to that point, in May, 1872. Here the contemplated branch of the Southern Pacific from San Francisco by way of Gilroy, Tres Pinos and Huron, was to join the line of the Central Pacific, proceeding from Stockton south. A passenger and a freight depot was built, large numbers of lots sold, and it was thought that before many years Goshen would become an important city.

The construction, in 1874, of the Visalia-Goshen railway inspired renewed hopes in the future of the town as a great railway center. In 1876 work was commenced on the westerly branch, running through the Mussel Slough country, and supposed to make connections at Tres Pinos. This road got as far as Alcalde only.

However, Goshen did become the railroad center of the county and of the San Joaquin valley. Geographically, it is admirably situated, lying midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, within touching distance on the one hand of Visalia and Exeter and on the other with Hanford and Coalinga. Surrounding it lie extensive tracts, suitable for fruit, vines or alfalfa. Several productive and lucrative orchards and vineyards in the vicinity attest the adaptability of the soil.

Notwithstanding these apparent advantages, Goshen still remains a small village. The cause of this failure to grow lies no doubt in the fact that the soil surrounding the depot is alkaline in character and unfavorably impresses home-seekers looking from the windows of a car.

A few years ago Goshen was made a sub-station on the Associated Oil Company's pipe line. A number of neat cottages for the use of employes were erected and these, while situated in the questionable soil spoken of, are now surrounded by lawns and gardens creditable to any locality.

Within the last few years the exceedingly fertile character of Goshen lands has become known to many investors. Orchards and vineyards have been planted on a considerable scale and it is believed that rapid and at the same time solid and substantial growth awaits the village kept so long dormant.

PAIGE

Paige is the name of a station on the Santa Fe, west from Tulare. It is the depot for the large settlement that is growing

up on and around the great Paige & Morton ranch, which once claimed the largest vineyard in the world, besides having extensive orchards and grain lands. A considerable part of it has in the past few years been sold in small holdings. Thus an important settlement is being made there, and the surrounding country is rapidly becoming a great dairy section.

ANGIOLA

Angiola dates its history from the coming of the Santa Fe railroad. It is in the lake region on the main line of the railroad running south from Hanford to Bakersfield. It is an important place now for supplying the rapidly growing lake country. It is in the artesian belt, and the surrounding country is very fertile. The greater part of the soil is rich silt, capable of producing all kinds of crops. Grain and alfalfa predominate, although a considerable acreage is being used for beet raising. The large sugar factory at Corcoran is largely dependent upon the lake lands for the supply of beets.

YETTEM

Lying north of Visalia about sixteen miles is a rich farming district formerly known as Churehill. It is along the base of the low foothills and has an exceptionally rich soil and comparative freedom from frosts. A few years ago a colony of Armenians bought property here and put out vineyards and orchards. From the fine gardens and rapid growth of tree and vine the Armenians named the settlement Yettem, "Garden of Eden." There is now a general store, a school and a fine church as the nucleus of a town, lying about a mile east of the line of the Santa Fe. The station now called Yettem was formerly called Lowell.

PLANO

The town of Plano might well be called South Porterville, as it lies south of that town and just across the Tule river. The name was suggested by its location in the great, beautiful plain sweeping down from the foothills of the Sierras and extending out westwardly. This plain is one of the fairest, and the elegant homes that have been made here and that still are being established receive an additional charm from the grand view of the snow-capped Sierras to the east.

Being on the main stage road leading from Visalia to Los Angeles, and to the Kern river and Owens valley mining districts, it was in early times a stage station. William Thompson was its first pioneer merchant and postmaster. Dr. F. A. Johnson was its earliest physician. Here it was that the first oranges in Tulare county were raised. As noted elsewhere, D. Gibbons here planted

a few trees in his yard, and some of them are still bearing fruit. It is now grown to be a great orange center, with pleasant homes, schools, churches, etc. As a suburb of Porterville, the social advantages incident to populous communities are shared, while by its separation from the bustling city the charm of suburban life remains unimpaired.

THREE RIVERS

Twenty-eight miles east of Visalia at the junction of the forks of the Kaweah river in the foothills, lies the village of Three Rivers. The Three Rivers country may properly be considered to embrace the territory included in Three Rivers voting precinct, which extends southerly to Yokohl, westerly to Lemon Cove, northerly to Eshom and easterly to Inyo county, an area of twenty-one townships.

The first known white man to enter this section was Hale D. Tharpe, a stockman, who came in the fall of 1858. The Works family, William Swanson and family, John Lovelace and family, Joseph Palmer, A. Everton, Ira Blossom and family, followed soon after and were the pioneers of the settlement.

At the time of Mr. Tharpe's arrival Indians in the vicinity were very numerous, the population being estimated at two thousand. These tribes are now practically extinct, and in this vicinity not one remains. The progress of the settlement was very slow, there being practically no immigration until 1878, when the gold excitement at Mineral King took place. The mining activities at Mineral King and the construction of a road to that place caused a temporary influx of residents, but the mining excitement dying down, the population remained practically as before.

In 1886 the Kaweah Co-operative Colony made this their base of operations, establishing a village on the north fork of the Kaweah. These colonists commenced the construction of a road to the Giant Forest and completed about twenty miles of it. This project was abandoned in 1890, most of the colonists leaving the county. Quite a number, however, remained and have materially aided in the development of the district. Settlement has slowly but steadily increased until the present population numbers six hundred and fifteen.

In 1878 a postoffice was established at Three Rivers; in 1892 at Kaweah, on the north fork; in 1905 at Hammond, on the main river, and in 1907 at Ranger (Giant Forest).

Britten Brothers, in 1897, opened a general merchandise store and in 1910, the River Inn Company, in connection with a hotel situated at the junction of the north fork, installed another. In 1899 the Mt. Whitney Power Company put in a large power plant, in 1905 a second was installed and at the present writing a third and a

fourth are in course of construction. There are two good schools, a public hall, two blacksmith shops. An extensive telephone system owned by the community unites the members of this widely scattered settlement.

In early days the sole industry of the section was stock raising, the foothill country furnishing an abundance of spring feed and the mountain ranges contributing the summer supply.

In the early '70s, Joe Palmer carried in on his back a few apple trees and became the pioneer of an industry that now adds a considerable quota to the prosperity of the region. Apples were found to do exceedingly well and numerous orchards now dot not only the river bottom lands of the lower sections, but are successfully grown as far up as the pine belt at an elevation of forty-five hundred feet.

The excellent fishing and hunting, the climatic advantages and the scenic wonders of the higher Sierras, bring through Three Rivers each year an increasing number of tourists and sportsmen and outfitting and catering to these has become an important branch of business here.

A TALE OF INDIAN TROUBLE AT THREE RIVERS IN EARLY DAYS.

In May, 1857, the Works and Pemberton families had sold a herd of cattle and had considerable money. A few days after the sale transaction a band of some eighty or ninety Indians came over from the Owens River valley and established camp just across the Kaweah river from the Works' house. Many of the Indians bore firearms, and amongst them was one man that had recently killed a white man on the Owens river without cause or provocation, and was wearing the dead man's clothes at the time. On the 25th of the month, when the men settlers were away looking after their stock, a portion of the Indians looted the premises of Pemberton and Works. When the men returned home and saw what had transpired, Joseph Palmer, H. Works and Pemberton immediately started out for the camp of the Indians to adjust matters. While enroute to the Indian camp they met six Indians and told them of the depredations they had committed. Immediately the Indian that had killed the man at Owens river made an attempt to draw a pistol, whereupon Joseph Palmer struck the Indian upon the head with his gun, instantly killing him. Following, several shots were fired at close range from both sides in which three or four Indians were killed, and the whites not injured. The Indians all left the country the same evening, after which the dead Indians were all buried by the whites.

This was the first, last, and only trouble with the Indians.

SPRINGVILLE

Among the hamlets which of recent years have attracted unusual attention among residents of the southern end of the county as well as among visiting prospective settlers is the town of Springville, situated about sixteen miles eastward from Porterville at an elevation of 1072 feet.

The village lies near the Tule river, below the junction of the north fork with the main channel, and takes its name from a splendid soda spring found there, the waters of which are noted for their agreeable taste and for their curative properties. The town is frequently referred to as the "Gateway to the Sierras," as from it diverge roads and trails reaching many mountain points of interest. Its chief fame, however, rests upon the superb quality of apples grown in the neighborhood. These have taken prizes wherever exhibited and their production has become extensive. Oranges are also largely grown and with success, comparative freedom from frosts being enjoyed.

Originally the town was named Daunt, from William G. Daunt, a pioneer settler who opened a store during the '60s. The origin of the present village, however, dates from 1880, when A. M. Coburn, a lumberman operating a mill in the mountains, purchased a tract of land originally taken up by John Crabtree, and set aside eighteen acres as a townsite.

The prospective value of the springs was one of the inducements for purchasers of the lots, and the town to be was given the name Soda Springs. A school house and a building intended to be used as a sanitarium were the only structures on the land. The vision of a famous "spa" did not materialize, but as Mr. Coburn built a box factory and planing mill and sold lots and lumber on easy terms to his employees, a number of houses were built and a nucleus of a town started. The "sanitarium" was converted into a hotel and later torn down for the erection of the present Springville hotel.

The postoffice was at Mr. Daunt's place, nearly a mile down the river. Originally mail had been brought from Visalia twice a week, Charles Lawless being the carrier. Later it was sent from Tulare by way of Woodville, Porterville and Plano. On the completion of the railroad to Porterville a daily mail by stage from that place was established.

In 1890 Mr. Coburn bought out Mr. Daunt's store and moved it and the postoffice to the present site. The name "Daunt" for the postoffice was continued for several years by reason of the fact that there was a Springville postoffice in Ventura county. This latter having lapsed, the name "Springville" applies now to the postoffice as well as the town.

MINERAL KING

Sixty miles east of Visalia, reached via Lemon Cove and Three Rivers, at the source of the east fork of the Kaweah river, lies the mountain valley, Mineral King. Here, at an altitude of eight thousand feet, the summer climate is cool and invigorating, and this, together with the numerous nearby scenic attractions, the abundant wild feed, the good fishing and its position as the furthermost mountain point accessible to wagons, has caused it to become a resort visited in summer by multitudes of people.

Saw Tooth, a peak of thirteen thousand feet, towers directly above. From its summit a wonderful view of towering peaks, divides, declivities and nestling lakes are obtained. Monarch lake and Eagle lake lie close to camp and are readily visited. Soda and other mineral springs abound.

The valley heads at Farewell Gap, a pass of 10,600 feet elevation dividing the waters of the Kaweah from those of the Little Kern. Over it pass the trails leading to Trout Meadows, to Kern Lakes, to Mt. Whitney and to Inyo county. There are also trails leading from Mineral King to the Giant Forest over Timber Gap, to the Hockett Meadows over Tar Gap, as well as one leading directly to Kern Lakes.

Many people from the valley have built cabins and have a permanent summer camp here. There is a stable summer population of about two hundred, and the total number of visitors, yearly increasing, is over one thousand. There is a store, postoffice and a telephone line to the valley.

But time was when the activities here were of an entirely different nature. Gold was discovered here in the early '70s and hundreds of miners flocked to the scene. The Mineral King Mining District was formed and locations and transfers filed under the Federal laws. A town of about five hundred inhabitants sprung up and was named Beulah. Stamp and saw mills were erected. A road from Three Rivers, passing over a very difficult territory, was built at an expenditure of about \$100,000. At one time daily stages from Visalia made the entire distance in one day.

A clear idea of the glory of Beulah in 1879, the year which marked its greatest prosperity, may be gained by the following, from the pen of Judge W. B. Wallace:

"Ex-Senator Fowler had purchased the Empire mine and with characteristic energy was completing the road, erecting a quartz mill and tramway, and driving a long tunnel into the mountain. Things were moving that year. A sawmill was in operation and cabins were going up in all directions. An assay office was established and mines were located by the hundreds. .

"The N. E. Tunnel and Smelting Company was incorporated in 1875, another was organized in 1876, and the White Chief Gold and Silver Mining Company was called into being in 1880. But the year 1879 was the most fruitful in the production of these artificial persons for that camp. That year ten companies were organized with an aggregate capital stock which would put to shame that little kerosene side issue of the Standard Oil Company. * * *

"At the general election held in 1879, the candidates for lieutenant governor and chief justice of the supreme court received one hundred thirty-seven votes for each office and the candidates for superior judge, assemblyman and district attorney received one hundred thirty-six votes in Mineral King.

"There were ten and perhaps twelve places where intoxicating liquors were sold, and events proved that the recorder, who received \$5 for recording every location notice, and the saloon men worked the only paying mines. But there was very little riotousness and disorder. There were no such essentially bad men there as are usually found in new mining camps, with notched pistol handles and private burying grounds to which they could point with blood-curdling suggestions. There was but one shooting affray that I recall. It grew out of a dispute over the right to the possession of a small tract of land. One of the participants received a slight wound. * * *

"There are but two graves in Mineral King. In the late '70s, early in the spring, one of the newcomers went to Redwood Meadow on foot, taking no provisions with him. A snow storm came on which fenced him in. In two or three days he started to return, crossed Timber Gap and struggled through the snow until within a quarter of a mile of the camp. He called for help and was heard, but his voice was not recognized as that of a human being and the next morning his frozen body was found where he had evidently sat down, exhausted, and after vainly calling had given up the struggle.

"When John Heinlen was prospecting the White Chief mine, two of his miners were carried down the mountainside and buried in an avalanche of snow. One was found and dug out alive, but the body of the other was not recovered until the spring thaw.

"In the early days Orlando Barton was the Nestor of the camp, having the most extended and varied fund of knowledge. James Mankins and John Crabtree were perhaps the best prospectors. John Meadows was the most enthusiastic and confident of the early locators, rating his possessions worth a million dollars. He was a farmer, a stockraiser, a miner, a preacher, and a fighter, but withal a brave, honest and conscientious man.

"J. T. Trauger, who came in for the New England Company as

its superintendent, and the last recorder of the district, was known to all and was a favorite in the district. His wife was for years the good angel of the camp, whose cheerful disposition, sterling qualities and strength of character won for her the respect and admiration of all the curiously assorted denizens of the district. The trail was never too rough, nor the night too dark to keep her from the bedside of the suffering miner whose cry of distress was heard, whether stricken by sickness, crushed in an avalanche of snow or mangled by an untimely blast.

"Politicians early discovered the necessity of winning the Mineral King voters, and several political meetings were held there when local orators avowed in various forms their willingness to forego many personal pleasures that they might serve the country.

"Itinerant ministers also preached to the assembled people, not from great cathedrals decorated with paintings of the old masters, nor accompanied by the music of grand organs, but in those groves which were God's first temples, where swaying pine and mountain streams made music, under a great dome painted by the Master's hand, set with a thousand gems and softly lighted by the moon's pale beams, and where all nature joined in anthems of praise.

"Mineral King was a silver camp and many of the old prospectors were actually silverized. In white, seamless rock they would point out wire silver and horn silver. They named the lakes and the ledges silver and saw and admired the silver lining to every cloud. The very word had such a fascination for them that they talked in soft, silvery tones. They pricked up their ears when silver gray foxes were alluded to and stood at attention when the old bear hunters spoke of the silver-tipped grizzly, and as they lay down at night and gazed at the full orb'd moon, they viewed it as the original of the silver dollar, having milled edges and a lettered flat surface, and wondered whether what they had looked at from infancy as the man in the moon might not after all be a mint impression of the American eagle."

But the mines proved but the graveyard of many fortunes. Nothing came of them but disaster and the little town was abandoned. Many of the homes were left and for years were used by people who went up into the valley for a summer outing, but the snows and the rains have destroyed them all.

TRAYER

Trayer was founded April 8, 1884, or rather, that was the date when town lots were sold at auction. The town owes its origin entirely to the construction of the '76 canal and is the only place on the line of the Southern Pacific railroad not originally owned by that corporation. However, the Southern Pacific obtained an

interest in the property before they would consent to the establishment of a depot there.

Traver is three miles south of Kings river. The bottom lands of the stream are exceedingly fertile and capable of producing every known product grown in California. It was named after Charles Traver, a capitalist of Sacramento, who was interested in the '76 canal enterprise. At the time of the sale of lots, excursions were run from San Francisco and from Los Angeles. The sales on April 8, 1884, aggregated \$65,000. The only house then in Traver was a small structure that had been moved from Cross Creeks, and occupied by Kitchener & Co. as a store. Buildings were soon erected and a thriving town ensued. Traver has suffered greatly from fires, but is still a thriving place, and center of a valuable farming, fruit raising and dairying section. Fine schools, lodges and churches are supplied.

HOCKETT MEADOWS

The Hockett meadows, containing about one hundred sixty acres of land lying on the plateau region near the head waters of the south fork of the Kaweah, are desirable camping places. The elevation is about eighty-five hundred feet and in consequence the climate during the summer is cool and bracing. There is the greatest abundance of feed, both here and in all the surrounding country. Lake Evelyn, one of the most beautiful of mountain lakes, is distant about three miles. There is excellent trout fishing in Hockett meadow creek, in Horse creek, one and one-half miles away, and in the waters of the south fork, two miles away.

The park line is distant but a mile and a half, so that hunting for deer, which are here numerous, is within easy reach. There are trails to Mineral King and to Little Kern river, each distant about eight miles.

REDBANKS

Redbanks, the terminal station of the Visalia electric road, is situated about fifteen miles northwest of Visalia, and takes its name from the properties of the Redbanks Orchard Company, which adjoin.

This orchard, one of the largest in the county and the only one devoted exclusively to the production of deciduous fruits for the eastern market, is located on the spur of hill known as Colvin's Point. Probably no part of Tulare county more vividly sets forth the rapid change from parched pasture lands to green gardens and productive orchards. This orchard venture of some thirteen hundred and fifty acres had its inception in 1904, when P. M. Baier, Dr. W. W. Squires and Charles Joannes purchased a considerable acreage, since adding to it. Mr. Baier, formerly manager for the Earl

Fruit Company, and a man of the widest knowledge of deciduous fruit growing and marketing, had become convinced by observation of vegetable growth in the vicinity, that here was a remarkably early section, the products of which should bring extremely high prices in the eastern market.

No care or expense has been spared on the orchard and the result has exceeded expectations. Carloads of several varieties of fruits and table grapes are now shipped from here each season several days in advance of consignments forwarded from any other point in the state.

WHITE RIVER

White River, situated near the junction of the middle and south forks of White river, about twenty-six miles southeast of Plano, arrived at early fame through the discovery here by D. B. James, of gold. This was followed by a wild stampede of miners and a typical early day mining town called "Tailholt," sprang up at once. Stores and shops, saloons, dance halls, gambling houses, stage station, a quartz mill and a graveyard became necessary to supply the needs of the inhabitants and were provided.

Seven men were soon "planted" in the last mentioned place, all dying with their boots on. It appears that each of these was named Dan, but history is silent in regard to why the bearing of that name was of peculiar hazard.

In addition to the mining conducted in the vicinity, the town prospered by reason of being on the route to the Kern and Owens river mining districts. It became the source of supplies to thousands of miners, and the principal town in the southern portion of the county.

In all these districts, however, while considerable gold was taken out, there appeared to be no large deposits of the precious metal. Pockets, while rich, soon petered out and the glory of the village lasted but a few years. A score or more miners remained to work claims at a small profit, a business which continues to this day.

At one time lumbering developed into quite an industry from the saw mills operated in the adjacent pineries.

Of recent years stockraising has been the principal source of revenue to the inhabitants of the district, although the citrus belt is extending to the neighborhood and the possibilities of apple culture afford prospective reasons for future development.

THE GIANT FOREST

This, the largest grove of giant sequoias in the park, and in the world, is situated at an altitude of from six to seven thousand five hundred feet, on a plateau lying between the middle and Marble

forks of the Kaweah river, at a distance (by road) of about sixty miles from Visalia. There are within it over five thousand trees of a diameter of ten feet or more, together with many monsters whose diameter ranges from twenty-five to thirty feet. The General Sherman tree, whose circumference six feet above the ground is one hundred nine feet, is considered to be the largest in the world. Its age is estimated at six thousand years. Other large groves are the Dorst, situated in the northwest corner of the park, and Garfield, lying a short distance southeast of the Giant Forest, and the Muir, which stands on the south side of the south fork of the Kaweah, about twenty miles above Three Rivers.

The Giant Forest was discovered by Hale Tharpe in the early '60s, and named by John Muir in 1890.

Camp Sierra, as the site chosen for hotel and camp grounds is called, is delightfully situated alongside a little meadow, amidst groves of sequoias and firs.

Among the nearby points of interest may be mentioned the Marble Falls, nine hundred sixty feet in height; Admiration Point, whence precipices of two thousand feet on three sides confront; Sunset Rock, affording a beautiful open view of the valley, and Morro Rock, a monolith eighteen hundred feet in vertical height, which overlooks the canyon of the middle fork of the Kaweah. From its summit is obtained a near view of many snow-covered peaks, ranging from ten to fourteen thousand feet in height, a clear view of the Kaweah, almost a mile below, of the San Joaquin valley beyond, and of the coast range of mountains, visible for perhaps two hundred miles of their length.

Then there are the beautiful Twin Lakes, situated at an altitude of nearly ten thousand feet, distant eleven miles. Flanked at one side by banks of almost perpetual snow, overlooked by precipitous bluffs of granite, the crystal clear waters mirroring perfectly the bordering rocks and tamarack groves, they form a picture that lives long in memory.

Easy to visit are Log, Crescent and Alta meadows, each having its peculiar charms; there is the "house tree," so called because in it Everton lived for five winters while engaged in trapping; Tharpe's log cabin, a hollow tree fitted with doors and windows and furnishings, formerly the summer home of Hale Tharpe; "chimney trees," hollow from ground to crown, etc., etc.

There are four caves in the park, as follows:

Cloughs cave, situated about thirteen miles above Three Rivers, on the south fork of the Kaweah river, was discovered by William O. Clough in 1885. Owing to its ease of access and its location on a main route of tourist travel, it is visited by greater numbers than

any of the others.

Palmer's cave, discovered by Joe Palmer, is situated near Putnam canyon on the south fork of the Kaweah. Owing to the almost inaccessible position of entrance, it has never been explored.

Paradise cave is located on the south side of the ridge which separates the middle and the east forks of the Kaweah and was discovered in 1901 by H. R. Harmon. In 1906 it was explored by Walter Fry and C. W. Blossom, park rangers, and officially named.

OROSI

Due west from Dinuba six miles and almost directly north of Visalia sixteen miles is situated the flourishing town and colony of Orosi. The foothills curve around the section immediately north of the townsite, a great deal of the colony lying in the cove thus formed.

Prior to 1890 grain farming was practically the only industry. There were few inhabitants. By reason of insufficient rainfall crops were not sure and there was no material progress. The extension of the Alta Irrigation district to this section and the subdivision of the lands into ten, twenty and forty acre tracts rapidly worked a marvelous change, and the district now is thickly settled and solidly planted to orchards and vineyards in small holdings. The avenues which criss-cross the tracts are well-kept, many of these are bordered by fig, almond, or other fruit trees of a different kind from that to which the orchard is set, and as fences have generally been removed both from the roadside and boundary lines, a very unique and pleasing effect is produced.

In 1890 or 1891, at the same time as the heavy initial planting of grapes and peaches, several small orange orchards were set. These duly came into bearing and demonstrated the adaptability of the Orosi country for oranges. Quite recently large acreages in the vicinity have been planted to this fruit and there have been heavy purchases of land lying in adjoining coves for this purpose.

The town of Orosi maintains three general merchandise stores, many shops, two banks, handsome school buildings for both grammar and high school grades, a hotel and branch library.

It was quite a disappointment to the citizens of Orosi when the Santa Fe passed the town by leaving it a mile and a half from Cutler, the nearest station. The town and colony continued to grow, however, and it is now confidently believed by the residents that the "Tide Water and Southern" will be extended to pass through Orosi.

NARANJO

The name Naranjo (Spanish for orange tree) is given to the citrus district lying along the foothills north of Lemon Cove and

across the Kaweah river. It was the first section north of the river to be set to fruit and is now a heavy producer of oranges and grape fruit. The orchardists have their own packing house and are served by the Visalia electric railroad. There is a store and post-office. Westward, Naranjo merges into the newer Woodlake district.

MONSON

Situated on the Southern Pacific's east side line and lying north of Visalia and southward from Dinuba is a small village with one general merchandise store, a few shops, etc.

It is quite an important watermelon shipping point. Farming and dairying are the principal occupations of the neighborhood on the south, and raisin growing and deciduous fruit culture on the north.

ORIOLE LODGE

Some fourteen miles above Three Rivers on the northern flank of the east fork of the Kaweah, nestles beneath the pines a lovely mountain tarn called Oriole lake. Its outlet forms a picturesque little stream which abounds in trout.

Near the lake is quite a bit of comparatively level land originally the homestead location of "Uncle Dan" Highton. The location possessed such natural advantages for a delightful summer resort that a number of local residents, under the leadership of A. G. Ogilvie, formed, in 1910, a stock company, purchased a site and are at present engaged in the erection thereon of artistic bungalows and other equipment. They have installed a sawmill and are cutting the material on the ground. The new road to Mineral King, soon to be completed, will render the place easy of access.

VENICE

The town of Woodville had, in 1857, dwindled to almost nothing, when its revival was attempted by D. B. James under the name of Venice. The new town was not to be on the site of the old, but further north near the southwestern corner of the Venice hills, and on the north side of the St. John river. At that time the St. John river extended but a short distance further west, there sinking into a swamp.

By reason of the fact that in hauling freight from Stockton to Visalia, in order to avoid bogs and swamps, it was preferable to travel by this route to Visalia, the new town grew and prospered. In addition to James' store and postoffice there came to be a saloon, boarding house, blacksmith shop, chair factory, distillery, butcher shop and billiard hall.

In the flood of 1862, however, almost the whole of the town was destroyed, and a continuous channel was opened from the sink of the St. John to Canoe creek and thence to Cross creek, thus forming

the St. John river of today. Just below the site of the town, where the cement rock formation in the bed of the river became thinner, a fall eight feet in height was formed. During the flood of '68 this fall was entirely channeled out, and the stream was so broadened as to occupy much of the former townsite.

No attempt was made to rebuild the town and the settlement in the neighborhood decreased until once again the region became almost abandoned, and remained so until very recent years, when the discovery of the thermal belt lying round these hills has placed growth on a substantial and permanent basis, and Venice Cove, still further north, became the center of the district's population.

KLINK

Northwesterly from Venice Cove, on the Southern Pacific branch line, is the station of Klink, lying between Taurusa on the north and Kaweah on the south. For many years it was only a spur from which occasional shipments of wood and fruit were made. The success of the orange groves at Venice Cove has stimulated planting in the similar soil abutting the railroad near Klink, so that now quite a district is embraced by the new planting of the neighborhood. A general store has been established and it is expected that the railroad company will soon erect a suitable depot and install a regular agent.

WAUKENA

About ten miles southwestward from Tulare City was a noted stock grazing country known as the Crossmore ranch. Several years ago a syndicate of Los Angeles capitalists purchased this ranch of twelve thousand acres and arranged a great colony scheme. The lands lie in the artesian belt, and there are a number of flowing wells. Besides dividing the lands up so as to be sold in small holdings, a town was laid out with broad boulevards and parks. The place—this on-coming city—the proprietors named Waukena, the beautiful. The tracts did not sell as readily as anticipated. On the completion of the Santa Fe railroad from Tulare to Corcoran, passing through the tract, a depot was established, and a small village has grown up there. The soil in the vicinity is well adapted to alfalfa and the rapidly developing dairy industry is making for the increased prosperity of the neighborhood.

WOODLAKE

Woodlake, situated some fifteen miles northeasterly from Visalia, between Naranjo and Redbanks and near the north shore of Bravo lake, is a town whose growth during the three or four years of its existence has been so phenomenal as to merit especial mention.

The town is now solidly and substantially built, having a handsome two-story hotel with pressed brick front; several shops, a large

concrete garage, a general store, a newspaper, a bank and other features. During the present year an auction sale of town lots was held and quite high prices were realized. Cement sidewalks and graded avenues are in evidence here as in the suburbs of a large city.

Development of this district began in 1907, when Jason Barton, J. W. Fewell and Adolph Sweet purchased a large tract on the east side of Cottonwood creek, in Elder and Townsend school districts, and situated about three miles north of Bravo lake. These men commenced extensive development work with the view to selling off tracts for colonists. Abundant water was found and cement pipe built and laid to carry it to the subdivisions. A considerable acreage was planted. This colony was called Elderwood and a store and postoffice of that name was established.

Now appeared on the scene Gilbert Stevenson of Los Angeles, a man of means and of great enterprise who, greatly impressed with the showing the young trees had made in growth and the fact that they had remained untouched by frost, purchased a large tract to the southward, started a colony and founded a town, calling it Woodlake. The two districts, which merge into one are now called by this name, although South Woodlake and North Woodlake are sometimes heard.

The entire section has developed with magical rapidity and the brown hills that a few years ago were held worthless except for a scant spring pasturage are now set to groves and handsome residences are building in great number.

CALIFORNIA HOT SPRINGS

The California Hot Springs, formerly known as the Deer Creek Hot Springs, were long used by the Indians, and have for many years been a favorite camping spot for people in quest of game or health.

These springs are located about thirty miles southeast of Porterville, and twenty-two miles from Ducor. The springs are large streams of water, clear and sparkling and hot, gushing out of the rocks. Thousands of barrels run off daily into Deer creek. The daily flow is estimated at 190,000 gallons. The springs are in the edge of the pine forest, and are surrounded by groves of live oak and pine. The waters are highly charged with minerals.

The lands surrounding the springs were originally taken up by the Witt family, early settlers in that section of the county. In 1898, it was owned by T. J. and N. B. Witt. In that year the property was sold to L. S. Wingrove, G. K. Pike and J. P. Firebaugh. These men were from Lindsay and Exeter. In April, 1901, Dr. C. E. Bernard of Visalia, bought out the Firebaugh Pike interests, and until 1904 conducted the property under the name of Bernard and

Wingrove. Dr. Bernard having died, his interest was in 1905 purchased by S. Mitchell of Visalia, and J. H. Williams of Porterville. In the following June the owners incorporated under the name California Hot Springs, Inc. The present owners are Mrs. Edith H. Williams, of San Diego; S. Mitchell, of Visalia; L. S. Wingrove and Joseph Mitchell of Hot Springs.

The springs are far and widely known for their curative properties, especially for relief from rheumatic troubles, and a host of other complaints. Some of the springs have a temperature of one hundred and thirty degrees, while others are cold. The waters are used for drinking and bathing.

The springs are reached by stages from Porterville or Ducor, or by automobile or any other vehicle. The roads are kept in good condition. Many from Visalia make the trip there by auto. Lying back in the mountains are fine streams for trout and ranges for deer. Not being in the National park, hunting is a luxury in which one may here indulge.

TERRA BELLA

Years ago, before the establishment of warehouses in various towns on the east side of Tulare county, Terra Bella was the largest wheat shipping point in the state of California. The country was farmed in immense tracts, whole sections being included in a single piece of grain. The homesteaders had found this virgin stretch of country, but, later, many had deserted it, having experienced a succession of "dry" years, several in number, much to their disappointment. Wheat raising continued profitable in good years, but the possibilities of the fertile soil, extending for many miles in every direction from the station at Terra Bella (beautiful earth), appealed to the keen insight of the promoter, who, fortified with results obtained in a small way by citrus planters, appreciated the fact that with the development of water at reasonable cost, the entire area could be transformed into profitable orange and lemon orchards.

Accordingly, the subdivision of several sections of land in and about Terra Bella was taken up three years ago by the Terra Bella Development Company, which corporation later passed from the hands of P. J. S. Montgomery and associates to a coterie of wealthy Los Angeles men, including Marco H. Hellman, G. A. Hart, W. H. Holliday, F. C. Ensign, W. A. Francis, and others. Since that time rapid strides have been made, both in the planting and improvement of orange groves and in the building of a town, modern in every respect,—the pride of its builders and the envy of many ambitious contemporaries.

Several thousand acres of oranges have been planted in the Terra Bella district with very good results, and the planting is being continued every year, with many new residents coming in.

Terra Bella as a town is, for its age, in a class by itself, having graded and oiled streets, cement walks and curbing, circulating water system, septic sewerage system, electric power and lights, telephone, a fine new \$15,000 grammar school building, a \$30,000 two-story brick hotel, a two-story brick business block erected at a cost of \$45,000, a two-story brick structure housing the First National Bank of Terra Bella, a growing financial institution managed by T. M. Gronen, cashier; a mission style passenger station on the Southern Pacific, perhaps the handsomest station on that line in the county; a weekly newspaper; Wells Fargo express, etc. The population is growing, and indications are favorable for a splendid town. Terra Bella is situated about eight miles southwest of Porterville and five miles north of Ducor, another growing town in the new citrus belt which is also being transformed from wheat fields to a prosperous little city.

DUCOR AND RICHGROVE

The town of Ducor is on the line of the Southern Pacific, south from Terra Bella about four miles. It is the point of departure for stages to the California Hot Springs. The principal improvement at Ducor at this time is the construction of a large two-story brick building, in which will be housed the First National Bank of Ducor, financed by leading citizens of that community. A fine two-story hotel and a two-story school house have been built, street improvements made, two churches erected, a fine park laid out and planted in trees and shrubbery. Numerous fine orange groves have been set out in the vicinity of Ducor, with more planting this year, while several large tracts are now being subdivided for sale to citrus planters.

Both Terra Bella and Ducor are wideawake towns, with commercial organizations, and the planted area will demand shortly the construction of citrus packing houses in both places.

South of Ducor, in Tulare county, is another rich citrus section, Richgrove, where extensive improvements are being made by the same people who are promoting Terra Bella. Numerous tracts are being set in orange groves this spring.

All of this territory has the benefit of reasonable water conditions for irrigation, thermal climate for the growing of citrus fruits, and olives, good transportation and power facilities.

There is every reason to believe that the country from Terra Bella south to Richgrove will be one of the most productive and most prosperous sections in the early orange belt of Tulare county.

FARMERSVILLE

Farmersville, seven miles easterly from Visalia, is next to Visalia the oldest settlement in the county.

The early settlers naturally made their homes in clearings along the creek bottoms, and near Outside creek and Deep creek farming operations commenced in the early '50s, and a larger number of farmers settled in this vicinity than in any other.

The townsite was located in 1860 by John W. Crowley, and a relative named Jasper established a general merchandise store. The overland stage passed through the burg and a postoffice was located in the store. T. J. Brundage succeeded as manager of the store and as postmaster and has made this his home ever since, aiding by every means in his power all enterprises tending to increase the welfare of the community. One of his sons still conducts the store and is heavily interested in farm lands and active in the development of the surrounding territory.

The first great factor in Farmersville's prosperity was the construction of the People's ditch. The Consolidated People's Ditch Company had obtained water rights dating from the '60s, and early in the '70s their canal through this section was completed. At the time the town was established, thousands of acres of land were under irrigation, and the vicinity soon became known as one of the choicest garden spots of the county.

The name Farmersville somehow fits the place, not that here are more farmers than elsewhere, but that the typical old-time products of the farm, such as corn and pumpkins and potatoes grow to a degree of size and perfection seldom obtained. Chinese gardeners quickly selected the locality as best adapted to their purpose and as soon as the growth of the other communities warranted, established fine vegetable gardens here, distributing the product over a wide territory.

The Briggs orchard, some three miles west of Farmersville, was the first extensive one in the county to come into bearing, and its first crops of 1888 and 1889 brought such a phenomenal return that a veritable boom in deciduous tree planting resulted.

Pinkham & McKeivitt, large fruit packers of Vacaville, with some associates, bought and set out the Giant Oak and California Prune Company orchards of several hundred acres each; scores of individuals planted smaller tracts and in '91 A. C. Kuhn, a San Jose dried fruit packer, purchased the Arcadia Ranch of about one thousand acres and set the same to fruit. This orchard has since passed into the hands of the California Fruit Cannery Association, and has become one of the largest, best and most profitable in the state.

Farmersville has become a fruit center of no mean proportion, hundreds of carloads of fruit going forward annually as the product of its groves. The Farmersville prunes have come to be recognized

by dealers as of superior grade, second in size and quality to none produced in the San Joaquin valley.

The Visalia electric road, which passes through this section and makes stops at nearly every cross roads, as well as at Farmersville proper, is a great convenience to the residents. One section of the town clusters at the old site on the county road, where are the stores and schoolhouse, but near the railroad station, about a mile north, another village nucleus is forming which soon, no doubt, will require trading facilities of its own.

CAMP NELSON

Above Springville about seventeen miles, between the south and middle forks of the Tule river, at an elevation of about 4500 feet is the delightful summer resort known as Nelsons. At present the place is reached by a trail about eight miles in length connecting with the wagon road at the forks of the river.

While the retreat is surrounded by pines, there is much tillable land and berries, vegetables and fruits are raised to perfection. The meadow land grows timothy hay and there is quite a large apple orchard. At this elevation the summer climate is cool and pleasant.

Not alone for the outing pleasures in the immediate vicinity, however, has Nelsons become noteworthy. By reason of its location on the route to the Little Kern, Big Kern, Kern Lakes, Mt. Whitney and other points of interest in the higher Sierras it has grown to be an equipping station for tourists. A hundred pack and saddle animals are maintained for this service.

CAMP BADGER

Away up in the Sierras, east of the Dinuba country and near the Fresno county line, is Camp Badger. This is a stage station and a small village surrounded by a fine grazing country. It is on the road into the high Sierras and to some of the big lumber camps. It is an important place for summer campers to spend a time in the cool mountain air away from the heat of the valley. Some of the wildest and grandest scenery in the world lies in the high Sierras beyond, points which are readily accessible from Camp Badger.

It lies in the edge of the pine belt and in the early days was a very important camp for teamsters and lumbermen. The first saw-mills in the county were set up in the pineries near Badger. At one time there were as many as two hundred and fifty teams hauling lumber from the mills through Camp Badger and down the Cottonwood creek to Visalia.

There is little of the former glory left to Badger, a store, post-office and school being the only industries of today. The surrounding country is largely devoted to stockraising.

AUCKLAND

On the old Millwood road, going up Cottonwood creek, the first station was Auckland. As early as 1866 Mr. Harmon preempted the lands where the postoffice and store are. Soon afterward James Barton preempted the adjoining place. Stockraising was the principal business of the early settlers and is likewise that of most of the present settlers. General farming is carried on to a limited extent. A postoffice, general store and school make up the town.

Several thrifty apple orchards producing fruit of an excellent quality are in the vicinity and this culture is engaging the attention of a number of new settlers.

KAWEAH STATION

Kaweah is not yet a town, merely a railroad station without an agent, but so rapidly is a thickly settled community clustering to the north of this station that a store has already been established and a little town will probably result. If so, it will be very close—within a stone's throw almost—of the site of Woodville, the historic village first founded in the county.

The school and voting precinct are called Venice and the district is well adapted to general farming, fruit and dairying. The retention of several large tracts by wealthy non-resident owners has heretofore retarded development somewhat.

The Jacob Bros. farm, orchard and nursery is located about a half-mile east of the station. This farm, comprising several hundred acres, has such a diverse number of products that a constant income throughout the year is secured.



PORTERVILLE IN THE EIGHTIES, MAIN STREET BETWEEN MILL, AND OAK

CHAPTER VIII

PORTERVILLE AND OTHER TOWNS

In the southeastern part of Tulare county, situated on a branch of the Tule river and connected with the cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco by a branch line, which joins the main Southern Pacific at Fresno and Famosa, lies the city of Porterville; conceded by those who have visited it to be one of the most progressive towns of its population in the state. While Porterville is in close proximity to the mountains, the foothills do not tend to retard development, but add to the picturesqueness and prosperity of this thriving community of thirty-two hundred people.

Porterville was, of necessity, on the olden immigrant road, and on the overland stage line, by reason of the fact that in those days it was necessary to keep to the high ground to avoid the marshes of the lowland. Along the base of the spur of hills which here projects into the valley lay the only natural route. Then, as now, passersby found the place attractive and many immigrant trains found along the banks of the Tule river pleasant camping and resting places, the first encountered for days.

J. B. Hockett and party camped here in 1849. Mr. Clapp settled here in 1856 or '57. In the late '50s a number of settlers had made locations and when the Overland Mail from San Francisco to St. Louis was established, in 1859, a stage station was located here. Royal Porter Putnam was placed in charge of this station at the princely salary of \$30 per month and board. Mr. Putnam easily took a prominent place, became familiarly known by his middle name and the stopping place was soon called Porter's station. When the stage route was abandoned, in 1861, Mr. Putnam established a hotel and store and then, as befitting the newly-acquired dignity of the place, it came to be entitled Porterville.

Cattle raising constituted the chief occupation of the people in this district, in the days before the Civil war. The era of the cereal commenced in 1874, but floods, followed by drought, disheartened some of the settlers. Not until the coming of the railroad in 1888 did Porterville lift her head and allow prosperity to enter, the latter then coming to remain for all time. The orange now began to perform a very important function. The first grove, of sixty trees, was planted in 1870 by Deming Gibbons on his property, where now stands Plano. These trees were seedlings and for twelve years oranges of quality or quantity failed to mature. Added impetus, however, was given citrus culture by A. R. Henry of Pasadena, who has long since passed to his reward, and in the year 1892 three hundred scattering acres had been brought under the reign of the citrus fruit. During

this year a bill proposing the segregation of the Porterville district from the rest of Tulare county was introduced in the state legislature, but was defeated in 1893. To demonstrate the possibilities of Porterville, orchardists installed an exhibit of citrus fruit and apples at Sacramento. Orange experts and many men prominent in the fruit world pronounced the fruit equal to any grown south of the Tehachapi, and Porterville retains this distinction to this day.

Porterville became a town of the sixth class in 1902, when a number of enterprising citizens appeared before the solons at Sacramento. After due legal red tape the charter was granted and Porterville entered upon a period of united development. Porterville now marched rapidly forward until 1908, when by a heavy majority, Porterville citizens voted for the abolition of saloons within the incorporated city of Porterville. Two years later voters again declared the saloon an outlaw. On April 15, 1912, a drastic ordinance against the selling of intoxicants received the unanimous sanction of the city council.

Porterville ranks second to none of Tulare county cities in fine business blocks and residences. Itemized building figures would be useless, for in Porterville the progress of today is history tomorrow. Within the past four years two three-story blocks, several two-story and numerous single business blocks have been constructed, all of fire-proof material and representing a total valuation of \$1,750,000. The business district covers an area of six blocks, the business houses being of brick and reinforced concrete. More beautiful and substantial residences are seldom seen, \$500,000 being represented in residences erected within the past three years.

Few, if any, towns of the county can present a more imposing and practical school structure than has just been completed at a cost of \$45,000, situated at the west end of Olive street, in the center of a district destined to become the residential section of Porterville. It is an eight-room school building of mission design, with the latest and most approved methods of heating, ventilating and fire-escapes. The structure is the most modern of four grammar school buildings, in which more than six hundred children receive instruction. Aside from adequate primary and elementary departments, Porterville is provided with a massive high school building of granite, with a total enrollment of over two hundred students and every probability of twice that number within the next two years. Practical courses are the specialties of instruction. The cost of Porterville's schools aggregate a total of \$120,000.

Porterville's municipal water system is one of the best, \$90,000 having been expended in obtaining the most improved service. In 1908, the plant was purchased from the Pioneer Water Company for \$50,000, incidentally reducing the water rate twenty-five per cent. Since the purchase of the system, \$45,000 worth of improvements have

been added. Located upon Scenic Heights, one hundred sixty-three feet above Main street, is a 300,000 gallon water tower, into which is pumped pure water from two modern plants, the maximum capacity of the plants being 1,250,000 gallons every twenty-four hours. Two auxiliary tanks, one containing 75,000 gallons and a 100,000-gallon reservoir, add ample pressure for fire protection. The domestic supply is furnished by four, six and eight-inch laterals, fed from a ten-inch main, the total length of which is eighteen miles. The foothill lands near Porterville are abundantly supplied by the Pioneer Water Company, whose system is capable of irrigating seven thousand acres, the main canal being sixteen miles in length. Deep well pumps are fast displacing the old irrigation methods, the past year witnessing the installation of one hundred and fifty plants.

Within the past year a \$75,000 sewer system has been completed. Nineteen miles of sewer pipe, together with a thirty-acre sewer farm, are adequate accessories for years to come.

Facts and figures show two miles of asphalt streets and ten miles of sidewalks, the former having been constructed during the past year at a cost of \$90,000. Five of the principal thoroughfares, Main, Olive, Mill, Putnam and Roche, are the paved streets.

With the completion of street paving, the necessity for efficient fire apparatus was pre-eminent. A chemical engine and a hose cart, propelled by gasoline, were purchased for \$10,000. Porterville was the first city in Tulare county to adopt the modern fire-fighting device and therefore has a minimum insurance rate.

In response to the demand for adequate shipping and packing facilities for the citrus industry, eight packing-houses in and near Porterville have been established. These employ a small army of people during the fruit season. Aside from one thousand cars of oranges shipped annually, Porterville ships many peaches and prunes. Apples rivaling those of the eastern states are grown in the mountain districts.

The thriving condition of two creameries, one in Porterville and the other nearby, attests the statement that the dairy industry has possibilities as great as those of the orange.

A Carnegie library, valued at \$10,000, is another of Porterville's acquisitions. The building is filled with the latest productions in science, art, general information and fiction.

Eight religious denominations, Congregational, Methodist, Christian, Baptist, Christian Science, Catholic, Episcopal and German, are represented in Porterville, all these institutions being in a flourishing condition. Seven of the denominations possess buildings of more than passing attention. The Congregational church, erected at a cost of \$25,000, is one of the most beautiful edifices of its kind in the valley. A total of \$60,000 is represented in these sanctuaries.

The First National Bank of Porterville, one of the strongest bank-

ing institutions in Tulare county, was organized June 9, 1903, with a subscribed capital of \$25,000. At present the capitalization is \$100,000, and it has the largest deposit of any bank in the county. The older institution, the Pioneer Bank, was organized April 19, 1889, with a subscribed capital of \$70,000. At the present time this bank is capitalized for \$105,000.

Among the factors which tend to advance Porterville, of most importance is the Chamber of Commerce. This is the largest organization of its kind in the San Joaquin valley, its membership totaling two hundred and fifty. Aside from a continuous and progressive advertising campaign, a club room for the members is maintained, and also a large reading room, banquet hall and billiard parlors. In co-operation with the Chamber of Commerce is the Ladies Improvement Club, a by no means small factor in the development, improvement and maintenance of a clean city.

A public park of thirty acres is situated at the eastern limits of the city. The land for this park was donated by public-spirited citizens and \$10,000 has been expended in its maintenance and improvement. A public lunch pavilion, public play grounds for children and other attractive features have been installed.

An important factor in Porterville's advancement is the character of its newspapers. Two of the most consistent boosting journals in the county are represented in the Porterville Daily Recorder and the Porterville Daily Messenger. Both have weekly editions as supplementary publications and their financial future is assured.

Lodges of Porterville include all the leading orders, both beneficiary and insurance. Ancient Order United Workmen, Porterville Lodge No. 1999; Foresters of America, Court Porterville No. 181; Fraternal Order of Eagles, Porterville Aerie No. 1351; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Porterville Encampment No. 89, Porterville Lodge No. 359, Canton Porterville No. 6, Golden Rod Rebekah Lodge No. 200; Knights and Ladies of Security, Porterville Council No. 1917; Knights of Pythias, Porterville Lodge No. 93; Pythian Sisters, Callamra Temple No. 66; Ladies of Maccabees; Masonic, F. & A. M., Porterville Lodge No. 303; Royal Arch Masons, Porterville Chapter No. 85; Order of Eastern Star, Palm Leaf Chapter No. 114; Modern Woodmen of America, Porterville Camp No. 9064; Royal Neighbors, White Rose Camp No. 5333; Woodmen of the World, Orange Camp No. 333; Women of Woodcraft, Pomelo Circle No. 292.

Porterville never has been or never will be a boom town. It has grown consistently, and it will continue its advancement, as the necessary resources, now in their infancy, will always be behind it. To the east lie many hundred acres of foothill land yet to feel the orchardist's hand. Farther east and up into the mountains are the famous redwood forests, unhindered by monopolists. These forests, together with the rich mineral resources yet to be developed, form a field of

inestimable wealth. Excellent mountain resorts, such as the California Hot Springs, whose mineral waters equal those of the famous Arkansas Hot Springs, beckon the tourists from the hot summers of the valley. The feeding and fattening of beef cattle also forms an important occupation of the hill districts. To the south are thousands of bare acres unequalled in orange culture. Agricultural and dairy industries are assured in the broad plains to the west and to the north are produced the finest of navel oranges.—*Claude M. Chaplin.*

DINUBA

Dinuba is the largest city in northern Tulare county, situated along the foothills on the eastern side of the great San Joaquin valley. It was nearly thirty years ago that the first settlers made their home here, at a time when Traver was a flourishing community and Dinuba was but a cross-roads corner. The country was one vast wheat field, and it was not thought then that in a generation the entire district would be revolutionized and made to bud and blossom with fruit and flower as it does today.

The site where Dinuba now stands was originally owned by James Sibley and E. E. Giddings, and at the time the surveyors of the Pacific Improvement Company laid off the townsite was but a vast stubblefield. Later W. D. Taxbury bought out Mr. Sibley's interest and Mr. Giddings also sold his interests to Mr. Sibley. The first lot in the new town was sold by the Improvement Company to Dr. Gebhardt, and this was later occupied by the doctor's office, opposite the depot and at the rear of what is now the Alta Garage. Homer Hall and H. C. Austin bought four lots on the corner where the Central Block is now located and on the corner where McCracken's drug store is situated, Mr. Hall built a \$1500 frame building—the finest in the district at that time. The lots cost him \$250 each and cannot be bought today for much more than that amount per front foot. Here Mr. Hall engaged in the real estate business in the fall of 1888. The building was so arranged that there was a room adjoining the realty office and this was occupied by Dave and Charles Cohn with their general merchandise store. Later the Cohn Brothers bought the corner where the United States National Bank now stands, and a year later the old "adobe" on the corner where the First National bank is now housed in its splendid \$20,000 home. This adobe was a land mark in the community for years, and was occupied with general stores, saloons and other lines, until a little over a year ago, when it was taken down for the modern structure which has replaced it.

As stated, the next building to be erected after the Hall building was the office of Dr. Gebhardt. Then Frank Elam built a blacksmith shop on the corner where the Akers shop and machine works

are now, but this later burned down. As was usual with a pioneer town, the saloon found a place in the growth of the community, and remained here until five years ago.

A building was moved from south of town by Mrs. Smith, who later became Mrs. Toler, and was located on the rear of the Hall and Austin lots, and this became the postoffice. Homer Hall was the postmaster, and Mrs. Toler was his deputy, later succeeding to the office of the growing little town.

About this time the Dinuba Hotel was erected by Sibley and Tuxbury and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kirkpatrick were the first lessees. They are still living south of town. Mine Host Kirkpatrick was succeeded by Matthews and Wheeler as landlords. This same year the Southern Pacific depot was built and the public auction of town lots by the railroad took place in the latter part of January, 1889, the auction being "cried" by Mr. Shannon, the railroad auctioneer from Fresno. The railroad people gave the people gathered a big dinner that day, and the new town of Dinuba was given its start.

The "Seventy-Six" Land Company had already commenced the development of water for irrigation here, and later the Alta Irrigation District was formed, with 130,000 acres and absorbing the "76" system. From that time the district began to develop, until five years ago the city was incorporated and has grown until today there are 1800 people here and Dinuba is the largest city between Visalia and Fresno along the foothills. The city has fine schools, both grammar and high, and seven churches: Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Christian, Methodist Episcopal South, Presbyterian, Adventist and Church of Christ, Scientist. There are eighteen teachers in the public schools and nearly six hundred pupils. The city has miles of cement sidewalks and paved streets and is reputed as one of the cleanest and most attractive cities in the entire west.

TULARE

Tulare, the second city in size in the county, is situated on the main lines of both the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe, at their intersection, some ten miles south from Visalia. With a population of about 4000, rapidly growing; with the modern facilities and conveniences common to up-to-date cities of its size; surrounded by a thickly-settled, fertile, well-watered and productive farming section, Tulare does not present in aspect striking peculiarities.

Historically, however, Tulare possesses distinctive prominence. A checkered career, marked by a series of staggering misfortunes, has been her lot. The adage, "It never rains but it pours," seemed peculiarly applicable at one time. That " 'Tis always darkest just before dawn" proved true at last. The record of these events reads more like a story than the sober chronicle of history.

The earliest settlers of the county passed by the section in the

vicinity of Tulare, because it did not lie in the path of water-courses. A few real pioneers there were, notably W. F. Cartmill, J. A. Morehead, J. W. Hooper, L. N. Wright, the Powell, McCoy, Hough and Wallace families, whose homesteads were tributary to what is now Tulare, but no settlement existed in this neighborhood prior to the coming, in 1872, of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Unlike the other railroad towns of the county, however, an immediate growth followed the sale of lots. In fact, Tulare commenced with a boom. There was occasion for this, because, according to the railroad's plans, which were duly heralded, it was to be the end of a division, the site of great railway repair shops, and not least, the county seat of Tulare county. In the plats submitted to prospective investors, the many projected enterprises, as factories, railroad yards, and shops and the courthouse, were outlined. And there were many purchasers anxious to get in on the ground floor; the town started amidst a general whoop and hurrah. It came to pass that the railroad shops were erected, perhaps not on quite as extensive a scale as anticipated, but still there they were, and so, too, were several hundred employees, all of whom had to be housed and clothed and fed. Consequently there was need for merchants of all kinds, and these came. To be sure, the courthouse did not materialize. This for the reason that Visalia influence secured the passage by the legislature of a bill permitting Tulare county to issue bonds for the purpose of erecting a new courthouse at Visalia. Flourishing enough, however, were conditions to cause the town to grow apace. Among the pioneers of industry at this time may be mentioned J. O. Lovejoy, who built the first residence in the town, also a mill and a hotel, and L. H. Ham, who erected blocks of buildings, both in the business and residence sections.

Many of the railroad employees were men of family and these in numbers purchased lots and erected dwellings thereon, to be paid for on the installment plan. Now were planted gardens and lawns and on the sides of many of the principal streets shade trees, and all thrived. An ever-growing beauty and an ever-greater prosperity characterized the town. Monthly came the pay car with \$30,000 to \$40,000.

In July, 1883, a disastrous fire swept the business section, entailing a loss of about \$150,000 and destroying about twenty-five places of business. From the effects of this fire Tulare rapidly recovered. Better buildings almost immediately took the place of those burned, and bustling progress was promptly resumed.

Prosperity was uninterrupted for three years only. In 1886, on the night of August 16th, the business portion of the city was entirely destroyed by fire. The magnitude of this second disaster can scarcely now be realized. Nothing was left except, to quote from the *Tulare Register* of the time, "a fringe of residences around a fire-swept

gap." In the published list of the business houses destroyed are enumerated seventy-seven—practically all.

The loss occasioned by this fire was so great, so nearly did it take the accumulated savings of all the business men, and so closely did it follow the former conflagration, that it might seem that endeavor would be paralyzed.

Knowledge of the town's resources, supposed to be permanent, inspired hope and courage, however, and the town was rebuilt in better and more substantial form than before.

And now, indeed, in the latter part of the '80s, secure once more, enjoying renewed prosperity, the inhabitants may be pardoned for believing that their troubles were over; that, having weathered safely the storms, they were to have for the remainder of the voyage fair weather and fine sailing.

However, the Fates held the most crushing bolt yet in their hands. In 1891 it fell. In that year the railroad company removed its shops to Bakersfield, taking tenants and trade. Most dismal and discouraging was the situation for the villagers who remained. A score of merchants found their patronage insufficient to make them a living. Artisans and other craftsmen were without employment. Rents dropped to almost nothing; business houses suspended and closed; gardens were neglected and rioted in weeds; dwelling houses displayed first the sign "For Rent," then "For Sale."

A dreary stagnation ensued for several years, a retreat, as it were, before the overwhelming forces of adversity. Houses by the score were sold very cheaply and moved to different portions of the county. Tulare was looked upon as dead beyond hope of recovering.

And yet to the sturdy resident who refused to be a quitter came the insistent query, Why? He looked around at the vast expanse of fertile land surrounding the town and again asked, Why? The answer that farming tried on a big scale, wheat farming, had failed, because of insufficient rainfall or insufficient sub-irrigation did not satisfy him. He said "If it is water that is lacking, why, we will get water. We will make this land produce the abundant crops Nature intended and we shall become a rich and prosperous community, self-supporting, independent of railroad patronage."

And from this resolve a great irrigation system was planned with wide canals and far-reaching laterals. To carry out this project the people in the territory to be embraced formed the Tulare Irrigation District and voted bonds in the sum of \$500,000.

With the bonds selling readily, the vast irrigation enterprise giving employment to an army of men well under way, the vast benefits that would accrue on its completion readily foreseen everyone again felt encouraged and hopeful. All trouble was now thought to be over.

As a matter of fact, it had just begun. Litigation over water rights involved the new district from the start. Finally, largely from this cause the money was all spent and there was no water, or at least, not sufficient water.

Remember, all this occurred just as the general hard times and financial depression of '93 were being most severely felt. The result was that default was made on the interest on the bonds. Conditions became almost intolerable. Lack of funds prevented proper upkeep of the canals. There was no water to speak of and yet there was an ever-increasing indebtedness that with the dragging weight of an incubus prevented any onward progress.

Land depreciated in value until it practically became unsalable. Discouragement gave place to despondency and despair.

Joe Goldman and other progressive citizens of Tulare finally evolved a plan to try to compromise with the bondholders. They succeeded in securing a concession whereby the bonds and accrued interest, aggregating \$750,000, could be wiped out for about \$273,000.

An assessment was levied in the fall of 1902 upon the real estate of the bonded district sufficient to cover the amount, the bonds were placed in escrow and strenuous efforts, ultimately successful, were made to collect the money.

October 17, 1903, was the day appointed for the exchange. A monster celebration was held in honor of the event and the cancelled bonds were burnt in the presence of the assemblage amidst the greatest rejoicings. That day marked the turning point in Tulare's career. Progress since has been rapid and increasing. The irrigation system is now the property of the district and the only expense for water is the cost of maintenance. Pumping plants, irrigating lands not reached by the ditches, have also been installed in great numbers, bringing into production thousands of additional acres.

Having become the center of the dairy district of the county, possessing three of the largest creameries, Tulare city now enjoys a permanently assured large and increasing income. Vineyards, deciduous fruits of all kinds and many other products contribute also, but the sum received from the sale of cream, now over \$100,000 per month, is of first importance, not only because of the amount, but because it is paid in cash each month.

Tulare merchants enjoy the benefits of a cash trade and their customers partake of the benefits by reason of lower prevailing prices than in towns where a credit system is in greater vogue.

The present rapid growth of Tulare is well indicated by the building operations, which for the past two years have run about \$250,000 per year.

Tulare possesses a first-class sewer system, an abundant supply of absolutely pure water piped everywhere, electric power and lights,

gas for fuel and lighting. There is a large cannery, three creameries, a flour mill and a planing mill and furniture factory. A handsome free library building houses a six thousand volume collection of books. New school buildings with the best modern equipment and with extensive surrounding playgrounds and experimental plats are a feature.

There are two banks, two daily newspapers and corresponding business facilities of all kinds. Ten churches of as many denominations minister to the religious needs of the people.

Of the early improvements made in the days of the railroad shop and "before the fire" one only remains, and that is the shade trees planted along the streets. These, now about thirty years old, have grown to be of great girth and, wide-spreading, their tops almost meet above the broad streets.

LEMON COVE

Eighteen miles east of Visalia the foothill slopes to the north and south of the Kaweah river approach at an angle to form a sheltered vale, which with the village and postoffice there located, is called Lemon Cove.

Originally the settlement and postoffice went by the name of Lime Kilm, from the early discovery of lime in the vicinity by William Cozzens.

J. W. C. Pogue, one of the earliest settlers, was the founder of the town and the father of the great development in citrus culture that has taken place in recent years. The first orange orchard in Tulare county was planted by him. The successful growth of these first few orange and lemon trees and the entire freedom from frost noted during the years up to their coming into bearing, led him to plant a second orchard and to become a whole-souled, energetic promoter for the section.

In the early '90s a considerable acreage was planted to citrus fruits, mostly lemons. In addition to many small tracts, the large groves of the Kaweah Lemon Company and the Ohio Lemon Company were set.

A little story must be told here, for at this time the learned McAdie, our well-known weather prophet, in company with a number of friends, paid a visit to the high Sierras, reached by way of Lemon Cove. On the return the large plantings of young lemon groves attracted attention and Mr. McAdie proceeded to comment thereon in the presence of Mr. Pogue and other residents.

McAdie explained that citrus fruits would not mature in the locality and that it was a foolish waste of time and money to plant them. Reasons scientific, technical and meteorological were given to prove it. Old Jim Pogue, boiling inwardly and scarcely able to contain himself, finally interrupted and said, "Come here a minute: got something to show you." Taking McAdie by the arm he led him

to the rear of his residence, where stretched a full-bearing orange and lemon grove, the branches loaded with the yellowing fruit and said, "There, you dad blame fool, there they be."

About a thousand bearing acres now add their testimony to that of Mr. Pogue. The lemon has a more delicate nature and more susceptible to frost than the orange. Lemon Cove is one of the few places in the state where sufficient frost protection is obtained.

Lemon Cove is the outer gateway to the Sierras of the Kaweah watershed and in consequence enjoys a considerable tourist trade.

The town, though small, is thriving and growing. Citrus fruit packing and shipping causes much activity during the season. Three packing houses handle the crop, which now amounts to about four hundred carloads annually.

A two-story hotel, large general store, livery stable, blacksmith shops, bakery and butcher shop make up the town.

SULTANA

Sultana, one of the new towns created by the construction of the Santa Fe Railroad in 1896, lies three miles due east from Dinuba and is just half-way between that city and Orosi.

Sultana, situated as it is in the very midst of a solidly planted area of orchards and vineyards, has become an important shipping point, both for fresh and dried fruits and raisins and for water-melons.

Being so near the larger city, which has the advantage of lying on both lines of railroad, Sultana will probably never grow to be a large city. On the other hand, its existence is amply justified by the large and rapidly increasing rural population surrounding it.

LINDSAY

Lindsay is situated in the very center of the most extensively developed section of Tulare county's orange belt, lying about twelve miles north of Porterville and eighteen miles southeast from Visalia, on the east side branch of the Southern Pacific.

Orange groves in solid formation and stretching miles in all directions, approach to and extend into the city.

Unlike any of the other towns of the county, diversified products do not contribute to the enrichment of city and country here. Oranges exclusively are now grown and this fact, in connection with the large area of land in the vicinity suited to this culture, has made Lindsay the greatest orange shipping point in the county and many believe that within a few years it will be the most important in the state.

Thirteen large packing houses, equipped with the best modern facilities and machinery, and having a combined capacity of eighty carloads per day, are required to handle the output, which now amounts to about two thousand carloads.

Business during the harvest season, when the handling of the immense crop requires the labor of an army of pickers, packers, box-makers, etc., is, of course, especially brisk.

The city now contains a population of about twenty-five hundred and is growing rapidly. There are two daily newspapers, two banks, three machine shops, a foundry, a planing mill, two cement works and a talem powder mill. Two electric companies give power for lighting, heating and pumping. Gas mains will be laid in the near future.

Lindsay was incorporated as a city of the sixth class February 28, 1910, the corporate limits containing an area of nine hundred and sixty acres. The government was placed in the hands of a city council, composed of W. B. Kiggins, president; Allen McGregor, P. T. Ostrander, Basil Pryor and Charles O. Cowles, and Marshal William Gann; city clerk, W. H. Mack; treasurer, G. V. Reed.

In 1911, bonds in the sum of \$130,000 were voted for the purpose of acquiring a municipal water plant and for the construction of a sewer system.

Fifty-five thousand dollars was devoted to the purchase of the plant of the Lindsay Water and Gas Company and the betterment and enlargement of the system. An additional pumping plant was installed, mains extended to cover the entire city, and other improvements effected.

The sewer system, to which \$75,000 was devoted, is of modern type and substantial construction, built by Haviland & Tibbetts of San Francisco. Provision for the disposal of sewage was made by the purchase by the city of a ninety-acre tract, situated some two and a half miles from the city. Preparations for farming this tract directly by the city is now being undertaken.

Lindsay possesses school facilities considered superior to those of any city of similar size in the state. These consist of three grammar school and one high school buildings, with extensive grounds, representing an investment of \$70,000.

The appearance of Lindsay is made attractive by the nearly uniform excellence of both business structures and residences. There are six miles of concrete sidewalks and the streets are generally well graded, firm and smooth.

The growth of Lindsay, while never of a mushroom character, has been exceedingly rapid, about fifteen years only having been required for it to reach its present status as one of the most important cities of the county.

Nowhere else in the county has a more complete, radical and rapid transformation in characteristics been effected than in the section around Lindsay.

When the overland stage line to St. Louis was established in

'59, a station called the Eighteen-Mile House was erected a little south and west of the present town on the old Porterville road. Between Outside creek near Farmersville and Porterville this was the only house, and it remained so for many years. The country between was a dreary hog-wallow waste considered worthless except for spring feed.

As stock raising became a more important industry ranches were located in the foothills where water from springs or creeks was to be found and in the spring-time the flocks were removed to the adjoining plains and temporary camps established there.

This constituted all of the development until the early '80s, when the coming of the railroad through the valley gave an impetus to wheat growing.

After a few good crops had demonstrated the profits to be made in this culture some enterprising men of the period jumped in and proceeded to raise wheat on a large scale.

In the Lindsay district J. J. Cairns, G. S. and W. S. Berry, and others, as the Keeley's and William Mehrten (known as Dutch Bill) farmed practically the entire territory from north of Exeter to Porterville, including a large area to the west of Lindsay.

J. J. Cairns alone put in in one year 25,000 acres and was reputed to have cleared up \$50,000 on the crop. The lands upon which these wheat kings operated were not owned by them, but were leased, usually upon shares, and lay in separated tracts. Although most of the country thus came under cultivation, no material progress resulted. Plowing and seeding outfits with temporary camps moved from place to place during the winter season and temporary movable quarters also sufficed for the harvest time. Neither did any permanent profit inure to the few men engaged in this lordly farming, as seasons of drought wiped out the profits from years of plenty.

In 1888 the east side branch of the Southern Pacific railroad was completed and Lindsay was made a station and given a siding. Capt. A. J. Hutchinson donated fifty-one per cent. of the townsite for this concession, but this was not considered sufficient inducement for the erection of a depot and it was not until two years later, when Mr. Hutchinson donated more land, that one was built.

In 1889, however, the McNear company erected a large grain warehouse on the track and a few business houses sprang up to care for the wants of the sparse and largely floating population. Charles Rankin opened a general store and Ed and George Hannaford started a hotel and a few other shops followed.

The new era began in 1891 when Captain Hutchinson began the active promotion of the section for orange culture, placing twenty-five hundred acres of land on the market for this purpose.

Previously John Tuohy, on his Lewis creek ranch, had planted

a number of orange trees, the growth of which had shown the adaptability of soil and climate. J. J. Cairns had set out a small orchard, and Captain Hutchinson himself had the previous year set out an experimental grove of five acres. Mr. Cairns also had put down a well, the first in the district for irrigating purposes, and had proven the existence of a great available water supply.

To Mr. Hutchinson, however, properly belongs the credit for being the founder of the community, as through his enterprise development on a larger scale was undertaken and the district's merits exploited in a way to attract attention from many men of prominence who became identified with the section's development.

Thomas E. Johnson of San Jose and C. J. Carle were among the first outsiders to whom the locality made a strong appeal and these, both by their own efforts and through their influence, became important factors in furthering the growth of the community.

About four hundred acres were set out in 1891, more than double that in 1892, and considerably more in the years following. Not until 1896 and 1897, however, when returns came in from the first orchards planted, did the boom, as it may be called, set in that has lasted until the present day and gives no signs of abating.

Southern California growers in general had not thought it possible that oranges could be grown commercially north of Tehachapi. When the Lindsay groves first began to produce oranges and get them east in time for the Thanksgiving market, the fact attracted wide attention in the south. Many growers visited this section, foresaw its possibilities and invested.

Lindsay has proven an exceptionally fine locality for hustlers of limited means. By reason of the rapid rise in land values and on account of the prevailing activity in all lines of business due to the rush in leveling, planting and installation of pumping plants unusual opportunities have offered themselves. Lindsay boasts a large number of citizens who, entering the field without a dollar, now measure their wealth in five figures.

CHAPTER IX.

ANECDOTES

ADVENTURES WITH INDIANS

In the adventures of the early settlers with the Indians, there was frequently an element of humor, sometimes of tragedy. There are no other instances, however, that quite equal for the mixture of these two elements the two misadventures that befell Fred or "old

man" Steinman. In 1854 or '55 Steinman, who lived southwesterly from Visalia a few miles, went on a hunting trip near what is now Corcoran on the Mahuran slough. He was looking for deer, and the timbered country near this slough looking good to him, he tied his team and proceeded cautiously afoot. He had not traveled far when he espied five or six deer, whereupon he dodged into the slough, and stealthily made his way to a point which he judged to be directly opposite them. Raising cautiously up, he discovered one big buck within range, the rest being some distance beyond. He fired, and at the crack of his rifle what was his horror and dismay to hear an Indian scream with agony. It was a dying shriek. The Indian was himself stalking deer, clothed in deer skin and carrying antlers. There was no more hunting for Steinman that trip. Fearful of revenge, he hurried home and kept exceedingly close for some time. Either, however, the Indians failed to learn the slayer's identity or were satisfied that the shooting was purely accidental, for no reprisal was ever attempted.

Equally, or rather more, serious and at the same time more amusing, was his next trouble. Steinman was an old bachelor and had peculiar habits. His house, which was within half a mile of the Indian rancheria, was of clapboards split and smoothed. Above his living-room was a loft reached by a ladder. It was Steinman's custom on warm afternoons to repair to this loft, divest himself of all clothing, and spend a few tranquil hours in smoking, meditation or repose.

For some time he had been missing articles from his cabin without a clue to the pilferer or his method. On one afternoon, however, while taking his ease in the loft in a state of nature he heard noises, and looking down through the hole in the floor saw two Indians enter. They had discovered some loose weather boards, and by removing the nails had made an opening which later could be closed and leave no sign.

The table, on which was a variety of eatables, was directly below the hole in the ceiling, and Steinman's anger rose as he watched the Indians make free with his grub and then examine the cabin for things of use. He determined to scare them into fits, and jumped to the table, giving as he did so a wild yell. Instead of fleeing in consternation at this frightful apparition, as he had anticipated, the Indians grabbed knives from the table and attacked him fiercely. Steinman, though severely wounded, managed to reach the fireplace, where he got hold of a long-handled shovel, with which he killed one of his antagonists and drove off the other.

This time Steinman knew that only by immediate flight could he secure his safety. To his neighbor Willis he therefore went. A number of men were here employed making rails and these promised

him protection. After consultation it was decided that the best method to pursue would be to endeavor to square the matter with the chief.

All came to town and secured the good offices of Horace Thomas, "Uncle Dan," to act as mediator. The result of the powwow was that in consideration of a beef, a horse and a number of trinkets it was agreed that there should be no harassment of Steinman.

THE POINDEXTER NUPTIALS

John Barker tells this story of W. L. Poindexter, sheriff of Tulare county in the late '50s.

Poindexter was a big, jolly, good-natured fellow, exceedingly popular, having hosts of friends not only in the county, but throughout the valley from Stockton to Bakersfield. A decided weakness for the fair sex was one of his characteristics and when a young lady school-teacher from San Jose, Miss Helen S....., who was a most bewitching blonde, made her appearance in Visalia, Poindexter became deeply enamoured. Upon her he lavished abundant affection and presents of a substantial nature.

When after a long but ardent courtship he finally secured her consent and the day for the wedding was set, preparations on a grand scale went forward and from Stockton to Bakersfield friends were invited to attend. Barker says:

"There was a jolly crowd and one of which any man might feel justly proud to number as his friends on that occasion. The wedding was to take place Saturday and the bride and groom were to take passage for San Jose on the overland stage immediately thereafter. In the meantime, Poindexter had to make a trip to the Kern river mines."

On his return Friday Barker brought his mail to him at his room. Of this he says: "I noticed a letter in a feminine hand that had been mailed him at Visalia. When I handed him his mail I felt a sort of premonition that all was not right. As he read the letter I saw a change come over his features; he turned pale as death. I saw his hand quiver and thought he would faint. In a few moments, by a great effort, he called me and said, 'Jack, read this, but never on your life breathe a word of it to anyone else.' He added, 'That is from a woman that has ruined me financially and now she has completed the job.'"

The letter was couched in cold blooded, deliberate language. It stated that she had made up her mind not to marry him, did not love him, never had and never could, advised him to get some one nearer his own age, etc., and suggested that he make no attempt to see her.

"Poindexter told me that he had squandered \$8,000 on her.

We tried to keep things secret that night, but by the next morning everyone in town knew it. Of course, there was a general feeling of indignation among Poindexter's friends, and by noon a Saturnalia had commenced. Nearly all of the guests had bought new suits of clothes, good ones, to honor the occasion, and they organized what they called a 'Lodge of Sorrow.' After installing officers, committees went around among the guests and invited them to meet at the lodge. As fast as they arrived they were put into an ante-room and as their names were called, they were blindfolded and led by the arm by a man on each side. The victim was marched around the room and then led to the center facing the presiding officer. His attention was directed to the awful example of our friend Poindexter, and he was then cautioned never to allow himself to succumb to the wiles of a siren. He was then requested to repeat after one of his guides the following formula:

"Then shall we stand such treatment? No! As soon seek roses in December, ice in June, seek constancy in wind, or corn in chaff.

"Believe a liar or an epitaph or any other thing that's false before

"We let a woman play us such a score."

"At the command 'Restore him to the light' the bandage was removed from his eyes, the skirts of his Prince Albert coat were seized on each side by his guides and the coat split up the back to the collar and the victim turned loose. Of course, his first impression was that he wanted to punch the heads of the fellows who tore his coat, but when he saw that everyone else in the room had been served the same way, his only alternative was to laugh with them and wait for the next victim. This Saturnalia was kept up until Sunday morning, when they all struck out for their homes."

FIDDLING FROM DONKEY'S BACK.

Many tales are told of the "devil may care" spirit that animated Visalia during the mining boom days. Gambling, boozing, fighting and frolicking were the occupations of the miners, especially, as happened in the fall of '56 and '57, when their pockets were full of dust and they were off on their way to San Francisco to spend the winter.

Visalia offered such attractions that they got no further. At one time about twenty-five of these took practical possession of the town. Wide open and in full blast the attractions were kept going, night and day. This crowd had among them a tall and lanky Missourian named Ben Biggs, who could play the fiddle, and that his talents might be exercised in a manner calculated to attract the most attention they purchased a jackass for him to ride and were accustomed to march around the town, halting in front of the different saloons, treating all bystanders while the fiddler played lustily. The sum of \$60 per month was paid the musician by the party.

Needless to say, due eclat was secured. Judge Sayles, later of Fresno, who was the leader of this crowd, concluded that this sport had become somewhat stale and arranged for a glorious finale.

At the crossing at Mill creek at Garden street was a ford, below which was a very deep pool. A halt was called here one day and Biggs, at the request of the audience, was sawing out a selection when a preconcerted rush of the spectators dumped both him and his steed into the water.

THE McCORRY EPISODE

Visalia in the '70s numbered among its inhabitants a genuine "bad man." This was one James McCrory, who at the time of his death had the reputation of having killed or wounded thirteen men.

McCrory, when sober, was pleasant and companionable and gained many friends. When drunk, he was cross-grained and surly and inclined to shoot on little or no provocation. His first serious trouble occurred here in October, 1870, when without apparent cause he shot and killed Manuel Barcla, a Mexican barkeeper in the Fashion saloon. For this murder he was at his first trial, sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment. On the second trial he was acquitted on technicalities. As the murder was peculiarly cold-blooded and brutal this caused much unfavorable comment.

The culminating incident of his career, however, and the means by which he gained a large amount of such fame as lay within his reach, occurred on the night of December 24, 1872. McCrory had just returned from a prospecting trip to Arizona. He had met with no success and arrived broke, actually in rags, in fact. Charles Allen, a barkeeper in the Eldorado saloon, had been his good friend for years and to him McCrory appealed for assistance. Allen replenished his wardrobe, purchasing at Sweet's store a \$10 pair of trousers and other articles of good quality. After making the necessary purchases, the two chums proceeded to carouse around together all day. Allen went to bed in the saloon, but McCrory continued to celebrate. He became so boisterous that the Mexican barkeeper became frightened and woke Allen. When Allen suggested that he make less noise, McCrory pulled his pistol and, without a word, shot Allen just below the eye. There were numerous witnesses to the dastardly act and feeling against McCrory was intense. Allen died in about an hour.

McCrory made his escape through the rear of the saloon and had hid himself in an outhouse, whence he was coaxed to come out by "Picayune" Johnson, a citizen, who placed him under arrest. When being taken to the jail by deputy sheriff Jesse Reynolds, there were loud and frequent cries from the crowd of "hang him! hang

him!" McCrory yelled back, "Yes, you _____, you dassent hang me."

It was Christmas eve. The church bells were ringing their call to attend the Christmas trees festivities at the Methodist church on Court street, but there were few men who answered this summons. They attended a graver and sterner meeting on Main street at 9 p. m., and as a result marched en masse to the jail where sheriff A. H. Glasscock with armed deputies were found guarding the prisoner. The sheriff asked the crowd not to act hastily and do things of which later they would be ashamed, and requested them to at least wait an hour before taking any action. This was agreed to and at the end of that time they returned with an eighteen foot piece of timber with which they broke open the outside iron door of the jail. After reaching the hall they had to pass the sheriff's office where eight or ten armed men were on guard. These were forced to give way and were shoved into the office and held there. The keys were taken from Reynolds and the cell door opened.

McCrory had heard them coming and, determined not to "die with his boots on," had removed them. When the leaders entered the cell they found him lying on his face. They caught him by the hair, raised his head up, placed a noose around his neck and half dragged, half carried him to the hall. A railing blocked the way here and in order to prevent premature strangulation, he was lifted over this. Outside, he was taken to the Mill creek bridge on Court street, the rope tied to a post of the railing, and he was thrown over.

A man made a motion that he be left there for one hour, which was duly seconded and carried. During the interim, a collection to defray funeral expenses was taken up, and arrangements made with the undertaker. At the end of the hour "Fatty Johnson," the undertaker, appeared with a spring wagon. Six men pulled McCrory up and got him partially into the wagon. The incident was closed. Certainly there had been no delay or miscarriage of justice and not a cent of expense to the county.

THE MORRIS-SHANNON AFFRAY

On November 15, 1860, William Gouverneur Morris shot and killed John Shannon, editor of the *Delta*. This affray grew out of the bitterness engendered in the political campaign which had just been brought to a close, and for a correct understanding of the motives actuating the men, it is necessary to relate some of the verbal passages between them.

The *Visalia Sun* had been started during this campaign as an organ of the Republican party, the *Delta* supporting Breckenridge. Morris, it was stated, controlled the policy of the *Sun* and contributed to it editorially.

In the first issue of the *Delta* after the election there appeared a statement from Shannon as follows: "To the Public: In the last issue of the *Sun* I find a card signed by William Gouverneur Morris, in which is the following language: 'I have endeavored to obtain satisfaction from Mr. Shannon for his personal abuse of me in his paper, but have been unable to do so.'" After this follow copies of a portion of the correspondence. "On the 15th of September last I received a note from Mr. Morris by the hands of two men, who immediately left without stating the object of their visit or the purport of the note of which they were the bearers, thus affording me no opportunity to give them a written answer or to refer them to my friend. Regarding this conduct on the part of these messengers as a deliberate insult, and finding one of them on the streets, I commenced, without any ceremony, to chastise him for his impertinence. (This was A. J. Atwell.) In so doing I injured my right hand, an injury which has since proved to be more serious than was at the time supposed. Mr. Morris was informed of the fact through Mr. Beckham, and requested to wait until such time as I could have the full use of my hand." Shannon goes on to state that Morris agreed to this and was to await an answer from Mr. Beckham, which had not been given because Shannon's hand was not yet well, and also that both Morris and Tate knew that he had also met with an accident to his other hand. He accuses them of violating the rules of the code and concludes by saying, "Inasmuch as Mr. Morris has chosen to retire from his position, I have only to say that hereafter, should he or any of his kind feel aggrieved by any act or word of mine, they have only to call upon me, with the assurance that I will be prepared to arrange matters with them very summarily, and without the interpositions of friends or a resort to the code."

November 15, 1860, a card appeared from Morris denouncing Shannon as a liar, coward and blackguard and stating that he would pay him no further attention. The affair occurred the same day. The version given by both the *Sun* and the *Delta* was:

"On Thursday evening Shannon entered the office of W. P. Gill, Esq., where Morris was sitting. Shannon held in his hand a cocked pistol, and on entering raised the pistol, at the same time saying, 'Morris, are you armed?' Morris sprang to his feet and grappled with his opponent. Shannon being the taller of the two Morris was unable to disarm him and Shannon beat him severely upon the head with the pistol, inflicting nine severe scalp wounds. At the first or second blow Shannon's pistol was discharged accidentally. After receiving these blows, Morris fell to the floor, covered with blood, whereupon Shannon gazed upon him several seconds and turned and left the room. Morris, thereupon, sprang to his feet and,

drawing his revolver, rushed out of the south door of the building so as to intercept Shannon before reaching his office. The parties here exchanged shots ineffectually. Morris then left his position and proceeding to the north side of the building, climbed on the fence (Shannon retaining his position) and took deliberate aim and fired, the ball striking Mr. Shannon in the abdomen. At this instant Shannon had raised his pistol, but lowered it without firing and put his hand to the wound and walked to his office, where he died in about an hour and eighteen minutes.

Shannon was a man highly respected by a large circle of friends and sincerely mourned. He was one of the pioneer journalists of the state, having previously edited the *Placer Democrat* and the *Calaveras Chronicle*.

Morris later became United States marshal of California.

STAPLEFORD-DEPUTY AFFAIR

One of the most bizarre and at the same time most outrageous crimes known in the annals of any county was committed in the summer of 1858. The heavy villains were one J. D. Stapleford and William Gouverneur Morris, known as "bloody" Morris, the same gentleman who afterwards killed Shannon, the editor of the *Delta*, and later became United States marshal.

It appears that Stapleford, who hailed from Stockton, had there, in order to defraud his creditors, deeded his property, said to amount to \$30,000 or \$40,000, to his uncle, William C. Deputy. Deputy had handled this property for some time, selling and reinvesting, and, as he claimed, repaying to Stapleford such sums from time to time as to cancel the indebtedness. Deputy, however, remained possessed of much property and Stapleford demanded of his uncle that he deed all his property to him, claiming that the old score remained unsettled. Deputy refused and then Stapleford offered a reward of \$1,000 to anyone who would compel him to sign an instrument to that effect.

There being no takers for this offer, Stapleford caused Deputy's arrest on a charge of swindling, and he was confined in the old wooden jail and court house and chained to a ring-bolt, fastened in the floor. Apparently fearing that some attempt at the use of violence might be committed on the prisoner, Sheriff Poindexter placed two men, Ed Reynolds and Frank Warren, on guard to protect the old man.

On the 28th of July, a mob headed by Morris, who was a lawyer and notary, broke into jail, took Deputy to the outskirts of town, swung him up to a tree by a noose around his neck until he was nearly strangled, let him down, and then requested him to sign a deed that had been prepared. Upon his refusal he was again swung up and lashed by Morris with a blacksnake until almost unconscious. He then consented to sign, but after being taken back to jail, showed

signs of renewed stubbornness. However, after being chained again to the ring-bolt and threatened again with the lash, he did sign a deed by which he transferred to Stapleford any and all real estate of which he might be possessed in the state of California.

This property included that on which the Visalia flouring mills are now situated, a tract east of town and a hotel and ranch property in San Bernardino. The property was immediately retransferred to a supposedly innocent third party and when Deputy brought suit to recover, the supreme court held that there was no law empowering it to reinstate Deputy in possession.

Stapleford, Morris and four others of the principal men composing the mob that had committed the outrage were later arrested on a complaint signed by many prominent citizens. Morris was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 and serve six months in jail. Owing to secret influences of some kind, he successfully evaded doing either one, and escaped scot free.

JAMES M'KINNEY'S HIGH LIFE

On Sunday morning, July 27, 1902, James McKinney, an ex-convict, murderer and all round bad man, ran amuck in Porterville, shot five men, one fatally, held up a livery stable for a team and made his escape.

McKinney at the time was employed at the Mint saloon as night manager. About midnight he and Ralph Calderwood, known as "Scotty," proprietor of a saloon and chop house, got together in the Mint saloon. Both had been drinking and McKinney was boisterous. He fired a shot from his revolver at random from the door of the Mint and then adjourned to Scotty's place where more promiscuous shooting was indulged in.

City Marshal John Howell, his deputy, John Willis, Deputy Constable W. L. Tompkins and a railroad employe named Lyons approached for the purpose of arresting McKinney, who began shooting when the officers were within fifteen feet of him. They returned the fire and Willis called, "Jim, stop your shooting." A shot was fired in reply. Attempting to fire again, the gun snapped and Willis remarked, "Come on, boys, he has no more ammunition, we will get him now." McKinney fled, pursued by the officers. Willis, who was in the lead, fired two shots, one of which hit McKinney in the leg. Willis, out of ammunition, continued the chase and got close enough to strike McKinney with his cane. McKinney had reloaded while running and upon being struck, turned and shot Willis, the ball taking effect in the upper lip, knocking him down.

The chase then ceased, but McKinney continued the flight to the house of his mistress, where he procured a shotgun and rifle. Starting to return to town, he encountered William Linn, a gambler, at

whom without provocation he discharged a load of buckshot, fatally wounding him. Linn had previously been accidentally shot and slightly wounded in the exchange of shots with the officers. McKinney then went to the Arlington stables, roused the hostlers, and, covering them with his rifle, demanded a team, threatening to kill them if they did not hurry. While the team was being harnessed McKinney fired eight or ten shots towards the main part of town. He then got into the buggy and drove up through town, shooting at every person he saw.

George Barrow, a compositor in the *Enterprise* office, received a charge in the right arm and in the small of the back, and W. B. West was shot in the right arm and hip. West was slightly and Barrow very severely wounded. After shooting Barrow and West McKinney drove through the main part of town to the residence of D. B. Mosier, whom he roused. He said, "I have killed four or five men down town and must leave here. I want you to give me all the money you have. Take these keys and you will find in the locker at the safe at the Mint saloon, \$100. Tell the Indian, referring to Ed Isham, to give you that money. Tell Ed that I have gone, that they will never take me. Tracy won't be in it with me, I will kill anyone that looks at me."

Mosier gave McKinney all the money he had, about \$60. McKinney drove again to Main street and took a parting shot at "Kid" Tatman, but without effect. He drove north then from Porterville, passing through Lindsay, and in the vicinity of Lemon Cove secreted himself near D. McKee's home.

Sheriff Parker was soon on the trail but failed to locate him, as McKinney had numerous friends who assisted him in keeping his whereabouts a secret. In August, and until October, he was seen in the Randsburg district, whence he disappeared to parts unknown, not being heard of until June of 1903, when he was reported in Mexico. Sheriff Collins secured extradition papers and went after him. McKinney, however, escaped and went to Kingman, Arizona, in which vicinity he murdered two men. Fleeing from the scene of these crimes he again appeared in the Randsburg region, being hotly pursued by Sheriff Lovin of Mojave county, Arizona, as well as by Sheriff Collins and ex-Sheriff Overall of this county and sheriff's possees from Kern county. McKinney, evading these, made his way successfully through the Sierras to Kernville and there narrowly escaped being killed by Rankin and McCracken, who recognized him and in a running fight, wounded him.

On April 19, 1903, McKinney was located in a Chinese joss house in Bakersfield. The house was surrounded by a cordon of officers, and Jeff Packard, city marshal, and Will E. Tibbett, special deputy sheriff, were killed in an attempt to enter it. McKinney ap-

peared at the doorway and was shot and instantly killed by deputy sheriff Bert M. Tibbetts.

THE MAGANA BUTCHERY

The last of the long list of bloody crimes that has cursed the county that will be noted was that committed in Porterville, February 17, 1911. On that day, just before dark and as the stores were closing for the night, Jnan Magana, a Mexican laborer who had been at work in the county, entered the Lambkin-Graham clothing store. It happened that J. B. Lambkin was still in the store and Magana asked to look at some shoes. While Lambkin was looking for the shoes the Mexican demanded money and on being refused, drew a butcher knife and stabbed the merchant to death.

Some one entered the store just then and gave the alarm. Magana broke through a rear window and escaped in the darkness. In the tussle in the store he had cut his own hand and he left a trail of blood. He escaped to a small settlement of Mexicans near the outskirts of town, and there gave away the knife, but escaped. Early the following morning the officers followed the trail to the Mexican camp, but there lost it and during the forenoon were beating the surrounding country for the criminal. He was soon found by Orral Kilroy of Porterville and turned over to the town marshal, E. B. Isham.

Sheriff Collins had gone over in an automobile and immediately took the marshal and the prisoner into the machine and started for Visalia. The people were greatly incensed over the crime, and a move was started to wrest the fellow from the officers and execute him on the spot. The driver of the machine speeded through the streets of Porterville at a sixty-mile clip, and distanced all pursuers. When a few miles from town there was a long bridge to be crossed. The driver kept up speed, and striking some obstruction, one of the axles broke and the machine careened to one side and toppled off the bridge to the dry bed of the creek below. The parties in the machine jumped out before it landed and thus escaped any injury more than a severe jolting. The gasoline exploded and the machine was burned. The officers, with their prisoner, walked to a nearby house, telephoned for a new machine and finally arrived, late in the afternoon, at the jail at Visalia.

Magana made a full confession, was found guilty, and on June 16, expiated his crime in San Quentin. His is the only case in the history of the county when an execution was effected on the day first set by a judge.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The *Delta* January 6, 1861, speaks of a sale of Visalia building lots held on the day previous by J. E. Wainwright & Co. The sale

was largely attended and the bidding spirited. One hundred and fifteen lots were sold at prices ranging from \$5 to \$30. The lots were in Aughinbaugh's Addition to Visalia.

As late as 1891, lands near Visalia were by no means held at high prices. J. H. Thomas advertised forty acres three-quarters of a mile south of town for \$60 per acre. The same year, Sontag & Evans, who afterwards became famous criminals, advertised thirteen lots, and half a block in Aughinbaugh's Addition to Visalia, orchard and vineyard on the land, for \$1,600.

As a showing of the importance of sheep-raising in Tulare in early days it is noted that the fall clip of wool of 1872 was 1,474,500 pounds. The winter following was the most severe one ever experienced by sheepmen and yet the spring clip of 1873 was 947,375 pounds.

J. P. Majors of Visalia was the first postmaster in Tulare county, being appointed in 1855 and serving three years. He was succeeded by Zane Stenben.

In 1891 the lumber business was very active. Atwell's mills on the Mineral King road was operated by the Kaweah colonists; four saw mills were located on the Upper Yolo, two of which were running; the Comstock mills, above Camp Badger; the Sequoia mills, just across the line in Fresno county. The total cut of these mills that year was over three million feet of lumber.

CROSSING STREAMS IN THE FIFTIES

The business of maintaining ferries across different streams in the county appears to have been a profitable one in early days, judging from the number engaged in it.

At one of the first meetings of the board of supervisors in 1853, A. B. Gordon was granted the privilege of maintaining a ferry across Kern river, free of taxation for a period of eight months. The following rates were authorized: six-horse team or four yoke of oxen, \$6; four-horse wagon, \$4; two-horse wagon, \$2; horse and man, \$1; pack mules, fifty cents; loose horses and foot men, twenty-five cents each.

In 1855 the court of sessions granted licenses to L. A. Whitman to conduct a ferry on Kings river, at a point two and one-half miles west of Crumley's ranch, and to I. S. George to run a ferry boat at the Poindexter crossing; granted to John Pool the right to continue his ferry and gave to Crumley and Smith the privilege of conducting another.

COUNTY SCRIP AND GOLD DUST

In August, 1855, at a meeting of the board of supervisors, it was "ordered that the treasurer pay to S. C. Brown the balance still

due on order thirteen county scrip, valuing gold dust at \$14 per ounce."

AN INDIAN RUNNER

"Captain George, an Indian and a 'big Injum heap' at that, has commenced running as an expressman between this place and Cooso. For his services he gets very well paid and would be better paid had he a touch of Yankee in his system. He makes the trip now in about four days and packages of light weight of any description may be safely entrusted to his care."—*Delta*, 1861.

In September, 1862, Mr. Van Water is credited with having a factory in operation in Visalia, making a fine article of sorghum syrup.

In 1863 Nathan Baker put in a field of about twelve acres, near Visalia, to tobacco.

"Splendid deer skins, dressed, were offered for sale in this place yesterday morning at \$19 a dozen."—*Delta*, Oct. 20, 1861.

"Boating—People who have not been here for a year or two will be surprised to hear that navigation is now open just north of town. The first boat arrived near S. Davenport's, on Saturday last, with four tons of freight on board. Since that some thirty tons have arrived by the same means, and regular trips will be made until the water subsides."—*Delta*, May 15, 1867.

"Two hunters, living in the foothills on the waters of the Tule river, have killed over one hundred and twenty deer during the present winter."—*Delta*, 1866.

VISALIA'S FIRST BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The business directory of Visalia in 1861 was as follows: Saloons: Cosmopolitan, Gem, Fashion, St. Charles. Wholesale and retail dealers: H. Cohn, H. Green. Hotels: Exchange, corner Court and Main streets; Visalia House, corner Main and Church streets. General merchandise, etc., Sam Ellis, D. R. Douglass, Reinstein & Hockett, Sweet & Jacobs, Weinsbank & Sinclair, M. Reinstein. Stage lines: Hice & Wilson. Miscellaneous: Bossler & Townsend, saddlers and harness makers; Knoble & Kraft, bakers and confectioners; G. W. Rogers, jeweler; B. M. Bronson, gunsmith; John H. Richardson, painter; Douglass & Magary, contractors and builders; Samuel Dinely, barber shop and bathhouse; Joseph H. Thomas, lumber yard; George W. Sutherland, tailor shop; Justices of the Peace: S. W. Beckham, Robert C. Redd. Attorneys: W. M. Stafford, A. J. Atwell, Morris & Brown, S. A. Sheppard. Physicians: Dr. M. Baker, Dr. J. D. P. Thomason, Dr. W. A. Russell, Dr. James A. Roberts, Dr. T. O. Ellis, Sr.

SECOND COURTHOUSE

Tulare county's second courthouse, built in 1859, was a brick structure 40x60 feet in size, of two stories and a basement. In the basement was a jail, one half being divided into six cells, lined with boiler iron. In 1873 an additional jail as a separate building was constructed.

As to the building of the present court house without the wings (which were added in 1906), there hangs a tale. The Southern Pacific had completed its line through the county in 1872, leaving Visalia sidetracked and therefore destined to become a "deserted village." At the site of Tulare, the railroad had platted a town in which plat provision was made for a court house, and the general expectation, both among buyers of town lots in Tulare and citizens generally was that Tulare would become the county seat. But the legislature of 1875-1876 passed an act authorizing the county of Tulare to issue bonds in the sum of \$75,000 for the purpose of building a court house in Visalia. This naturally aroused intense opposition, not only from Tulare and the southern end of the county, but even from Visalia. The *Delta* denounced it as a job, stating that the then existing court house was good enough and that the building of another would be burdensome on the taxpayers.

A "People's Convention" was called to meet in Visalia, July 15, 1876, to take action in the matter. Resolutions were passed denouncing the methods used in the passage of the bill through the legislature, etc., and agreeing to use every legal means to prevent its operation. However, the citizens of Visalia regarded it as vital to their welfare, if not to the very salvation of the town; the majority of the board of supervisors were favorable to Visalia and pushed the matter forward as rapidly as possible, issuing bonds, advertising for bids for the sale of the old structure and the construction of the new, etc.

A. D. Glasscock bought the old courthouse for \$686, and R. E. Hyde the jail for \$205. Stephens and Childers of Santa Rosa were awarded the contract for construction for \$59,700, and on October 28, 1871, under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California, the cornerstone was laid.

CEMETERIES

Tulare county's first cemetery was started in Visalia in 1857, near where the Tipton Lindsey schoolhouse is now situated. The first occupant was a Dutchman who was drowned in Mill creek and whose only known name was Pete. On the rough pine box containing the remains was therefore duly inscribed "Pete in the box," the same inscription being placed on the headboard.

Among others whose bodies were laid to rest here and later removed to the new cemetery were Jack Lorenz, Mrs. Thomas Baker, Mrs. Nathan Baker, and a man called Salty.

VISALIA'S TITLE

There was for many years a cloud upon the title to lots in Visalia and at one time there was serious trouble feared. It appears that after Nat. Vise gave up his preemption in favor of the on-coming city, nothing was done to comply with legal forms necessary to perfect a title.

On August 9, 1857, the board of supervisors passed an order asking congress to grant the board the right to preempt the town site of Visalia, and the clerk was ordered to file in the land office, then located in San Francisco, the necessary application. The application was not received, the land office claiming that there was no evidence that the supervisors were the agents of Tulare county. The matter was dropped till about 1867. The Visalia Land District had been formed and one George Garish appointed receiver. Discovering the lack of title to the townsite, he made application for the lands. This aroused the people and steps were taken to perfect the title to the county for the lands. The matter had to be taken before the land commissioner at Washington, but it was finally settled to the benefit of the people.

BEFORE VISALIA BEAUTIFUL CAME

In the spring of 1860 a correspondent to the local paper speaks thus of Visalia: "This region, including the town, is little more than a labyrinth of crooked creeks, ditches, fences, brush, weeds, etc. A quarter of a mile out of town one is in the wilderness to all intents and purposes. Streets are straight and square as far as they go, but they don't go, and it takes a very uncommon owl to get to his regular roost in the burg after dark. Wonder what the 'Bean Brummel' of the *Marijosa Gazette*, who was here about two weeks ago, thinks about it, inquiring the way to Visalia at a house about a hundred yards from the Court street bridge."

IN THE FIFTIES

June 25, 1859—"We hope to be able soon to give the latest telegraphic news received at St. Louis, by the stages as they pass through town."—*Delta*.

"A protest against the contemplated reduction of the overland mail service is now in circulation. * * * This is the only direct and speedy (sic) connection we have with the east and its promptness and regularity have made it an enterprise of the utmost importance to the people of California."—*Delta*, 1859.

SOME ADVICE COUPLED WITH A PREDICTION

"I would advise the merchants and citizens of Visalia and Tulare county to encourage as much as possible men to go into the mountains east of this valley and prospect there thoroughly, as nothing but the discovery of mines close to us that we can supply without fear of com-

petition will save us from inevitable Babylonian ruin that will change most of our fine buildings into nothing but a shelter for a lot of lousy Indians in a few years."—(Newspaper correspondent in 1859.)

POLITICS

The following appeared in the *Delta* in 1859.

"We can safely pledge the county of Tulare to give seventy-five Democratic votes to one Republican or mixed. * * * In Fresno county there was never but one abolitionist and he has now left for a more congenial clime. His portrait is to be seen at the Millerton hotel. Mr. McCray has had the portrait framed at a heavy expense that the passerby may look upon the Lone Republican of Fresno. Whence he came or whither he went no one knoweth."

THE BUSY BEE

June 21, 1859.—"J. B. Stevens arrived in Visalia with ten hives of bees, the first ever brought to the county.

J. H. and C. G. Hart had an apiary east of Visalia in 1860, and inserted the following advertisement in the *Delta*: 'Bee Advertisement—For sale on and after the first of September next a choice lot of honey bees in as good condition as any the county affords. Price \$50 a swarm. A farm or grain will be taken as pay where it suits purchasers better than to pay money.'"

ARRIVAL OF THE TELEGRAPH

On June 18, 1860, the Atlantic and Pacific telegraph line entered Visalia and the occasion was celebrated in a fitting manner. Abe Rapely, agent of the Overland mail company, took the matter in charge. A procession consisting of every horse and vehicle in town, with all spare stage coaches, decorated with flags and bunting, set out to meet the linemen. A large banner on which was painted a representation of the earth surrounded by a chain of telegraph wires with the motto "I'll put a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes," was carried by T. V. Crane who made the address of welcome and escorted back into town the superintendent, James Street.

ELECTIONS HELD IN SALOONS

"Pursuant to notice a primary election was held in the Visalia precinct at the new saloon of A. O. Thoms, on Saturday last, and the following gentlemen chosen as delegates to attend the Union county convention of Saturday, August 2nd: Stephen Davenport, Henry Hartley, W. M. Johnson, G. A. Botsford, John Cutler, Hi Morrell, I. H. Thomas, S. Cady, T. Lindsey, William Baker, S. G. George, Lytle Owen, John Gill."—*Delta*, July, 1862.

A VIGOROUS PROTEST

Dr. Webb, the eccentric individual who obtained a deed to the upper story of a building erected in Visalia, as related elsewhere, later became county physician and manager of the county hospital at a salary of \$500 per year. In 1871 the supervisors ousted Webb from his position and gave to his successor a salary of \$2000 per year. The following card appeared in the *Times* of November 11, 1871, which seems to indicate that the reverend doctor was somewhat peeved:

"Rev. James A. Webb to the perjured supervisors of Tulare county, California.

"Perjured villains, rebel devils and fools;

"While unscrupulous and perjured rebel devils hold political sway in our demented rebel county no honest man or christian can expect any favors from their nefarious hands.

"I would be glad to keep the county hospital for \$500 a year, but because I am a Union man, and not a perjured rebel devil, you will rob me of my only means of support and give my hospital to rebel traitors of your own kind for four times the price for which I offer to keep it.

"Therefore, I, the only true physician in Tulare county, California, and the only true Gospel minister in Tulare county, and the only Bible poet in Tulare county, and the only Advent prophet in Tulare county and the only Christian patriarch in Tulare; Therefore, in the name and service of the Great Jehovah, I offer my services to God and him only to continue my fifty years Bible task.

"Where is your oath of office, Oh! ye perjured Democratic demons? Where is your conscience, you ungodly devils? Have you any reason why I should not damn you all together?" And follows more, signed "Alonzo, the Advent Prophet, Bible Poet and Christian Patriarch."

A NOVEL ENGINE

A correspondent, writing about Visalia in the '90s, thus speaks of the engine that hauled the passengers from Visalia to Goshen: "The engine doing service on the Visalia railroad is one of the most novel arrangements we recollect to have seen in railroading. It has engine, tender and car all aggregated together, will carry ten or fifteen passengers and baggage, and can doubtless be run at half the cost of an ordinary stage coach. We place no high estimate on its speed, but the engineer tells us that it has the power to move any train likely to be loaded at any point in the valley."

THE FLOOD TIMES

There are a great many people who never lived in Tulare county that have a fixed idea that this is a waterless county, where the

unfortunate denizens are ever parched with thirst. But there have been many years when there was more water than was necessary for drinking purposes.

That abused individual, the "oldest inhabitant," tells of wonderful times back in the early '50s. But the flood of 1867 is one in the memories of a great many people, and was surely bad enough. In the winter of that year all the streams in the county were on a rampage. Tule river spread all over the Poplar and Woodville sections. Deer creek and the White river merged their waters in their lower course, and the Kaweah and St. Johns made a vast expanse of waters. Boats bearing supplies passed freely from Visalia to places in Kings and Fresno counties. The herds of cattle and sheep looked sad. Many hair breadth adventures are recorded and there was great loss of property.

An account of the experiences at two farm houses will serve to indicate prevailing conditions during this flood. Eastward from Visalia, near where Packwood creek crosses the Mineral King road, there resided but three families, those of A. H. Broder, Ira Van Gordon and W. H. Mills. Broder suggested that all get together at his place, that being situated on higher ground. This was done and the men proceeded to build an embankment about three feet high, enclosing about half an acre of ground. The siding from the barn was removed and a raft built, their labors extending into the night. The women, likewise, were busily employed preparing supplies, cooking beans, etc. The plan was to move to a still higher sand knoll which lay to the south and west. By nine o'clock the following morning, Broder, who had been keeping tab on the water level by means of sticks, reported that it had receded half an inch and that it would not be necessary to move.

About two hundred Indians took refuge on the same high mound, and made a gala festival of the predicament. Squirrels and rabbits in great numbers were caught and hung on lines to dry, the flood affording both amusement and provender.

At the residence of the Evans family, near Visalia, which was also located on high ground, there were exciting times this night. The water, after a previous raise, came suddenly, surrounding their house and almost engulfing some of their neighbors' homes. The Prothero family lived on the Bentley place and there the water ran through the windows. Mr. and Mrs. Prothero with three children were assisted to move to the Evans house and then came a call for help from the home of Mrs. Williams, who lived adjoining. This was about one o'clock in the morning, pitch dark and the swirling waters icy cold. Mrs. Williams had a baby but four or five days old and was unable to walk. Samuel and James Evans waded over, and placing her in a rocking chair, carried her to safety. Tom Robinson,

with his wife and family, also took refuge with the Evanses, making a total of twenty-five gathered there. The barn, several hundred yards away, half full of hay, provided the only place for sleeping quarters for so many people. Between it and the house the water ran two or three feet deep. Luckily, a boat had previously been constructed in which to go to Visalia, and so the half-dried refugees cuddled around the stove in the Evans's kitchen were enabled to get to bed without again getting wet. Jim Evans, acting as gondolier, conducted his guests to their hay mow lodgings.

HARVESTING WHEAT

In the days of the early '50s harvesting grain was anything but a rapid process. No reapers or combined harvester then. The labor of cutting was done mostly by Indians, with old-fashioned reap hooks. The grain was drawn to the threshing yard by rawhides, and the threshing done by tramping the straw with horses in the same old style that was in vogue in the days of Noah.

THE LOST MINE

Tulare county, like many other sections of the state, has had its Lost Mine legend. This particular one has had many variations in the narrative, and many were the people who gave time and means in searching for the lost mine. One of the legends was that a party of Spaniards had a mine somewhere in the mountains in the headwaters of the Kaweah river, that the mine was immensely rich, and that going out to Sonora with a pack train all the miners were killed and the packs were all of gold. The Indians claimed to know of the location of the mine, and several expeditions were made to find it but with the usual success. Floods had washed away landmarks, or something was wrong, so the Indians never quite found the right spot.

Andrew Harrell, familiarly known as "Barley" Harrell, did not owe his nickname to the great acreages of the cereal that he was accustomed to plant, but to the fact that in his courting days when visiting his sweetheart he told his parents that he had been to see Mr. Bacon about that barley. The excuse served well for one visit, but the use of it a second time caused much laughter and he was ever after designated "Barley."

SOME STATISTICS OF 1870

W. J. Ellis, county assessor of Tulare county in 1870, submitted, as was the custom in those days, a statistical report to the state surveyor-general showing the number of live stock of different kinds, areas devoted to different cultures, quantity of different productions, etc. On account of the small cultivated area in those days, and on account of the conscientious care Mr. Ellis brought to the task, a degree

of accuracy was obtained greatly in excess of present day statistics.

For example, there were one hundred and eight orange trees in the county, one hundred of which were in a nursery. Today there are in the neighborhood of 2,700,000. The area devoted to wheat was 2500 acres. In the '80s, when the production of this cereal reached its height, scores of ranches each contained a greater acreage than this.

The butter production was 8,150 pounds; today over four million.

While cattle raising was one of the great industries of that time, we find but 28,604 head of stock cattle, a number almost equaled now by dairy cows.

Of sheep, now almost extinct within this county, there were 158,631, and the annual production of wool was given as 872,670 pounds. This, by the way, was more than doubled in the next four succeeding years.

In all, there were but 30,000 acres of enclosed land, 20,000 of which was cultivated.

In a letter to the surveyor-general accompanying this report, Mr. Ellis qualified as a prophet by using the following language: "Stock raising has ever been and is yet the leading interest in Tulare county, but a change is taking place. We have to look but a short distance ahead to see the plains of Tulare county covered with beautiful farms, nice farm houses, waving fields of grain. The locomotive's whistle will then be heard."

MANKINS' PARTY ARRIVAL

The following is quoted from the description of the entry of a party of pioneers into Visalia in 1854, written by one of them—J. H. Mankins:

"Late in April, 1854, had one been standing on Main street, Visalia, he would have witnessed the entry of a unique cavalcade. There were ten riders traveling in single file—your humble servant one of them.

"That broad-shouldered man, weighing above two hundred and twenty pounds is 'dad.' He is always in the lead and is dressed throughout in smoked buckskin with fringes up the legs, and a hunting shirt, also fringed roundabout. Add to the costume a very high plug hat, imagine him then with a mop of raven black hair falling over his shoulders, with coal black, piercing eyes, seated on a large dapple gray horse. A hunting knife is at his girdle, a six shooter on either side of the saddlehorn and he carries a 'sharp shooter' rifle in front. Such was J. B. Mankins, forty-niner and pioneer of pioneers.

"After Dad came next two boys, nearing manhood, one girl of eleven, a young Indian boy, two Jews and then three boys aged

fourteen, eight and six. We were all, except the Jews, dressed wholly in buckskin, well fringed. For hats we wore bearskin caps.

"We pitched our camp just across Mill creek, north of Visalia. The tules then came very close to town and the mosquitoes were very numerous. The town consisted of one store, kept by John Pemberton, a blacksmith shop and a tavern. O. K. Smith was sheriff and Judge Louis Van Tassell, under sheriff.

"I remember quite well Mrs. John Keener, Sr. She had gotten sight of us and perceived that we were sadly in need of repairs, for you see, we were half-orphans. So she had Dad get some cloth, and she made us up some clothes, for it became necessary for us to conform to the usages of civilization."

In 1859, the following time schedule was published: Overland stage from San Francisco to St. Louis arrives Sunday and Wednesday mornings, departs on arrival. From Stockton to Visalia, arrives Tuesday and Friday nights, departs Monday and Thursday mornings. From Visalia to Los Angeles, via Kingsbury, Petersburg and Keyesville, arrives eighth and twenty-fifth of month and departs first and fifteenth. Tri-weekly to Honitos—120 miles, made one day, return next. Tri-weekly to Linns valley.

In July, 1867, Messrs. Thorne and Davenport established a saddle and pack train over the Hockett trail to Lone Pine and Independence.

In July, 1864, Messrs. Bellows, Lown and Badger, of Owens river, started a regular cargo train over the new trail from Visalia to Owens river.

We are informed that the services at the camp ground near town were disturbed on Sunday by some unregenerate heathen who persisted in singing John Brown, The Star Spangled Banner, Hail Columbia, and other airs, which were decidedly offensive to the majority of those present. This is very wrong."—*Delta*, Sept. 3, 1862.

"Wild mustangs seem to be quite plenty in our vicinity. A company of young men went out on the plains near the head of Cross creek on Saturday last and succeeded in securing sixteen of the quadrupeds."—*Delta*, June 12, 1862.

NO FENCE LAW

It is probable that no measure ever passed by the legislature of California had more beneficial effect on the agricultural interests of the state than the "no fence" law enacted in 1874.

This law required cattle owners to prevent their stock from trespassing on the land of others when same was in use. In Tulare county the agitation in favor of the passage of such a law was inaugurated by Stephen Barton, editor of the *Delta*, in 1870. As

stock raising was the principal industry here at that time, and there were many men heavily interested in it whose revenues would be injuriously affected, the proposed measure was bitterly opposed. The election of 1873 for senator from the district comprised of Fresno, Kern and Tulare counties turned upon the question of "fence" or "no fence," Thomas Fowler, on the Democratic ticket, opposing the law, and Tipton Lindsey, running as Independent, favoring it.

The *Times* opposed the law on the ground that no time was allowed the stockmen in which to make such changes in their methods as to permit them to sustain a minimum of loss.

The *Delta* pointed out the rapid development of farming which would ensue and the eminent justice of the measure.

The issue was presented in stirring speeches to the voters of almost every precinct by the opposing candidates, the result in this county being a majority of votes for Fowler. Lindsey was, however, elected, as was a "no fence" assemblyman, and the enactment into law followed at the next session of the legislature.

AS SEEN BY FREMONT

Fremont, when homeward bound, in 1844, passed through the San Joaquin valley and Tulare county. He speaks frequently of the numerous bands of wild horses encountered enroute. Elk were frequently started near the San Joaquin river, and wolves were seen chasing the young antelope.

On April 8th, the River of the Lake, elsewhere denominated the Rio de los Reyes, or Kings river, was reached. Here the Indians brought in otter skins to trade. His ford is located at latitude 36-24-50, longitude 119-41-40. Of the trip from Kings river to the southern end of what is now Tulare county, Fremont says:

"April 9th.—For several miles we had very bad traveling over what is called rotten ground, in which the horses were frequently up to their knees. Making toward a line of timber, we found a small, fordable stream (Cottonwood creek), beyond which the country improved and the grass became excellent. * * * We traveled until late through open oak groves, and encamped among a collection of streams." Was this near the Kaweah and Canoe creek and Deep creek?

"April 10th.—Today we made another long journey of about forty miles, through a country uninteresting and flat, with very little grass and a sandy soil, in which several branches we crossed had lost their water. In the evening the face of the country became hilly, and, turning a few miles up towards the mountains, we found a good encampment on a pretty stream hidden among the hills, and handsomely timbered, principally with large cottonwoods."

"April 11th.—A broad trail along the river here takes us out

among the hills. Buen camino (good road) said one of the Indians, of whom we had inquired about the pass, and following it accordingly, it conducted us beautifully through a very broken country. * * * The country had now assumed a character of aridity, and the luxuriant green of the little streams wooded with willow, oak, or sycamore, looked very refreshing among the sandy hills."

CHAPTER X

THE MUSSEL SLOUGH WAR

J. J. Doyle, one of the oldest settlers of the Mussel Slough country, in whose charge the settlers later placed all actions undertaken to protect their rights, gives this version of the controversy in which he took a prominent part.

"In 1870 I was living on the west side of the San Joaquin river. In the *Rural Press* I saw a letter written by W. S. Chatman, a land lawyer of San Francisco who claimed a section of land near me which was also claimed by the railroad company as being included in their ten mile float.

"In this letter Chatman stated that as a lawyer he had investigated the matter and found that the railroad had no right to an acre of this land for he reason that it was a state corporation and was to receive similar lands granted to the Atlantic & Pacific railroad company. Their charter provided that they should build a road from the bay of San Francisco running through the counties of Santa Clara, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Tulare, Los Angeles and San Diego, to the town of San Diego and thence east to the state line.

"Chatman showed in his letter that according to the Grant act they were to file a map of the proposed route, which they had not done.

"Upon investigation I found that there were three hundred and fifty-four Spanish land grants between San Francisco and San Diego. Of course they would get none of this land. I also found that the west ten miles of lien lands was nearly all in the Pacific ocean. They knew, however, of the great San Joaquin valley, in which the Laguna de Tache was the only land grant, and therefore had changed their route near Tres Pinos so as to enter the center of the San Joaquin valley and go over the Tehachapi pass, as the road now runs.

"I came into the Mussel Slough country in 1871 and myself and brother located on lands bordering the Mussel Slough. As I be-

lieved from Chatman's letter and from my own investigations that the railroad had no right to a title to these lands, I petitioned Congress in the fall of 1874, but getting no immediate relief, I offered a filing in the Visalia land office. This was rejected and I appealed my case with thirty others to the Department of the Interior. All told, I appealed nearly all of three hundred cases from the Visalia land office. We were beaten in these and I then took a case through the state courts, the United States courts and to the supreme court. Twelve separate decisions were rendered, no two of which agreed.

"After this, for the purpose of acting unitedly in our fight with the railroad, we settlers organized the Land League, which at one time attained a membership of six hundred. In 1875 I was sent to Washington, where I remained six months. I got a bill on the calendar, but through manipulation it was defeated. In 1879 I went to Washington again, but accomplished nothing. A decision against us had been handed down by the Federal courts and the railroad was eager to dispossess us, but as we were so strong and well organized, they hesitated to do so.

"I sent a resolution to Sacramento to Governor Stanford, who was then president of the road, and at his request we appointed a committee composed of Major McQuiddy, J. M. Patterson, and myself. We called on the governor and persuaded him to visit our country, which he did in April, 1880. We started then a negotiation for a settlement of the matter with Governor Stanford, and had been engaged for about a month in a discussion of an equitable arrangement when suddenly, without a warning and without our knowledge, the United States marshal appeared, coming for the avowed purpose of dispossessing some of our men. We were that day to have a big meeting at Hanford to listen to Judge Terry give an exposition of our rights in the premises.

"The marshal was accompanied by men named Hart, Clark and Crow, who were all loaded down with arms. The marshal, prior to serving any papers, desired to confer with us, which was granted. In the meantime, a number of our men, more through curiosity than anything else, went over to the wagon where Crow and Hart were. Of these only two, viz., Harris and Henderson, were armed.

"All at once during the conference shooting commenced without any special provocation and Harris was killed. According to the evidence it appeared that he and Hart had fired almost at the same time. Harris hit Hart in the groin and he died within four days. Then Crow shot Harris with a number ten shotgun loaded with twelve bullets. He hit him right in the breast. Then he shot Knutson, who was on horseback, shot him with twelve bullets and then turned his gun on Dan Kelly, whose horse, just as Crow fired, had become unruly and whirled around so that the charge entered Kelly's side

and practically blew it off. Crow was out of the wagon at this time, the team having previously run away as Hart was attempting to get out. Crow and Hart and Clark each had a couple of British bulldog pistols, a number ten shotgun and a Winchester rifle of the largest size.

"After Crow left the wagon he walked about forty steps for the purpose of killing McGregor, who was holding the marshal's horse. McGregor got behind the horse and Crow reached around in front of the horse and shot him with his pistol twice, the bullets entering the breast and coming out at the back.

"This put Henderson into it, who, seeing McGregor murdered in that way, rushed for Crow. They exchanged four shots and Henderson fell dead. Then Crow left the grant and attempted to get to his home, which was distant about a mile and a half, but was shot dead on the way.

"On account of this, seventeen of us, myself included, were indicted by the United States grand jury for resisting the United States marshal, and tried and convicted. I was not within three miles of it when it happened and yet we were convicted and served eight months in the San Jose jail for resisting the marshal, who as a matter of fact was resisted by no one. The marshal, indeed, had not attempted the exercise of any authority or the enforcement of any order.

"A remarkable thing about the fight was that every man but one who fired a shot or was struck by a bullet was killed.

"This trouble was simply a legal fight on our part for our homes. I think and always shall think that the railroad had no legal right to the land, but that they acquired their title while we were fighting.

"While we were serving our time, a petition of forty-seven thousand names was sent to the President; the states of California and Nevada passed resolutions in our favor and there were numerous other petitions, etc. No one of them was listened to any more than if it had been a piece of blank brown paper.

"After we had served our time, the matter dragged on for about two years before it was finally settled. In my case, after being in the contest over nine years, I had to pay the railroad company \$30.60 an acre for my land."

CHAPTER XI

THE KAWEAH COLONY

One of the greatest community enterprises ever inaugurated in the United States had its inception in Tulare county in 1886.

This was the Kaweah Co-operative Commonwealth, which in spite of certain failures in forethought and some incompetence and perhaps some dishonesty in management, flourished until 1891, when it met the same heart-breaking dissolution that had been the fate of all its predecessors.

There is little doubt but that disruption would have occurred sooner or later, on account of the impossibility of harmonizing the discordant elements of which it was composed. There is also a grave question as to whether even if successful for a time in the acquisition of lands and timber, mills and other property, the products of the united labor of the colonists would not have been in large part alienated by some of its first officers. There seems, however, to be no doubt but that these colonists were treated by the United States government in a manner so outrageously unjust as to merit the severest condemnation.

J. J. Martin and B. F. Haskell of San Francisco, and C. F. Keller of Traver, Tulare county, were the chief early promoters. Martin and Haskell were in 1885 prominent members and office holders in different unions or workingmen's societies. Haskell was attorney for several of these, and coupled with a pleasing address, possessed unusual gifts of language and persuasion. He was the advocate of many more or less impractical schemes for the betterment of the workingman's condition and had assisted in organizing the California Land Purchase and Colonization association, and the Fish Rock Terra Cotta Co-operative company. Keller was a member of several socialistic societies in San Francisco and conducted a small store in Traver.

In October of 1885, Martin informed members of the two associations referred to and also others that their agent had found a large body of splendid timber land in Tulare county, and that an association would be formed to acquire it. The first plans were vague but seemed to be in the nature of a mutual company to get possession of this tract and hold it for speculative purposes. Between forty and fifty applications were at once filed on lands lying along the north fork of the Kaweah river, eastward across the Marble Fork and including what is now known as the Giant Forest. The government price for these lands was \$2.50 an acre, and as but few of the applicants were possessed of the requisite \$400 to complete the

purchase of a quarter section, a plan was in view to raise part of the money by hypothecating lands to which title had been secured. This, of course, would be a violation or evasion of the law, but was considered justifiable.

It was agreed by the applicants that one-half the proceeds of the first sales of timber be devoted to a fund for publicity and propaganda.

The Tulare Valley and Giant Forest railroad company was also organized and its stockholders assessed \$60 each for the cost of a preliminary survey. Many were unable to pay this small sum, but the difficulty was met by some contributing more liberally. It will be seen that the undertaking, however profitable potentially, bade fair to be wrecked at the launching by reason of lack of capital.

Then another snag was struck. Land Commissioner Sparks became suspicious at the large number of entries made within three days for lands lying in one body, especially as seven of the applicants gave as their residence one San Francisco lodging house. He therefore suspended the lands from entry pending an investigation. Upon this action each of the applicants tendered to the receiver of the Visalia land office the sum of \$2.50 per acre, which was of course rejected. This money was secured by using the same sum over and over again.

Undeterred by these difficulties, the enthusiastic colonists proceeded. As to the action of the government, they believed that the report of the special agent sent to investigate would be favorable to them, that he would approve their claims and bear witness to their good faith so that they could soon claim title. As to finances, a co-operative plan was thought out by which some capital for immediate use could be obtained through membership fees of non-residents, and by the labor of those on the ground rapid results be secured in the way of getting salable goods to market.

The Kaweah Co-operative Commonwealth Colony was organized. Plans in great detail were elaborated. There were to be three divisions under the control of managers; these subdivided into thirteen departments under superintendents and these again into fifty-eight bureaus under chiefs and the last into sections under foremen.

The grand divisions were those of production, distribution and commonweal, and in their ramifications these included almost every activity, whether mental or bodily, known to man. The purposes of the association, it was set forth, were to insure its members against want, to provide comfortable homes, to educate and to maintain harmony, upon the principles of justice, fraternity and co-operation. It was the intention to place within the reach of all members "a cultured, a scientific, an artistic life." An idea of the high aspirations of the embryo colony can be obtained by the following extracts

from an article by Haskell, which appeared in the official organ, "The Commonwealth."

"We shall have schools there—not for the children alone, but for youths and maidens, for the babes and for the men and women. We shall have songs and a band and the music of tinkling guitars under summer stars by the rushing waters of, the white North Fork." * * *

"It may well be that among us alone of all the people of the earth shall be taught courage as a creed, fidelity as a dogma, truth as a commandment, love as a law, and purity as a truth." * * *

"We shall tell our children of the heroes of the world, not the butchers; of the moralists, not the priests." * * * "The measured dances of Athenian days to teach them grace, the quaint ceremonials of the middle ages to teach them beauty, modern wonders of light and electricity to show them truth, the songs of old Sparta to move their hearts to valiant deeds; the cruelly pitiable histories of the modern wage slave to stir their hearts to heroic ire and bind their wills to freedom's cause and creed alone."

"We shall have painters and sculptors, I hope, in time, though it will be enough now for us all to be humble students." * * *

"Upon one of the flats by the river we shall build, out of the colored marble of Marble canyon, a temple and a theater for ourselves alone, and here also will we pursue the Beautiful, the True and the Good."

The membership fee in the colony was \$500, \$100 payable in cash and the remainder, if desired, in labor or material. C. F. Keller was made general manager, J. J. Martin, secretary, J. Wright, purchasing agent, and B. F. Haskell, legal adviser. Besides these, J. H. Redstone, P. N. Kuss and H. T. Taylor were among the first on the ground.

About the last of 1886, work was commenced on a wagon road to the forest, and on March 1, 1887, articles of incorporation of the "Giant Forest Wagon and Toll Road" were filed. The plan was to pay the men in time checks at the rate of thirty cents per hour, or \$2.40 per day, redeemable in such supplies or material as the association had or in labor at the same rate. It was pointed out that while nominally working for a low wage, the workers, on account of sharing in the wealth created by the labor of all, would, in reality, be laying up fortunes. For example, the material for a house, valued in the outside world at \$1,000, could be secured for time checks equal to the hours that had been consumed in felling the trees and sawing and hauling the lumber, which would not amount at the thirty-cent rate to over \$200.

Plans of the propaganda were distributed throughout the country and many persons joined the colony. Some of these were workingmen socialists, others had wealth, culture, refinement. The beautiful pen

pictures of Haskell served to throw such a glamour over the proposition, that statements as to lands owned were not investigated before the entrance fee was paid in. On the north fork of the Kaweah, about three and one-half miles above Three Rivers, a town was started which grew until it contained upwards of one hundred dwellings. There was the company store, a blacksmith shop, planing mill, box factory, postoffice, newspaper, etc. Work on the road was actively prosecuted, and a survey made for the projected railroad.

There were brains and brawn and energy a plenty and excellent work resulted. Homes, too, were made on the level land, by the river, crops were sown, pastures fenced, orchards planted and barns built. Troubles, however, soon commenced. The laborers were insufficiently supplied with food, their diet at times being confined to flour, beans and coffee. There was a deficiency of clothes and supplies of all kinds at the company's store. Dissensions arose, and there was general dissatisfaction with the management. The commonest necessities of life were secured from outsiders in return for time checks ridiculously discounted.

A number of disaffected members demanded to see the books and especially the membership rolls, but were refused by the officials in charge. The disgruntled ones considered that this was because they feared exposure to the non-resident members of the arbitrary, incompetent and perhaps dishonest way in which the affairs of the colony were being conducted. Martin was an executive of ability, energetic to a degree and his sincerity and honesty of purpose were questioned by but few. Haskell, however, was generally regarded as a slick rascal whose aim was to sell all the bites possible from the rosy apple before a sign of its rotteness reached the surface.

In spite of these troubles, the road had by 1890 been completed to a point about twenty miles from the townsite of Kaweah and at an elevation of 5,400 feet had entered the pine belt. Here a little saw mill was erected, and a small quantity of lumber cut. This road, passing through a difficult mountain region, had been solidly constructed at a good grade and had cost approximately \$100,000. Modern tools were not employed and powder was used sparingly. In places the grade traversed precipitous mountain sides, making long, high rock restraining walls necessary. No better evidence of the equal and good faith of the colonists is needed than the fact that most of these walls have stood without repair to this day.

In the meantime, land patents were still withheld, although B. F. Allen, the special agent sent here, had reported favorably. As late as 1891 Land Commissioner Groff recommended that the colonists should not be deprived of their lands, stating that they had complied faithfully with the law under which they had made filings; that they had expended over \$100,000 in roads and improvements and had for five years guarded the giant trees, saving them from

damage or destruction by fire, quoting details from Allen's report. However, the congress of 1890 had created the Sequoia National Park, which included these lands, and Secretary of the Interior Noble denied all claims of the colony, but expressed the opinion that the settlers should be reimbursed for the improvements they had made.

In addition to the internal dissensions mentioned, the officers quarreled among themselves and factions took sides in a row between Haskell and Martin. The former was accused of the misappropriation of colony funds and was in '91 arrested on a charge of embezzlement preferred by Thomas Kennedy, but the case was dismissed. The greater portion of the colonists perceived that the end was at hand and disbandment began.

Bitter hard it must have been, this giving up of home and friends and bright dreams of happy future after the sacrifice of former ties and after the giving of years of toil and devotion to a cause. How sickening the thoughts of what might have been! How bitter the thoughts of the false men who had betrayed their confidence and of the government that had unscrupulously confiscated to its own purposes the magnificent road they had builded!

Early in 1891 a troop of cavalry under Captain Dorst was despatched to guard the park and these ejected the colonists from government land. In April, Henry S. Hubbard, Henry T. Taylor, James J. Martin, B. F. Haskell and William Christie were tried in the United States district court at Los Angeles on a charge of cutting timber on government land, and found guilty. On appeal the case was dismissed.

A few of the remaining colonists leased as a private enterprise a quarter section of land on the Mineral King road, from Isham Mullenix and started another sawmill. Work here was stopped by the soldiers, but when the Interior Department learned that it was on deeded land they were allowed to proceed.

Quite a number of the colonists remained in the vicinity of Kaweah, many having secured other land locations or perfected entries made on lands outside the park. These have all proven worthy, industrious citizens and now possess comfortable homes and a fair share of worldly goods.

CHAPTER XII

THE ABORIGINES

At the time of the entry of whites into the San Joaquin valley the territory comprising what later became Tulare county had a dense Indian population. These consisted of two distinct races, one called the Yokuts, more than twenty sub-tribes of which ranged the country between the Fresno river and the Tejon pass; the other a Pinte branch of several sub-tribes living on Mill creek and in Eshom valley.

Among the former were the Ta-chi (whence Laguna de Tache) in the Tulare lake district, the Ta-lum-ne, of Visalia, the Wik-tsum-ne, near Lemon Cove; other settlements were on Poso creek, Tule river, Deer creek, one near Porterville, one near the forks of the Tule river and one on the present Indian reservation, others at Three rivers, Dry creek, Woodlake, the Yokohl valley, Outside creek, etc.

The Pinte tribes were the Wuk-sa-chi, of Eshom valley, the Wo-po-noich and the En-dim-bits. An idea of their numbers may be gained from the fact that the Wik-tsum-ne chief alone could muster a thousand armed warriors from his own and other Yokut tribes of which he was the ruler. While the above roughly indicates the home locations of the larger Indian settlements, it must be understood that their residences were far from permanent. The hot summer found them high in the Sierras stalking deer, eating strawberries and enjoying the climate; in the fall, the harvest season for acorns, he was either in the foothills or in the oak belt of the plains, according to the crop; in the winter, duck hunting by the lake furnished good sport.

The limits of this history prevent anything approaching a complete outline of their manners, customs, habits, etc., but the following bits were chosen as interesting sidelights on a mode of life that has passed away forever.

TRADITIONS

Among these Indians no traditions of migrations existed. They believed themselves aborigines—the tradition as to their origin was that man was created by the joint effort of the wolf and the eagle, and brought forth from the mountain peaks—different tribes from different peaks. The Wutehumnas point to Homer's Nose, on the south fork of the Kaweah, as the place of their origin, while the Kaweahs point to the foothill peak near Redbanks, called Colvin's Point, as the cradle of their tribe. These Indians believed that the eagle makes it his especial care to guard the welfare of the human race, and the eagle on our coin is accepted as evidence that the

whites recognize the sacred character of the bird. The wolf is held to have repented the part he took in the production of man, and to be constantly seeking the destruction of the race.

ANOTHER CREATION MYTH OF THE YOKUTS

The following tradition was obtained by George W. Stewart in 1903, from Jim Herrington, an Indian then ill and now dead, of the Wukchamni or Wiktsunne tribe of the Yokuts. This tribe lived on the Kaweah river, in the vicinity of the present town of Lemon Cove:

“Long ago the whole world was rock and there was neither fire nor light. The coyote (kaiyu) sent his brother, the wolf (ewayet, iweyit), into the mountains, telling him: ‘Go upward until you come to a large lake, where you will see fire. Then take some of it.’ The wolf did as ordered by the coyote, and after some fighting, obtained a part of the fire. From this he made the moon and then the sun, and put them in the sky. Then it was light, and has been so ever since.

“The eagle (tsolith, djokhid) kept the coyote at work, and the latter made the panther (wuhuset, woboshit) and the wolf help him. The coyote made the springs and streams. He worked very hard to do this. Then he and the eagle made people. They also made deer and elk and antelope and all game animals, and put fish into the water. They gave these animals to the people who went everywhere and killed the game for food.

“The coyote, the wolf and the panther said: ‘In time there will be too many people and they will kill us.’ Now the coyote was sorry that he had helped the eagle make the people. The panther said: ‘They will kill us if we do not go away.’ ‘Then go up,’ the eagle told him. The panther answered: ‘I have no feathers, I cannot fly, I cannot go up.’ ‘Then go to the mountains,’ said the eagle. To the wolf he said: ‘Go to the hills,’ and the coyote: ‘Go to the plains.’ The three went where they were told and have lived there ever since.”

DIET

Acorns, of course, were the staple, but it is a mistake to suppose that the Indians' diet lacked variety. In addition to game of all kinds and fish, there were various kinds of seeds, nuts, berries, roots, and young shoots of the tule and clover.

Acorns were stored in harvest time in cribs made of woven withes, usually placed on the top of a large stone and securely roofed over with a rainproof mat to protect them from the elements. In making bread, these, after being shelled, were ground in a mortar and placed in water in a shallow bed of sand near a stream. The action of water running in and out of this depression removed the bitterness. Placed then in their water-tight baskets this gruel was

cooked by means of hot rocks and formed a dish esteemed by whites as well as natives.

One of the rarer delicacies of the Indian's table was roast caterpillar. When the variety used—a kind of measuring worm—was not found near camp, long trips were made for the purpose of collecting them in quantities. A fire of fagots in a hole in the ground was allowed to burn down to coals. These removed and the hole nicely dusted of ashes, a few quarts of the juicy larvae were poured in, which, quickly crisping, were soon ready to serve.

INDIAN WEAPONS

The bow and arrow was the only weapon. The bow was made of ash or mahogany, strengthened by the laying over it of the sinew taken from the backbone of the deer. Arrows were constructed in three different ways, according to the purpose for which they were to be used. For warfare and for large game they were flint-tipped. An intermediate weapon was made of button willow to which a hardwood point was spliced. For birds and other small game, a peculiar construction was in use. These were about three feet long with a blunt point. About half an inch from the end four crossbars, each about an inch long, were fastened. Two of these were at right angles to the other two and four projecting points were thus formed, rendering accurate shooting less essential.

THE MEDICINE MAN

As with other tribes, the medicine man was a person of great importance, but woe unto him if he failed to effect a cure. A few instances of death following his treatment was cause for his summary execution.

A sojourn in the sweathouse was usually prescribed, but bleeding was also common. An incision was made, either at the temples or the forehead, and he sucked the blood and spat it out.

His dress was gorgeous. The foundation for the robe was a kind of netting made from the inner bark of trees. Through the meshes of this was interwoven the brightest colored feathers of many species of birds, together with topknots, fox and coyote tails, rabbit ears, etc.

At a death there were chants from dusk till dawn. The corpse was buried usually in a high, dry place in a round hole in a sitting posture, the ankles tied to the thighs. All personal belongings were placed with it. Members of the family of the dead smeared their faces black, in mourning.

GATHERING SALT

In order to gather salt, a unique method was followed. In the mornings, when the salt grass was wet with dew, a squaw would go forth armed with a long smooth stick. This she would ply back

and forth through the wet grass and wave in the air. The result was a deposit of salt a quarter of an inch thick on the stick, which was then scraped off.

CAPTURING WILD PIGEONS

Wild pigeons helped fill the Indian's larder and the methods which were employed in their capture are of great interest. It seems that the pigeons preferred mineral water, whether it be effervescent from soda, or salty, sulphurous or combining the tonic properties of iron and arsenic, to the ordinary spring water of the mountains. At all mineral springs pigeons came in flocks. The crafty buck who held first place among those who lay snares, taking advantage of this trait, made his preparations accordingly.

In front of the spring a large smooth low mound was heaped. Next the mound, directly facing it, was dug a trench of the size and depth to accommodate a man lying down. The front end of this trench towards the mound was open, but screened with grasses; the top was covered. In this he lay in wait. An innocent brown willow stick, at its end a little noose of sinew, lay on the mound. When the pigeons congregated an unobserved motion of the wrist, a little raise of the stick sufficed to place this loop over the head of an unlucky bird. Silently the game was drawn to the trench, the head jerked off and shortly another and yet another fell victim until sufficient fresh pigeon meat for the band was secured. It is stated that, snared in this way the pigeon does not flutter or raise a disturbance—he merely, like a stubborn mule, pulls back. To insure another flight and alighting at the same place for the following day, should occasion require, a few of the birds are kept alive and picketed out as decoys.

NOVEL FISHING

In the capture of fish, the use of the hook and line was unknown to the Indians. Three effective methods were in use. In the narrow streams, which were numerous in the valley, weirs were made by driving a row of willow sticks diagonally across the stream and interlacing the fence thus formed with tules. On the upper side of this structure, near one bank a semi-circular trap of like construction was built. The fish going down stream, finding their way blocked by this barrier, worked along it until they found their way into the trap through a small opening. A larger door which included this opening allowed the entrance of Mr. Indian to secure the spoil.

In the pools or sloughs or other places where water was confined to holes without an outlet, balls of certain kind of weed were thrown, which exerted a stupefying effect on the fish. They sickened and would rise to the surface, gasping, when they were easily captured.

In the fall of the year when the water in the main Kaweah river was low, and long still pools were formed having shallow outlets, still another method was employed. After damming the outlet, mullen weed was thrown in until the water was so roiled that the fish, unable to see, could be caught by hand. Scores of Indians, both bucks and squaws, would wade into these holes and grope for fish, attesting their success by loud shouts of laughter.

HUNTING DEER

The weapons of the Indian being to our modern eyes puerilely inefficient, needs be that he must make up in personal skill their shortcomings. One of our modern sportsmen, for example, could never get close enough to a deer to hit it with an arrow, and if by chance he should do so the wound would be too slight to be effective. The Indian knew how. The method, as told by Jason Barton, who as a boy found his playmates and companions among the Indians, was this: Waiting ready, we will say at the edge of a mountain meadow, watched the huntsman, bow in hand. When the wary buck came for his morning browse, his keen-flashing vision included naught of danger, for nothing moved. A peculiarity of a grazing deer is that while at short intervals he throws up his head to see or smell anything that may warn of danger, he precedes this by a flick of his tail. As he grazes the Indian advances a step, perhaps two steps, without a sound; the tail twitches and he is frozen into immobility. There is not a flicker of an eyelash. Assured of safety, the deer once more grazes and once more his enemy takes a step. An hour, perhaps two hours, go by and the hunter is within bow-shot. The arrow is loosed, and the aim is true, but the deer does not fall dead in its tracks. This is beyond the capacity of the weapon. The shot is for the groin, where eventually, sickening trouble for the deer must ensue and he be forced to lie down. That is enough for the Indian. At closer range next time, after an arduous pursuit lasting perhaps a day, the quarry is finally despatched.

CHARMING A SQUIRREL

In approaching to within bow-shot of a squirrel a similar caution was exercised. With bow bent, arrow set and aimed, the Indian would take his stand and without the slightest movement except that of a gradual advance, would apparently so hold the squirrel's attention in a sort of trance that a distance near enough to speed the missile with surety was gained.

CATCHING DUCKS

Without a doubt, white men would find it quite impossible without a weapon to secure a mess of wild ducks. Not so our Indian. Around the borders of Tulare lake existed labyrinths of water lanes bordered with tules. Covered entanglements of these tules were formed and the ducks herded into them by Indians on tule rafts.

CHAPTER XIII NATIONAL PARKS

GENERAL GRANT PARK

The General Grant National Park containing 2,560 acres, situated northeasterly from Visalia about sixty miles, was set aside by act of congress in 1886. It contains a fine grove of sequoias of which the largest, named General Grant, has rival claims with the General Sherman tree of the Sequoia National Park to being the largest tree in the world.

There are fine camping sites which are taken advantage of by large numbers of tourists and sightseers during the summer months. The government has treated this park generously, having fenced it, built eight miles of fire break, piped water to the camp grounds, built a ranger's cabin and a building for the postoffice, which was established in 1910. Accommodations for tourists are provided by Mrs. Cooksey.

SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

The Sequoia National Park, containing about 170,000 acres of land, was set aside by the congress of 1890. Within the park are seven large groves of monster sequoias, a score or more of excellent trout streams, glacial lakes, caves, other natural wonders of a varied character and mountain scenery of surpassing beauty.

Its control and management are vested in the Secretary of the Interior, with military assistance in supervision during the summer months. Shortly after the government assumed control, improvement work in the way of rendering its attractions accessible to the public, and facilitating its protection from fire, commenced, and have been carried on ever since.

In the summer of 1900 the Colomy Mill road was repaired and widened, and in 1903 the extension of this road to the forest was completed. New trails to the extent of three hundred and twenty miles have been built, the most important being the "south fork" trail, Quinn's Horse Camp trail, the Black Oaks trail connecting the Sequoia and General Grant parks, Alta meadows trail, seven mile hill trail, Clough's cave—Cold Spring trail.

In 1907 a telephone line connecting Three Rivers with the General Grant forest was built and in 1908 and 1910 Quinn's Horse Camp and Atwell's mill were respectively connected with Three Rivers by telephone.

In addition, five ranger cabins have been built, horse pastures for the use of rangers fenced, and one hundred and twenty-nine miles

of streams stocked with trout. In 1904 a herd of elk were introduced in the territory lying along the middle fork of the Kaweah, their egress being prevented by the erection of three and one-half miles of strong, high fence. These have thrived and multiplied. Wild turkeys and pheasants have also been introduced.

A postoffice called Ranger was established at Giant Forest in 1907, and in 1911 a commodious postoffice building was erected.

A segregation and classification of the land in both the Sequoia and General Grant parks shows: merchantable timber, 92,160 acres; grass land, 5,760 acres; desert, 4,477 acres; woodland, 62,768 acres.

The first ranger for park duty was appointed in 1900, and the force has since been increased to five as follows: Superintendent, Walter Fry; rangers, C. W. Blossom, stationed at Hockett meadows; John von Gruningen, stationed at Ranger; H. T. Britten, stationed at Quinn's Horse Camp; Milo Decker, stationed at General Grant park.

The number of tourists visiting the park regions has increased annually as year by year the knowledge of the natural beauties and scenic marvels therein became general, and as the facilities for reaching the points of interest and remaining there with comfort have improved. These now number from four to eight thousand.

In 1902 Messrs. Broder and Hopping established a stage and pack train service to the Giant Forest and operated a boarding house there, but gave up the enterprise in 1908.

In 1910 the River Inn Company was formed and established hotels at Three Rivers and at the forest to cater to the tourist trade, also operating a stage line between the two points and maintaining a saddle horse and pack train service to points of interest beyond. This company planned the erection in 1912 of a new hotel at the forest and general extensive improvements in service, but a profitable showing not being made during the two years of operations, the enterprise was abandoned, the property of the company sold, and its activities distributed.

THE SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST—ITS HISTORY, ORGANIZATION AND OBJECT.

The Sequoia National Forest includes the greater part of the mountain region of Tulare county. It extends from Poso creek on the south across, and includes the upper Deer creek, Tule river and Kaweah river basins, and is bounded by the Kings river on the north. Kern river and Tyndall creek constitute the east boundary, while a somewhat irregular line following roughly the lower foothill line marks the west.

The forest has an area of 1,220,000 acres, roughly 2,000 square miles, or about five-twelfths of the area of the county. It includes within its borders the Sequoia and General Grant National Parks, but is wholly distinct from them in its administration. The parks

are under the Department of the Interior, while the Forest is under the Department of Agriculture.

The first proclamation creating the Sequoia National Forest was made July 1, 1908. It then included a territory extending from Bakersfield on the south to Kings river on the north. By the proclamation of July 1, 1910, all of this territory east of the Kern river and south of Tyndall creek was cut off and made the Kern National Forest. At the same time small patented tracts were eliminated, while other unpatented lands were added.

The Sequoia National Forest as a whole is under the management of the forest supervisor, who is assisted by the deputy forest supervisor, forest assistant and forest clerk. It is divided for administrative purposes into five districts, each in charge of a district ranger, with one or more assistant rangers. During the fire season the force is increased by the addition of several forest guards to each district.

The work carried on by the rangers and guards may be best described under the headings, timber sales, free use, special use, fire patrol and fighting fire, surveys of boundaries and administrative sites, June 11 examinations, grazing, forest planting, improvements and miscellaneous executive duties.

All mature timber on the Forest not needed for seed trees is for sale, either in small quantities or large. You can buy shake, post or picket timber up to \$50 in value directly from the district ranger, or if you want more than this amount the supervisor will negotiate the sale. A long term saw timber contract is usually made by the district forester through the supervisor.

The Forest Service recognizes a certain right of the home builder residing in and near the Forest to the use of its natural resources, and it encourages and aids him in the development of his home by giving him free of charge post, picket or shake timber, or fuel up to a value of \$20 annually. Each district ranger usually has his free use area staked out, and the trees to be given away are blazed and stamped "U. S." An applicant is then given a free use permit for the quantity of timber desired under the limit above mentioned and is directed to the marked area.

If you wish to enclose a pasture, build a corral, a residence, a shop, a ditch or a road on National Forest land you apply for a special use permit. If the use is found to be feasible and not likely to become detrimental to the interests of the Forest a permit for the use of the land involved will be granted. A charge may or may not be made for this permit, depending upon the nature of the use contemplated.

Fire fighting is the great bug bear of the forest officer. He is on the *qui vive* from about June 1, when the grass begins to turn brown and the underbrush to crackle dryly under his feet, until late

September or October brings the first welcome rains. During this trying season he ever strains his eyes for fire, sniffs the breeze for smoke and listens anxiously for rumors of fire within the borders of the forest. Even his slumbers are disturbed by visions of the haunting demon.

He is well prepared, however, to cope with it when the fire does break out. The areas of greatest fire danger are swept by the watchful eyes of the lookouts, who are usually equipped with field glass, sight compass and contour map fastened upon a table properly oriented, so that a bearing may be taken upon the point where smoke is sighted, telephoned to the next lookout, who likewise takes a bearing upon the fire from his view point. Thus data are obtained which enable the lookouts to locate the fire accurately and report it to the ranger in whose district it is. Fire tool boxes are placed at convenient points throughout the district, and, where needed, caches of food. The district ranger is thus enabled to call up the nearest forest guard, per diem guard, state fire warden or citizen and start tools, provision and men to the fire within a few minutes after he receives the alarm.

When the reserves were first established no provision was made for the utilization by homesteaders of the available agricultural land. This was for the time being virtually locked up. However, this defect was remedied by the Act of June 11, 1906. Under this act a person qualified to make homestead entry may make application to the district forester for any tract of vacant land within the forest which he believes to be agricultural in character. A careful field examination will then be made by the ranger in charge of the district, and if the land is found to be chiefly valuable for agriculture and not needed for public purposes it will be listed as such, and thus restored to entry. Many such tracts have been and are being listed and reopened to entry.

Grazing is one of the most important branches of the forest officer's work, and occupies a large portion of his time. 10,000 head of cattle are yearly pastured upon the Sequoia, while at the same time tourist pastures and reserves are being maintained from which all cattle are excluded.

Considerable areas have already been planted to big tree, yellow pine and sugar pine seed, while experimental plots have been planted at various places throughout the Forest with a view to determining the method of tree propagation best adapted to this region. This branch, however, is still in the early stages of its development.

Since the creation of the Sequoia two hundred and ninety-eight miles of new trail have been built at a cost of \$22,392; two hundred and seventy-two miles of telephone lines costing \$10,880; eight bridges at a cost of \$2,000; three and seventy-five-hundredths miles of road, \$750; besides numerous tourist pastures, drift fences and cor-

erals for the proper handling of stock. Each district ranger has his house, barn and other buildings at his winter headquarters in the low country, as well as a cabin at his summer headquarters in the high mountains.

Unlike the National Parks the National Forest imposes no unusual restrictions upon fishing and hunting within its borders. Only the just laws established by the state of California for the regulation of these sports obtain here. As every statutory ranger is a state deputy game and fish commissioner, it is his duty to enforce these laws, and he usually does his duty.—G. W. Purdy.

MOUNTAIN TRAILS

The first trail across the Sierra Nevada mountains within the limits of what now constitutes Tulare county was partially constructed in 1861 by John Jordan. It took its origin in the Yokohl valley, crossed the Blue ridge, wound around by Peck's canyon through Quim's Horse Camp and following down Little Kern to Trout meadows, thence up Big Kern to a point below where Kern lakes now are, crossed the river and, proceeding eastward via Monache meadows, was to strike Owens river below the lake.

The pressing need of a shorter and quicker route for the host of prospectors eager to reach the new mines warranted the project. Mr. Jordan secured a charter to maintain it as a toll road and completed nearly all the work on this side of Kern river in 1861. In 1862, while attempting the passage of Kern river on a raft, he was drowned. There were four in the party, the others being his two sons, Allen and Tolbert, and a man named Gashweiler. Allen remained on shore; Gashweiler, as the raft became unmanageable in the swift current, jumped onto a rock. Tolbert grabbed a limb of a tree which lay on the water and swung himself to safety on its trunk. Mr. Jordan was tipped off, and although a powerful swimmer, was sucked under by the strong current and drowned, the body never being recovered.

In the following year the sum of \$1,600 was raised by subscription in Visalia to complete the trail. G. W. Warner undertook the work and finished it, building a bridge across Kern river. The magnitude of this latter undertaking will be better realized when it is understood that all chains, harness, stretchers and implements had to be packed from Visalia.

In 1863 J. B. Hockett built the trail which bears his name. This, commencing at Three Rivers, proceeded up the south fork of the Kaweah, passing the Hockett lakes and meadows and joined the Jordan trail, continuing on its route to Big Kern. Instead of crossing the river at the same point, however, it continued up the stream to a point near the lower Funston meadows, whence crossing and ascending the wall of the Kern canyon, it made its way via the Whitney meadows to the crossing of Cottonwood creek, near the lakes, and

thence down to Independence. This trail, though altered to eliminate steep pitches and other difficult sections, is followed today, practically as laid out fifty years ago.

The trail from Eshom valley through to Owens river by way of Kings river canyon, was an old Indian trail, as in part the others were.

COUNTY ROADS DURING THE LATE FIFTIES

At this period roads were few in number, the principal being these: The stage road to Stockton, which proceeded westerly as far as the old white house, on the Goshen road and then turned in a northwesterly direction to Cross creek; the two immigrant roads to Los Angeles; the road to Woodville which passed what is now the Mineral King orchard, crossed the Ship bridge and continued on to the Thomas mill in the mountains; a road through the Packwood district which proceeded in a westerly direction from near the south city limits of Visalia; a road proceeding west from the Ship, or Cutler bridge to the old Warren Matthews place on Elbow creek, and thence by the Bass Parker (now Rush) place to Smith's on Kings river and known as the upper Stockton road.

Due north of town lay a swamp, the St. John's river not yet having been formed. The first road made to cross this proceeded by the Joe Roger's (now Pratt) place and connected with the Stockton road. The Pacheco Pass, or Gilroy road, proceeded west through "tin can alley," now West Oak street, crossed Kings river at Mat Isely's point, then turned west four miles to Kingston, thence in a northwesterly direction by the head of Fresno slough, passing Firebaugh, where the ferry was located, and on to the St. Louis ranch, at the mouth of Pacheco Pass.

One of the roads to Los Angeles left town at the old Wiley Watson place, ran due south to Dry creek, thence east about what is now Tulare avenue to the Evans' place (now Evansdale orchard). After passing this it ran due east to the Pike Lawless place on Packwood creek, thence easterly to near the site of the former Deep Creek schoolhouse, thence southeasterly to Outside creek and on in the same direction to Porterville.

The other road to Los Angeles crossed the old Kelly place just south of town, followed in a general way the route of the Tulare road and passed through the Buzzard's roost.

The road from the western portion of Tulare county to the coast, crossing the coast range through the Lawless Gap, follows essentially the route taken by John Hawpe, Bert Lawless and W. H. Mills, who in 1856 traveled to the coast and thence to Los Angeles, with many yoke of oxen, which they there exchanged for stock cattle, securing eight head for each yoke.

A road from Warren Matthews place on Elbow creek through Visalia to Kern river was surveyed and ordered built in 1857. Five district overseers were appointed by the supervisors in charge of sections as follows: First district—north of Kaweah and Mill creek, W. Matthews; Second district—Kaweah river to Elk bayou, Wiley Watson; Third district—Elk bayou to White river, I. S. Clapp; Fourth district—White river to North Fork of Posey creek; Fifth district—Posey creek to Calwell's ferry.

In 1863 a franchise was granted by the legislature to John McFarlane, Peter Goodhue, William P. Poer, H. A. Bostwick, E. E. Calhoun and others, under the name of McFarlane & Co., to build a toll road to Owens valley. This road, via Keyesville and Walker's pass, was completed in 1864 and proved of great benefit to the public. About one million pounds of freight passed over it the first year, and it carried a heavy traffic for some time, but financially the venture was a failure.

CHAPTER XIV

DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES

ELECTRIC POWER

One of the most potent factors in the development of Tulare county has been the electrical energy developed on the Kaweah and Tule rivers. Electricity has materially aided the orange and lemon industry and made more productive thousands of acres of valley land that was worth but little prior to the introduction of pumping plants. About twenty-five per cent of the valley and foothill land in Tulare county may be irrigated by ditches leading out of the streams that flow from the Sierra Nevada mountains. As the water from these rivers is all appropriated the only way to make the rest of the land of any value is to pump the water from wells. The practicability of this method was first demonstrated at Lindsay in 1890, the motive power employed being steam or gasoline, which were found inconvenient and expensive.

In 1891 the Tulare County *Times* began advocating the building of a power plant on the Kaweah river and persisted in setting forth the value to the county resulting from the completion of such a project. William H. Hammond became interested in the matter and he, together with Ben M. Maddox, editor of the *Times*, sought to interest local capital in the enterprise, but got no encouragement.

In 1897 A. G. Wishon became associated with Mr. Hammond in the management of the Visalia Water company, and these two again took up the proposition. Filings were made on the water of the east fork of the Kaweah and surveys showing the head obtainable were made. Renewed efforts to enlist the support of capitalists were made, but without success. Mr. Hammond then went to London and explained the proposition to his brother, John Hays Hammond, the famous mining engineer. He at once agreed to put up one-half the money needed and on the strength of this, Leopold Hirsch agreed to supply the remainder. Mr. Hammond at once cabled the good news to Visalia and it was received here with much rejoicing.

In the fall of 1898 the work of building a flume for the No. 1 power house was begun and the plant was completed in June, 1899. The water was diverted from the east fork of the Kaweah river at a point below Cain's Flat, on the Mineral King road, carried by flume seven miles, whence a drop of nine hundred feet to the power house was secured, developing about two thousand horse power.

In 1902 John Hays Hammond bought out the interest of Mr. Hirsch, the latter gentleman being dissatisfied on account of failure to pay dividends. Ben M. Maddox, in 1902, succeeded A. G. Wishon

as business manager, a position he holds at the present time. William H. Hammond remained president of the company until he died, in 1908, when he was succeeded by John Coffee Hays, the present chief executive. The company now has sub-stations at Visalia, Tulare, Tipton, Delano, Ducor, Porterville, Lindsay, Exeter, Lemon Cove and Venice.

The No. 2 power house on the Kaweah was completed in 1905, as was the auxiliary steam plant in Visalia. The Tule river plant was finished in 1909, which made a combined installation of six thousand kilowatts. Nine hundred pumping plants are operated. An addition of one-thousand horse power is now being added to the steam plant in Visalia and two more plants on the Kaweah river are in course of construction, which will add ten thousand horse power to the system. The conservation of water for the operation of these plants has necessitated extensive engineering works in the high Sierras. Eagle lake has been tapped and its stored supply is ready for use at seasons of low water. Wolverton creek has been dammed, creating an immense reservoir at Long Meadows.

In addition to the pumping load, the company supplies light and power for all purposes in the cities of Visalia, Tulare, Porterville, Lindsay and Exeter, and in the towns of Tipton, Delano, Richgrove, Ducor, Terra Bella, Strathmore, Lemon Cove, Woodlake and Klink. It also supplies the power to operate the Visalia electric road. The company has recently completed a large, substantial and finely equipped office building on West Main street, in Visalia.

The San Joaquin Power Company, a Fresno institution, supplies power at Dinuba and Orsi, in the northern end of the county, and also southeast of Tulare along the Santa Fe railroad. This company is building a water-power plant on the Tule river.

The Pacific Light and Power company is building a tower line across the county to take current from Big creek in Fresno county to Los Angeles.

The Tulare County Power Company is building a steam plant at Tulare, the current to be used in the cities of Tulare, Exeter and Lindsay, and the surrounding neighborhoods. This company has a filing on the Tule river and work is being done on the conduit that is to take the water from the river to the power-house, which is to be located near Globe. This is a joint-stock company with cooperative features, financed locally. Messrs. Holley & Holley, of Visalia, promoted the enterprise and its success seems assured. Stockholders were secured in large part among the users of power for pumping and to these is granted a lower rate than that accorded to non-stockholders.

IRRIGATION

Irrigation in Tulare county dates almost from the county's or-

ganization. The waters from a ramified network of ditches, from several hundred artesian wells, from thousands of electrically operated pumping plants, is now distributed to almost every portion of the foothill and valley section.

No estimates may be made of the increased productivity, increased value due to more profitable kinds of crops, increased capacity for supporting population and the other incalculable benefits accruing from the distribution of water and its intelligent use. Yet the history of irrigation development here and the causes thereof differ so materially from that of the reclaimed districts that a few words of explanation and comparison are necessary.

In the first place, water did not here cause "the desert to blossom as the rose," for the reason that no desert ever existed. True, there were originally vast semi-arid plains. These in later years, without a drop of water artificially applied, produced banner wheat crops. In 1886 this yield amounted to fourteen thousand carloads, and for many seasons Tulare held first rank in wheat production among California counties.

But in the sections favored by the early settlers—the delta lands of the Four Creeks country, there was not even semi-aridity. Here was a vast, eye-delighting oasis. Here, beneath groves of oak extending miles and miles in either direction, lush, rank meadow grass thrived. Here, as far as the eye could follow was a tract where verdure was perennial, where riotous growth almost unceasingly persisted. Both in the winter by reason of the rains, and in May and June by reason of the melting snow of the mountains, much land was subject to overflow. Swamps and sloughs were numerous, and a system of drainage would have been beneficial.

The activity of the pioneers in taking out water was usually for the purpose of securing stock water on lands not bordering streams, and to irrigate lands for a second or fall crop of corn and pumpkins after hay had been cut. It was not until a much later day, when a general influx of new settlers desirous of farming and planting to vineyards and orchards, lands hitherto held suitable only for grain farming, that the value of the water rights secured by these early diversions was realized.

The first effort to irrigate lands about Visalia was made in 1854, when Dr. Reuben Matthews, assisted by his neighbors, cut a ditch from Mill creek to his mill near town. The ditch was intended to bring water not only to run the mill, but also to irrigate lands for gardens. In later years the Jennings' and one or two other ditches obtained their water from this sluiceway. The Persian ditch dates also from 1854, the Evans and Fleming from '58, the Watson from 1855 or 1856, and the Birch from the early '60s. In the period from 1865 to 1872, a number of irrigation projects were inaugurated,

chief among which were the Pioneer, the People's Consolidated and the Wutchumma ditch companies. The pioneer, organized in 1866, took its water from the Tule river, well up into the hills, and covered the territory adjacent to Porterville. The People's Consolidated Ditch Company built its big canal of about twenty feet in width in 1871, the head being taken from the Kaweah, a few miles west of Lemon Cove. While the first work of this system did not begin until this date, many of the water rights secured dated as far back as the '50s, and were obtained by a consolidation of the interests of the owners with the new organization.

In 1872 the Wutchumma company organized and commenced the construction of a system which now consists of about forty miles of main and branch ditches. The water is taken from the Kaweah near its intersection with the St. John about eighteen miles east of Visalia, and is carried to points ten miles west of Visalia. Bravo Lake, situated near the intake of this canal, is used as a storage reservoir for flood waters so that a supply is maintained throughout the year.

Numerous other diversions, including the Tulare District Company, under the Wright Act, have been made from the Kaweah and St. John rivers so that today twenty-nine corporations divide their waters. All but two of these secure their flow below the point of divergence.

The amount of water in the river at this point probably averages during the three months of April, May and June in the neighborhood of twelve hundred cubic feet per second, rapidly dropping then until mid-summer, when it is negligible. Necessarily, the apportionment to each company of its proper share has been fraught with difficulties, and considerable expensive litigation has resulted. In order to best secure their rights by being able to act unitedly and harmoniously, the ditch companies taking water from these two streams have formed the Kaweah River Water Association and the St. John River Water Association. A spirit of compromise has been fostered and in 1907 a threatened law suit of enormous proportions was settled in this way; one of the features of the agreement being that the water in the two streams is divided equally until such time as a low stage of eighty cubic feet is reached. The entire flow is then diverted into the Kaweah and runs there until the first day of October. Then, if the flow exceeds eighty cubic feet, or as soon thereafter as it does, the stream is again equally divided.

Diversion dams at the confluence of these streams and some kind of a division of water there, date from 1892. In 1911 a structure of cement dams and confining walls was completed so that now perfect control and equitable division is made possible.

The next great irrigating enterprises were the Alta and Tulare

irrigation districts, organized under the Wright law, which provides for the issuance by a community of bonds which become a lien on the property in the district.

ALTA DISTRICT

In the early '80s, along Kings river and near Traver there lay some large tracts of land owned by Darwin & Ferguson, who were engaged in stockraising. Their brand was "76," and the country was called the 76 country. Considerable attention was also given to grain raising, and good crops could generally be had with the usual rainfall.

In 1881 P. Y. Baker and D. K. Zmwalt conceived the idea of bringing water onto the land and organized the 76 Land and Water company. A main canal one hundred feet wide on the bottom and deep enough to carry a stream of water five feet deep, together with several large laterals, was constructed, the point of diversion being on Kings river, about fourteen miles northeast of Reedley.

Now, in 1888, an irrigation district under the Wright law was projected in the northern part of the county and at an election bonds were voted in the sum of \$675,000. Bonds were only issued to the amount of \$410,000, that sum proving sufficient. This district was named Alta, and embraces one hundred and thirty thousand acres, four-fifths of which is now under irrigation. The property and water rights of the 76 company were purchased and various extensions have from time to time been made, so that now, including laterals of a width of ten feet or more, there are over three hundred miles of ditch system. A territory is covered lying within the following described extremities: southeasterly to a point six miles east and four miles south of Monson; southwesterly to points three miles west and three miles south of Traver; easterly to a point one mile north of Orosi. Portions of Kings and Fresno, as well as Tulare, counties are included in this area.

This district has been a success from the very beginning. In twenty years after its formation the number of land owners within its boundaries had increased about three hundred per cent.

From early spring until the middle of summer there is water in the greatest abundance for the needs of its dense population of orchardists, vineyardists and alfalfa growers, which is secured at a cost of fifty cents per acre.

TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

This district was organized in 1889, and in 1890 bonds in the sum of \$500,000 were voted and placed on sale. Work on the main canal, which had a width of sixty-four feet and a depth of six feet, was commenced in 1891. This canal had a capacity of five hundred feet per second and took its water from the north side of the St.

John river. It was to be about twelve miles long with seven laterals varying in width from ten to forty feet, carrying the water to all portions of the district.

In one sense of the word, this district was a disheartening failure and for many years proved a heavy incubus to every landowner in the district embraced. The causes leading to this condition were many, chief among them being the depressed condition of business in Tulare resulting from the removal of the railroad shops, the panic of 1893, and the failure to get water. This latter difficulty was occasioned by litigation involving the water rights of the district; by the series of dry years immediately following the construction of the canal and perhaps also by reason of the lack of sufficient funds to complete fully the plant as originally projected. At any rate, the payment of a heavy tax to meet the interest on and provide a sinking fund for the bonds, without receiving any benefits was universally resented. The validity of the bond issue was attacked and, acting under the advice of attorneys, farmers refused to pay the tax, a condition lasting about six years. An injunction preventing execution on lands to satisfy judgment for default of taxes was obtained. Accrued interest by this time amounted to \$150,000, making a total indebtedness of \$650,000.

In the meantime land greatly depreciated in value became, in fact, unsalable by reason of this cloud on the title. It became apparent that some agreement between bondholders and landowners must be reached if general bankruptcy was to be avoided. Joe Goldman, a large landowner in the district and also a heavy bondholder, took the initiative. He agitated the submission by the bondholders of an offer to surrender the bonds on payment of fifty per cent. of their face value, all interest to be remitted. It took months of hard work to secure the consent of each individual bondholder, but it was finally accomplished and the bonds placed in escrow in a Tulare bank. The plan then was to raise the \$250,000 by one direct tax. Assessors were appointed and another long tug of war ensued, many property owners at first refusing to consent to the assessment or to pay the tax.

Eventually all were, however, brought into the fold, the levy was made and the money collected. October 17, 1903, was set as the day for the transfer and a monster celebration was planned and carried out, to signify the universal rejoicing at the lifting of the load.

Some six thousand people, including Governor Pardee, Mayor Snyder of Los Angeles, numerous bankers from San Francisco and Los Angeles and other notables were in attendance. Dramatically, the bonds were consigned to the flames of a big bonfire. Land values immediately doubled, trebled, quadrupled. A delayed prosperity

proved swift in action after its arrival. The ditch system of the company became the unencumbered property of the district. No tax is levied for its maintenance, running expenses being secured by water tolls.

It will doubtless be a matter of great surprise to many to learn that in all the foregoing in which is indicated the development of a very extensive system, no mention has been made of other sources of supply equal to or in excess of that obtained from the Kings, Kaweah, St. John and Tule rivers combined. This is the underground flow, belief in which seems to have existed in very early days. Not until 1890, however, when at Lindsay, in wells but seventy feet deep, water rose to within twenty feet of the surface and maintained that level under constant pumping, did the people begin to realize the fortune that lay below ground.

ARTESIAN AND OTHER WELLS

The efforts to get water from artesian wells for general use in Tulare county were first made in 1859. At that date some of the citizens of Visalia and vicinity sank a well, about the present crossing of Main and Court streets in Visalia. But nothing came of it, for after boring two hundred and twelve feet and finding no stratum that would rise to the surface, the work was abandoned; but the well was long used by the fire department.

The Southern Pacific, in 1875, bored a well near the track south of Tipton. At a depth of two hundred and ten feet a stratum of water was found that flowed to the surface in a strong stream. Many other flowing wells have since been bored. But the water is tepid, with a slight smell of sulphur and rather insipid. In 1881 another well was bored on the Paige and Morton ranch, and at a depth of three hundred and thirty feet a grand flow of water was obtained. The completion of this well was made the occasion of a great celebration. It established the theory that there is an artesian belt in the county. There are at the present time about four hundred flowing wells used for watering stock and for irrigation. This belt of flowing wells seems to be mostly west of the main line of the railroad, and to extend to the westerly line of Tulare lake.

But the wells along the great plain sloping westerly from the eastern foothills, though none of them are flowing, might justly be termed artesian. The water is inexhaustible, of fine quality for domestic use and for irrigation, and has wrought that wonderful miracle of transforming those dry plains to gardens teeming with fruits and flowers.

DAIRYING INDUSTRY

Coincident with the arrival of the first family cow, tied behind a prairie schooner, the dairy industry started in Tulare county, but

it was not until the introduction of alfalfa and the realization of its adaptation to the climate and soil that there was any idea that dairying could be conducted as a separate and profitable business.

The *Delta*, in its issue of February 4, 1860, under the head of Alfalfa, thus speaks: "Those desirous of trying the adaptation of this clover to the soil of this valley can now have an opportunity of so doing by calling at McLane's drug store for the seed. There is no doubt in the minds of those who have seen this clover growing that it will be one of the most productive crops in the valley. When it becomes once rooted, the drought will never affect it in the least. In this light soil it will root fifteen or twenty feet, at which depth water can always be found in abundance in every place in the valley in the driest season. Farmers, try it."

The farmers did try it and wonders have been accomplished. It early became apparent that dairying should pay and so a number of farmers about Visalia formed a joint stock company and built a creamery. This was a two-story wooden building, situated on the Visalia-Goshen railroad about a mile west of the city limits of Visalia, and was completed in 1890. W. H. Blain was president, and S. M. Gilliam secretary.

Shortly afterwards D. K. Zumwalt erected a cheese factory and creamery on the Tulare-Goshen railroad about midway between the two towns. Strange as it seems now, both of these early enterprises were destined to failure. Several causes contributed to this result, chief among them being the apathy of farmers toward engaging in the business, owing to the publicity of the extraordinary profits made by the early orchards, at this time just coming into bearing. Dairying appeared much too slow. The one business appeared as a tedious, arduous method of extracting nickels; the other a leisurely, gentlemanly waiting for a shower of golden eagles. Then came the panic of 1893, and the great railroad strike. The latter, especially, proved disastrous. Mr. Zumwalt at this time had twenty thousand pounds of cheese on hand which he was unable to move. Much of this spoiled. The delay in getting the product converted into cash necessitated a stoppage of payments to the farmers and caused them to become suspicious and uneasy and disinclined to continue deliveries. Then, markets were not good. Los Angeles produced nearly all it consumed. The result was that both enterprises were abandoned.

In 1898 W. B. Cartmill leased the Zumwalt and Visalia plants and operated them as skimming stations, and in 1901 Thompson and Futtrell commenced in Tulare the operation of a creamery of small capacity. The skimming stations were abandoned, but in 1906 Mr. Cartmill was instrumental in launching the Tulare Co-Operative

Creamery, the capacity of this in its first years of existence being about one thousand pounds per day.

The entire growth of the industry dates from that time, only five or six years ago. Today the industry ranks as one of the most important in the county. The county ranks, according to the state dairy board, as third in the state. According to figures given out by the creameries, it ranks second. At any rate, there is an annual production of four million pounds of butter fat. A conservative estimate of the value of dairy products, including skimmed milk, is two million dollars per year.

An idea of existing conditions is obtained by quoting the *Tulare Register* of May, 1912: "The creamery disbursements here today were \$97,191.26. The fifteenth of the month in this city is much like the regular monthly pay days in factory districts. * * * Business jammed at the local banks all through the day and it was simply a question of waiting one's turn at the windows of paying and receiving tellers.

"Nearly every horse-drawn vehicle which comes to this city will have the cream cans somewhere about it. Even autos are used to convey the cream and milk."

Dairying has centered particularly about Tulare, which includes Tagus, Paige and Swall's station; about Porterville, Woodville, Tip-ton and Poplar, all of which may be combined as constituting one immense connected district; about Visalia, including Farmersville and Goshen; about Dinuba, westerly and southerly to Traver.

There are now within the county one thousand dairymen with herds aggregating between twenty and twenty-five thousand animals. The Holstein is the favorite breed, and the grade is constantly improving by reason of the importation of numbers of registered bulls.

A factor of importance bearing on the relation of this industry to general prosperity is the fact that there are few large herds. In fact, there are only two in the county numbering as many as three hundred. The remainder range from five to two hundred.

The monthly creamery pay check has become a factor in business circles. It pays bills of all kinds promptly; it contributes to savings bank balances; it steadies and enhances land values.

The one thing that has rendered this extraordinary development possible and one of the causes for the belief that the industry is at present only in its infancy, is the phenomenal growth of the city of Los Angeles. And as this metropolis bids fair to maintain a healthy growth and as the towns of the citrus district and of the oil fields are also rapidly growing, it appears that a widening and increasing demand assures to the industry a stable future.

There are now eight creameries in the county, each provided with the best modern facilities, machinery and equipment. These,

with their managers are: Tulare Co-Operative, W. B. Cartmill; Dairymen's Co-Operative, J. P. Murphy; Good Luck Creamery, J. W. Drew, all of Tulare; the Visalia Creamery, W. B. Cartmill; Visalia Co-Operative Creamery, N. J. Beck; Sun Flower Dairy at Poplar, Ridgeway Bros.; Porterville Co-Operative Creamery, C. T. Brown; Tipton Co-Operative Creamery, J. H. Drew.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT

From its vineyards and orchards of deciduous fruits Tulare county now annually receives about three million dollars. The development of this industry within the county presents peculiarities. Thus, at a time when the vineyards of Sonoma and Napa counties, the orchards of Santa Clara, Vacaville, Suisun and Ventura were in full bearing and producing profitable returns, here, one of the richest fields remained until comparatively recent years unknown and undeveloped.

This neglect did not proceed so much from doubt as to the adaptability of the section for fruit growing as from the ignorance of the earlier inhabitants of the large profits in the business. Life-long farmers and stockmen did not readily undertake a change. Then there was doubt of finding a market, in view of the exorbitant freight rates charged in early days.

Apparently, the very first settlers, however, planted some fruit trees and vines. In 1859, the *Delta* speaks of having received some fine apricots from Mr. Goodale, also some apples of the Summer Queen variety that measured thirteen and one-half inches in circumference. In another issue mention is made of a vineyard near town belonging to Dr. Matthews that was producing grapes "equal to those grown in Los Angeles." The doctor brought in a bunch weighing nine pounds. Horace Thomas also was bearer to the editor of a large cluster of grapes. Again, in the issue of August 7, 1867, the editor acknowledged the receipt from Rev. Mr. Edwards of some peaches of fine flavor that measured three inches in diameter and some lemon clings eleven and three-fourths inches in circumference. Mention, in the '60s, is also made of samples of wine made near Visalia, and on the assessment roll of 1860 there appeared one thousand gallons of wine on hand.

Humble beginnings, truly, and containing no suggestion of the wonderful expansion that was to come.

The first impetus to the growing of fruit commercially in Tulare county was given by I. H. Thomas, since called the father of the industry. This gentleman, about 1880, planted near Visalia a ten-acre orchard of peaches, pears, plums, prunes, apricots and nectarines. Mr. Thomas was a "fruit man," a careful, intelligent observer, a member of the state board of horticulture, and very enthusiastic

about the adaptability of soil and climate here for the growing of fruit.

Mr. Thomas exhibited specimens of his products at the meetings of the state board in San Francisco and they were regarded as phenomenal. The district was recognized as possessing most favorable qualifications. Mr. Thomas, however, met with difficulties in the disposition of his product. The fruit was sent to Los Angeles by express, the greatest care being exercised in packing. Exorbitant charges absorbed the profits. However, Frank Briggs and Thomas Jacob, the latter an experienced fruit grower and nurseryman from San Jose, planted acreage orchards which came into bearing in 1888.

George A. and Charles F. Fleming, known as Fleming Bros., dried fruit packers and speculators of San Jose, noted the event of a new district's production, entered the field and in 1889 and 1890, purchased the output for drying. The phenomenal yield of the new orchards in the latter year, coupled with the high prices prevailing, started a boom for the industry which resulted in an almost universal desire to enter the game. The year 1890 witnessed a general planting of fruit trees all over the county. The Orosi colony of forty or fifty ten and twenty-acre tracts was launched; near Tulare the Oakland colony, the Bishop colony, the Chicago ranch, the Oakdale colony, the Emma orchard and numerous others were set out; near Porterville, Dr. W. A. Witlock, Jim Bursell and others made plantings.

In the district tributary to Visalia and Farmersville the most remarkable showing was made. The Fleming Brothers and J. K. Armsby purchased four hundred acres, planting about one-half the first year; Pinkham & McKeivitt, Vacaville fresh fruit packers, with associates from that section, set out the Giant Oak and California Prune Company orchards, each of several hundred acres. Visalians organized the Evansdale, the Encina and the Visalia Fruit and Land Co. San Joseans formed the Mineral King Fruit Co.; J. P. Morton and William Swall began planting on what is now known as Swall's. This furor extended to 1891, when A. C. Kuhn, fruit packer of San Jose, purchased about eleven hundred acres near Farmersville, all to be set in fruit. Exclusive of these orchards, each of which consisted of hundreds of acres, scores of smaller plantings were made in these two years, so that in the Visalia district alone the acreage now amounted to some seven thousand acres.

The main cause of this extraordinary planting rush, resembling a "stampede" to a mining camp, was the yield and return from the Jacobs' and Briggs' orchards in 1889. Mr. Jacobs, from one hundred and thirty-five four-year-old prune trees, received about \$800 net, the trees averaging four hundred pounds each and the fruit being sold for \$35 per ton. At the Briggs orchard the old trees

averaged eight hundred pounds and one tree, which was picked in the presence of witnesses, who made affidavit to the fact, produced eleven hundred and two pounds.

Preceding this excitement a few years there had been a general though quiet movement of vineyard planting, particularly about Tulare and in the Dimba-Orosi district.

The limits of this article forbid a detailed history of the experiences of these thousands of fruit and vine growers. Suffice to say that before the present stable basis was attained, many lessons were learned by hard experience. It was found that orchards generally did not produce such phenomenal early yields as the Briggs' and Jacobs' places; that some soils were not at all adapted to the culture; that periods of depression in the market, if occurring coincident with a season of heavy yield and of small grade, eliminated profit entirely. In the district tributary to Visalia, came, in 1906, the misfortune of a flood which practically destroyed thousands of acres of trees, especially those on peach root. Other lessons, too, the years have brought.

It has been learned that Malaga and other table grapes in the Alta or Dimba-Sultana-Orosi district ripen very early, reach an unusual degree of perfection and command higher prices in the eastern market than those grown elsewhere. It has been found that cling peaches of all varieties do exceptionally well and are in great demand at advanced prices by canners throughout the state. This was forecasted in 1895, when peaches from Visalia orchards took the gold medal at the Atlanta World's Exposition. Of this exhibit it may be stated that one orchard contributed three hundred peaches, no one weighing less than a pound. Jars were filled with peaches weighing twenty-two and one-half ounces each.

It has been found that the earliest and therefore the most profitable district in the state for the production of fresh fruits destined for the eastern market lies in our elevated foothill section. The Redbanks orchard of five hundred acres, situated fifteen miles north-east of Visalia on the Visalia electric railway, produces peaches, plums, Thompson's seedless and Tokay grapes coincident with or earlier than any other.

It has been found that in the Visalia and in the Farmersville districts, French and Robe de Sergeant prunes are of a grade and quality superior to any others in the San Joaquin valley and on account of the early maturity and heavy yield are to be depended upon for large average annual returns.

A word now as to the growth of facilities and the present status of the industry. The first need felt by the new fruit producing district was for a cannery. Enterprising Visalians, under the leadership of Martin Rouse, succeeded in inducing the Sacramento Can-

ning and Drying Company to establish a plant here in 1895. This has since been taken over by the California Cannery Association, and made into one of the largest and best equipped plants in the state. A few years later, the Central California Cannery Company located in Visalia; in 1910 local fruit growers built a cannery in Tulare, and in 1912 Hunt Brothers of Haywards opened a factory in Exeter. Northern Tulare county growers found a ready market for canning fruits in Fresno.

Similarly, in the handling of fresh and dried fruits and raisins. Located at Dinuba and Visalia are now packing-houses for raisins and dried fruits second in facilities to none; the leading green fruit shippers have receiving and forwarding accommodations at nearly every station on the railroad.

For the Los Angeles market, which consumes about one hundred and fifty carloads of Tulare county fruit, the Klein-Simpson company have been especially active and make carload shipments from Dinuba, Sultana, Visalia, Exeter, Porterville and Tulare.

The shipment of fresh fruit and grapes to the eastern markets may be roughly estimated at about eight hundred carloads, of which Visalia, Redbanks and Swall's contribute a little less than one-half and the northern or Alta district, including Dinuba, Sultana and Cutler, a little more than one-half. This large shipment from the Alta district has been entirely developed within the past eight years, as it was not until 1904 that carload lots were shipped from Dinuba. For several years prior to that time, N. W. Miller of Orosi, the pioneer in the industry, had been shipping small lots by local freight to Visalia, at which point cars were made up.

In 1903 Frank Wilson and G. W. Wyllie, who were the only growers of table grapes near Dinuba, packed their Emperor grapes at their ranches and forwarded the same to Fresno in quarter car lots. Until 1906 no grapes were shipped other than those produced on these two vineyards, although in 1905 a few Malagas were set out.

In 1907 the Earl Fruit Company rented a house to be used for packing purposes. Grapes were still the only fruit shipped, and of these there were only a few cars of the early variety. The packinghouse was open for a period of four weeks only. It was not until 1908 that shipments of any volume were made. Many new vineyards had then arrived at the bearing age. Prices for early Malagas were alluring, and many growers disposed of their fruit in this way. Plums, peaches and Tokay grapes were added to the list.

This, in outline, is the rapidly made early history of the deciduous fruit shipping industry in what is now its center in

Tulare county. From this district shipments as follows were made in 1910: From Dinuba and Monson, two hundred and eleven carloads; Cutler, sixty-one carloads; Sultana, one hundred and forty carloads; North Dinuba, seventeen carloads; making a total of four hundred and twenty-nine carloads, having a value to the grower of over a quarter of a million dollars.

In dried fruits, raisins easily lead in volume and value of shipments. A conservative estimate of the annual value of the product is \$750,000. There are two separate portions of the county in which the production of raisins heavily increases bank balances. These are the district from Dinuba to Yettem, and the section lying around Tulare and Paige. Connecting somewhat these two are numerous vineyards located near Traver, Goshen and Tagns.

The prune belt of the county lies almost exclusively in the Visalia-Farmersville district, although Tulare and Porterville each furnish a considerable quota. The annual production is about five thousand tons, carrying a growers' return of about \$450,000. The actual value for shipment, which would include cost of boxes, labor and packers' profits, would be much more.

The production of apples is confined to the foothill region centering about Three Rivers and Springville. As transportation facilities improve the profitable enlargement of the area devoted to this culture may be made.

Wine grapes may be said to be grown commercially only in the Alta district, where are located two large wineries. Small plants near Tulare and Visalia assist in supplying the public demand for liquid refreshment.

THE WATERMELON

Though apparently of minor importance, the industry of raising watermelons in Tulare county has exerted such an effect on the development of lands into thriving vineyards and orchards that it is deserving of especial mention. This by reason of the fact that, affording as it does, quick, profitable returns, the fruit grower is easily enabled to make a living while awaiting the coming into bearing of his orchard or vineyard.

The industry has been confined, on a commercial scale exclusively, to northern Tulare county. The Alta district has now become the largest watermelon shipping center in the state. The earliest melons are grown there and the highest prices realized. It all started ten years ago. In 1901 Mrs. J. E. Driver, a very bright, energetic business woman, set out forty acres. The venture was successful, and by 1905 interest in the growing of melons became general and large plantings were made from then on.

In 1908 the Dinuba Melon Growers' Association was formed for the purpose of securing higher prices through co-operative

action in marketing. The association was immediately successful and has remained so.

The estimated acreage devoted to melons is twelve hundred, of which the association controls three-fifths. Shipments from the district commence the last week in June and continue well into August.

CHAPTER XV

THE RAILROAD DREAM

In 1861 a mass meeting was held in front of the courthouse for the purpose of considering the project of building a road to San Simeon. The proposition was endorsed and William G. Morris, A. H. Mitchell, S. W. Beckham, Thomas Baker and E. Jacob were appointed a committee to view the route and solicit subscriptions.

The board of supervisors also took up the matter and appointed A. O. Thoms, H. Bostwick and A. J. Atwell to view the routes and estimate the probable cost. Altogether, eleven men, including ex-Governor McDougal, went on this expedition. *The Delta* of the time says: "They will probably be gone from two to three weeks and have taken all the necessary provisions and refreshments for a trip of that sort."

BIDDING FOR THE RAILROAD

A railroad meeting was held in Visalia on the 10th of December for the purpose of hearing the demands of the Central Pacific railroad. The meeting was addressed by J. Ross Brown and William M. Stewart, senator from Nevada. Tulare county was asked to issue seven per cent twenty-year bonds as a gift to the railroad company, at the ratio of \$6,000 per mile, an aggregate of \$378,000. The road was to cross the county via Visalia, a distance of sixty-three miles, and it was agreed that the railroad should be taxed at the rate of \$5,000 per mile. The average time in the receipt of merchandise from San Francisco was fifteen days and the rate \$60 per ton. The railroad was to do it in eight hours and at the rate of \$10 per ton. There were about three thousand tons of freight leaving Visalia for the north and about five hundred coming in annually. On account of the increase in taxation and the reduction in freight it was figured that the bonds would pay for themselves in seven years.

Resolutions were adopted approving the project and pledging assistance in the construction of the road. The committee was

composed of Dr. W. A. Russell, A. J. Atwell, B. G. Parker, Hugh Hamilton, T. J. Shackelford, F. W. Blake, Y. B. Stokes, A. H. Murray, Tipton Lindsey and J. B. Hockett.

Popular sentiment was in favor of the issuance of bonds, and the legislature passed a bill authorizing Tulare and other counties to issue bonds, but it was vetoed by Governor Haight. The people of Visalia were still confident that the road would pass through the town and speculation and prediction of the exceeding prosperity that would ensue were rife. Prices of property soared, and it was therefore a most crushing disappointment when the survey of 1870 was made, which passed through Tulare county at a point about eight miles west of Visalia.

Shortly after the road reached Merced, in February, 1872, another effort was made to induce the railroad to pass through Visalia. A meeting was held and a committee consisting of Tipton Lindsey, R. E. Hyde, Elias Jacob and T. L. B. Goodman were appointed to obtain the right of way to the route through Visalia. The rights of way were quickly obtained and the committee visited Sacramento, where they were told to await the action of Engineer Montagne. On a subsequent visit to Sacramento in April, at which conference they were prepared to offer a large bonus, the committee were informed by Governor Stanford that he could conceive of no inducement that lay in their power to grant sufficient to influence a change in the route. This was by reason of the fact that the railroad was entitled by act of Congress to the alternate sections of unoccupied land lying on each side of the right of way. Should the route be changed to pass through Visalia, in which neighborhood nearly all the lands were deeded possession, the railroad would be forced to relinquish this immense domain.

Hyde and Jacob, the members of the committee attending the latter conference, telegraphed to Visalia: "Ephesians, chapter two, verse twelve." Reference to this disclosed: "Cut off from the Commonwealth of Israel."

It now being an established fact that they were to be cut off from the main line, the people of Visalia called a mass meeting on May 11, 1872, to take measures of last resort. At this meeting, Tipton Lindsey presiding, S. C. Brown introduced the following resolution, which was adopted: "Resolved, That it is for the best interests of the people of Visalia to take steps looking to the construction of a branch railroad leading from the town to the main trunk of the San Joaquin Valley railroad at its nearest point to this town."

This was the inception of the Visalia and Goshen railroad, articles of incorporation for which were filed May 19, 1874. The directors were R. E. Hyde, S. A. Sheppard, E. Jacob, S. C. Brown, Tip-

ton Lindsey, John Cutler and Solomon Sweet. It was completed and put in operation in the following August, amidst great rejoicing. The first depot of this road was in the western part of the town, but subsequently moved to the present Southern Pacific depot. This road continued to operate, but upon the completion of the San Joaquin Valley railroad, now the Santa Fe, the company sold out to the Southern Pacific. The latter company then extended the road from Visalia to Exeter, making through traffic in 1898.

THE VISALIA AND TULARE RAILROAD

The Visalia and Tulare railroad was built by local capital in 1888, at a cost of \$130,000, and proved a great convenience to the inhabitants of the two cities. It never proved profitable, however, and after the coming of the Santa Fe in 1897 its usefulness was over. In 1898 the rolling stock and rails were sold and the enterprise abandoned.

EAST SIDE RAILROAD

On December 5, 1887, the Southern Pacific, the successor to the Central Pacific in the San Joaquin valley, commenced what is locally known as the East Side Line. This road runs east from Fresno to Sanger, then southeasterly through Dinuba, Lindsay, Porterville and connects with the main line at Famosa. Work on the road was pushed forward rapidly and completed in November, 1888. The road is about one hundred and four miles in length, of which sixty-eight are in Tulare county. It passes about eight miles eastwardly from Visalia and is the only road through the rich citrus country.

THE COMING OF THE SANTA FE

In 1895, when the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley railroad was organized and the project of building a road from the northern metropolis to Bakersfield was set forth, Visalia residents determined at once to put forth every effort to get upon the route.

A mass meeting was held in the old engine house and S. Mitchell, Harry Levinson and William H. Hammond were appointed a committee on finances and depot sites and Ben M. Maddox a committee of one to secure rights of way. Tulare city also eagerly undertook to help and agreed to secure rights of way from a point midway between Visalia and Tulare south to the county line.

About \$12,000 was raised in Visalia, and with this sum, after a strenuous labor of over a year, all rights of way of a present probable value of a quarter of a million dollars were secured.

Construction work was commenced in 1896 and on Admission Day, September 9, 1897, the road was completed to Visalia and a monster celebration in honor of the event was held. Excursion

trains from Fresno, Hanford and other points, carrying upwards of two thousand people, came; residents from the most remote sections of the county, as well as those from the near-by towns, crowded to see the first real railroad train enter Visalia.

A significant coincidence of the occasion was that on that day the first Southern Pacific agent to set foot in Visalia also arrived. A short time previous the Visalia-Goshen railroad had been purchased by the Southern Pacific, and at once, upon the completion of the competing road, active efforts were made, through betterments of service and equipment, to retain a share of the public's patronage, and in a very short time the Southern Pacific expressed itself as desirous of extending its road to Exeter to connect with its branch line. George W. Stewart and John F. Jordan were appointed by the Visalia Board of Trade to assist in this matter. These gentlemen worked heartily, soon secured all rights of way and the road was built the following year.

Soon after the Valley railroad passed into the hands of the Santa Fe. A singular fact in connection with the sale of the little railroad from Goshen to Visalia was that R. E. Hyde, its principal owner, believed that the coming of the Valley railroad would render his property practically valueless, and considered seriously offering it for sale for \$30,000, about one-fifth the sum he received from the Southern Pacific. There is no record, however, of the latter company regretting the bargain.

THE VISALIA ELECTRIC

In 1906 the Visalia Electric railroad was commenced. A corporation with Mr. Crossett at the head was formed to build and operate an electric road from Visalia to Lemon Cove, by way of Exeter. The tracks of the Southern Pacific between Visalia and Exeter were used. From Exeter the line was extended along the foothills through some of the fine orange orchards, and in 1907 reached Lemon Cove. The road has since been extended up the river to the property of the Ohio Lemon Company, and it is expected that it will soon be extended up the river to Three Rivers. Leaving the main line a short distance northeast of Lemon Cove, a branch was constructed, crossing the Kaweah river near McKay Point, and thence extending westerly to Redbanks, with a spur running north to Woodlake.

THE PORTERVILLE NORTH EASTERN

In 1909 a company was formed with the avowed purpose of constructing a railroad from Tulare City to the town of Springville, by way of Woodville and Porterville. F. U. Nofziger was president of the company and Holley & Holley of Visalia the engineers.

The people all along the way were anxious for such a road, and very little trouble was offered to the securing of the rights of way. Work was immediately commenced on that portion of the project between Porterville and Springville, called the Porterville North Eastern road, and it was pushed vigorously. On the 9th of September, 1911, the people of Springville celebrated the completion of the road. It was a great day for the little town. There were crowds of people from the other towns in the county, from Fresno and from Bakersfield. The road has been absorbed by the Southern Pacific, and is now run as a part of that system.

CHAPTER XVI

GREAT TRAIN ROBBERIES

The first of a series of five train robberies occurred near Pixley, on the morning of February 22, 1889. As train No. 17 was leaving that place, two masked men climbed over the tender to the cab and ordered the engineer to stop the train at a point two miles distant from the station. There the engineer and fireman were compelled to dismount and were placed as shields, one in front of each robber, and marched to the express car. J. R. Kelly, the express messenger, was ordered to open the door, which he did, and one robber entered, the other keeping guard.

Ed Bently, a deputy constable of Modesto, who was a passenger on the train, got off and proceeded forward out of curiosity and was shot and seriously wounded, the robbers firing between the fireman's legs. Another curious passenger, Charles Gubert, was shot and killed.

After securing their booty, the amount of which was never made public, the robbers returned the engineer and fireman to their posts and disappeared.

The railroad and express companies immediately offered rewards of \$2000 each for the arrest and conviction of the robbers, and special trains with officers, men and horses, left Tulare and Bakersfield for the scene of the robbery. Trails were disclosed leading to the coast, but the robbers were not found.

January 24, 1890, as the train was leaving Goshen about four a. m., the role of the Pixley robbery was re-enacted. Five masked men again climbed to the engine from the tender, stopped the train, marched engineer and fireman to the door of the express car. The

messenger was told not to shoot, as the engineer and fireman were being held as shields. As these train officers also urged compliance the messenger opened the door and one of the robbers entered and filled a sack with valuables. Then dismounting, they compelled Lovejoy, the fireman, to extinguish the headlight and carry the sack before them a few hundred yards down the track. In the meantime, a Dane named Christensen, who was riding under the baggage car, thinking that the train had been stopped on his account, got off, and was fatally shot. The robbers were supposed to have secured in the neighborhood of \$20,000 this time.

As before, they were followed by officers toward the west, but not captured.

THE DALTON GANG

In the third instance, which occurred at Alila, as train No. 17 was pulling out of that station at 7:50 a. m., on February 6, 1891, exactly similar tactics were pursued.

The express messenger, a man named Haswell, was not so tractable as the others had been. The engineer, J. P. Thom, and the fireman, G. S. Radcliffe, were marched to the express car door; the order to open was given, but not obeyed. Instead, Haswell extinguished his light and with a repeating rifle fired several shots through the door, one of which fatally wounded Radcliffe. The shots were returned by the robbers and a fusilade ensued. The contest frightened the bandits and they fled. Under-sheriff Bennett of Los Angeles, a passenger on the train, went forward to assist after the robbers had fled and was fired on by a third man who was holding the horses.

Sheriff Kay immediately proceeded from Visalia to the scene, and at daylight next morning found the trail of three horsemen, leading to the northwest, which, with a posse, he followed. No capture was then made, but in May following William and Grattan Dalton of San Luis Obispo county, were arrested and charged with the crime. In August, the trial of Grattan Dalton was held and he was found guilty, but in September, before receiving sentence, he, with two other prisoners, Beck and Smith, broke jail and escaped. William Dalton was tried in October and acquitted.

In the meantime a fourth attempt at train robbery in the San Joaquin valley had been made. The Los Angeles express, on September 3, 1891, was stopped by highwaymen when seven miles south of Modesto. Two masked men boarded the train at Ceres, compelled the engineer to pull out a mile and a half and stop. Engineer Neff was forced to put out the headlight, get a pick and attempt to open the express car door, which the messenger refused to do.

Two bombs were then exploded under the car, the first one making a hole in the door through which the fireman was compelled to crawl and light a lamp.

Len Harris, a detective who was on the train, sneaked up to the robbers and fired four shots without effect. He was shot in the neck and dangerously wounded. More shooting ensued and the robbers, becoming frightened, left in the direction of the coast range. After this robbery, it was reported in Visalia that it was done with a view to diverting the attention of officers so that the escape of Grattan Dalton could be effected, and at Sheriff Kay's request, Captain Byrnes, N. G. C., placed details of men from Company E to guard the jail from 3 p. m. until the following morning.

William Dalton and Riley Dean were arrested for this crime on the Sunday following, being found in a ranch house near Traver, but the case was dismissed for lack of evidence.

Before relating the particulars of the fifth and last robbery, which occurred at Collis in August of the following year, it will be well to finish the history of the Dalton brothers, who at this time were supposed to be the only participants in the whole series of robberies.

The prisoner Beck, a month or so after his escape in company with Grattan Dalton, was trailed by Sheriff Kay to the state of Washington, and there captured. On his promising information leading to the capture of Dalton he was granted immunity, providing such information proved to be reliable. It was ascertained that Dalton had never left the vicinity; that he ranged on Kings river and that a number of people were protecting him and supplying him with food.

On the 24th of December, Kay, with Deputy Sheriffs Wilty and Hockett, Fred Hall, Cal Burland, Ed McCardie, Sheriff Hensley of Fresno and his men, discovered the camp of Dalton and Dean on the upper reaches of Kings river. Dean was captured and shots were exchanged with Dalton, who escaped on a horse which he forced a farmer to furnish him. Grattan Dalton was never captured.

THE COLLIS ROBBERY

The Southern Pacific train, due to arrive in Fresno at 12:10 a. m., was held up by four robbers near Collis shortly before midnight of August 3, 1892.

The robbers mounted the tender of the engine and, covering the engineer and fireman with arms, compelled a stop. A stick of dynamite was placed on the piston rod and exploded. The engineer jumped and ran, making his escape, but the fireman was held by the robbers, who marched back by the side of the train, firing to intimidate passengers. When the express car was reached, a stick

of giant powder was placed on the sill of the door, and in exploding, wrecked the car, breaking three doors, blowing a hole in the roof, and scattering the contents in every direction.

The messenger, George D. Roberts, was lying on the floor, rifle in hand. The shock of the explosion threw him across the car, dislocated his shoulder and rendered him senseless for a few moments. As soon as Roberts recovered his faculties he stuck his hands through the open door to announce that he gave up. The robbers went into the car and compelled him to open the safe. Three bags of coin containing between \$10,000 and \$15,000 were taken.

THE EVANS AND SONTAG TRAGEDIES

On August 4th Chris Evans appeared in Visalia after a considerable absence, stating that he had just returned from the mountains. George Sontag also reappeared, stating that he had just returned from the east.

These were suspected by the railroad detectives and George Sontag was placed under arrest, and Deputy Sheriff George Witty and Detective Will Smith went to the Evans house for Evans and John Sontag. Smith entered the door and faced a double barreled shotgun in the hands of Evans, another gun being handy for the use of Sontag. Unable to draw his revolver on account of his coat being buttoned, Smith fled, as did Witty, Sontag giving chase to the one and Evans to the other. In their flight they were forced to leave the sheriff's team and rig. Smith was slightly wounded in the back and hands, but managed to get to town unaided. Witty was more unfortunate, receiving some forty shot wounds and a pistol bullet which passed through his body, and almost proved fatal. Similar material to that of which the masks were made was found at the Evans home.

Sontag and Evans drove off in the sheriff's vehicle, but returned early the next morning. The house was surrounded by a party consisting of former Sheriff D. G. Overall, Oscar Beaver, W. H. Fox, constable Charley Hall of Lucerne, detective Thatcher and sheriff Cunningham of San Joaquin county. About one o'clock, Evans and Sontag were seen in the barn harnessing the horses and were ordered to stop by Beaver, who fired two shots, one of which disabled a horse. The bandits returned the fire and Beaver fell, mortally wounded. In the excitement which ensued the robbers effected their escape on foot, walking twelve miles to the Harvey Ward place, where they procured a cart and team, and made their way to the mountains by way of Badger.

The result of the posse's efforts were criticised and ridiculed by the press generally. Poses followed the trail and on September 14, 1892, the bandits were located at Sampson's flat in a log house. As the posse approached the house a volley was fired from the inside

which killed Victor C. Wilson of El Paso, and Andy McGinnis of Modesto, and slightly wounded Al Witty.

Not until the following spring were the robbers and murderers again seen by officers, although many attempts were made to track them down. On April 19, 1893, Sheriff Kay received information that Evans and Sontag would pay a visit to Visalia that evening. A posse consisting of the sheriff, E. A. Gilliam, John Broder, Ed McVeagh, Morgan Baird, J. P. Carroll and E. J. Fudge, surrounded the house early in the evening, and about eleven o'clock they heard the barn doors open and discerned the men attempting to escape. Kay, Gilliam and Broder fired, but without effect. The cordon around the house proved ineffectual and for some time the bandits were not again seen.

On May 26, 1893, deputy United States Marshal Black, standing at the door of his cabin near Badger, was shot in the leg and hand, and identified his assailant as Evans.

Not until June 11, 1893, were the outlaws again located. A posse composed of United States Marshal George E. Gard, F. E. Jackson, Hi Rapelje and Tom Burns had, while hot on the trail, taken up quarters in a deserted cabin at Stone Corral. The robbers were seen approaching and the posse stationed themselves outside. In the battle that ensued both Sontag and Evans were shot, the former fatally. Evans again escaped, but was soon after found at the home of E. H. Perkins, and placed under arrest. Sontag died within about three weeks after the Stone Corral fight. Evans' trial was held in Fresno in November and December. He was found guilty of murder in the first degree and sentenced to life imprisonment. Within two weeks, however, he escaped from the Fresno jail, being assisted by a man named Ed Morrell. After getting out of jail, the pair held up a boy with a horse and cart, took it, and successfully eluding the guards, which were immediately stationed on the roads leading out of town, succeeded in again getting into the mountain country. This escape was hailed with great glee in Visalia because the Visalia officers had been severely rated for inefficiency in the Fresno papers.

A period of several months ensued, most of which was consumed by the officers in following false clues. Evans terrorized the flume men in the hills, and the sheep herders, threatening them with death if they revealed his whereabouts.

On February 13, 1894, Sheriff Scott of Fresno county, and posse, came upon Evans' and Morrell's camp in Eshom valley. Three shots were fired ineffectually, the bandits escaping hurriedly, leaving much ammunition and camp equipment.

Evans wrote several letters to friends in Visalia, and on March 7th, visited John March, who resided near Orosi, fourteen miles from Visalia. As far as the officers of the law were concerned, however, all

trace of the bandits was lost after the exchange of shots with Sheriff Scott's posse, until the following year. The mountain settlers all denied seeing or hearing anything of the outlaws.

After these exploits, which constituted one of the most spectacular criminal careers in the history of the county, it seems strange that Evans should have submitted tamely at the last, but he did.

On Saturday, May 18, 1894, the bandits came to Visalia, and on Monday the officers learned of their presence, and a posse, including Sheriff Kay, United States Marshal Gard, deputy sheriffs Witty and Robert Broder, night watchman Byrd and constable English, surrounded the house. The news brought crowds to the vicinity who watched behind houses and barns at as near range as they dared to get.

A young man named Beeson offered to take a note to Evans for twenty-five cents. He was given \$1 and sent in, but did not return. At 10 a. m., an eight-year-old son of Evans came out of the house with a note to Sheriff Kay, which read:

"Sheriff Kay—Come to the house without guns and you will not be harmed. I want to talk with you. Chris Evans."

Kay, replying, requested Evans to come out and give himself up, in answer to which he received the following:

"Sheriff Kay—Send the crowd away and bring Will Hall with you to the gate and then we will talk. I will not harm you. You are the sheriff of the county, and I am willing to make terms with you, but with no one else. I will step out on the porch when you come to the gate. Chris Evans."

The crowd had not shown any inclination towards violence, but apparently the bandits were more afraid of it than of the officers. Accordingly, the crowd was persuaded to move away and Kay and Hall met Evans and Morrell on the porch and shook hands with them and then placed both under arrest.

Young Beeson related that when he knocked at the door he was covered with guns and told to come inside, where he was searched. No weapons were found on him, but he was regarded as a spy and told to sit down and keep his mouth shut.

By the next evening, when Sheriff Scott took Evans back to Fresno, so many threats of lynching had been expressed that it was decided not to take the risk of waiting until midnight for the train, but to proceed by team. When news of the departure of the officers with the prisoner became known a crowd of determined men, contained in twelve or fifteen livery rigs, started in pursuit with the intention of lynching Evans. At Goshen they learned that the officers had taken another road and were practically beyond pursuit, so the chase was abandoned.

Evans was sentenced to life imprisonment at Folsom and served

seventeen years and two months, being released on parole, May 1, 1911.

Morrell also received a life sentence but was pardoned after serving fifteen years.

CHAPTER XVII.

CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, POPULATION

The early settlers in Tulare county ever made the establishment of schools and the organization of churches keep even pace with the forming of settlements. If a full history of the churches in Visalia could be written it would show a long line of suffering heroes; little comedy but much tragedy. There is a pathos about the lives of the pioneer preachers that is wanting in later times. The pastor of the city church, who devotes his week days to study in his library, with recreation in the garden, and social intercourse with his parishioners, can little appreciate the exalted self denial and often severe suffering that generally accompanied the circuit riders. Surely a person, to meet the exigencies of a pioneer preacher, with conditions as they were in Tulare county in the '50s or even '60s, must be ablaze with a Pauline passion for souls.

It is with a feeling akin to reverence that one calls up the visions of pioneer days, and the keenest interest is aroused by the pioneer and his weal. This is especially true when considered along with the struggles and victories of the early churches. The days of the circuit rider, picturesque in his missionary zeal, have passed away, but they have left an afterglow that fills the heart with thankfulness and devotion.

THE SOUTH METHODIST

The first church in the county was the Methodist Episcopal South. In 1852, when Visalia consisted of undignified shacks and magnificent distances, before it was even selected as a county seat, a congregation of this faith was organized here.

Rev. O. P. Fisher, the presiding elder of the Pacific Congress, and the Rev. M. Christianson took charge of the congregation and held services as opportunity presented itself. The first house of worship, however, was not constructed until 1857. James Persian, a leading member and himself one of the largest donors, undertook the task and a small brick church was erected on Church street, near Acequia, about where the telephone exchange is now situated.

At that time the Rev. E. B. Lockley was pastor in charge and the membership was fifteen souls.

The present church building, on the corner of Court and School streets, was erected in 1872, and enlarged and improved in 1905-'06, and a new parsonage built in 1911.

There have been twenty-four pastors in charge of the flock here since the organization. The present membership is about one hundred and fifty. Rev. W. J. Fenton took charge in 1911, and under his care all branches of the work are progressing.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH

The Baptist church has had a varied experience in Visalia. There was a small congregation in the '50s that held services in the oak-grove west of the schoolhouse, and later, jointly with the South Methodists, occupied the first church building erected in Visalia.

The Rev. James A. Webb, the "Bible Poet" as he called himself, occupied the pulpit at the times when services were held. This eccentric individual was engaged in, and it is said, finished, the translation into verse of the entire Scriptures.

Not until the early '70s was a building erected. This, located on Main street between Court and Locust, was later destroyed by fire and the congregation disbanded.

In 1907 the Rev. E. M. Bliss came to Visalia as a missionary and in March of that year succeeded in organizing a congregation with twenty-one charter members. The congregation rented Good Templars Hall and there held services until the completion of the present commodious and attractive building. This is an imposing structure of concrete blocks, on the corner of Garden street and Mineral King avenue. The north transept has two stories. The cornerstone of this building was laid April 18, 1910, and the dedicatory services held February 1, 1911. Rev. J. M. Conley preached the sermon at the laying of the cornerstone and at the dedication. The Rev. Robert J. Burdette of the Temple Baptist church at Los Angeles assisted at the dedication. The membership has increased rapidly and now numbers about ninety.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

About the time of the founding of the first church in Visalia came the organization of a Sunday school. All the church people united in maintaining a Union Sunday school. In its issue of December 11, 1863, the *Delta* said this school was in a flourishing condition with about one hundred children in attendance. There were at the time only eighty children in the day schools. A little later a school was maintained by each denomination separately.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On December 9, 1866, a band of fourteen men and women organized a Presbyterian church in Visalia. This was of the Old School order. Rev. William Edwards was in charge, and the congregation met in the small building on the corner of Church and Willow streets. Later this building was destroyed by fire and, the membership being small, the congregation disbanded.

The Cumberland Presbyterian people had become so strong that, under the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Smith, they organized a church in 1878, with a following of about sixty. They purchased the property of the Baptists, consisting of the lot on the corner of Main and Locust streets and the building thereon. An opportunity presented and the property was sold and two lots on the corner of Oak and Locust streets purchased. The building was moved and is still used. This property was purchased by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, incorporated. But the decision of the churches at Decatur, Ill., in May, 1906, announcing the union of the two branches of the Presbyterians, has caused trouble in the congregation. Some hold that the title should be in the Presbyterian Church and others that it still remains in the Cumberland. The former have possession, and a few of the Cumberland brethren are meeting in a rented hall. The others have arranged to erect a fine new building of concrete blocks, and the congregation, under the leadership of Rev. C. H. Reyburn, is growing.

THE LUTHERANS

The Lutheran Church organized a congregation in Visalia in 1907, under the care of William Grunow, pastor. A commodious church building was erected on South Court street. About a year later a parochial school was opened with about forty pupils.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Episcopal church is one of recent date in Visalia. Previous to 1880 occasional services were held as circumstances permitted. Revs. W. H. Hill, Powell, and D. O. Kelley, were the principal missionaries that conducted these infrequent services. In May, 1880, the Mission St. John was organized for the entire county, and comprised the towns of Visalia, Tulare City, Hanford and Lemoore. The Mission was under the charge of Rev. D. O. Kelley, with headquarters in Hanford. On February 9, 1887, the Mission of St. Paul was organized in Visalia. During the same year, under the care of Rev. C. S. Lindsley, a building was erected on a lot donated by Mr. Jacobs, on North Church street. In 1898 the Rev. C. M. Westlake, the pastor in charge, secured the advantageous corner of Encina avenue and Center streets. The old building was moved

to the new location. In 1904, under the care of Rev. H. C. Carroll, the rectory was built and in 1909 and 1910 the church was enlarged and improved and the parish house built. The St. Paul's Mission, Visalia, and the St. John's Mission, Tulare, have been associated as one charge. To these was recently added St. John's Mission, Porterville. The church has a membership of about ninety. Nine priests have served the local church.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Catholic church existed for several years in Visalia before a building was erected. Rev. Father D. F. Dade was the priest who for many years cared for the flock. As early as 1860 he is reported to have celebrated mass in the old courthouse. In the late summer of 1861 he obtained the use of an old barn and opened a parochial school. In memory of the birthplace of the Savior, he named his school the Academy of the Nativity. On October 18, 1868, at the corner of Church and Race streets, he laid the cornerstone of the brick church now standing there, and dedicated it, Church of the Nativity. March 28, 1909, the Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Conaty, of the diocese of Los Angeles, laid the foundation of the present imposing church building on the lot south of the old building. The erection of this fine structure of concrete blocks was due largely to the devotion of the Rev. Father Foin. The church in Visalia has been ministered to by eleven priests.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL

The Methodist Episcopal church was among the first Protestant bodies to establish themselves on the Pacific slope. August 15, 1851, eleven preachers met in San Francisco and held the first Methodist Conference on this coast. Their field of labor was from Canada to Mexico. But it was not until 1858 that an organization was made in Visalia. The class was organized by John McKelvey, in charge of this circuit. W. N. Steuben and wife and Mrs. Lucinda Kenney were the first members. The congregation had no settled place of worship until 1867, when, under the pastorate of T. P. Williams, there was a building erected on the corner of Court and Willow streets. A Sunday school was organized in 1869 by D. K. Zumwalt. In 1902 C. A. Bunker was pastor and work was commenced on a new church building. The building was not finished until the pastorate of Mr. Livingston, Mr. Bunker's successor. In November, 1908, the church, with A. L. Baker as pastor, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary, called the Golden Jubilee, in a week of special and appropriate services, at which many of the previous pastors were present and assisted.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Disciples of Christ were represented at an early date in Visalia. Some previous efforts had been made by them to form an organization, but nothing was accomplished until in August, 1857, when fourteen men of this faith under the leadership of William Higgins, met and organized the First Christian Church in Visalia. They met under a shelter of willow boughs in the lot between Court and Locust and Center and Oak streets, west of the present residence of Mrs. S. C. Brown. For lack of chairs, trunks of trees were used for seats. Of the fourteen charter members, C. P. Majors of near Visalia, is the only one on this side of the Great Divide.

At the organization, William Higgins was chosen minister and elder, and John K. Morris, elder, and W. R. Owen and C. P. Majors deacons. The congregation made the shelter of willows the place of meeting till late in the fall of that year, and then used the school-house. For lack of a church bell, Elder Higgins improvised a cow's horn and by the sonorous blasts from this unique instrument, called the humble worshippers together.

The congregation later met in various places, among which were the courthouse, Centennial hall, Good Templars' hall, the South Methodist church, the Presbyterian church, and the City Hall. An unfortunate controversy arose among the members over the use of the organ in the services, and for some time the ill feeling engendered by this controversy greatly retarded the growth of the congregation. After several years of rather acrimonious feelings, by the efforts of E. B. Ware, then state evangelist, the members "forgot it," got together, bought the lot on the northwest corner of Court and School streets and in 1890, dedicated the present fine building.

Among the early ministers were: T. N. Kincaid, Alex. Johnson, A. W. DeWitt, H. Tandy, J. E. Denton. Since the building was erected some of the ablest ministers in the state have been stationed here. Among these ministers were W. H. Martin, now of Southern California, Peter Colvin, of Santa Rosa, T. A. Boyer of Oakland, and J. A. Brown, in the evangelistic field. Frederic Grimes took charge of the church in 1911, and has been a strong man in the Bible school and all departments of church work. The Bible school, numbering nearly three hundred, is an enthusiastic one.

THE TRAINING OF THE YOUNG

In tracing the history of Tulare county, it is found that the people have ever been prompt in the matter of providing educational facilities for the children. The school and the church have attended the early pioneers.

We of today provide our children with the best modern educa-

tional facilities by the simple expedient of readily voting "yes" on all propositions for school bonds. There was a time in Tulare county when, other problems of life far less involved than now, the solution of this question was one of great difficulty. Within the hearts of the early pioneers, however, the determination was strong to give to their offspring a greater measure of learning than they themselves had enjoyed, and it came about that in 1853 a school was established in Visalia. Remember that this was at the very time in which each settler, surging with ambition, was busy inaugurating his individual enterprise. One was building a sawmill, another a store, another a gristmill, others were sending afar to procure the seed for farming; some were guarding their stock; the first furrows were being turned.

Remember, too, that in a county extending from Mariposa on the north to Los Angeles on the south and from Nevada on the east to the summit of the coast range in the west, there were but eighteen children, between the ages of five and seventeen. You can readily imagine how much these children were needed to help at home. But they started a school. There was no building yet, just a school, and thirteen pupils attended.

In 1854 the first school district, embracing the entire county, was organized, and the first schoolhouse, made of rough boards set on end, was erected near the site of the present Tipton Lindsey grammar school in Visalia.

The population of Tulare county increased by leaps in the next succeeding years, but it was largely transient, composed of the horde of miners flocking to the new gold fields of the Kern. The school census of 1860 exhibited a healthy, but of course, not a corresponding growth. By that year there had come to be five schools in the county, which cared for four hundred and sixty-five children, distributed as follows: Visalia, two hundred and eighty; Elbow, one hundred and twenty-four; Woodville, one hundred and fifty-two; Persian, eighty-five.

The public school system was developing normally, keeping pace with the needs of the people, but it was deemed insufficient. The following notice about a proposed seminary for Visalia appeared in the *Delta* of December 31, 1859, and shows that people then were thinking of higher education:

"Seminary. A subscription is in circulation for the purpose of building a seminary near town on a lot donated for the purpose by J. R. Keener. The subscription list we saw was liberally signed. Attached to about half a dozen names was the sum of \$3,700. The proposition is to make it a joint stock company. Rev. B. W. Taylor, and a lady are to take charge of the institution."

In 1859 Rev. B. W. Taylor, of Los Angeles, arrived and broached

a project for opening a private school, in which the higher branches of learning should be taught. His plan met with immediate favor and a joint stock company was formed to finance it. Henry Keener donated a lot, and subscriptions in an amount sufficient to erect and equip a large two-story building were soon secured. The building was erected in the southwestern part of town at the corner of Watson avenue and the Tulare road and the institution named The Visalia Select Seminary. For a time the Reverend Taylor and his wife were the only instructors, but later M. S. Merrill, of Los Angeles, was added to take charge of the newly created primary department.

In 1861 Rev. Father Dade opened a private school called The Academy of the Nativity. The title was suggested by the fact that the building which it occupied, located about where Visalia's Catholic church now stands, was originally designed as a stable. Father Dade's scholarly attainments were such as to well qualify him for his position. Modern languages and Latin were among the branches taught, and the elements of a classical education, so highly esteemed in those days, was imparted. This school, though taught by a priest, was strictly non-sectarian, and its patrons, sending their children there solely on account of the educational facilities afforded, became numerous. The boys and girls were instructed separately, the reverend father tutoring the former and Miss Hattie Deming the latter.

The establishment of these two schools at so early a day amidst a population so sparse, clearly indicates the progressive spirit of the early pioneers and exhibits anew the cropping forth of the cherished longing to place their children on a higher intellectual plane than it had been the lot of the fathers and mothers to ascend. And Visalia became the educational center of the valley. From as far south as Tejon and as far north as the Merced river, students came, for everywhere the idea was strong to secure for their children the best.

The seminary and the academy flourished for a number of years—in fact, until their usefulness was over, which came to pass from the betterment of the public schools and the establishment near the big centers of population of colleges, universities and normal schools of high order.

Tulare's schools are now among the best in the state. There were at the close of 1911 one hundred and fourteen primary and grammar schools in the county, employing two hundred and twenty-six teachers. There are also seven high schools in the county and three joint high schools, employing sixty-one teachers. There were in 1910-1911, 6,845 pupils in the grammar and primary grades and 892 in high schools. There were 523 graduates from the grammar grades and ninety-six from the high schools.

POPULATION

For a number of years the population of Tulare county did not increase very rapidly. When the county was organized, in 1852, the total white population was estimated at one hundred. By the census of 1860 it was given as three thousand; in 1870, 4,533; 1880, 11,281; 1890, 24,574; Kings county was cut off in 1893, and still, the census for 1910 gave old Tulare 35,543. The present population has been closely estimated at 47,500. The census figures for 1910 of some of the different cities and villages are given below. To arrive at their present population add from thirty to forty per cent: Angiola 44, Auckland 22, Badger 13, Dinuba 970, Exeter 660, Frazier 29, Hot Springs 22, Kaweah 28, Lindsay 1814, Oroquieta 590, Pixley 64, Porterville 2696, Tulare 2758, Visalia 4550, White River 94, Woodville, 76, Farmersville 550.

One thing was very noteworthy by the last census, and that was the rapid increase of population of rural districts as compared with the incorporated towns. All showed a marked rate of increase, but the country's rate was much larger. It would seem that the cry "back to the farm" is being heard. The whole county showed a rate of ninety-three per cent. increase in ten years.

PROPERTY VALUES

The best index to the prosperity of a people is the assessment roll. As that ebbs or flows, so will the prosperity of the citizens.

The first assessment roll of Tulare county, in 1853, consisted of a single sheet of foolscap paper and there was not a single piece of real estate assessed. The property in the county consisted entirely of horses and cattle. That year, when the county treasurer went to Benicia to settle with the state, the state comptroller and the state treasurer had no knowledge that there was such a county as Tulare in existence. However, the state officials accepted the small sum (about \$75) that Tulare county tendered toward the support of the state government.

The assessment roll of 1855 is a curious document. It contains three hundred and forty-two names, this including those to whom a poll tax only was assessed. It totals \$437,225. Three parcels only of real estate were included. These were Jones & Robodee, 320 acres—\$640; San Amelia ranch, eleven leagues, \$50,000; Ignacio Del Vallo, acreage not given, \$100,000.

S. C. Brown was rated at \$550; John Cutler at \$960, and Richard Chatten at \$410. In the roll of 1858, Andrew G. Harrell's name appears; he possessed forty head of Spanish cattle and one horse, of a valuation of \$1,040.

The wealthiest residents of 1855, according to the assessment, outside of Mr. Del Vallo and the San Amelia ranch owners were:

Elisha Packwood, \$23,735; Pemberton Bros., \$14,075; S. A. Bishop, \$21,875; Reuben Matthews & Co., \$10,070; Patterson & Hazelton were given as worth \$1,210.

The assessment roll of 1860 showed the following: Acres of improved land, 20,313; number of horses and mules, 4,245; number of cattle, 42,373; number of sheep, 16,521; number of swine, 32,546; bushels of wheat, 40,268; bushels of corn, 6,355; bushels of Irish potatoes, 4,067; bushels of sweet potatoes, 1,656; pounds of wool, 16,900; pounds butter, 30,380; pounds cheese, 14,970; gallons of wine, 1000; tons hay, 980; schools, five. Real estate valued at \$372,835; machinery, \$32,763; livestock, \$1,212,381. Total debt of the county, \$33,262.46.

In 1880 the values had increased somewhat and the total assessment roll showed property values to be \$6,411,378. In the next ten years property had taken a double somersault. The assessment roll showed for 1890, \$21,740,817. In 1893, Kings county, with the rich towns of Hanford and Lemoore, was cut off from Tulare, yet the assessment roll for 1910 showed the people of Tulare still possessed \$37,475,140 worth of property listed by the assessor. Surely the people are to be felicitated. Each year sees an advance in the rate of increase.

CHAPTER XVIII

TULARE'S OFFICERS

For the number of years since organization, Tulare has had a long list of official servants. Yet there are few counties in any state that can point to a list with fewer unworthies and a larger number of honorable and devoted men.

SUPERVISORS

Under different statutes the board has consisted of five and again of three members, and sometimes the fully authorized number was not elected. The following have served, being either elected or appointed in the year set before their names.

1853—Loomis St. John, A. J. Lawrence, John Poole, Henry Burroughs, Warren S. Matthews.

1854—J. T. Pemberton, C. G. Sayles, Anson Hadley, W. S. Matthews, A. H. Murray.

1855—Anson Hadley, J. C. Reid, D. L. De Spain.

1856—James Persian, William Packard.

1857—P. Goodhue, R. W. Coughran, J. C. Reid.

1858—G. E. Long, A. A. Wingfield.

1859—E. Van Valkenberg, J. C. McPherson.

1860—William Campbell, R. K. Nichols, H. W. Niles.

1861—Pleasant Byrd.

1863—A. M. Donelson, R. K. Nichols, Tipton Lindsey.

1865—W. R. Jordan.

1869—C. R. Wingfield, D. Stong, James Barton.

1871—W. E. Owen, C. R. Wingfield, James Barton.

1873—E. N. Baker, James Barton, Samuel Huntling, Edwin Giddings.

1877—J. H. Grimsley (succeeding Baker).

1879—J. H. Shore (succeeding Barton).

1882—S. M. Gilliam, W. H. Hammond, J. W. C. Pogue, C. Talbot, S. E. Biddle.

1884—T. E. Henderson, M. Premo, J. W. C. Pogue, D. V. Robinson, G. E. Shore.

1886—James Barton, J. W. Newport.

1888—J. H. Woody.

1890—James Barton, S. L. N. Ellis, J. H. Fox.

1892—T. E. Henderson, T. B. Twaddle, S. M. Gilliam.

1896—Robert Baker, T. B. Twaddle, J. W. Thomas.

1898—D. V. Robinson, R. N. Clack.

1900—R. W. McFarland, T. B. Twaddle, W. H. Moffett.

1902—W. E. Hawkins, J. M. Martin.

- 1904—R. W. McFarland, T. B. Twaddle, George Birkenhauer.
 1906—E. Tout, J. M. Martin.
 1908—A. C. Williams.
 1910—Robert Horbach.
 1912—Fay Singleton.

THE JUDICIARY

Under the old constitution the judicial system provided for district courts, the districts composed of a number of counties, and county courts.

District Judges: In the organization of Tulare county it was attached to the fifth judicial district, which included all the San Joaquin and Tulare valleys and the Sierra Nevada south of Calaveras county. Charles M. Cramer was district judge, holding court at Mariposa.

In 1858 the thirteenth judicial district was created, which included Tulare, Fresno, Mariposa, Merced and Stanislaus counties. For this district the following were elected: Ethelbert Burke in 1859; A. M. Bondurant in 1863; Alexander Daring, appointed in 1865; A. C. Bradford in 1867, and re-elected; A. C. Campbell in 1875; W. W. Cross in 1877.

County Judges: 1852, Walter H. Harvey; 1853, John Cutler, 1858, Robert C. Redd; 1859, William Boring. E. E. Calhoun was appointed May 9, 1860. In 1860 C. G. Sayle was elected; 1863, Nathan Baker; 1867, S. J. Garrison, who resigned, and S. A. Sheppard was appointed; 1873, John Clark, who served until the adoption of the new constitution when the office was merged in the superior court.

Superior Judges: W. W. Cross, 1879, and re-elected. The legislature of 1891 authorized a second superior judge, and Wheaton A. Gray was appointed. This act was repealed by the next legislature. W. A. Gray, 1892; W. B. Wallace, 1898, 1904, 1910. The legislature of 1910-'11 created a second department and J. A. Allen was appointed by the governor in 1911.

THE LAWMAKERS

State Senators: At first Tulare county joined with Fresno in electing senators, but later the senatorial district was confined to Tulare, Kings and Kern counties. The following have served the county, the date following the name being the date of election: James H. Wade, 1852; J. A. McNeil, 1854; Samuel A. Merritt, 1856; Thomas Baker, 1861; J. W. Freeman, 1863; Thomas Fowler, 1869; Tipton Lindsey, 1873; Chester Rowell, 1879; Patrick Reddy, 1882; John Roth, 1886; George S. Berry, 1890; W. A. Sims, 1894; H. L. Pace, 1898; E. O. Miller, 1906; E. O. Larkins, 1910.

Assemblymen: In the assembly district Tulare and Inyo counties have for a long time been united. The following is a list of those elected to the assembly, the date being that of the election: John T.

Tivy, 1853; Thomas Baker, 1854; Robert R. Swan, 1855; O. K. Smith, 1856; A. H. Mitchell, 1857; James M. Roane, 1858; Thomas M. Heston, 1859; O. K. Smith, 1860; Jas. C. Pemberton, 1861; J. W. Freeman, 1862; Joseph C. Brown, 1863; E. W. Doss, 1869; John Burkhalter, 1871; W. Canfield, 1873; J. A. Patterson, 1875; W. S. Adams, 1877; A. B. Du Brutz, 1879; Rufus E. Arriek, 1880; Allen J. Atwell, 1882; E. L. De Witt, 1884; A. B. Butler, 1886; George S. Berry, 1888; W. S. Cunningham, 1890; W. H. Alford, 1892; D. V. Robinson, 1894; W. P. Boone, 1896-98; H. Levinson, 1900; A. M. Lunley, 1902-04; P. W. Forbes, 1906; G. W. Wylie, 1908-1910.

SHERIFF

William Dill, 1852; O. K. Smith, 1853; W. G. Poindexter, 1855; J. C. Reid, 1859; J. C. Pemberton, 1860; W. C. Owen, 1861; John Meadows, elected but did not serve; John Gill, 1864; Tilden Reid, 1865; W. F. Thomas, 1867; A. H. Glasscock, 1869; Charles R. Wingfield, 1873; J. H. Campbell, 1877; M. G. Wells, 1879; W. F. Martin, 1882; Alfred Baalam, 1884; George A. Parker, 1886; D. G. Overall, 1888; E. W. Kay, 1890; A. P. Merritt, 1894; B. B. Parker, 1898; W. W. Collins, 1902-06-10.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

J. B. Hatch, 1852; D. W. C. French, 1853; S. C. Brown, 1856; Samuel W. Beekman, 1865; S. A. Sheppard, 1863; S. C. Brown, 1865; A. J. Atwell, 1867; R. C. Redd, 1869; A. J. Atwell, 1871; George S. Palmer, 1873; W. W. Cross, 1874; E. J. Edwards, 1877; Oregon Sanders, 1882; W. B. Wallace, 1884; C. G. Lamberson, 1886; W. R. Jacobs, 1888; M. E. Power, 1890-92; F. B. Howard, 1894; J. A. Allen, 1898; Dan. McFadjean, 1902-06; Frank Lamberson, 1910.

ASSESSOR

Dr. Everett, 1852; J. B. Hatch, 1853; C. G. Sayle, 1855; T. C. Hays, 1859; R. B. Sayles, 1861; E. H. Dumble, 1863; A. H. Glasscock, 1865; T. H. Hawkins, 1867; F. G. Jefferds, 1871; Seth Smith, 1882; D. F. Coffee, 1890; J. F. Gibson, 1894; Arthur Crowley, 1902; T. H. Blair, 1910.

SURVEYOR

J. T. Tivy, 1852; Early Lyons, 1853; George Dyer, 1854; J. E. Scott, 1857.

The election of surveyor was neglected at times, and the office temporarily filled by appointment by the supervisors, O. K. Smith being appointed on several occasions.

J. F. Lewis, 1865; J. M. Johnson, 1867; G. W. Smith, 1871; T. J. Vivian, 1875; J. M. Johnson, 1876; Seth Smith, 1877; Thomas Creighton, 1882; John S. Urton, 1886; A. T. Fowler, 1888; A. G. Patton, 1892; D. L. Wishon, 1894; Seth Smith, 1898; Byron Lovelace, 1910.

TAX COLLECTOR

This office, until 1892, was held ex-officio by the sheriff with

the exception of the term from 1877, when H. A. Keener was elected. Since then the following: J. S. Johnson, 1892; G. V. Reed, 1898; J. W. Fewell, 1902.

TREASURER

J. C. Frankenberger, 1852; Charles R. Wingfield, 1853; W. G. Russell, 1854; Erwin Johnson, 1860; John C. Reid, 1861; T. T. Hathaway, 1863; Paschal Bequette, 1865; J. E. Scott, 1867; Wiley Watson, 1869; Pleasant Byrd, 1871; John W. Crowley, 1873; Philip Wagy, 1877; H. A. Keener, 1879; W. W. Coughran, 1882; C. R. Wingfield, 1886; D. S. Lipscomb, 1888; J. W. Crowley, 1894; J. E. Denny, 1898; H. Newman, 1902.

RECORDER

A. B. Gordon, 1852; County Clerk ex-officio, 1853; Louis L. Bequette, 1861; T. J. Shackelford, 1863; W. F. Thomas, 1871; J. E. Denny, 1875; C. S. O'Bannon, 1877; J. E. Denny, 1882; W. F. Thomas, 1884; J. M. Johnson, 1888; C. E. Evans, 1890; J. E. Denny, 1892; Ira Chrisman, 1894; J. O. Thomas, 1898; Ira Chrisman, 1902.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

This office has usually been combined with that of coroner. In 1854 L. Meadows held the office independently, as did W. G. Davenport in 1861 and H. A. Bostwick in 1862.

AUDITOR

The clerk and recorder held this office ex-officio until 1877, when the following served as noted: W. L. Kirkland, 1877; J. F. Jordan, 1879; Ben Parker, 1882; D. G. Overall, 1884; C. T. Buckman, 1886; W. W. Rea, 1892; E. M. Jefferds, 1894; T. H. Blair, 1898; Austin Foucht, 1910.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

During several years the county clerk has been ex-officio superintendent of schools. In 1855 W. G. Russell was elected, after which the clerk filled the office until 1861, when the following served: B. W. Taylor, 1861; J. W. Williams, 1863; T. O. Ellis, 1865; M. S. Merrill, 1871; S. G. Creighton, 1873; R. P. Merrill, 1875; W. J. Ellis, 1879; C. H. Murphy, 1882; S. A. Crookshank, 1890; J. S. McPhaill, 1894; S. A. Crookshank, 1898; C. J. Walker, 1902; J. E. Buckman, 1910.

CORONER

W. H. McMillen, 1852; I. N. Bell, 1853; S. T. Corley, 1856; H. C. Townsend, 1859; M. Baker, 1860; J. D. P. Thompson, 1860; W. A. Russell, 1863; J. R. Hamilton, 1865; Joseph Lively, 1867; D. L. Pickett, 1871; R. P. Martin, 1873; W. A. Russell, 1875; L. D. Murphy, 1877; L. M. Lovelace, 1879; T. W. Pendergrass, 1888; O. S. Higgins, 1890; T. A. Sheppard, 1892; J. C. McCabe, 1894; T. C. Carruthers, 1898; E. R. Du Brutz, 1902, died in office; T. M. Dungan, 1904; filled vacancy; L. Locey, 1910.

CHAPTER XIX

TULARE COUNTY TODAY

Just a trifle over fifty years ago the schoolboy who knew no lesson said, "Tulare county is bounded on the north by Mariposa county, on the east by the state of Nevada, on the south by Santa Barbara county and on the west by the summit of the coast range of mountains." The schoolboy's father, well informed for his day, would have replied in answer to a query as to the county's resources and productions: "It's a derned good cattle country and mebbe, if what I hear about the feed in them mountains is so, it might be a blame good sheep country; and they've found gold up there and the's lots of good farming country along the creek bottoms down here."

True and simple answers, these—how much more difficult today to render such! For now, although a vastly smaller area is embraced within the county, the continued discovery of marvels of nature, the finding of unexpected stores of wealth, the effects of man's assaults upon the fastnesses of the Sierra and of his energy and toil applied to the fertile diversified plain have made of it a task difficult and complicated in the extreme.

When the boy and his father, fifty years ago, described the county and told us to what it was adapted they did not mention that down from those mountains came streams of such volume that the waters, spread over hundreds of thousands of acres of plain, would increase fertility enormously and render possible a diversified culture of fruits and grains and forage. This they could know but vaguely. They did not tell us that beneath the parched plains and worthless hog-wallow land below the foothill slopes ran subterranean streams of ceaseless exhaustless flow, which tapped and their waters spread on the surface would succor and bring to glorious maturity groves of orange and lemon and lime. This they did not know at all.

Now could they foresee that season and soil and water distribution would combine to cause certain portions of the county to become famous for the production of the earliest fruits and grapes of the season, that here the French prune and the cling peach, reaching early maturity and producing extraordinary crops, would become wealth producing factors. Nor could they imagine the thousands upon thousands of acres that were to become perennially green with alfalfa, today supporting great herds of sleek dairy cattle and causing the county to rank almost first in butter production.

And oh, how little of the splendors and the beauties and the awe-compelling wonders that were hidden in that lofty eastern mountain range! They said no word of Mt. Whitney, towering above all

other peaks within the nation's boundaries; they did not tell of the immense groves, or rather forests, of giant sequoias, larger, older, than any other trees on earth.

No tale was there of gem-like clusters of glacial lakes, of vast caverns from whose ceilings depended glistening stalactites; naught was said of gorges and chasms, of tumbling cascades or of bright flower-strew meadows.

Overlooked, too, as a factor of future wealth were the miles upon miles of unbroken forest of yellow pine, sugar pine and fir. And little thought was there of a day when the dashing, leaping, whirling waters of the Kaweah and the Tule would be led quietly through cemented conduits to points of vantage, whence they could be released in almost uncontrollable force to move the wheels of industry throughout the county. Yet these things have come to pass.

And there was a day, that also just a little more than fifty years ago, when Indian George, or Captain George, "big Injun heap," ran as expressman, carrying letters and small packages from Visalia to Owens river, the trip occupying four days. It is a far cry from then to the daily visit of the mail carrier, a distant retrospect from then to the luxuriously appointed through trains that now whisk you to Los Angeles or San Francisco during a night.

Some fifty years ago a freight team from Stockton came bringing twenty thousand pounds of goods. This enormous load aroused great interest. Today without comment train load lots of oranges leave the county daily throughout the season. And so we find that in every branch of endeavor giant strides have been made, and a partial record of the steps is found within these pages.

A few of the events that have transpired within the county's boundaries within the past six decades are recorded here. It is well to take a rapid trip over the territory, view it as it exists today, and form a mental picture of its present condition.

Tulare county, situated about midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, at the head of the San Joaquin valley, is one of the largest in the state, having an area of 4935 square miles, or 3,158,400 acres. It has for neighbors Fresno on the north, Kings on the west, Inyo on the east, and Kern on the south.

Its topography, as may be seen by the outline map, is about one-half mountainous, the eastern boundary being the summit of the Sierras. Two large streams, the Kaweah and the Tule, each gathering its waters from an extensive watershed, debouch into the valley portion of the county and permit of a vast irrigating ditch system. As the sources of these streams lie at great elevations, the flow is high during the first of summer on account of the melting of the snow. The detritus from these streams has formed throughout the valley section a deep bed of alluvial soil varying somewhat in the

admixture of sand but always friable and productive. A large portion of this delta land is subirrigated to the extent that for the growth of alfalfa, grape vines or fruit trees no surface irrigation is necessary.

Back nearer the hills from this lowland belt the land is found less sandy; there is an admixture of clay, decomposed granite, in some places gravel. These soils range from a light red and very friable to a black dry bog, through red, black and yellowish clay formations. Lying in a strip near but not adjacent to the hills, a peculiar formation known as "hog wallow" land exists. Hummocks, little hills of two or three feet in height, here cover the land. This latter soil, formerly held to be worthless, has been found highly fertile and is now being leveled and cultivated so that in a short time the sight of a "hog-wallow" field will be a curiosity.

Naturally, each type of soil has proven itself particularly adapted to certain cultures and the great variation in soils and elevations has produced a very great diversity of production.

Before speaking further of these we will take a survey of towns, cities and railroads that have been built in consequence of them. Again referring to the map we find two almost parallel lines of railroad extending from north to south across the county. These are the main line of the Southern Pacific and the branch or loop line of the same company which extends from Fresno to Famosa. These two lines are connected by a cross line between Exeter and Goshen, which passes through Visalia and over which a number of the through trains run. The Santa Fe line enters the county near Dinuba and after paralleling the Southern Pacific a short distance cuts south across the county to Corcoran and thence southeasterly across the southwest corner of the county.

Between Visalia and Woodlake, passing through Lemon Cove, an electric line is in operation and between Porterville and Springville is a short Southern Pacific branch. The Big Four, an electric road to connect the towns of Visalia, Tulare, Woodville and Porterville, is in course of construction.

The present population is estimated to be about 47,500, this figure being based on the census of 1910, showing 35,440, taken in connection with the increase of election registrations since that time. A fact worthy of note in this connection is that in the decade 1900-1910, the increase in population of Tulare county was 93.4 per cent.

Visalia, the county seat, with a population of about 6000, is situated at the intersection of the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe lines.

Tulare, southward about ten miles on the main line of the Southern Pacific, and Porterville thirty miles southeast on the branch line of the Southern Pacific, each having a population of about 3500.

Dinuba, Exeter and Lindsay, with populations respectively of

1500, 1200 and 2500, are also situated on the east side branch line. These are the six incorporated cities of the county.

Dinuba, the most northerly, is the center of the raisin belt, which extends easterly through Sultana and Orosi and southerly to Cutler and Yettem. This district also has demonstrated its peculiar adaptability to the growing of early and late grapes for the eastern markets, and for the production of a general variety of deciduous fruits. Oranges also are produced extensively, particularly near Orosi, and south and west of Dinuba one enters a section devoted to dairying. But as a whole, this entire district is a checkerboard of orchards and vineyards. These, all in small tracts, well-kept and generally well-provided with comfortable country homes, present a picture both beautiful and impressive of assured prosperity. This district is well and cheaply irrigated by the waters of Kings river, distributed through the canals of the Alta Irrigation District, which covers 130,000 acres.

Proceeding southward one enters a belt of undeveloped land, contiguous to Monson on the Southern Pacific branch line. A little dairying is practiced here, but in general this section has been neglected. Some leveling of "hog-wallow" land and deep cultivation and drainage would doubtless transform it.

Passing on southward one comes into the rich diversified farming, fruit and dairying section tributary to Visalia. This, too, is the prune belt of the county. Ditches taken from the Kaweah and the St. Johns rivers cover the entire district, which may be said in a general way to extend from Goshen on the west to a point some twelve or fifteen miles up the Kaweah river on the east and to include the territory within a radius of five to ten miles from the city. No oranges are grown in this district, no table grapes and very few raisins. All general farm products, such as hay, grain, corn, pumpkins, Egyptian corn and sugar beets, as well as peaches, pears and prunes, thrive exceedingly and are grown in large quantities. This part of the former wooded belt of the county still retains numbers of fine specimens of natural oak trees and many groves, either in their original condition or merely thinned by the woodman's axe. In every direction the vista is bounded at a short distance by what appears to be an unbroken line of timber. On approach this merges into groups of oaks or single trees, perhaps far apart, or consists of the growth of cottonwood and willows growing on the margin of stream or canal. Soft greens of many shades relieve the landscape no matter what be the season. Not only alfalfa, but natural grasses continuously present the colors of springtime. And in mid-summer gayer hues, for everywhere, by roadside, by fence line or ditch bank or in unplowed fields sunflowers flaunt their yellow blossoms. And the summer's heat striking this fallow moisture-soaked loam causes such a riotous growth

of all kinds that a general unkempt appearance is presented. Orchard alternates with wood lot and salt grass pasture with corn field and dairy farm. Many tracts of fertile land remain undeveloped.

Yet this section contributes heavily in yearly revenue. Two creameries in Visalia handle about one-fourth of the cream output of the county; nearly all the prunes, having an annual value of about half a million dollars, are produced; there are canning peaches for two large factories, large quantities of fresh and dried fruits are shipped; the beet sugar factory is located here and exports of hay and live stock are constantly made.

Pursuing our way still further south we enter the territory tributary to Tulare without perceiving any change in general characteristics of scene, soil and productions. The oak groves, the alternate farm and orchard continue. A change, however, has taken place as we soon discover. We encounter fewer orchards, alfalfa fields adjoin, making vast meadows. We find that we are in the center of one of the great dairy sections. Fruit growing, frequently in colony tracts, remains a feature, however, and vineyards of considerable acreage are noted. The dairy region here, besides taking in the territory contiguous to Tulare, Tagus and Swall's, joins with the Dinuba country by a narrow strip, passing through Goshen and widening at Traver. This on the north. Southerly and westerly it merges also with the Woodville and Poplar sections.

These latter districts possess some of the richest alluvial soil as yet undeveloped in the county, but so far, dairying, general farming and grain raising have been the only industries. Fruit growing, with every facility of the most favored sections available, has not been engaged in because of the lack of railroad accommodations. The advent of the Big Four will doubtless change this.

From Tipton, on passing through Pixley and Earlimart to the county line, we find vast grain and hay fields, little alfalfa, few fruit trees, much land apparently fertile, unplowed. Also we find large tracts being subdivided, settlers in numbers building homes, water being pumped and alfalfa and orchards being planted. Only in recent years has it been discovered that very cheaply could the fertile lands in these vicinities be made to produce abundantly by pump irrigation. A very rapid increase in population seems assured.

Westward now, towards the lake in the neighborhood of Corcoran, Angiola and Alpaugh, entirely new characteristics confront us. We enter again a great alfalfa belt, not only supplying its dairies with feed, but furnishing enormous quantities of hay for shipment. Great grain fields there are, producing extraordinary yields. Some natural swampy meadow land lies here. In places, instead of irrigation, leveling and drainage are practiced. Artesian wells in many localities supply water for irrigation and for stock.

But we must turn now and look at the country lying along the east side branch railroad. Surprises most extraordinary here await us. So great a difference exists that we can scarcely believe that we are in the same county. Merged indeed the two separate regions are at Orosi, but as one proceeds southward through Exeter, or if he choose, first through Woodlake, Naranjo or Lemon Cove and then on and stops off at either Exeter, Lindsay, Strathmore or Porterville, a scene wholly strange greets the eye.

Orange groves and yet again orange groves, one practically continuous stretch. Not even a fence divides them. The chain of foothills is their background, but it is a rampart up which they climb and into whose recesses all along the way they cluster. No canals or ditches here, no alfalfa, no green mats of salt grass pasture, no oaks nor cottonwoods. Parched and dry, hard and barren looking is the soil in the places unset to orchards. And yet, within them everywhere trickling in little furrows between the rows run streamlets of water, the moisture from them soaking and permeating the soil.

The system of irrigation here is almost wholly that of pumps operated by electric motors, and while this belt lacks the natural beauty of the wooded lowland, it is fast coming to be the most pleasing and attractive to the eye. Avenues lined with palm or other ornamental trees lead to country homes surrounded by handsome lawns and exquisite flower plots.

From Porterville the district extends south through Terra Bella, Ducor and Richgrove to the county line. This portion, however, is of newer development and the process of converting grain ranches into orange groves is but now beginning. Thousands of acres of young orchards are set and thousands more have been purchased for the purpose of planting to citrus fruits, but here and almost only here within the county remains enough land sown to grain to keep harvesters busy and fill warehouses with wheat.

Eastward back of the orange belt extend thousands of acres of foothill grazing range, supporting vast herds. This region is wooded and springs furnishing stock water are numerous. Two gateways there are to the higher Sierras, viz: Three Rivers for the Kaweah watershed and Springville for the Tule river.

In both of these communities apples of fine quality are grown and orange groves reach to their gates. Beyond and between them the grazing belt extends for many miles, and still beyond, throughout the range of mountains are found extensive meadows and other feeding grounds which furnish pasture for many cattle during the summer months.

At an elevation of about 5000 feet one enters a belt of pine timber. This, mixed with the *Sequoia gigantea*, and, as one reaches the higher altitudes, with fir and tamarack, extends throughout the

county almost unbrokenly. Several sawmills are in operation with an annual cut of about three million feet, but on account of the lack of roads, most of this timber is inaccessible and will probably remain so for many years.

On the way to the higher mountain regions one passes on both the rivers extensive works of electrical power companies. Dams, reservoirs, long high-perched flumes, lines of steel pipe down the mountain side, and the whirl of immense dynamos are evidences of the enterprises by which the mountain torrent is harnessed and the river converted into a laborer of the field.

For these utilitarian purposes of producing milling timber and electric energy, for furnishing feed for droves of cattle and for storing the snowfall of winter and returning it to the valley in time for need, the Sierra Nevada mountains are an incalculably valuable asset of Tulare county.

The mountains also constitute a cool summer retreat and are frequented by throngs of health and pleasure seekers each year. Trout fishing in the mountain streams generally is excellent, the Kern lakes and the upper Kern rivers and their tributaries being especially famous in this respect. Hunting for deer and bear is good and the sport has many devotees.

The mountain scenery is of so marvelous a character as to give it a wide-spreading and rapidly increasing fame. For beauty and grandeur the canyon or gorge of the Kern river is comparable only to the Yosemite or to Kings river canyon. Throughout the higher Sierras the effects of volcanic and glacial action, of erosion, disintegration and other forces have caused formations strangely beautiful, impressively awesome, weirdly fantastic. Combining to charm and please are ferns and flowers, silent forests, lawn-like meadows, placid lakes. Streams drop in roaring cascades or fall in sheets of misty vapor. They tinkle, or murmur, or rhythmically roar. Snowy peaks of jagged outline mark the skyline.

Many groves of the giant sequoia are found throughout the range at an elevation of between 5500 and 7500 feet, the largest being known as the Giant Forest. About 5000 of the trees are here located, among them being what so far as known is the largest tree in the world. Hot springs, caves, mineral springs, are other features of attraction. Wholly within the county lies the Sequoia National Park, containing seven townships. The Tule river Indian reservation is located in the southerly mountain section. There are many peaks of thirteen thousand feet and over, several exceeding fourteen thousand feet, and crowning all, Mt. Whitney, 14,502 feet above sea level.

CHAPTER XX

THE ORGANIZATION OF KINGS COUNTY

By F. A. Dodge

The creation and organization of Kings county as a political division of the state was the accomplishment of the spirit of development and progress which has ever conquered the wilderness and caused the deserts to vanish.

Until the spring of 1893 the territory which we are to consider was a part of Tulare county, and therefore the early history of settlement and development is a part of the history of that county and the reader will find in this volume an interesting and instructive accounting of those early days when men and women of small means but determined will, laid the foundation of what today is one of the most prosperous and enlightened agricultural divisions of beloved California.

People who build an imperishable state have always commenced at the foundation, and all enduring foundations ever yet constructed have been begun by a community bound together by that greatest common tie—Necessity. Those who today behold with admiring eye the broad vineyards, prolific orchards and expanding meadows of this central valley of California should have preserved in some historical form the story of the past that they and their children may appreciate the hardy, brave and self-sacrificing ones who grappled with the problems which confronted them in an isolated desert at a time when even Tulare county was no longer a child among the counties of the state; and along with that history it is right and proper that mention of those people, with some of their personal history, should be written, and this volume is intended to accomplish that end. In the department devoted to Tulare county the author has dealt with what now is the county of Kings up to the date of its organization and what is to be chronicled here will therefore relate to events of comparatively recent occurrence, for this county is among the youngest in the state. The efforts of its people, however, to secure their independence date back into the year 1886. At that time the center of population of the western portion of Tulare county was the country in the immediate vicinity of the then small towns of Hanford, Lemoore and Grangeville. This community had been made possible through the application of water to the soil for purposes of irrigation. Long before the stirring times of the Mussel Slough tragedy recounted at length in this work, the life-giving waters of Kings river had been taken out upon the dry plain, and the earliest demonstration of irrigation as practiced in

central California was made in the vicinity of Grangeville. From that time development was as rapid as was possible, considering the lack of finances possessed by those who had located on the barren soil. The story of hardship, deprivation and suffering experienced by the early settlers, their struggle with land barons who sought to monopolize the great plains for cattle ranges during the short season when wild feed was abundant; the fight with the railroad corporation, and finally the struggle for and the triumphant victory realized for independent county government are all worthy of record; but the progress of the people during the past nineteen years is to form the basis of this contribution.

ORGANIZING FOR A COUNTY

Successful agriculture, wherever irrigation had been practiced in the "Mussel Slough" country, was proclaimed by the early irrigationists to their friends beyond the Sierras. The letters written "back home" to be read and reread around the old firesides brought from the states of the Mississippi valley and from the Atlantic states many settlers. Californians by adoption who had settled in Yolo, Sacramento, San Joaquin and other counties to the north also were attracted hither by the stories told of the prolific soil and the opportunities offered in the rich country south of Kings river. Grain farming was soon made companion to alfalfa, and stockraising was undertaken in a more domestic manner than that which prevailed when the herdsman held sway and laid claim to all the plains his vaqueros could survey. Then the planting of the grape and the deciduous fruits followed, each step demonstrating the adaptability of the soil and climate to diversified husbandry. All of this resulted in the western portion of Tulare county acquiring a more rapid settlement than those other districts where irrigation had not been introduced. This condition was the inspiration to the movement to organize a new county government, and in the fall of 1886, Dr. A. B. Butler, who was at that time a practicing physician located at the town of Grangeville, and a very popular gentleman, as well as one of the leading physicians of the district, was put forth as a candidate for member of the assembly from the district comprising Tulare county. Butler was a Republican, and the county was a Democratic stronghold. But Dr. Butler was also an astute politician and that portion of the county in which he lived was the Republican stronghold of the county. That his successful election to the Assembly of California at Sacramento meant the beginning of a plan to form a new county either did not appear on the surface, or if it did it was viewed with complacency by those who considered such a possibility unworthy of the least attention. Butler was elected, and there began the story of how Kings county came to be on the map of California.

During the session of the California legislature in February, 1887, Assemblyman Butler introduced a bill to cut off a portion of western Tulare county and add to it a portion of Fresno county south of the fourth standard parallel line. The movement immediately met with opposition and a strong lobby was set to work by Visalia and Tulare interests, and the county division measure failed. It was, however, the beginning of a long campaign, and the editorial prophecy made by the Hanford Sentinel of February 17, 1887, that "The seed of county division has been planted which will in the course of events sprout a new county," came true.

In the legislative campaign of 1888, W. S. Cunningham, a well-known citizen of Lemoore, and a Democrat, was elected assemblyman. On the strength of a desire for a new county the candidate received much hearty support from Republicans during his campaign. Mr. Cunningham introduced a county division bill at the twenty-ninth session, but, it too, met with strong opposition from the mother county, and failed. The next legislative campaign saw the question of creating a new county thrust to the fore. Population had greatly increased, and the demand for facilities for the transaction of public business nearer the center of that population had received new impetus, and a Hanford citizen was agreed upon for assemblyman. Frank A. Blakeley, a Republican, and a man well known and popular, was the chosen candidate. He won the election, and immediately preparation was begun for the final fight. A strong committee composed of business men of all political faiths was formed in Hanford, and included citizens from Lemoore and Grangeville, and farmers. A bill was drafted by Dixon L. Phillips, an attorney of Hanford, and a committee headed by such men as George X. Wendling, E. E. Bush, Richard Mills, Justin Jacobs, Frank L. Dodge, R. W. Musgrave and others established the committee headquarters in Sacramento, and assisted Assemblyman Blakeley in his fight.

In the early struggles the name proposed for the new county was Lorrain, but that name was abandoned and Kings was adopted in its stead, as being more significant. The name Kings was well received and the county was thus christened after Kings river, the principal source of the irrigation for the district, which stream was discovered in 1805 by an exploring expedition and named Rio de Los Santos Reyes (The River of the Holy Kings).

The Kings county division fight was regarded as the great struggle of the session of 1892-93. William H. Alford, a brilliant young attorney from Tulare county, and a Democrat, was assemblyman from the eastern part of Tulare county, while Stockton Berry, an influential landowner, was senator from the district, and both stood solidly opposed to division. At this session Fresno county had a similar contest on, and the effort to create the county of Madera

from Fresno was made simultaneously, and succeeded. Riverside county was another of the new county movements at this identical session. Of course, the leaders who were interested in all of these fights sought to combine their forces, and succeeded in doing so. The contest was long-drawn, and much bitterness was engendered, but all the wounds have been long since healed with the salve of time and the admitted wisdom of permitting communities possessing sufficient wealth and population to enjoy those measures of home-rule which by right belongs to them.

The Blakeley bill, after a turbulent, and at times almost hopeless history, finally passed both houses. The vote in the assembly was forty-five ayes to twenty-seven noes, and in the senate it received twenty-four ayes to fifteen noes. The senate's action was taken on March 11, 1893.

As originally created the county had an area of 1257 square miles and when organized in 1893 had an estimated population of 7325. The assessable acreage at that time was 427,281 acres. Ten years after organization the county had a bonded debt of only \$32,000, and ten years later, or now, it has no bonded debt. The United States census of 1900 gave the population as 9871, and the thirteenth census, 1910, gave it 16,230, and an assessed valuation of \$14,283,622. By the addition of a strip of territory from Fresno county through the operation of the Webber bill passed by the legislature in 1908-9, the county today has a total area of 1375 square miles or 118 square miles more than it originally possessed.

CHAPTER XXI

LUCERNE VALLEY

In the year 1886 Frank L. Dodge, a newspaper man from Iowa, arrived with his family in Hanford, ostensibly on a visit to brothers and sisters who had located near that town in the pioneer days. Mr. Dodge became enamoured of the country and there being at that time no newspaper published in Hanford, with his oldest brother, the late David Dodge, he founded the *Hanford Weekly Sentinel*. Like many other people from the East he had a distaste for the term "slough" as applied to a country, the name suggesting mire and miasma to one unacquainted with the term as applied to Mussel Slough which, it is known, is the name given to the natural channels which in early days were open and in flood times were flowing streams. Mr. Dodge sought for a more attractive name for this district and in his paper of April 21, 1887, gave Mussel Slough a new christening and called it Lucerne Valley, a name which stuck to it until the formation of Kings county. We quote from the article naming the district the following: "Nestled among the heights of the storied Alps, fanned by the breezes of Switzerland, is a favored spot, the name of which adorns the page of story and gladdens the minstrel's song. 'The Sweet Vale of Lucerne' is a canton containing 474 square miles, a beautiful country noted for its great production of fruit, stock, grain, and lucerne, or alfalfa clover. It has the River Reuss, the placid Lucerne Lake and the never-fading Alps for prominent geographical features. In 1870, 'The Sweet Vale of Lucerne,' Switzerland, contained 132,338 people.

"This beautiful country of ours about Hanford with its Kings river, its Sierra Nevada and Coast Range mountains, and its glittering Tulare Lake, with its superior fruits, stock, grain, alfalfa and climatic advantages is eminently worthy to be a namesake of that old, rich and venerable Lucerne of Europe. This has about the same area and the elements of greater possibilities. Had this, our district, the population of the Lucerne of Europe the spindles of manufacture and the wheels of commerce would thrill the land with active life; the thorough cultivation which would be put upon the land would make it a lovely garden of vegetable luxury; homes would bloom amid floral bowers and fruited branches.

"The Lucerne of California has all the possibilities that fancy may picture for an earthly dwelling place. Let our people awaken and hasten on the march of improvements—work to reach that grand development which should enrich, endear and exalt a country

which kind Nature has so richly endowed with the elements of greatness."

The suggestion made by the editor fell on fruitful soil and took root and grew into a sentiment which finally changed the name of the judicial township from Mussel Slough to Lucerne; and under a euphonic and attractive name the glories of this productive western country were heralded abroad, doing a share of the good work of development.

CHAPTER XXII

EARLY COUNTY POLITICS

As a political organization Kings county dates from May 23, 1893. The bill creating the county was signed by Governor H. H. Markham March 23, 1893, and the governor appointed a commission for the purpose of carrying out the act. This commission was composed of the following named citizens of the new county: Samuel E. Biddle, E. E. Bush, William J. Newport, William Ogden and John H. Malone. Both Mr. Biddle and Mr. Newport had been members of the board of supervisors of Tulare county.

This commission appeared before Dixon L. Phillips, a notary public, on April 3, 1893, and were sworn into office. They immediately organized by electing S. E. Biddle chairman and by selecting George X. Wendling secretary, then adjourned till the following day, Tuesday, April 4, when the commission met and accepted an offer from the Farmers and Merchants Bank for an office room free of rental in which to hold the meetings of the board. On April 5 another meeting was held and the county was formed into five supervisory districts, as follows: District No. 1, embracing the southwestern portion of the county with three voting precincts, viz: West End, Kings River and Lemoore; District No. 2, embracing the southern portion of the county with three voting precincts, viz.: Paddock, Lakeside and Dallas; District No. 3, embracing the northeastern and eastern portion of the county, with three precincts, viz: Lucerne, Excelsior and Cross Creek; District No. 4, embracing the northern and northwestern portion of the county with three precincts, viz: Armona, Grangeville and Lucerne; and District No. 5, embracing the city of Hanford.

THE FIRST ELECTION CALLED

On the 18th day of April the county commission issued the first call for an election. This call embraced, besides the election of a

full set of county officers, the vote upon the question of ratifying the act of the legislature in creating the county, said measure requiring that the vote necessary to ratification must be two-thirds of the electors of the county voting in the affirmative. The call fixed the date of the election on May 23, 1893.

PARTIES GOT INTO ACTION

As there had been unity of action between the members of all political parties within the boundaries of the new proposed county in the effort to secure the county there was much harmonious spirit prevailing among the parties when it came to placing tickets before the people. The one great effort to be made was to secure the county and toward that end the politicians worked in harmony yet with much zeal for their respective candidates.

The first political conventions were held in Hanford on Wednesday, April 19, 1893, the Republicans holding their gathering at Pythian Hall, a framed structure on East Fifth street, which was subsequently burned and never rebuilt, and the Democrats convened in Baker's Hall, at that time the most popular lodge and society hall in the county, but long since abandoned for public meetings. The People's Party also held a convention and placed in nomination a few candidates. So enthusiastic were all parties in their desire to ratify the legislative act and secure the county, that committees were appointed by each convention for the purpose of conferring and securing the nomination of candidates that would lend the most strength to the cause of county formation. The results of the convention day were that the following nominations were made to be placed on the Australian form of ballot: For Superior Judge—Justin Jacobs, Republican; Dixon L. Phillips, Democrat. For District Attorney—Cosmer B. Clark, People's Party; C. W. Talbot, Republican. For County Clerk—Francis Cunningham, Democrat; Fred R. McFee, Republican. For Sheriff—W. V. Buckner, Republican; R. E. McKenna, Democrat. For Tax Collector—Jesse Brown, Democrat; Frank J. Peacock, Republican. For Treasurer—Stiles McLaughlin, Republican; W. H. Slavin, Democrat. For Recorder—Louis Decker, Republican. For Auditor—C. C. Farnsworth, Democrat. For Assessor—John Rourke, Democrat; John Worswick, Republican. For Superintendent of Schools—A. P. Keran, Republican; C. A. McCourt, Democrat. For Surveyor—E. P. Irwin, Republican; Joseph Williams, Democrat. For Coroner—B. R. Clow, Democrat; Charles W. Sullivan, Republican.

These were the convention nominations, but the ticket was not entirely filled, leaving the way open for independent candidates and these were supplied as follows: For district attorney, M. L. Short and B. C. Mickle went on the ballot as independents, as did

F. M. Frazer for recorder, C. W. Clark for auditor, George W. Murray for auditor and A. S. Bryan for coroner.

Supervisors were nominated from four districts. J. H. Fox, who was a member of the Tulare county board of supervisors at the time held over, and his residence being at Lemoore, which was in District No. 1, no nominations for supervisor were made in that district.

The party nominations in the four remaining districts were: District No. 2—For supervisor, Robert Doherty, Democrat; R. G. White, Republican, and Frank McClellan, People's Party. District No. 3—For supervisor, George A. Dodge, Republican; J. G. Mackey, Democrat. District No. 4—For supervisor, Horace Johnson, People's Party; W. A. Long, Republican. District No. 5—S. E. Biddle, Democrat; Frank J. Walker, Republican.

The election resulted in the choice of a mixed set of county officers, politically, and the carrying of the cause of county creation by an overwhelming majority, the vote on the formation of the county being 1824, of which 1412 were recorded as "Yes" and 412 as "No."

The first set of county officials elected in the county was as follows: Superior judge, Justin Jacobs; county clerk, Francis Cunningham; sheriff, W. V. Buckner; tax collector, Frank J. Peacock; W. H. Slavin, treasurer; recorder, Frank M. Frazer; auditor, C. C. Farnsworth; district attorney, M. L. Short; assessor, John Rourke; superintendent of schools, C. H. McCourt; coroner, B. R. Clow; public administrator, Mace Allen; surveyor, E. P. Irwin; supervisor, 1st district, J. H. Fox; supervisor, 2nd district, Frank McClellan; supervisor, 3rd district, J. G. Mackey; supervisor, 4th district, W. A. Long; supervisor, 5th district, S. E. Biddle.

SETTING UP HOUSEKEEPING

On Monday morning, May 9, 1893, the commissioners met and canvassed the returns of the election and declared the results. The official count gave the total number of votes as 1919, thus showing that there were 55 who failed to vote either for or against county division.

Superior Judge Jacobs received his commission from the governor on May 31, and filed the same with the clerk of the county commission, Mr. Wendling. The supervisors-elect were given certificates of election and were sworn into office, each member giving a bond of \$5000. On June 1 the board of supervisors organized by electing J. H. Fox, of Lemoore, chairman. The several county officers-elect appeared before the board and were sworn in on that day, and the machinery of government for the new county was in working order.

NO COUNTY BUILDINGS

Having finally formed a new county and installed the officers, the next step was to secure office rooms for the transaction of business, until such time as county grounds could be purchased and buildings erected. The supervisors immediately set to work and in a short time had the several officials housed, although the limited number of vacant office buildings in the county seat necessitated the scattering of the offices all about the city. The Hanford opera house block which had recently been completed at the corner of Irwin and Seventh streets, afforded room for several officials and their records, and on the second floor of that building the recorder, auditor, surveyor, district attorney, county clerk, superior judge and supervisors were temporarily located. The Farmers and Merchants Bank gave accommodations for the tax collector and the treasurer; the assessor and superintendent of schools were located in a one-story brick structure on West Seventh street. Later the sheriff's office and county jail were located on West Sixth street to the west of the corner of Irwin, and the superior court and county clerk were given quarters on the second floor over the jail.

While the arrangements were far from convenient, the county business was carried on economically and well. A steel cage was purchased which answered for a jail for a number of years, and while some desperate criminals were at times confined there, there was never a jail delivery even from that temporary structure.

COUNTY WITHOUT FUNDS

At the final meeting of the board of county commissioners just prior to turning over the affairs to the board of supervisors, Commissioner J. H. Malone offered a resolution which was adopted and made of record, that the new county possessed a population of 5900 souls, and that Kings county be declared a county of the Forty-third class, and when the supervisors took up their work they found themselves with that much of a county to legislate for, but there was not a cent in the treasury. The first matter, therefore, to attend to was to provide the means for carrying on the county business, and the first act of the board of supervisors was to apply to Tulare county for that portion of the road and school funds belonging to the territory within the boundary of the new county, and it was resolved to demand from the old mother county such funds due Kings county on the 1st day of June, 1893, the amount being \$14,655.58, and accept that amount from Tulare, provided that the latter would stipulate an agreement that no suit to contest the legality of the Kings county election would be brought. This demand was met by Tulare county to the extent of \$13,289.26,

of which \$10,919.16 was from the road fund, and \$2,370.10 from the school fund. With this small amount of ready money, Kings county began its own official career, and faced the promise made during the division campaign to so conduct the affairs of the county that the tax rate under the new order of things would not exceed the tax rate which had prevailed when the new county was a part of Tulare.

RATIFICATION

On the 6th day of the following July the citizens of the county held a celebration in the city of Hanford at which the creation of the county was joyously ratified in conjunction with the celebration of the one hundred and seventeenth anniversary of the Independence of the United States. The pleasing feature of the celebration was the appearance as orator for the occasion of James H. White, a prominent citizen of Tulare county who refused to remonstrate against the formation of the new county. He was introduced by the Hon. F. A. Blakeley, the assemblyman who introduced and carried through the Kings County bill. Sheriff Buckner was the grand marshal, and conducted a memorable parade, there being many splendid floats displayed in commemoration of the independence of Nation and County.

DISPUTING VALIDITY OF THE COUNTY

As an outgrowth of the heated contest waged between the mother county and the people of the new county, the question as to the validity of the act and the proceedings followed out in the creation and organization of Kings county arose. This question was settled by an opinion issued by Deputy Attorney General Oregon Sanders, approved by the Attorney General W. H. Hart, on the 19th day of June, 1893. In the opinion the State Department set forth at length that the three counties created during the legislative session of 1892-93, viz: Riverside, Madera and Kings, were legally formed, and the acts under which said counties were formed are constitutional. This set at rest for all time any question of the legal standing of those three counties.

FIRST TAX RATE FIXED

At the regular meeting of the supervisors held September 25, 1893, the fixing of the tax rate for the fiscal year 1893-94 was ordered. This was the first action of the kind in the new county, and the rate was made as follows: State, fifty-nine cents and six mills, road eighteen cents, hospital five cents and county general forty-six cents and four mills, making a total rate of \$1.45 on the \$100 valuation.

COUNTY POLITICS IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS

In the month of June, 1894, the several political parties confronted the first regular nominating campaign to place candidates in the field at the general election, which was held in November of that year. The Republicans of the county nominated the following ticket: Superior judge, Justin Jacobs; sheriff, W. V. Buckner; county clerk, F. L. Howard; recorder and auditor, F. J. Peacock; treasurer and tax collector, J. N. Hoyt; assessor, G. W. Follett; superintendent of schools, J. W. Graham; district attorney, A. G. Park; coroner and public administrator, J. A. Moore; surveyor, E. P. Irwin; supervisors: B. L. Barney, W. A. Long, J. M. Hamilton, George B. McCord and Styles McLaughlin; constables, H. M. Bernstein, O. G. Bryan, J. H. Thompson; justices of the peace, J. B. Lewis, G. W. Randall, G. Harrington.

The Democrats placed in nomination the following ticket: Superior judge, Archibald Yell; sheriff, L. E. Hall; county clerk, Francis Cunningham; recorder and auditor, C. C. Farnsworth; treasurer and tax collector, W. H. Slavin; assessor, John Rourke; superintendent of schools, C. A. McCourt; district attorney, M. L. Short; coroner and public administrator, B. R. Clow; supervisors: D. Gamble, Jesse Brown; John Dawson, C. D. Coates, H. Clawson; constables: A. E. Blakeley, George E. Goodrich; justices of the peace: Rufus Abbott, Joseph Williams, Frank Bullard, G. N. Furnish.

The People's Party also placed nominees in the field, as follows: For sheriff, J. C. Goar; county clerk, John Gerow; recorder and auditor, F. M. Frazer; treasurer and tax collector, John Wyrnek; assessor, F. E. Howe; superintendent of schools, N. Z. Woodward; district attorney, Cosmer B. Clark; coroner and public administrator, T. J. McQuiddy; surveyor, David Ross; supervisors: S. H. Von Schmidt, E. J. Gibson, T. F. Dillon, Frank McClellan, T. W. Standart; constables, J. K. Davis, C. L. Pritchard, G. L. Meadows, Bascom Runyon; justices of the peace: J. P. Ford, James Shay.

The election was held November 6, and there was a total of 1843 votes cast. That year Kings county cast its plurality vote for M. M. Estee, Republican candidate for governor, giving him 696. James H. Budd, the Democratic candidate, received 598; J. V. Webster, People's Party candidate, received 400, and Henry French, Prohibition candidate, received 93 votes.

The county contest was strenuously fought. That was the year when Populism was strong in this and Tulare county, and James McClellan, Populist nominee for assemblyman, was elected, the district then being composed of Kings county and a portion of Tulare.

The final count of the votes cast elected the following county officials: Superior judge, Justin Jacobs (R.); sheriff, W. V. Buckner (R.); clerk, Francis Cunningham (D.); recorder and auditor,

F. J. Peacock (R.); treasurer and tax collector, W. H. Slavin (D.); assessor, G. H. Follett (R.); superintendent of schools, J. W. Graham (R.); district attorney, M. L. Short (D.); coroner and public administrator, J. A. Moore (R.); surveyor, E. P. Irwin (R.); supervisors: B. L. Barney (R.), W. A. Long (R.), T. F. Dillon (P.P.), Frank McClellan (P.P.), Styles McLaughlin (R.); constables: H. M. Bernstein (R.), George E. Goodrich (D.), G. N. Furnish (D.); justices of the peace: George W. Randall (R.), J. B. Lewis (R.), G. L. Meadows (P.P.).

These officials took office on the following January 1st.

ELECTION OF 1896

The election of 1896 concerned only National and district matters, with the exception that in the second supervisorial district of the county there was a vacancy to be filled. Supervisor Frank McClellan resigned his office, and the contest for the vacancy was between George W. Clute, Republican, and F. M. Frazer, People's Party. The latter won the election. Kings county at this election went with the Fusionists, the McKinley electoral ticket receiving but 673 votes to 863 for the Bryan electoral ticket. The county also voted a plurality of 118 for C. H. Castle, Fusion candidate for congress, defeating W. W. Bowers, the Republican candidate. The county cast forty-seven independent votes for W. H. Carlson, and twenty-two for J. W. Webb, Prohibition candidate. James McClellan, Fusionist, carried the county for assemblyman against George B. McCord, Republican, by a majority of 203. The total registration of the county at this time was 1883, and the total vote cast was 1613.

ELECTION OF 1898

On account of the death of Superior Judge Justin Jacobs, which occurred on September 18, 1898, some new interest was injected into county politics. Upon the vacancy on the bench being created, Governor James H. Budd appointed Dixon L. Phillips, of Hanford, to fill out the unexpired term. Mr. Phillips had been prominent in the work of organizing the county, and being strong with the governor politically, his application met with executive approval. He took his seat on the bench September 29.

M. L. Short, who was then district attorney, filed his petition to become an independent candidate for judge at the coming election. Horace L. Smith, an attorney, who shortly prior to this time had located in Hanford, also came out for judge as an independent, and Dixon L. Phillips appeared in the race as a Fusionist supported by the Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans. The campaign was a lively one, but the Republicans had no candidate for the judgeship. There was no regular Democratic ticket for the county this year, but all opposition to the Republican party went by the

title of Fusionists. The race for the judgeship resulted in a victory for M. L. Short, he receiving a clear majority of 219 votes over his competitors.

The Republicans nominated W. V. Buckner for sheriff, while George E. Shore was the Fusion candidate. Buckner was elected; F. Cunningham (F.) defeated B. A. Fassett (R.) for clerk; F. J. Peacock (R.) and J. M. Bowman (F.) ran a neck-and-neck race for recorder, each receiving 900 votes. The result of this tie caused the board of supervisors to call a special election to decide the tie. The date of said election was December 6, and the total vote which was cast at that election was 1537, of which Mr. Bowman received 827 and Mr. Peacock 710, and Bowman was declared elected.

Rowen Irwin (F.) defeated A. G. Park (R.) for district attorney, and S. M. Rosenberger (R.) won the auditorship against S. Sensabaugh (F.). For treasurer W. H. Slavin (F.) was successful, his opponent being A. M. Stone (R.). Peter Van Valer (R.) tried conclusions with John Wyruck (F.) for tax collector, the former winning. G. W. Follett (R.) defeated Frank McClellan (F.) for assessor, and W. M. Thomas (R.) won the race for coroner and public administrator over Dr. Foley (F.). J. W. Graham (R.) was chosen superintendent of schools, his opponent being J. J. Duvall (F.). E. P. Irwin (R.) defeated C. W. Talbot (F.) for surveyor.

The supervisors elected were J. T. McJunkin, Styles McLaughlin and George Tomer, Republicans, and L. S. Chittenden and W. S. Burr, Fusionists. The unsuccessful candidates were S. B. Hicks, C. H. Brooks, James McDonald, all Fusionists, and George Curry, Independent.

Township officers were elected as follows: Justice of the peace—George W. Randall, C. M. Smith and Bert Goldsmith, Republicans, and H. J. Light, Fusionist. Constables chosen were H. M. Bernstein (R.) and George Goodrich and Granville Furnish, Fusionist.

The county gave a slight majority for J. C. Needham, Republican, for Congress. Also a plurality of twenty votes for Henry T. Gage, Republican, for governor. The total vote of the county was 1921.

ELECTION OF 1900

In November, 1900, the total vote of the county as counted was 2082. The county contest was over the election of superior judge, member of the assembly and surveyor. The Presidential election of this year also called upon the county to vote for a member of congress. In the county election the principal fight was between E. T. Cosper, an ex-assemblyman, and M. L. Short, the incumbent on the bench. Mr. Short was the Democratic nominee, and won the election over Mr. Cosper, Republican, by a vote of 1048 to 950

R. H. Myers (R.) for the assembly, received 997 votes; R. Mills (D.), 887, and W. R. McQuiddy (Pro.), 99 votes. The county gave J. C. Needham (R.), for congress, a plurality of 144. The presidential electors on the Republican ticket carried the county, the vote being 1032, to 877 for the Democratic electors, 42 for the Social Democrats and 48 for the Prohibitionists.

COUNTY ELECTION OF 1902

This campaign was between the Republicans and Democrats, the former Populistic organization having passed out of the running. The Republicans nominated the following ticket: Sheriff, W. V. Buckner; clerk, Samuel Mullin; recorder, Clark Applegarth; tax collector, Peter Van Valer; auditor, S. M. Rosenberger; district attorney, H. Scott Jacobs; assessor, George W. Murray; treasurer, J. M. Camp; superintendent of schools, J. W. Graham; surveyor, John Benedict; coroner and public administrator, W. M. Thomas.

For supervisors the following were nominated: S. McLaughlin, F. P. Watson, H. D. Barton, John Worswick and James Manasse.

The township officers nominated were: For justice of the peace, C. M. Smith and George W. Randall. For constable, H. M. Bernstein and C. E. Kendall.

R. H. Meyers, who had been elected two years previous to the assembly, succeeded during his term to get through a bill making Kings county an assembly district by itself and he was, therefore, given the Republican nomination for that office for a second term, not, however, without much opposition in the county convention.

The Democrats placed before the people the following ticket: For sheriff, L. S. Clittenden; clerk, F. Cunningham; district attorney, Rowen Irwin; recorder, J. M. Bowman; assessor, M. B. Washburn; treasurer, William Slavin; superintendent of schools, Mrs. N. E. Davidson; coroner and public administrator, T. Card. For supervisors—J. Hayes, W. S. Burr, J. R. High, A. R. Davis, R. Mills.

The nominees for township officers on this ticket were: For justice of the peace—G. L. Meadows, W. H. Vaughn, P. Carrasco. For constables—George Goodrich, J. Alcorn, C. W. Keller and G. Furnish.

The candidates who ran independent of party tickets were: G. W. Follett for assessor, and J. W. Ferguson for justice of the peace.

The result of the election held on November 2 was favorable to the following set of officers: Assemblyman, John G. Covert (D.); sheriff, W. V. Buckner (R.); clerk, F. Cunningham (D.); district attorney, H. Scott Jacobs (R.); recorder, J. M. Bowman (D.); auditor, S. Rosenberger (R.); tax collector, Peter Van Valer (R.) assessor, George W. Murray (R.); treasurer, W. H. Slavin

(D.); superintendent of schools, Mrs. N. E. Davidson (D.); coroner and public administrator, W. M. Thomas (R.); surveyor, John Benedict (R.).

Supervisors elected were: S. McLaughlin, H. D. Barton, both Republicans, and R. Mills, A. R. Davis and W. S. Burr, Democrats.

The township officers chosen were: Justices of the peace—George W. Randall, Republican, and G. L. Meadows and P. Carrasco, Democrats. Constables—H. M. Bernstein, Republican, and G. E. Goodrich and C. W. Keller, Democrats.

At this election Kings county gave 999 votes to Franklin K. Lane, Democrat, for governor and 956 votes to George C. Pardee, Republican. There were 51 Socialist and 28 Prohibition votes cast.

ELECTION OF 1904

Locally this election was a contest between the parties over the election of a member of the assembly. J. H. Fox, of Lemoore, was the nominee of the Republicans, while the Democrats put forward John F. Pryor of Hanford. Mr. Pryor was successful, receiving 926 votes, to 884 cast for Mr. Fox.

James C. Needham, Republican candidate for congress carried the county, receiving 1110 votes, while the Democrats cast 620 votes for W. M. Conley. The Socialist vote for congressman was 95, and the Prohibitionists cast 50 votes. The Roosevelt electoral ticket received 1112, and the Parker electoral ticket 593.

ELECTION OF 1906

This was a general state and county campaign, and the interest so far as the county fight was concerned was centered in the contest for the office of the superior judge. The nominees were Robert W. Miller, Republican, and John G. Covert, Democrat, and the official returns showed how close the race was, as Mr. Miller received 1081 votes and Mr. Covert 1087.

W. V. Buckner (R), who had been sheriff of the county since its first organization, was re-elected to the office, and F. Cunningham (D), who was the first clerk of the county still maintained his hold upon the politics of the county and was re-elected over Clarence Ruggles (R), and T. W. Baker (S), J. L. C. Irwin (D), for district attorney was elected, his competitor being H. Scott Jacobs (R). J. M. Bowman (D) won the recordership, defeating J. T. Baker (R); S. M. Rosenberger (R), was elected auditor, defeating C. T. Walker (D) and J. H. Rathbun (S); Peter Van Valer (R) was again successful in his race for tax-collector, defeating F. M. Frazer (D) and J. Pfeifer (S). L. C. Dunham (R) was chosen treasurer, defeating M. B. Washburn (D.), and B. Freese (S.). George W. Murray (R.) was re-elected assessor, receiving the largest vote of any candidate on either ticket, 1509, his

opponent being J. W. Barbour (D). The office of coroner and public administrator was won by W. M. Thomas (R), his competitors being J. M. Bond (D), and A. L. Weddle (S). Mrs. N. E. Davidson (D) was successful in her candidacy for superintendent of schools for the second term, defeating Miss Inez Covert (R), and E. E. Douglass (S). For surveyor John Benedict (R) defeated C. W. Talbot (D).

The contest for supervisors was a victory for the Democrats, as that party elected G. E. Shore, W. S. Burr, L. Y. Montgomery and J. E. Hall, representing the country district. Their Republican opponents were: H. L. Jennings, J. M. Denham, H. D. Barton and Charles Latham, respectively. Frank Smith (R), of the Hanford district won over R. Mills (D) for re-election.

In the township offices for justices of the peace J. M. Camp (R), J. W. Ferguson (D), C. M. Smith (R) and E. Erlanger (R), were successful, the other candidates being B. W. Moore, G. L. Meadows, James Shay and P. Carrasco, Democrats. For constables, H. M. Bernstein (D), G. E. Goodrich (D), H. Ammerman (R), and E. Brothers (R) were elected, the other candidates being L. Adkins (D), and W. P. Hayes (D).

The contest for the office of assemblyman at this election was a lively fight, as the question of the division of Fresno county was then a burning issue, and Kings county people had united with the people of the Coalinga district of Fresno county for the purpose of slicing the latter county in two from the north boundary of Kings county westerly along the fourth standard parallel line and adding the territory thus cut off to Kings county.

William L. McGuire, a young attorney of Hanford, was nominated for the assembly, he having the county expansion issue as peculiarly his own, and he was backed by a powerful force of people interested in the oil bearing territory on the west side of Fresno county, and other interests. The Democrats nominated Patrick Talent, of Hanford. The Socialists put up F. M. Senteney. William R. McQuiddy was an Independent candidate for the office. After a spirited contest between McGuire and Talent, the former won the election by a vote of 1133. Mr. Talent received 898; Mr. Senteney 70 and Mr. McQuiddy 95.

Congressman J. C. Needham (R) still maintained his hold upon the voters of the county, receiving 1202 votes, to 832 cast for H. A. Greene (D), 89 cast for R. Kirk (S), and 41 cast for H. E. Burbank (P).

The county cast 1056 for James N. Gillett (R) for governor; 967 for T. A. Bell (D), and 49 for J. H. Blanchard (Pro.) and 94 for W. H. Langdon, Independent and Labor Union.

ELECTION OF 1908

This county struggle had one feature which was similar to the campaign of 1906, in that county expansion was again to the front. The McGuire plan to annex the southwestern portion of Fresno county to Kings two years ago failed after a severe struggle, and in 1907-8 plans were laid for another attempt to annex some of Fresno territory, but not to such an extent as in 1906. This annexation struggle did not develop, however, until after the election in November, 1908, after which, W. J. Webber, Democratic member of the assembly who was elected over Harry P. Brown, Republican, took his seat in the legislature and introduced a bill known as the Webber bill, which was finally enacted, and added 208 square miles of Fresno territory to the northwestern portion of the original county of Kings. This was not accomplished, however, without much litigation between the counties of Fresno and Kings, but the courts finally settled by decision the validity of the procedures, and Kings county went upon the map in new form with a vast area of very fertile land watered by Kings river added to it.

The county contest this year was confined to the election of an assemblyman, Mr. Brown receiving 1042 votes, while Mr. Webber received 1072. J. M. Foster, Socialist, received 95.

In the vote for congressman, J. C. Needham (R), received 1180 votes; F. P. Fellz (D) 883; W. M. Pattison (S), 103, and J. W. Webb (Pro.) 55.

The Republican electoral ticket received 1198 votes; the Democrat ticket 859; Independent League 12; Socialist 112, and Prohibition 71.

ELECTION OF 1910

The increased vote cast at this election illustrated the growth of the county in population and annexation, for the total vote cast for the candidates for governor was 2997. Hiram Johnson as the Republican nominee, carried the county by 351 plurality over Theodore A. Bell, whose vote was 1149. Stit Wilson, Socialist, received 305, and Meade, Prohibitionist, 43.

The contest over the assemblyman was between W. J. Webber (D), Frank J. Walker (R), and W. R. McQuiddy (Pro.). Mr. Walker won on a narrow plurality of six votes.

For the first time since the county was organized the Republicans put forth a new candidate for sheriff in the person of Lyman D. Farmer, a young man who was the deputy of Sheriff Buckner at the time of the convention. Mr. Farmer was pitted against George E. Goodrich (D). Farmer won the election with a majority of 247. F. Cunningham (D) for clerk was re-elected to the office, defeating A. F. Florey (R); J. L. C. Irwin (D) defeated Frank E. Kilpatrick

(R), for district attorney; D. Bunn Rea (R) was elected auditor over James Manning (D); L. C. Dunham (R) was elected treasurer, defeating H. L. Conklin (D); George W. Murray (R) had no opposition for the office of assessor; M. B. Washburn (D) was elected tax-collector, defeating J. Worswick (R); J. M. Bowman (D) defeated Perry Griswold (R) for recorder; Mrs. N. E. Davidson (D) was elected superintendent of schools, defeating W. J. M. Cox (R); J. Clarence Rice (R) defeated J. D. Hefton (D) for coroner and public administrator; A. J. Neilsen (R) was elected county surveyor, defeating J. M. Thomas (D).

The supervisors elected were: T. E. Cochrane and A. F. Smith, Republicans, and J. L. Hall, Frank Blakeley and William Vaughan, Democrats. The defeated candidates were: W. S. Burr and James Butts, Democrats; J. M. Dean, Socialist, and Styles McLaughlin and H. D. Barton, Republicans.

Justices of the peace elected were: J. W. Ferguson, G. L. Meadows and H. J. Light, Democrats, and C. M. Smith and Jesse Harris, Republicans. Constables chosen were: H. M. Bernstein, John Bartlet and C. C. A. Henden, Republicans, and Perry Gard and S. Blank, Democrats.

CHAPTER XXIII

IRRIGATION

The history of irrigation in Kings county dates back to 1872, when its present territory constituted a part of Tulare county. The lesser benefits of irrigation had been demonstrated by private parties in different parts of Tulare county, who made efforts to get water from the rivers out to their orchards and gardens on a very limited scale. But these primary efforts were all sufficient to prove the magic effect of irrigation on the rich desert soil which had lain dormant through the embalming summer sunshine of past centuries. Eager settlers were rushing into the country and when they saw what water put to the soil would do; when they saw the prolific streams of Kings river, Kaweah river and Cross creek sweeping down to the basin of Tulare lake; and when they cast their eyes eastward and upward to the illimitable fields of snow and ice cradled among the stupendous heights of the Sierra Nevada mountain range, the object lesson was easy. Nature's mighty resources lay plainly before them, offering the first grand inspiration for organized effort to harness these resources for the reclamation of the desert.

The first successful attempt to irrigate on practical and extended lines was made in 1872, by M. D. Bush, V. F. Geiseler, R. B. Huey and a number of other citizens, who projected the Lower Kings River ditch, covering territory north and east of the town of Lemoore. This ditch company was incorporated in 1873 by the enterprising pioneers of Lemoore and vicinity and its success was an object lesson that inspired the settlers of adjoining districts. When the people saw what water applied to the soil would do, there was a firm resolve to get it at all hazards. The first crops raised on lands irrigated by this ditch furnished labor for many hard-up settlers and the straw from the grain fields was largely used as fodder for the stock of the country which proved a God-send to many a "Sandlapper."

Soon after the above company had demonstrated probable success an enterprising citizen named Daniel Spangler planned to build an irrigating canal from Kings river to what was known as the Lone Oak district, which was designated by a single oak tree standing out on the plains about four miles southwest of the present city of Hanford. From this "Lone Oak" to the point where Mr. Spangler intended to tap Kings river to supply his canal with water was a distance of about twenty miles. Later the People's Ditch Company of Kings river was formed by an association of farmer settlers which took over by mutual transfer the Spangler projects. The People's Ditch Company was incorporated in February, 1873, by Jesse Brown,

W. W. Boyd, George W. Camp, C. Hyatt, Peter Kanawyer, and a score or more of other settlers all eager to be identified with the great work of transforming their desert acres into homes of future productiveness and wealth. The actual work of making the ditch was commenced that year and proceeded as rapidly as possible considering the limited means of its incorporators. F. J. Sibley was the engineer who located and surveyed the course of the ditch nearly on its present permanent line. It was first intended to build one branch of the ditch into Township 21 south range 20 east, but said branch was never completed beyond the south boundary line of township 18 South, range 21 east, a short distance from Armona. The season of 1874 found between three and four miles of the ditch constructed and this was from the point of intake on the river to a point below the structure known as the "Burris check." Very little irrigating was done that season. During the months of May and June of that year the water from Kings river ran through the old channel known as the Burris slough, southeasterly into Cross creek. During the fall and winter of 1874-5 work was prosecuted quite rapidly, so that in the spring of 1875 the company was able to control and distribute systematically considerable water to its stockholders for the irrigation of crops. When the water was turned into the lower portion of the ditch, considerable difficulty was experienced in getting it through on account of the porous nature of the soil. It frequently happened that forty to fifty cubic feet per second would flow for days into subterranean cavities. This would so soften the ground, sometimes for a half mile, that it was dangerous to drive a team over the field near the ditch. At the end of the irrigating season of 1875 it was found that the ditch was far from being completed according to the plans and specifications of the engineer. In places it was not down to grade and in other places not up to grade and in very few places of the width originally proposed. The company was first incorporated for \$10,000, but this amount was soon found to be inadequate to complete the great undertaking. Under existing laws assessments on the stockholders could not be collected in sums large enough to complete the work in a reasonable time. So the capital stock was increased to \$30,000 in 1875; this latter sum not being equal to the demands, the same was increased to \$100,000. After the struggles, privations and great self-denials of these sturdy pioneers the ditch was finally completed as it now exists, about the year 1878 or 1879. During the early years of the work assessments were called for so frequently that many of the stockholders were unable to meet them and their stock had to be sold for the assessments. The whole number of shares of capital stock issued was subscribed for and the assessments kept up for a while, but prior to 1881 more than one-third of the stock issued was sold for assess-

ments and bought in for the company, because no one living in the country on land covered by the ditch at that time had money to buy the stock. In 1912 the total number of shares outstanding and which have not varied for twenty-five years, is sixty-three and thirteen-sixteenths shares. These shares are now held by more than two hundred persons. The largest number of shares now owned by one person is not over five, except that the Settlers Ditch Company now owns sixteen and one-half shares. About 1890, shortly after the passage through the state legislature of what was known as the Wright Irrigation Bill providing for the creation of irrigation districts throughout the state, the Tulare Irrigation District was formed and its promoters bought from the Settlers Ditch Company its right to take water from the Cross creek and floated its point of diversion to a point on Kaweah river about ten miles northeast of Visalia. Thus having sold its water right, the Settlers Ditch Company purchased from the Peoples Ditch Company the sixteen and one-twelfth shares of stock to resupply its ditch. The advantage resulting from the change was that the stockholders of the Settlers Ditch Company were able to have water for irrigation for a longer season each year.

In the early '90s the Riverside Ditch Company was incorporated for the purpose of appropriating water from Kings river and for taking it from a point just above the lower headgate in the Peoples ditch. This ditch extends westerly along the south bank of Kings river for a distance of about ten miles and supplies water for irrigation to several thousand acres of rich land lying south of Kings river. It operates as an auxiliary factor to the Peoples ditch, many of the latter's stockholders owning stock in the Riverside ditch and many land owners along the Riverside ditch renting water from stockholders of Peoples ditch.

SETTLERS DITCH

In June, 1874, an association of farmers organized the Settlers Ditch Company, with the intention of supplying mostly a tract of land in township 18 south, range 22 east, being east and northeast of Hanford. Major Thomas J. McQuiddy, George W. Cotton, C. O. Butler, George Slight, J. M. Cary, Jeremiah Lambert, Orrin Jeffords, J. W. Brown, Alex Taylor, John Urton, Joe Perrin, Ely Bock, C. H. Robinson, Jack Wickham, were the leading men in promoting the interests of this enterprise and incorporating it under the state laws of California. William R. McQuiddy was the first secretary, Attorney W. W. Cross wrote the articles of incorporation. The new company bought instruments for surveying and William R. McQuiddy acted as surveyor for the preliminary work of locating the ditch head at the mouth of Cross creek, after which John S. Urton took charge of the engineering and made definite location of the ditch lines and staked

them out ready for the construction gangs, composed of the stockholders who worked on different sections of the ditch as apportioned by the management. Actual work in excavating was begun in the fall of 1874 and proceeded under difficulties through the winter and spring of 1875. Hard pan was found at the upper end of the works, which necessitated a raise in the grade, this calling for a dam or weir in Cross creek to elevate the water supply to the new grade of the ditch. It was also found necessary to make a cut two miles above from this channel across to Main stream so as to insure water at all times when there was water therein. This cut was 1600 feet long and in places had to be cut down through hardpan. On December 1, 1875, the ditch was practically completed as far south as the county road running east from the north line of the city of Hanford. The water was turned into the ditch about December 1, and the stockholders began to use it on their lands with great rejoicing over their deliverance from the arid conditions of the past. To celebrate this important event a meeting was called at the Eureka schoolhouse. Nearly every person in the community was present, and the good cheer and enthusiasm of all told the story of their triumph over the adverse conditions through which they had passed. One of the principal actors in this celebration was Lyman B. Ruggles, who had bought out George W. Cotten a few months previous. The speechmaking, the songs composed for the occasion, and the banquet of the best eatables that the country then afforded, made this celebration a very enjoyable one for all. Memory turns back from these days of plenty to those days of salt grass, bacon and beans, with so little money, and such a scarcity of credit, and wonders how in the world they ever accomplished such herculean tasks. It was surely a journey through the wilderness, without grain or hay for horse-feed, simply salt grass, and very meager food for men. What was true of the brave men who builded the Settlers' ditch was true of all the other pioneers who from 1872 and later built the other ditches which now carry the living water to their luxuriant homesteads. The Lower Kings river, the Peoples' Ditch, the Last Chance, and the Lakeside Companies were all manned by men of splendid courage, great endurance and a sublime faith that sustained them and led them on in the face of all kinds of hardships and privations to ultimate success. This history may not give every name entitled to credit for the early development of Kings county soil, because they may not all be recalled to memory, but those not named are no less deserving a place in the record of a righteous service to mankind.

THE LAST CHANCE

In 1873 the Last Chance Ditch Company was formed to take water from Kings river to supply the rich lands in the vicinity of Grangeville. The system was about completed in one season and proved

very successful to the territory for which it was intended. The first board of directors of the Last Chance consisted of William L. Morton (chairman), William Ingram, C. W. Hackett, O. H. Bliss, J. R. Heinen, Justin Esrey, L. Gilroy (secretary), J. G. Moore, George Smith, (surveyor), G. H. Hackett, L. Waggner, G. S. Foster, G. T. Thornton, M. S. Babcock, W. A. Caruthers, O. L. Wilson, W. R. Sullenger, John Kurts, E. Erlanger, L. Lowery, John Martin, W. H. Whitesides, William Sutherland, Lewis Haas, Jonathan Esrey, James Sibley, Perry Phillips, George W. Cody, E. Giddings, J. H. Shore, A. S. Ayers, C. Railsback, E. M. Cleveland, Jesse Brown, W. W. Parlin, C. M. Blowers, John Chambers were among the sturdy pioneers and stockholders of the Last Chance enterprise who plowed and scraped on beans and bacon that the desert might bloom as a blessed heritage for future generations.

In the year 1874 the Lakeside Ditch Company was organized, but did not get to doing much until 1875, when it built a canal thirty feet wide and three feet deep to cover the murrigated lands southeast and south of Hanford. The company appropriated three hundred and one cubic feet per second from Cross creek, a branch of Kaweah river. The first board of directors consisted of Robert Doherty Samuel F. Deardorff, C. W. Clark, George A. Dodge, Perry C. Phillips, J. Whiting, Jacob Marsh. Other members and stockholders of the company who were identified in the promotion and actual construction of the Lakeside were: Claude Giddings, George W. Clute, William Kerr, William Covert, John Rourke, Thomas McCarty, Patrick McCarty, John McCarty, E. J. Dibble, E. McNamee, S. D. Brewer, Joseph Peacock, Andrew Blend, W. H. Winnie, A. M. Stone, Simon Stone, John Sigler, R. S. Wait, Oscar Clapp, J. C. Rice, E. P. Irwin, J. G. Herriford, David Dodge, Caryl Church, Henry Hildebrand, George McCann, M. A. Hill, George Doherty, William Doherty, John Smith, James McClellan, Frank McClellan, J. T. Gurnsey, E. Twinning, C. B. Dodge, L. C. Hawley, William H. Dodds, J. V. Dodds. The Lakeside ditch serves a large district, which is largely devoted to dairy and stock interests.

Some years later Carr and Chamberlain built a canal to cover a fine tract of land formerly lake bottom on the north side of Tulare lake. This canal is served by water from the Peoples' ditch and hence is not a primary factor, but simply an extension of the irrigation system.

LAKELAND CANAL AND IRRIGATION COMPANY

In the year 1903 the above named company was formed with the intention of appropriating water from Kings river a few hundred yards above the Peoples' Ditch Company's point of intake. The leading men in its organization were Dr. N. P. Duncan, J. Frank

Pryor, Dr. R. E. Dixon, J. D. McCord. The project contemplated the irrigation of lands about the present city of Corcoran and those lake bottom lands then and thereafter to be reclaimed. The operations of the company have been held in abeyance on account of litigation so that its prospective good results have not yet been realized. R. D. Hunter, E. E. Bush, F. C. Paulin, Stoddard Jess, C. W. Gates, A. H. Brawley are the more recent promoters and custodians of the company's interests. The final success of the undertaking means much to a large area of very fertile land south and east of Tulare lake.

BLAKELEY DITCH

In the spring of 1899 F. Blakeley, Hi Clauson, Max Lovelace, R. E. McKenna, Jack Rhodes and Stiles McLaughlin associated themselves together for the promotion of what is commonly called the Blakeley ditch, contemplating the irrigation of a tract of fine land west and northwest of Tulare lake. The company appropriated 100,000 inches of water from Kings river at a point about one-half mile below the lower bridge. After three miles of canal had been constructed, Mr. Blakeley on his own account extended the system so that its ditches measured thirty-eight miles.

The Empire Water Company was created to distribute water over the lands of the rich district known as the Empire ranch. Also the Mercedes Pumping Company was formed prospectively to water land west of Kings river.

THE KINGS CANAL AND IRRIGATION COMPANY

This company was promoted by Henry Cousins, Hi Clauson, Frank Blakeley, Max Lovelace, Stiles McLaughlin, a Mr. Ogle and others about the year 1900 and contemplated the irrigation of lands east of Kings river and north of Tulare lake as well as future lands reclaimed by the receding of the lake. It is supplied by the same appropriation of the waters from Kings river and served by the same dam as the Blakeley ditch and in fact is twin to the latter named ditch. It is about one hundred feet wide in places and the system embraces about twenty-eight miles of ditch.

RAINFALL FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS

The history of a locality would not be complete without containing a record of those "heavenly blessings" furnished by the weather god. Herewith is presented an authentic rain table kept since 1891, showing the measurement of rain by the month, as gauged at Hanford:

Year 1891-92—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, .52;

October, 0.00; November, .40; December, 1.92; January, .41; February, .99; March, 2.27; April, .19; May, 1.26; total annual, 7.96.

Year 1892-93—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, .26; November, .38; December, 1.46; January, 2.83; February, 1.22; March, 2.53; April, .13; May, 0.00; total annual, 8.81.

Year 1893-94—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, .02; November, .20; December, 1.34; January, .87; February, .40; March, .33; April, .09; May, .20; total annual, 3.45.

Year 1894-95—June, .72; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, .53; October, .25; November, 0.00; December, 3.00; January, 2.79; February, .97; March, .96; April, .50; May, .38; total annual, 10.10.

Year 1895-96—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, 1.05; November, 0.00; December, .35; January, 1.70; February, 0.00; March, .55; April, .76; May, .15; total annual, 4.56.

Year—1896-97—June, 0.00; July, .11; August, .02; September, 0.00; October, .61; November, .72; December, .68; January, 1.56; February, 1.86; March, .11; April, .95; May, 0.00; total annual, 6.62.

Year—1897-98—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, 1.80; November, .21; December, .48; January, .38; February, .89; March, .03; April, .91; May, .41; total annual, 5.11.

Year—1898-99—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 1.44; October, .11; November, .08; December, .75; January, 1.04; February, .17; March, .30; April, 2.66; May, .26; total annual, 6.81.

Year—1899-00—June, .26; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, .96; November, 1.18; December, 1.23; January, 1.61; February, 0.00; March, 1.26; April, 1.33; May, 2.27; total annual, 10.10.

Year—1900-01—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, .25; November, 2.21; December, .22; January, 3.30; February, 2.82; March, .67; April, .27; May, 1.39; total annual, 11.13.

Year—1901-02—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, .57; October, .51; November, .80; December, .24; January, .40; February, 2.17; March, 1.43; April, .50; May, .08; total annual, 6.70.

Year—1902-03—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, .32; November, 1.52; December, .63; January, 1.28; February, .57; March, 1.76; April, .80; May, 0.00; total annual, 6.88.

Year—1903-04—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, .05; November, .32; December, .13; January, .56; February, 2.15; March, 3.07; April, .36; May, 0.00; total annual, 6.64.

Year—1904-05—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 2.00; October, .74; November, 0.00; December, 1.24; January, 1.45; February, 1.16; March, 2.20; April, .48; May, 1.05; total annual, 10.32.

Year—1905-06—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, 0.00; November, 1.37; December, .41; January, 1.81; February, 1.54; March, 4.77; April, .76; May, 1.76; total annual, 12.42.

Year—1906-07—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September,

0.00; October, 0.00; November, .39; December, 3.49; January, 3.51; February, .67; March, 2.39; April, .32; May, 0.00; total annual, 10.77.

Year—1907-08—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, .68; November, 0.00; December, 1.74; January, 1.92; February, 3.03; March, 0.00; April, 0.00; May, .56; total annual, 7.93.

Year—1908-09—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, .91; October, 0.00; November, .66; December, .31; January, 4.35; February, 3.21; March, 1.66; April, 0.00; May, .15; total annual, 11.25

Year—1909-10—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 0.00; October, .19; November, 1.57; December, 2.56; January, 1.87; February, .08; March, 1.47; April, .05; May, .24; total annual, 8.03.

Year—1910-11—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, 1.51; October, .30; November, .23; December, .72; January, 3.37; February, 1.46; March, 2.94; April, 0.00; May, .50; total annual, 11.03.

Year—1911-12—June, 0.00; July, 0.00; August, 0.00; September, .04; October, .09; November, .23; December, .55; January, .51; February, .02; March, 3.15; April, .27; May, 1.52; total annual, 6.38.

CHAPTER XXIV

EXIT AND RETURN OF TULARE LAKE

The most interesting natural phenomenon that has transpired in Kings county since its organization is the vanishing and reappearance of Tulare lake, a body of fresh water, for years the largest in area of any lake west of the Rocky Mountains. This lake at one time within the memory of some pioneers yet living covered one thousand square miles of territory, extending from Kern county northwesterly to near Lemoore. From 1854 to 1872, a period of sixteen years, the area of this lake changed but little. But along in the '70s, irrigation from the streams that poured into this basin which forms the depression in the great Tulare valley, the borders of the lake gradually receded. It is the opinion of Dr. Gustav Eisen, who knew the lake in 1875 and who made a study of it again in 1898, that the use of the waters from the streams by the farmers caused the gradual recession. In a well-written article on the subject Dr. Eisen relates that recession was rapid at the end of the first three years of irrigation farming. The tapping of Kings and Tule rivers, and Cross creek which is fed by the Kaweah river, and the spreading of the water out upon the plains through great systems of canals and laterals caused the southern end of the lake to shrink materially. The shore line in 1854 represented the diagram of an oyster, but by 1875 the southern end had shrunk until it was about a mile in width. At that time the lake was a great hunting and fishing ground. Sail boats and a steamboat plied its waters. At certain points a man could wade out for miles and not reach beyond his depth. From 1875 to 1880 the lake grew smaller and smaller and in 1882 the border had left Kern county entirely. In 1888 it had become almost circular in shape. From a body of water almost eighty miles in length in 1858, by the time Kings county was formed it had shrunken to about two hundred and twenty square miles. The process of evaporation assisted in aiding the irrigationists to uncover the bottom and as that appeared it baked and cracked under the influence of the summer sun until, checked and fissured, it invited the attention of the land seeker, for by placing solid wooden shoes sawed out of plank on the feet of horses, teams could be gotten upon the land and levees could be built and crops put in. Wherever planting was done in this uncovered lake bottom it was discovered that the soil was rich, especially at the deltas of Kings and Tule rivers and Deer and Cross creeks. The uncovered lands belonged to the state under what was known as the Arkansas act passed by Congress in September, 1850. This act provided that swamp and overflow lands such as were of no value in extending waterways and

could not be settled upon under conditions governing the National Homestead Act, should revert to the states in which such lands lay. The California legislature in 1872 passed a swamp and overflow land act which was subsequently amended, enabling settlers to locate on these lands belonging to the state, the uniform price to be \$1 per acre. The law also provided for a reclamation system, which when the requirements were met, the state would pay back to the settler the \$1 per acre advanced. Under this act much swamp and overflowed land was acquired by large corporations through their allied interests. In 1880 the state adopted a new constitution and an important change was made in the matter of handling the swamp land, and Article XVII provided that lands belonging to the state which are suitable for cultivation shall be granted only to actual settlers and in quantities not to exceed three hundred and twenty acres to each settler.

As the waters of Tulare lake continued to vanish and the immense area was laid bare settlers and speculators believing that the lake had disappeared for all time, stampeded to Kings county and "Lakelanders" were as numerous and as enthusiastic as prospectors attracted to a great mining field where a lode has been struck. Reclamation districts of large and small area were organized and levees were erected out of the silt marking the boundaries of such districts. As fast as the water could be fenced in to smaller area by the excited land-seekers the work went on and the claimants plowed and planted and harvested. Some enormous yields of wheat and barley were recorded.

Finally, in 1895, there was no lake. Standing in the center of the vast expanse one May day the writer of this gazed out upon a vast sea of about 50,000 acres of waving grain. The millions of ducks and geese, pelicans, swan and other wild birds that once made the old lake their abiding place had vanished. A stray band of pelicans came in, looked down for the water, but finding none, vanished in the distance. Farmers banked upon a bounteous harvest. But during the winter months that had just passed the canyons of the mighty Sierras had been filled with snow and with the spring rains and warm conditions in the hills the torrents which had in other years formed and kept replenished the old lake came down the rivers. Some of the reclaimers who had particularly good levees managed through great exertion to get their grain out, while others less fortunate saw their thousand of acres go under water; saw their levees melt away like sugar, their houses, barns and haystacks float away, and in a few weeks the theory that irrigation and the multiplied population of the country using the waters of the Sierras in growing vineyards and orchards had robbed the county of its lake, had vanished, and Tulare lake was again on the map covering about the same relative area as it did in 1893.

At present a great levee has been built on the east side of the lake and many thousands of rich acres have thus been reclaimed and the further extension of the levee will expand the reclaimed territory to a large extent.

CHAPTER XXV

RAILROADS

The building of railroads in Kings county since its birth, May 23, 1893, is a matter of much historical import because of the fact that the first competing line for the great San Joaquin Valley originated and took root through the action of Kings county citizens on July 5, 1894. On that date a group of men while gathered at the Hanford *Sentinel* office lamenting the lack of railroad facilities and the burdens from excessive transportation rates from the plug road already in operation, raised a somewhat plaintive cry, "Let's have an independent line," and on Thursday, July 12, 1894, "An Independent Line" constituted the headline under which the first report of an organized effort was published and from which incipient effort resulted what was first called the San Joaquin Valley Railroad Company. From the Hanford *Sentinel* of the above date we quote: "W. H. Worswick is the man who first sounded the key." The first committee on promotion was appointed at a meeting held in the office of D. R. Cameron, July 9, 1894, and consisted of the following representative men: W. W. Parlin, W. H. Worswick, D. R. Cameron, W. S. Porter, W. A. Long, A. V. Taylor, Archibald Yell. On the following day this committee met at the office of Archibald Yell "to consider the preliminaries of getting a start." By invitation E. Jacobs of Visalia was present and gave valuable suggestions. The discussions resulted in adding to the above committee the names of B. L. Barney, E. Jacobs, S. E. Biddle, W. P. McCord, Frank L. Dodge, W. J. Newport, the whole to constitute a board of directors for a temporary organization; Archibald Yell being made president and D. R. Cameron, secretary. A committee named to map out a route through Kings county included the following gentlemen: E. P. Irwin, F. J. Walker, W. H. Worswick, George A. Dodge, Joshua Worswick, W. P. McCord, W. W. Parlin. Numerous offers were made by farmers to give right of way and grade the road through their premises and general discussion and liberal offers of assistance were indulged in by the community at large. When the above reports had been circulated other counties took up the cry for "An Independent Line" and the next issue of the *Sentinel* carried the cheering headlines, "Now is the

time to strike, for the iron is hot and the people know their needs. The action of Kings county meets with a hearty response from Contra Costa county." The Hanford organization was highly encouraged by letters from Antioch and San Francisco. Assurances of help by uniting with the Kings county people gave added impetus to the cause and the counties of Fresno, Tulare and Kern soon fell into line by holding public meetings and appointing committees to confer with the Kings county organization. J. S. Leeds, manager of the San Francisco Traffic Association, in an interview said: "It is a good time for San Francisco to go to work. If one county can do what these people of Kings county are doing the other counties can be relied upon to do something of the same kind. Let us join hands with them." At Antioch a mass meeting was held and C. M. Belshaw introduced a strong resolution stating that the people of Antioch "are in hearty accord and sympathy with the scheme promulgated by the citizens of Kings county." C. G. Lamberson of Visalia who had interests in Kings county enlisted as a helper. Supervisors Letcher and Foster of Fresno county came out emphatically in favor of the Kings county movement and advocated a plan to bond Fresno county in the sum of \$600,000 to aid the project. Tulare county people began to awaken and Kern county also felt an impulse to join in a scheme to reduce a transportation rate, the excess of which over a fair and just rate would soon pay for a competing road. At this juncture the political campaign of 1894 came on and also a question of the government ownership of the Southern Pacific lines which had a tendency to dampen the ardor of the people toward the newly proposed railroad in the various interior counties of the San Joaquin Valley; but the Traffic Association of San Francisco about the middle of October, 1894, began an effort to raise \$350,000 to start "The Valley Railroad" as it was then called. Then a company known as the "United Railroad Company," managed by a man named Hartzell at Stockton, launched a scheme to build a road from Stockton to Bakersfield. This was in November, 1894. It sought to unite with the San Francisco Traffic Association and was encouraged by P. McRae of Hanford. The original movement by Kings county people seemed for a while held up by the efforts of the above combines and the seeming reluctance of capitalists in the northern metropolis to justly aid the interests of the San Joaquin Valley people. Late in November, 1894, D. R. Cameron, secretary of the Kings county railroad promotion committee, threw a bombshell into the camp of the San Francisco business men by writing a letter to the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, setting forth a proposition whereby Los Angeles might unite in building a competing railroad into the San Joaquin Valley, thus securing a substantial interchange of trade which their present transportation rates prohibited. This valley had previously looked north to

San Francisco for aid. The lethargy of that city was phenomenal. The proposition was well received by Los Angeles people and again enthusiasm went to an upper mark. A meeting was called by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce for January 12, 1895. Delegations were sent to this meeting appointed by the Boards of Supervisors of the respective counties as follows: Kings county, S. E. Biddle, F. L. Dodge, D. R. Cameron; Fresno county, T. C. White, Fulton G. Berry, J. H. Kelley, O. J. Woodward; Kern county, W. H. Holabird; Tulare county, E. Barris. The delegates were well received by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and two enthusiastic sessions were held at which resolutions endorsing the Matthews bill which was then pending before the State Legislature, empowering counties to issue bonds for constructing railroads within their boundaries. A committee on Ways and Means was appointed. Said committee elected W. H. Holabird chairman, Charles Forman secretary, and J. M. Elliott of the First National Bank of Los Angeles, treasurer. The sense of the meeting was strong that a line of railway be built from Los Angeles into the San Joaquin Valley and recommended the means provided by the Matthews Bill as an incentive for the various counties to act.

The result of the Los Angeles meeting was the bomb that awakened San Francisco capitalists, for no sooner than reports reached them that Los Angeles was interested in getting the trade of this great valley did the Bay City see its danger and her prominent business men began to bestir themselves to enlist capital to come to the rescue. Word was quickly sent to the Kings county organization that a committee of twelve had been selected in San Francisco with Claus Spreckels at the head, with a subscription of \$700,000; that a company was forming to be capitalized in the sum of \$2,000,000 which would all be subscribed in that city in a few days to guarantee the building of the new road from San Francisco to Bakersfield. The San Francisco committee consisted of Claus Spreckels, Alexander Boyd, James D. Phelan, James F. Flood, O. D. Baldwin, David Meyer, W. F. Whittier, Albert Miller, Charles Holbrook, Thomas Magee, John T. Doyle, and E. F. Preston. This action electrified the whole city and set everybody talking about the new railroad, while the San Joaquin Valley rang with the hallelujahs of promised deliverance. Even Los Angeles took up the strain and advocated a continued line of road to that city. On January 2nd, 1895, a mass meeting was held in the Hanford Opera House. After discussion of the outlook by prominent citizens a committee was appointed to confer with the San Francisco committee, consisting of E. E. Manheim, D. R. Cameron, S. E. Biddle, P. McRae, F. L. Dodge, Louis F. Montague, F. W. Van Sicklin, S. C. Lillis, A. Kutner, J. E. Rawlins. The San Francisco Chronicle encouraged the enterprise by giving a whole page write-up of the great resources of

the various counties through which the new road would pass. In its write-up it said of Kings County:

"Kings County is known as the baby county of the state, from the fact that it was the last one to be created. It was taken from Tulare County, and includes all of Tulare Lake, a shallow basin of about 100 square miles in area. This new county of Kings is in the direct line of all railroad enterprises that expect to traverse the San Joaquin Valley. It has an assessed acreage of 427,281 acres and an assessed wealth of, in 1892, about \$7,000,000. The territory of this county is irrigated by ditches having their supply from Kings and Kaweah rivers and Cross Creek, furnishing what is claimed to be the best, cheapest and most thorough irrigation system."

At this time \$2,100,000 had been subscribed and articles of incorporation filed in which San Francisco and Bakersfield were named as terminal points. The capital stock of the company was placed at \$6,000,000, the length of the road to be 350 miles.

But all great enterprises meet with difficulties and now came the one great question, how to get into San Francisco? Claus Spreckels found the way blocked against right of way for terminal facilities and had to go to the State Legislature to get a Bill enacted so as to be able to lease mud flats for terminal grounds.

Trouble also came to the people of Hanford and Kings county in the way of different routing of the line through the valley. Down the west side or the east side, which? While Kings county as the pioneers in the work had brought it to a probable success, her people were called upon to "put up" or lose the goose. As it was proclaimed by C. F. Preston, one of the San Francisco boosters, to be "a people's road, built with the people's money and owned by the people," the Hanford committee reported, after a canvass of the county, that 1068 days' work by men and teams, making over three years' work, had been offered, several hundred tons of hay, an amount of barley and some money; besides this three different men had promised to grade enough to make one-half the distance across the county. The city of Hanford would furnish depot grounds and right of way.

At this time 390 names were on the San Francisco subscription list, aggregating \$2,388,300. Claus Spreckels said he wanted it called the "people's road" and not Spreckels' road. The San Francisco Examiner said in its praise: "The valley road will save the trade and industry of the city from the strangling grip of the Southern Pacific's policy that is now directed to give the trade of the interior to Chicago and New York."

April 29, 1895, Claus Spreckels, Robert Watt and Capt. H. H. Payson, directors of the new valley road, visited Hanford on a tour of inspection as to probable routes and to view the resources from which the new road might expect patronage. The Hanford committee gave them a ride through the surrounding country and a banquet.

The "San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railroad" had now become a certainty; rails had been purchased for a beginning and contracts for construction were being negotiated. Committees in the various counties were working for rights of way, it being about settled that the road from Fresno would branch to both sides of the valley. May 7th a Hanford committee, consisting of E. E. Bush, D. R. Cameron, L. S. Chittenden and Frank L. Dodge, were sent on a trip to look out the most direct route down the west side to Bakersfield.

A committee of the directors of the road again visited Hanford on a final tour of inspection on May 7th, and it was then admitted that Hanford would be on the main line. On Friday, the 22nd day of January, 1897, was transacted the very important business of signing contracts with the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railroad Company by which Kings County was to get the main line, and on Monday night, January 25th, the Hanford City Council granted a franchise through the city for the building and operating of the new road. On Tuesday, January 26th, duly authorized committee, consisting of E. E. Bush, D. R. Cameron and P. McRea, as custodians of the money raised and deeds collected for rights of way, signed the contract with the railroad company which secured the prize for which Kings county had been struggling for during the past three years.

There was little left to be done by the people but to await the building of the road south from Fresno to Bakersfield, via Hanford. While Hanford people took the initiative and with commendable zeal pushed the enterprise from the start, the financial requirements were so far beyond them that the actual construction and equipment must necessarily pass to the hands of a company of capitalists, which it did and thus the matter of control by the people was wholly lost and the question of its being and remaining a competing railroad when finished was a mere guess. However, it was an improvement much needed and desired by the people and all were pleased, and encouraged to greater activity in all lines of industry that belong to this, the greatest inland empire of the Pacific Coast. The actual coming of the iron horse over the new road was celebrated in Hanford on May 23rd, 1897, just two years, eleven months and eighteen days from the date of the first meeting in Hanford to start it.

The celebration of its coming was combined with the fifth anniversary celebration of Kings county. On that date the first passenger train over the new road sounded its whistle to the largest crowd that had ever gathered at Hanford. There were parades with bands of music; floats representing horticultural and agricultural interests, as well as the city business houses, the educational and civic institutions of Kings county and many delegations of visitors from surrounding counties and towns. One thousand people came in on the first passenger train, including the directors and other officers of the new road.

After the grand parade had been reviewed by the visitors and the

happy thousands of home people, exercises were held at a grand stand where eloquent speeches were made by E. E. Manheim, president Hanford Chamber of Commerce; Judge Justin Jacobs of Kings county, Vice-President Robert Watt of the road, Col. E. E. Preston, counsel for the road. It was a gala day for Kings county, then the baby county of the state, because the new road had reduced freights and fares to San Francisco about one-third and had brought such improved accommodations as to merit the praise of all.

CHAPTER XXVI

DAIRY INDUSTRY

No history of Kings county would be complete without mention of the dairy industry, and it was only four years prior to the organization of the county that the dairy industry was founded, in the year 1889, by a few progressive ranchers. It was due to their foresight and persistent efforts that a co-operative company for the manufacture of cheese was formed and incorporated. At that time it was generally believed that climatic conditions in this part of the valley were such as to preclude the successful manufacture of dairy products commercially, but the new company erected a factory at Hanford and subsequently another factory was built in the Lakeside district, eight miles south. The Lakeside institution operated for several years, but was finally acquired by the Hanford company. The establishment of these factories inspired the ranchers to improve their stock, and the mongrel cows of the old home dairy days gave way to imported short-horn Durham, Holstein, Jersey, Ayrshire and other breeds, so we can mark the beginning of the present extensive dairy business here to the advent of factory cheese-making. As it was soon learned that alfalfa was the great forage for the dairy, cheese making prospered, and in 1889 the two cheese factories passed into the ownership of A. B. Crowell, one of the county's first interested dairymen. In that year he made up into cheese 1700 pounds of milk per day. During the six years which followed, the patronage of the factories grew to 10,000 pounds of milk per day, and in the year 1902 the Hanford factory, which had then swallowed up the Lakeside plant, turned out 150,000 pounds of cheese. But in 1897, F. J. Peacock established a butter factory in the Dallas district, near where the town of Corcoran now stands. He subsequently established other butter-making plants,

and so rapidly did the butter industry grow that in 1902 there were 4500 cows in the county, supplying cream to the factories, the Kings County Creamery alone paying out that year to the dairymen \$120,000 for milk and cream. Finally the Hanford cheese factory was destroyed by fire, and the butter industry having grown more popular, absorbed the attention of the dairymen, and cheese making in the county has been since confined to small private plants, but an article of excellent grade is made for local consumption.

In 1903 a company was organized in Hanford for the condensation of milk. A factory was erected and equipped, but through some fault in the management the project was a failure.

The creamery business, however, has flourished until in 1911 the output of dairy products from the dairies of the county amounted to \$1,574,250. There are five incorporated creameries in the county now, and others in prospect.

CHAPTER XXVII
THE CITY OF HANFORD

Hanford, the chief city and county seat of Kings county, is situated midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, and the townsite was laid out by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company in March, 1877. The town was named after James Hanford, who was auditor of the railroad company at the time the railroad was built to this point. As an unincorporated town it soon became an important trading point, and in July, 1891, after a series of annual conflagrations, the people determined to incorporate the town and make it a city of the sixth class. Accordingly a petition was presented to the board of supervisors of Tulare county on July 10, 1891, praying for an election to be called for the purpose of deciding upon the subject of incorporating.

The petition contained the description of the boundaries of the proposed city, and they were as follows, to wit: Beginning at a point thirty feet north and thirty feet west of the southeast corner of section 36, township 18 south, range 21 east, M. D. B. and M., thence running due north to a point thirty feet south and thirty feet west of the northeast corner of section 25, township 18 south, range 21 east, M. D. B. and M., thence due west to a point thirty feet south and thirty feet east of the northwest corner of said section 25, thence due south to a point thirty feet north and thirty feet east of the southwest corner of aforesaid section 36, thence due east to point of beginning.

Those who petitioned for this movement were: Frank J. Walker, T. Gebhardt, J. H. Malone, J. Manasse, F. A. Blakeley, O. B. Phelps, Dixon L. Phillips, R. G. White, S. E. Biddle, S. Rehoefer, R. Mills, E. E. Manheim, F. L. Dodge, J. D. Biddle, C. R. Brown, J. J. Harlow, George Slight, J. T. Baker, E. E. Rush, R. W. Musgrave, Z. D. Johns, N. P. Duncan, D. Gamble, J. H. Sharp, A. J. Huff, A. E. Chittenden, F. A. Dodge, J. D. Spencer, B. C. Bestman, W. R. McQuiddy, B. C. Mickle, A. P. Gomes, D. L. Healy, E. Axtell, T. J. McQuiddy, E. P. Irwin, P. A. Hoy, N. Weisbaum, K. Simon, C. B. Rourke, J. P. Ames, J. G. Mickle, J. G. Clanton, J. Hanley, Wm. Roughton, J. Weisbaum, J. R. Beckwith, E. J. Benedict, C. R. Hawley, Wm. Corey, E. Weisbaum, John S. Thompson, H. G. Lacey, S. M. Rosenberger, R. L. Roughton, H. C. Pallin, W. H. Nyswonger, W. A. Arnold, S. M. Joiner, Charles F. Cuning, George W. King, C. J. Hall, C. W. Cooper, Charles King, R. Starkweather, A. H. Martin, R. Irwin, F. V. Dewey, H. Buck, Charles Vosburg, A. E. Gribi, M. C. LaFortune, J. C. Davis, E. M. Priant, Wm. McVey, Samuel J. Bee, A. G. Dollenmayer, J. F. Garwood, E. Lord, H. C. Tandy.

The election was held on August 8, 1891, and resulted in the following vote: For incorporation, 127; against incorporation, 47.

ELECTIVE OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF HANFORD FROM 1891 TO 1913

From 1891 to 1892—Trustees: E. Axtell, B. A. Fassett, James O. Hickman, James Manasse and George Slight. President of the Board, B. A. Fassett; City Clerk, W. R. McQuiddy; Treasurer, N. Weisbaum; Marshal, Wm. A. Bush.

From 1892 to 1894—Trustees: E. Axtell, B. A. Fassett, E. Lord, Richard Mills and George Slight. President of the Board, B. A. Fassett; City Clerk, Edward Weisbaum; Treasurer, Jas. O. Hickman; Marshal, Wm. A. Bush.

From 1894 to 1896—Trustees: S. B. Hicks, J. H. Malone, R. E. Starkweather, E. Lord and George Slight. President of the Board, George Slight; City Clerk, Frank Pryor; Treasurer, J. O. Hickman; Marshal, H. McGinnis.

From 1896 to 1898—Trustees: D. R. Cameron, John Ross, S. B. Hicks, J. H. Malone and R. E. Starkweather. President of the Board, S. B. Hicks; City Clerk, Frank Pryor; Treasurer, Arthur D. King; Marshal, H. McGinnis.

From 1898 to 1900—Trustees: S. E. Biddle, J. G. Burgess, J. H. Farley, D. R. Cameron and John Ross. President of the Board, D. R. Cameron; City Clerk, Frank Pryor; Treasurer, A. D. King; Marshal, H. McGinnis.

From 1900 to 1904—Trustees: Wm. Abbott, W. H. Camp, S. E. Biddle, J. G. Burgess and J. H. Farley. President of the Board, J. H. Burgess; City Clerk, B. W. Moore; Treasurer, A. D. King; Marshal, Ed. Reuck.

From 1902 to 1904—Trustees: Wm. Abbott, Wm. Camp, J. W. Rhoads, Harry Widmer and J. E. Viney. President of the Board, Harry Widmer; City Clerk, Jas. A. Hill; Treasurer, F. R. Hight; Marshal, A. M. Frederick.

From 1904 to 1906—Trustees: W. H. Camp, E. H. Walker, J. E. Viney, J. W. Rhoads and H. Widmer. President of the Board, Harry Widmer; City Clerk, Jas. A. Hill; Treasurer, F. R. Hight; Marshal, A. M. Frederick.

From 1906 to 1908—Trustees: H. A. Beekhuis, W. H. Camp, E. H. Walker, Grant Starkweather and J. M. Dean. President of the Board, H. A. Beekhuis; City Clerk, Jas. A. Hill; Treasurer, F. R. Hight; Marshal, A. M. Frederick.

From 1908 to 1910—Trustees: H. A. Beekhuis, B. L. Barney, David Gamble, J. M. Dean, Grant Starkweather. President of the Board, H. A. Beekhuis, who resigned and B. L. Barney was chosen president; City Clerk, James A. Hill; Treasurer, F. R. Hight; Marshal, A. M. Frederick.

From 1910 to 1912—Trustees: B. L. Barney, F. M. Parish, Grant

Starkweather, David Gamble, A. W. Bass. President of the Board, B. L. Barney; City Clerk, D. C. Williams; Treasurer, F. R. Hight; Marshal, A. M. Frederick.

From 1912 to 1914—Trustees: Charles H. Coe, J. H. Dawson, A. W. Bass, F. M. Parish, Grant Starkweather. President of the Board, Charles H. Coe; City Clerk, D. C. Williams; Treasurer, F. R. Hight; Marshal (now appointive), Samuel Humphreys. The latter resigned in January, 1913, and Clarence Seaman was appointed to succeed him.

The City of Hanford at this time, twenty-two years after it was incorporated, enjoys fifteen blocks of business streets paved with asphaltum concrete and curbed with granite. The city owns its own Holly water system for protection against fire, having one of the best duplicated systems of steam pumping through a system of underground water mains extending throughout the city that can be found in any city of its size. A volunteer fire department of thirty-five men is equipped with auto chemical and hose truck, hand chemicals, etc., which were purchased in 1912 and succeeded horse-drawn apparatus. In October, 1912, the city voted bonds in the sum of \$35,000 to extend the then existing fire system, which was built in the early '90s and subsequently extended. At this election bonds of \$80,000 were also voted to rehabilitate a city sewer system constructed originally in 1900 by a bond issue. In the latter year a bond election was held, November 20, and bonds in the sum of \$50,000 were voted, the vote being 324 for and 109 against the bonds. A sewer farm of one hundred and sixty acres was purchased, the same being the northwest quarter of section 12, 19-21. A septic tank was there built, and a system of sewers, the largest size of pipe used being twelve inch for the outfall, was constructed. At that time, with the population of the city being about 2,900, the system was fairly adequate, but the rapid increase of population and the fact that the first sewer constructed was in many respects improperly done, permitting of deterioration, in the summer of 1908 the city reconstructed the outfall and extended the service within the city. This proved also only a temporary relief, and the growth of population having reached the 6,000 mark in 1912, the sewer question became a pressing one, hence the bonds called for and voted in November last, as above stated. The contract for this sewer extension, the building of the Imhoff disposal plant, etc., was awarded January 28, 1913. Through a technicality the courts declared the bond issue invalid.

Hanford is supplied with a city hall which is the headquarters of the fire department, as well as the seat of municipal government, where the city recorder and the city clerk have their offices in connection with the chamber of the board of trustees.

VANISHING OF THE SALOONS

From the time when the Southern Pacific railroad had reached this point and Hanford was staked out, the traffic in intoxicating liquors flourished as in all western towns until 1912. While the license policy that prevailed in the town was perhaps as well managed as in any average city, there gradually grew up a sentiment that the liquor business was detrimental to the social welfare of the community, although the revenue derived from the licensing of the traffic was considerable and helped in a large degree to defray the expenses of the municipal government. The religious element, assisted by others not within the churches, gradually encroached against the legal barriers thrown about the liquor traffic by ordinances for police protection, although the prime object was revenue, and in the winter of 1909 under the leadership of the ministerial association of the city a campaign was started and was fought out at the municipal election in April of 1910. One set of candidates pledged to oppose the saloons was nominated and contested for the offices of trustee against a "business men's" ticket, not pledged, but generally supposed to be pro-saloon. The campaign was bitterly fought, and the election on April 11 resulted in the election of F. M. Parish, A. W. Bass and J. H. Dawson, "Good Government" or "Citizens'" candidates, over G. Starkweather, J. Hedgeland and C. F. Flemming, of the opposition.

The vote was close, the average majority of the winning candidates being but thirty-five votes. The election of these men gave the temperance forces a majority of the board, the holdover members being B. L. Barney and David Gamble. Between the total vote for Dawson and the total vote for Starkweather there was, however, a difference of only seven votes in favor of Dawson. This led to a contest, which resulted in favor of Starkweather in a recount before the superior court, Judge Mahon, of Kern county, presiding. The case was appealed to the supreme court and the judgment of Mahon seating Starkweather was affirmed, and he replaced Mr. Dawson on the board, thus insuring another term of the license system in the city.

The anti-saloon forces, however, would not quit. The campaign was taken up again by the Anti-Saloon League of California, and the state legislature of 1910-11 enacted the Wylie local option law, which gave the anti-saloon people a chance for another round with the saloons in Hanford. Petitions were circulated for an election under that act, and to decide the "wet" and "dry" question in conjunction with the municipal election to be held on April 7, 1912. John Dawson, who had been ousted by the Starkweather contest of two years previous, and Charles H. Coe were candidates for the anti-saloon ticket, and S. B. Hicks and W. R. Newport were the candidates of the opposition ticket for trustees, although both sides were pledged to enforce the law on the liquor question in accordance with the expression of the

voters. A lively and at times bitter campaign was fought out. At the election the total vote cast on the liquor question was 1,740 (the women voting under the new franchise act), and there were 753 votes cast for license and 987 votes cast against it. The large majority for the "dry" element successfully elected Messrs. Coe and Dawson, and when they took their seats on the board of trustees the board immediately proceeded to eliminate the saloon traffic from the city. The question of granting salaries to the members of the board of trustees was also endorsed by the electors, and for the first time in the history of the city the trustees became salaried officials.

The new board met and organized on April 15. Under the new law the city marshal became an appointed officer, and Samuel Humphreys was chosen. F. E. Kilpatrick was chosen city attorney. D. C. Williams was elected clerk by the people, and the board appointed A. M. Ashley city recorder. Thus organized the first city government under the "dry" regime began operation. Under the provisions of the state law the saloons automatically went out of business ninety days after the people had by a majority vote so decreed, and in Hanford, on the night of July 6, 1912, after existing for thirty-five years with a legalized saloon system, the bars were closed and the traffic was abandoned by the edict of the people.

CHURCHES OF HANFORD

As early as 1874 a Christian Church organization was formed by Major T. J. McQuiddy, W. R. McQuiddy, Elder Craigie Sharp, Courtney Talbot, J. M. Patterson, Sally Cotton, Welcome Fowler and others. This organization held meetings in Eureka schoolhouse. Later the place of meeting was in the Grangeville schoolhouse. In 1878 Hanford was chosen by the society as a permanent location and a church was built at the corner of Eighth and Brown streets. Later this church was rebuilt in its present convenient and commodious proportions.

In November, 1880, the Presbyterian Church society, which had been organized, was given a new impetus by Rev. N. W. Motheral, who was given its leadership. He put his native ability and force into immediate action by building a new church building. In this enterprise he was obliged to haul lumber fifty miles from the mills, then in operation about Tollhouse in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Accordingly he engaged Julius Coe, Wesley Underwood, Ben Scrivner and a man named Barker, who formed a wagon train of five big teams to make the trip to the mills for lumber. In March, 1881, the church was completed and the first service held in it by the Presbyterian society was the funeral of Joseph Motheral, the sixteen-year-old son of N. W. Motheral, the founder of the church. Mr. Motheral held the pastorate of the church for many years, when he resigned to serve an appointment on the State Horticultural Commission. Rev. E. Lisle then served a term as pastor, at the end of which Mr. Motheral again

took up the pastorate and served until his health failed. The Presbyterian church has grown and prospered with the city and county under the pastorate of the Rev. Sanders, I. B. Self, George B. Gregg, J. W. Mount and John Steel. In 1912 the lot at the corner of Eighth and Douty streets on which the church was located was sold to the county for the sum of \$16,000. The church society moved the old building to a new location on the southwest corner of Irwin and Dewey streets.

In the year 1880 the Methodist Church society organized, and bought an old schoolhouse, which they moved on to a lot at the southeast corner of Douty and Eighth streets. Here the congregation worshiped through the struggling vicissitudes of its pioneer days, which, as is common to all church societies, seemed at times to baffle all efforts to sustain it. In 1886 a new pastor came from Tennessee in the person of Andrew G. Parks. He was a young, energetic man, who took command with ability and vigor. It was not without great self-denial and a perseverance at times sublime that he kept the lights burning until the dawn of better times and a growth in the whole community that brought a prosperous era. About the year 1891 the Methodist society sold their property and relocated on the corner of Irwin and Park avenue, where a new and commodious church building was erected under the pastorate of Rev. G. E. Morrison. He was considered a specially qualified man to plan, build and collect funds for church building, and as such did a good job for the church here, but later he became a resident of Texas, where he was convicted of poisoning his wife and was hung. The church has since prospered and is supported by a substantial congregation.

In 1880 an Episcopal church was organized, the first service being held under Rector D. O. Kelley in the uncompleted Presbyterian church building. Rev. Nixon followed in the work until in 1884 Rev. C. S. Linsley took charge and built a comfortable church on South Douty street, where the society flourished under various rectors until the year 1911, when under Rector G. R. E. MacDonald a new brick church was built on the corner of North Douty and Eleventh streets. Mr. MacDonald was a justly popular leader and under him the church grew to be a leading factor among religious interests of the city of Hanford. His predecessor, J. S. Maynard, was also a popular rector, whose work left a favorable impress on the community.

In the year 1882 the Catholics built a mission church here on the corner of Seventh and Reddington streets. Services were held once a month for a while by Father Guerrio, a Spanish priest, located at Visalia. Following him were Fathers Caraspo, Smith, Murphy, Brady and Seher. Father Smith was the first resident priest. In 1912 Father Seher made plans to move the church property and enlarge its accommodations. Ground was secured at the corner of Douty and Florida streets. The new property will include five large buildings, a school, a convent, a rectory, a church and an assembly hall. The property as

a whole will occupy sixteen lots. The Catholic church has a large and increasing following among the Portuguese and other foreign blood citizenship.

The Seventh Day Advent church was first established at Lemoore about 1887. The second church of that denomination was formed at Grangeville a few years later, but about 1900, to make it more central for the increasing membership, it was moved to Armona. In the early '90s the Adventists built another church at Hanford on the corner of Ninth and Harris streets, and in 1906 also built a church on the island northwest of Lemoore. The sect has about 400 members in the county and maintains schools in connection with their churches at Hanford, Armona and on the island. Elder J. W. Bagby has had leading charge of the work for about twelve years.

The Church of God, at No. 315 East Eleventh street, was established locally about 1904 and later acquired the church property belonging to the United Brethren. The society maintains services, but has no regular pastor.

The First Baptist church, at No. 521 North Irwin street, was established on July 17, 1892. Its first pastor was I. T. Wood, and Thomas A. Dodge its first clerk; Moses P. Troxler, deacon.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, was established as a society in 1898 and as a church in 1902, with thirty-two members. W. R. McQuiddy and Mrs. Isabella Lloyd were the first and second readers, respectively, for the first term.

First Church of Christ was established in a new building built for that purpose at the corner of Irwin and Myrtle streets in 1908 with Major T. J. McQuiddy, S. J. White and David Utterback its principal promoters, J. A. Craig being its first pastor.

The Free Methodist church at No. 621 North Harris street was established in the year 1891. Its first pastor was B. L. Knoll. It has a membership of forty-three and maintains regular services, class meetings and a Sunday school.

The Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at the corner of Brown and Ninth streets, was established about 1895, first holding its meetings in a cottage in the western part of Hanford. Later the society built and moved into the property where they now worship. Their first pastor was Rev. W. E. Phillips.

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion church, now located at South Donty and Second streets, was established about 1890 by Rev. Sydney Knox. The society had several years of uphill work, but conditions improved and the society maintains its work in the community.

The Second Baptist (colored) church, at South Irwin and Second streets, was started in 1898, its first officers being Henry Wyatt, John Welcher, Stephen Shaw. The first pastor was Rev. E. E. Bickers.

SCHOOLS OF KINGS COUNTY

The educational affairs of Kings county are among its proudest assets. When the county was organized in 1893 there was but one high school, and the formation of the county was in itself an inspiration for better educational advantages. At the birth of the county there were twenty-nine school districts employing forty-three teachers. There were only two thousand census children, and there were only five schools employing more than one teacher. Of the sixteen hundred pupils then enrolled in schools of the county, the one high school, that located at Hanford, enrolled fifty-four pupils. The school property of the county was estimated at less than \$90,000.

The growth of territory by annexation, and the extending of the cultivated area, together with the rapid settlement of the farming districts and the towns, has brought the school attendance up to three thousand two hundred in 1912.

There are now three high schools, one at Hanford, employing ten teachers; one at Lemoore, employing five teachers, and one at Corcoran, employing two. The enrollment in all high schools, including two joint high school districts, was two hundred and twenty-four. The Hanford Union High School was established in 1892, the Lemoore High School in 1900, and the Corcoran High School in 1912. There were at the beginning of 1913 forty grammar school districts in the county, employing eighty-five teachers. The enrollment in the grammar schools was two thousand eight hundred and fifteen, with an average daily attendance of two thousand three hundred and eighty-two.

There were graduated from the grammar schools in 1912 one hundred and forty pupils, and from the high schools thirty-seven. The school property of the county is now valued at \$299,050. As the educational affairs of the state at large advance the general effect is noted in the building of modern school buildings, and the county has today very excellent country school buildings and the city schools are also modern in design and facilities for carrying on the work. Since the county was formed there have been three different county superintendents in office, viz.: James A. Graham, Charles McCourt and Mrs. N. E. Davidson, the latter being the present incumbent.

HANFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The city of Hanford possesses a free public library which today is the central library of a county library system, the latter being established in 1912. The history of the movement which finally developed a free city library and afterwards extending its benefits and influences county-wide, began back in 1890, when a meeting of citizens of the then unincorporated town was held December 27 and a reading room association was formed. This association opened a reading room on May 26, 1891, in a wooden building on

Seventh street between Douty and Irwin streets. Mrs. M. A. Harlow was chosen president of the association and presided at the meeting. Mrs. Nellie Henderson (now Mrs. Malone) was the first librarian. At the meeting refreshments were served, and interested citizens brought books and formed the nucleus of a library. After that through the means of donations, socials and concerts sufficient funds were raised to maintain the reading room, pay rentals and a little something to the librarian.

In May, 1892, after Hanford had been incorporated, the reading room control was transferred to the city authorities and a library board was selected by the city trustees, the selection being as follows: Mesdames D. L. Phillips, R. G. White, N. Abrams, J. W. Barbour, and W. V. Buckner. Miss Laura Lemon was employed as librarian. In a rented building the library was conducted by this board, and in September, 1902, application was made to Andrew Carnegie for a gift of money with which to establish a library. The application was for \$15,000, and Carnegie offered \$10,000. This was not considered sufficient by the ladies. A second request was forwarded to Mr. Carnegie, and he raised his donation to \$12,500. This was accepted by the library trustees, and they set about securing a site. After considerable discussion, which brought out no little contention, the Kutner-Goldstein Company offered to the city a site on East Eighth street where the present library is situated, and the same was purchased. In connection with the disposal of the lots the Kutner-Goldstein Company pledged the city \$500 worth of books as a gift as soon as the new Carnegie building was finished.

Following the decision of the city authorities to purchase the site referred to, members of the library board dissatisfied with the selection of the site, and backed by other citizens, sued out an injunction in the courts to prevent the acceptance of the site by the city. The case was heard in the superior court, Judge Austin, of Fresno, presiding, and the injunction was denied. An appeal was taken and on January 31, 1905, the appellate court affirmed the decision of the lower court, sustaining the action of the city board. This led to the resignation of the ladies, who comprised the library board. They had, however, secured plans for the new library building, which they had on file.

The city trustees then appointed a new board composed of men to carry forward the library work. The new board selected consisted of Fred A. Dodge, chairman; P. M. Norboe, secretary; Dr. J. A. Moore, Z. D. Johns and U. S. Bock.

This board immediately went to work, slightly altered the plans on hand for the building, and let the contract to David Gamble for the erection of the building which was to be of artificial stone or concrete block. The building work proceeded and on August 12,

1905, the cornerstone was laid with simple ceremony, consisting of a brief address by City Clerk James A. Hill. Within the cornerstone were placed copies of the Hanford *Daily Sentinel*, copies of the Hanford *Semi-Weekly Journal*, a complete set of the then existing city ordinances, a card bearing the names of the first board of city trustees, viz.: B. A. Fassett, E. Axtell, J. O. Hickman, George Slight and J. Manasse, and the first city clerk, W. R. McQuiddy, and many other relics of the early history of the town. The construction of the new building progressed, and on February 6, 1906, the library board met and set February 22 as the date for the dedication of the new building.

The arrangements were carried out, and at the commodious and well-furnished Carnegie library building with a number of fairly well-filled book stacks, on the night of February 22, the people assembled for a brief program. Fred A. Dodge, chairman of the library board, called the assemblage to order and introduced Prof. E. H. Walker, principal of the Hanford Union High School, who made an address on "The Function of a Public Library." Miss Margaret E. Dold, the librarian, also gave an address on "The Library and its Wants." Chairman Dodge then on behalf of the board of library trustees presented the completed building to the city of Hanford. Secretary P. M. Norboe made an address in which he presented the financial statement of the construction showing that the building had been erected and made ready for public use for the sum of \$12,472.99, leaving a balance from the Carnegie gift in the treasury amounting to \$27.01. In his remarks Secretary Norboe gave credit to library trustee Z. D. Jolms, who had freely given his time in superintending the construction, for assisting in enabling the board to complete the building within the amount appropriated.

The new building was accepted on behalf of the city by Harry Widmer, chairman of the board of city trustees, in which he complimented the library board on the excellent work done.

Since the dedication of the library it has grown and become a most serviceable and prized institution in the city. Miss Dold served a number of years as librarian. She was succeeded by Miss Norma Burrell, who served until in the fall of 1911, when she was succeeded by Miss Bessie Hermann.

In 1912 Miss Hermann successfully undertook to extend the scope of the Hanford library and make it the center of a county library system. She brought the matter before the city trustees and the library board, and those bodies acting with the county board of supervisors, carried out the plan under the existing state laws, and now the institution is county-wide, having branch libraries at Corcoran, Armona, Guernsey, Grangeville, Lemoore and Hardwick. The library is supported from the public treasury.

CHAPTER XXVIII

LEMOORE

Lemoore, located on the Southern Pacific Railroad, nine miles west of Hanford, the county seat, is the second city in size in the county, having an estimated population of 2500. It was founded by Dr. Lavern Lee Moore, who located with his family on land where the city now stands in April, 1871. The following August Dr. Moore surveyed a few acres, and ten of them were staked out as town lots, where business soon was set up by the pioneers of the town. Dr. Moore christened the young town Latache. The settlers then had neither railroad or mail facilities and the postoffice at Grangeville was the nearest point from which postal accommodations were enjoyed. Soon Dr. Moore petitioned the department at Washington for the establishment of a postoffice, and a new name was selected for the place by abbreviating the middle name and combining it with the last name of the founder and calling the new postoffice Lemoore. Mr. Moore died September 11, 1898, at the town he founded.

The early business men of Lemoore were: J. H. Fox, B. K. Sweetland, Max Lovelace, A. Mooney, D. Brownstone, John Heinlen, R. Scally, Justin Jacobs, G. W. Follett, John Hayes, Benjamin Hamlin, C. W. Barrett, Amos M. Ayers, Dr. L. M. Lovelace, A. S. Mapes, E. Erlanger, George W. Randall, Dr. N. P. Duncan, H. Larish, R. E. McKenna, the latter serving as postmaster, receiving his appointment in 1886. F. M. Powell, now postmaster, is another one of the early men identified with the city.

The Southern Pacific Railroad entered the town in 1877 and the growth of the town has been steady, the greatest strides having been made, however, since the creation of Kings county.

Lemoore was incorporated as a city of the sixth class in June, 1900, and has a municipal water and sewer system. The first grammar school was organized in Latache (now Lemoore) in 1873, and a cheap school building was erected on two acres of land donated to the district (then called Lake) by a Mr. Armstrong. The building was eighteen by thirty feet and was dedicated with a "country dance" on one December night in 1873. The first teacher was a Mr. Simpson, and the forty to fifty pupils who attended this first school came from the surrounding country, some being residents of the Kingston country on Kings river to the northeast. The citizens of Lemoore evidenced a commendable pride in their public schools when in 1887 a new \$10,000 school building was erected. In 1885 the name of the district was changed from Lake to Lemoore, which name it now

bears. In the year 1912 there was erected a magnificent new grammar school building at a cost of \$40,000. A very substantial high school building was erected in 1910.

The city is well supplied with churches, public halls, etc. There are two banking institutions, and two weekly newspapers, *The Republican* and *The Leader*.

The rich soil and the diversified farming interests with ample irrigating facilities surrounding Lemoore insure continued substantial growth. The leading industries upon which the city relies are dairying, fruit raising, raisins, wine and general agriculture.

CHAPTER XXIX

EVOLUTION OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

(An address by John G. Covert, Superior Judge of Kings County,
Before Members of the Supervisors' Convention.)

In speaking today of the evolution of the San Joaquin Valley I shall mean the industrial and social development, and I shall not use the word evolution in a technical sense, nor as a geologist would use it. I shall direct my remarks towards the unfolding of the potentialities of the valley and its development during the last half century. I shall further premise my remarks by briefly defining and outlining the territory which in my opinion it comprises:

Beginning at a point a few miles south of the city of Bakersfield, where the Tehachapi Mountains, a spur of the Sierra Nevada, join the Tejon Mountains, a spur of the Coast Range, and thence extending in a northwesterly direction a distance of about three hundred miles to a point just north of the city of Stockton, varying in width from forty to sixty-five miles, and containing approximately 7,500,000 acres, lies one of the most fertile and prosperous valleys in the world, and it constitutes and is known as the San Joaquin Valley.

So far as I am familiar with history, the San Joaquin Valley was first seen by the eyes of white men about March 30, 1772. A few days before that date an expedition had set out from the Mission Monterey headed by Pedro Fages and Father Crespi on a tour of exploration. Padre Junipero, the famous Franciscan missionary, was at that time in charge of the Mission Monterey, and it was at his instigation the expedition was undertaken. The small party headed by Pedro Fages and Father Crespi found their way without adventure to the waters of Suisun Bay, and then eastward along its southern

border, until they reached a point near Mount Diablo, where the magnificent river and valley that was afterwards known as the San Joaquin was presented to their admiring view. At that time, doubtless in honor of the patron saint of the Franciscans, the river was called San Francisco, and it was not until several years later, probably sometime between 1796 and 1813, that the name of San Joaquin was given to this magnificent stream. The honor of bestowing this name upon the river, from which the valley subsequently took its name, is credited to Gabriel Moraga, a doughty Spanish soldier, who lead some troops into the northern end of this valley about that time in pursuit of hostile Indians. Just when the name San Joaquin was bestowed upon this river and valley and by whom is involved in uncertainty, but it is a fact that for over a hundred years this great valley and river have been known by that name.

Mount Diablo, by some supposed to be an extinct volcano, a peak in the Coast Range Mountains, stands sentinel like just off the southwestern extremity of the valley, and from its top, a height of about four thousand feet, may be obtained a most excellent view of the valley and river. This mountain has been adopted by the United States as a datum point for the purpose of sectionalization of the lands of the central part of the state, and there is hardly a deed or other written instrument affecting land in the San Joaquin Valley which does not bear the familiar legend "Mount Diablo Base and Meridian." The expedition sent out by Padre Junipero in 1772 seems to have been the last effort upon the part of the Franciscans to explore this territory, and so far as I know, no attempt was ever made to found a mission, although there were some Indians in the valley and in the Sierra Nevada Mountains on the east.

The San Joaquin Valley first began to attract the attention of the American people in the days of '49. The discovery of gold by John Marshall was a signal for a rush to the Pacific Coast by a class of energetic and daring men, whose efficiency as pioneers has never been excelled, if ever equalled. The lure of gold, stories of wonderful opportunities, and the appeal of a new country brought men to California by the thousands. Whatever may have been their intention about permanently residing here, when they set out upon their journey westward, once here, the charm of climate and scenery claimed them forever after. The men who came here in those days came to dig gold. They turned their faces towards the mines. A plodding agricultural pursuit would not satisfy them. Many of them had abandoned good farms and the occupations of their fathers for the fascination of gold digging, and nothing could divert them from this occupation. On their way to the mines many passed over the fertile lands of the valley, and its possibilities attracted their attention and appealed to them, even in their feverish rush to the gold diggings.

Years later when disappointment came, as it comes to so many who hunt fortune in mines, their thoughts turned back to the valley with its opportunities, and hundreds of the miners became farmers; some of their youth and strength was expended to be sure, but still full of energy and hope they determined to wrest from the bosom of the valley with the plow the fortune they could not dig from the bowels of the mountains with the spade. There was some farming done about Stockton in the early '50s. Farm produce commanded a big price and found a ready market among the miners.

The first great business or industry of the valley, however, was the cattle business, interspersed to some extent by sheep raising. The mild short winters, the abundance of grass that grew upon the plains, and the many streams of water made the San Joaquin Valley an ideal grazing country, and the plains at one time were covered from Stockton to Bakersfield with cattle. These were the days of cattle kings. Their herds roamed and grazed at will, save the occasional round-up or rodeo, when the calves were marked and branded and the cattle fit for beef were cut out and driven to the nearest shipping point or market. During the period when the cattle business was supreme in the San Joaquin Valley, Major Domo and his crew of vaqueros played a prominent part of the drama of life. Here in this valley were developed the most skillful and daring riders in the world; also the most expert men with the lasso or riata. These were still days of picturesque and romantic life in California. The vaquero with his beautifully decorated Mexican saddle, with its famous Visalia tree, that is now known in every cow country west of the Mississippi, his silver-mounted bridle and spurs, riding easily and gracefully, was an object of admiration and emulation. There were few boys in those days who did not intend to become vaqueros when they grew up. The horse and saddle called to them like the ship calls to the boy bred beside the sea. Before passing the vaquero I will say a word or two for his noble mount—the California mustang. There have been horses that could run faster but never a horse that could run further; never a horse that could live on less forage and pick it himself, often from pasture already closely cropped; never a horse with a nobler heart, nor that would respond more quickly to rein and spur than the tough, nervy little mustang that did the work on the cattle ranges and now has passed away in the process of evolution like his companion, the vaquero. Sheep grazing was an industry at about the same time, or a little later than when the cattle business was at its height. The same climatic conditions and fertile plains that attracted cattle men were equally inviting to sheep men. This was prosaic and far less attractive business than the cattle industry.

Sheep herding was done on foot and attending conditions were

such that it generally was the last resort of the wage earner. However, as a business it probably paid as well or even better than the more attractive business of cattle raising. There was always some antipathy between cattle men and sheep men, which seems to be found in every place where those two industries come in contact upon the range, for it is a well-recognized fact among stock men that cattle will not graze upon a range over which sheep have been driven if they can avoid it. It appears that some odor from the wool or body of the sheep attaches to the grass which causes it to be offensive to the nostrils and palates of the bovine.

Wheat farming was the next great industry that appeared in the San Joaquin Valley. This business was the thin edge of the entering wedge that displaced the stock men and drove them back step by step until the only refuge left them was the remote and less desirable land for cultivation, also the Spanish grants, vast tracts of land which had during the time of Spanish sovereignty in this state been granted to certain Spanish settlers, and had been in turn recognized by Mexico and by the United States when California was finally ceded to our government. The humble yet powerful fence began to appear. It was no longer possible to travel in the direction which fancy or business suggested. Roads and trails began to turn at right angles, and fences marked a line over which one may no longer freely pass. Stock grazing, the first great industry of the valley, now had in a measure passed and in its place came wheat farming. In the earlier days in California it seemed everything took its size and character from the lofty mountains, great trees and valleys. The wheat farms were no exceptions. They were of great size and were operated upon a gigantic scale. Farms consisting of several thousand acres of land were not infrequent, and as might be supposed it required hundreds of horses and mules and scores of men to perform the necessary work in carrying on the business of those ranches. The plains with an average annual rainfall would produce great crops of grain yielding from fifteen to as high as seventy bushels per acre, the crops varying from year to year in accordance with the rainfall and climatic conditions. Some localities too were more productive of certain crops than others. Wheat raised in the San Joaquin Valley was generally of an excellent quality, and was considered to be among the best milling wheat in the world. The extensive fields, the level lands, the character of the soil and dry climate made possible cultivation and harvesting by methods more rapid and economical than thus far had ever been used in any other place. The cradle and the reaper and the single plow were too slow for farming in the San Joaquin Valley. Implements and machinery adapted to the necessity of the time were rapidly invented or introduced from other places and these were improved upon and

perfected until a high degree of efficiency was reached; as evidenced by the great gang plows and combined harvesters and other machines of like nature now familiar to all farmers of this great valley.

For about thirty years wheat or grain farming held sway. Then the unceasing repetition of crops, together with indifferent cultivation, began to tell and grain raising no longer paid as it did in the earlier days. Summer fallowing and irrigation were resorted to. This was found to be of great aid in the production of crops; but even then the land would not yield as it had in former years, and the profits from wheat raising, as a general thing, steadily grew less. During all this time immigration had continued and the population of California, and incidentally the San Joaquin Valley, was rapidly growing. New men with new ideas appeared upon the scene. The depreciation of profits in grain raising caused farmers to consider other crops. Fruit and wine began to attract more attention. Bees and poultry were found to yield large profits on small investments and with little care. Alfalfa was introduced and that forage was found well adapted to the valley. The large farm no longer paid. The owners, with a few notable exceptions, began to divide and subdivide their holdings. The profits from trees and vines were found to be immense. Fruit orchards, vineyards and alfalfa pastures began rapidly to surplant grain fields. There followed a rapid development in the wine, raisin and cured fruit industry. The alfalfa pasture stimulated dairying and the live stock business. Experience, the best of all teachers, soon taught the farmers the variety of crops and fruit that was best adapted to his soil; the breed of cows best suited for the dairy; the kind of horses, hogs and poultry that made the best returns; and having learned, as rapidly as circumstances would permit, they began to weed out the less desirable and less profitable, and to replace them with the kind best suited to the valley. Now we had reached what we might call the third epoch or lap in the development of the industries of the San Joaquin Valley.

Blossoming trees and budding vines in the spring, followed by a bounteous crop in the summer, appeared where once wheat and barley had grown. The green fields of spring and the brown stubble fields of fall had given way to fragrant and gorgeous blooms, golden fruit and pleasing autumn tints. Along the foothills of the Sierras was found a warm protected region, generally referred to as the thermal belt, upon which oranges, lemons and kindred fruit grew luxuriantly and ripened early. The population was still increasing rapidly. Thousands of pretty and comfortable cottages and bungalows, with now and then large and commodious houses that might properly in many instances be called mansions, began to appear everywhere, affording happy and comfortable homes to the people of the valley. The cattle men and the wheat farmers, in many

instances, had looked upon the San Joaquin Valley as a place for extensive business operations in their particular lines; but gave little attention to it as a home for their families. The farmer now began to build with the intention of spending and ending his days upon the farm, and with a prond hope that when he passed away that his property would afford a home for his posterity. Accordingly he built with the design of procuring to his family all the advantages and comforts that his prosperous condition afforded.

As I stated before, the San Joaquin Valley comprises approximately 7,500,000 acres. Of this about 500,000 acres are planted to fruit trees, vines and alfalfa. This leaves over 7,000,000 acres of the valley yet devoted to wheat raising and grazing; and among this latter portion are found thousands of acres of the very best land of the valley. Lack of irrigation water from natural streams is the chief cause of the lack of development. This condition is now being rapidly overcome by means of pumping plants, of which I shall say a word later. Horses and mules, beef, pork, mutton, wool, honey and poultry are also industries that pay exceedingly well. Wine of recent years has grown to be one of the principal industries of the San Joaquin Valley, the annual yield or produce of this commodity being about 225,000 tons, and is worth approximately \$2,250,000.

These respective industries not only yield magnificent incomes upon the investments and repays well the efforts and labor of the farmer, but they afford remunerative and congenial employment to thousands of men, women and children. The children of the valley are afforded unusual opportunities for finding light and paying occupation by reason of the fruit harvest coming in the summer during the school vacations. In order to take care of the annual fruit crops it has been necessary to establish in the different cities and towns and convenient shipping points great packing houses and canneries, which, when installed with machinery and facilities for properly curing and packing the fruit, afford one of the principal industries of the urbane life of the valley. All these years on the very edge of the San Joaquin Valley had been hidden away a treasure we little dreamed we had—petroleum oil. Though some hint of its presence had been given by seepage that appeared on the surface as tar springs or like manifestations, we never expected to find this ideal fuel in the great and paying quantities that we now have it. We were mostly farmers and we did not look deeper than the fertile surface for our opportunities. Again new men and new ideas made themselves known. Prospect wells were drilled and oil was struck. Almost like magic a forest of towers sprang upon the several districts where oil had been discovered. A fever of excitement almost as great as that caused by the discovery of gold now took hold of

the people, and the development of the oil industry of this valley was so rapid that those who took an active part could scarcely realize the rapidity with which this business grew. The discovery of oil came at an opportune time. The population was growing, capital was accumulating, and there was need of some outlet for surplus energy. The fuel of the valley was growing scarce. Industries were growing rapidly. The steam and gas engine was coming more and more into use, and a cheap and plentiful fuel was the most necessary factor in the industrial situation, and its discovery solved what might have been a serious problem.

If the oil fields of the San Joaquin Valley should in the course of time become exhausted the people have learned a great lesson, and the lack of fuel will be provided against by planting forests of trees adapted to this purpose. This precaution, together with the great source of electric power in the Sierras will forever settle the question of fuel and power so far as we are concerned. The oil wells yield so abundantly that if the consumption was restricted to this valley we could not consume it in ages. But great pipe lines reaching from the oil fields of the valley across the Coast Range Mountains leading to Point Richmond, Monterey and Port Harford carry the oil night and day from the fields to those deep water ports, and huge steamers docked beside the wharf will load as conveniently and readily as the locomotive tender takes on water at a siding. In addition to the pipe lines great trains of cars carry oil daily to the many points that are eager to procure this most excellent fuel. The oil industry has added vastly to the wealth of the valley and provided employment for thousands, and has made many an enterprising man wealthy beyond the most ambitious dreams of his youth.

From that day in 1772 when the little expedition headed by Pedro Fages and Father Crespi set out from the Mission Monterey up to the present time, transportation has been an important factor in the development of the valley. All our progress and evolution especially in the beginning was not accomplished without hardships and exertion. All the cattle men and most of the miners found their way across the valley on horse-back and their camp equipments were carried upon the backs of horses or mules. This means of transportation served for awhile, but increased population and development called for greater facilities. This was supplied by the stage and freight teams; augmented greatly by the navigation of the San Joaquin river and its tributaries. The stage lines at one time fairly well covered the valley, and one could reach by their means all the principal towns and mining districts south of Stockton. Along the same roads upon which the stages plied their traffic also traveled the great freight teams, that carried supplies and provisions to the mines and interior towns. These teams sometimes consisted of as

many as twenty-four horses or mules, and as high as four or five wagons coupled in train. The stages and freighters found all they could do to handle the business of the day. The flat-bottomed stern-wheel river boats with huge barges in tow plied up and down the San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Tuolumne rivers as far as they were navigable, and these crafts, too, found occupation for all their tonnage and passenger accommodations. Railroad companies were not slow in appreciating the opportunities of the Pacific coast, and they built and extended their lines into this state. With the appearance of railroads in the San Joaquin Valley transportation underwent a rapid evolution. The stage with its galloping horses and marvelously skilled drivers, together with the freight teams, were relegated to the mountain districts and less accessible regions. River navigation was gradually abandoned. The railroads covered their territory and competition under the attending conditions rendered the steamboat business unprofitable, consequently steamboat companies practically withdrew from all points of operation south of Stockton. The first railroad in the valley was down its center on the eastern side of the San Joaquin river. This line was built by the Central Pacific Railroad Company, but was afterward taken up by the Southern Pacific Company, which has owned and operated it ever since, and after it entered into the valley it was rapidly pushed on over the Tehachapi Mountains, with many tunnels and its celebrated loop, until it reached Los Angeles, and thence turned eastward, connecting the San Joaquin with the northern and southern part of the state and with the eastern states.

From this pioneer line down the valley several short lines of feeders were constructed, which have proved highly valuable in the progress and development of the territory which they covered. Later a line was laid down the valley on the western side of the San Joaquin river, beginning at Tracy and connecting with the original line at Goshen Junction, and later on again at Fresno.

About 1893 there was constructed from San Francisco to Bakersfield what was known as the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley railroad. This was later on taken by the Santa Fe and has become a part of its great system. Of recent years the oil industry and the rapid development among the foothill regions have demanded greatly increased railroad and transportation facilities, and this in a measure has been met by spurs from the Southern Pacific and certain independent companies that have organized and built short accommodation railroads in different places in the valley. It is evident that the rapid growth and population and development of the San Joaquin Valley will not only afford, but will demand, greatly increased transportation facilities. Probably there is no place in the world where railroads can be built and operated as cheaply as

here. Tracks may be laid in any district and to any point within this valley by practically following the contour of the earth. The general level of the plains is such as to require but very little grading, and few cuts and the constructing of the roadbed may be done by plows and scrapers operated by horses, and at a cost per mile that is as cheap and probably less than the same work can be done for at any other place in the United States, or the world for that matter. I venture to say that in building a railroad from Bakersfield to Stockton along any line within the confines of the San Joaquin Valley it will not be necessary to resort to drilling or blasting and it is a certainty that no tunneling would be required.

The Sierra Nevada Mountains on the east contain potentially millions of horsepower that may be converted into electricity, and by means of a slender wire suspended from poles or towers placed at intervals of eighty to two hundred yards apart conducted to all points where it may be desired to apply the power. I believe that for the purpose of operating railroad trains, electric power, if not too costly in the generation thereof, is considerably cheaper than steam or other motors. Beyond a question it is the most economical and best adapted power to railroading. Thus we have united two very important factors in railroad transportation that will be an estimable advantage; cheap fuel and cheap construction. As a result, in time the valley will be laced by electric lines, upon which will be operated highly efficient and rapidly moving trains. People living in the most remote parts will be put in easy reach of business centers and the coast, and San Francisco will be only about one-half day's journey away. Perishable produce, such as sweet cream and table fruits of a delicate nature, can readily be shipped to the markets of the cities and points on the coast.

Transportation by rail again can be augmented by transportation upon the rivers, if the state or the federal government should see fit to dredge the natural streams of the valley and remove the snags and other obstructions therefrom. More than that it would be an easy engineering feat to build a canal from Bakersfield, connecting with the navigable waters of the San Joaquin, and by a system of locks and reservoirs navigation could be had from the southern end of the valley to the waters of San Francisco bay. There would be some question as to the advisability of establishing navigation to this extent for this reason: The electric power that may be so readily developed and the facility with which railroads may be constructed in the valley will probably cause railroads to be so numerous and competition so sharp that the public would never resort to the necessarily slow and tedious transportation by water that would attend canal and river navigation.

A very cursory mention of the San Joaquin Valley requires some

consideration of the mountains on either side and in the course of my remarks I have referred to them. But I desire to say a word or two more concerning the mountains, which are so closely related to this valley. Our warm, dry climate is a most important factor in this valley. Doubtless this condition is brought about largely by the Coast Range Mountains that stand on our west as a wind break and a barrier to the fogs and cold atmosphere of the coast. If it were not for this range probably our rainfall would be heavier, but the cold fogs and chilling winds of the Pacific would reach us and if they did several of our principal industries would be seriously affected if not entirely destroyed. The raisin and cured fruit industry could not successfully be carried on if it were not for the warm dry climate peculiar to the San Joaquin Valley and it is highly probable that alfalfa would not grow as luxuriantly as it does now. Again the climate is peculiarly adapted to stock-raising. These Coast Range Mountains beyond question were a wise provision of Providence, and have added special advantages in the way of climatic conditions, notwithstanding they increase the summer heat and lessen the winter rainfall. On the east lies what probably are the grandest mountains in the world, at least a Californian may be pardoned for so designating them. There we find the wonderland of California. Mount Whitney, the highest peak in the United States, surrounded with neighboring peaks, scarcely less in height, the Yosemite Valley with its unrivaled falls, the magnificent Kings River canyon, the great forests of pines and the celebrated giant redwoods or sequoias find their abode in the Sierras that skirt the eastern border of the valley, and are so closely related to it that without indulging in poetic license we may consider them, if not a part, an inseparable complement of the San Joaquin. These mountains constitute a gigantic and beautiful reservoir erected by a beneficent Providence for the purpose of moistening and fertilizing the plains of the valley. Great towering peaks and abysmal canyons covered with gigantic trees and thickly-matted brush and undergrowth gather and conserve the snows of winter. In the spring and summer comes the sun and beats alike upon the valley and the mountains and as the plains become parched and dried and as the growing trees and grass suck up the moisture from the soil and from the air the frozen snows of winter are released upon the mountainside and begin their journey through scenery the grandest and most beautiful imaginable, through forests of pines and redwoods, by flowers and delicate ferns, over rocks and through rills, uniting and ever uniting in rivulets and creeks, and in each union growing stronger until finally they rush in a mighty river upon the arid plains, carrying life and drink to thousands of thirsty acres.

These streams, deep and with precipitous banks, at first gradually

approach the surface of the land so that it is frequently possible to divert water from them and spread it upon the land within two or three miles from the point of diversion. The loose loamy nature of the soil and comparatively level surface render ditch-building in this valley an easy task, and particularly well adapted to irrigation. Many of the pioneer irrigation ditches were built without the assistance of an engineer or even the use of a transit. Many of the farmers had had experience in hydraulic mining, which rendered them peculiarly qualified in the art of constructing dams and ditches, and often the only capital used was the daily labor of the farmers and their livestock, generously assisted by the business men of the valley towns who extended them credit for the necessities of life while engaged in this development. When the settlers of the valley began to go back from the streams to find homes, water was the first problem for them to solve, and like Jacob they dug wells. The first wells were almost entirely dug with the pick and shovel. They ranged in depth from twelve to as much as two hundred feet, depending on the location, and were surface wells, that is to say, the wells were only deepened to the first water. Near the streams and particularly on the east side of the San Joaquin river and the southern part of the valley surface water can generally be reached at a depth of twenty-five to thirty feet, while on the west side and especially near the foothills the depth of water was greatly increased, sometimes requiring a well of over a hundred feet in depth. These wells were dug with a shovel, and the earth excavated was hoisted to the surface by means of a barrel sawed in the middle, to which a bale was affixed. To this was tied a rope of sufficient length, and the power used was either a windlass turned by a man on the surface or sometimes by hitching a horse to the end of the rope. When the water was reached it was hoisted by the same crude methods. The half barrel that served the purpose of hoisting the earth and rocks was converted into a bucket for drawing water.

Since those days when wells were dug with spades there have been great improvements made. They are no longer dug, but are bored or drilled with efficient machinery operated by steam or gasoline power, and are driven to a depth averaging from fifty to eighty feet, which results in a plentiful flow of pure water.

Artesian wells in most parts of the valley are readily developed and the natural flow from them furnishes an abundance of water for livestock and domestic purposes, and frequently will irrigate as many as from eighty to three hundred acres of land yearly. Electric power and gasoline engines have made irrigation by pumping feasible, and it has been discovered that subterranean streams are found in nearly all parts of the valley carrying water sufficient for the purpose of irrigating the surface of the lands under which they lie, and now

hundreds of wells are being developed and pumping plants installed, which are an immense aid to the present system of irrigation and will cover thousands of acres that cannot be reached by water from the natural streams.

Step by step and hand in hand with cooperation and harmony, the urbane and rural evolution of this valley has progressed. The valley is dotted with many prosperous cities and towns, not so extensive in population, but energetic and progressive in the extreme. Paved streets, electric lights, gas plants, excellent water systems, magnificent public buildings and sanitary drainage are to be found in all of them. The amount of business transacted is startling as compared with cities of the same population of other places. A town of five thousand inhabitants will transact more business and the banks will represent more capital than in other places having a population of twenty-five thousand. While speaking upon the subject of towns and public improvements I desire to congratulate the entire people of the San Joaquin Valley upon the magnificent courthouse that has just been completed in the county of Kern. Its beautiful architectural lines, extensive proportions, light and airy rooms and great corridors are certainly a source of pride and pleasure to the people of this valley. I particularly congratulate the people of this county upon their magnificent building, which is a noble tribute to their energy and progressiveness and faith in their county, and a monument to the efficiency and ability of the board of supervisors, who served the people so well in its construction.

I have said something of the evolution of the valley, made brief mention of the progress and development of the different industries, and in a poor way directed your attention to the wonderful opportunities and advantages that may be found here; and now I want to say a word for the actors, for the men and women who so well and faithfully played their part in this drama of evolution, and whose efforts brought about this great development and progress. Back in the days of "Forty-nine" and for a number of years thereafter there were two ways of reaching California, one was by water around Cape Horn, or by a shorter but equally as perilous way across the Isthmus and then up the coast to San Francisco, or the other was across the plains by means of the slow moving emigrant trains. Either of those routes was fraught with grave danger and many hardships and deprivations. The perils of a voyage in the old-time sailing vessels in their tedious ways around Cape Horn and then up the Pacific Coast to San Francisco were such as to cause the stoutest heart to pause. The shorter route by the Isthmus, while requiring less time, was almost equally as dangerous. What was missed in the perils and hardships of the sea by taking the Isthmian way was counterbalanced by the dangers entailed in crossing

this tropical neck of land laden with the germs of many diseases to which the emigrant so readily fell a prey. The fever and dysentery of the Isthmus and the unwholesome quarters of the emigrant ships claimed many an ambitious and deserving man who had set out to find his fortune in the Golden West.

The overland route, crossing the Rocky Mountains, over the vast plains inhabited by hostile Indians, across the Platte with its treacherous sands, requiring from three to six months with the slow moving ox teams of the emigrant trains, that finally crossed the Sierras through Truckee Pass makes a story familiar to everyone. Like the tragedy that ended the glorious career of Julius Caesar, it is acted and re-enacted upon the stage and told and retold in stories even to this day. Therefore it is no wonder that only the young and active thought of venturing upon this perilous western journey. Of the young and active only those of ambitious and daring spirits would risk life and all that was most dear to them in order to reach the alluring shores of California.

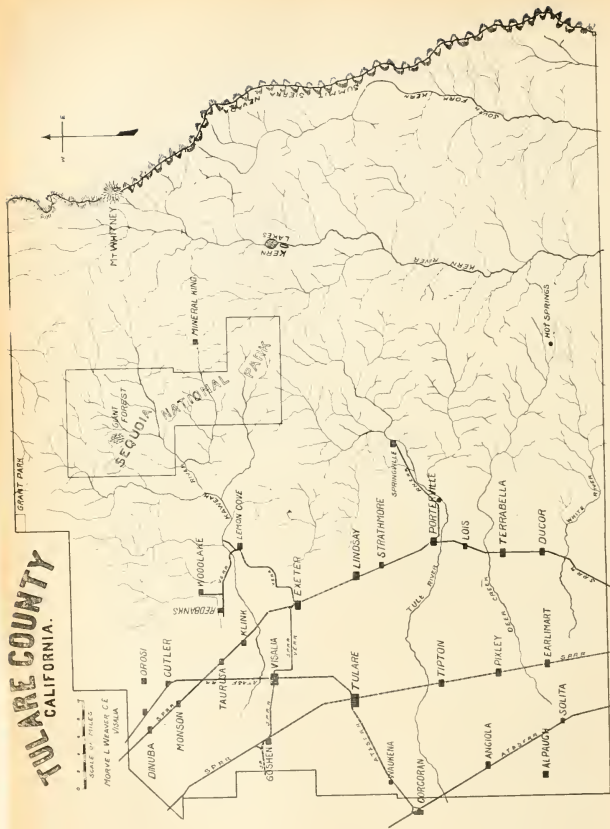
We of today who sail in floating palaces with every luxury and convenience of the hour at hand, or who cross the vast plains and lofty mountains in comfortable, rapidly moving cars can hardly realize the dangers and hardships endured by the men and women who first came to California. These pioneers were a race of ambitious and courageous men and women that assembled in California on new grounds, far removed from the hampering conventionalities of society. Not many from any place—a few from every place—they rapidly adjusted themselves to conditions and necessities of the time. All classes, states and nationalities were represented, and from this cosmopolitan people was developed that noble, brave and hospitable race, the Pioneers of California, whose praises have been so often sung by the poet and told by the historian. They were all young and strong. When a boy my father came to the west with an emigrant train, driving an ox-team all of the way, and I have heard him say that a gray head was so rare that it excited attention and comment when found among the men of pioneer days.

Emigration after the gold rush was comparatively slow. The cost and inconvenience of transportation deterred travel westward.

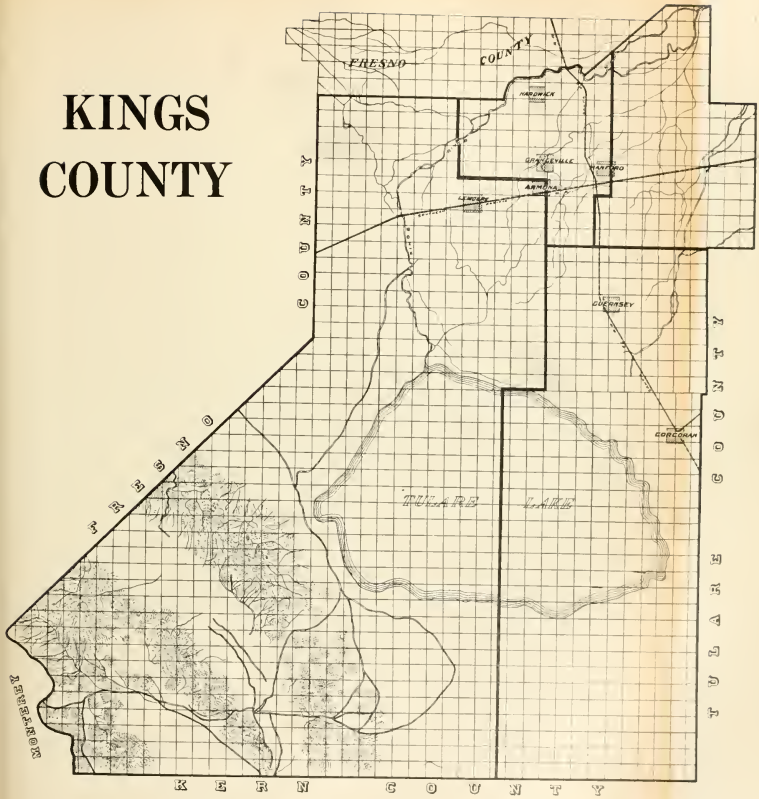
Those who found their way here were rapidly absorbed. They were eager to become Californians and quickly fell into our ways and customs. Later the railway service was greatly improved, cost of passage came more within the reach of the average person. The newspapers, magazines and histories constantly told of the glories and opportunities of this coast, and in consequence emigration grew by leaps and bounds. The population increased so rapidly now that we began to undergo a change of character. Entire colonies were often made up from the people of some particular state, and they

looked towards their former homes for customs and precedent. In the near future without a doubt our emigration will increase far more rapidly than ever before. The great opportunities offered by increased irrigation facilities, more careful and diversified farming, the stimulus given to the manufacturing by the development of electric power and discovery of oil, the immense benefits that will follow the completion of the Panama Canal, and the attraction of the World's Fair will bring thousands here. The melting pot of which Zangwill speaks will be brought into play and on this coast from a cosmopolitan people will be recast a race as peculiar to California as the flowers and trees that adorn her valleys and mountains. Short winters, generous sunshine and fertile soil will develop a race of splendid men and women, hospitable and fun-loving, the happiest people in the world, and this will be the greatest achievement in the evolution of the San Joaquin Valley.

TULARE COUNTY CALIFORNIA.



KINGS COUNTY





Mary C. Majors



Gen. R. Majors

BIOGRAPHICAL

COLUMBUS P. MAJORS

A California pioneer who recalls with interest early days in Tulare county when he took a prominent part in local affairs, is Columbus P. Majors, of Visalia. Mr. Majors was born in Morgan county, Ill., March 22, 1830, and in 1853 crossed the plains to California with an ox-team, starting April 14 and arriving at Sacramento September 13 following. The party, which came with a train of nineteen ox-wagons, was made up of Iowa and Illinois people and was under command of Captain L. M. Owen, who had made one trip to the Pacific coast in 1849. The overland emigrants were several times compelled to corral their wagons, fearing attacks by Indians, but made the journey without any very lamentable mishaps. For two years after his arrival in California, Mr. Majors worked in the Sherlock Flat mine on the Merced river, but it was not as a miner that he was destined to make his success in this state. He came to Visalia in 1855 and found the people all living in the old fort as a means of protection against the redskins, who were at that time menacing the settlers in this vicinity. He took up eighty acres of government land on the Cutler road and for many years raised cattle and sheep, and it was not until 1884 that he bought his present home ranch on Mineral King avenue. Here he has twenty acres of fine orchard, having planted all the trees with his own hands, and his peaches include Phillips cling-stones, Tuscan cling-stones, Fosters and Albertas. He has developed a fine farm on which he has met with well deserved success.

In 1861, after the Civil war had begun and while rioting was in progress at Visalia, Mr. Majors was captain of the Home Guard Cavalry, which was organized to keep order. His brother, John P. Majors, also came to California and was the first postmaster at Visalia, which was the first postoffice established in Tulare county.

In April, 1852, Columbus P. Majors married Miss Mary C. Owen, a native of Lee county, Iowa, who bore him a son and four daughters; Amador H.; Mrs. Anna L. Arkle, who has passed away; Celestia J., who is Mrs. L. E. McCabe; Mrs. Caroline Arkle, and Mrs. Eva Sadler, deceased. During his active years Mr. Majors was identified largely with the public interests of the community and there was no call upon him in behalf of the general good to which he did not respond promptly and liberally.

GEORGE E. WADDELL

Numbered among the well-known and respected citizens of Exeter who have distinguished themselves in the advancement of that place is George E. Waddell, who has been identified with the civil affairs of Exeter from its earliest history, having filled the office of its mayor as its first incumbent, and so fulfilling the duties of that office as to win the confidence of all his fellow citizens, and he has since been sought to fill many other public positions to which the people have called him. In industrial circles he has also figured prominently, having been merchant there and he is now giving most of his attention to his real estate interests which are large and varied.

Mr. Waddell is a native son of California, having been born in Lancha Plana, Amador county, September 9, 1862, the son of Isaac and Mercy B. Waddell, the former a native of Baltimore, Md., who crossed the plains to California in 1852 and began his career in the mines of Amador county. The mother came of a pioneer family who made the overland journey with ox-teams. The family made their home at Lancha Plana until 1872, when they moved to Ione, where the father died in 1893, and the widowed mother after a while removed to San Francisco, where after a residence of several years she re-established their home at Ione, and three years later, in 1903, occurred her death.

Reared to industrial habits and inheriting a taste for mercantile pursuits, at the age of nineteen George E. Waddell went to work for John Marchaut, who was in the meat business at Ione and for twelve years he remained steadily in his employ. He then leased the premises from the latter and conducted the business for about ten years, when he sold out and came to Visalia, buying a half interest in the Pioneer market business, which after conducting for about ten months, he sold. It was at this time that he came to Exeter and bought out the Exeter and Lindsay markets, which at the time were very rudimentary business places. With his son, George H., Mr. Waddell set to work with a will to build up these establishments into modern markets, remodeling and rebuilding them and introducing new and up-to-date equipments and installing a refrigerating system which made them among the best markets in the county. Since then the Exeter market has been sold, but they retain the Lindsay place of business which the son, George H., is managing with marked ability, while Mr. Waddell gives his attention to the purchase of stock. They first had built a structure at Lindsay 25x75 feet in dimension for their business, but this soon became too small and they built a new two-story brick block, 40x130 feet, in 1910 with new refrigerating and cold storage equipment, and its appointments are all modern and first-class. The marble counters and excellent tool equipment give the place an air of

cleanliness and wholesomeness which bespeaks the good taste of the owner, and their product and the handling of their goods bear the most gratifying reputation in the community, it having been credited by the press at one time as being one of the finest places of its kind in the state.

In connection with this business Mr. Waddell gives attention to real estate, in which he has been most successful. He has planted and owns a very fine thirty-acre orange grove within eighty rods of the city limits, and also owns tracts in different parts of Tulare county aggregating three hundred and fifty acres in all, and beside this he owns a well-improved farm of four hundred and eighty acres about seven miles east of Stockton. With all of these interests, Mr. Waddell finds time to be most active in the affairs of his city and is a constant worker for its best interest, being president of the city board as well as treasurer of the same. In August, 1911, the city voted bonds in the amount of \$42,000 for the purpose of providing an adequate water system, which was fully completed in the summer of 1912, consisting of two twelve-inch bored wells, one hundred feet deep, with mains six, eight and ten inches respectively, while the laterals are four and two inches in size. At the present time six blocks of street in the business part of Exeter are being paved, and these large movements toward improving the town have had the active interest and co-operation of Mr. Waddell in his official capacity on the city board. In fraternal relations he affiliates with the Exeter lodge, F. & A. M., and the Exeter division of the Knights of Pythias.

In 1885 George E. Waddell married Susan Vogan, a native of California and a daughter of John Vogan, who died while he was filling the office of sheriff of Amador county, where he had come as a pioneer. The widow of Mr. Vogan now makes her home in Ione. Mr. and Mrs. Waddell are the parents of two children, Edwin H., born November 23, 1886, who after finishing his education at the Affiliated College at San Francisco, took up the study of dentistry and is well established in his profession at Visalia; and George Harold, born March 28, 1888, who was educated in the schools of Visalia, and is now his father's partner in the meat business. Both sons were born at Ione, Amador county, and reflect credit on their training and the honored name they bear.

SANFORD BOOKER

A native of Gardiner, Me., Sanford Booker was born October 12, 1833, and there reared to manhood, educated and given a knowledge of the ship carpenter's trade, and later learned house building. When he was twenty years old he moved to Medford, Mass., where

he worked as a carpenter about fifteen years. At the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in the Lawrence Light Guards of Medford, a militia company, which, as Company E, Fifth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, was mustered into the government service after President Lincoln issued his first call for volunteers, April 15, 1861. Next day the company was ordered to be in readiness, and on the eighteenth an order to march was issued by Col. Samuel C. Lawrence, this order being taken to the members of the organization by the Colonel's brother, Daniel W. Lawrence, who on the night of the eighteenth rode from town to town for that purpose. Among those soldiers of 1861 there was a strong conviction that Lawrence rode over the same route that Paul Revere had followed on a similar errand eighty-six years before. The regiment was quartered at Faneuil Hall, Boston, until the morning of April 21, when it left for New York. When Lawrence brought the order to Mr. Booker the latter was running a mill. Going home immediately, he reported that he was ordered out and would have to go to Washington, and he went to Boston and slept that night in Faneuil Hall with his comrades; on that same night the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment was mobbed in the streets of Baltimore. At Washington the Fifth was mustered into service for three months from May 1, and it participated in the fight at Bull Run, where Colonel Lawrence was wounded and the regimental color-bearer was shot down. Ten days later the Fifth Massachusetts was mustered out of the service and soon afterwards Corporal Booker's company was mustered out at Medford. His corporal's commission is dated February 12, 1861.

About 1868 Mr. Booker moved to De Kalb county, Mo., and engaged in building until 1874, when he came to California. He stopped at Los Angeles, but soon settled at San Bernardino, where he lived seven years operating extensively as a contractor and builder and he erected there the county court house, the Congregational and Baptist churches, some school houses and several fine residences. He was the builder of the first house at Redlands, the latter the property of Frank Brown, civil engineer, who constructed the reservoir through which Redlands is supplied with water. Mr. Booker had to grub out sage brush before he could lay the foundation of the building, and he and his men boarded themselves, for there was no one living in the vicinity. In 1887 he sold his property at San Bernardino and removed to Hanford, buying a one hundred and sixty-acre ranch northeast of the town, where he farmed until 1892, and then sold his land and built himself a residence in town. He was very active in securing county division of Tulare county and the partition of Kings county in that year, and assisted with his own means to finance the movement. Indeed there was no other man at Hanford who was more influential to these ends than was he. He personally



Eliza Ann Page



E. J. Kagha

canvassed every home in the county to ascertain if a two-thirds vote for the new county would be possible if a favorable bill should be passed by the legislature. After this matter was settled he visited the World's Fair at Chicago. Since then he has lived in Hanford, which when he first saw it in 1887 was a mere hamlet containing but one store and in the prosperity of which he has been a potent factor. In 1893 he bought twelve acres of fruit land and, having suffered a stroke of paralysis which incapacitated him for work, retired from active business. When the "Old Bank" at Hanford was established he was its first depositor, having until then done his banking at Visalia.

On November 27, 1854, Mr. Booker married Miss Sarah E. Carr, at Medford, Mass. Mrs. Booker, who was a native of Massachusetts, bore her husband two children, Everett S., of Hanford, and Sarah Elizabeth, who has passed away. Everett S. Booker married Edith O'Brien and they have a daughter, Mary Florence. Mr. Booker is identified with McPherson Post, G. A. R., of Hanford, and is a Blue Lodge and Royal Arch Mason, and he and Mrs. Booker were charter members of the Eastern Star, Mrs. Booker being past worthy matron.

EMANUEL T. RAGLE

A true type of the self-made man is evidenced in the career of Emanuel T. Ragle, who now lives one mile east of Naranjo, in Tulare county, Cal. He was born May 8, 1833, back in Tennessee, in Hawkins county, and there attended public schools after he was old enough until he was eighteen years old, when he went to Indiana. After remaining there but a short time, he went to Iowa, where his residence was likewise brief. He returned to Indiana and from there started for California in 1854 and drove an ox-team across the plains for \$10 a month and his board. He located near Redding, Shasta county, Cal., but soon went into the mines in Mendocino county. Meeting with but indifferent success there, he made his way to Sonoma county, where he farmed until 1863. Returning to Mendocino county, he remained there a year and in 1865 came to Tulare county, and after a couple of years spent on Outside creek near the dam, he came to his present location, where he bought eighty acres of land. Soon afterward he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, and by subsequent purchases he has increased his holdings to seven hundred and seventy-five acres, notwithstanding he has in the meantime sold two hundred and thirty-five acres. He has devoted his land to grain, and raises cattle, horses and hogs, and in each one of these several fields of endeavor he has done well.

When he came to the county, nearly all the farming was in grain, settlement had not far advanced and improvements were few and widely scattered. He had his initial experience with grain and has followed the development of agriculture, sometimes keeping in advance of it, thus profiting by every new development and having advantage of every innovation.

Beginning life with \$1.50 capital, Mr. Ragle has worked and persevered, triumphing over difficulties as he has met them until he is now one of the prosperous men in his community. It is probable that two causes above all others have contributed to this achievement. He has at all times been what we are pleased to call a hustler, aggressive, active and up-to-date, and he has at the same time been always a Christian gentleman, devoted to the honorable dealings and the uplift of his community. He is widely known throughout the surrounding country for the high grade of his stock and he keeps usually about one hundred head of cattle and forty to fifty head of horses. The schools of his community have been his constant care, and he has done much to advance them.

Mr. Ragle married, September 23, 1858, Miss Eliza Ann Moffett, a native of Tennessee, who was brought early in life to California, and she has borne him thirteen children, nine daughters and four sons, all of whom are living, and all of whom are native sons and daughters of California. Mrs. Ragle's father was Hamilton Moffett, of Scotch-Irish blood, who died in Missouri when Mrs. Ragle was four years old. Her mother was Charlotte Bunn, born in Virginia, who died in Tulare county. Mr. and Mrs. Ragle are the proud grandparents of half a hundred grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren.

The father of Emanuel T. was George H. Ragle, born in Virginia and died in Tennessee. His grandfather was born in Germany and settled in Virginia, where he was accidentally drowned.

JOHN DAVIS TYLER

J. D. Tyler was the oldest living representative of the original settlers on Tule river, Tulare county, Cal., and had been engaged in agricultural pursuits and the stock business here since 1859 and as a pioneer is entitled to a more than passing mention in the history of the county. Mr. Tyler was born in Marcellus, Onondaga county, N. Y., in 1827, the son of Job Tyler, a farmer and a minister of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination. His early life was rather migratory, his father going to Ohio in 1834 and to St. Joseph county, Mich., in 1836. Educational advantages in those days were limited

and young Tyler's schooling was confined to the three months winter term, not infrequently being detained at home to accomplish some work on the farm and not attending school at all after his fourteenth year.

In 1851, with his father and brother James, Mr. Tyler started for California via New York and the Isthmus of Panama. Their steamer was the first to land emigrants at Aspinwall. At Panama they embarked on the English brig Tryphenia, with one hundred and thirty passengers, the vessel being much overloaded and having only a meager supply of water and stores. The sufferings on that terrible journey of sixty-five days from Panama to San Diego were intense. The last thirty days they had no bread and only one-half pint of water per day to the man. Their small allowance of peas or beans must be soaked in salt water or the greasy slush that came from the cook room. For twenty days they nearly starved and Mr. Tyler's father contracted disease to which he succumbed while in port at San Diego and was there laid to rest. J. D. Tyler and his brother then reshipped for San Francisco, arriving there February 29, 1852, just four months after leaving New York. They went to the mines at Nevada City and followed life in the mining camps either in boarding house work or in actual mine workings of their own until 1859, when, hearing that cattle were selling in Tulare county, they started for Tule river with a view to purchasing and driving to the mines. Upon their arrival they found the statement to be without foundation, and, in partnership with Len Redfield, they settled on Tule river and engaged in the stock business. This association continued until 1865, when Mr. Redfield withdrew and the Tyler brothers continued in partnership until 1871, when they separated, J. D. Tyler remaining on the river. His home place of one hundred and sixty acres was homesteaded under the first homestead act or law in 1864. He later added to his original holdings, and owned two hundred acres, much of which he farmed to grain and fruit. He was also largely interested in horses and cattle and rented two sections of land for stock range.

Mr. Tyler was married at Visalia in 1864 to Miss Mary J. McKelvey, a native of Pennsylvania and the daughter of George McKelvey, who came to California in 1852 by way of Cape Horn. They had five children, Clyde D., Carl R., Chris W., Corda F. (daughter) and Clair H. Mr. Tyler was a charter member of the Farmers' Alliance, belonging to the Porterville branch, of which he was the first president. He never sought the emoluments of office and always avoided every suggested nomination. He was the first Republican on Tule river, and in 1859 his was the only Republican vote cast out of the thirty-one cast at that time. When the county was filled with Southern sympathizers in 1861 he stood

firm in his convictions and was only the more respected for loyalty to his country.

At his home, two miles east of Porterville, Tulare county, J. D. Tyler passed away November 18, 1895, at the age of sixty-seven years and eleven months. Religiously he was not bound by any creed, but he believed and followed implicitly the Golden Rule: "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Politically he was a staunch Republican, ever ready to battle for the cause. Too much a lover of home to care for the emoluments of office, yet he was ever ready to work and aid the ones whom he believed were the best fitted to hold the reins of government, and if they were defeated he always bowed to the inevitable and gave the victors all honor and support. Morally, he was an earnest, conscientious citizen. As every nation must have soldiers to defend its honor and maintain its rights, so every town or precinct must have its citizens to uphold its integrity. Citizens who realize that the moral atmosphere of the country permeates the homes and adds or detracts from their happiness and glory recognized such a citizen was Mr. Tyler. His influence and work were ever in the cause of temperance, and he always by his own acts strove to influence the young to walk morally upright, and gave his aid and countenance to the uplift of humanity. His sickness was of long standing, dating really from the hardships endured in coming to California. His system never rallied from the strain then received. In 1893 he began to fail perceptibly and in 1894 he gave up work entirely and after going to the polls on November 6 he did not again leave his home. In his death his country has lost a loyal, zealous citizen, his town an earnest worker for its good, his neighbors a faithful, true-hearted friend, his children a noble-hearted father, his wife a faithful, loving, trusting companion, and each and all mourn his earthly loss. On the afternoon of the 20th of November services were held at the homestead by Rev. J. G. Eckels, pastor of the Congregational church, and, surrounded by his most intimate friends and loving relatives, he was laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery in which he took so much interest and of which he was president and superintendent for many years.

SLEEP, OLD PIONEER!

*When the hill of life was steepest,
When the forest frown was deepest,
Poor but young, you hastened here,
Came when solid hope was cheapest;
Came a pioneer.*



J. A. Huntley

*Toil had never cause to doubt you,
Progress' path you helped to clear,
And your wonder works outlast you,
Sleep, old pioneer!*

JOHN HOLMES HUNTLEY

A pioneer of 1852, a busy and patriotically active citizen since 1865, John Holmes Huntley, of Visalia, Tulare county, was ever a factor in the upbuilding of his community whose influence has been potent all along. Born in Canajoharie, N. Y., September 7, 1829, a son of Oliver D. and Mary (Stark) Huntley, he was educated in the public schools of his native county and at Ames academy, and to a considerable extent in a bookstore in Albany, N. Y., where he was employed two years. His father was a native of Stonington, R. I., and his mother was born in Connecticut, a daughter of Joshua Stark, a farmer, who passed away in New York. John Holmes Huntley was but six years old when his mother died. His father was brought up to the mercantile business and sold goods many years; his second wife was a sister of his first. By each marriage he had six children. He died at the age of sixty-five years.

John H. Huntley was the third child of his father by the first marriage and inherited industry and thrift from ancestors who had behind them unnumbered ancestors of Scotch blood. In 1852, when he was about twenty-three years old, he started for California by way of the Nicaragua route and arrived in November that year. In the Sonora mining district he kept busy and made some money buying and selling stock till October, 1861, when he enlisted for Federal service in the Civil war in Company E, Second California Cavalry. He was mustered in at San Francisco, was on duty for a time against Indians on the northern border, was transferred to Tulare county, served at the time of the Owens River outbreak, acting as sergeant major of a detail of his regiment, and was mustered out in 1864 after a continuous service of three years and four days. In the mines of Nevada he speculated a year after the war, then returned to Tulare county and engaged in loaning money in Tulare, Kern and Fresno counties. From time to time he bought land till he owned eight hundred and forty acres in the San Joaquin valley, mostly devoted to stock-raising, and acquired a fine residence on the Mineral King road, two miles east of Visalia.

In politics a Republican, Mr. Huntley served his party in various offices of trust, having been internal revenue collector for Tulare,

Kern, Inyo and Fresno counties for five years, until the office was abolished, and was also gauger of liquors and surveyor of stills until he resigned. He was a member of Gen. Wright Post, G. A. R., of Visalia.

On August 3, 1879, Mr. Huntley married, at San Rafael, Nina R. Willford, born at Southampton, Eng., and they were the parents of two sons: Willford H. and Chester S. In 1900 he moved his family temporarily to Berkeley, in order to afford his children good educational advantages. In all matters that have advanced the social, political and educational welfare of Tulare county Mr. Huntley was always eagerly helpful, evidencing a public spirit commensurate with his conspicuous integrity. He passed away at the home ranch near Visalia, February 24, 1912.

When the old high school in Visalia was built, Mr. Huntley bought the entire issue of the bonds, amounting to \$40,000, and as they ran from one to forty years, some of them have twenty-five years yet in which to mature. He invested largely in ranch property in Tulare county, his first purchase of this kind being the Lewis Creek ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, which he later sold. One of his holdings was the Cross ranch at Bakersfield, a hundred and sixty acres; another, a second ranch in the Bakersfield neighborhood, a hundred and sixty acres, and both of these he rented. He bought the Cameron Creek ranch of a hundred and sixty acres, stock and timber land, and gave it to his son Chester S. Three hundred acres of the old Dr. Halsted ranch he bought and transferred to his wife and son. Mrs. Huntley and her son have also large ranch holdings in Tulare and Kern counties and are extensively engaged in stock-raising.

There is one feature of Mr. Huntley's biography of which he seldom talked in later days, yet which should be made a matter of record. Before the railroad came, he rode pony express three trips a month between Visalia and Fort Tejon.

GEORGE W. KNOX

The well-known and popular proprietor of the general merchandise business in Orosi, Cal., which enjoys such a flourishing and gratifying trade there, is George W. Knox, whose influence in the commercial, industrial and political fields in this state as well as in the middle states has been most effectively exerted. Unusual executive ability, a most sagacious reasoning power, a clear mind and the forceful spirit to bring to a successful issue all that he set out to accomplish have been the means of Mr. Knox's brilliant achievements in the political field, and the state of Minnesota especially has reason to hold

him in high esteem and to ever silently thank him for his activities toward the welfare of that vicinity.

A native of Columbia county, Wis., the son of George and Julia A. (Jackson) Knox, George W. was born November 20, 1852. His parents were both natives of Essex county, N. Y., coming to Wisconsin at an early day and settling down to farming for a long period of years. Persevering, hard-working people, they here reared their family and became well-to-do farmers of their day, giving to their children the benefits of a good education and imparting to them that rare good training which has made of so many of our citizens the well-balanced men they are today. The latter years of their life was spent in California whence they had come in 1904, and in Grangeville the father passed away, at the age of ninety-three years, his widow dying a short time later at Orosi at the same age.

At the common and high schools of Kilbourn, Wis., George W. Knox received his educational training, working during the summers with his father on the home farm. Mercantile life early attracted him and upon graduation from school he became clerk in a drug store for a few years, later embarking in that business for himself at Elroy, Wis., which engaged his entire time for several years. In 1874 with his brother he drove across the plains to Boise City, Idaho, but remained here but a short time, returning east to locate in Aitkin, Minn., where his brother D. J. Knox was then living. His career here covered the period between 1876 and 1908, during which time he became a central figure in industrial and political circles, and became most prominent through his efforts in the legislature to bring about the improvement of many conditions there. With his brother D. J. Knox he engaged in the wholesale and retail mercantile business, lumbering and logging, which they carried on until the former's death; he then continued alone until his removal to California, at that time selling out the business. A stanch Republican in political sentiment, he soon became prominent in local affairs in Minnesota, and held the office of county auditor, being later superintendent of schools in Aitkin county. His exceptional ability soon attracted the attention of politicians, and he was elected to serve for two years on the State Board of Equalization, which office he filled with such satisfaction to his constituents that he received the election to the State Legislature for the term of 1907-08, and served two years as member of the staff of Governor VanSant, with rank of colonel. He was chairman of Aitkin County Central Committee for years and during his incumbency many long-felt wants of the county were fulfilled, the county being benefited in many directions by his presence on this committee. With all movements tending to the growth and development of Minnesota and the surrounding country Mr. Knox had a great interest, and was usually instrumental in aiding in their furtherance. He had

many opportunities in his business to find these deficiencies and his experience in the lumbering business had taught him the value of certain conditions which he sought to bring about.

For many years the business of Mr. Knox in Aitkin was the lumbermen's headquarters in this country, they being the most extensive outfitters in that section in their day. After relinquishing his interests here in 1908 he decided to come to California, whence his parents had preceded him, and accordingly came to Oroshi, which has since been his place of residence. In Minnesota, Mr. Knox had married Ella H. Smith, a native of Illinois, who passed away in Minnesota, and one son was born to this union, Walter DeF. Upon arriving in Oroshi, Cal., he investigated conditions there, finally deciding to establish himself in his own line of business, and on January 1, 1909, the business of Bump & Knox was begun, dealing in lumber and builders' supplies, and this has grown and increased to such an extent that a wholesale and retail business is carried on, Mr. Knox now being sole proprietor. He has a general merchandise business in connection and enjoys a wide and profitable trade, gaining his patronage chiefly by his sagacious handling of his wares and his courteous yet business-like manner.

In 1909 Mr. Knox married in Los Angeles, Christina (Thompson) Smith, and they make their home in Oroshi, being well-known members of society there. Mr. Knox has been a prominent Mason in Minnesota as well as in California; he is a 32d degree Scottish Rite Mason and Knight Templar of York Rite, member of Osman Temple of St. Paul, Minn., and past master of Blue lodge at Aitkin, Minn.; member of the Knights of Pythias of Oroshi; and is also a member of the Blue lodge of Masons of Oroshi. He has one sister, Mrs. S. J. Knowlton, widow of E. G. Knowlton, who is residing in Oroshi.

It is of interest to add that Mr. Knox has become very interested in drainage systems in Minnesota, and his entrance into the legislature was for the furtherance of the project to secure appropriations for that purpose. During his term of service \$400,000 was secured under his bill, and the appropriation has been continued ever since under the same ratio, thus perpetuating the influence and accomplishments of its loyal instigator and friend. Mr. Knox's career has spelled power and success from its inception, and he has earned the deepest gratitude and admiration of all who have come to know him.

WILLIAM E. GOBLE

In Coles county, Ill., November 18, 1872, William E. Goble, now a resident of Tulare county, two and one-half miles east of Oroshi, was born. He is widely known as a pioneer in this section and as



BENJAMIN HICKS

a successful nurseryman. When he was nineteen years old he went to Labette county, Kans., where he lived six years. From that state W. E. Goble came to Tulare county, where he bought sixty acres of an old place on which an orchard had been established about 1871. He now has four thousand small orange trees and ten thousand grape vines in three varieties, six thousand Malagas, three thousand Thompsons and one thousand Emperors, all of which he intends using on his own place. He has nine acres of Emperor grapes, six acres of Malagas and four acres of Muscats. He is gradually working out of the nursery business and caring for his own land. Water is made available from wells from which it is drawn by means of rotary pumps, and a continual flow of thirty inches assures him a sufficient quantity for the entire place.

While he was living in Kansas, Mr. Goble married Miss Ida Stoddard, a native of Indiana, and they have two children, Gladys and Reva Goble. His parents were John and Catherine (Reynolds) Goble, the former now living in Kansas and the latter died in Illinois in 1890. Politically he is an industrial organizer and socially he affiliates with the Fraternal Brotherhood of America. He holds membership in the Baptist church. As a citizen he is progressive and public-spirited, willing at all times to contribute liberally to the support of any measure which in his opinion promises to benefit the community at large.

BENJAMIN HICKS

A descendant from old Canadian families, Benjamin Hicks was born in Toronto, Canada, December 30, 1847, and grew to maturity and acquired his education in the city of his nativity. It was in 1869 that he set out to seek his fortune. Crossing the line into the United States he made his way through the heart of the West and located in Tulare county, Cal., and settled on a ranch a mile and a half north of Visalia. From there he moved in 1884 to an eight hundred-acre stock and grain ranch on the Smith road and on rural free delivery route No. 2 of the Visalia postal district. There he farmed nine years, saving considerable money, a portion of which he invested in an eighty-acre grain tract, and in another tract of one hundred acres two miles Northeast of Visalia. From the time of his settlement in Tulare county until his death, June 9, 1900, a period of about a quarter of a century, he was identified with the agricultural

development of central California. When he began here nothing had been done to irrigate the soil and the degree of its productiveness was unknown, but he and other pioneers proved that profitable grain cultivation and cattle-raising were not only possible but easy of attainment. He gained a position of influence in the county and was respected for his keen judgment, high honor and energy. In his dealings with his fellow men he exemplified the teachings of the Christian Church, of which he was a devout and helpful member. Politically he was Republican, and as a citizen he gave his support to all measures tending to the benefit of the community. The free school system always had his generous promotion and he long held the office of trustee of the Elbow Creek district, greatly to the benefit of the local school. Fraternally he affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

In 1871 Mr. Hicks was married near Visalia to Miss Elizabeth A. March, who was born in Merced, Cal., a daughter of Robert and Mary Jane (Holloway) March, who were of Kentucky birth. Her parents settled early in Missouri and from there came overland to California in 1849. They lived first in Mariposa county, next in Merced county, and then in Tulare county, where she died in 1881, in her fifty-seventh year, he passing away in 1903, in his seventy-ninth year. Until his removal to Tulare county Mr. March had devoted himself entirely to farming; here he gave some attention to mining interests. Mr. and Mrs. Hicks had seven children, four of whom survive: Albert E., Mary Pearl, Jewell and Ruby Louise.

Albert E. Hicks has charge of the old Hicks homestead, which he has managed since 1876. After his father's death he planted eighty acres to orchard, and now he has one of the best producing orchards in the county. Thirty acres of his land is devoted to peaches and of that fruit he sold one hundred and fifteen tons in 1911, chiefly Phillips clingstones, Lovells and Muirs. The relative value of these peaches per acre was, in the order in which they have been named, \$300, \$150 and \$50 an acre. The entire average value of his peach crop is somewhat in excess of \$4,000. His eight hundred and sixty prune trees produce one hundred and ninety tons of prunes valued at more than \$6,000. Mr. Hicks married Miss Elizabeth Alles, and they have children named Gladys, Elwood and Allison. Mr. Hicks affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. His sisters Mary Pearl and Jewell live with their mother at No. 503 North Church street, Visalia, and his sister Ruby Louise became the wife of A. E. Blair and their home is near Visalia. By the will of Benjamin Hicks his wife was made administrator of his estate and her management of it has given her a reputation for uncommon business ability. The Hicks family is strong in its support of the Christian Church.

ISAAC H. THOMAS

The name of Isaac H. Thomas stands as a synonym for all that is highest and best in horticultural accomplishments in Tulare county, as is attested in the fact that he is proudly referred to by the citizens as the Luther Burbank of Tulare county. The earliest recollections of Mr. Thomas are of a home on a southern plantation, his birth having occurred in Grayson county, Ky., in 1838. He was a lad of twenty years when he turned his back on the scenes of his boyhood and came to California by way of Panama and Aspinwall, a voyage filled with interest to the young traveler. It had been the intention of the party to visit Panama City, but on account of the riots then prevailing they were marched between lines of soldiers to lighters and taken aboard the steamer. This was overcrowded to the point of discomfort, the late arrivals having to content themselves with standing room. When the ship hove in sight of the Golden Gate the passengers became unruly in their eagerness to land and thus relieve the tension and discomfort which they had endured during the long voyage on the Pacific. The crowding of the passengers to one side of the ship nearly capsized it, and in order to right the ship and preserve order the captain was compelled to turn the hot water hose on the unruly crowd. At San Francisco Mr. Thomas boarded the overland stage for Visalia, arriving November 5, 1858. He had been attracted to Visalia from the fact that his brother, Joseph H. Thomas, was located here, having come to California in 1852 and to Visalia in 1856. Here the latter was engaged in the lumber business on Mill creek, cutting and sawing pine lumber. The brothers formed an association in the lumber business that lasted eleven years, during which time they lost three mills by fire and flood. The mill was located forty-five miles from Visalia and they paid \$40 to \$50 per thousand feet for hauling the lumber to town, where it sold for \$90 a thousand. The logs were blasted in order to get them into the mill.

After giving up the lumber business Isaac H. Thomas turned his attention to the nursery and orchard industry and his interest in the same has continued to the present time. To him is given the credit for taking orders for and selling the first fruit trees in Tulare county, obtaining his initial stock from San Jose. Into his nursery, located one and a half miles east of Visalia, he introduced many new varieties of fruit trees. A subsequent undertaking was the planting and development of a ninety acre orchard adjacent to town. Since 1904 he has been associated with the Red Bank Orchard Company in the capacity of horticulturist. This orchard was started with the intention of catering to the eastern trade exclusively and

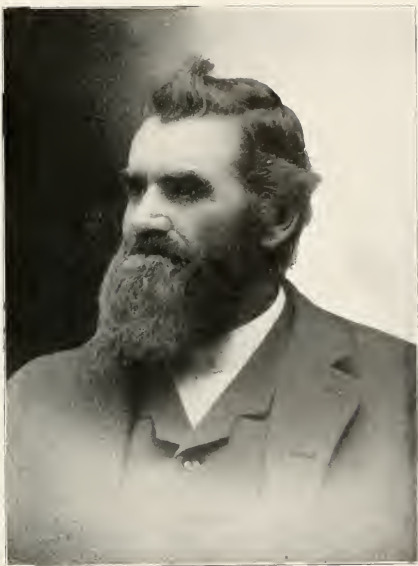
grows the earliest fruit in the state north of the Imperial valley. Some idea of the duties involved as manager of the Red Bank orchard may be gathered from the fact that the ranch comprises twenty-two hundred acres, of which nine hundred and forty acres are in fruit, as follows: oranges, table grapes (fourteen varieties), seedless limes, tangarines, plums (fifteen varieties), as well as an early variety of peaches, in fact the very earliest produced in the United States. The orchard has an exceptional location on the face of Colvin mountain. Electric power is used for irrigation, water being supplied from a system of wells seventy-seven feet deep and pumped one hundred and seventy-five feet up hill into cement flumes. Mr. Thomas has exhibited Visalia grown fruits all over America, and abroad also, and has never taken any but first premiums. Besides sending exhibits from his own ranch, which he owned before he became associated with the Red Bank Orchard Company, he also packed and shipped fruit that came from the George A. Fleming ranch, consisting of three hundred pounds of large peaches, to the fairs at Atlanta, Buffalo, and Paris, the peaches running from sixteen to twenty-one and a half ounces each.

The marriage of Mr. Thomas in 1864 united him with Miss Caroline Owsley, a native of Missouri. The eldest of their three children, John O., now deceased, was elected recorder of Tulare county and served one term. Horace M. is a resident of Oakland. Annie, the only daughter, is the wife of P. M. Baier, of Visalia. Mr. Thomas is a member of Four Creek Lodge No. 94, I. O. O. F., and a charter member of the old volunteer fire department. He served nine years on the state board of horticulture and has taken an active part in combating the fruit pests, he having invented the composition of lime, sulphur and salt for killing insects and the San Jose scale.

In retrospect Mr. Thomas calls to mind his first impression of Visalia, which at the time he arrived here contained three stores, a hotel and a blacksmith shop. In the course of half a century he has seen wonderful changes in the country round about and no one more than he can be given credit for what has been accomplished. Few indeed are those now living who were residents here when he settled here. He cast his first vote in Visalia in 1859, supporting Bell and Everett. Mr. Thomas is the proud possessor of two old relics which he prizes very highly. One of these is an old drum, which first saw service in the Revolutionary war and later figured in the battle of New Orleans. This relic is now on exhibition at Stanford University. The other memento is an old hickory cane, cut in 1855 at General Jackson's old home in Tennessee, The Hermitage.



MRS. A. J. SCOGGINS



A. Scoggins

ANDREW J. SCOGGINS

Among the well-known pioneers of Tulare county is numbered Andrew J. Scoggins, son of David Green and Martha (Breedlove) Scoggins, who was born May 28, 1828, in Alabama. His parents were natives of North Carolina. The family moved at a comparatively early date to Tennessee and were among pioneers in Roane county and later in another county in that state and the father prospered fairly as a farmer and as a tanner. When Andrew was twenty-two years old he settled in Arkansas, but finding the country unhealthy removed to southwest Missouri. In 1848, before leaving his old home in Tennessee, he married Miss Julia Buttram, a native of that state, who bore him a daughter, Martha Ann, who eventually married the Rev. L. C. Renfroe of the Methodist church and bore him children, Maud and Louis. Mrs. Scoggins died October 3, 1853. On October 3, 1856, he married Miss Rebecca Cleek, a native of Tennessee, whom he brought across the plains to the Far West. The journey was made in the warm part of the year 1857 and he started with two hundred head of cattle and lost a few by the way. The start was made from Fort Scott and the Platte river was reached at Fort Kearney. The latter part of the journey was made by the southern route and Mr. Scoggins settled in Yolo county, then a wild country in which he found wild oats higher than his head. By his second marriage Mr. Scoggins had nine children: Margaret M., Byron, Josephine, Nettie, John L., Frank, Pearl W., A. J. and an infant unnamed. The three last-mentioned have passed away. Margaret M. married C. Fremont Giddons and has three sons and a daughter. Byron has not married. Josephine married Travers Welch and bore him one child who has won success as a teacher at Fresno, where the family live. Nettie married C. L. Knestrie of Dinuba and has a daughter. Frank married Belle Ellis, daughter of J. W. Ellis of Visalia, and has two sons and a daughter. Mr. Scoggins has nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Scoggins crossed the plains the second time, the journey being made in comparative safety, there having been no trouble with the Indians. He came to Hanford in 1866 and lived south of that town for ten years. He bought land of the railroad company at \$12.50 an acre and passed through the experiences which culminated in the Mussel Slough tragedy and the subsequent settlement of questions at issue between settlers and the railroad company. One of his recollections is of having seen Mr. Crow after the latter had been shot down. He went for a time to Texas to raise sheep and fed many sheep in Colusa county, Cal. He had now entered upon what may be termed his second period of prosperity. In 1870 he had paid taxes on property valued at \$350,000 and the opening of the year 1876 had found

him poor. He began to raise grain, operating extensively in Colusa county, where he grew ten thousand sacks of wheat in one memorable season and was known as a leading wheat producer in that part of the state. In the spring of 1888 he owned eleven thousand sheep and sheared four hundred. His house in Colusa county, a brick structure which cost \$15,000, was the finest house in the county at the time of his residence there. On coming to Dinuba he bought fifty acres of land a mile and a half southwest of the town and has given ten acres to his heirs. He has thirty acres in grapes and a fine family orchard.

The country in this region was new when Mr. Scoggins first re-held it. Sheep and cattle were fed everywhere, wild game was plenty and he often saw large herds of antelope which at a distance looked like bands of sheep. Not only has he participated in the development of the country, but as a public-spirited citizen he has aided it in every way possible. In politics he calls himself a Bryan Democrat. He has long been a Mason and is also an Odd Fellow. He and members of his family are communicants of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

HON. TIPTON LINDSEY

The honor which belongs to the pioneer and to the leader in affairs of importance to the community attaches to the name of the late Hon. Tipton Lindsey, of Visalia, Tulare county, Cal. Mr. Lindsey was born in St. Joseph county, Ind., May 21, 1829, and was reared on a farm there. Educated in public schools near his boyhood home, he was well advanced in the study of law by the time he was twenty years old. In 1849, as a member of a party of thirty, he made the journey with ox-teams across the plains to California and mined for a time at Placerville. He then settled in Santa Clara county, whence he came to Tulare county, in November, 1860, driving a band of cattle. He pre-empted a piece of government land near Goshen and turned his cattle out to range, but they died in a dry season four years later. He then went to Visalia, completed his study of the law and was admitted to the bar, entering upon a successful professional practice. From the first he took an active interest in public affairs and from time to time was called to fill responsible official positions. He was for twelve years receiver of the United States Land Office at Visalia, was long a school trustee, served one term as supervisor and represented his district four years in the senate of the state of California. During all his active life he took a deep and helpful interest in public education and the

Tipton Lindsey grammar school of Visalia, named in his honor, is a monument to his activities as a promoter of educational advancement of the city. Indeed, it may be said of him that there was no local interest tending to the improvement of the people at large that did not receive his public-spirited support. Comparatively early in the history of Visalia he bought sixteen home lots in the town for \$800, and the lot on which his widow now has her home has been owned in the family forty-six years. Her fine ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, three miles west of town, he purchased forty-six years ago. The property formerly bore prunes and peaches on trees which he set out, but eventually he had them taken out and devoted the land to alfalfa, and for several years it has been operated by tenants. Fraternally he affiliated with the Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He was identified with the California Society of Pioneers, the headquarters of which are at San Francisco, and helped to organize the Tulare County Society of Pioneers. His recollections of 1849 were very comprehensive and very interesting. In these days, when the high price of foodstuffs is so much discussed, readers should be interested in his narratives of a time when water sold for \$1 a gallon and eggs for \$1 each in San Francisco. This honored pioneer passed away on his ranch west of Visalia in 1894.

In 1859 Mr. Lindsey married Miss Eliza Fine, niece of John Fine, who crossed the plains with her uncle in 1853. When she came to Visalia it was only a village; she saw the trees set out and the homes built in her vicinity, and has watched the development of the city to its present proportions and importance. She recalls many entertaining experiences of her journey across the plains. In every direction she saw long emigrant trains until they looked small and dim on the horizon. She remembers a stampede of buffaloes in which a herd of thousands bore down on her train, threatening death to humans and cattle alike, a tragedy which was prevented by a diversion in the path of the maddened bison which took them past the camp without inflicting injury to anything in it. She recalls the flood of 1868 at Visalia, when for more than twenty-four hours water stood a foot deep on the property which is now her home, and tells how after the water subsided tons of fish were left on the plains west of Visalia. The flood interfered with travel in the country round about to such an extent that for two months not a letter or newspaper was received in the town. Mrs. Lindsey has two children, Charles F., of San Francisco, and Mrs. M. P. Frasier, of Los Angeles, who has a son named Harold.

HON. JOSEPH C. BROWN

In 1849, during the days of the gold excitement, which was the booming of California and the misfortune of many of its pioneers who had not learned that grain is more golden than gold, Joseph C. Brown, a native of Kentucky and a man of unusual ability, came across the plains in the historic wearisome way and mined for a time at Placerville. Then he bettered his fortunes by turning school teacher, holding forth to a few pupils in the Deep Creek school-house in Tulare county, a structure which can be dignified only by describing it as a log cabin. But there was a career before him. He had a taste for politics and was a forcible and convincing public speaker, and in those times and in this then remote region the public speaker had a distinct advantage over his less voluble neighbor. He represented Tulare county in the California legislature in 1866, 1867 and 1868, and the records show that he served on important committees and did good work for his constituency.

Later Mr. Brown ranched in the White River mountains, near Exeter, Tulare county, where he operated two hundred and forty acres of land in the raising of hogs, the bacon from which he enterprisingly sold in the mines. He homesteaded a one hundred and sixty-acre ranch of government land, two and one-half miles south-east of Exeter, which he developed into a productive farm on which he lived out his life and died April 25, 1896.

Of the California constitutional convention of 1876 Mr. Brown was an active and influential member, representing Tulare county, and in political circles he was widely and favorably known throughout the state. At the time of the flood of 1868, when he was living in the White River mountains, his food supply was cut off temporarily and for a while he had nothing to eat but boiled barley. He married Mollie M. Lovelace, who bore him children as follows: Stanly B., Volney A. and Lucretia E., now Mrs. L. Martin.

On his father's ranch near Farmersville, Volney A. Brown grew to manhood, and in the public schools near the home of his boyhood days he acquired his education. When his father's estate was divided, eighty acres fell to his share and it is now his home, and he has improved it and made of it such an up-to-date ranch as would be the pride of any farmer in his district. He has set out a new prune orchard, which produced eleven tons in 1911, and raises barley, hogs and stock cattle. In connection with his homestead he farms a ranch in the hills under lease. He has also invested in valuable town lots in Exeter, and has just completed a fine residence on his premises, where he and his wife and one son, Joseph C. Brown, enjoy all the comforts of a happy home.

Some of his father's public spirit and concern in public affairs



JOSEPH C. BROWN

was inherited by Mr. Brown, who has an enviable reputation as a liberal-minded and very helpful citizen who has at heart the best interests of the community.

GEORGE A. NOBLE

A prominent citizen and successful builder of Tulare county, and a native son of the Golden State, George A. Noble was born in Soquel, Santa Cruz county, in 1856, a son of Augustus and Johanna M. (Short) Noble. His parents were both born in Massachusetts, and his father is living at Soquel at the age of ninety years.

The elder Noble came to California on board a sailing vessel by way of Cape Horn in the year 1849, a member of a party of thirty-nine men who were three months in reaching their destination, and he is one of the few '49ers surviving in this state. On the voyage the supply of meat was exhausted and some of the people on the ship died of scurvy, for a time there being no fresh food but fish. Soon after his arrival Mr. Noble began mining on the Feather river, and in nine months took out gold to the value of \$20,000, sending some of his nuggets back East. Later he returned to his old home, married and brought his bride to California. Locating in the mining district of Marysville, he set himself up in business as a cooper, working over the material of old whisky barrels into kegs, which he sold profitably to miners, but he was burned out at Marysville, losing his all. After a time he went to San Francisco, bought a cooper shop near Black Point, operated it successfully two years and then sold it in order to remove to Soquel, Santa Cruz county, where he has since made his home. He bought an undivided one-ninth interest in the Soquel ranch of two thousand acres and in the Argumentation ranch of nine hundred acres, which he still owns. He was one of the early justices of the peace on the Pacific slope and is a member of the Pioneer Society of California. His wife, who died in 1907, bore him children as follows: Mrs. Charlotte M. Lawson, of San Francisco; George A., of this review; Edward T.; Frederick Dent; Prof. Charles A., of the University of California at Berkeley; and Walter.

In Soquel, Santa Cruz county, Cal., George A. Noble grew to manhood, acquired his education and gained practical familiarity with fruit growing. He began his independent business life in 1878 as a fruitman near Fresno, on a tract of eighty acres, twenty of which was in vineyard, forty in fruit and the remaining twenty in alfalfa. In 1888 he moved to Seattle, Wash., where he was for a time a suc-

cessful contractor and builder. Returning to California, he bought eighty acres at Savilla, near Atwell's Island, Tulare county, but owing to failure on the part of the vendors to furnish water according to their agreement he was compelled to abandon his holdings after two years' work and many improvements made on it. He then removed to Fresno, where he devoted his time to the cultivation of Indian corn. In 1900 he settled at Visalia, renting twenty acres, which he afterward bought and still owns. He developed it into an orchard and is now doing well as a grower of peaches. His property, lying within the city limits of Visalia, is exceedingly valuable. In connection with his fruit growing he has done much contracting and building at Visalia since 1905, having erected, among other buildings, the Episcopal church, five houses for J. S. Johnson, the W. R. Pigg home, the M. J. Wells home, the Willow district schoolhouse and Mrs. Dyer's home. In the year 1912 he built the Bliss, Cutler and East Lynne schoolhouses in Tulare county and is at present engaged on the new Presbyterian church at Visalia. The residence of Mrs. Oaks, opposite the new Baptist church in Visalia was also completed by him. Besides buildings of the classes mentioned he has built numerous cottages in different parts of the town, and his work has been such as to give him high standing among the builders and contractors of the county. He is a charter member of the local organization of Modern Woodmen, and as a citizen is progressive, public spirited and helpful to all good interests of the community.

In 1877 Mr. Noble married Miss Otto, a native of Germany, whose father, long in the employ of Claus Spreckels, built in Wisconsin the first beet sugar factory in the United States and later erected the Eldorado sugar factory, near San Francisco. Mrs. Noble has borne her husband six children, Augustus, Edgar, Rosa, Ewald, Gertrude and George. Rosa is the wife of Clarence Brown of Visalia. Mr. Noble has recently organized the California Building Co., which has platted the Nobles Subdivision to Visalia and is now engaged in building houses and selling off lots to prospective homemakers, this being the finest available residence district in Visalia. The family home is at No. 820 West Mineral King avenue, Visalia.

ANDREW G. BELZ

As far back as the ancestral records can be traced the home of the Belz family has been in Germany. Christoff Belz, a Saxon by birth and a machinist by trade, came to the United States and set-

tled in Rome, N. Y., in 1854, and in that city he followed his trade throughout the remainder of his life. He married Margaret Schnuer, also a native of Saxony, who died at the home of her son, Andrew G., when she had reached the advanced age of eighty-nine years. She bore her husband four children, of whom Andrew G., the eldest, was the only one to make his home in California. In their religious belief Christoff Belz and his wife were Lutherans, devoted to their church and contributing to the limit of their ability to all its various interests.

In Saxe-Meiningen, Germany, Andrew G. Belz was born January 31, 1832. In his youth he learned the machinist's trade, attending a mechanical school, in which he specialized as an ironworker and a locksmith. Subsequently he served for two years in the army of his native country, as required by law, but the service was so distasteful to him that he fled to the United States to escape the third and last year. In 1854 he accompanied his father to the United States, settling in Rome, N. Y., where his first occupation was burning charcoal. From New York state he went to Pennsylvania, subsequently to Jefferson county, Wis., and finally, in 1862, he came to California. In 1864 he became a pioneer settler in Visalia, where he set up the first blacksmith shop, and here it was that he welded the first four-inch wagon tire that was made in the county. He continued to follow the blacksmith business here with good success until the '80s, when the failure of his eyesight made it necessary for him to give it up. Following this he became interested in the hotel business, and on the site of his blacksmith shop he erected the Pacific lodging house. As this was near the Southern Pacific depot it had a good patronage from the first and is still dispensing hospitality to the weary wayfarer.

At Watertown, Wis., August 17, 1874, Mr. Belz was married to Miss Caroline Wegman, a daughter of George J. and Caroline (Wennerholdt) Wegman. A sketch of the former will be found elsewhere in this volume. Three children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Belz, as follows: George A., Frank A. and Eliza M., the latter the wife of E. Blair. George A. is a graduate of the San Jose state normal school, class of 1902. Frank attended the grammar school, passed three years in high school, and then attended Santa Clara college. Finally both sons entered the University of Wisconsin and graduated from the college of agriculture connected with that well-known institution. They are now engaged in carrying on scientific farming and dairying on the old Wegman estate, and associated with them are Mr. and Mrs. Blair. The sons are young men of much ability and of the highest integrity, who carry into their business the high ideals that made the names of their father and grandfather honored wherever they were known. Mr. and Mrs. Wegman followed their daughter to California in 1875 and settled on what is

now known as the Wegman ranch, three and one-half miles north-east of Visalia.

Just fifty years have passed since Mr. Belz came to California by way of Panama in 1862. From San Francisco, where he landed, he first went to Sacramento and then to Stockton, where he stacked about one thousand acres with wheat for Mr. Newton. All was destroyed in a flood, a circumstance which discouraged Mr. Belz with any future attempts at farming. After coming to Visalia in 1864 he worked for several men in the capacity of blacksmith before setting up a shop of his own. The passing of years has obliterated the memory of early discouragements and disappointments, and in the enjoyment of his present prosperity he rejoices that he persevered, adjusting himself to circumstances and conditions.

HON. JUSTIN JACOBS

The life story of Judge Justin Jacobs is interesting and should be instructive to the ambitious young man who desires to get on in the world in a high-minded way and to win substantial and creditable success. Justin Jacobs was born in Troy, N. Y., in 1844. His father, who had been an officer in the Seminole war, was connected with the United States arsenal at Troy until he was crippled for life by the explosion of ordnance in that military establishment. Then he went to Wisconsin and in 1847, when his son was three years old, the family settled near Waupun, where the future jurist was educated in the common school. When the Civil war broke out he was sixteen years old and, responding to President Lincoln's call for volunteers, he became one of the very young soldiers in the Federal army. On the same day he enlisted in the Sixteenth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, which was under command of Colonel Fairchild; his brother Curtis enlisted in the Third Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. The Sixteenth Wisconsin was assigned to the Department of the Tennessee and followed Grant and Sherman in all their long and brilliant campaigns in the west. Private Jacobs took part in many hotly contested engagements, including that of Shiloh, where he was one of those who stood in the historic "Hornet's Nest." Exposure and bad surgical treatment resulted in the loss of one of his eyes and he was discharged from the service in March, 1865, so nearly blind that he was unable to resume his studies for a year and a half. However the sight of his remaining eye was restored, and he soon became a student at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. After the junior year he entered the law department of that institution, from which he was graduated in 1871, and after two years spent as prin-



Justin Jacobs.

icipal of the Waupun public schools, he began the practice of his profession. He came to California in 1874 and until 1876 was connected with Tipton Lindsey of Visalia in professional work. In the year last mentioned he moved to Lemoore and built the first dwelling house in the town on land which he bought from the railroad company which was promoting development there. During the legal struggle between the settlers in what was once known as "the Mussel Slough Country" he was their attorney and ably defended them in the courts. In 1883 he sold his property at Lemoore and until 1885 was the law partner of L. H. Van Schaick, of San Francisco. Returning to Lemoore he was until 1891 the leading lawyer in Western Tulare county, and in that year he took up his residence in Hanford, where for a year he had as his law partners M. L. Short and B. T. Mickle. When the western part of the county became settled and developed and a movement for the creation of a new county took form he was one of the advisors who supplied the legal knowledge upon which the work of separation and re-establishment was carried to success. This fact gives him standing in history as having been one of the founders of Kings county in 1893. He was elected superior judge of the new county and re-elected to succeed himself, and he won the reputation of being one of the ablest judges of the Superior Court of California. He was foremost in all the work of general development so long as he lived, instrumental in bringing about the bonding of the county for public school purposes and in establishing the Union high school and in securing good roads throughout the county. In the founding and building up of the First Unitarian church of Hanford he was a factor and of its congregation he was a member until he passed away.

At Janesville, Wis., in 1872, Judge Jacobs married Miss Annie M. Lowber, a native of New York, and they had three children, Clara Belle, H. Scott and Louisa M. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias, a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Grand Army of the Republic, and passed all the chairs in each of these orders. He died September 23, 1898.

JOHN W. STOKES

Not only by reason of identification with California during its early formative period, but also by virtue of his long association with the stock and farm interests of Tulare county Mr. Stokes holds a leading position among the citizens of the community. When in the winter of 1855 he came to the vicinity of his present location in Visalia few attempts had as yet been made to place the surrounding

country under cultivation. Visalia was a very small village, surrounded by a wilderness, and Mr. Stokes drove his cattle along the foothills east of Visalia, where now stand the thriving towns of Exeter and Lindsay. Game of all kinds abounded and it was not uncommon to see three hundred elks in one band.

A native of Missouri, John W. Stokes was born in Daviess county, July 2, 1837, the son of Yancy B. Stokes, a native of Kentucky. Removing from Kentucky to Missouri in an early day the latter engaged in farming and stock-raising, and became well known throughout the middle west through his large stock transactions. From 1840 until 1850 he made his home in Iowa, and on April 10 of the last mentioned year he took up the march across the plains for California. He was accompanied on the trip by his son John W., then a lad of about thirteen years, and the incidents of the ox-team journey covering seven months proved a source of unending interest to the youth. The party arrived at Hangtown on October 12 and the first winter was passed in Stockton, the father suffering ill-health the greater part of that season. It thus devolved upon the son to take care of the stock that winter, and with the opening of the spring father and son went to the Curtis Creek mines. They were especially fortunate in their mining experiences during the three months they were there, but all to no purpose, as the entire accumulation was stolen from Mr. Stokes' trunk. From there he went to Mokelumne river, Calaveras county, remaining there until the spring of 1852, when he located in Marysville on the Yuba river. The following spring and summer were spent in prospecting in the mines, after which he returned to Stockton. In the fall of that year he returned to Iowa and in 1853 he brought his family to California across the plains. The journey was broken by a stop in Carson Valley, where the family spent the winter, and the following spring they located in Contra Costa county, near Martinez. One year later, December 25, 1855, they came to Tulare county, locating on government land which Mr. Stokes took up six miles west of Visalia. Here he engaged in general farming and stock-raising until selling the property to his son, after which he bought another tract in the same section, his holdings at the time of his death amounting to sixteen hundred acres. He passed away March 4, 1886. His wife, in maidenhood Elizabeth Moore and a native of Missouri, also died in California.

A family of six sons and five daughters was born to this pioneer couple. Only three of the children, S. C., B. F. and J. W., are living in Tulare county. Two daughters, Martha J. Sanders and Hattie Webb, are residents of the state, and Mrs. Rachel Brewer, the eldest of the children living, makes her home in Iowa. The school advantages that fell to the lot of John W. Stokes were limited.

for his entire boyhood was passed on the frontier, first in Iowa and later in California. In 1853, while his father returned to Iowa for the remainder of the family, he went to the mines at Hangtown with a brother, buying flour and other stuff which they sold to the emigrants, flour bringing \$1 per pound. They raised water melons in Carson valley and sold them for \$1 each. Coming to Tulare county with the family, J. W. Stokes was for some time associated in general farming and stock-raising on property which was later sold to the son, as previously stated. The latter afterward branched out along the same lines on a large scale and at one time owned as high as sixteen thousand acres of land. Considerable of this has since been disposed of, although he still owns valuable farm lands in the county. He can truly be numbered among the extensive and successful stockmen of Tulare county.

It was in Tulare county that Mr. Stokes' first marriage occurred, uniting him with Rachel M. Gibson, a native of Missouri. She died in San Luis Obispo county, Cal., leaving the following children: Christina, the wife of S. N. Chase; John Thomas; Elta; Miles Andrew and Cland. Subsequently, in Visalia, Mr. Stokes was married to Nancy Liggett, a native of Tennessee. The two children born of this marriage are Henry J., a rancher near Goshen, and Roxanna, the wife of C. B. Dorrity. Mr. Stokes espouses the principles of the Republican party, as did his father before him.

JAMES HENRY CLAY McFARLAND

As rancher, stockman and horticulturist James H. C. McFarland has become one of the most prominent citizens of his community. His activities date from 1891, when he bought his property south of Tulare. He was born in Springfield, Greene county, Mo., August 19, 1849, son of William and Martha (Roberts) McFarland, the youngest of their family of three sons and five daughters, all of whom grew to maturity and five of whom are living. William McFarland was taken to Cooper county, Mo., by Jacob McFarland, his father, who was a native of North Carolina, and there he grew up, was educated and learned the work of the farmer and stockman. It was as such that he was engaged during the active years of his life five miles from Springfield, where he passed away in 1863. A Whig and a Union man, he organized the first Home Guards in Greene county. Each of his three sons was a volunteer in the Union service: George, now of Springfield, having borne arms in a Missouri regiment; John, also of Springfield, in the Eighth Missouri Cavalry; and James Henry Clay in Company F, Fourteenth Missouri Cavalry.

into which he was mustered at Springfield in March, 1865, when he was in his sixteenth year. William McFarland married Martha Roberts, a native of east Tennessee, whose father, John Roberts, took his family to Cooper county, Mo., and later to Greene county, where he died. Mrs. McFarland's death occurred in 1880.

On his father's farm in Missouri James H. C. McFarland was reared to manhood. He attended the district school near his home until he was obliged to leave it in order to go to work. After his enlistment as a soldier his regiment was detailed for frontier duty against Indians in western Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico. A battle with the Cheyennes and Comanches was fought at Salt River and the Indians were defeated, but the cavalry remained on the ground until the government effected a treaty with the Indians, where Wichita, Kans., now stands. Mr. McFarland was mustered out of service at Fort Leavenworth in November, 1865, and was later discharged at St. Louis. He was at that time a few months past his sixteenth birthday, and he went back to school, but left it soon afterward to become a farmer and stockraiser on his own account. He successfully conducted an eighty-acre farm five miles from Springfield until 1887, when he came to California and located in Tulare county. He rented three hundred acres of the Bishop Colony land, east of Tulare, for two years. Then he rented two hundred and forty acres of the Zumwalt ranch for a year and forty acres belonging to Mrs. Traverse. In the spring of 1891 he bought twenty acres of the Oakland Colony tract, which he put in alfalfa. He also rented two hundred and forty acres of the Gould ranch in the Waukena section, which he farmed to grain for three years. In the fall of 1894 he and his brother-in-law rented four thousand acres, east of Lindsay, which was a part of the Tuohy ranch, and farmed it one year. The following year they farmed the Gould ranch and in 1896 operated two hundred and forty acres of the Woods place in the Poplar section. He also bought three hundred and twenty acres on the bayou, three miles south of Tulare, where he raised stock. That place he sold in 1904 and bought sixty acres adjoining his twenty acres in the Oakland Colony tract, which he put under alfalfa. There he lived until 1910, when he sold the property and bought eighty acres of the John Shufflebean ranch, two miles west of town, all of which he operates himself and on which his residence is located. He has installed an electric power plant for pumping.

In 1869 Mr. McFarland married, near Springfield, Mo., Miss Martha J. Wharton, a native of Greene county, that state, and a daughter of Emsley Wharton, born in North Carolina, who settled early in Missouri and died there some time after the Civil war, in which he saw service in the Eighth Missouri Cavalry, U. S. A. To Mr. and Mrs. McFarland have been born two children. Their daugh-



Jennie Montgomery & W. Montgomery

ter Clara married W. J. Abererombie of Tulare. Their son Charles G. is a rancher near that city. Mrs. McFarland is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Mr. McFarland is Republican.

LITCHFIELD YOUNG MONTGOMERY

Of those who are engaged in ranching and stock-raising in the vicinity of Hanford, Kings county, none stand higher in public favor than L. Y. Montgomery, who came to this county in January, 1881, and during the long time that has elapsed since has demonstrated the value of industry and fair dealing in the making of a career of usefulness and honor. Mr. Montgomery was born in East Tennessee on May 17, 1857, the son of William Glaspy and Mary Jane (Burton) Montgomery, natives respectively of Tennessee and Virginia. Both passed away on the old homestead, the father when about seventy years old, and the mother also lived to pass her seventieth year. L. Y. Montgomery was educated in public schools near the family plantation and at Maryville College. He was early instructed in all of the details of successful farming as conducted in that part of the country at the time, and may be said to have been in the fields since he was a lad of ten years. After he left college he assumed charge of his father's business, managing it for a short time, and in January, 1879, he went to Louisiana, where he was much enthused over the fine opportunities which the farming interests of that state offered to a young man, and in leaving there he felt that he was turning his back on fortune, besides leaving behind many appreciated friends whom he had made among the planters. However, falling a victim to malaria, he decided to seek a change of climate and came to California.

Mr. Montgomery's first employment in the Golden State was in the redwood lumber camps controlled by San Francisco parties, and in June, 1881, he found work in the harvest fields for a time. In the latter part of that year he came to Grangeville, then Tulare county, and for the following two years was paid well-earned wages by G. H. Hackett for ranch work. After he had saved some money he leased land and for some time was successful as a farmer on his own account; still later on, as success smiled on his efforts, he became a land-owner and engaged in general farming and stock-raising. At this time he owns his home place of eighty acres, five miles north of Hanford, besides two hundred acres in Fresno county, all of which is well improved. He has forty acres in fruit, to the

cultivation of which he gives considerable attention. He is interested in irrigation projects and is a director of the People's Ditch company and also of the Riverside Ditch company. For four years, from 1906 to 1910, he served as supervisor from the third district of Kings county and while a member of that body the new county hospital was erected and the courthouse park was enlarged.

On November 30, 1891, occurred the marriage of L. Y. Montgomery and Miss Jennie G. Latham, who was a native of Sutter county, born on August 7, 1870. They have three sons, Cloyd Burton, a student in Heald's Business College at Fresno; Russell Latham and Creed Litchfield. Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery are members of the Kings River Methodist Episcopal church and both belong to the order of Rebekahs, and he is a member of the Odd Fellows. In all matters pertaining to the well-being of the county or the people, Mr. Montgomery has always shown his public spirit and has advocated and supported measures to the best of his ability along those lines. To such men as he the county owes its development and standing among its sister counties of the state.

EZRA LATHROP

The wise counsel, good judgment and progressive spirit of Ezra Lathrop have been factors in the upbuilding and prosperity of Tulare, Cal. Mr. Lathrop came from his old Iowa home to Nevada, but soon afterward, in 1866, came to California, and since 1873 he has lived in Tulare. His family is of English descent and was early established in the state of New York. William and Perrin Lathrop, his grandfather and father respectively, were born there, but settled in Susquehanna county, Pa., where the former died. The latter became a pioneer at Cascade, Dubuque county, Iowa, but soon went to Center Point, near Cedar Falls, in Blackhawk county, where he improved a farm. Later he farmed in Louisa county, that state, but passed his declining years in Blackhawk county. Clementine Dowdney, who became his wife, was of Eastern birth, but passed away near Center Point, Iowa. She bore her husband two sons and a daughter: Ezra of Tulare; Gilead P., who died in the Civil war, a member of the Eighth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry; and Mrs. Mary Ellen Brown, who lives in Tulare county, north of Visalia.

At Rush, near Montrose, Susquehanna, Pa., Ezra Lathrop was born in 1839 and there he began attending district schools. He was ten years old when his family went to Iowa and sixteen when his mother died, and then he set out to make his own way in the world.

For a time he was employed on farms, but in 1864 sought fortune in the West as a member of an emigrant party that crossed the plains. The Indians were unusually troublesome at that time, but the train went unmolested up the Platte and by way of Salt Lake City to Nevada, where Mr. Lathrop began farming on the East Walker river. In 1865 he was teaming at Dayton and in 1866 he was farming near Suisun, Cal., whence he removed three years later to Montezuma Hill. In 1873 he came to Tulare and built the residence which has since been his home and found employment as a driver of six-horse teams in mountain freighting. In 1874 he homesteaded eighty acres of government land north of Tulare, which, with other lands, he began to cultivate six years later, and by adjoining purchases he came to own four hundred and thirty acres. He formerly owned the Round Valley ranch of thirty-eight hundred acres. At this time his holdings comprise four hundred and forty acres in one body, all under ditch; five hundred and sixty acres, south of Tulare; and eighty acres southeast of that city. He was for a time a director in the Rockyford Irrigation Ditch Company.

In 1882 Mr. Lathrop embarked in the lumber business and soon built up a valuable trade, but after eighteen months a concern that had been his most bitter competitor and which he had worsted sold out to Moore & Smith, a company financially very strong. Unable to hold his own against such opposition, he sold out in 1884 to the Puget Sound Lumber Company, which appointed him its local agent. In 1886 the two concerns were merged as the San Joaquin Lumber Company and his agency was continued. When the new company was incorporated he became its manager and had its affairs in charge until November, 1898, when it retired from business. He was one of the promoters of the Gas Company of Tulare, was financially interested in it when it was incorporated, January, 1884, and has been its president since May, 1885. Its electric light plant dates from 1890 and since 1894 it has manufactured no gas. His patriotic work in bringing about the compromise with the bondholders of the Tulare Irrigation district resulted in a grand jollification and bond burning which is a part of the history of Tulare. He has performed efficient service as fire commissioner and school trustee and has helped the people of the town by his wise and conservative judgment in financial affairs. In 1885 he assisted in the organization of the bank of Tulare, the oldest in the town, of which he was president from that day to the time of his death, November 17, 1908, and which has been an important aid to the welfare of the people. It is apparent that a record of the life of Mr. Lathrop is in a sense a record of the progress and development of Tulare, for he was inseparably identified with many of its leading interests. Politically he was a Democrat until 1896. Then, unable to support the financial theories of Mr. Bryan, he became a Re-

publican. Fraternally he affiliates with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, which has a flourishing lodge at Tulare.

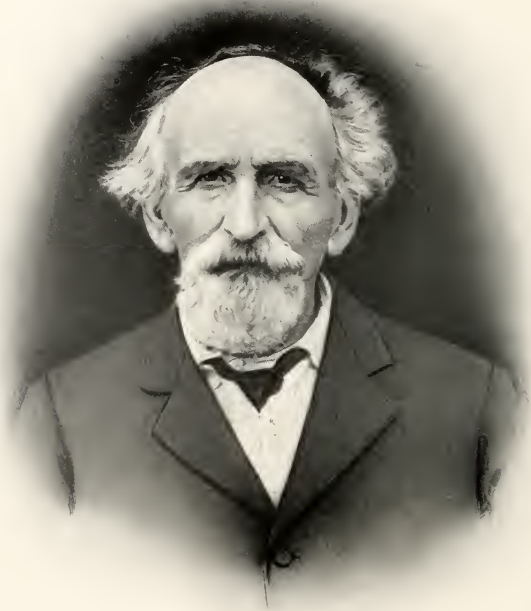
In Iowa, Mr. Lathrop married Miss Virginia Blake, a native of Oakland, that state, who bore him twin daughters and died in 1898. One of the daughters, Martha Adeline, married G. W. Bauman, a biographical sketch of whom will be found in this volume, and the other, Matilda Eveline, married W. J. Sturgeon.

On January 20, 1908, Mr. Lathrop married Mrs. Lena Ayer, whose maiden name was Lena De Vine, born in Nova Scotia. Mr. and Mrs. Ayer came to California from Boston, Mass., December, 1890.

CHARLES TILDEN ROSSON, M. D.

The profession of medicine and surgery is becoming more and more specialized as time passes, and its two principal branches are today more distinct and individual than they have ever been before. One of the medical profession in Kings county, Cal., who is becoming well known in central California through his successful devotion to surgery is Charles Tilden Rosson, M. D., of Hanford, who was born in Vergennes, Jackson county, Ill., in 1876, and was there educated in the public schools. In 1894, when he was about eighteen years old, he came to Tulare county, Cal. It was in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco that he finished his professional education and was graduated with the M. D. degree in 1903, and in that and the following year he was house surgeon in the City and County Hospital at San Francisco. In 1904 he came to Hanford and for a time made the office of Dr. Holmes his headquarters, but it was not long before he established an independent office, which is now located in the Emporium building.

It is to surgery that Dr. Rosson has given special attention and it is as a surgeon that he has developed an ability and won a success that have made him known throughout a wide territory surrounding Hanford. An idea of his progressiveness and of his initiative in his chosen field may be conveyed by the statement that he was one of the first to perform laparotomy in Kings county. Until 1911 he was for some years surgeon in Central California for the Santa Fe Railway system and he is now Southern Pacific Railroad surgeon and physician. He is a member of the San Joaquin Medical Society, the Fresno County Medical Society, the California State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and is president of the Hanford Sanitorium, Inc. Though he is in constant demand as a family physician, he is in still wider demand as a sur-



S C Stokes



W. J. Stokes

geon and does a large share of the capital surgery in the county; his work in this line is gradually extending to neighboring counties.

In 1901 Dr. Rosson married Miss Burnett of Tulare, who has borne him three sons, John, Charles and Robert. Socially he affiliates with the Improved Order of Red Men and with Hanford Lodge No. 1259, B. P. O. E. Politically he is patriotically interested, and as a citizen he gives his aid to the development of Hanford and its interests and to the uplift of its people of all classes.

S. C. STOKES

It was in Decatur county, Iowa, that S. C. Stokes was born, November 15, 1845, and one of his early recollections is of fishing in the Platte when he got on his hook a large catfish which might have pulled him into the river if his mother had not come to his rescue and helped him land it. He was then nearly five years old. His parents were Yancy B. and Elizabeth (Moore) Stokes, the father and mother both born in Kentucky in 1814. In 1850 they started overland to California, bringing their children; their youngest, a daughter, was born later in Carson valley, Nev. They were six months in making the journey and their adventures were many. In parties before and behind them numerous men and women died of cholera; Mrs. Stokes was attacked by that dread disease, but was saved by the prompt administration of burned brandy. At Rocky Ford there was an Indian attack and a Frenchman was chased into camp, barely escaping with his life. After mining for a time at Haugtown, Mr. Stokes returned to Iowa with \$6,000 in gold slugs of the value of \$50 each, arriving in 1852. Returning to California by way of the isthmus of Panama he secured fifty head of Spanish heifers in Mexico, which he drove to his destination. His activities were then centered in Cottonwood and Grapevine, and he bought three hundred and twenty acres of railroad land at \$5 an acre, improving it with a house and other buildings and appurtenances and he entered upon a career of measurable success.

In 1866 S. C. Stokes married Sarah J. Lytle, a native of Missouri, who was brought across the plains by her parents in the early '50s, and she bore him these children: Mary, Charles, William, John, Robert, Prentice and Corinthia (twins), and Harry. Mary became the wife of Nathan Bristol, a Civil war veteran, and has borne him a son and a daughter. Charles married Mary Johnson and has children named Erma, Ella, Iva and Florence; his home is near Visalia. William married Charlotte Vasques and they live in Cottonwood valley; their children are Stokley, Ruby, George, Gladys, Odetta,

Shirley, Lottie, Neavie and Rachel. John married Clara Enorgan and lives at Portland, Ore. Robert married Rebecca Mankins and lives in Fresno county, where he deals in horses. They have a son named Rucen. Prentice, who lives in Goshen, married Hazel Stearns. Corinthia married Wallace Evans and has a son named Marshall, their home being at Cottonwood; they have two children. Harry married Nellie Adams.

Pioneers and men of prominence in earlier days, of every character, were well-known to Mr. Stokes. He relates that Sontag and Evans, who won historic distinction as stage robbers, lived in the mountains near him for four years. He has from young manhood been prominent in public affairs, has been active as a Republican and has for a number of years held the office of school trustee. He tells that in 1856-57 antelope were as numerous in Stokes valley as rabbits and grizzly bear were plentiful in the woods all round about. Once, when he was fishing, he came upon a female bear with cubs. She chased him for some distance. He threw his hat in her face and she tore it to pieces while he made good his escape. In his younger days he killed many elk, which he took home in his big wagon. There is a tree standing on Stokes mountain in the shade of which he rested when he was only thirteen years old. He and others went to Mexico and bought a lot of Spanish cows, which they bred to American cattle until they had a herd of three thousand. In 1857 a bear killed several hogs in the neighborhood and John McHnam, Y. B. Stokes, three of the Halsteads and John Stokes went after him and found him, much to their own discomfort; for he killed several dogs, treed the men and gave them a fight which lasted nearly all day, then escaped from them and killed nine sows that cost \$50 per head. Mr. Stokes's mother killed many antelope with her grandfather's gun, the barrel of which is a valuable family possession at this time. He remembers that in 1862, just after the big flood, a party of hunters chased a band of antelope twenty miles without getting an animal. Mr. Stokes remembers when a neighbor, Cook Everton, set a spring gun in his apple orchard for bear and was himself accidentally shot by it. Y. B. Stokes served in the Indian war of 1856, and he was one of the original locators of the Mineral King mine.

WOOSTER B. CARTMILL

The Tulare County Co-operative Creamery Association, the largest institution of the kind in the country, was organized in 1903 and has branches at Visalia and at Corcoran. Its officers are: S. B. An-

derson, president; P. E. Reinhart, vice-president; M. G. Cottle, secretary; the above mentioned and William Small and Charles Meador, directors; Wooster B. Cartmill, manager. The main station, at Tulare, occupies a modern brick building, which is equipped with up-to-date machinery and appliances of all kinds necessary to its successful operation. Its output of two tons of butter daily is sold in bulk to the Los Angeles Creamery. The milk consumed, that of four thousand cows, is supplied by dairymen in the vicinity of Tulare.

As stated above, the active and practical management of this great industry is in the hands of Wooster B. Cartmill. This gentleman, well known personally or by reputation in dairy circles throughout the San Joaquin Valley, is a native son of California. He was born in Amador county, Cal., in 1857, a son of Dr. W. F. and Sophia (Barnes) Cartmill. His father was a native of Ohio; his mother was born in Missouri. In 1861, when the immediate subject of this notice was four years old, his family moved to Tulare county. There he was reared and educated and there he obtained a practical knowledge of California farming, under his father's thorough instruction. For years he assisted the elder Cartmill on the family's big ranch of twelve hundred acres, and later he took charge of it and managed it successfully until about 1898. It included eighty acres of prunes, peaches and grapes, a hundred and sixty acres of alfalfa and a fine dairy. His father upon coming to Tulare county made his beginning as a dairyman, by running a farm dairy from 1862 to 1870. He made butter which he sold at the mines in Tulare and Inyo counties in the early and interesting days, and became one of the leaders in the industry. Naturally, the younger Cartmill early in life acquired a practical knowledge of dairying. He operated the old D. K. Zumwalt creamery from 1889 to 1900, and in the latter year established a skimming station of his own at Tulare, which was really the beginning of the history of the Tulare Co-operative Creamery Association, as the company took over that enterprise and its visible property in October, 1903. Mr. Cartmill was one of the original directors of the Tulare Irrigation Ditch District. He was one of its most enthusiastic and efficient promoters and was personally active four years in its establishment and maintenance. He is the owner of a two hundred and forty-acre tract near Tulare, which he rents out. In all the interests of the city and county he takes a public-spirited interest. He is a Mason and as such is identified with local organizations of the order, and he also affiliates with the order of Woodmen of the World.

Twice has Mr. Cartmill married, the first time, in 1883, to Miss Hatch, and she bore him a daughter, who is Mrs. W. C. Eldridge. His present wife, whom he married in 1894, was Mrs. Jane Henry. They have three children—May, Eva, and William G. Cartmill.

Mrs. Cartmill's maiden name was Jane Gilmer. She is the daugh-

ter of Rufus Gilmer, of Visalia. By her first husband, Albert Henry, who died in 1891, she had two children. Rufus and Albert are farmers, operating the old Henry farm near Porterville.

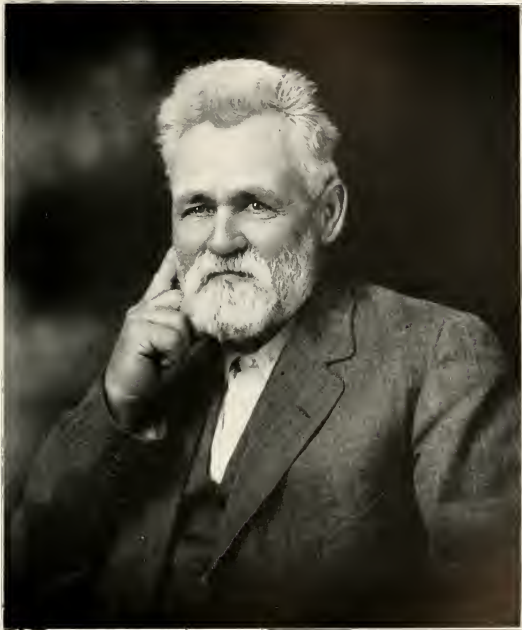
CASSIUS M. BLOWERS

This pioneer farmer and business man, whose ranch is three miles northwest of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., has come to his present prominence only after a struggle in which he wrung success out of situations that to many another man would have spelled ruin. When he first saw Kings county, in 1874, it was a desert, sandy and practically worthless, but irrigation, which he long advocated, has resulted in its reclamation. The land, then worth next to nothing, is now valued at \$250 an acre and upward.

To the student of history genealogy is a fascinating pursuit and it is to be regretted that the lack of printing in the earlier ages rendered an interesting work so difficult. Cassius M. Blowers is descended from an Englishman, John O. Blowers, his grandfather, who early settled in Crawford county, Ohio, where he pre-empted government land on which he died in his eighty-fifth year. Not only was he a pioneer farmer, but he was a pioneer preacher of the Methodist faith, who often discoursed to the people of Bucyrus. His son, Lemuel Lane Blowers, born on the pioneer's Ohio farm, came to California in 1850, making the trip overland. For a time he mined on the American river, but in 1854 he took up land in Yolo county, where he died in 1855. He had married Caroline Foster, of Ohio birth, and she had died in 1849, leaving five children, of whom Cassius M., born December 20, 1845, was the fourth. The boy was about four years old when his mother died and between nine and ten years old when his father passed away, aged thirty-eight years.

When Mr. Blowers was ten years old he was brought to California by his uncle, R. B. Blowers, who became a pioneer fruit grower in this state and grew the first California raisins. The boy lived on his uncle's ranch near Woodland, Yolo county, then began business for himself, teaming to Nevada and the mountain district when he was but fifteen years old.

His next venture was as a farmer in Yolo county, but in 1874 he transferred his interests to Kings county, where he has since lived. He bought a railroad land claim for \$600, but the land was a waste of desert sand, unfit for cultivation. In so doing he was planning for the future and he soon became one of the promoters of the Lower Kings river, Last Chance and People's irrigation ditches, which were completed in 1877. Then Mr. Blowers sowed his land to



L. M. Blowers

wheat and the next year he set out a few vines. In 1883 he shipped the first raisins which were boxed in Tulare county, which then included the present Kings county, and he originated the system of employing fruit cutters at piece prices instead of on salary. At that time there were but three canneries in the state, San Jose, San Francisco and Sacramento. All had been paying day wages for employees, and Chinese and white workers were intermingled in one large room. In 1886 Mr. Blowers went to Sacramento and induced the management of the cannery there to try piece work, which was done. The orientals were separated from the whites and so successful was this method that it has been generally adopted by all fruit growers throughout the state.

In his home ranch Mr. Blowers has two hundred and forty acres, forty acres devoted to vines, seventy to peaches, apricots and other fruit, the remainder to grain and alfalfa. He owns also a stock and alfalfa ranch of two hundred and fifty acres in Kings county, formerly in Fresno county prior to the annexation, and a fruit, vine and alfalfa farm of eighty acres near Lemoore.

The marriage of Mr. Blowers, January 19, 1875, united him with Miss Susie McLaughlin, and their eight children were born on the home ranch in Kings county. Hubert Lane is operating a ranch of thirty acres not far from his father's. Russell M. is farming and growing fruit on thirty acres of land given him by Mr. Blowers. Olive G. married George Blowers, who is the proprietor of a machine shop in San Francisco. Francis is ranching on fifty acres of land given him by his father. Bessie, who died in 1905, was the wife of Fred Arthur, who is farming in Kings county. Mary, Ralph and Viola Susan are members of their parents' household. Mr. Blowers has long taken an active part in the affairs of the Raisin Growers' association and has been for about a quarter of a century president of the Last Chance Ditch corporation. Politically he is a Republican. His interest in school affairs impelled him to fill the duties of school trustee about twenty years, and his public spirit, many times tried, has not been found wanting.

CAPT. HARRISON WHITE

The name of White has long been associated with affairs in the United States, dating in fact from the historic Mayflower, when Peregrine White came to these shores and endured the hardships and trials which are woven in the history-making of the Atlantic coast. From this intrepid pioneer have descended men of valor in war and painstaking industry in times of peace. During the Revolutionary

war Silas White, a native of New York state, enlisted in a company from that state, and as captain of the company, led his men into the thickest of many a struggle with the opposing Tory forces. No less valiant was a son and namesake of this Revolutionary captain, who left his native state, New York, and in 1842 settled on the Fox river in Illinois, becoming a pioneer farmer of La Salle county. He did not long survive his immigration to the then frontier, for he passed away six years after locating upon his farm. He was a man whose life had been uniformly upright, with character unstained, and it was this heritage that he left to his widow, who long survived him. In maidenhood she was Maria MacClave. The MacClave family came from Scotland to America in an early day and settled in New York, and it was in Albany, that state, that Maria MacClave was born. She lived to attain the venerable age of ninety-eight years, dying in Illinois. Of the ten children who attained mature years three are now living, one of whom, Selem, is a resident of Coal City, Grundy county, Ill. He served throughout the entire period of the Civil war, holding the rank of captain of a company in the Fifty-third Illinois Infantry. Mrs. Cyrus W. Cook, a daughter, is residing at Sandwich, Illinois.

Harrison White was born in Syracuse, N. Y., June 28, 1836. At the age of six years he accompanied his parents to Illinois, there obtaining a primary education in the public schools, after which he alternated teaching school with attendance at Wheaton College. The breaking out of the Civil war at this time was destined to add an important chapter to his interesting life. He responded to the call of President Lincoln for three-months men and in April, 1861, he became a member of Company F, Eleventh Illinois Infantry. When his three-months term had expired and he was honorably discharged from the service, he determined to enlist in the cavalry branch of the army, and accordingly he assisted in the organization of Company B, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, which was mustered into service at Ottawa in August of 1861, and from there made its way to Cairo. Among the engagements in which he participated were those at Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth and Vicksburg. It was in the siege of the last mentioned city that his company was detailed as an escort to General Grant, continuing as such until the latter was ordered east as commander-in-chief. Soon afterward Captain White was placed on detached service and for a short time was assistant quartermaster at Vicksburg, after which he joined his regiment and aided General Custer in Louisiana during the reconstruction period. In Memphis, Tenn., January 26, 1866, he was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain, having been promoted to that office as a reward for meritorious service at Vicksburg. Previous to this he had served as an orderly sergeant. Notwithstanding the fact that he was often

in the midst of fierce struggles, and witnessed the wounding and death of comrades on every hand, he escaped without injury until the battle of Shiloh, where a piece of shell killed his horse and knocked him senseless. Soon recovering, however, he joined his comrades.

Following his retirement from the army Captain White made his home on a rented plantation at Yazoo Pass, Miss., but both climate and occupation proved unsuited to his health and it was on this account that he returned to Illinois. For several months he conducted a mercantile establishment at Sandwich, Ill., but in the fall of 1868 he sold the business and left Illinois. Traveling up the Missouri he reached Fort Benton, and from there went to Helena, Mont., where he engaged in merchandising, and subsequently he carried on a store in a mining camp. The fall of 1869 found him in Illinois on a visit to friends and relatives, and in the spring of the following year he came to California, settlement being made in Porterville, Tulare county. For the first two years of his residence there he was interested in the sheep business, having also purchased a ranch, but five years later he again became interested in the mercantile business, conducting a general store in connection with Porter Putnam. His identification with Visalia dates from the year 1877. Three years after making this city his home he was appointed deputy to the internal revenue collector, William Higby, whose district embraced Kern, Tulare, Fresno, Merced and Stanislaus counties, with headquarters in Visalia. Captain White retained the office of deputy until 1889, during which time he also continued his ranch and sheep interests and still owns a ranch of two hundred and forty acres on the Tule river, the property now being leased to a tenant. The land is partially under irrigation, water being provided by means of a pumping plant connected with wells. His holdings also include grazing lands. It was during 1891 that Captain White was appointed under-sheriff to Sheriff Overall, an office which he held for eighteen months. Subsequently, from 1893 to 1895, he served by appointment as United States gauger. It was in 1898 that he was appointed to the position which he held until retiring in 1911,—that of supervisor of the southern district of the Sierra Forest reserve, comprising more than two million acres in Kern, Fresno, Tulare and Inyo counties, with headquarters in Visalia. It goes without saying that the position entailed many responsibilities, but he has proved amply qualified to discharge every duty with a master hand, his long experience in many avenues of activity having equipped him with a breadth of knowledge and extent of information both rare and valuable.

It was after coming to Visalia that Captain White formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Hattie Pauline Anthony, a native of Watertown, N. Y. By right of his service in the Civil war

Captain White is associated with the Grand Army of the Republic, twice serving as commander of Gen. George Wright Post No. 111. Under appointment by Governor Waterman he held the position of major and quartermaster on the staff of General Budd, of the California National Guard. A leader in the ranks of the Republican party, for twelve years or more he was secretary of the Republican county central committee and for two terms officiated as its chairman. He took an active part in the councils of that body, as he did subsequently as a member of the congressional committee. It is unnecessary to state that a man of his breadth of character should be loved and respected by all, irrespective of party affiliation, for the position which he holds represents the possession of ability of high order, sterling qualities and a breadth of patriotism that knows no party distinction.

WILLIAM J. HIGDON

A native son of California, William J. Higdon was born in Nevada county, in 1876. When he was seven years old his parents moved to the Capay valley, in Yolo county, where he was educated in the public schools and acquired some knowledge of farming. In 1898, when he was about twenty-two years old, he followed the lure of the gold-seeker to Alaska, where he remained a year and a half and in 1901 he came to Tulare county and for three years was in the livery business, first as proprietor of the Dexter stables then of the Grand stables, and finally of the City stables. After a year and a half spent in Tulare following his retirement from this business, he moved on to the I. N. Wright ranch of two hundred and fifty-four acres, one hundred and seventy-four acres of which was within the city limits, and there engaged in farming, stock-raising and dairying, milking fifty to eighty cows. He owns two hundred and forty acres of other land, eighty acres of which is half a mile southeast and one hundred and sixty acres three miles southwest of his homestead. The larger tract is used for farming and grazing and the smaller one is rented and devoted to the production of corn and other grain. One hundred and sixty acres of the home ranch is in alfalfa. Mr. Higdon keeps an average of about two hundred and fifty hogs and one hundred head of stock besides his milk cows. He is a stockholder in and a director of the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery Co., and the Rochdale Store Co. of Tulare, and is a stockholder in the New Power Co. He has also been secretary of the Tulare County Dairymen's association since its organization.

Fraternally Mr. Higdon affiliates with the Independent Order



Fred A. Dodge

of Odd Fellows. His public spirit has led him to identify himself with many movements for the general benefit. On November 23, 1904, he married Miss Hattie M. Wright, a native of Tulare and a daughter of Isaac N. Wright, who was instrumental in securing the location of the city of Tulare where it has been built, and who is mentioned fully elsewhere in this publication. Its boundaries include the old home place where his daughter was born. Mr. and Mrs. Higdon have a son and a daughter, Alice Charlotte and Newton Elliott, who are now (1913) aged respectively seven and four years. Mrs. Higdon, a graduate of the State Normal school at San Jose, was for ten years a teacher in the public school at Tulare.

FRED A. DODGE

A native of Illinois, Mr. Dodge was born December 2, 1858, on the farm where his parents settled in 1839, in Dunham township, McHenry county. His parents, Elisha and Susan Dodge, were pioneers of that part of the west, coming from New York state to Illinois. They were of New England stock, Elisha being a native of Vermont, and his wife, who was Susan Smith, a native of New York state.

The subject of this sketch was the eighth living child of their union, and was reared on the farm. His mother died in 1863 and his father subsequently married Mrs. Abigail Harkness. After the farm was sold they established a residence at Harvard, Ill., where Fred entered the public school, and remained in that city until he completed the branches taught there at that time. His father died in February, 1878, and in the following summer he drove by team west to Parkersburg, Iowa, where his older brother, Frank L. Dodge, was engaged in the publication of a weekly newspaper called the *Eclipse*. There he entered the printing office and learned the printer's trade. In 1880 he purchased an interest in the *Eclipse*, and subsequently, with his brother, established the *Allison Tribune*, a weekly newspaper at Allison, the county seat of Butler county, Iowa. The two brothers conducted these papers for a number of years, but finally dissolved partnership, Fred becoming sole proprietor of the Parkersburg paper, which he edited and published until August, 1887, when he sold it.

On February 28, 1882, Mr. Dodge was united in marriage, at Parkersburg, Iowa, to Miss May F. Davis, a native of Maine. A daughter was born to them in Parkersburg, and in 1887 they moved to Hanford, Cal., where they purchased five acres of land on the edge of what was then the town limits. Here they erected a cottage,

and Mr. Dodge entered the office of the Hanford *Sentinel*, which was established by David and Frank L. Dodge in February, 1886. Subsequently he purchased the half interest of David Dodge, and the firm of Dodge Brothers continued to publish the *Sentinel* until 1897, when Frank L. sold out his interest to J. E. Richmond. The firm name was then changed to Dodge & Richmond, since which time Fred A. Dodge has been the editor and Mr. Richmond the business manager of the paper.

Mr. and Mrs. Dodge are the parents of two children, born in Hanford, George Raymond, born February 3, 1891, and Florence Mildred, born November 16, 1895.

Mr. Dodge has for more than thirty years been in the harness of a newspaper man, most of the time engaged at editorial work. While he has served many terms on boards of education, boards of library work, and on business and commercial committees, he has never sought political office.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF LEMOORE

That strong financial institution, the First National Bank of Lemoore, the policy of which from the first has been to extend to the business community all accommodations consistent with sound banking and which has been a potent factor in the upbuilding and development of Lemoore and its tributary territory, was organized June 9, 1905, and began business in July following. Its original capital stock was \$25,000, all paid up. The first officers and directors were: B. K. Sweetland, president; Stiles McLaughlin, vice-president; F. J. P. Cockran, cashier; E. G. Sellers, C. H. Bailey, John Trimble and E. P. May. In February, 1912, its capital stock was increased to \$50,000. The bank has erected a fine two-story building, covering a ground space of seventy-five by one hundred feet, at Fox and D streets. It is a modern brick structure, containing fine banking offices and the best facilities for the keeping of cash and valuable securities. It is the belief of the bank officials and of the general public that this banking establishment is as nearly fireproof and burglar-proof as it is possible to make it.

The First National Bank of Lemoore has from the day of its opening steadily grown in the confidence of the business community of the city and surrounding country, and numbers among its depositors many of the wealthiest and most important business men and citizens of that part of the county. The following are the names of its present officers and directors: C. H. Bailey, president; E. G. Sellers, vice-president; W. E. Dingley, cashier; G. B. Chinn, Stiles McLaughlin, L. S. Step, and J. K. Trimble.

VISALIA PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL COMPANY

To be successful in the field of mechanics a man must necessarily possess thorough training in the science which he attempts to represent. The world of today demands skill in every line of labor, and the man who is not prepared to compete with his expert neighbor is beaten ere the fight begins. Apropos of the above subject, Visalia is godmother to a plumbing and heating company of which she is justly proud, and, having helped to maintain its popularity, feels that she has a share in its success and growth. The most difficult points in the work of installing heating and plumbing apparatus, the erection of windmills, tanks and troughs, etc., are accomplished by the Visalia Plumbing and Sheet Metal Company with the greatest skill and ease, as may be attested by the many citizens who have been fortunate enough to secure their services.

Visitors to the showrooms of the Visalia Plumbing and Heating Company feel well repaid for their trip, for there are displayed many models of the most up-to-date appliances for toilets, bathrooms, furnaces, etc., and they are conceded to have the finest and most up-to-date showroom of that character in any town between Fresno and Bakersfield. This business was started about five years ago in the Odd Fellows and Masons building on Church street opposite the court house. Their fine sheet metal work is not the least of their accomplishments, as countless illustrations may testify. The mechanics whom they employ are the best that can be secured, and as they guarantee every detail of their work they have given general satisfaction. The business has grown rapidly and now its annual output amounts to \$50,000 worth of business and the plant is indicated as one of the successful enterprises of the growing and prosperous city of Visalia. Against the moderate charges for services, no complaint has ever been received; on the contrary, the people of Visalia and locality are unanimous in their opinion that the terms are low in comparison with the standard of perfection maintained in their work. The firm is owned and controlled by Isaac Clark and Frank A. Newman, long established citizens of the community.

Isaac Clark was born in Frankfort, Maine, January 12, 1870, and upon completion of his education learned the stone-cutter's trade, which he conducted nine years in his home town, removing thence to Augusta, where he worked two years at his trade. He then served three years as an apprentice to Malcolm & Dyer, plumbers, after which for five years he filled the position of custodian of the Augusta city hall. In 1905 he immigrated to California, and choosing Visalia as his permanent location, accepted a position as sheet metal worker for the Cross Hardware Co. Upon the erection of the factory of the Pacific Sugar Co., Mr. Clark was engaged by said company

to do the sheet metal work, accomplishing the work most satisfactorily. In 1907 he joined Frank A. Newman and C. B. Porter in establishing a general plumbing business. Two years later Mr. Porter withdrew from the firm, leaving Mr. Clark and Mr. Newman sole proprietors.

In 1897 Mr. Clark was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Beck, also a native of Maine. They have two charming children, Marjorie F. and Addison W. Mr. Clark is a valued member of the Knights of Pythias, Calantha Lodge, No. 52, and the Bethlehem Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 135, both of which he joined in Augusta, Maine.

Frank A. Newman was born in Cooper county, Mo., January 31, 1869. His father, Jesse Newman, died before his son reached manhood, and in the fall of 1884 the mother, formerly Elizabeth Hill, brought her little family to California. Frank A. Newman ranched several years and also served as foreman of the Harrell stock and grain ranch. Later he conducted on his own account a three hundred and twenty-acre wheat farm in the Stone Corral district, Tulare county, and he then became an apprentice to the Cross Hardware Co., and upon completion of this service engaged in the plumbing business with Isaac Clark. The partners started their venture in a small way, but their trade grew steadily and they now employ twelve able assistants.

Following is a list of the buildings which this company have equipped with plumbing and heating fixtures: The Exeter high school building, the Lemoore high school building, the new hotel at Lemoore and the new high school building at Delano. They have also recently installed the heating apparatus in the Kingsbury grammar school; the sheet metal and heating work in the Reedley grammar school; all the sheet metal work on the First National Bank building at Porterville; also on the three-story Blue building on Main street, Visalia. They have replaced the old plumbing for new throughout the county jail, the three-story Harrell building, and put in all the new plumbing in the Merriman building and the Tipton and Lindsay grammar school. For years Mr. Clark has made a thorough study of the matter of proper heating for public as well as private buildings and uses the gravity and mechanical systems in order to produce complete circulation, replenishing the air in a room from six to ten times during one hour. He has obtained the most satisfactory results both regarding even temperature and sanitation. Among the residences thus equipped by him may be mentioned those of A. Lewis, H. F. Miller, R. E. Hyde and the M. E. Church of Visalia. The company has also installed plumbing and heating systems in the residences of R. F. Cross, Capt. H. White, Ralph Goldstein, Meyer E. Eiseman, two houses for J. F. Carter, Mrs. Oaks' home and



Eleanor Vaughan W. T. Vaughan.

numerous other private residences in Visalia and throughout Tulare county.

Both Mr. Clark and Mr. Newman by their rigidly fair and honest dealings have won the trust and favor of their many patrons. In every movement pertaining to the development of the locality they are always prompt to tender their practical assistance.

WILLIAM T. VAUGHAN

Among the prominent men of Tulare and Kings counties mention is made of the efficient supervisor of the third district, W. T. Vaughan, who was born at Visalia, Tulare county, June 21, 1865. In September of the same year he was taken by his parents to San Luis Obispo county, where he attended school and lived until 1877, when the family moved to Pima county, Ariz., and that territory remained his home until 1900. After his arrival in Arizona the young lad begun work on cattle ranches. He had but little opportunity to attend school and until he was nineteen years of age his education was obtained by contact with the primitive conditions to be found on the frontier. He grew up on a cattle range and was connected with the stock interests of that part of the country until his removal back to California in 1900. At the age when most boys are in school he was superintending a large ranch and becoming an expert in the handling of stock, enduring privations, but developing a strong and sturdy constitution and laying the foundation for his future success. When he was about fourteen he was conducting a meat market in Ramsey's canyon and going to the school at that place. He would sit so he could watch the door of his shop and when a customer would come he would have to leave the school-room and attend to his wants and then return to his books. He was also a member of the Territorial militia and was compelled to keep his gun within reach at all times should a call come to defend the settlers against the Indians. After he was eighteen he attended the University of Southern California at Los Angeles for a time and says he got more education during that short time than in all his former years.

His days for book-learning over, he returned to Arizona and as he succeeded he built up a cattle business of his own and carried it on very successfully until 1900, when, having sold his six thousand cattle and closed out his other interests in the territory, he returned to California and, with his father and brother, bought three hundred acres of land one mile north of Hanford, upon which were erected buildings suitable for their needs and began the development of the

land. He now has one hundred and fifty-five acres in fruit and the remainder in alfalfa. In 1911 he sold eighty acres at a good profit. He is the owner of eighty acres a mile south of Hanford, which he put into alfalfa and leases to others, also has ten acres west of the city, which is in fruit and which he bought in 1901.

The father of W. T. Vaughan, James Upton Vaughan, was born September 9, 1841, in Mississippi, went to Texas and in 1852 crossed the plains to California. He passed away in Kings county November 7, 1911. His widow makes her home with her children. A brother, Andrew Henry Vaughan, came to Kings county with William T., and they had interests together for several years. On September 25, 1892, Mr. Vaughan was united in marriage with Miss Elenora Sorrells, a native of Phoenix, Ariz., born July 13, 1874, daughter of A. B. and Melvina (Parker) Sorrells, who were natives of Arkansas and California respectively. Mrs. Vaughan received her schooling in Arizona and was there married to Mr. Vaughan. They have four children, Merle E., Pearl E., William J., and Bertha L., all members of their parents' household; the two eldest are attending the Hanford high school.

Mr. Vaughan has invested in residence property in San Diego, Cal., is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Hanford, owns shares in the Lacy Oil company, operating in the Devil's Den country, and in the Castle Oil company of the Coalinga field; is a member of the Hanford lodge of Elks, has passed all the chairs in the local lodge of the I. O. O. F., and for one year served as District Deputy Grand Master; he also belongs to the K. of P. and with Mrs. Vaughan belongs to the Daughters of the Rebekahs. Always interested in politics he has taken an active part in local and state affairs. In the fall of 1910 he was elected to the board of supervisors, representing the third district of Kings county, and is serving with fidelity those interests that placed him in office. He has had charge of the road building of his district in every detail and devotes his energies towards the faithful discharge of his duties. He represents Kings county in the matter of the erection of a counties building at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in 1915 at San Francisco. It is safe to say that no man has become so closely allied with the people in all things tending towards public betterment than has W. T. Vaughan.

JOHN N. HAYS

The president of the Hays Cattle Co., John N. Hays, a prominent business man of Kings county, Cal., has had a career the history of which thus far is both interesting and instructive, and it should be

an encouragement to young men who would succeed in spite of lack of capital and in the face of many obstacles. Mr. Hays was born in Missouri, February 3, 1854, and came to California in September, 1872, when he was in his nineteenth year. The first eighteen months of his life here were spent in Mariposa county, where he was employed by some relatives who had come on before him. Late in 1873 or early in 1874 he came to Lake Tulare (then in Tulare but now in Kings county), where his people took up land on the border of the lake. For two years they farmed on rented land in the Dingley Addition, now the site of Lemoore, Mr. Overstreet, his stepfather, having been in charge, and there Mr. Hays remained until 1886, when he disposed of his interests at the lake and moved to Cholame valley, Monterey county, where he lived and labored ten years. At the expiration of that time he came back to Lemoore and went into the stock business and in 1894 he bought three hundred and twenty acres of land, a mile and a half west of Guernsey, which he devoted to grazing. He operated independently until 1911, increasing his business from year to year till he took rank with the big cattle men of central California. He then organized and incorporated the Hays Cattle Company, of which he is president; Roy D. Hays, vice-president; and R. W. Forbes, secretary. The company expects to dispose of about six hundred to eight hundred cattle annually, its last year's business having amounted to six hundred, and is renting forty thousand acres of pasture for its stock.

Oil development in the Devil's Den country has interested Mr. Hays, who has investments there, and he owns also an interest in oil lands in the Cholame valley district. He has from time to time had to do with business of other kinds and his interest in the community makes him a citizen of much public spirit. Fraternally, he affiliates with the Circle and with the Woodmen of the World. He married Miss Lillie Mills in 1882 and she passed away in 1891, leaving three daughters and a son. Floy is the wife of R. W. Forbes, of Lemoore. Roy D. is vice-president of the Hays Cattle Company. Pauline married Clarence Esrey of Lemoore. Alice is Mrs. William McAdam and her husband is operating in the oil field. In 1907 Mr. Hays united his life with that of Mrs. Jeanette Bryan, who has borne him children whom they have named Richard Upton, Dorothy and Ann.

JOSEPH D. BIDDLE

The forceful character of the citizenship of J. D. Biddle during the past quarter of a century has given him for all time a place in the annals of the state as well as of Hanford, which has been his

permanent home during this time and the scene of his activities to a large extent. A native of Tennessee, born in Bedford county, April 30, 1852, he passed his boyhood, youth and young manhood in the vicinity of his birth and the home of his parents, and at the age of twenty-seven, in 1879, made his first trip to the west. After a stay of two months he returned to the south, but in 1882 retraced his steps and this time remained six months. It was in 1887 that he made his third and last journey to California, his two prior trips of inspection thoroughly satisfying him that here as nowhere else were opportunities awaiting the young man of push and determination. Having disposed of his merchandise and milling business in Shelbyville, Tenn., in 1887 he came that same year to California and located in Hanford, his first work here being as auctioneer of livestock. As an adjunct to this business he bought livestock and sheep, as well as wool, the latter being gathered from a large territory, extending from Mexico to the Oregon line. His shipments of this commodity are large, being made to all parts of this country, as well as to Canada. His first experience in the wool business was in his early days in the west, when he was a representative for the Thomas Dunnigan & Son Co., a well-known wool house of San Francisco. The live stock which Mr. Biddle handles he secures from all parts of the state, and he has had as high as twenty-five thousand sheep in his possession at one time.

In financial circles throughout the San Joaquin valley few names are better known than that of Joseph D. Biddle, and to his splendid judgment and conservatism may be given much credit for the substantial character of the monetary institutions with which he has had to do. Among the latter may be mentioned the Sacramento Bank, German Savings & Loan Society of San Francisco, Savings Union Bank of San Francisco, Union Trust of San Francisco, and he has also made large loans of money through independent capitalists. He also represents several of the largest and best insurance companies of San Francisco, and is largely interested in the oil industry. His first venture in this field was the purchase of some of the best oil lands in the Coalinga district, and following this he organized several oil companies which are now organizations controlling great wealth, these and the banks through which the business is carried on representing a combined capital of over \$150,000,000. Mr. Biddle made large expenditures in drilling on his oil fields, but owing to the low prices of oil at the time it was deemed advisable to suspend operations until it demanded a better price. The property is still owned by the various companies, in all of which Mr. Biddle is a director, as follows: Investment Oil Company and the Phoenix Oil Company. Other companies were also organized in the Bakersfield district, but these have since been disposed of.

Not only was Mr. Biddle a pioneer and moving spirit in the industries above mentioned, but he has been equally forceful along agricultural and horticultural lines. During his early years here he bought and lotted the Bonanza vineyard, embracing a tract of three hundred acres. Later acquisitions were the Silvia ranch of one hundred acres, the Griswold apricot orchard of eighty acres (at that time the largest orchard of the kind in that section, but which has since been sub-divided into small holdings), the Haywood vineyard of eighty acres, the Redwood vineyard and orchard of one hundred and twenty acres, the Savings Bank vineyard and orchard, consisting of eighty acres south of Hanford, which has since been sold, the Happy Home vineyard of twenty acres and the A. P. Dickenson ranch of eighty acres. For five years he also leased and operated the Banner vineyard of three hundred and twenty acres and for a number of years also leased Mrs. M. S. Templeton's vineyard of one hundred and sixty acres northeast of Hanford. In connection with his large fruit interests Mr. Biddle erected a grading plant on the Bonanza ranch, where he was prepared to dry, cure and bleach the fruits from his various ranches, all of which found a ready sale in eastern markets. Besides handling and shipping all of his own fruit, he also bought raisins and peaches all over this section, paying the local packers in the country to pack his raisins and peaches under his own brand and ship them direct to the eastern markets. In order that none of the fruit should be wasted, he bought peaches and sacked them at the depots when the packing house was filled to its capacity.

Mr. Biddle's interests in another direction are apparent in a number of substantial structures in Hanford. One of his first ventures along this line was the rebuilding of the block formerly occupied by the city stables, the site now occupied by the Old Bank. He also owns the building occupied by the Hanford Mercantile Corporation. This organization is capitalized for \$100,000, and Mr. Biddle is one of its largest stockholders and secretary, and a director also. He was also one of the prime movers in the organization of the Hotel Artesia, which was built by the corporation of which he was a member and subsequently sold to B. J. Turner. Through an exchange of property Mr. Biddle became the owner of the Axtell block at the corner of Seventh and Irwin streets, the name of which has since been changed to the Sharpless block. He also moved the postoffice from its old site and placed it on Irwin street; and he moved both telegraph offices into the Hotel Artesia, their present locations. He at one time owned what is now the Vendome hotel, and he also bought and moved the first hotel erected in Hanford to the corner of Fifth and Douty streets, remodeling it and ultimately selling it to B. J. Turner.

Reference has elsewhere been made to Mr. Biddle's interest and activities in the stock business. It was no uncommon thing for him to have on hand from ten to twenty thousand hogs on the McJunkin ranch, one and a half miles north of Hanford. It was during his earliest experiences in the business that he attempted to fatten his hogs on grain that had been saved as salvage from a large fire in Stockton. He purchased the damaged grain to the extent of one hundred thousand sacks, or one hundred cars, and shipped it to Hanford. It required all of the vehicles available to haul the grain to the Bonanza vineyard, where it was spread over eight acres of ground to dry in the sun. It was then resacked and stacked in the dry yard, the whole presenting the appearance of hay stacks in a field. He then bought steam engines and large tanks in which to steam the wheat, after which he fed the grain thus treated to the seven or eight thousand hogs which he had on the ranch at the time. The experiment proved a failure, it being demonstrated that charred grain was injurious to hogs, as they sickened and died under the diet. The experience was a costly one, but it did not deter Mr. Biddle from making further investigations as to the most desirable methods of feeding.

Owing to his wide experience and versatile knowledge it is not surprising that Mr. Biddle has been called upon from time to time to act in the capacity of administrator and transact other business of a similar nature. On numerous occasions when a difference of opinion arose as to the proper settlement of legal matters he has been called into consultation with attorneys, not only in Hanford, but also in Fresno, Visalia, Sacramento and even to San Francisco. At one time he was called to Portland, Ore., to settle a law suit involving \$30,000, and he was also called to Nevada in the adjustment of a suit with Carmen & Richey involving \$1,000,000, and this also was equably adjusted. At the present time Mr. Biddle is interested in the live stock, wool, oil, insurance, real estate and merchandise business, being in close touch with all of the details of each, and he is also actively interested in all of the organizations of his home city which have for their objects the uplifting of the citizens and the general welfare of town and county. He is a valued member of the Chamber of Commerce and he was also a member of the committee appointed to attend the convention held in Los Angeles for the purpose of discussing matters relative to the Panama canal. He has also been an active member of a committee appointed by the supervisors of Kings county for the purpose of preparing a petition for bringing the main highway through Hanford, the county seat, through Visalia to Bakersfield. He has also been appointed a member of the highway commission to meet in Sacramento in January, 1913.

when the above matter will come before the commission for discussion and settlement.

In the early days when Hanford did not boast a railroad Mr. Biddle started a donation to get the Santa Fe to run its road through Hanford and the valley. The completion of the road was celebrated in royal style, and in this too Mr. Biddle took the lead. In the display was one wagon to which were attached twenty-four large white horses, followed by three large wagons loaded with one hundred bales of wool, another wagon showing the quality of sheep and hogs, and still another containing a large prune tree which Mr. Biddle dug from his orchard, full of growing prunes. Mr. Biddle had the honor of shipping the first three carloads of wool from Hanford over the road, the cars bearing large banners on which was printed in large letters, "Hanford the first city to patronize the Santa Fe railroad out of the Valley."

On May 1, 1878, Mr. Biddle was united in marriage with Miss Sallie M. Landis, a native of Tennessee. The success that has rewarded Mr. Biddle's efforts is commensurate with his industry and perseverance. It is rare indeed that one is privileged to meet a man of such versatility, resolute character and determined will as Mr. Biddle possesses, and Hanford is proud to claim his citizenship.

McADAM RANCHES

In 1908 Robert McAdam, who is now a resident of Pasadena, Cal., bought sixteen hundred acres of land, formerly known as the Paige and Monteagle orchards, five miles west of Tulare. Of this tract he sold all but about nine hundred acres, and this he divided among members of his family, Annie McAdam receiving eighty-five acres, Robert, Jr., and Fred McAdam two hundred and five acres, William J. two hundred and twenty acres, Mrs. Isabelle McAlpine eighty acres, Frank S. McAdam one hundred and eighty acres, and Robert McAdam, Sr., one hundred and sixty acres.

These ranches, all in one body, are irrigated with water developed on them, there being six wells with an aggregate flow of five hundred inches, besides numerous other wells for watering stock. The water developed by the nine large wells, which is used solely for irrigation, is pumped by five motors and three gasoline engines; two of the wells are artesian. The entire combination of ranches is supplied with cement irrigation pipe and galvanized iron surface pipe. There is six miles of the cement pipe and the iron pipe is used instead of ditches. This notable irrigation system will be connected and completed before the end of 1913.

The McAdams have put on the place all the improvements that now add to its utility and attractiveness, including a new \$3500 concrete residence on the Frank S. McAdam ranch, a new barn, occupying ground space of 40x45 feet, and a new tank and dairy house combined, with a power separator in the dairy house. On the William J. McAdam place there are two new 56x60 foot barns. Another improvement is eight miles of wire hog-tight fence between the different ranches. The farms of Mrs. McAlpine, Robert McAdam, Jr., and Fred McAdam are rented on a cash basis and that of Robert McAdam, Sr., is operated by a tenant on shares, and the combined annual cash rentals of the above ranches aggregate \$11,800, and all has been developed in the last five years.

H. J. LIGHT

The prominent citizen of Lemoore whose name is above is widely known as a promoter of the oil industry. Judge Light, as he is familiarly called by his many friends, was born in Virginia, March 19, 1851, was reared in the western part of Floyd county and finished his education at the Salem Academy in Roanoke county. Then he took up school teaching as a profession and was so employed many years. In 1866 he went to Kansas, and after teaching there a short time took up his residence in Springfield, Mo., where he taught until 1874. Then he came to California, and locating at Visalia pursued his vocation there and northeast of the city for five years. During the succeeding four years he was teaching again in Missouri, but he came back to California and settled at Lemoore, renting land on the lake of Elias Jacobs and establishing himself as a farmer. In 1886 he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, pre-empted a hundred and sixty acres and took up a timber claim of one hundred and sixty acres in the same section. Later he bought the remainder of the section under the isolated land act. He ran a stock ranch until in 1909, when he leased his land to tenants and moved to Lemoore, where he has since lived. He has bought property here and expects to pass his declining years in the town.

In the spring of 1910 Mr. Light was elected a member of the city council of Lemoore and in November of that year to the office of justice of the peace. For nine years he served as justice of the peace of West End judicial township and resigned the office the better to attend to his private interests. He has been a trustee of the Union high school since the organization of the district.

In 1907 Mr. Light married Ella (Hunt) Logan. He has six children by a former marriage: Tespan, of Kings county; Swinton;



W. J. Light

Robert Denny, of Santa Barbara county; Theodore, of Coalinga; William Kings, of San Luis Obispo, and Mrs. W. P. Smith, of Lemoore. William Kings Light has the distinction of being one of the first four children born in Kings county, he having been born on the morning after the election for the petition of Tulare county and the formation of Kings county. Mr. Light has been an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since he was twenty-two years old. In his political affiliations he is Republican and as such he has been influential in local affairs. A man of much public spirit he has done much toward the development and improvement of the city and of the country round about. His investments in real estate at Lemoore include ten acres and several city lots and on one of the latter he erected his office building. While he lived on his ranch he gave particular attention to the breeding of cattle and horses. In 1890 he and Orlando Barton, of Visalia, located land in Lost Hills. They were the first there and he was one of the original incorporators of the Lost Hills Mining company, which was sold in 1911. Its property is located in what is now a great oil field. Mr. Light was and is interested in oil lands in Devil's Den and Kettleman's Hills and in the West End Oil company, the property of which he located in August, 1908. He was one of the incorporators of the Lake Oil company, which with the West End Oil company is leased to the Medallion company. With the Devil's Den Consolidated he was interested also, and he helped to organize and owns stock in the Lauretta Oil company and is identified with the Dudley Oil company, a San Francisco concern operating in the Devil's Den field.

WILLIAM WASHINGTON BLOYD

The life of the late William Washington Bloyd extended from July 18, 1835, when he was born in Illinois, until in November, 1908, when he died at his home in Hanford, Kings county, Cal. He grew to manhood on the farm in Hancock county, Ill., and was married April 14, 1855, to Miss Elizabeth Cowan, who was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, April 18, 1835, and had come to Illinois. After his marriage he lived four years in his native state, then sold out his interests there and moved to Appanoose county, Iowa, where he made his home until 1861, when he came with a train of eight wagons drawn by oxen over the southern overland route to California. For two years he lived at Red Bluff, Tehama county, and afterwards until 1874 in San Joaquin county, where he bought a ranch. Then because he could not do well in so dry a country he sold out and came to what is now Kings county, settling on railroad land in the Grange-

ville section four miles west of Hanford, homesteading at the same time one hundred and sixty acres nearby. It was not until after the rioting at Mussel Slough that he finally paid out on his railroad land. He naturally sided with the settlers, and was at Hanford at the time of the historic fight. Mrs. Bloyd, hearing of it, hurried to the scene of action, but did not arrive until the conflict was over and one man lay dead and two wounded on the ground; Mr. Bloyd arrived a few minutes afterward. It was not very cheerfully that the settlers later gave up so much good money for their land, but the courts compelled them to do it and they made the best of the situation. After a time Mr. Bloyd sold out here and lived for a year in Oregon. Returning then, he bought back his old ranch and lived on it until 1907, when he sold it to move to Hanford, where he had bought a residence at 115 West Elm street. As an investment he owned several other houses in the city.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bloyd, viz: Rosalie Adeline, deceased; Winfield Scott, mentioned elsewhere in this work; Charles S., who lives at Hanford; Clara Ellen, who is the wife of K. L. Wilcox, of Los Angeles; Ida Belle, who married Ed Parsons, of Hanford; Elizabeth Jane, deceased; Levi, who is also mentioned fully in this publication; and Willie Wilford, who lives in Kings county. Of these children Adeline and Winfield were born in Illinois, the others being natives of California.

The fraternal affiliations of Mr. Bloyd were with the Masons and the Ancient Order of United Workmen and his religious convictions drew him to the Christian church. His early experiences in California included some in the mines in Placer county. He superintended the construction of the People's Ditch in Kings county. When he came to that county it was an open plain on which wild horses and cattle roamed at will and in all of the development down to a comparatively recent time he manfully did his part, for he was public spirited to a degree that made him a most useful citizen.

ROBERT W. MILLER

In Jasper county, Ill., Robert W. Miller was born September 5, 1847. Orphaned when very young, he grew up in Crawford county, that state, under the care of a guardian who allowed him practically no educational advantages. When he was nineteen years old he became a student in a public school in Sangamon county, Ill., from which he was graduated when twenty-one and given a teacher's certificate. While teaching school during the next two years, he prepared himself by special courses of study to enter the University

of Illinois, and in 1871 he took the law course of that institution; in 1874 he was admitted to the bar to practice as a lawyer in the Supreme Court of Illinois. He soon afterward went to Minnesota, where he taught school two years, also procuring admission to practice in the Supreme Court of that state, and he was in professional work there until the fall of 1879, when he located in Humboldt county, Cal. For two years thereafter he practiced at Eureka and then gave up the law temporarily in favor of mining, but in two years he was glad to return to his law office, and on June 17, 1885, he became a member of the bar, admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of California. After laboring professionally for a short time at Eureka and Del Norte, he located at Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, and was in legal practice there until 1904, when he came to Hanford, where he at once opened offices and has since been professionally successful. Shortly after his arrival in Kings county he was appointed Court Commissioner, and in 1906 he was a candidate on the Republican ticket for the office of judge of the Superior Court but was defeated by a very small majority. After the Santa Cruz Republican State convention in 1906, he became most active in furthering progressive government principles to which he had been a convert for many years. In 1907 he was appointed state organizer for Kings county and he gave his best efforts to the organization of the Lincoln-Roosevelt League of California which culminated in the election of Hiram Johnson for Governor and later in the birth of the Progressive party in 1912. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masonic order. His social popularity is wide, and his fellow citizens admire him as a man of ability and of honesty who has the interests of the community at heart and does in a public-spirited way all that he is able to do for their promotion.

In 1880 Mr. Miller married Miss Mattie Morrison, a native of Wisconsin, who has borne him a daughter and four sons. Maud E. is the wife of Dr. Edward Dunbar of Fallon, Nev. R. Justin is a student in the University of Montana, a graduate of Stanford University of the class of 1911, and was recently admitted to practice law in the Montana Supreme Court. J. Arthur is studying engineering at Stanford University. He is a graduate of the Palo Alto high school, where his brothers, W. Leslie and Lowell Miller, are now students.

FRANK S. McADAM

The farm of Frank S. McAdam, one of the McAdam ranches, consists of one hundred and eighty acres, ninety acres of which is rented for dairy purposes and seventy-five acres of the ninety is

under alfalfa. The dairyman renter milks forty cows and raises some hogs. Thirty acres of the remainder of the place is devoted to alfalfa, and the last acre of it will be given to that crop as soon as possible. At this time Mr. McAdam milks eight cows and farms forty acres to grain.

Mr. McAdam was born June 3, 1885, in Pembina county, Dakota Territory. In 1907 he married Miss Selmkenecht, of Hobart, Ind., and their son Lawrence McAdam was born October 25, 1908.

Mr. McAdam's management of his portion of the big McAdam ranch has been evidence of his capability for the handling of big business. A man of enterprise and of public spirit who has the welfare of the community at heart, he is one of the most helpful citizens of his part of the county. He is at present interested with his brother William J. in the Castle Dome silver and lead mines of their father, Robert McAdam. The mines are located in Yuma county, Arizona.

SAMUEL EDWARD BIDDLE

The death of Hanford's most prominent banker, who had been identified with its financial, commercial and political circles for many years, proved a great shock to the people here and was deeply felt throughout the entire county, whose welfare had been of so much importance to him. Samuel Edward Biddle had more to do with things pertaining to the business life here and in this county than any other citizen of the city. His death, which occurred May 7, 1908, at the St. Helena Sanitarium at Hanford, removed from their midst one of the people's best friends.

Mr. Biddle was a native of Normandie, Bedford county, Tenn., born there September 15, 1845, the son of J. V. and Eliza Biddle. He received his educational training in the schools there and in 1874 came to California to ever afterward make it his home. When but fifteen years of age he had enlisted in the Confederate army, seeing active service, but he was finally incapacitated by a wound and received his discharge, returning to Tennessee. Here in his native town he was married on January 6, 1870, to Miss Aehsah A. McQuiddy, daughter of Major T. J. McQuiddy, who is a well known pioneer of Tulare county, and is still living in Hanford. Major McQuiddy made his first trip to California in the early '70s and selected lands for himself and other members of the party of emigrants who came overland with him in 1874 and settled at Tulare county. This said party consisted of eighteen people, including Samuel E. Biddle and his family, M. P. Troxler and family and Major Cartner and wife, Major McQuiddy also bringing his family.



A. E. Bialy

After his marriage and before coming to California, Mr. Biddle took his bride to live in Gibson county, Tenn., where they stayed for some time, later being at Brazil, Trenton and Humboldt. He had learned the milling business and ran a flouring mill at Trenton, later at Humboldt, and this experience proved most helpful to him upon coming to the new country. When he came to California his family consisted of his wife and two children, a son and daughter, and they settled upon a railroad quarter-section of land a mile and a half north and three miles east of the present site of Hanford, which Mrs. Biddle's father, Major McQuiddy, had selected for them. They here built a board and batten house, Mr. Biddle immediately seeing the necessity for many improvements which he started to make. Irrigation ditches were erected and the land was prepared for cultivation, and in the year 1876 he harvested his first crop, which was of wheat.

In the meantime Mr. Biddle found that all this had taken much of his resources, and he accordingly went to work for I. H. Ham, the pioneer miller of Tulare county, taking charge of the mill at Tulare, and as the agriculturists in the surrounding country were meeting with good success in the cultivation of grain, he found much work and demand for his milling. At this time his means were practically exhausted, he having only \$3.75 in his pocket. Accepting the first job that offered, he began as a roustabout at the Tulare mill. Leaving his family at home, he walked six miles and worked all day on Cross Creek bridge, and then proceeded to Tulare, where he took his position as roustabout. Mr. Ham soon recognized his ability, for in less than a week he was made miller, and from this time a very close intimacy grew up between Mr. Ham and himself. It was in 1877 that he, in partnership with Mr. Ham, built the Lemoore mill, of which he took charge and built up a prosperous business, in 1880 selling it at a handsome profit. He then came to Hanford and built a grain warehouse which he operated himself. This warehouse was so much in demand that it became filled to its capacity, and finally, under the stress of too heavy a weight of grain, it collapsed and Mr. Biddle was greatly inconvenienced financially by the disaster. He turned to R. E. Hyde, the banker of Visalia, for assistance, and the latter proved his true friendship for Mr. Biddle when he came forward and supplied the means to rebuild the warehouse, which was immediately done. From this time on is chronicled for Mr. Biddle one success after another. In 1883 he built a large brick building on the corner of Sixth and Irwin streets in Hanford, where in association with his brother he conducted a profitable farm implement business until 1887, at which time his banking interests became his most vital business.

On April 11, 1887, was launched the Bank of Hanford, in whose incorporation Mr. Biddle was most actively interested. It was the first bank established in Hanford and he was installed as its cashier and

manager, serving in this capacity for a long period, and when this was succeeded by the First National Bank of Hanford, Mr. Biddle severed his connection therewith and organized in November, 1901, what is now the Old Bank, and of this establishment he was president and manager up to the time of his death, being also a heavy stockholder. His wide reputation for strict integrity of character and honesty in all his dealings made him sought out by many for advice and the handling of their capital, and he had always proved himself to be a clever and shrewd business man in making investments and in the execution of his duties in general.

Along with these heavy business cares, Mr. Biddle had found time to give himself to public service, having served as supervisor for this part of Tulare county for one term, and at the time the fight was made for the independence of Kings county he was one of the earnest workers, was one of the commissioners, and afterward served as a member of the first board of supervisors of Kings county. Associated with him in the organization of the new county government were J. H. Malone, W. H. Newport, William Ogden, E. E. Bush and G. X. Wendling. Later he was president of the Hanford Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, and in all these offices he had ever held the advance and development of his town and county foremost in mind. His exceptional activity as a public-spirited citizen and a charitable and well-wishing friend to all with whom he came in contact caused his death to cast a shadow over the entire public of this city and county.

Samuel E. Biddle and his wife were the parents of three sons and four daughter, viz.: Tolbert Vance, who resides in Coalinga, Cal.; Eliza Jane, wife of I. C. Taylor, of Berkeley; Samuel Edward, Jr., cashier and manager of the Citizens' Bank of Alameda; Reta H., wife of Robert Crawford, of Hanford; Wallace J., a plasterer, with residence at Oakland; Kate J., wife of Dallas H. Gray, of Armona, Kings county; and Annie Dale, Mrs. William S. Andrews, of Berkeley.

HARLAND E. WRIGHT

One of the organizers and present cashier and manager of the Hanford National Bank, conspicuous in various public enterprises, Harland E. Wright, of Hanford, Cal., is a leader among the younger business men of Kings county. Now an out-and-out Westerner, he is by birth a Yankee, having first seen the light of day in Wiscasset, Lincoln county, Me., May 22, 1863, a son of Sullivan Wright and Maria L. (Bailey) Wright, both of whom were natives of the Pine Tree state and members of old New England families. The father

was a jeweler and was working at his trade when the Civil war began. Inspired by the patriotic blood of Revolutionary ancestors, he tried to enlist as a soldier in the federal army, but was disqualified by physical disability. He passed away at the comparatively early age of fifty-five years, his widow now living in Maine.

When his father died Harland E. Wright was nine years old. He was brought up in the parental home and educated so far as was possible in the local public schools. He stepped out into the world and began to take care of himself when he was thirteen years old, becoming a telegrapher, in which capacity he was employed by the Western Union Telegraph Company in Boston and in different cities of Maine until the fall of 1882, a year known in telegraphic history as "the year of the great strike." Then he came to California, and until the fall of 1892 was bookkeeper for George P. McNear, banker and grain dealer at Petaluma. Taking up his residence in Hanford at that time, he became assistant cashier of the Farmers and Merchants bank, and eighteen months later he was made cashier, which position he retained until March, 1903. He had become the largest stockholder in the bank, but he now sold his interest in it and in May organized the Hanford National Bank, an historical sketch of which is given in these pages.

Besides his interest in the bank Mr. Wright owns, with S. E. Railsback, one thousand acres of land thirteen miles south of Hanford, which is rented for dairy purposes. He is interested in orchards with Mr. Railsback and Charles King, and they own a fine fruit farm north of Grangeville, where they have ninety acres devoted to prunes. He was one of the organizers of the Lake Land Canal Company and one of the builders of its improvements.

November 15, 1888, Mr. Wright married Etta Ranard, who was born in Sonoma county, Cal., and they have a daughter, Fae, who is a student in the high school. Politically he is a Republican, influential in the work of his party, but has no personal ambition for an official career. Fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World. He has won his success by his own unaided efforts, through the forcefulness of a character the distinguishing characteristics of which are integrity, earnestness, independence and self-reliance.

JOHN F. JORDAN

The prominent citizen of Tulare county whose name is above and whose residence is at No. 108 West Center street, Visalia, is a son of Frank and Alabama (McMicken) Jordan, natives respectively

of Illinois and Alabama, and he was born in eastern Texas December 10, 1850. His father had settled there early and had been for a time manager of a plantation near Shreveport, La. In 1854 he came to California as a captain of a train which included seventy-four families, whom he brought through safely, overcoming many difficulties by the way. Locating within the present borders of San Benito county, he became a stock-dealer and hotel keeper, and in 1858 he made his headquarters in Tulare county, where he brought his family in 1860. He prospered as a stockman, traveling extensively in the prosecution of his business, and died at Visalia in 1878, in his sixtieth year, his wife having passed away while the family was in San Benito county. He won the credit to which every self-made man is entitled of having begun with almost nothing and achieved good financial success. He was a citizen of much public spirit, influential in the councils of the Democratic party.

Of the four sons and three daughters of Frank and Alabama (McMicken) Jordan, John F. Jordan was the fifth in order of birth and he was four years old when he accompanied his parents on their memorable overland journey to California. After having completed his studies in the Visalia public schools, he became a student at Heald's Business College, San Francisco, from which institution he was duly graduated in February, 1875. Soon after his return to Visalia, in that year, he was appointed deputy postmaster of that city, and in 1876 was appointed deputy sheriff. He was elected in 1879 county auditor of Tulare county, in which office he served with great credit for five years. Later, in 1884, he engaged in the abstract business, in 1892 incorporating the Visalia Abstract Company, in which he is now a director, being formerly its secretary and general manager. The knowledge he has acquired of land titles in Tulare county is the result of years of study and experience and it makes his advice along these lines of the greatest practical value. At the same time it should be noticed that his work as secretary and manager of this enterprise is no indication of the extent of his activities. In June, 1912, he became president of the Citizens' Bank of Visalia, at which time he retired from the management of the abstract business. He assisted in organizing the Kaweah Lemon Company (Inc) of which he is secretary and which owns three hundred and seventy acres in the foothills east of Visalia. He is a director in the Eneina Fruit Company and has had much to do with the development of its lands, which include four hundred and forty acres, two miles north of Visalia. In the organization of the Visalia Fruit & Land Company he was prominently active and he is secretary of the Lemon Cove Ditch Company.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Jordan was Alice L. Neill, a native daughter of California, and they have three children: Ethel



Dr B. Hamlin

V., wife of William B. Rowland; Ray F., and Neill J. Mr. Jordan affiliates fraternally with Lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., of Visalia; Chapter No. 44, R. A. M.; Commandery No. 26, K. T., of which he is recorder; Scottish Rite No. 9, of which he is treasurer; and Islam Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, of San Francisco. He has been a local leader of the Democracy, was a delegate to the state convention of his party in 1904 and at one time served on the county central committee. He also served on the city council of Visalia for eight years. It goes without saying that in every emergency his fellow citizens have found his public spirit equal to any demand upon it.

DR. BENJAMIN HAMLIN

A factor and a landmark in the history of Kings county is Dr. Benjamin Hamlin, of Lemoore, who was born January 20, 1824, and came to the present site of Lemoore in 1874, when he was about fifty years old. But at that time there was no town there; on the ground Lemoore now occupies were a few scattered houses of primitive construction and a few settlers had come to the country round about. The doctor has witnessed the transformation of the county from wild land to a vast wheat-field and has watched the gradual supplanting of grain by fruit and vine. There are few people who have ever lived at Lemoore with whom he was not at one time or another personally acquainted, and many who have known him have had just reason to recognize in him the proverbial friend in need who is a friend indeed.

When he was seven years old the future physician, dentist and druggist was taken by his parents to Lorain county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. After leaving the public schools, he entered upon his professional studies under the preceptorship of Dr. Hubbard, teaching school in the meantime to provide for current expenses. In 1847 he received his degree of M.D. at Angola, the county seat of Steuben county, Ind., where he practiced medicine during the decade that immediately followed. The next ten years he spent in practice in St. Joseph county, Mich., and while practicing here he volunteered his services in the Civil war, and engaged as a hospital surgeon at Chattanooga during the time of Hood's raid, being in that service for seven months. From St. Joseph county he went to Florida, where he practiced dentistry five years. In 1872 he came to Santa Cruz, Cal., where he practiced medicine and dentistry until 1874, when he came to a little settlement on the site of Lemoore and opened a small drug store on the front of which he hung his professional sign. In 1875 he

was appointed postmaster there and for ten years he combined the practice of medicine with the sale of drugs, then abandoned the former the better to give attention to the latter. For many years his drug store was the only establishment of its kind in the vicinity. He retired from the drug trade in 1899, since when he has done little business beyond giving attention to his fruit and vine ranch, north of Lemoore, which is now operated by a tenant.

In 1847 Dr. Hamlin married Miss Margaret Fowls, who bore him three daughters and a son. Of these children only one of the daughters is living, her home being in Santa Cruz. Mrs. Hamlin died in 1886 and on the 16th of September, 1889, he married Maria L. Wells, a native of Buffalo, N. Y., but at that time living in San Francisco. Together they are spending their declining years in the companionship of many old friends, and in all the country roundabout Lemoore the doctor is held in loving regard as a pioneer.

Mrs. Maria L. (Wells) Hamlin is a member of a patriotic family of soldiers, her brother, the late Brig.-Gen. A. B. Wells, having had a military record of over forty years' actual military service. Her father, Captain William U. Wells, was one of the pioneer miners at Virginia city, Nev., and he had four sons and one daughter in his family. All four of her brothers were enlisted soldiers in the war of the Rebellion, and the three surviving have given their entire lives to their country's military service. Of these, Capt. Charles H. now resides at St. Louis, Mo.; he served through the entire Civil war, was at Libby and Andersonville prisons and was one of the brave men who dug his way out of Libby by means of an oyster-shell as their sole tool, and he has recently published a book which fully describes this incident. The second brother was the late Brig.-Gen. A. B. Wells. Another is Capt. William Wells, of Chicago, and the fourth brother, Almer H. Wells, of Chicago, enlisted as a drummer boy when he was thirteen years old.

Mrs. Hamlin has had the misfortune of losing her eyesight, but notwithstanding her life has been one of philanthropy and kindness, and hundreds of needy and unfortunate people at San Francisco as well as Lemoore will ever bless her for her gentle and generous aid.

P. A. McLEAN

Of Scotch highland stock and born in Canada, P. A. McLean, of Tulare has demonstrated the potency of the influences that were back of him in the production of good American citizenship. He has also shown what a man of the right kind may hope to accomplish in California, if he makes it his business to succeed. It was at

Milton, across our northern border, that he first saw the light of day, November 22, 1842. His parents were natives of Scotland, and his mother was of the clan of the Camerons. She was a descendant of Lord John Cameron, and her brother, Capt. John Cameron, came to California as early as 1832, later saw service in the West under Fremont, and eventually was killed in the battle of Monterey, in our war with Mexico. So passed an old Indian fighter whose history is a part of the history of California.

P. A. McLean has had many interesting and not a few thrilling experiences. Seven years he sailed on the oceans, visiting about every important port in the world. Off the coast of Africa he was shipwrecked and for four days and nights was afloat on a spar. He was a comrade of "Buffalo Bill" Cody, shooting buffaloes with him on the plains and fighting Indians shoulder to shoulder with that picturesque American hero. It all happened in the period in which the Union Pacific railroad was being constructed across the continent. Several times he was wounded, and to his grave he will carry a bullet in his body. Through his participation in Indian wars, and otherwise, he became acquainted with most of the famous chiefs of his time. Many years in the saddle, he participated in some of the famous rides that add spice to western history. It is of record that he made the trip from Dayton to Lewiston, sixty miles, in six hours, and rode from Spokane to Walla Walla, one hundred and fifty miles, in eighteen hours. He helped to locate government posts in Washington, and was the first white man to pilot a raft down Lake Chelan. He tells how plentiful deer and bear were along the lake. At Cheney, Wash., he built the first bank and the first gristmill, and later had a blacksmith shop, and the earliest gristmill at Spokane was erected by him.

In his native town, Mr. McLean learned the trades of blacksmith and carriage maker, though his apprenticeship was finished at St. Johnsbury, Vt. After a time he found employment on the Vermont Central railroad, and in 1866 he went to Chicago, where, a few years later, he built the first cabin after the Great Fire on the site of the old postoffice on Dearborn street. But meantime he was busy elsewhere, for in 1869 he rode into Los Angeles, Cal., and saw an old and not very promising cluster of adobe houses, relics of a former civilization, and that was about all. His trip on horseback from there took him to Idaho and Washington. It was on the 7th of November, 1876, that he made his first appearance in Tulare county, riding astride a mustang. He has lived there most of the time since, always identified with the county's growth and development. For a long time he made his home in Visalia, where he had a blacksmith shop, but did a good deal of carpentering. He it was who framed the first joist that went into the construction of the old courthouse,

and into that same historic structure he put the doors and built the bench for the judge. For six years he blacksmithed in Exeter, and from there he moved back to Visalia. He later rented a shop in Cochrane. He drifted to Visalia and was in the liquor business there four years, and in 1907 he ran a hotel in Cochrane, and came back to Tulare, August, 1909, where he now runs a shop. It was in the year 1888 that he bought the old Lyle ranch, two miles east of Visalia. He is now the owner of a house in Visalia and of the Rosenthal ranch, north of the town, which is stocked and rented. He has one hundred and sixty acres in Fresno county and town property in Fresno, and property in Kings and Riverside and Sonoma counties, besides his old blacksmith shop at Cochrane. At present he busies himself with his blacksmith and carriage shop at Tulare and with the supervision of his property. Public office has been thrust upon him from time to time. He was a deputy sheriff in Vermont, a justice of the peace at Cheney, Wash., and a school trustee at Cochrane, Cal. He helped to organize the Odd Fellows lodge at Cochrane and the Knights of Pythias lodge at Visalia, also helped organize the K. of P. and I. O. O. F. in Exeter, and holds membership in both with due honor. He was a charter member also of the Odd Fellows lodge at Exeter. August 22, 1878, he married Miss Sarah M. Thomas, and they have a daughter, Sarah F.

CHARLES W. TOZER

A California pioneer of 1851, a miner, a fruit grower, a man of many interesting experiences in all parts of the world, thus, briefly, might be summed up the biography of Charles W. Tozer; but there is very much more to tell, and no old Californian would regard this book as complete if in some measure it did not tell it. Mr. Tozer was born in New York, February 10, 1830, and died in California in 1905. He came to the state by way of the Isthmus of Panama and in the early days thereafter mined in Amador, Calaveras and Trinity counties. He was, in fact, interested in mining during most of the years of his busy and adventurous life. At different times he dug for precious metal in California, Nevada, Arizona, Alaska, Siberia, China and Japan. After his experience in Nome, where he was associated with Charles D. Lane, he went to the state of Washington, where he installed a large stamp mill. To the mining fraternity of the entire country he was known as an expert mining engineer. In the prosecution of his work in new and wild districts he frequently participated in scenes peculiar to

gold diggings at the times under consideration. During his stay in Arizona Indian wars were in progress and at one time he was a member of a party sent against the savages in defense of some people whose lives were in danger because of a threatend attack. He was sheriff of Siskiyou county, Cal., and represented his district in Nevada in the territorial Legislature.

In 1890 Mr. Tozer came to Tulare county and bought part of the old Page & Morton ranch, west of Tulare. There he grew fruit for a decade, meeting with good success, and sold out in 1900, his ranch now being a dairy plant. He married Miss Mary Seaton, a native of Youngstown, Ohio, whose father, Daniel Seaton, was a pioneer lawyer in Amador county, where he practiced his profession many years. There were born to him children as follows: Roy S., of Tulare; Charles M., of old Mexico; Mrs. R. G. Cople, of San Francisco. Roy S. Tozer, a native of California, was educated in the public schools of Tulare and San Francisco and at the University of California, at Berkeley. He began his business career in connection with the dried fruit trade in San Francisco, and after a five years' residence there came to Tulare and took over the management of the Fair Oaks Creamery. He is now manager of the E. M. Cox Lumber Company, which in 1910 succeeded the Tulare Lumber Company, which had had an existence of many years and was one of the old and substantial business enterprises of the town. Mr. Tozer is one of the most progressive of Tulare's younger set of business men, interested in all that pertains to the city's growth and development and ready at any time to assist to the extent of his ability any measure inaugurated for the public welfare.

FRANCIS C. SCOTT

As a soldier no less than as a citizen Francis C. Scott is deserving of attention by writer and reader. He was born in Martin county, Ind., May 19, 1841. When he was nineteen years old he enlisted in Company E, Twenty-fifth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry. His first fighting was at Fort Donelson. He saw plenty more at Shiloh, Corinth, Hatchers Run, Grand Junction, Holly Springs, Mud Creek, Pearl River, Marion Station, Memphis, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Buzzard's Roost, Atlanta, Chattanooga, Kingston, Goldsboro and at other points in the South. He has vivid recollections of the men of his command drinking the polluted water of Mud creek. After that fight his company was so small because so many of its members had been killed that

it was assigned to provost duty in Tennessee. From there it went to Vicksburg and later it went with Sherman to Mississippi. A sixty days' furlough came soon afterward, and Mr. Scott rejoined his command at Chattanooga. The march from Atlanta to the sea under Sherman he will never forget. A provisional division, of which his regiment was a part, was sent back to Chattanooga. From that point a march was made to Paducah, Ky., thence to Cincinnati and thence to Baltimore, where the regiment joined its old command. A coast voyage followed and Mr. Scott was shipwrecked in Cuban waters, but was finally landed in North Carolina and marched to Newberne, where fighting was resumed. After the fight at Goldsboro, the regiment was marched to Raleigh, N. C. Several skirmishes followed, then came the Confederate surrender, the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., the discharge and the muster out.

Returning to Indiana, Mr. Scott located in Perry county, settled down to farming and married Louisa Goble, a native of that state, who bore him children as follows: Harrison Y., John W., Hiram Curtis, Thaddeus M., Sidney F., Lee Esting, Flora C. All have died except Thaddeus M. and Sidney F. John W. married Nancy Harmon, by whom he had a son named Edmund L. By a second marriage two daughters were born. Sidney F. married Nellie Wilson and has had four children: Ray, Leslie, Maynard and Flora. Leslie has passed away.

From Indiana Mr. Scott moved in 1866 to Montgomery county, Iowa, where he lived three years and then returned to Indiana. From there he went to Shelby county, Ill., and after a year's residence there moved to Sedgwick county, Kas., where he remained until he was forced to leave on account of his crops being destroyed by pests. From there he returned to Illinois, whence he went to Nebraska. There he remained four years, meantime preemptions and improving land, after which he returned to Union Star, DeKalb county, and two years later took up his residence in Shannon county, Mo., where he conducted a hotel for four years. He again took up farming in Texas county for eight years. He came to Fresno county in 1904 and bought ten acres near Laton. Six months later he sold out and came to Tulare city, bought ten acres, then sold and purchased residence property and remained there until he came to Orosi. He bought ten acres half in vines and trees and the balance in pasture. His profits from this investment are quite satisfactory.

As a farmer Mr. Scott is successful along his chosen lines and as a citizen he is public spirited and helpful. In politics he is Republican. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and is a Mason.

GEORGE TOMER

The story of the life of a self-made man is always interesting and always carries its lesson of industry, integrity, perseverance and thrift. Of this class is George Tomer, a native of Iowa, born August 16, 1847, whose early life was one of work and study in an environment that was not conducive to rapid progress either in earning money or acquiring knowledge. But he got a start in life, largely by reason of his coming to California. He made his appearance in this state in 1862, quite young to undertake much responsibility, but of a self-reliant nature and determined to make something of and for himself. For several years he lived in Yolo county, variously employed, as occasion offered, and in 1873 came to Hanford, Kings county, where he acquired one hundred and eighty acres of good farm land, on which he has lived continuously to the present time. When he first came here he helped himself financially by working on the Peoples ditch until that work was finished. He is included among the pioneers in this vicinity, and is on the membership list of the Settlers' League. From the first he has taken an interest in public affairs, and as a Republican has been elected to several important local offices, which he has filled with ability and credit to himself and to the community. He was trustee of the Eureka school fourteen years, trustee and chairman of the Hanford high school board seven years, and was elected constable in 1878 for two years. In 1898 he was elected supervisor from the third district, serving four years.

As a farmer Mr. Tomer has been successful even beyond his expectations. He has three acres in vineyards and twenty-five in alfalfa. While giving attention to general farming he breeds hogs and cattle and makes a specialty of dairying, having at this time about twenty fine cows. For twenty-nine seasons he has operated a header very successfully. He is thoroughly up-to-date in all his methods and his farm is fitted with good buildings and modern machinery and appliances. He has shown a faculty for planning and working out his plans, such as many farmers do not possess, and which doubtless has been a factor in his steady progress.

In Woodland, Yolo county, on September 21, 1872, Mr. Tomer was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Kohler, who was born in St. Louis, Mo., in 1855, and who was brought to California by her mother in 1860. All of her life since that date has been passed in this state and she has been a resident of Kings county since 1873. The following children have been born to this worthy couple: William H.; Leonard L.; Nettie M., who married George Tilton; Clarence E.; Clara E., widow of Walter Kelly; Annie C., widow of George Ehle; George, deceased; Read A.; Rose Ione; King F.; Forest W.;

and Isaac. All of the children were born, reared and educated in Tulare and Kings counties and are located in the vicinity of Hanford, with the exception of Clara E. and Annie C., who reside in Oakland.

ALVIN H. SLOCUM

It was in the beautiful Genesee valley, in the Empire state, that Alvin H. Slocum was born in 1837. His family went to Wisconsin when he was a year and a half old and remained there thirteen years, during which time he learned a good deal about farming, more about hunting, and in public and private schools got a good start toward an education. From Wisconsin the family moved to Iowa, where Alvin remained until after he became of age. In 1859 he came across the plains to California and until the fall of 1861 he lived near the Feather river, in Butte county. At the first call of President Lincoln for volunteer soldiers for service in the Civil war he enlisted and was on duty constantly until his discharge, taking part in many historic engagements and enduring many hardships and privations. A remarkable feature of his war record for which he is particularly thankful is that when the war came to an end he had never been captured by the enemy. He was mustered out at Las Cruces, N. Mex., and bought a team of horses and drove through to Sacramento, Cal., near which place he worked in the mines two years. In 1866 he came to Tulare county with no more definite purpose than to hunt awhile, but the country pleased him so well that he determined to remain. Improvements were few and there was game everywhere, bear and deer especially being plentiful. He had Bruce Wilcox as a companion until in 1869, when Wilcox stumbled onto a set gun and was shot to death. Mr. Slocum was only two feet behind him when the explosion came. In speaking of those earlier days, he tells of the killing of fourteen or fifteen bears in the autumn of one year and relates how in one hunt he shot twenty-one bucks; his largest bear he killed in 1867. Jacob Cramer, Marvin Wilcox and Frank Knowles were with him, and they have often testified that it weighed, dressed and without hide or head, fifteen hundred and fifty pounds. Mr. Slocum went on his first bear hunt when he was about twenty-one years old and killed three bears, the first wild bear he had ever seen.

As soon as was practicable after he came to the county Mr. Slocum began to acquire land. He took up one hundred and sixty acres and a little later another one hundred and sixty acres, and began to raise hogs and fruit, in which business he has continued with success to the present time. He has for many years been a member of the local school board and has in other ways been gener-



A. H. Slocum

ously active on behalf of the community. In 1880 he married Nancie Alma Hudson, a native of California, who has borne him six children, all of whom are living and all but two are married. His father, who was born in 1811, in New York state, died in 1904 in California, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. Mr. Slocum has mechanical genius of a high order, and has made a number of violins and guitars of an excellent quality.

WILLIAM P. McCORD

This highly respected citizen of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., has during his long and busy career won distinction in many ways. He was born in Ohio February 6, 1831, and there received a limited education and practical instruction in different kinds of useful work. In 1852, when he was twenty-one years old, he came to California by way of New York and the Isthmus of Panama, going from New York to Panama on the steamer Brother Jonathan, crossing the isthmus on foot and coming to San Francisco on the steamer Winfield Scott. He stopped on the Island of Toboga six weeks waiting for a steamer and retains a fond remembrance of the place and people. From San Francisco he went to Sacramento and thence to Ringgold. After mining three months he located at Suisun, Solano county, with his brother, with the intention of going into the mercantile business. Going down to put up some hay on the island, he learned that John Owens had already erected a store there, and he and his brother-in-law engaged in the butcher business, opening the first meat shop in Suisun, and traded there until 1856, when he went back east and brought his family out to California. Upon his return he engaged in teaming with his own teams, carrying supplies to Virginia City, Hangtown (now Placerville), and other mining centers and selling goods at the stores in all the camps round about. Thus he was employed three years, then for four years he ran a meat market in Vacaville. Disposing of that he returned east and farmed in Ohio and after four years went to Denver, Colo. From there he came on to Los Angeles, Cal., and soon engaged in buying cattle, which he drove to Bakersfield. He located in Bakersfield in 1872 and was a charter member of the first lodge of Masons organized there and is now the only survivor of the original fourteen members. He established the McCord ranch, on the north side, a mile and a half from Bakersfield, constructed an irrigation ditch and for seven years furnished water free to everyone in the vicinity. Then, selling most of his stock, he located on government land, put in alfalfa, built levees, extended the ditch, sold it and afterward managed it two years, under

the direction of W. B. Carr, making during that time \$15 a day over and above the support of his family. From there he came to Tulare county and in 1886-87 bought land at the mouth of Cross creek, twelve miles south of Hanford. One section, which he bought of O. E. Miller, at \$2.75 an acre, is still owned in his family and is now worth over \$150 an acre. Another section, which he bought of Bird & Smith and which is now valuable, cost him \$7.50 an acre. He bought in all about two thousand acres. He and his sons engaged in stock-raising and he and his brother built a levee and reclaimed thousands of acres of land from the Cross creek overflow for settlers in that vicinity. Mr. McCord farmed there and raised horses and stock on a large scale, putting in more than one thousand acres of alfalfa on his own land, and maintained his home in Hanford while operating there. The family now owns eight hundred acres of that property.

In 1874 Mr. McCord and his son Dallas opened a butcher shop at Bakersfield. The latter conducted it many years and at the age of twenty-nine was elected sheriff of Kern county, and was the youngest sheriff in the state at that time, 1887. After filling the office one term he joined his father on the ranch. The latter retired from farming in 1908 and sold all his remaining land. He made a specialty of selling Arizona horses in San Francisco and attained prominence as an auctioneer at Bakersfield and San Francisco. In his younger years he was an athlete and won honors at Vacaville and Suisun and later at Bakersfield and was first president of the Bakersfield Athletic club. For a long period he was renowned as a boxer, and when he was sixty-five years old he won in a wrestling match with an opponent of twenty-eight. He drove his own teams through Tulare county from Tipton to Bakersfield before the advent of the railroad and he and George McCord and Bill Woswick interested Claus Spreckels to construct the Santa Fe railroad through this section. Spreckels was later president of the Valley road, which was eventually absorbed by the Santa Fe system. Mr. McCord early became expert in the handling of horses and was champion of all horse trainers round San Francisco and Bakersfield for some years.

In February, 1850, Mr. McCord married Lois Sophia Crippen, a native of Ohio, and they had five children, two of whom are living. Alice, deceased, was the wife of James McCaffery, of Hanford; Dallas, who was successful in business with his father, died in 1891; Douglas lives in San Francisco; Burnside is a citizen of San Jose; Margery died at the age of three years. The mother of these children passed away at Hanford in April, 1911, and was buried by the order of Eastern Star. Mr. McCord has long been widely known as a Mason.

When county division was talked of he was a strong advocate and supporter of the movement, and for every other upbuilding agency of the state and county. He has never aspired to any office,

though solicited to become a candidate many times, and once was forced to accept the office of justice of the peace at Bakersfield, winning over his opponent five to one in a Democratic stronghold.

ALFRED PETERSON

A native of Sweden, Alfred Peterson is descended from old families of that country. He was born August 23, 1869, near Oskarshamn, Smoland, a son of Peter and Christine (Johnson) Carlson. His father was a sexton, in charge of the local church and cemetery, and his grandfather, a Swedish cavalry soldier, did gallant service in the Napoleonic wars 1812-15. Alfred and his sister, Mrs. Selma Pospeshek, of Tulare county, are the only living children of the father's family. In 1884, when he was between fourteen and fifteen years old, Alfred Peterson came to America with his brother Oskar and found employment on a farm near Long Point, Livingston county, Ill. From there he went to Marshall county in the same state, and in 1889 came to Los Angeles, near which city he worked two years in an orange grove for Abbott Kinney. Then he went to Antelope Valley, intending to locate land there, but did not like the prospect in that vicinity and proceeded to Formosa, where he and his team were employed for two months in construction work, and after that he teamed four months at Fresno. In 1891 he came to Tulare, where he was variously employed until the spring of 1893, when, with William Kerr as a partner, he went into the threshing business, buying an engine of twenty-four horse power. At the expiration of two years he took over the business, which he continued until in the fall of 1901, when he retired in order to devote himself almost exclusively to stockraising. In 1893 he had farmed at the Oaks, north of town, on one hundred and sixty acres of land leased for one season. In the spring of 1894 he rented twenty acres, three and one-fourth miles east of Tulare on the Lindsay road, where he now lives. In the following fall he bought that property and in the spring of 1895 he bought twenty acres more. In the fall of 1897 he bought forty acres adjoining on the east and in the spring of 1900 two hundred and sixty-five acres adjoining on the north. In the winter of 1905 he bought one hundred acres known as Bliss field, across the road, south of the other property. He has introduced many improvements and his land is all fenced in. He has about one hundred acres of alfalfa, twenty-five acres under orchard trees, farms two hundred acres to grain and devotes the remainder of his land to pasturage.

The marriage of Mr. Peterson, in Chicago, in the spring of the year 1904, united him with Miss Hilda Anderson, who was born near

Westervik, Smoland, Sweden, and they have children named Carl, George and Helen, the first of whom is in school. While maintaining a deep affection for the land of his birth, Mr. Peterson is loyal to America, especially to California. He has long been an advocate of irrigation, realizing that the lack of water here is the only drawback to the achievement of satisfactory results in agriculture. He was for a time a director in the Farmers' Ditch Company, from the improvements of which his own land was irrigated, and he has in other ways promoted the irrigation facilities of his part of the county and has not been less helpful in a public spirited way to other movements for the benefit of the people among whom he has cast his lot. He is a stockholder in the Bank of Tulare and in the Rochdale store. During the entire period of his residence in Tulare county he has affiliated fraternally with the lodge, encampment and Rebekah organization of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. During recent years he has devoted much of his time to travel and in 1902 he journeyed thirty thousand miles by railroad and steamer. Nine times he has crossed our own continent and twice has he returned to his old home to renew the associations of his youth, the first time in 1902, when he enjoyed a visit with his father in Oskarshamn and with other relatives and friends from whom he had long been separated. In the spring of 1908 he went back again for five months, accompanied by his family. Since the establishment of the reformation by Martin Luther, the successive generations of the family have been of the Lutheran faith and Alfred was reared in its doctrine, but since he came to America he has affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is also a member.

ALFRED C. FULMER

The grandson of a gallant soldier, Alfred C. Fulmer, of Orosi, Tulare county, Cal., was born in Crete, Nebr., on Independence Day, 1890, son of William and Amelia (Wilkie) Fulmer. The former is deceased and the latter is now the wife of W. F. McCormick. He attended public schools and graduated from the grammar school when he was fourteen years old. In 1909 he came to Tulare county, where for a time he worked for wages during the summer months, attending winter terms of school. Following a post-graduate course at Orosi he began working at ranching and planned and strove for such successes as he might win by industrious application of the business ability which he certainly possessed. In the course of events he paid \$3,500 for fifteen acres of land. He has three and a half acres of Thompson grapes, which brought him \$1,100 in 1911, ten acres bearing vines of Muscat and Malaga grapes and two acres



J. N. Wright

of pasture land. Though young in years he is succeeding along lines that mark him as a scientific cultivator in his chosen field, and there are those who predict for him great achievements in the years that are to come. As a citizen he is public spiritedly helpful to all worthy local interests.

ISAAC N. WRIGHT

One of the oldest residents of Tulare county, reckoning from the days of his pioneering, was the venerable and respected Isaac N. Wright, a man of industry, thrift and sound judgment, who succeeded for himself and was active in every movement for the advancement of the industrial and agricultural advancement of the county, his death occurring at his home at Tulare, Cal., February 17, 1910. Of English stock, he was born near Mount Vernon, Knox county, Ohio, October 13, 1823, son of William Wright, who was born, reared and educated in England; he was a pioneer in Knox county, and began his life there in a log cabin which he erected in a small opening in the forest, improving a farm and prospering there until he removed to Iowa, where he passed away. His mother, Elizabeth Newton, also a native of England, died in Omaha, Nebr. Mr. and Mrs. Wright had eleven children, four of whom survive. One of the children, George, who came to California in 1850, died in Tuolumne county; James came with Isaac N. in 1851 and died in San Diego; a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, resides at Long Beach, Cal.; and another daughter, Mary, resides in Montana.

Under the tutelage of his mother, a woman of refinement and education, Isaac N. Wright gained his elementary knowledge of the contents of school books. Brought up on a woodland farm he became an expert chopper, and when he was sixteen years old helped to build a log schoolhouse near his home and was chosen to cut the saddles and notches for one corner of the building, and in that crude structure he attended school five years. Soon after he was twenty-one years old he entered upon an apprenticeship to the miller's trade and later he was the lessee and operator of a grist and sawmill on Owl creek, at Mount Vernon, for two years. In November, 1851, he sailed from New York on the steamer Georgia for Aspinwall, and from there he went by rail to Gorgona, whence he was taken by steamer to the head of navigation. The remainder of the trip across the isthmus of Panama, about twenty-five miles, he made on foot. From Panama he came to San Francisco on the steamer Northerner, arriving in December, 1851, and for two years he and his brothers did placer mining at Jamestown, Tuolumne county, and met with

some success. In 1854 he and his brother George leased a sawmill which was operated four years. Then he went back to Ohio for his family, arriving at his old home February, 1856, and in April that year he left for California with his wife and child, by the Isthmus route, and was in Panama April 15, the date of the historic riots there. His wife and child were safe in the American hotel, near the Plaza, but he armed himself with an old American flint-lock musket and participated in the affair. They made a good passage to San Francisco on the steamer John L. Stevens and he located at Sonora and was successful several years as a quartz miner and as a miller. In 1869 he moved his family to San Jose and prospected through the coast counties into the San Joaquin valley and might have embarked in stock-raising if the season had not been too dry. In 1870 he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land now within the municipal limits of Tulare which in 1872 he traded to the railroad company for his present homestead on which he located that year. He set about improving his property and placing it under irrigation, and almost immediately he was achieving success as a farmer and stockman; much of his land was in alfalfa. He has raised many high-grade cattle and hogs and has a large dairy. His public spirit prompted him in actively promoting the growth and development of the city of Tulare; he was one of the promoters of the Kaweah Canal & Irrigating Co., was one of its directors from the first and later was elected its president. During his ten years' service as school trustee, he had charge of the erection of the brick schoolhouse in Tulare. A Republican in national politics, in local affairs he always advocated the election of the best man for the place without regard to party affiliations.

At Mount Vernon, Ohio, January 14, 1851, Mr. Wright married Charlotte A. Phillips and they had four children, as follows: Victoria is Mrs. A. D. Neff of Oakland, Cal.; George W., born in Tuolumne county and now living at Tuolumne, is a locomotive engineer, and in that capacity ran the first passenger train into Sonora; Alice L.; Hattie M. is Mrs. W. J. Higdon of Tulare. The mother was born November 28, 1830, fourth of the six children of Charles and Addie (Foster) Phillips, her mother having been a native of England. She is the only survivor of the family and is still living on the Wright home at Tulare, California.

SAMUEL EDWARD COURTNEY

This well-known nurseryman, who is agent for the Capital City Nursery and whose residence is in Emma Lee Colony, northwest of the limits of Hanford, is a native of County Antrim, Ireland, and

was born in 1862. The Courtney progenitors came from Holland with Prince William and fought in the religious wars. On the maternal line Mr. Courtney is of Scotch and Danish extraction. He was about eighteen years old when he came across the ocean to Ontario, Canada, and he lived at Oshawa for some time thereafter. In 1885 he volunteered for service in the suppression of the insurrection known as the Northwest rebellion. After his discharge he lived for two years at Fort William, with his brother, and they were employed in the construction of a large elevator, quartering opposite the historic battleground at Quaminisque; and they endured many hardships in that new country, the temperature often registering as low as sixty degrees below zero. They bought property in that vicinity, but eventually went to Halifax, N. S., where Mr. Courtney married and was engaged in farming and as a builder until 1892. Then he sold out and went to Boston, where he worked six months as a carpenter. During his stay in Boston he heard much of California and the wonderful opportunities it held out to the horticulturist, and coming out in 1893 and locating at Hanford, he found employment at his trade, and later as a contractor, built many residences there and throughout the country round about. In 1902 he became a salesman for the Capital City Nursery Co., of Salem, Ore., and during his second year of work in that capacity sold \$16,000 worth of peach and apricot trees (most of the peach trees being Albertas), all of which were planted in Kings county. He has handled the line ever since, adding to it local and home grown stock, and his yearly sales during the last few years have averaged \$6,000. In 1903 he bought five acres of land for a home at the northwest corner of the city, paying \$100 an acre for it; it is now worth \$1,000 an acre. He has built on it a fine house and other necessary buildings and has set it out to fruit trees. He is also the owner of twenty-two and a half acres in the Crowell addition, a good portion of which he has set out to fruit. Another tract which he owns is one of sixty acres, three and a half miles east of Hanford, which he intends to put in vines and trees, and he intends to improve this property still further. Having a liking for horses and cattle, he has devoted some attention to raising both and intends to go into the business more extensively. In 1911-12 he bought out four small nurseries and has disposed of their stock, his nursery business being one of the most comprehensive in this part of the state. Its numerous offerings include twelve varieties of peaches, seven of plums, ten of such apples as do well in the San Joaquin valley country, three of prunes, three of apricots, seven of table grapes, Franquette walnuts, olives, plums, eucalyptus trees, shade trees, palms and roses.

The place on which Mr. Courtney lives was formerly owned by one Knudson, who was shot at the time of the Mussel Slough trouble;

brought home, he died under an old walnut tree which is still standing in the nursery yard. In 1887 Mr. Courtney married at Halifax, N. S., Miss Annie Roper, a native of Nova Scotia, and they have had children as follows: James; Hugh, deceased; Millicent M.; Blanche M.; and Samuel Ernest. Three of these are living. Millicent M. is the wife of Charles Fellows of Modesto, who is also in the nursery business.

Mr. Courtney was converted in the Presbyterian church in the north of Ireland, when a boy. His father, James Courtney, of French Huguenot stock, was an evangelist in his home locality. He was connected with the Salvation Army of Hanford from the start and has always been in the fight for the right and advocates and supports all worthy movements. He is a National Prohibitionist, secretary and treasurer of the Kings county delegation, and took a leading part in the fight to eliminate the liquor traffic from his home city.

E. G. MELIDONIAN

It was on the second day of July, 1867, that the well-known citizen of California whose name is above was born at Zetoon, Armenia. He was duly graduated from a missionary school in 1886, with a competent knowledge of the English language and many who knew him and appreciated his fine abilities urged him to become a minister of the gospel. He was twenty years old in 1887 when he came to the United States, and for two years he lived in Paterson, N. J., and for twenty-one years he was actively employed as a weaver of silk ribbon. It was in New Jersey that he married Miss Mary Kahacharian, also a native of Armenia and a graduate of a missionary school at Marash, where she received a diploma in 1885. She taught school for two years and her husband was likewise employed for one year. She has borne him six children, whom they named as follows in the order of their nativity: Mary, Anna, Victoria, Elizabeth, Dove and Martha. Mary married James Erganian, who was graduated from the same missionary school in Armenia in which his father-in-law was educated. After coming to the United States he took up work as a butler in Boston and Charlestown, Mass. Four years later he came to California and bought twenty acres of land, which he has improved with vineyards and orchards. Anna married Peter Besoyan and they have a son named Sergius and live at Yetttem. Victoria graduated from the grammar school and is the wife of Fred Sahroian. Elizabeth has finished the grammar school and Dove and Martha are in school.

On coming to California in 1908 the subject of this notice bought fifty acres of land at \$50 an acre at Yetttem. He has thirty acres of



Sands Baker

vines, a small orchard, and ten acres of pasture, and intends to take up the cultivation of oranges and peaches on the other ten acres. Although he purchased the land but four years ago, it is now worth about \$300 an acre. He has built a good house on the property and keeps enough stock and horses for his own use. Mr. Melidonian is a Republican, a Presbyterian, a member of the Royal Arcanum and a progressive citizen of much public spirit.

SANDS BAKER

It was in the lovely country along the Hudson river, in the state of New York, that Sands Baker, of Dunlap, Fresno county, Cal., was born December 19, 1837. His parents were George and Martha N. (Bentley) Baker, of English ancestry, who had emigrated to New York state from Massachusetts. His father died when the boy was yet very young, and at fifteen years old Sands Baker was taken to Oconto county, Wis., by an uncle who was in the lumber business there. He early obtained a good knowledge of that industry, for which, however, he had no liking, his inclinations being for the acquisition of an education. He managed to attend a public school and then entered a seminary near Albany, N. Y., where one thousand students were being prepared for professional careers. From there he went to Madison, Wis., where he entered the high school, giving particular attention to the English course until, because of failing eyesight, he was obliged for a time to give up study. However, he soon found a field of usefulness at Green Bay, Wis., where he taught three years in the public school, and he was the author of several innovations the wisdom of which was soon evident to the school officials and the public generally. One of these was the closing of the doors of the school house at nine a.m., thus enforcing punctuality or absence. Then came a period of travel for health and recreation. He wandered through Minnesota and Iowa and down to St. Joseph, Mo., where he met men who so vividly pictured the beauties and opportunities of California that he quickly decided to seek fortune here, and accordingly he left St. Joseph in the spring of 1860 with a party which made the journey with American horses and California mustangs, by way of Salt Lake. Finding feed scarce they abandoned their original course and came through Salt Lake valley. Indians were menacing but wrought them no harm and they arrived in Los Angeles in September. From Los Angeles Mr. Baker came on to Visalia. At Rockyford, while he was helping to bale one hundred tons of hay, he met a county superintendent of schools who wanted to employ a teacher. There were at that time only two pub-

lic schools in the county and Mr. Baker established a private school which he taught two years. After this he went north to investigate the mines of eastern California and was soon employed as principal of the public school at Downieville, Sierra county. He closed the schools daily at one p.m., and spent the afternoons in the mines, but careful study of conditions and results convinced him that there was nothing in mining for gold without the investment of considerable capital. So successful was he there as a teacher that he was given an increase of salary of \$40 a month to continue his work. Returning to Visalia, he taught a private school for about six months. For some time he filled the offices of revenue assessor, gauger of liquors and inspector of tobacco with increasing responsibility and emolument, meanwhile serving four years on the board of education of Visalia. He acted one year as deputy county assessor and soon became known as an expert mathematician and was often called on to figure interest on notes and accounts and to straighten out tangled bookkeeping, for which services he was well paid. This work he continued until his health began to fail.

In October, 1872, Mr. Baker married Sarah Josephine Drake, a native of Ohio, whose parents came to California in 1870, settling near Tulare lake and later at Squaw valley. On her mother's side she was descended from Virginian ancestry. Seven children were born to them: Martha A., Royal R., Chauncey M., Lulu M., Blanche C., Pearl A., and Elsie F.; and Mrs. Baker and her husband adopted a boy, who became known as William M. Baker. Martha A. married L. B. King and bore him four children. Royal R. married Nellie J. Hodges and they live at Farmersville, and have a son and a daughter. Chauncey M. married Olive E. Hargraves of Mendocino county, who taught school at Dunlap. Lulu M. married J. A. Mitchell, postmaster at Dunlap, and they have a son and a daughter. Blanche C. married Charles F. Hubbard, of Stockton. Elsie F. married James R. Hinds. Pearl A. is teaching in the Merriman school at Exeter. William M. is ranching near Exeter. Most of Mr. Baker's children have attended the high school at Visalia. Blanche C. was graduated from a business college at Stockton in 1902 and is a competent stenographer and bookkeeper.

From Visalia Mr. Baker removed to Shipes valley, now popularly known as the Foot of Baker mountain. He took up a squatter's claim and pre-empted and homesteaded land and has added to his holdings from time to time until he has a fine stock ranch of two thousand acres, much of it well improved, some of it under valuable timber. He has one hundred and twenty acres of valley land devoted to fruit and alfalfa. He could very easily farm five hundred acres, but he gives attention principally to stock. He has on his property fully five thousand cords of wood and individual oak trees which

would cut fifty cords each. He keeps about two hundred head of stock and twenty horses. He has sold many cattle at Hume Mills, about twenty miles away. His hogs have brought him ten to twelve and a half cents a pound on the hoof at times. He has a stallion, thoroughbred and Percheron, and has raised fine stock for market, always finding ready sale, and Mr. Baker has maintained a high reputation for grade and quality.

In politics, Mr. Baker is a Republican who is proud of the fact that he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and he has for many years filled the offices of school trustee and clerk of the local school board. Formerly he was an active member of the Masonic order.

FRANK OSBORN

In Fountain county on the Wabash river in Indiana Frank Osborn, a musician and singer of note and now superintendent of the Tulare County Hospital at Visalia, was born May 2, 1851, a son of Oliver and Margaret (Dyer) Osborn, natives respectively of Ohio and of New Jersey. Oliver Osborn brought his family to California in 1875 and settled in Tulare county on the Upper Tule river near Globe, where he bought land and achieved success as a stockraiser. His wife, who was a singer of exceptional ability even when she was more than seventy years old, died there in 1898 and he in August, 1909. Mr. Osborn was a man of influence in the community and during all his active life gave much attention to educational matters. He and his wife were devout members of the Christian church. Of their thirteen children four survive: Oliver P., a rancher near Porterville; Frank, of this review; Mrs. Sarah A. Evans, of Indiana, and Mrs. Mary E. Clark, of Missouri.

From his boyhood Frank Osborn has been familiar with all the details of stockraising and until 1897 was identified with his father in that industry. As long as he can remember he has been a singer, he having inherited marked musical ability from his talented mother. As such he became known throughout all the country round about Visalia, and he was long in great demand as a teacher of vocal classes during the winter months, for many years leading the choir of the Christian church at Visalia. In 1897 he was appointed superintendent of the Tulare County Hospital at Visalia, which position he has since filled with a degree of ability and integrity which has commended him to all the people of the county. He has in all his relations with his fellowmen proven himself public spirited in an eminent degree. Fraternally he affiliates with the Knights of Pythias.

In 1870 Mr. Osborn married Miss Ellen Marksbury, a native of Kentucky, who was so situated during the Civil war that she was an eye-witness of many engagements between the Federal and Confederate troops. A detailed account of her experiences and the conditions which made them possible could not but make a most interesting volume.

To Frank and Ellen (Marksbury) Osborn have been born children as follows: Mrs. Edna Hannaford, who has children named Lura, Duke and Laura; Charles H., who married Miss Minta Berry, daughter of Senator G. S. Berry of Lindsay, and has children named Andra and Irma; Earl, who married Maud Carter, who has borne him a child whom they have named Rolla; and Gladys, wife of E. L. Cary, of Stockton, who has a daughter, Ellen L. Cary.

WILLIAM R. MILLER

It was in England that William R. Miller, who now lives eight miles southwest of Hanford, was born October 26, 1843. When he was about eighteen months old his parents brought him to Troy, N. Y., and he lived there and at Saratoga, in the same state, until he was nineteen years old. Then he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until June, 1865, when he was honorably discharged at Alexandria, Va. As a member of Company C of that organization he was included in the second army corps of the army of the Potomac, participating in many engagements, including the fight in the Wilderness, the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, where he was wounded; the fighting in front of Petersburg, where he cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, and other encounters no less important. His wound caused him to be in the hospital three months. After the war he farmed in New York state until April, 1870, when he located sixteen miles north of Webster City, Iowa, and there farmed and raised stock until 1887, when he came to California. After stopping a short time at Tulare he went to the west side, near Dudley, accompanied by his immediate family, his father and his wife's mother. He and his father and his brother took up land there which soon proved so unpromising for farming purposes that his father and brother abandoned their claims, but he retained his, which after he had sold part of it proved to be valuable oil land, but this holding is not the least of his possessions. Returning to Tulare county, he soon went to Delano, where he put in two crops, and in June, 1899, came to Kings county and worked a year near Armona. In his second year there he bought twenty-two and a half acres, eight miles south of Armona, on which he built a house and put all other im-

provements, setting six acres to a vineyard and a family orchard and giving the remainder over to alfalfa, and this is his present home place. He began here as a stockraiser and was successful for some years. His son, Fred C. Miller, now also operates a dairy on the place. In 1911 Mr. Miller bought forty acres of the Jacobs tract, south of his ranch, on which there are improvements.

In 1867 Mr. Miller took for his wife Caroline A. Chesterman, of English birth, who was brought to the United States when three months old and grew to womanhood in New York state. They have five living children: The Rev. Charles N. Miller, who is blind, is an ordained minister of the gospel and resides at Bakersfield; Carrie M. married John C. Goodale, of Denair, Cal.; Jessie L. is the wife of Clarence E. McMillen, of Bakersfield, Cal.; May M. married E. W. Houston, of Visalia; Fred C., the youngest son of the family, married Anna J. Erni and is ranching and dairying on his father's land. William R., Jr., was accidentally killed by a boiler explosion, aged twenty-five years, and Mina M. was married to E. R. Houston and died aged about twenty.

Mr. Miller keeps alive memories of the days of the Civil war by association with his comrades of McPherson Post, G. A. R. He is a genial man, given to pleasant reminiscence, and is welcomed as a friend wherever he may go. His interest in the welfare of the community makes him a citizen of much public spirit.

OLIVER P. MARDIS

One of the Kentuckians who is making a record for himself in Tulare county, Cal., is Oliver P. Mardis, who is farming on the Exeter road, out of Visalia. He was born in Laurel county, Ky., September 5, 1855, and when he was nine years old was taken by his parents from Kentucky to Johnson county, Kans., where he finished his education in the public school and gained a practical knowledge of farming. In 1875, when he was twenty years old, he came to Colusa county, Cal., and worked there a year for wages. In 1876 he "hired out" to a farmer in the Deer Creek district, in Tulare county, where he later bought eighty acres of land, mostly under alfalfa. When wheat began to be gathered on the farms round about to the extent of ten sacks to the acre he sold his eighty acres of alfalfa land and bought a half section near by, which he farmed until December 1, 1908, when he came to his present ranch of fifty-two and one-half acres near Visalia. He keeps an average of two hundred and twenty-five hogs, which yield him a good annual profit. Twenty-three acres of Egyptian corn has given him fifty tons, and his land has returned

him seventy bushels of Indian corn to the acre. He has ten acres of alfalfa yielding him several crops each year. Many melons are grown on his place, he has raised wheat seven feet tall and has five thousand eucalyptus trees.

In 1883 Mr. Mardis married Miss Josephine Collins, a native of California, whose father was a pioneer in the Deer Creek section. She passed away, leaving two children, Oliver and Alice. By his marriage with Miss Lucy Bunton, a native of Missouri, Mr. Mardis has two daughters, Anna and Claudine. As a farmer he is thoroughly up to date in every department of his work, and his pair of finely matched black colts for which he has been offered \$600 is indicative of the quality of his stock. As a citizen he is helpful in a public-spirited way to all worthy local interests.

BEN M. MADDOX

The descendant of southern ancestors and himself a native of the south, Ben M. Maddox was born in Summerville, Chattanooga county, Ga., October 18, 1859, the son of George B. T. and Sarah (Dickson) Maddox, they too being natives of that state. In 1877, when he was seventeen years old, Ben M. Maddox started out in the world on his own responsibility, at that time going to Texas, where he hunted buffalo on the plains. From there he went to Arizona and followed mining from the spring of 1878 until February of the following year. In the meantime he and some friends had determined to come to California, and in February, 1879, the party of three left Prescott, Ariz., having one pack horse and one saddle horse between them for the overland trail. The journey being safely accomplished, Mr. Maddox went to the mining camp of Bodie, Mono county, where he secured work on a newspaper, and subsequently he found work of a similar character in Mammoth City, same county. Newspaper work then gave place to mining, following this for a time in Mammoth City, and later, in 1880, in Fresno Flats, Madera county, where he was employed in the Enterprise mine, and in the latter place he also clerked in a hotel for a time.

In September, 1881, Mr. Maddox went to Mariposa, where he found work at the printer's trade on the *Gazette*, and the following year, in San Francisco, he worked on the *Chronicle*. Giving up work on the latter paper in October, 1882, he returned to Mariposa and was employed on the *Herald* until he purchased the paper later in the same year. After continuing the publication of the *Herald* for four years he sold it in 1886 and the same year came to Tulare county, with the intention of purchasing the *Tulare Register*. Being

unable to carry out this plan at that time he returned to San Francisco and resumed work at the printer's trade. This was for a short time only, however, for on October 18, 1886, he was appointed deputy clerk of the superior court and thereafter gave his whole time and attention to the duties and obligations which thus devolved upon him.

A hope which Mr. Maddox had long cherished was realized when, on Thanksgiving Day, 1890, he became the owner and proprietor of the *Visalia Times*. For two years he ran the paper as a weekly, but on February 22, 1892, the paper became a daily, and as the *Visalia Daily Times* it has ever since been published under his able management. The management of his newspaper has not absorbed all of his thought and attention, as the following will show: When the Mount Whitney Power Company was organized in 1899 he was elected a director, in 1901 was made secretary of the corporation, and on September 9, 1902, he became business manager of the company, and he still holds this responsible office, having in the meantime relinquished to some extent the active management of his newspaper in order to devote his time to the interests of the power company. In 1894 he was nominated for secretary of state on the Democratic ticket, but was defeated in the election. As secretary of the Democratic state central committee he served two terms, and several times was chairman of the Democratic county central committee. He also served as president of the Visalia board of trade for four years and for some time was a director of that body. At the present time he is chairman of the county state highway commission, a director of the Visalia electric railroad, president of the Encina Fruit Co., president of the Evansdale Fruit Co., and a director of the Producers' Savings Bank. Some years ago Mr. Maddox in company with William H. Hammond opened up and put on the market the Lindsay Heights and Nob Hill Orange colonies, orange land which is now fully developed.

At Mariposa, Cal., March 15, 1883, Mr. Maddox was married to Miss Evalina J. Farnsworth, a native of California. They have five children, Morley M., Hazel C., Ruth E., Dickson F. and Ben M., Jr. Fraternally Mr. Maddox is a Knight Templar and a thirty-second degree Mason; also belonging to the Shrine, the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World.

WILLIAM J. McADAM

The ranch of this enterprising Tulare county farmer is one of the well-known McAdam ranches. It is located five miles west of Tulare and consists of three hundred and twenty acres. Mr. McAdam has one hundred and twenty acres rented out for dairy purposes. The

remainder of the ranch is gradually being devoted to alfalfa and all of it but five acres will be under that grass in a short time.

The principal business of Mr. McAdam has been stock-raising, though he is planning a dairy for the fraction of the ranch which will not be under alfalfa when his scheme is worked out. He now owns forty-five head of dairy cows and twenty-five head of young stock. Formerly he conducted the dairy which he now leases out, and in the days of his management of it he milked forty cows. He kept six hundred hogs, and rented on the outside three hundred acres which he gave over to grain raising and which produced in 1909 and 1910 an average of eighteen sacks to the acre, and in 1911 an average of sixteen sacks to the acre. He is one of the progressive up-to-date farmers, stockraisers and dairymen of Tulare county, and those who know him and the quality of his land look for developments in the future which will be well worth studying.

William J. McAdam was born August 27, 1887, in Pembina county (then in Dakota Territory). Along with his agricultural interests he is now actively interested in the Castle Dome Silver and Lead mines of his father, Robert McAdam, they being located in Yuma county, Arizona.

JAMES M. AKIN

The Akin family is an old English one and the American branch of it was established before 1700. Still other Akins have come over from England since, and it was from pilgrims and pioneers that James M. Akin, who lives near Springville, Cal., was brought down through successive generations to his own. He was born in the state of New York in 1850, his mother dying at his birth, and in 1852 his father came overland to California. The boy was reared as a member of the family of an uncle in his native state, attended school there and did chores on the farm until he was eighteen years old. Then he came to California, where his father had preceded him by about sixteen years. Locating in Sacramento, he remained there about one year, then came to Tulare county. His life here began in 1870 and for two years thereafter his home was in the vicinity of Visalia. In 1880 he settled on his ranch of three hundred and twenty acres three miles from Springville. Early in his career here he engaged in stock-raising, in which he made so much success that he is considered one of the substantial men of his neighborhood. The confidence reposed by his fellow townsmen in his ability and intelligence is shown in the fact that they have conferred upon him for twenty years the honor of the office of school trustee.



J M Atkin

Farming and stock-raising have not commanded all of Mr. Akin's attention. He and his son Claude have twelve mining claims, which will be developed soon, and the latter has copper and zinc mines near Springville. In 1911 Mr. Akin started a nursery known as Akin's nursery, which is devoted to the raising of oranges. He makes a specialty of Washington navels, of which he has twenty thousand two-year-old budded trees. In 1913 thirty thousand more will be planted, the new industry promising to become very important in this section. It was in 1880 that Mr. Akin married Sarah Hudson, who was born in California and who bore him five children, all of whom, except the youngest, are married. Their names are Claude, Lola, Lerta, Leeta and Melva. They are native children of California. All of them were born in Tulare county, and four of them were educated at Springville, and the fifth is being educated there. Their mother died February 2, 1911, and was buried near Springville. It will be interesting to note that Mr. Akin was induced to come to California in quest of health. In order to be in the open air as much as possible he spent his first six years in the state hunting in the woods and on the plains. He relates that within a comparatively short time he and his brother-in-law killed seven bears. He has literally grown up with the country, and being a man of public spirit, has done much for the general welfare. Fraternally he is a member of the Court of Honor.

W. C. GALLAHER

One of the successful and highly esteemed of the younger business men of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., is W. C. Gallaher, wholesale and retail dealer in meats. Born in Missouri, February 11, 1874, Mr. Gallaher came to the vicinity of Hanford when he was about eleven years old and grew to manhood in Kings county. His first business engagement was as an assistant in the meat market of E. Selbah, at Lemoore, where he remained for two and a half years, during which time Mr. Selbah passed away. Mr. Gallaher in partnership with I. Burlington then leased the market from Mrs. Selbah and for a year and a half ran the business, but at the end of that time Mr. Gallaher sold out his interest in the market. During the succeeding three years he owned and operated the old Hanford Stables, one of the oldest livery and feed stables in the town, which was destroyed by fire shortly after he sold it. On September 10, 1900, Mr. Gallaher opened a meat market on the site of the Vogel store on Seventh street, but this establishment was destroyed by fire January 3, 1903, and he later occupied a little shack which proved

most inadequate to his needs. On the first of February, 1905, he moved into his present building on North Irwin street, and here he has since done a general business in meat and kindred merchandise, both retail and wholesale. Mr. Gallaher took into partnership on January 1, 1912, G. T. Lundh, who assumed the duties of inside manager of the retail department, and in connection with this business Mr. Gallaher owns and leases on shares a three hundred and twenty-acre stock ranch five miles south of Hanford. He buys and feeds stock, and thus supplies his own market with the best of beef, also being a heavy shipper to the San Francisco market.

All in all, his business is one of the largest of its kind in the county, and he is entitled to much credit for the fact that he started it on a very small scale and has gradually but steadily built it up to its present fine and promising proportions.

In 1897 Mr. Gallaher married Miss Laura Hess of Tulare. Socially he affiliates with Hanford organizations of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Woodmen of the World, and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to all local bodies of the last mentioned order, and he is also a member of the Portuguese Orders of I. D. E. S. and U. P. E. C. The same enterprise which he has exhibited in his private business he manifests in all that he does for the general welfare, for he has an abiding faith in the future of Hanford and is ready at all times to do anything within his ability to further its development and prosperity.

U. G. KNIGHT

The editor of the *Exeter Sun*, published at Exeter, Tulare county, Cal., was born in Constantine, Mich., in the late '60s, a son of Captain G. W. Knight, of Company E, Third Regiment, Minnesota Infantry, who served nearly five years including all of the period of the Civil war, and won praise for his bravery, especially at the time of the Indian uprising in Minnesota and Dakota in 1863, in the suppression of which he took part with his regiment. Captain Knight passed away in Nebraska in 1898. His widow is living in Los Angeles county, Cal.

The future editor of the *Sun* accompanied his parents to Webster county, Neb., when he was but a few years old, and there grew to manhood and acquired an education, beginning his active career as a school teacher. In 1886 he journeyed to California and spent a year in looking over the state, but went back to the Grasshopper State, where he was married in 1895 to Miss Daisy M. Garner, of

Invale, Neb., who has borne him a son now a student in the Exeter high school.

In his early days, Mr. Knight turned his attention to newspaper work, almost entirely editorial and reportorial, and was from time to time employed on the *Omaha Bee*, the *Omaha World-Herald*, the *Lincoln Journal*, the *Kansas City Star* and several papers in Nebraska. Eventually he came to the conclusion that, to be a competent all-round newspaper man in business for himself, he should understand the types and presses. So, dropping work at far better pay, he took employment in the press rooms of the Hebron (Neb.) *Journal*, and later he held cases on the *Denver Daily News* and other large papers, also working in and out of editorial offices as occasion offered.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Knight turned to the soil as a farmer in Nebraska. A certain amount of success rewarded him for several years, but two or three "lean" years drove him out of the business. In 1900 he passed a civil service examination and was given a responsible position in the semi-secret service of the United States, in which his duties consisted in part in obtaining data and official figures required by the Government. In this work he traveled over most of the Middle and Mountain states, encountering many dangers, but turning in such satisfactory information that he was urged to retain the place. He resigned, however, and went to Alberta, Canada, stayed a year, then came back to California.

Here he again engaged in newspaper work, at first as editor and part owner of the *Oxnard Sun*. Later that paper was merged with the *Oxnard Courier* and he continued as editor, but in 1905 he sold out his interests at Oxnard and became editor and part owner of the *San Pedro News*, a daily. After six months he sold out and was given editorial employment on the *Los Angeles Herald*, which he gave up a few months later to go on the *Los Angeles Examiner*. In January, 1908, he resigned and moved to Exeter to take an interest in the *Sun*, of which he later became sole proprietor and editor.

The *Sun* is a sprightly paper, more newsy than most papers published in small towns, well liked and well patronized. It has practically grown up with the town, is now twelve years old, and as a booster of Exeter and vicinity it has been a factor in the uplift of the city. To considerable extent Mr. Knight is interested in real estate, having sold many of the choicest tracts in the vicinity. He is considered one of the best authorities and judges of land in the county. He is also interested in banking, having a large number of shares in the new Citrus Bank, which was established in Exeter in May, 1912, and was offered a directorship in this institution but did not care to accept. Fraternally, he affiliates with the Masons, Red Men, Modern Woodmen and other secret and beneficial organizations, including the Masonic auxiliary order of the Eastern Star.

He has one of the finest homes in Exeter, a large house and an orange grove inside the city limits. He is a member of the Exeter Board of Trade and in many ways has demonstrated a public spirit that makes him a most helpful citizen with his pen and otherwise.

DR. GEORGE GORDON

The profession of veterinary medicine and surgery has within the last half-century taken a recognized place among the learned professions and in its membership are included many practitioners who have given to its study and research as much time and thought as the average physician. The veterinary colleges are well equipped and their courses of study are very thorough, enabling their students to become most efficient in their branch of treatment. One of the most proficient and popular veterinarians in central California is Dr. George Gordon, whose establishment at the end of South Douty street, Hanford, is one of the places of interest of that town.

Dr. Gordon was born in Scotland, January 4, 1870, and was there reared to manhood. His earlier education was obtained in public schools in Banffshire and in Dundee, and later he took a course at the London Polytechnic, where he gave two years to the preparation for his professional education, which was finished in the Veterinary College of San Francisco, except for six months of experience at the Chicago stockyards, where he did post mortem work. His diploma, given him in San Francisco, bears date 1904. The first fifteen months of his professional experience were spent at Lemoore, whence he came to Hanford to establish his veterinary hospital, which has stalls for the accommodation of twenty horses. The hospital and grounds are located at the south end of South Douty street and occupy five acres. It is fully equipped with chemical and microscopical laboratories. There is also a dental department in connection, with a complement of dental and surgical instruments, and he is thus enabled to give every branch of the veterinary profession the best possible service. In San Francisco, before he entered the veterinary college, he conducted a dog hospital and became well known as a canine expert, and he also makes the treatment of diseases of the dog a feature of his practice here. In February, 1910, he was appointed livestock inspector for Kings county and in April following was made a state dairy inspector. He finds time from his professional duties to affiliate with various fraternal bodies, including the Royal Order of Scottish Clans, Lemoore lodge and Hanford chapter, No. 74, R.A.M., the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World.

The able assistant of Dr. George Gordon is W. D. Gordon, who



George Gordon

has been identified with his enterprise since 1906 and is now taking the course at the San Francisco Veterinary College. He will graduate with the class of 1913, after which he will enter actively upon the practice of veterinary medicine and surgery.

Dr. George Gordon left Scotland in 1888, when he was eighteen years old, and has since returned to his native land four times. His travels in South America have been extensive and he passed two years in the West Indies as a representative of the International Phosphate company, and was for a time located on Conmitable island, off the northeast coast of French Guiana, near the city of Cayenne. While in South America he became assistant superintendent of the aforesaid International Phosphate company, and thus had a most valuable and interesting experience in a line only indirectly connected with his profession, but one of great importance in furthering production and commerce.

J. W. B. RICE

As farmer, cattleman and orange grower, J. W. B. Rice, whose activities center in the vicinity of Lemon Cove, has become well known throughout Tulare county. He is a native of Iowa, born December 30, 1860, who lived in his native state until he was eighteen years of age. At that time he set out to make his own way in the world, and Nebraska was the scene of his earlier independent labors. He had already had some experience as game collector for Central Park in New York City. After reaching Nebraska he found employment until in the fall of 1882, when he went to Minnesota and thence back to Iowa. There he was employed three years collecting game for said Central Park, among them the Whooping Crane or American Ostrich which were worth about \$30 apiece. In capturing these birds he had many enjoyable and interesting experiences and some that were more unpleasant at the time than they are as reminiscences of the past. In April, 1886, he came to California, and in 1889 he married Miss Cora Marks, a native of Iowa, who bore him several children: Charles James and Mary Clementine (twins); Pearl, aged nineteen; Roy M., aged seventeen; Villa Frankie, Elmo D., Inez, Emma, Alice, Fern and Robert. Villa passed away, having been drowned when eighteen months old. Those of the younger children who are of the school age are acquiring education. Mr. Rice's father, James Nicholas Rice, a native of Indiana, and his good wife are still living in Cherokee county, Iowa. Mrs. Rice's parents descended from German ancestors; her father is dead, but her mother survives.

A year after he came to California, Mr. Rice, who had already

begun in the cattle business, bought forty acres of land. He soon homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres and acquired another one hundred and sixty acres by purchase. Securing other tracts subsequently, he came in time to own six hundred acres. He has about twenty acres of oranges but devotes much of his attention to cattle. When he came to the county, a little more than a quarter of a century ago, there was no business but cattle raising and the inhabitants were all cattle men or cattlemen's wives and children. In the development that has intervened he has had his full part, for he is public-spiritedly devoted to all affairs of the community. Politically he is a Socialist.

Mr. Rice is the pioneer orange grower of Tulare county. He took the first prize at the Citrus Fair at Fresno before the orange business of Tulare county had started, and in 1894 exhibited some beautiful oranges at the Palace Hotel at Visalia, which were the first oranges grown from budded trees to secure a premium in Tulare county. Mr. Rice is the manager of the Marx and Rice Co., growers and shippers of oranges, pomelos, limes and lemons; also nursery stock.

IVAN C. BURKE, D. D. S.

The profession of dentistry approaches nearer and nearer to the realm of exact science with each passing decade and only those of its devotees who keep informed of the details of its progress win permanent success. One of the up-to-date doctors of dental surgery of central California is Ivan C. Burke, of Hanford, Kings county. Dr. Burke is a progressive son of a progressive state, having been born in Crawford county, Kans., September 21, 1885. When he was about five years old he was taken to Walla Walla, Wash., in the public schools of which city he received his practical English education. Desiring to follow a professional career, in 1904, when about nineteen years old, he entered the dental department of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco, from which he was duly graduated with the D. D. S. degree in June, 1907, immediately after which Dr. Burke began the practice of his profession in Seattle, Wash. In 1908 he came to Hanford and opened an office in the First National Bank building where he has since devoted himself with much success to the general practice of his profession, keeping abreast of the times, employing the best facilities in the way of instruments and appliances, and his work is of a class well calculated to give permanent satisfaction.

As he has prospered in his profession Dr. Burke has from time

to time made judicious investments in real estate. Besides some good town property, his holdings include one hundred and sixty acres near Walla Walla, Wash., which under the superintendency of a hired farmer is producing good alfalfa in paying quantities. At Hanford Dr. Burke is popular in all circles, political, professional, social and fraternal, and his public spirit has brought him high esteem as a citizen. He is a member of the Independent Order of Red Men and is devoted heart and soul to all of the interests of that beneficent order. His marriage in 1909 united him with Miss Vera A. Donaldson, of Kansas, a charming woman of many accomplishments, who is bravely aiding him in his struggle for professional and social advancement.

G. X. WENDLING

A native of New York, G. X. Wendling came to California in January, 1888, and was in the employ of the Valley Lumber Company of Fresno until November 3, 1889, when he located at Hanford. Probably no man did more than he to promote the establishment of Kings county in 1893. To that end he labored indefatigably and with great efficiency for months, appearing so often at Sacramento as sponsor for the proposed organization that he came to be known as the "Father of Kings County." When he came to the town he engaged in the lumber business on his own account and he was one of Hanford's foremost citizens until February 21, 1897, when he removed to San Francisco, where he has large and varied interests. He organized in that city the California Pine Box and Lumber Co., which turns out one hundred and sixty million feet of box material annually. He organized also the Weed Lumber Company, of Weed, Cal., the productiveness of which he has seen increased from eight million feet of lumber in its first year to seventy-five million feet at the present time. An idea of the extent of his activities may be gleaned from the following list, showing his connection with various enterprises. He is a director in the Anglo & London-Paris National Bank of San Francisco and president of the Napa Lumber Company, the Stanislaus Lumber Company, the Big Basin Lumber Company, vice-president of the Klamath Development Company of Klamath Falls, Ore., and president of the Wendling-Johnson Lumber Company, the California Pine Box Lumber Company, the Wendling Lumber Company, the Wendling-Nathan Lumber Company, the Weed Lumber Company and the First National Bank of Weed.

TULARE HOME TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

Those admirable public utilities of Tulare, its telephone and telegraph service, are controlled in part by the corporation named above, which is officered as follows: G. C. Harris, president; Dr. T. D. Blodgett, vice-president; Sol A. Rosenthal, secretary and treasurer; G. C. Harris, S. B. Anderson, N. G. Cottle, Dr. T. D. Blodgett and Sol A. Rosenthal, directors. This company took over the plant of the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph Company, and transformed its Tulare business into that of a local corporation. Nearly all the stockholders are men of Tulare and vicinity, and the people of the town take much interest in the company's success and advancement. The Home company has put in two miles of cable and practically rebuilt the line, discarding everything antiquated in the operating system for something up to date and thoroughly efficient. This has been done regardless of cost and with a view single to the very best service, a fact which the business community fully appreciates. The present system, known as the common battery system, is so satisfactory that the number of the company's patrons has been increased three hundred in the last three years. The president of the new company was its founder and the chief promoter of the project along local lines. A second company known as the Lindsay Home Telephone and Telegraph company, was subsequently organized, which company was incorporated with aims and conditions similar to those of the Tulare City company, and the plant was bought from private parties in Lindsay. Plans are now being perfected to improve it and put the system on a plane with that of the Tulare City company. Both companies make connections with the long distance lines of the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph company.

The president of this company, Gurdon C. Harris, a man of long and informing experience in the telephone business, was long connected with the business of the Bell Telephone company in Minnesota, where he was born and passed the earlier years of his life. He came to California in March, 1905, still in the service of the Bell company, for a time as division wire chief, the duties of which position took him to practically every part of the state, and for two years his headquarters were at Sacramento. There he became a member of the Sacramento lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and since he came to Tulare he has been made a Mason in Tulare City Lodge No. 326, F. & A. M. In a position in which he is in constant touch with the people of his community, in a social as well as in a business way, he is commending himself to all with whom he has communication as a courteous and obliging semi-public official who has the interest of the patrons of his company and of the people at large close to his heart and desires to render to everyone every due consideration or concession.



Orlando Moore

Muriel L. Moore

ORLANDO MOORE

Visalia has no more prominent citizen along industrial and agricultural lines than Orlando Moore. The son of Henry C. and Amelia (Renalds) Moore, he was born at Venice Hill, Tulare county, Cal., March 30, 1869. His father and mother were natives respectively of Missouri and Iowa.

Henry C. Moore came to California in the early '60s, taught school in Tulare county and raised sheep, and later he operated one of the pioneer sawmills in the mountains which was one of the first in this vicinity, but at length he returned to Missouri. Eight years later he came back to California with a carload of cattle and went into the cattle business on a section in the swamp lands of Tulare county with R. E. Hyde as a partner. Eventually, however, he sold out his interest to Mr. Hyde and went to Puget Sound, where he farmed and operated a saw and shingle mill seven years. He came again to Tulare county in 1900 and has since lived there.

In some of the ventures mentioned above, Orlando Moore was his father's helper and after a time he engaged extensively in the cultivation of watermelons, in one season he receiving \$2700 from the sale of melons; at the Fourth of July celebration at Visalia in 1903 he had seventeen horses and five wagons selling melons through the town, he and his brother Edward making a fine display of his product with five four-horse teams. Mr. Moore was the pioneer orange grower at Venice Cove. Buying twenty acres there, he raised the trees from seeds, brought fourteen acres of the fruit to bearing and sold out for \$14,500. The nursery business also commanded the attention of Mr. Moore and his brother for a while. In 1910 he sold out his Venice Cove property and bought twenty acres near the west city limits of Visalia, which he has improved and put on the market in half-acre and quarter-acre lots. He owns also a mountain ranch of one hundred and sixty acres and one hundred and sixty acres near Spa on the Santa Fe, five miles northeast of Alpaugh. One of his possessions is a fine auto-truck with a capacity of fifty people, and with which he made an experimental run to San Francisco with fruit that he took through without bruising or otherwise injuring it. He contemplates a like trip with his auto-truck to Portland, Ore., with fruit from Tulare county, and it will doubtless attract much attention to this part of the state. The raising of tomatoes has been another experiment of Mr. Moore's which has proved noteworthy. He set half an acre to fifteen hundred vines, and sold his product as high as ten cents a pound; for tomatoes grown on five acres in a single season he received \$1750.

Mr. Moore's latest venture has been in the field of invention. In the year 1912 he took out a patent upon a detachable tread for

any sized double-tired auto-truck. This invention enables the truck to be changed into a tractor for field and farm purposes, and it bids fair to become an extremely useful and popular devise. Its advantages may be listed as follows: Protection to the rubber tire; increase of tractile power so that it can be used in a field for the purposes of plowing or discing and seeding summer fallowed or loose sandy land; prevention of slipping upon a muddy or sandy road; great strength and durability; inexpensive and capable of lasting a lifetime; and easily and quickly adjusted.

Socially Mr. Moore is identified with the Fraternal Brotherhood. He and Mrs. Moore are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Visalia. He married, in 1903, Muriel Witherell, a native of Knoxville, Ill., and they have three children, Ramon, Ralph Spencer and Kathryn Moore.

GEORGE W. BAUMANN

In Iowa George W. Baumann lived until he was five years old, and after that he lived in Kansas until 1878, when he came to Visalia, Cal. He was born in the Hawkeye State March 10, 1859. February 9, 1890, he married Miss Martha A. Lathrop, daughter of Ezra Lathrop, a California pioneer, and she bore him two sons, Grover Cleveland and Ezra Gottfried Baumann. A separate biographical sketch of Ezra Lathrop appears elsewhere in these pages.

Soon after Mr. Baumann located at Visalia he began farming, but three years later returned to the East, to come back a few months later bringing his parents. The family located near Farmersville, where he operated rented land. Soon after his marriage he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres near Lindsay, where Mr. and Mrs. Baumann settled, and at the same time engaged in the stock-raising business in the mountains. Later on he bought three hundred and twenty acres at Poplar, where they engaged in running a good-sized dairy in connection with the farming and stock business. In 1906 he rented his farm and moved to Lindsay, whence in the following year he moved to Tulare, which was his home as long as he lived. His death occurred January 16, 1909. A man of much public spirit, he was a helpful friend to every good movement for the benefit of the community. Fraternally he affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Ancient Order of United Workmen through their local organizations in Tulare.

Mrs. Baumann is identified with the order of Royal Neighbors, is a stockholder in the Tulare National Bank and is extensively engaged in stockraising on twenty-two hundred acres of land, carrying

an average of three hundred to four hundred head of stock. She was one of the pioneers of Tulare City, coming here with her parents before either a schoolhouse or a church had been erected here, and later for eleven years she taught in the public schools of Tulare county and city. She has a distinct recollection of the digging of the first grave, so far as the white population is concerned, at Tulare, when her schoolteacher's wife, Mrs. Haslip, was buried, she being the first white person who was laid to rest in the city of Tulare. She remembers when religious meetings were held in the waiting room of the depot and has a vivid recollection of a Christmas tree, gifts from which were distributed in that same room. A woman of forceful character and of winning personality, she does much good and has many friends.

ROBERT C. CLARKE

A native Canadian, Robert C. Clarke, of Tulare, Tulare county, Cal., was born in New Brunswick, in quaint old St. John, December 29, 1829, and when this is written is in his eighty-fourth year. He was educated in his native town and there learned the carpenter's trade. In 1852 he boarded the ship Java, an old whaler, bound for San Francisco by way of Cape Horn, under an arrangement permitting him to earn his passage. Richly he earned the money he might have saved in that way—if he had had it. At Valparaiso he went ashore when the cargo, consisting of building materials, was sold, to be delivered at Caldera. Finding employment at his trade in this latter Chilean port, he earned enough money to pay his fare from there to his objective point, but it took him about half a year to do it under labor conditions prevailing there at the time; he arrived at San Francisco in the fall of that year and went almost immediately to the mines.

In the diggings at Sonora, Tuolumne county, he labored a short time with such indifferent success that when he was offered eight dollars a day to work at his trade at Stockton he fairly jumped at a chance to better his condition. Two years he was employed at Stockton, then went to Knight's Ferry, Stanislaus county, and resumed mining and, not altogether expectedly, met with some little success. He constructed an irrigation conduit for running water into his claim, and his crude and primitive ditch was the beginning of the extensive irrigation system now being completed in that section, down through the San Joaquin country. That his part in this great work may have a historical record it should be said that his work on his ditch was begun in the early '50s. Mining some of the time in Ama-

dor county, as well as at Knight's Ferry, he made the latter place his headquarters for ten years. For a time he was in the mercantile business, with James Allen as a partner. Sheep raising on the ranges along the Tuolumne river also commanded his attention temporarily. It was in 1875 that he came to Tulare county and bought one hundred and sixty acres, three miles north of Tipton, where he ranched successfully till 1909, when he retired from active life and came to Tulare City to pass the years of rest that were before him. In the earlier period of his farming he grew grain and alfalfa. Later he ran a dairy and had an annual average of fifty acres of alfalfa. Alfalfa seed also he made a source of revenue. He bred some fine horses, ranging in weight from fourteen hundred to eighteen hundred pounds.

Tulare City Lodge No. 326 includes Mr. Clarke in its membership. He married, in 1887, Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, a native of Pennsylvania, and they have children named Nettie A. and Roberta C. Samuel Sampson, Mrs. Clarke's father, was born in Ireland and eventually made the United States his adopted country. Twice he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, first in 1851. He mined for gold in Tuolumne county and went back to Pennsylvania, whence he had come, in the late '50s. There he spent the declining years of his life and passed to his reward. His wife was, before her marriage, Miss McKewon. In 1859 she and Mrs. Clarke, her only child, came to California by way of the isthmus and established a home in Stanislaus county, where Mrs. Clarke grew to womanhood and was married.

WINFIELD SCOTT BLOYD

In Colchester, McDonough county, Ill., Winfield Scott Boyd, now a prominent business man of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., was born November 18, 1858, son of W. Washington Boyd, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this publication. In 1861 his parents brought him across the plains to California and settled in Tehama county, removing from there to the San Joaquin valley, and in 1871 located in Kings county. Here they made their home until after the Mussel Slough fight, when they turned their faces toward the Northwest and for a year and a half resided in Oregon. Then they returned to California and bought a ranch at Summit Lake, in Fresno county, which they operated two years and sold out, in 1892 coming to Grangeville, Kings county, where they began raising fruit.

In 1905 Mr. Boyd came from the ranch to Hanford, and he has since made his home in that city. For three years he bought and sold

hay and he and his brother Levi are now contractors of cement work, doing an increasing volume of business, which requires the investment of considerable capital and the employment from time to time of a number of skilled workmen. In different parts of the city are to be seen evidences of their handicraft and enterprise.

Mr. Boyd affiliates with the Fraternal Aid and the Woodmen of the World. As a citizen he is public-spirited and helpful to all the interests of the community and in political principle is Republican. In 1881 he married Miss Louisa Samuels, a native of California, who died in 1900. In 1902 he married Mrs. E. Eddy. He has two daughters, Mrs. John Bassett and Miss Ruby Boyd.

WILLIAM HENRY THAYER

That old and reliable dairyman, William Henry Thayer, of Corcoran, Kings county, Cal., is a native of Dunkirk, Chantauqua county, N. Y., and was born November 15, 1834. He was brought up to farming and to country work of various kinds and educated in such public schools as were available to him in his childhood and boyhood. He came to California in 1863, and engaged in farming and the breeding of horses, cattle and hogs, a business which he has since made his life work. From time to time as his means has permitted he has bought tracts of land, his first venture in the acquirement of land in Kings county being in 1881, when he took up three hundred and twenty acres in the Dallas district, as swamp and overflow lands, and this he has successfully reclaimed. In the dyking of this land Mr. Thayer found the skeletons of several human beings, evidently the remains of deceased warriors who had engaged the Mexicans. On Mill creek, in Tulare county, he also acquired a hundred and sixty acres, which he has deeded to his children, and later in 1900 he bought the hundred and sixty acre tract on which he now lives, situated one mile east of Corcoran. He operates three hundred and twenty acres which is included in his dairy plant. His homestead is a fine large property, with good buildings of all kinds, including a residence which has many modern improvements. His cattle are of good breeds, as fine specimens as can be produced, and he has become known in his market for the excellence and purity of his products, which find ready sale wherever they have been introduced.

By his marriage, which was celebrated April 18, 1877, Mr. Thayer identified his fortunes with those of Miss Sarah M. Austin, who was born at Sacramento, Cal., March 27, 1863. Mrs. Thayer has borne her husband the following children, who will be found mentioned here in the order of their nativity: Arthur Y., Enos E., Lillie, Henry, Jennie, Cora, Clarence, Mabel and Lester.

Of progressive ideas and patriotic impulses, Mr. Thayer is a model citizen, who performs his whole duty as such in society and at the polls. While he is not an active politician in the ordinary sense of the phrase, he takes a lively and helpful interest in all questions of public policy and has never been known to withhold his encouragement from any measure which in his opinion has promised to bring better things to the lives of any considerable number of his fellow citizens.

CHARLES W. TOMPKINS

As secretary and treasurer of the Tulare County Beekeepers' Association, Charles W. Tompkins is most prominent in that industry. He is the son of Caleb and Lavonia (Saxby) Tompkins. His father was born in Canada, his mother in Wisconsin; the former died September 11, 1908, the latter August 19, 1879. Caleb Tompkins came to California and settled at Tulare in 1882 and found work at his trade, which was that of the carpenter, and was elected constable and served for some eight years as a night watchman. He was a man of great decision of character, brave to a fault, and was very efficient as a peace officer. Following are the names of his children who survive at this time: Charles W., who is mentioned below; Benjamin W., who married Gussie Woodard and has four children living at Corte Madera, Marin county, Cal.; Ida, who married Jesse Halla and has two children; and Fred, who married Margaret Frary and has two children.

Charles W. Tompkins was born at Iowa Falls, Hardin county, Ia., February 14, 1868. A quarter part of his boyhood was spent at Atchison, Kan., and he acquired a practical knowledge of the carpenter's trade in Tulare and was for seven years a railroad carpenter in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, in charge of a crew of men who worked wherever their services were required along the road from Mendota to Los Angeles, also on the Santa Barbara branch from Sangus to Santa Barbara. He assisted in the construction of many residences at and near Tulare, among them those of B. A. Farmer, A. E. Miot, Mr. Wheeler, William Muller, Mrs. Thomas Thompson, James Halanan and C. S. Nicewonger. He helped also to build the Crow block and other business buildings. His specialty in all this work was in putting in fine interior finish, in which he is recognized as an expert.

In 1894 Mr. Tompkins engaged in the bee business and soon became an expert apiarist. He took swarms of bees from trees and in one instance cut down thirty trees to obtain one swarm. All his spare time he devoted to the study of books and journals giving instruction in different phases of bee culture. In time he had acquired three

hundred and fifty swarms of bees and he is the owner of many at the present time. His apiaries, each consisting of sixty hives, are distributed in different favorable sections of the county and are moved from place to place, according to season. He is at present secretary and treasurer of the Tulare County Beekeepers' Association. In the spring of the year he places his bees over near the mountains, in the orange section, in order that they may gather honey from the orange blossoms, the honey thus produced being sweet, clear and pure and of an extra quality. In this section of Tulare county the bee business is rapidly growing; eleven carloads of honey were shipped from Tulare in 1911 and six carloads in 1912, which was a rather unfavorable season on account of the prevailing drought. In this industry Mr. Tompkins is one of the leaders. He possesses public spirit to such a degree that he is a most useful citizen, always to be depended upon in emergencies calling for activity in behalf of the general good. He is identified with Tulare City lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and with the local organization of the Independent Order of Foresters.

In 1899 Mr. Tompkins married Nina L. Reams, a native of Tennessee, and she has borne him sons named Charles A. and Winfred W.

FRANK POWELL

The people of Lemoore have many times been congratulated on having such a genial and efficient postmaster as Frank Powell, who has held the office continuously since his first appointment by President Harrison. Mr. Powell is a native of Sacramento, Cal., born March 22, 1867, a son of F. M. Powell. He was brought up at Brighton, near Sacramento, and came to the vicinity of Lemoore with his parents in 1873, when he was about six years old. The elder Powell turned his attention to farming and the boy became a student in the Lemoore public school and later was graduated from the high school at Tulare.

The first postal work done by Mr. Powell was in the Tulare postoffice, where he was for two years a deputy under Postmaster M. D. Witt. Usually postmasters are appointed chiefly for political reasons, but Mr. Powell was called to the postmastership of Lemoore because he was experienced in the work that the postoffice demanded and could adapt himself to the situation more easily and become an efficient postmaster with greater facility than any other man in town. He was first appointed under the Harrison administration and he has since been five times reappointed. His management of the office has put it on a business plane considerably higher than that usually occupied by postoffices of towns of about the population

of Lemoore. So far as he has been able he has brought the establishment to a system resembling in some ways that which obtains in cities of considerable importance.

Eight miles from Lemoore, in the midst of the Empire district, is a fine ranch owned by Mr. Powell, which he devotes to the cultivation of alfalfa and the raising of fine hogs. Politically he is a Republican and socially he is a Woodman of the World. As a citizen his public spirit is equal to all demands which tend toward municipal welfare. He married, in 1898, Miss Belle Adams of Kings county, and they have a daughter whom they have named Ella.

ARTHUR SWALL

A prominent citizen of Tulare county, genial and whole-souled, who has since 1910 been manager of the Newman ranch, which is located eleven miles south of the city mentioned, is Arthur Swall. This property, which consists of thirty-four hundred acres, was bought in 1909 by J. B. Newman of Santa Monica, Cal. The principal business of the ranch is dairying and stock-raising; one hundred and twenty cows are milked, and about two hundred and fifty hogs are fed. One hundred and fifty acres of the ranch are devoted to alfalfa and before the expiration of two years seven hundred acres will be given over to that crop. Three hundred acres are farmed to grain and five hundred head of cattle are kept. There are on the ranch two thirty-horse power motors to provide water, one two-horse power and one one-horse power motor to operate cream separators, and other small motors for pumping water for domestic use and for the cold storage plant, ice being manufactured on the place. The ranch is irrigated from Tule river by an eight-mile ditch, a motor being used to raise water thirty-five feet from wells. The buildings on the property are modern, including two barns for sixty-two cows and one large horse stable. The bunk-house for the men cost \$3000 and the concrete cream house \$1800, and the buildings to house machinery and the sheds to protect vehicles are ample and up-to-date. One of the most notable of the buildings is the manager's residence, which is outfitted with all modern improvements. The entire place is lighted by electricity. Twelve to fifteen men and thirty-two horses are kept busy on the ranch the year round. The cream from the dairy is sent to a creamery.

The nucleus of this ranch was one hundred and sixty acres of land homesteaded by William Swall, father of Arthur. The latter was born on the place and grew to manhood on his father's homestead north of Tulare. From his boyhood he had been familiar



Arthur Swall.

with all the details of ranch life and enterprise, his first venture being in partnership with his father in the rental for a year of orchard land near Visalia. Then he bought forty acres four miles southwest of that city, on which he began farming and set out twenty acres of peach trees and devoted ten acres to alfalfa, giving the rest of the place over to pasturage. He made many improvements on the ranch and in 1910 leased it to his brother-in-law on shares, in order to accept his present position with Mr. Newman. He is a stockholder in the Rochdale store at Tulare and Mr. Newman is a stockholder in the Dairyman's Co-operative creamery, the headquarters of which is in that city.

In 1899 Mr. Swall married Miss Mand Gum, of Hanford, Cal., and they have three children: Victor, at this time (1913), eleven years old; Harold, five years old; and Richard, an infant. Fraternally Mr. Swall affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Tulare, being identified with lodge, encampment and the auxiliary organization of Rebekahs, and he also holds membership in a local division of the Fraternal Brotherhood. As a citizen he is public-spirited to a degree that makes him helpful to all local interests.

HUGH L. HAMILTON

One of the sturdy characters in the business life of Exeter is Hugh L. Hamilton, a blacksmith there. Born in 1861, in Mississippi county, Ark., he was a son of Andrew Hamilton, a native of Ireland. His mother died when he was three years old and he was only in his eighth year when his father passed away. About a year after his second bereavement, he went with his grandfather and the latter's family to Missouri, where he remained three years. In 1872 he was brought to Tulare county, Cal., and his education, begun in Missouri, was continued in the public schools here. He was taken into the family of his uncle, Hugh Hamilton, for whom he was named. In his early life he worked at stock-raising and later for a considerable time gave his attention to both that and grain farming, meanwhile learning the blacksmith's trade and devoting himself to it as occasion offered. Eventually he turned his attention entirely to blacksmithing, and his shop in Exeter is one of the leading concerns of its kind in that part of the county.

When Mr. Hamilton came to Tulare county there were few settlers in the vicinity of Exeter and the whole country round about was new and undeveloped. Stock-raising and grain-growing were the principal interests for many years. His uncle had one of the big stock ranches of the time and locality, and he gave his nephew a fair start in life.

At one time Mr. Hamilton owned five hundred and ninety acres of land and did well as a farmer, but his inclination made him a follower of his chosen trade.

In 1884 Mr. Hamilton united his fortunes with those of Miss Mildred Ferril, a native of Missouri, who bore him six children, five of whom are living. She died in 1895, and in 1897 he married Ida May Butts, a native of California. By his second marriage he has had two children, one of whom is deceased. The other, Harvey W. Hamilton, is a student in the Exeter high school. In his political affiliations Mr. Hamilton is a Democrat. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World and is a loyal citizen, for no worthy interest of the community is without his encouragement.

LIONEL W. MARSHALL

Another Iowan who is succeeding in Tulare county, Cal., is Lionel W. Marshall, of Tulare. Mr. Marshall was born in Marshall county, in the central part of Iowa, January 10, 1857. When he was fifteen years old he was taken to Yankton, S. Dak., by his parents, who maintained the family home there two years, then, in 1874, came to California, locating in Los Angeles. The elder Marshall was a builder, and the son gained a practical knowledge of the carpenter's trade under his instruction. He, in an earlier day, had acquired similar experience in England, where he first saw the light of day. From Los Angeles father and son went to Pomona, where they erected the first building in the town, which, as it happened, was a hotel. They were kept busy there, contracting and building, three years, then went back to Los Angeles. Soon Lionel W. Marshall built homes in Tulare for Thomas H. Thompson and Banker Lathrop. He remained in the town during the period 1907-08 and moved to Lindsay, where he built himself a fine home and fine residences for James Reynolds, Edward Halleck, John Walker and Messrs. Metcalf and Evans. He also remodeled the building of the National Bank of Lindsay, and while he was operating there went over to Visalia and built residences for A. W. Wing and James Richardson. He took up his residence in Tulare in September, 1911, and soon afterward erected the H. A. Charters home in that city. Even the most fleeting inspection of the structures he has erected conveys an idea of their artistic design, workmanlike construction and solid permanency. They are ornaments to the towns in which they stand and the best possible advertisement of his skill and ability. Some of his recent architectural achievements are in evidence and he has in hand

contracts for execution in the near future which cannot but add to his laurels.

In 1906 Mr. Marshall married Miss Elizabeth Parker, a daughter of Andrew Parker, a pioneer at Monrovia. He is a member of the Visalia body of the order of Moose. In the affairs of the community he is interested and helpful.

GIDEON LORENDO

In the province of Quebec, Canada, forty-nine miles west of the city of the same name, Gideon Lorendo was born, September 17, 1846, a son of Cyril and Leoadie (Delcours) Lorendo, natives of Canada. His father, who was a farmer, held the office of sheriff more than forty years. When Gideon left his native province he went to Lowell, Mass., and found employment in a cotton mill. Later he worked in a sawmill, then for five years he traveled throughout New England, then went west by way of the Great Lakes and in 1869 stopped at Duluth, Minn. There were at that time only five cabins in the place and they were occupied by half-breed Indians. He found there employment connected with lumbering, but soon went back to the province of Quebec where he married Jane L. Bounty, a native of Vermont, who became the mother of his eight children: Minnie, Napoleon, Ellen, Philip, Louisa, Alfred, Albert and Josephine. His second marriage was to Elizabeth Ruch, a native of Oregon. Their children are named William, Peter and Agnes. Agnes is attending school at Orosi. Napoleon married Jessie Woods, and resides in Oakland, Cal., and has two children. Ellen married John Fisher of Mariposa county, Cal., and has five daughters. Philip married Lulu Beggs; their home is in Mono county and they have two children. Alfred married Ethel Griggs and they live at San Francisco. Albert, who is an engineer on the railroad belonging to the mill company at Sugarpine, Cal., married Pearl Uslis and they have a son and a daughter. Josephine married Ira Thomas; they live at Hanford and have two children. Mr. Lorendo has thirteen grandchildren.

From Windsor, Canada, across the river from Detroit, Mr. Lorendo came to California in 1877. In 1881, because of the dry season, he sold one hundred and sixty acres of land for \$500. Soon after, he bought another one hundred and sixty acres at Sand Creek Gap for \$2.50 an acre and in 1888 sold it for \$24 an acre and went to Oregon and lived in Josephine county, that state, for six years, farming for a time, then mining for gold. As he was spending more money than he was getting out of the ground, he disposed of his holdings in Oregon and sold a place near Chamberlain, S. Dak., which he had owned for

some time, for \$25, and went to British Columbia and kept a tavern on the Caribou road until he had taken in from lodgers enough to give him another start. Then he came back to Orosi and sent for his wife. He then had but \$2.50 to his name and faced the certainty of having to pay out the first \$200 that he could earn over and above a bare living. But he struggled manfully for a foothold, and in 1901 bought twenty acres of land at \$25 an acre. This he has improved with a house, a barn and other buildings. He has nine and a half acres in Malaga grapes, eight acres in peaches and two acres in alfalfa. He has paid for his land and improvements, has plenty of stock for home use, and is prospering in the regular California way. Politically he is a Socialist and he and the other members of his family are members of the Catholic church, in which they were all born and brought up.

Before settling down in Tulare county Mr. Lorendo travelled through twenty-seven states, trying to find the best location possible, and is very much pleased with California. He was twenty-six miles from their postoffice at Visalia when he first settled here.

T. W. KYLE

To California, Indiana has given many citizens who have become prominent in one relation or another. The ranks of the builders of different classes include many of them. Of the builders of Tulare county few are more deservedly popular than the son of the Hoosier State whose name is above. It was in Jennings county that Mr. Kyle was born, 1853. He came to California first in 1879, remained a year and went to Texas, where he worked as a brick mason. In 1889 he came back, and settling in Tulare, began there a successful career as a brick contractor and builder. In nearly all parts of the county may be seen fine brick structures which are monuments to his skill and enterprise, and among them the following are conspicuous: At Tulare—the I. H. Ham block, the W. Clough block, the new high school building, the Carnegie Library building, the city hall; at Visalia—the George Ballou block, the county jail, the Herroll block, the Delta building, the Lucier block, the Baptist church; at Porterville—the Sarton block, the flour mill, the Henry Traga building, the remodeled First National Bank building; at Hanford—the Biddle Bank building; at Tipton—a hotel; at Traver—a hotel; at Dinuba—the Hayden & Boone block; and many other lesser buildings for different purposes. He has built also some fine blocks in Bakersfield, Kern county.

As he becomes better and more widely known his business increases rapidly. It is already one of the most considerable of its class in this part of the state and bids fair within the next few years





Luther C. Hawley

to outrank all competitors. His business methods are such as to commend him to all requiring such service as he is so well able to render; he has ample capital and backing and may be depended on faithfully to carry out any contract he may make, however large or difficult.

In 1891 Mr. Kyle married Miss Florence Owens, a native of Alabama, and she has borne him children whom they have named Alvin J., Forrest and Ruth.

LUTHER C. HAWLEY

In Trumbull county, Ohio, within the Western Reserve, Luther C. Hawley was born May 4, 1829, and when he was six years old his father, who was a farmer, removed to Bond county, Illinois, where the boy gained some schooling and a knowledge of farming. In 1851, when he was twenty-two years old, he with two partners traveled with a four horse team to Oregon City, Ore., being five months on the road. He went to Salem, Ore., and from there to Eugene, Lane county, where he was among the first settlers, and shortly after became first clerk of that county. In 1855 he helped to organize and enlisted in the Mounted Volunteers and was made first lieutenant, serving as such in the Indian service from October to January. His term having expired he with others organized another company and he was appointed chief of the staff, with rank of major, under General Lamerick. He served as such until the war was over and later was a clerk in the Governor's office at Salem and helped in the settlement of local war and Indian affairs until 1857. Desiring to again see his mother he returned east by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and the Panama railroad was the first railroad he had ever seen. Remaining in Illinois until in the spring of 1859, he then started across the plains to Colorado, with a determination to reach Pike's Peak. He was captain of a train of fifty-three wagons, and his party located on the present site of Denver, where there was then but one house, this being a double log cabin. He did placer mining in Russell's Gulch, then returned East with a mule team to Illinois. He practiced law at Greenville, Bond county, Ill., until in 1862, when he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirtieth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served as sergeant major until the end of the war, participating in the siege of Vicksburg forty-seven days, also in the fighting at Champion Hill and Fort Gibson. He remained at Vicksburg, in McPherson's command, until February, 1864, and fought under that general at Tombigbee river and at Jackson, Miss. In June he marched toward Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge and Chickamauga, and after

participating in the fighting at those points went to Atlanta, where General McPherson was killed. Mr. Hawley was then acting as assistant adjutant-general; after the death of General McPherson he was transferred to General Canby's headquarters at New Orleans, ranking as captain. He was present at the capture of Mobile, whence he returned to New Orleans, and remained there until the close of the war, being mustered out November, 1865.

After the war Mr. Hawley went back to Illinois and resumed the practice of law at Vandalia, where he married and lived until 1870, when he came to California, bringing his family with him. He lived in the Sacramento valley, raising wheat until 1874, then came to Tulare county. The country round about was a naked plain and one could scarcely see a house in half a day of fast riding. Mr. Hawley bought a quarter-section of railroad land near the present site of Hanford on the south, and for a time he prospered with wheat and stock, later putting his land into fruit trees. He lived on his place until 1905, when he rented it and bought a residence in Hanford, and since his removal to the city he has sold the ranch. He was a participant in the Mussel Slough tragedy and was a member of a committee sent to San Francisco to deal with the railroad company. He and his associates were put in prison there but were released the next day. In the later development of this section he has been active in the promotion of irrigation, and in all relations with his fellow citizens has been helpfully public spirited. He keeps alive memories of 1861-65 by membership with McPherson Post, G. A. R., of Hanford.

In 1865 Mr. Hawley married Alice M. Stevenson, a native of Kentucky. Two of their eight children were born in Illinois, the others being natives of California. Their son Charles Richard became a lawyer, but has passed away. Samuel Vincent is a farmer located a mile and a half from Hanford. Clarence E. is a rig-builder in the oil fields at Maricopa, Cal. Lulu J. is the wife of John H. Van Vlear, of Hanford. Ralph S., of Berkeley, is a civil engineer. Edgar L. is deceased. Victor C. and Claude were twins. Victor is a plumber at Hanford; Claude is deceased. Mrs. Hawley passed away in 1902, aged sixty-two years.

BYRON O. LOVELACE

The public officials of a county furnish to the outside world the best expression of the character of its people and indicate not only its present state of development, but also its trend and its aspirations. Tried by this standard, Tulare county commands the respect and confidence of all inquirers by reason of the representative char-

acter of the men who are filling its official positions, and among them none is worthy of higher respect for capacity and devotion to the interests confided to his charge than Byron O. Lovelace, who has ably and honorably filled the office of county surveyor since January 1, 1911.

A son of Joseph W. and Helen (Schlichting) Lovelace, Byron O. Lovelace was born in Texas in 1883. He was educated in the public school at Visalia and was graduated after a special course of scientific study from the Van der Naillen School of Engineering and Mines of San Francisco. During the ensuing six years he was in the employ of the United States government, doing surveying for the agricultural department, most of the time in National Forest Reserve work in California and Nevada. Returning to Visalia in 1910, he was a candidate as a Republican at the August primary election for the office of county surveyor of Tulare county, to which he was duly elected by a large majority in the fall of that year.

As a man of public spirit Mr. Lovelace takes high place in the citizenship of Tulare county, to the important general interests of which he has been conspicuously devoted. Fraternaly he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. He married, July, 1910, Miss Eula Simmons, a native of Riverside county, Cal., and a daughter of a pioneer stockman in that part of the state.

PERRY DORMAN FOWLER

As horticultural commissioner for Tulare county, Perry Dorman Fowler is proving excellent ability. His splendid life dates from March 1, 1851, when he was born in the state of Missouri, a son of Benjamin and Mary Ann (Thompson) Fowler, natives respectively of Indiana and of Missouri. In 1854, when he was about three years old, his parents accompanied an ox-team immigration party to California, bringing their family, and the father mined for a time near Oroville, but moved from there to the San Ramon valley and farmed there until in the fall of 1858. From that time until in 1868 he farmed near Woodland, Yolo county, and there Perry D. attended the public schools and was a student in the Hesperian College. The next home of the family was near the present site of Newman in Stanislaus county, where the elder Fowler bought three thousand acres of land, raised stock and grew grain until in 1874. After that he herded sheep and farmed in the Deer Creek region of Tulare county until February 20, 1876, when he passed away. The son settled the family estate and in the fall of that year Mrs. Fowler moved to Tulare, which was her home as long as she

lived, her death, however, occurring in Los Angeles in September, 1895.

Until 1881 Perry Dorman Fowler farmed and raised sheep. Then he began buying grain for G. W. McNear and selling farm machinery for Baker & Hamilton of San Francisco. In the period 1887-1900 he operated the Fowler farm. In 1900 he was appointed horticultural commissioner for Tulare county and to the work of that office he has since devoted himself. He has a farm of seventy-one acres, five miles from Tulare, which is leased by his son-in-law. Thirty acres of it is in orchard and thirty acres in alfalfa.

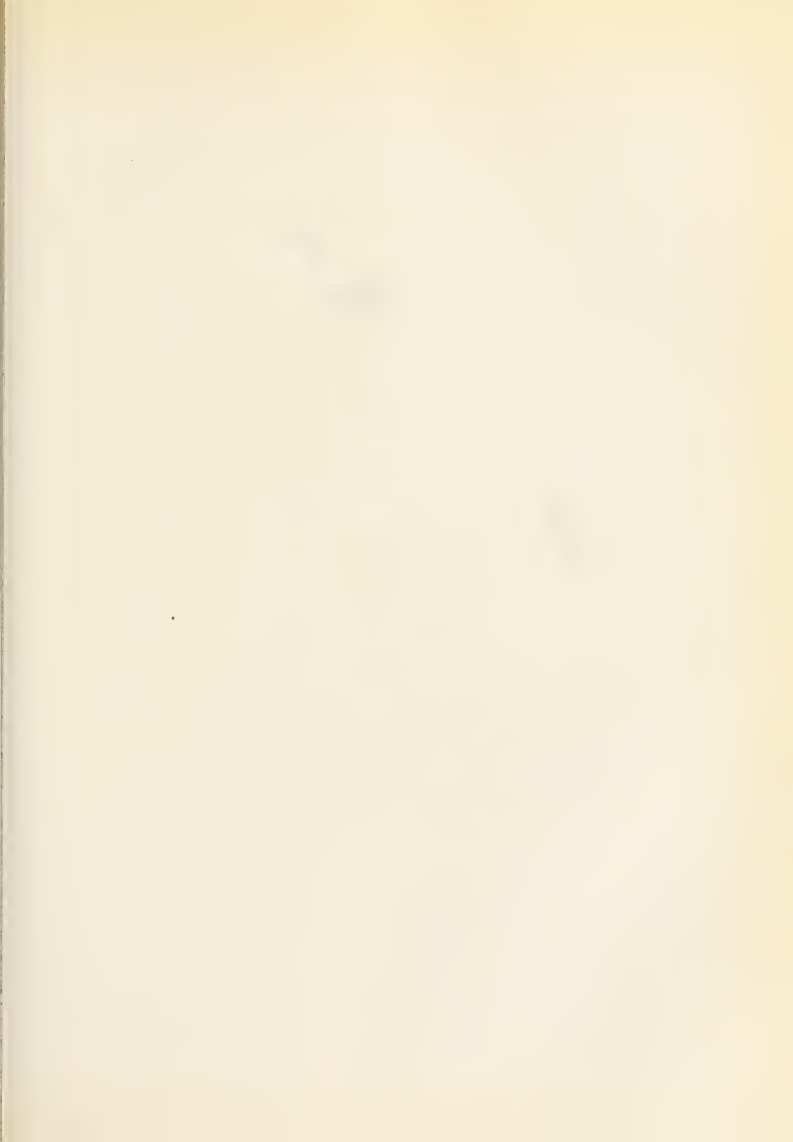
On September 9, 1879, Mr. Fowler married Jeanette Josephine Hawkins, who was born at Suisun, Solano county, Cal., February 1, 1857, and died May 12, 1910. She was a daughter of Vardiman Hawkins, of Elmira, Solano county, a pioneer in that part of the state. She bore her husband two children, Jeanette May, December 10, 1880, and J. Benjamin, July 19, 1882. The daughter is the wife of J. B. Southwell of Tulare county. The son, who is farming on the Lindsay road, seven miles east of Tulare, married Mrs. Annie Smith, and they have two sons, Roy Benjamin and Perry Daniel Fowler.

By the board of directors of the Tulare irrigation district, Mr. Fowler was appointed to assess property to raise revenue with which to pay off the bonded indebtedness of the district to settlers, as provided in the compromise with the bondholders in 1883. He is a member of the Mutual Farmers' Insurance Company, and being a man of much public spirit has been identified from time to time with other interests of importance to the community. He is a member of the First Christian church of Tulare.

EDWARD H. CHANCE

One of the extensive agriculturists of his county, who has been closely identified with its development for many years is Edward H. Chance, who now lives near Sultana in Tulare county. He was born near Versailles, Ind., March 24, 1860, a son of Henry and Louisa (Nuckles) Chance, and has not seen his mother since he was four years old. His father was a pioneer in Oregon, living for a time in Cottage Grove. There Edward H. went in 1887, having spent his life in Indiana and Kentucky until that time. He was employed at logging and lumbering nine years in that part of Oregon, then came to Fresno county, Cal., where he remained one year before settling in Tulare county.

Soon after his arrival in this county Mr. Chance bought forty





D. K. Zumwalt

acres of the Bump tract, paying \$800 for twenty acres and \$35 an acre for the other twenty. He has five acres planted to a peach orchard, fourteen acres under alfalfa and a good acreage of corn. He keeps seven head of stock and a few hogs, and has gradually improved his ranch from a wheat field until it is one of the best in the neighborhood. By bringing it to a high state of cultivation he is securing crops which do not suffer by comparison with any others of their respective kinds raised in the vicinity of Sultana. As a progressive farmer and citizen he enjoys a high reputation. His public spirit impels him to help all movements for the benefit of his community to the extent of his ability. In politics he is a Republican but has never sought office. While living in Oregon he was road supervisor for two years in Crawfordville, and deputy constable in the Sultana district. Fraternally he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Beavers.

In Indiana, March 24, 1883, Mr. Chance married Miss Martha Carson, who was born sixty miles north of Indianapolis, and they have four children living, Percy E., Lester Carl, Eddie Frank, and Bruce Allen. Pearl, the only daughter, is deceased. Percy married Mollie Ramsey; later he married Sadie Carter and they have a child and are living in Benton county, Oregon.

DANIEL KINDLE ZUMWALT

A descendant of an old Virginia family, Daniel Kindle Zumwalt was born near Joliet, Ill., January 24, 1845, of German extraction, his first American ancestor, George (or Adam) Zumwalt, having emigrated from the Fatherland in the eighteenth century, to become a settler in Virginia and later a pioneer in Ohio, which was then on the fringe of civilization. Jacob Zumwalt, son of the emigrant, went, in January, 1830, from Adams county, O., to Hancock county, Ind., where he died December, 1833. Jacob, his son, was born in Ohio, September 15, 1807. He married, June 24, 1830, Susanna Kindle Smith, born in Ohio, June 12, 1811. With his father, his three brothers and his five sisters, he went to Hancock county, Ind., in 1830, and four years later he went to Will county, Ill., about ten miles from Joliet. There he remained twenty years, until March, 1854, when he started with ox-teams overland for California. He farmed in the Sacramento valley until 1872, when he came to his farm near Visalia, Tulare county, where he died May 31, 1878. His wife died in Sacramento November 20, 1896, and they are both buried there. He was a Methodist and in many ways evinced great public spirit. His wife bore him children as follows: Nancy (Mrs. Rockwell Hunt), who died in Sacramento in 1904;

Sarah M. (Mrs. James Shoemaker), of Santa Clara; Joseph, born April 30, 1836, who died in Kern county, August 1, 1878; John H., of San Jose, Cal.; Elizabeth (Mrs. Hawk), of Sacramento; Daniel Kindle, of this review.

When his father came to California, Daniel Kindle Zumwalt and other members of their family came along, and Daniel rode horseback and helped to drive the oxen. He was only nine and his youth exempted him from guard duty, but every other duty that fell to the lot of his elders was performed by him at one time or another. He attended the public and high schools of Sacramento, and was graduated in 1865, later taking the degrees of A.M. and A.B. at the University of the Pacific. Having been awarded a first-grade teacher's certificate, he taught school a year at Yolo, then came, in 1869, to Tulare county, where he lived out his allotted days. For twenty-three years he was land agent and attorney for the Southern Pacific Railroad company, his territory including Tulare, Kern and Fresno and what is now Kings county. He was one of the originators and organizers of the 76 Land and Water company, most of the capital for which he personally secured. Preparatory to the formation of the company Mr. Zumwalt bought the water rights of Risley & Cameron and others and secured options on large tracts of land. As secretary of the company he promoted its interests until its principal office was moved from Visalia to Traver. He was a prime factor and a stockholder of the Kaweah Canal and Irrigation Co. and was influential in the prevention of the diversion of the water from the settlers. In the course of his busy life he improved and developed lands of his own, and his estate owns a fine farm between Visalia and Tulare, which is devoted to dairying and the raising of Shorthorn cattle; in the improvement and equipment of this property he established a creamery. He was instrumental, also, in the setting up of another at Visalia.

In the construction of other canals than those mentioned above Mr. Zumwalt was active. With others, he was indefatigable in presenting proofs to the Interior Department, at Washington, D. C., of the necessity for the preservation of the redwood forests for future generations. It was he who enlisted the co-operation of Congressman Vandever of California, who secured the passage of an authorization of the setting aside of General Grant Park, which insures the preservation of the giant redwoods, there more numerous than in any other part of the Sierras.

At Tulare, May 20, 1890, Mr. Zumwalt married Emma F. Blackwedel, a native of Taycheedah, Wis. J. Henry Blackwedel, her father, born in Hemsling, Hanover, Germany, was a son of John Blackwedel, who brought his family to the United States in 1847 and settled on a farm in Wisconsin, whence they moved later to Jo Daviess county, Ill. John Henry Blackwedel was a farmer in Wisconsin and later a mer-

chant in Sauk City, Wis., and Galena, Ill., and later became a resident of Dubuque, Iowa, in which city he passed away November 29, 1863. Of literary tastes and education, he entertained writers and lecturers who visited him wherever he lived. He deserves a place in history as one of the sponsors of the Republican party. His wife, formerly Anna Meta Holterman, was born in Germany, a daughter of H. C. Holterman, who lived out his days there. She died in Dubuque, Iowa, in 1872. Two of their children lived to maturity, Mrs. Zumwalt and Mrs. Minnie Pillsbury. Of a former marriage two sons, Henry Herman and John Frederick, died in service, while members of Company I, Seventeenth Missouri Volunteer Infantry. Mrs. Zumwalt, next to the youngest, was reared and educated in Dubuque, came to Riverside in 1886 with her sister, Mrs. Pillsbury, and in 1887 came to Tulare county. She is a helpful member of the Methodist church and does much for Visalia Lodge No. 48, Independent Order of Good Templars, with which she has been identified since its organization by her late husband November 18, 1870. He was foremost in incorporating the Good Templars' Hall Association and in building the Good Templars Hall at Visalia and in so safeguarding it that it cannot be diverted from its intended use or pass from the control of the society. He was Grand Councilor of the order and for many years one of its most devoted and liberal supporters. He was a member and a trustee of the Methodist church of Visalia and in 1869-70 organized its Sunday school, of which he was long superintendent. Politically, he was in early life a Republican, in later years a Prohibitionist. His opinions on the liquor question are shared by Mrs. Zumwalt, who, as an ardent woman suffragist, has seen much in which to rejoice in these later days of awakening and of regeneration in matters political. She was a valued assistant to Mr. Zumwalt, standing beside him in all trials and encouraging him with her devoted wifely love. Their union was a very happy one, and at home, in church work or in lodge work their interests were mutual. Mr. Zumwalt's death occurred November 2, 1904.

The town of Traver, Tulare county, was laid out through Mr. Zumwalt's instrumentality. So versatile was he that he carried on an abstract and land business, gave attention to stock-raising and dairying, patented a process for photographing and preserving records, and did many other odd and interesting things not directly connected with his chief pursuits. With the instincts of a true business woman, Mrs. Zumwalt personally attends to business connected with her several ranches. She has a dairy ranch of twelve hundred acres near Tulare City. On her Deer Creek ranch of thirty-three hundred acres she raises many fine beef cattle. She has a quarter-section of land on the Tule river, of which eight acres are planted to oranges just coming into bearing, and she has other ranches which she rents out

DR. E. H. BYRON

The birth of Dr. E. H. Byron occurred at Lemoore, September 17, 1877, the son of H. W. Byron. He was educated in the common school and in the Union high school at Santa Paula, Ventura county, graduating in 1896, when he entered the California Medical College at San Francisco, where he was graduated in medicine in 1900. Then he took the pharmaceutical course at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the same city, and was graduated as a pharmacist from that institution in 1907.

After leaving college Dr. Byron was in charge of McLean hospital, San Francisco, for a year, and during the ensuing two years he was in the practice of his profession, with offices in that city. Then, going to Guerneville, he opened an office and was in practice there two years and during the next two years he was in professional work at Wheatland, Yuba county. He then opened a drug store in Oakland which he conducted in connection with professional practice until in 1909. In November of that year, he entered into professional partnership with his brother at Lemoore, and in the month of November, 1912, opened up his present office in the Boltman block in the city of Lemoore. He is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Health Association, the California State Medical Society and the American Society of Medicine and is the health officer and a member of the city board of health. He affiliates socially with most of the fraternal orders represented at Lemoore. To a general practice Dr. E. H. Byron has consistently devoted himself with such success that his services are in demand not only in the town but also in its tributary country and as a citizen he has demonstrated much public spirit. In 1902 he married Miss Harriet Freeman of San Jose. Their son, Herbert Freeman Byron, celebrated his seventh birthday May, 1912.

THOMAS B. TWADDLE

The present chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Tulare county is Thomas B. Twaddle, who has long been prominent in the affairs of this part of the state. Born in Utah, in 1857, he was taken as a child by his family on their removal to Nevada, and it was in the last named state that he grew to manhood and obtained an education and a practical knowledge of elemental business. He came to California in 1879, when he was about twenty-two years of age, and settling three miles east of Tulare, he rented land, raised

grain and did general farming in the vicinity of Tulare until 1904, since when he has given his attention to other interests.

In 1892 Mr. Twaddle was first elected to the office of supervisor, and he has served in that capacity by repeated re-election continuously to the present time. It is said that he holds the record in California for unbroken service as supervisor for nineteen years, and during the long period of fourteen years he has been chairman of the board. In every measure for the advancement and improvement of Tulare county that has been put forth during the last two decades he has taken a helpful interest and some of the more important ones he has been instrumental in putting through by sheer force of will, determined that Tulare county should have the very best in any line that was available to it regardless of reactionary opposition. He has proven himself a model official and has come to be known as one of the men of California who accomplish things.

In 1883 Mr. Twaddle married Miss Emma Garison, daughter of a pioneer in Stanislaus county, Cal., where she was born, and they have children as follows: Alice M., who is the wife of W. J. Fisher of Tulare; Forrest J.; Frank C.; William, and Thomas B., Jr. Socially he is a member of the order of Woodmen of the World and has for several years been council commander of his local division and is a supporter of the auxiliary order of Women of Woodcraft. He is a Red Man, also, and affiliates with the order of Fraternal Aid.

H. SCOTT JACOBS

The talented and successful lawyer of Hanford, who has attained a high position at the bar of Kings county, Cal., and by many public-spirited acts has won reputation as one of the leading citizens of Hanford, is H. Scott Jacobs who was born at Visalia November 2, 1875. He obtained his English education in public schools at Lemoore and in the San Jose high school from which he was graduated in 1894. His professional studies were begun in 1895 under competent direction, and after mastering the law course at the University of California he was graduated in 1899 and was admitted to the bar of California May 19th that year.

It was at Hanford that Mr. Jacobs entered upon the practice of his profession, opening an office in the First National Bank building. From the onset he succeeded even beyond his expectations. Not much time was required for his ability and attainments to

become known to the business public and his general attitude as a lawyer and as a citizen commended him to the people. It became evident that his public spirit was equal to any reasonable demand upon it and that he was willing at all times to encourage to the extent of his ability any proposition put forth for the benefit and development of the town and county. In November, 1902, he was elected district attorney for Kings county, in which office he served faithfully and efficiently four years. In 1906 he was appointed by the board of trustees of the city of Hanford to the office of city attorney, and in that relation to the general public he has still more markedly won the good opinion of all. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, and fraternally he is identified with Hanford Parlor No. 37 Native Sons of the Golden West, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World.

Mr. Jacobs married, April 30, 1901, Mary Elizabeth Manning, a daughter of T. A. Manning, of Lemoore, and they have three children, Elizabeth Belle, Justin Manning and John H.

LEE GILL

A son of L. L. Gill, a pioneer of Tulare county, by many thought to have been the owner of the first orange trees in Tulare county, Lee Gill was born in Yokohl valley, Cal., August 16, 1884. When he was a child, his father moved to Frazier valley, to the property on which Lee now lives. The old place was purchased from H. M. White and was the scene of the primitive venture in orange-growing referred to above.

In the public schools near his home, Mr. Gill was educated and on his father's ranch he obtained the intimate knowledge of stock-raising which has made him an adept in that line. His operations in association with his brothers mark him as one of the leading stockmen of California. They own about forty-eight thousand acres of range land and keep on Lee's ranch about six hundred cattle, two hundred hogs and many fine horses, buying and selling for the city market, in which Mr. Gill is as well known and as highly esteemed as any stockman in the state.

In 1908 Mr. Gill married Miss Mand Porter, a native of California, a lady of many accomplishments who shares with him much social popularity. They have one son, Austin. Mr. Gill is a young man of much public spirit, who is found always ready to assist to the extent of his ability any movement for the benefit of the community.

HON. WILLIAM M. DE WITT

This old established, reliable and successful lawyer of Tulare, Cal., was born in Monroe county and grew to manhood in Warren county, Ky. The time of his birth was May 17, 1839, and his parents were the Rev. Allan W. and Hannah (Tooley) De Witt, his father having been a native of Kentucky and his mother having been born in Virginia. Eventually the family moved to Illinois. From there, in 1859, they crossed the plains with ox-teams to California, starting in April and arriving September 18. Allan W. De Witt, who was a minister of the Christian church, died at Tulare May 31, 1897, his wife having passed away in 1896. Their son Samuel lives in Los Angeles; Eleazar, their second son, is a rancher living west of Tulare; their daughter, Lydia A., is Mrs. Zumwalt of Tulare; William M. is the immediate subject of this sketch.

It was as a school teacher that William M. De Witt began his life in California in 1861, in charge of a country school at Red Bluff, Tehama county. With Job F. Dye he drove a band of cattle and horses from Red Bluff to eastern Oregon in 1862. They intended to drive their cattle up to the mining camps of British Columbia, where there was a great number of miners at work and where they intended to butcher their cattle, freeze the meat by burying it in the snow, and sell it out during the winter as it would be needed. While camping on John Day's river near Canon City, De Witt suggested that they try a pan of the gravel at that place. Mr. Dye improvised a pan, with which they succeeded in finding considerable gold in the very first pan. The news of their find spread and in an inconceivably short time some six hundred miners had located claims and were busily and profitably engaged at placer-mining. It is needless to say that it became unnecessary for them to take their cattle to the British Columbia market. Thus was gold first discovered at Canon City on the John Day's river by William M. De Witt and Job F. Dye. Returning to California, Mr. De Witt read law, in 1866 was admitted to the bar and began the practice of his profession at Woodland, Yolo county. There he succeeded very satisfactorily and attained so much personal popularity that he was elected to represent Yolo county in the State Legislature at the session of 1877-78 and was appointed a member of the judiciary committee and of other important committees. Meanwhile he conducted a successful practice at Santa Cruz for about six years. He came to Tulare from Woodland in the spring of 1878 and has been in active practice there ever since. For ten years he has held the office of justice of the peace in Tulare and during that long period no decision of his has been reversed. He has traveled extensively throughout the state, having visited nearly every county within its borders.

A lover of country life, Mr. De Witt has given some attention to ranching near Tulare. He was married in Santa Cruz, January, 1872, to Miss Agnes McDonald, a native of Vermont, who has borne him nine children: Florence C. (Mrs. Brown), has children named Earl and Maud. Alice W. is Mrs. Barnaby of Spokane, Wash. William H. married Miss Shedler and they have children named Camille and Earl. The others are Walter, John (of Coalinga), Edward and Edna (twins), Iram and Earl. In every relation of life Mr. De Witt has shown himself a man to be depended upon. Wherever he has lived he has taken an interest in all matters affecting the public good. Since coming to Tulare he has in many ways demonstrated his solicitude for the advancement and prosperity of the city and its people.

SAMUEL W. KELLY

From Arkansas, which has long been a distributing ground for settlement throughout the south and west, Samuel W. Kelly emigrated to California in 1857, coming by way of the overland trail with ox-teams and consuming seven months in making the journey. He was then twenty-nine years old, having been born February 11, 1828, in Alabama, and had been taken as a small boy by his parents on their removal from his native state. It was in Arkansas that he was educated, grew to manhood and acquired a working knowledge of agriculture.

On his arrival in California, Mr. Kelly settled in Tulare county and engaged in teaming between Stockton and Visalia. Settling on Elbow creek, he put up a rail pen with but a dirt floor and this was the home of the family for three years. In 1867 he went back east, but soon made a second overland journey to the Pacific coast, this time using mule teams, which brought him through in three months. From the time of his return until the completion of the railroad, which put him out of business, he teamed between Fresno slough and Visalia. Then he bought ten acres within the city limits, on which he farmed for a time and which has been cut up into lots and dotted with dwellings. For about twelve years he operated successfully as a cattleman in the Three Rivers section. Politically he affiliated with the Democratic party, and as a citizen he showed his public spirit in many practical ways.

In 1853 Mr. Kelly married Miss Celetha Hudson, who was born and reared in Arkansas and accompanied him to California. She bore him three children, Samuel A., Mrs. Lulu E. Reeves and Mrs.



Mr and Mrs J. W. Kelly

Mary J. Sparks, who with the widow survive him. The home of Mrs. Kelly is No. 500 Goshen avenue, Visalia. Mr. Kelly passed away April 15, 1911, deeply regretted by all who had known him.

HON. J. W. GUIBERSON

Conspicuous among California's self-made men, is the prominent financier and member of the state Legislature, whose name heads this article. He is a native of the state, having been born in Lake county, November 26, 1865. When four years of age he was taken to Ventura county, where he grew up, attending the public schools, and later became a student at the University of Southern California, supplementing this with a commercial course at Woodbury Business College.

Full of ambition and eager to succeed, J. W. Guiberson started his active business career without a dollar to aid him. At the age of nineteen he rented a six hundred and forty acre stock ranch in Ventura county, his good reputation and credit enabling him to obtain a five-year lease of this ranch. He devoted himself most assiduously to the operating of this place, reaping such a measure of success, that when he was dispossessed of it at the end of fifteen months, because of the sale of said ranch, he was reimbursed for his labors there to the amount of \$1,500. He then rented mountain land for a cattle range and increased his herd. Meanwhile he had bought out a drug store and made some good investments in real estate at Santa Paula, the results of which at the end of that year netted him a capital of \$3250 cash. His career, however, had not been an easy one. His health broke because of his close confinement in the drug store, and he was compelled to seek an outdoor life. For a short time he engaged in the mercantile business, but met with heavy financial losses, and with such discouragements at hand he again was obliged to begin at the bottom to retrieve his losses. He obtained a lease for one-half share in the renting of the same ranch on which he had started out when nineteen years old, at the end of the first year being able to make a payment on eighty acres in Ventura county which he immediately began to improve and farm. Some years later he purchased a second ranch of forty acres in the same county, improving and farming it for some time, and finally having a fine farm, good buildings and most productive orchards on both places. His orchards were planted to apricots, lemons and prunes, and he soon had them in condition to be good income property.

Continuing to operate the two ranches, Mr. Guiberson bought out a livery business at Piru with the proceeds, and engaged in the livery and team contracting business, sending his teams into the oil fields near Piru, and he soon was the proprietor of an extensive teaming business. He prospered well and by 1905 found himself the owner of considerable money for which he sought good investment. In company with about twenty-five others, many of whom were from Los Angeles, as members of the Security Land and Loan Company, he bought thirty thousand acres of land in Kings county, and in that year came to Corcoran as the superintendent of said company, whose affairs he managed very successfully. During this time he made large individual purchases of land in that vicinity, his ideas of purchase proving most ingenious, as for instance his purchase of a thousand acres at \$13 per acre, which he sold a few months later at \$30. He has explicit faith in the fertility of the lands of this locality and it has never been shaken, and it is due to him more than to any other person that the value of the lands about Corcoran has been demonstrated.

Mr. Guiberson's principal aim has been to develop and improve these lands and place them on an income-paying basis. He has no hesitancy in saying that for the growing of alfalfa these lands have few equals and no superiors in the entire state of California. Among his first purchases were eighty acres of land adjacent to the townsite of Corcoran, forty acres of which he retains as his home place, and this he has beautified and improved until it is a model suburban home. To him belongs the distinction of having erected the first building on the townsite of Corcoran.

At a later date Mr. Guiberson organized the J. W. Guiberson Company, a dairy and stockraising concern with a capital of \$500,000 based on bona fide land values. In this he is associated with J. C. Sperry, of Berkeley; Nathan W. Blanchard, of Santa Paula, and the company's holdings aggregate twenty-six hundred acres in all, two thousand acres of which is planted to alfalfa and irrigated by means of artesian wells. On one section of this property are two dairies which produce cream to the amount of \$2075 per month. There are six hundred head of cattle on this property, and about nine hundred hogs, all of which are very well kept.

Besides these great landed interests Mr. Guiberson has others, different in character but almost as important. He is vice president of the Bank of Corcoran, vice president of the company operating the Corcoran Department Store, president of the Kings County Dairymen's Association, vice president of the Board of Trade of Corcoran, vice president of the Kings County Chamber of Commerce and president of the California State Dairy Association.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Guiberson was before her marriage Miss Nellie F. Throckmorton, who was born in Illinois, October 8, 1866. They have four daughters, viz.: Hazel, Claire, Helen and Edythe. Mr. Guiberson is a Mason, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Fraternal Order of Elks. Of unusual public spirit, he is ready whenever occasion demands to aid any measure which in his judgment involves the public good, and he is confidently relied upon to be the friend and helper of all public enterprises. With the privilege of the pioneer to take pride in the town, he is zealous for the promotion of every interest, and in church and educational circles he is particularly active. He is president of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian church at Corcoran, and the commodious edifice recently erected by the congregation at once testifies to his munificence in gift of money as well as able and untiring effort as a member of the building committee. He is president of the high school board and Corcoran will before the commencement of another school year have a fifty thousand dollar high school building.

Relying upon his ability and good judgment Mr. Guiberson was, by the Board of County Supervisors of Kings county, made vice president of the Kings County Panama Pacific Exhibit Commission, a position for which he is peculiarly qualified. No better testimony of his real worth can be adduced than to mention the fact that in the campaign of 1912 he was elected as a Democrat by the people of his county, which is normally Republican, by more than thirteen hundred majority. For years he has been interested in the subject of good roads, and takes an active part in everything else pertaining to the public welfare and human upliftment. As a natural consequence he at the last election received a very flattering vote in his home and all other precincts in that county, where he was best known, and in his election to the assembly his fellow-citizens have made no mistake. This fact is recognized by the opposition as well as his Democratic friends, and became very evident from such expressions as the following editorial from the pen of L. P. Mitchell, editor and proprietor of the *Corcoran Journal* of November 14, 1912:

Assemblyman-elect J. W. Guiberson is well qualified for the position to which he has been elected. He is a self-made man who has achieved success in his own affairs, and Corcoran people feel sure he will represent his district in a most satisfactory manner. Mr. Guiberson is an enthusiast on good roads and advocates the abolition of the present unsatisfactory system of handling county road matters, favoring the employment of an expert road man and placing the entire county road system in his charge. We consider this a very logical solution of the vexatious road problem.

IRVING L. JAMESON

Born near Dixon, Solano county, Cal., in 1862, Mr. Jameson is a true son of California, proud of its history and traditions, and devoted heart and soul to its best interests. His parents were John B. and Catherine (Watts) Jameson, natives of Illinois. His father crossed the plains with mule teams in 1854, and at the end of his long and tiresome, but never to be forgotten, overland journey settled in Napa county. Later he moved to a place near Dixon, Solano county, where he acquired government land and engaged in farming and stock-raising, his chief product being grain, with which he was quite successful. Mrs. Jameson bore her husband children as follows: Henry, of Glenn county; Edwin, of the state of Washington; Mrs. John Bond; Mrs. Robert Board; and Irving L. The father died in 1902, the mother in 1874. Mr. Jameson was enterprising and progressive, honest, industrious and public spirited, in every sense of the term a good and useful citizen.

It was in the public school near his childhood home in Solano county that Irving L. Jameson laid the foundation for the practical education which has helped him to make a success of his life. His primitive venture into business was made as a rancher on the Jameson homestead, near Dixon. Afterward he became owner of the place by purchase from his father. In 1888 he moved from Solano county to Tulare county and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on Deer creek, where he raised grain. From there he eventually moved to Porterville. He came to his present ranch of about eighty acres, four miles north of Tulare, in 1898, and has greatly improved the place, making of it a high grade dairy ranch of thirty-five cows, sixty-five acres being devoted to alfalfa. His new dairy barn, recently built after his own plans, is one of the most practical for its purposes in the county. The cow stalls have cement floors, and there are individual stalls, which were designed by Mr. Jameson with a view to giving each animal comfort. The feed alley also is cemented, and the provisions for convenient grain storage are excellent, while the plant for pumping water is up-to-date and thoroughly efficient. Mr. Jameson's finely bred Holsteins attract the attention of all visitors to the vicinity of his dairy. He is practically and enthusiastically interested in horses, and owns the well-known imported French Percheron stallion, Marchochet, registered; five brood mares and colts and an imported jack for breeding mules.

Absolutely as his home interests command his attention, Mr. Jameson has others. He is a director of the Tulare Rochdale store, a member of the Dairymen's Co-operative Association of Tulare, and is identified with local bodies of the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Brotherhood. He married, in 1898, Miss Ida Roberts, a



John W. Johnson

J. W. Johnson

native of Solano county, and they have children: Mada, Lawrence, Doris and Lowell. The interest in public affairs so characteristic of the elder Jameson has been passed down to the son, and there is no other man in this part of the county more willing to assist, according to means and opportunity, any measure that may be proposed for the general good.

ALMER B. COMFORT

Conspicuous among the prominent citizens and officials of Guernsey, Kings county, Cal., who has evidenced the power of staunch loyalty to his early training, which has materially acquired for him the success he has reached today, is Almer B. Comfort, the well-known proprietor of the flourishing and active general store business of Guernsey, which he also serves as postmaster. Inheriting the splendid traits of his father, Byron G. Comfort, a pioneer of Kings county, who is a prosperous farmer near Hanford, he early evidenced the ability and perseverance which led him to mercantile interests, and his entire career has been indicative of thrift, energy and integrity.

Born in Kings county, Cal., the son of Byron G. and Carrie H. (Drullard) Comfort, Mr. Comfort was there reared to manhood, acquiring his elementary education in the common schools, and becoming thoroughly familiar with farm work and steady, honorable and clean habits. Upon reaching manhood's estate he rented a large dairy farm in the vicinity of Corcoran, which he operated with signal success, following that line of business for a long period until in 1912 he found himself able to purchase a business of his own. Being attracted by a chance to purchase a general merchandise business at Guernsey he went there to make investigation with the result that he bought and has since conducted it with the most gratifying results. Being naturally of a genial, optimistic disposition, he attracts many friends to him, and in his position as postmaster of Guernsey, which appointment he received in December of 1912, he finds himself the recipient of many good wishes and the good will of the entire community. In addition to these duties he has taken over the management of the lumber yard at Guernsey, which bids fair to become an important business in the near future.

Mr. Comfort belongs to that circle of young men of California who have the future of the country in their hands, and who give every prophecy of taking the burden of business and political life on their shoulders with capability and splendid executive ability. Ever alert for the welfare of their interests and those of their town

and county, they are public-spirited and quick to move in the direction they deem best for all concerned.

Mr. Comfort is not a holder of any public office. In politics he votes the Republican ticket, and his interest in the affairs and issues of his party is ever active, he being well-informed on all current topics pertaining to the advancement of his country.

THOMAS H. BLAIR

The character of any people is usually well indicated by that of its public officials. Throughout its history Tulare county has quite generally commanded the confidence of the public through the representative men who have been called to fill its offices. Judged by capacity and by zealous devotion to the interests in his charge, none has gained higher place in popular regard than Thomas H. Blair, county assessor. In qualifications essential to the proper discharge of his difficult duties he is adequate to all demands upon him, and by keeping in close touch with increase of property values and familiarizing himself with all current improvements he is able to judge accurately as to the proper assessment to place upon a given piece of property. Looking solely to the interests of the county, he complies with the law in the performance of his duties, manifesting always a conscientious regard for the rights of the taxpayer.

In Randolph county, Mo., Thomas H. Blair was born in 1864, a son of Calvin H. and Mary E. (Moffett) Blair, natives respectively of Arkansas and of Tennessee, and was brought to California by his parents, who settled in Sonoma county in 1865 and in Tulare county about a year later. Calvin H. Blair crossed the plains first in 1850 and after mining two years in California went back to Missouri in 1852. There he married in 1856 and about ten years later he moved to Iowa, where he remained about three months, losing all his worldly possessions except an ox-team and a saddle horse, which he sold for just enough money to take him to California by way of New York and the Isthmus of Panama. He moved from Sonoma county to Tulare county, bringing his family and belongings in wagons, and settled on Dry Creek. From there he moved to near Exeter, in the Yokohl valley, where he farmed for some years. In 1875 he went to Orosi, in the northern part of the county, and bought land there which he farmed until 1896, when his death occurred. Following are the names of the children of this pioneer and his wife, Mary E. (Moffett) Blair, who died January 14, 1912: William M., Thomas H., Mattie, wife of H. Meyers of Fresno

county, Cal., Laura, Caledonia, Sarah, wife of George Hedgepeth, Frank L., James I., Finis E., and Clarence Holmes.

On his father's stock ranch, Thomas H. Blair was reared, acquiring a good knowledge of cattle raising, meanwhile attending public schools as opportunity afforded. After the death of his father he associated himself with his brothers in the management of the home ranch. From his early manhood he has been active as a Democrat in local political affairs, and in 1902 was elected county auditor of Tulare county. He was re-elected to that office in 1906, and in 1910 was elected county assessor. The work of the county assessor is of such a character that his duties are not to be compared with those of any other officer. His success depends largely upon the accuracy of his judgment; he comes in direct contact with all classes of people and in designating property valuations he must treat all with impartial fairness. That such is the spirit of Mr. Blair's official conduct is well known to all, and he is personally acquainted with nearly every old citizen of the county and no man or official is held in higher esteem. Socially he affiliates with the Knights of Pythias, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

CHARLES C. BEQUETTE

The name Bequette has long been honored not only in Tulare county, but in the state at large. In these pages appears a biographical sketch of Paschal Bequette, Jr., in which is given some of the history of Col. Paschal Bequette, Sr., a native of Missouri who rose to eminence on the Pacific coast. Charles C. Bequette was born at Saint Genevieve, Mo., in 1834. His parents dying while he was yet but an infant, when he was five years old he was taken to Wisconsin, where he became a member of the family of his uncle. In 1850, when he was about sixteen years old, he and his brother crossed the plains to California and located at Hangtown. Later, in 1852, they went to Sierra county, where they mined until 1857. In 1859 Mr. Bequette drove a band of cattle from Yolo county to Tulare county and settled on land at Outside Creek, where he prospered as a stockman until 1867. Then selling out his interests there, he homesteaded a tract of land near Lemon Cove, where he was successful in the breeding of cattle and horses for fifteen years, until he took up his residence at Visalia, where he has since lived, continuing an active interest in the political affairs of the county. His public spirit and his capacity for public business have been recognized by his appointment to various responsible offices, he having served two

terms as deputy recorder and auditor of Tulare county, of which he has also served as deputy county treasurer and deputy county assessor.

JOHN CUTLER, M. D.

AND

A. R. CUTLER

A native of Indiana, Judge Cutler was born in 1819, in the town of Newport, Vermilion county. A predilection for the medical profession led him to take up studies with that object in view at an early age, and he completed his studies and received his diploma in Iowa. In the last mentioned state he followed his profession until the memorable year of 1849, when he crossed the plains to California and made settlement in Eldorado county. While a resident of that county he served as a representative to the state legislature.

Judge Cutler's residence in Tulare county began with the year 1852, at which time he engaged in agriculture on a large scale, farming one thousand acres five miles northeast of Visalia, on the St. John's river. Here, as in his former place of residence, his fellow-citizens recognized his unusual ability and fitness for public office and for two terms he served them efficiently as judge of Tulare county. The marriage of Judge Cutler united him with Mrs. Nancy (Rice) Reynolds, a widow with two daughters, Amelia and Celeste. Seven children were born of her marriage with Judge Cutler, three sons and four daughters, as follows: Mrs. V. D. Knapp of Porterville; A. R.; John; Mary; Loyal O.; Ida, and Mrs. Edna Hartley. Judge Cutler passed away on the family homestead near Visalia July 12, 1902, and his wife died in Santa Cruz several years prior to his demise.

The second child born to Judge and Nancy (Rice) Cutler was A. R. Cutler, a native of Tulare county, born in 1860. When his school days were over he assisted his father in the care and management of the home ranch, and later undertook ranching on his own account. At the present time he is ranching on a large scale in Tulare county, having under his immediate supervision the Venice Cove, Monson and Hills Valley ranches. His stock now numbers four hundred head. Fruit is raised on one hundred acres—raisin grapes, peaches, apricots and oranges predominating—besides which he has twenty acres in prunes, and the remainder of the land is in alfalfa.

Following a service of four years as deputy county clerk, Mr.



Charles J. Eklof. Mrs. Mary B. Eklof.

Cutler received still greater honors in April, 1911, when he was elected mayor of Visalia, an office which he is well qualified to fill. His marriage in 1888 united him with Miss Nimmie Pringle, and they have two sons, John F. and Albert R.

CHARLES JOHN EKLOF.

Numbered conspicuously among the thrifty and prosperous orchardists of Tulare county is Charles John Eklof, born October 10, 1869, in Sweden. In April, 1889, when he was about twenty years old, he landed in New York, equipped with a good education obtained in the public schools of his native land. His early training had laid a splendid foundation on which to enter the struggle for success in America, to which he dedicated himself, his ambitions and his energies. Mr. Eklof had been born and brought up on a farm, and it was as a farm hand in Nebraska that he passed the first year of his life in America. In 1890 he went to the Northwest, into Washington, where he remained three years and four months, and in 1894 he embarked for San Francisco, whence he soon made his way to Fresno, being here employed in a vineyard till 1897. In the year last mentioned he located near Lindsay and engaged in the nursery business, which commanded his efforts for twelve years and brought him fairly good financial recompense. Then he began to buy land, securing forty acres and then twenty, forty of which were put into an orange orchard. The estimated value of his crop in 1912 is \$10,000 and he is one of the most successful men in his line in his vicinity, with promising plans for the future.

In 1911 Mr. Eklof married Mrs. Mary B. Frans, a native of Ohio. As a citizen he is loyal and patriotic, taking an active interest in the welfare of his community. His success has been great, for he started with nothing and could now turn his interests into \$50,000 cash, but it has been the success of a self-made man, well deserved.

WILLIAM J. ADAMS

The life of the late William J. Adams of Visalia, Tulare county, spanned the period from April 4, 1837, to June 8, 1909. He was born in Graves county, Ky., and died at his California home. Reared and educated in his native state he left there with a herd of cattle which he drove to Texas and from there across the plains to California, arriving in 1859. Settling near Tulare Lake in Tulare county, he

ranged cattle for many years and later removed them to the mountains on Adams Flat, where he expanded his enterprise by raising both cattle and horses.

In 1871 Mr. Adams disposed of his cattle and horse interests and gave his attention to sheep herding. For two years he operated in Oregon, then came back to California and settled near Madera on the Fresno river, in Madera county, but after two years spent there, he returned to Tulare county and for twelve years farmed the old Murray ranch, near Visalia.

In January, 1865, Mr. Adams married Miss Mary Fannie Murray, a native of Missouri, a daughter of Abram H. Murray, who crossed the plains in 1852 and settled his family in the Visalia neighborhood. There their children have since become known and respected. They are Sarah, Mrs. E. Hilton, of Porterville; Abram P.; Frank C., a biographical sketch of whom is elsewhere in these pages, and Russell, who has passed away.

A man of strong character, upright in his dealing with all, ready at all times to do all in his power for the uplift or development of the community, Mr. Adams was a helpful citizen and the county and its people are benefited by his influence among them.

FRANK C. ADAMS

The well-known and successful builder whose name is above is a native of Visalia, Tulare county, Cal., born February 28, 1873, son of William J. Adams. He gained his education in the excellent schools of that town and began his business career as an employee of the Seeded Raisin Packing Company of Fresno, Cal. From Fresno he went to Stockton, where he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for three years. Later he was for a time located in Angels' Camp, Calaveras county, whence he returned to Visalia, and in the fall of 1908 entered the contracting and building business on his own account.

Among the structures which serve to call attention to the skill and enterprise of Mr. Adams are the Charles Berry residence, the A. D. Wilson home, the addition to the E. O. Miller residence, the Simon Levy brick block, the Dr. W. W. Squires residence, the Meyer Iseman residence, the Howard Parish residence, and numerous others of different classes and of equal importance at and near Visalia. On January 17, 1911, Mr. Adams formed a partnership with J. H. Johnson in order to give attention particularly to the architectural department of his enterprises, but the firm was dissolved October 26 following, and since that time Mr. Adams has been in sole control of the business which

he has built up. Of the buildings erected by Adams & Johnson, the following mentioned, perhaps as conspicuous as any others, are the residences of Tng Wilson, John C. Hayes, Harry Hayes, D. E. Perkins and Ralph Goldstein.

May 1, 1912, marks a very important epoch in Mr. Adams' career. He then became the builder for the Mt. Whitney Power & Electric Co., of Visalia. His first work was the building of a large brick and iron addition to the steam plant at Visalia, and on June 25, 1912, he began the construction of the Mt. Whitney Power Plant and cottages at No. 3 on the Kaweah river.

In the National Association of American Engineers Mr. Adams holds membership and he affiliates fraternally with Four Creek lodge, No. 94, I. O. O. F. He married October 7, 1894, Miss Mary A. Nichols, a native of Missouri, who has borne him three children, Willard, Merle and Russell. As a citizen Mr. Adams has commended himself to all who know him as a man of public spirit who has the welfare of the community at heart and is ready at all times to respond promptly and liberally to any call on behalf of the general good.

WILLIAM W. COLLINS

The present sheriff of Tulare county is William W. Collins, now serving his third term in that important office. Mr. Collins is a son of Albert O. and Sarah J. (Cochran) Collins, natives of Ohio. In 1862, Albert O. Collins enlisted in Company C, Eighty-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he served continuously from April that year until the end of the Civil war, rising to the rank of captain. Returning to Ohio he taught school there until the spring of 1866, when he moved to Putnam county, Mo., where he lived until May, 1873, at which time he came to California and located in Bakersfield, Kern county. There he was for a time in the meat trade and later conducted a large ranch until 1887, when he took up his residence in Inyo county and engaged in stock-raising near Bishop. Mrs. Collins passed away in San Francisco in 1910, aged sixty-eight years.

To Albert O. and Sarah J. (Cochran) Collins were born three sons and two daughters: Charles A., sheriff of Inyo county; William W. Collins; John L.; Minnie, widow of W. L. Blythe of Palo Alto, Cal.; and Leora, who is the wife of Bertrand Rhine of Bishop, Cal.

William W. Collins was born on the old Collins homestead, near Coshocton, Ohio, June 23, 1865, and was eight years old when his father removed to California. He was educated in the public schools

of Kern county, at the Visalia Normal school and at the California State Normal school at Los Angeles. After his graduation he assisted his father for a time in the latter's cattle business. In 1889 he entered business life for himself as a wheat grower and as the proprietor of a livery stable at Tulare, and in 1895 began buying wheat in Tulare and Kern counties for the Farmers' Union Milling Co. of Stockton. The next year he accepted a position with J. Goldman & Co. of Tulare as foreman, in charge of their lands, orchards and stock. He has recently set out, at Lemon Cove, a forty-acre orange grove.

In Republican politics Mr. Collins has long been locally prominent, and in 1902 he was elected sheriff of Tulare county. He has been twice re-elected, and now, in his third term, is one of the most popular sheriffs the people of the county have ever known. A man of much public spirit, he has been helpfully identified with many important home interests, and has in all things devoted himself, heart and soul, to the welfare of the community. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the local lodge and encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in the last mentioned order he has been elected to different offices of importance. Sharing with him in the esteem of the people of Visalia is Mrs. Collins, a native daughter of Inyo county, who was formerly Miss Louise Clarke. She has borne him three daughters—Hazel, Vera and Blanche.

DR. WILLIAM P. BYRON

That able and popular medical man of Kings county, Cal., Dr. William P. Byron of Lemoore, was born in that town, October 22, 1878, and was there reared and educated in the public schools. He is the son of H. W. Byron, one of the first pioneers of this part of the state. In 1900 Dr. Byron became a student at the California Medical College, San Francisco, and in 1904 was graduated from that institution with the degree of M. D. He began the practice of his profession at Ridgefield, Wash., and continued it there with considerable success until 1906, when he returned to Lemoore and opened an office there. He was successful from the outset and soon became one of the most popular physicians in that part of the county. In November, 1909, Dr. E. H. Byron, his brother, became his professional partner, and this partnership continued until November, 1912. He has always devoted himself to general practice and is in much favor as a family physician. He was made district surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railroad Co. in 1907, and is still holding that respon-

sible position. He is the city health officer of Lemoore; county physician for Western Kings county, and a member of the San Joaquin Valley Health Association, the California State Medical Society and the American Society of Medicine. Socially he affiliates with the Masons, Odd Fellows, Red Men, Knights of Pythias, Foresters, Woodmen and the Fraternal Brotherhood; also the orders of I. D. E. S. and U. P. E. C., Companions, Rebekahs and the Order of the Eastern Star, and with all women's auxiliary lodges in the city of which specific mention has not been made.

In 1910 Dr. Byron married Miss Ruby E. Fassett of Iowa and they live on Heinlin street, opposite the park. Exacting as are the demands that are made upon him professionally he gives much time to the promotion of the general interests of Lemoore, and has proven himself a public-spirited citizen, to be confidently depended upon in any emergency.

F. D. CAMPBELL

It was in that old southern town, Yazoo City, Miss., that F. D. Campbell was born in 1861. But a child when his parents moved to Texas, it was in that state that he was reared and went to school, and there he became a cowboy, and he lived the wild life of the plains and ranges in Texas, New Mexico, Missouri and Montana. He was for three years a Texas ranger, a sworn member of the long-famous organization so potent in the preservation of order in the country along the border. Then it comprised six companies, of twenty-one men each, all under command of General King, each company having a captain, a lieutenant and a sergeant. The members were men of proven bravery, picked from among the boldest and truest spirits on the frontier. Much of their work was against smugglers along the Mexican border, and some interesting experiences were had in pursuit of cattle rustlers. One band of smugglers was pursued relentlessly by the rangers five years, and was captured at length by Mr. Campbell's company at Persimmons Gap, Tex. The headquarters of the rangers was at Austin, Tex., and companies were stationed at Sunset Water, Aberdeen, Colorado City and Fort Davis, all points of strategic importance on the frontier. Mr. Campbell, who was twice wounded in this arduous and exciting service, received his honorable discharge November, 1883.

Going to Kansas City, Mo., after leaving the frontier service in Texas, Mr. Campbell shipped all kinds of livestock from that point, till in 1910, when he came to Tulare, to engage in the buying and selling of livestock. His business at once assumed important pro-

portions and he was shipping \$30,000 worth of cattle and hogs each month, as the months averaged. In no department has there been a falling off, and in some departments a wonderful growth has been recorded. He is also part owner of and a director in the Kern Street Market of Tulare, one of the conspicuous concerns of its kind in this part of the state.

In 1896 Mr. Campbell married Miss Alice Landers, a native of Mississippi, and they have the following children, mentioned in the order of their birth: Ethel, Gladys, Argyle, Blanche and Theodora. Since taking up his residence in Tulare he has in many ways demonstrated that he is a helpful and dependable citizen, patriotically devoted to the general interests of the community and ready and able at all times to respond to demands in behalf of measures under promotion, with a view to the advancement of the public welfare.

DANIEL G. OVERALL

The Texan is as cosmopolitan as any citizen of the United States. Wherever his lot may be cast, he immediately becomes one of the people and is ready with heart and hand and money to do his part toward the advancement of the public weal. Texas, too, has been a station in the travels of families bound for California, but who have been leisurely in their travels; the stop in Texas has sometimes been premeditated, sometimes it has been incidental and sometimes accidental. These stops in Texas have been signalized by the addition, by marriage or by birth of members to families from further east or north. It was in Texas, in 1857, that Daniel G. Overall first saw the light of day. His father, Daniel G., Sr., was a native of Missouri; his mother, Charity (Mason), was a native of Illinois. The father sailed around Cape Horn to California in 1849. Later he went back to Missouri, and from there went to Texas. While tarrying in the Lone Star State, he busied himself by getting together a large band of cattle, which he drove through from there to Tulare county in 1859. Selling his cattle, he was enabled to buy ranch property here. He prospered as a farmer, and here he and his wife both died. They had two children—Mrs. Mary E. Farrow of Visalia and Daniel G. Overall, Jr. The latter was reared and educated in Tulare county and went into the real estate business at Visalia, in association with John F. Jordan and W. H. Hammond. A man of public spirit, and influential politically, he was elected auditor and sheriff of Tulare county and served in the former capacity during 1887-1888 and in the latter during 1889-1890.

Ranching and stock-raising have commanded Mr. Overall's atten-

tion during most of his business career, but in late years he has been much interested in orange-growing in the citrus fruit belt of Tulare county, and is now president of the Central California Citrus Fruit Exchange. He is manager and principal owner of the Kaweah Lemon Company, director in the First National Bank of Visalia and the president of the Visalia Abstract Company. For thirteen years he was proprietor of the Palace Hotel, Visalia, and he has extensive oil interests in Kern county and mining interests in Calaveras county. He is a Scottish Rite Mason, Knight Templar and a Shriner, active and widely known in the order, and affiliates with the Fresno lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has married twice. His first wife was Miss Hawpe, who bore him a son, Orvie Overall, who has attained much fame as a baseball pitcher in some of the great games of the past decade. His present wife was Miss Van Loan.

ROBERT ANDERSON MOORE

As president of the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the Kings county Republican central committee Robert Anderson Moore has become well known throughout central California, and he has other claims to distinction than these. Born in Grant county, Wis., in 1861, he lived there until he was fifteen years old, when his family moved to Minnesota and later to Oregon. He came, eventually, to California, and after stopping for a time in Los Angeles came to Kings county and became a salesman in the McKenna Brothers' hardware store. He mastered the business and acquired great popularity with its patrons and in 1890 bought the establishment, which he conducted with success until 1911, when he sold it to the Lemoore Hardware Company.

Since disposing of his hardware interests Mr. Moore has interested himself in real estate operations. He owns two ranches, one of forty acres, three miles north of town, and one of one hundred and sixty acres, ten miles south and near the lake; the former is in vineyard, the latter in barley and alfalfa. He has invested to some extent in oil property and is a director in the Mount Vernon Oil Company, which is operating in the Devil's Den field. He was one of the organizers and is in his second year as president of the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce. As chairman of the Kings county Republican central committee and in other capacities he has long been active in political work, and he was three times elected a member of the Board of Trus-

tees of the city of Lemoore, serving two terms as chairman of that body. Socially he affiliates with the Odd Fellows and the Foresters.

In 1886 Mr. Moore married Miss Clara H. Peck, a native of Hollister, Cal. Their son, B. C. Moore, is the successful manager of an automobile garage. During all of the years of his residence at Lemoore, Mr. Moore has manifested a lively interest in the development and prosperity of the town, and as a man of public spirit he has cheerfully and generously done much for the betterment of local conditions as occasion has presented itself.

JOHN WESLEY GARR

When John Wesley Garr, who lives half a mile north of Monson, came to Tulare county there were but three houses between his residence and Hanford, roads were few and unimproved, the towns Dinuba and Sawyer had not come into existence, and irrigation ditches had not been constructed. Mr. Garr was born in Indiana, September 10, 1837, and his father was a soldier in the war of 1812. He was reared and educated there and passed his active years there until he was forty years old, and then went to Texas, where he lived three years. His next place of residence was in southern Iowa, in which state his brother died aged ninety-six years, their father living to be eighty-six years old.

In Indiana Mr. Garr married Mary J. English, a native of that state, whose parents came there from Pennsylvania. She was the mother of children as follows: Alice J., Charles N., William F., James F., Martha and George. Alice J. married Light Frazier and lives near Dinuba; they have had two children (one has passed away), and Dora is married, her husband being employed in the oil fields of California. William F., whose wife died thirty years ago while he was a citizen of Texas, is living with his father. John W. Garr has lived in Tulare county since 1881. Pre-empting an eighty-acre homestead, he paid for it partially by chopping wood and has improved it and prospered on it as a farmer. He has given some attention to figs and has on his place the largest fig tree in Tulare county, which he planted twenty years ago, and which in 1911 produced \$75 worth of fruit. From twelve trees his crop altogether made more than a ton.

In his political affiliation Mr. Garr is a Democrat. He takes a deep and abiding interest in every question pertaining to the welfare of the community and co-operates public-spiritedly in every movement for the general good.



J W Carr

THE OLD BANK

The history of "The Old Bank," at Hanford, Kings county, Cal., would be interesting, even were it not inseparably interwoven with that of the development of the city and its tributary territory. It is a state bank, established under the laws of the State of California, December 1, 1901. It was founded by S. E. Biddle, the pioneer banker of Hanford, who founded the Bank of Hanford, the latter being the first bank in the town. The original officers of The Old Bank were S. E. Biddle, Sr., president; P. McRae, vice-president; S. E. Biddle, Jr., cashier; Frank R. Hight, assistant cashier. In 1903 S. E. Biddle, Jr., resigned and Frank R. Hight was made cashier and J. J. Hight, assistant cashier. In 1908 S. E. Biddle, Sr., died, and Daniel Finn was elected president, Frank R. Hight becoming cashier and manager. The present officers of the institution are: Frank R. Hight, president and manager; P. McRae, vice-president; J. J. Hight, cashier. Its directors are: Mrs. A. A. Biddle, P. McRae, Frank R. Hight, Charles Kreyenhagen, Joseph Schmegeger, N. Weisbaum and J. J. Hight. The bank's growth has been steady and strong and it is regarded as one of the staunch and most dependable financial institutions of central California. Its depositors are among the leading business men of Hanford and vicinity. It pays interest on term deposits, and its present capital is \$50,000; its deposits aggregate \$600,000.

H. M. SHREVE

A prominent financier and business man of central California, H. M. Shreve is filling the responsible positions of vice-president and manager of the First National Bank of Tulare. A native of Bordentown, N. J., born February 17, 1864, he acquired his education in public schools and in higher institutions of learning in New Jersey and in Philadelphia. In 1880 he came to California, and for six years thereafter was employed in connection with mining interests in Mariposa county. Later he came to Tulare and was employed for several years as a bookkeeper in the office of the Reardon & Piper Planing Mill, until he opened an office to handle insurance and conveyancing, and this he operated until the beginning of his connection with the First National Bank. (A historical sketch of that institution will be found in this work.)

In 1887 Mr. Shreve married Alida E. Beals of San Francisco. He affiliates with Olive Branch lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., of Tulare and with the Visalia Masonic chapter and commandery. He

was for several years clerk of the city of Tulare, his interest in the city and county making him a citizen of much public helpfulness, and there are few demands for assistance toward the uplift and development of the community to which he does not respond promptly and liberally. Socially he is president of the Tulare Club, and as such has had much to do with projects for the general benefit. Among his interests outside the city should be mentioned the National Bank of Visalia, of the board of directors of which he is an active member.

JOSEPH LA MARCHE

The American family of LaMarche was established in Canada early in the last century and John LaMarche, son of the original emigrant, was born in Ontario and in 1837 enlisted under the banner of MacKenzie in the so-called Canadian rebellion. His son Joseph, born near Montreal in 1823, was graduated from a Canadian college, farmed early in life at LaClinte Mills and was later a merchant and a magistrate. He married Julia LaMare, whose grandfather in the paternal line founded the Canadian family of LaMare. Joseph LaMarche died in 1900, aged seventy-seven years; his wife died when she was seventy. They had thirteen children, ten of whom lived to maturity and still survive, the second of these being Joseph LaMarche, Jr., of Tulare county, who is the sole representative of the family in California.

Mr. LaMarche was born on a farm forty miles from Montreal March 1, 1853, and when he had time to do so in the years of his boyhood walked five miles to a French school if the weather was not too inclement. When he was thirteen years old he went to Upper Canada to log and lumber on the Ottawa river for \$36 a year, and at the end of a year he came down to Quebec on a raft and signed a contract to work a year in a logging camp not far away. When he was fifteen years old he went to the Lake Superior region and teamed two years among the charcoal furnaces around Marquette, Mich.; from there he came west to Nevada and teamed at Carson and Virginia City and assisted in the construction of a flume. In 1875 he came to California and for three years thereafter was employed on a ranch near Princeton, Colusa county. His first venture as an independent farmer was as a grain grower on rented land, which he operated four years. Coming to Tulare county in 1883, he began farming as a renter, but soon bought two hundred and eighty acres of bayou and railroad land, four miles south of Tulare, which he farmed to grain a year and sold in 1885. In 1886 he married and located on a ranch of fourteen hundred and twenty acres, eight miles southwest of Tulare which was the property of his wife; a part of it was farmed to grain, the remainder

was in pasture. Later he owned four thousand acres on the Tule and Elk Bayou rivers, where he raised hay and bred cattle, but this he sold in 1908. He now has twenty-one hundred and sixty acres, of which six hundred acres are devoted to alfalfa, the remainder to grain and pasturage. Since his retirement from active farming he has rented most of his acreage and now has four tenants.

The activities of Mr. LaMarche are by no means confined to the management of his land. He was prominent in organizing the Dairy-men's Co-operative Creamery Co., was elected one of its directors three months after it began business, and has acted in that capacity to the present time. In 1906 he was a director in the Co-operative Creamery Co. of Tulare. He was one of the organizers also of the Rockdale Co., and is a stockholder in the Tulare Canning Co. and the Tulare Milling Co. He was also a director in the Fair Association of Tulare county, which constructed a race track and held fairs for two years, and he is now owner of the track. Through his membership of the Tulare Board of Trade he has had to do with numerous enterprises which have tended to the commercial growth of the city; in 1908 he was elected president of the Bank of Tulare, of which he had for many years been a director. In politics he is a Democrat and he was at one time a member of the county central committee of his party. He was made an Odd Fellow in Colusa county and since he came to Tulare has been active in the work of the local lodge and encampment, his affiliation with this order covering the long period of thirty years.

At Tipton, Tulare county, Mr. LaMarche married August 7, 1886, Mrs. Mary (LeClert) Creighton, widow of John M. Creighton. Mrs. LaMarche was born at Portsmouth, England, a daughter of Theodore and Mary (Sims) LeClert, natives respectively of France and of England, and member of families long established. When Mr. LeClert settled in England he found employment for a time as a brick mason at Portsmouth. Coming later to the United States, he worked at his trade a while at Albion, N. Y., and from there he came to California in 1856 by way of Cape Horn. After mining at Knight's Ferry and at Copperopolis he turned his attention to farming and eventually passed away at Oakdale, Stanislaus county, where his wife also died. Of their three daughters and two sons, all of whom are living, Mrs. LaMarche was the second born. In 1861 she, with other members of the family, joined her father at Knights' Ferry, where she married Melvin Howard, a native of New York state, who became an orchardist at Sonora, Cal., and died there. Later she married John N. Creighton and in 1876 they settled on the Creighton ranch in Tulare county, and a few years later Mr. Creighton died at Byron Hot Springs, Contra Costa county. She is a woman of fine abilities and has been prominent in the work of the Woman's Christian Temperance

Union and in movements for the emancipation of women and for the uplift of the human race. Both Mr. and Mrs. LaMarche are noted for their public spirit and for their ready and unostentatious charity. They have two children, Joseph F., who is in the United States navy, and Miss Bernie LaMarche, who was a student at the University of Southern California at Los Angeles and in 1912 married Charles Phillip of Los Angeles.

FRANK E. FITZSIMONS

The son of George and Agnes (Ward) Fitzsimons, Frank E. Fitzsimons was born March 30, 1886, in Thomas county, Kans., where he lived until he was eight years old. His parents built the first sod house and the first frame house in that part of the county. When they located there they were eighteen miles from the nearest neighbor, twenty-six miles from the nearest considerable settlement and fifty miles from Winslow, which was their market place, and they were often menaced but never really injured by Indians. In 1894 they sought a more congenial clime in California; and after living a year at San Jose they came on to Visalia and for three years the elder Fitzsimons was foreman of the Geo. A. Fleming Fruit Company's ranch. In 1897 they settled near Oroshi, where Mr. Fitzsimons has been successful with fruit. Following are the names of the children of George and Agnes (Ward) Fitzsimons: Frank E., Orrin, Ray, Walter, Lulu and Vera. Lulu married F. A. Listman and lives near Oroshi. Orrin married May Vance.

Frank E. Fitzsimons was educated in the common school and at Occidental College, Los Angeles, 1906-07. He married Edna Furtney and has a son named Richard, who is attending high school. They formerly lived near Oroshi and had thirty acres in peaches, which he sold for \$400 an acre. The remainder of his ranch brought a satisfactory price. He had owned the place three years and had improved it in many ways. He next bought one hundred and forty acres, eighty of which he has sold. He now lives in Oroshi. The balance of his ranch he is going to set to Thompson and Malaga grapes and figs. He is a close student of everything that pertains to his business and is advancing along scientific lines, and his methods are certain to bring him even greater success than that which he has already attained. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons are Republicans and members of the Methodist church. He affiliates socially with the Woodmen of the World and is public-spiritedly devoted to the community's highest and best interests.



JOSHUA AND FRANCES A. GRIFFITH

FRANK GRIFFITH, V. S.

This well-known veterinarian of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., was born October 4, 1850, twelve miles northeast of the site of Merced and nine miles from Snelling, Cal., a son of Dr. Joshua Griffith, at which time the place described was in Mariposa county. Dr. Joshua Griffith was born June 28, 1800, seven miles below the site of Brownsville, Washington county, Pa., which was then known as Red Stone Fort. In 1810 he was taken by his family to Ohio, to a sparsely settled section in which the nearest schoolhouse was twenty-five miles distant. In 1820 he went to Missouri, and there he met John Hawkins, and in 1822 he was a member of the Ashley expedition, consisting of sixty men, to explore the Missouri river to the mouth of the Yellowstone. The party made the trip in a large keel-boat, returning in 1823. In 1824 he opened a gunshop at Santa Fe, N. M., where he made considerable money, and in 1830 he went to Sonora, Mexico, and had many interesting adventures. In 1831 he established a variety store at Hermosillo, Mexico, and from that time until 1848 he prospered variously. In the last named year he came to Los Angeles, Cal., and soon after he was mining at Amador with old man Amador. Later he mined at Volcano and Mokelumne Hill and on the fifth of November, 1848, he discovered Jackson creek in Amador county.

July 25, 1844, Dr. Griffith married Miss Fanna Arreas, a native of Sonora, Mexico. He brought his wife with him to California in 1848 and theirs was a slow journey across the plains and through mountain passes. Some of his recollections of mining at that time included experiences at Aqua Frea. From Amador county he went back to Los Angeles and from there he moved to near Snelling in July, 1849. Thus began his experiences in Merced county. He was the first to sow wheat on the bottom lands and plains there and he garnered his first crop in 1851. Going to Santa Cruz he brought back with him a pack-train, some seed corn, some chickens, three dogs and several cats. When he settled on the Merced river the only other settlers along the stream were Samuel Scott, James Waters and J. M. Montgomery. Before he built his house and while it was under construction he camped under a big oak tree in the open and there his wife gave birth to their son Frank. It was necessary for the doctor to go to Santa Cruz and Stockton for the necessaries of life. He packed in household goods and trees and once brought from Santa Cruz a sack of wheat for which he paid \$150, and from which he raised his first crop. In 1853 he built a small flour mill principally for his own use, which was operated by water which he brought from the Merced river through a ditch two miles long, and was the first water-power grist mill in the San Joaquin valley south of Sutter's Fort. It stood until 1861-62, when it was washed away by flood.

In his young manhood Dr. Griffith studied medicine, and he practiced almost continuously as occasion offered from the time he was twenty-four years old until 1874, during a period of fifty years. As a pioneer and in his later business enterprises he was a potent factor in the development of the country, and as a citizen he was widely known and respected. He died June 11, 1896, his wife in June, 1897. They had four children of whom two, Frank and Frederick, are living. The old Griffith homestead was later sold to Henry Cowell of Santa Cruz.

Frank Griffith was reared on his father's home farm, educated in the public schools and assisted his father until 1875, when he came to the site of Grangeville in what is now Kings county, Cal., which was nearer to Kingston than to any other town. Having gained a good knowledge of medicine under his father's tuition he took up veterinary practice in connection with farming. He had been to this locality in 1870 on a trip of exploration and at that time had rowed a boat over Tulare lake, which then covered much land which was bare in 1875. He had rowed to within ninety yards of the school house at Lemoore, in company with Judge and Mrs. R. B. Huey, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Skaggs and Mrs. Griffith, and their boat had floated over the land later included in the Cochran, Stratton and Jacobs tracts. He remained at Grangeville practicing veterinary surgery until 1877. As a citizen he attained to considerable prominence and eventually became a constable, a deputy sheriff and a deputy United States marshal, and in 1884 he was made under sheriff of Tulare county and took up his residence at Visalia. In 1886 he removed to Santa Cruz for the benefit of his wife's health, and there opened a veterinary office and built a home. In 1890 he came to Hanford, and in 1891 his wife, who had greatly improved, joined him. He had in the meantime bought seven acres of land on Seventh street, where he has since lived. He established his office on the site of the present Emporium building, but several years later moved it out to his ranch, where he constructed and fitted up a hospital, and until 1907 he maintained his office and infirmary on Green street not far from his present location. In 1907 he built his present quarters, consisting of an office, a hospital and an infirmary for the accommodation of twenty-four animals in the main building with fifteen outside stalls under a separate roof. While carrying on a general veterinary practice, he makes a specialty of the treatment of dogs and is the owner of a fine kennel. His acquaintanceship and his professional reputation have been extended through his incumbency of the office of county livestock inspector and county veterinarian of Tulare county for fourteen years, he being appointed to these positions by the supervisors of the county after the division. He has for many years raised thoroughbred Berkshire hogs, Dark Brahmah chickens and Muscovy ducks.

September 19, 1869, Dr. Griffith married Harriett A. Moore, a daughter of Joseph Moore, who brought his family to Kings county from Oregon in 1864. Fraternally the doctor affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a member of lodge, encampment and canton, and with the Native Sons of the Golden West, a charter member of Visalia parlor No. 19, in which he has passed all chairs.

JOHN C. DANNER

The man who practically owns and operates the commercial interests and general industries of White River, Tulare county, Cal., is John C. Danner, a native of Missouri born in 1857. Nathan Danner, his father, was a native of North Carolina, and it was in Tennessee that his mother was born, but they are now both deceased, the latter having passed away in 1911. His parents came to California in 1858, when John C. Danner was scarcely more than six months old, and landed at San Francisco, and from there they went to Tuolumne county. In 1864, when he was about seven years old, they moved to Merced county, where the boy was educated in the public schools. Later the family lived in Kern county till 1887, and there John C. was superintendent of the Kern County Land Co. In the year last mentioned he bought a farm nine miles east of White River, where he lived until 1907, and in the meantime bought ten hundred and forty acres of range land and went into the cattle business. He continued at this until he moved to White River, where he bought the land including the townsite, most of which he owns at this time. He eventually sold his cattle and range land, but is still the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of valuable California soil. He is the proprietor of a hotel, a livery and feed establishment, a general store and other business interests at White River and he and his son own a telephone system of about one hundred miles of wire which centers there. He has been a school trustee since he was old enough to hold office, was a deputy county clerk, and in Kern county served as deputy county assessor during two years of the administration of Tom Harding.

The development of Tulare county has had in Mr. Danner not only a witness but a factor, his public spirit having impelled him to assist all local interests to the extent of his ability. In 1884 he married Alice Barbeau, a native of Illinois, and they have six children: Lea S. was born in Kern county, is married and is associated with his father in business; Lucian Carl, who also was born in Kern county, assists his father in the management of his mercantile interests; Frederick Earl and Violet M. are members of their parents' household, and

Violet is an accomplished musician; Edgar and Royal complete the family.

One of the prominent business men of the county, recognized by all who know him as a man of great ability and of the best judgment, Mr. Danner generously and patriotically ascribes a fair share of his success to the splendid opportunities which Tulare county has afforded him, and while laboring to build up his own fortunes he has paused from time to time to render good offices for the benefit of the community.

GEORGE JOHN WEGMAN

Of German birth and ancestry, George John Wegman opened his eyes to the world in Hesse-Darmstadt, where Michael Wegman, his father, owned a vineyard and winery. He was educated in the good schools kept near his home, and after he became old enough helped his father, by whom he was trained to be industrious, self-reliant and persevering. He was yet a comparatively young man when he married Caroline Wennerholdt, born in Kur-Hessen, daughter of Jacob Wennerholdt, an officer in the German army, who, during his nineteen years' service participated in the wars forced on Europe by Napoleon, fighting at Waterloo, running many risks and receiving numerous wounds, and who when his service was ended was a hotel-keeper until his death.

In 1849 Mr. Wegman and his good wife sailed for the United States, their cash capital small, but they had youth, health and hope. For a time after their arrival, Mr. Wegman worked as a cooper at Lancaster, Pa., but about 1855 he went west to Warsaw, Hancock county, Ill., and established himself as a cooper, then as a farmer. Some ten years later he moved to Wisconsin and took up a farm in Jefferson county, where he remained ten years, till in 1875, when he came out to the Pacific coast and settled in Tulare county, on Elbow creek, three miles northeast of Visalia, where he bought land and engaged in farming and stock-raising. His success was very satisfactory and he prospered until his death, which occurred December 29, 1896, when he was about seventy-five years old. His wife died June 24, 1903, aged eighty-two years, five months and twenty-three days. She was a devout member of the German Reformed Church, all through her long life exemplifying in character the doctrines she professed. Mr. and Mrs. Wegman had four children: Caroline, wife of Andrew Belz; Theodore, who died in Wisconsin, aged fourteen years; Eliza Otelia, who cared for her parents until they passed away and has since lived on the old Wegman homestead, with her sister and her



THOMAS LEWIS

brother-in-law; and Mathilda, who died in California when she was eighteen years old. From the time of his arrival in California until his death, more than two decades afterward, Mr. Wegman was a citizen of Tulare county, and held an honorable position among its good and thrifty farmers.

THOMAS LEWIS

The late Thomas Lewis, whose widow lives in Tulare, two blocks west of A street and Kern avenue, was born in Michigan, April 3, 1838, and was reared to maturity at Toledo, Ohio. In 1859, when he was about twenty-one years old, he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama and took up land on the Mokelumne river, about twenty miles from Stockton. There he lived until 1865, when he sold out and went to Sacramento, and here he bought farm land and operated a dairy until 1870, when he located at Tulare on a home-stead of eighty acres and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres more and a timber culture tract of the same area. Later he bought four hundred and thirty acres on the Tule river, in the vicinity of Woodville and about twenty miles from Tulare, and for a time raised cattle and horses and kept a dairy, but later he gave some attention to farming and devoted two hundred acres of land to alfalfa, and in following out his plans herein indicated he spent the remainder of his life. He died November 28, 1887, and his widow conducted the ranch until April, 1891, when she sold part of the land and removed to Woodville. There she made her home until in 1907, when she disposed of her property in that town and took up her residence in Tulare, renting her farm property to tenants.

Before her marriage Mrs. Lewis was Miss Martha A. Johnson and was born in Missouri, a daughter of James T. and Elizabeth (Bond) Johnson. She came to California in 1864 and lived in Wood-bridge, San Joaquin county, until in 1866, and she was married May 15 of that year. Of the five children she bore her husband, four survive, namely: Chloe E. married Edwin Hamlin; Rosa is the wife of A. Wann; George S., of Fairbanks, Alaska, is an engineer; and Ruby is Mrs. William Beare of Tulare. Charles is dead. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Baptist church and with her husband she was formerly connected with the Grange.

WILLARD ERNEST DINGLEY

No work devoted even in part to the prominent men and lead-
ing interests of Kings county, Cal., would be complete without some

detailed reference to the well-known farmer, financier and man of affairs whose name is above.

It was at San Francisco, Cal., that Willard Ernest Dingley was born, December 4, 1874. He was reared in that city and in Oakland, and it was in the public schools of Oakland that he gained his educational training. In 1898, when he was about twenty-four years old, he came to Kings county and engaged in farming just outside of Lemoore. From the outset of his career here he liked the town and its people and had faith in its future. He achieved success as a farmer and gave very close attention to his ranch interests until he became cashier of the First National Bank of Lemoore, which position of trust and responsibility he accepted in April, 1907, and since that time he has devoted all his ability and energy to the upbuilding of all the interests of the staunch financial institution which is the pride of the business community of Lemoore. Meanwhile he has superintended the farming of four hundred acres, one hundred and thirty of which is in vineyard, the remainder being under alfalfa. To stockraising he has given considerable attention, with very satisfactory results. Taking an interest in all the affairs of Lemoore and of Kings county, he has been helpful in the promotion of many movements for the general good, and has won an enviable reputation as a citizen of enterprise, initiative and public spirit.

W. F. CARTMILL, M. D.

In 1861, when Dr. W. F. Cartmill bought property in Tulare county, the city of Tulare had not been founded and the county was for the most part unimproved. He saw here promising conditions which had escaped the attention of many others, and soon bought a quarter section of land ten miles southwest of Visalia, to which he added from time to time till he owned twelve hundred acres, all under irrigation. He raised cattle as long as cattle raising was profitable, then turned his attention to sheep. His flock at one time numbered six thousand, but he sold it about 1894 and for the succeeding ten years conducted an apiary. In 1904 he sold his bees and retired from active life. He had lived at Tulare since 1872, about the time of the coming of the railroad to the town. The residence that he had built at the time was one of the first imposing ones in the place, and it soon became a landmark on West Tulare street.

It was in Franklin county, Ohio, that Dr. Cartmill was born, January 5, 1822, the sixth in order of nativity of the seven children of

William and Isabelle (Ferguson) Cartmill, natives, respectively, of Virginia and of Old Virginia. To Kentucky Mr. Cartmill emigrated and there he met and married Miss Ferguson. Soon after their marriage they moved to Franklin county, Ohio, and later they went to Madison county, in the same state, and on Darby creek in that county Mr. Cartmill cleared and improved a farm. There the couple lived out their days, Mr. Cartmill living to be ninety-seven years old. As a boy, Dr. Cartmill attended a subscription school in a little log building that was little better than a hut. He read medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. Thomas, of London, Ohio, and practiced his profession there 1846-48. In the latter year he set out for California, but was persuaded to stop in Columbia, Mo., where he practiced about two years. In 1850 he crossed the plains with horses, following the overland trail up the Platte, on to Salt Lake (where he staid a fortnight), thence down the Humboldt and by the Carson route. One hundred days passed after he crossed the Missouri state line before he arrived in California. Locating at Rancheria, near Volcano, Amador county, he divided his time between mining and practicing medicine and surgery. In 1854 he returned by way of the Isthmus of Panama to Ohio, and from there went to Missouri. Near Columbia, March 27, 1855, he married Miss Sophia Barnes, who was born in that neighborhood, a daughter of the Rev. James and Elizabeth (Burkhart) Barnes, natives, respectively, of Kentucky and Missouri. Mr. Barnes, after settling in Randolph county, Mo., became a pioneer farmer and Baptist preacher. He was a hero of early Indian wars. He and his wife, parents of fifteen children, both died in Missouri. All but two of their sons and daughters grew to maturity and four of them lived to old age. Mrs. Cartmill was the only one of them who came to the Pacific coast. Dr. and Mrs. Cartmill came to California by the Nicaragua route and he resumed his work in Amador county, where they settled. From there they came to Tulare county in 1861. Some account of his activities has been given above. He believed in Republican principles and voted for the nominees of his party, but was never a practical politician. He long maintained a warm interest in the San Joaquin Valley Pioneers' Society. During his long residence in the county he supported movements for the benefit of the people and in every possible way labored for the good of the community. He passed away March 26, 1906; his wife, July 5, 1907. The deepest bereavement that came to them was the death, by diphtheria, within ten days, of their three daughters, Flora, Eva and Mary. Their youngest son, Walter Selmon, died, aged two years. There appears in this work a biographical sketch of their son, Wooster B. Cartmill. They reared to womanhood a girl named Amelia Jessie, who married R. F. Guerin, a dairyman, living near Tulare.

FRANK R. HIGHT

The president and manager of the Old Bank of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., is Frank R. Hight, one of the most trustworthy financiers in central California. Mr. Hight was born in Wyoming county, Pa., January 15, 1862, and after having been graduated from the State Normal school at Bloomsburg, Columbia county, Pa., taught school in his native state. In 1889 he came to California and resumed teaching in Merced county. He located in Hanford in 1893 and after teaching two years in the public school bought an interest in the Hanford Abstract Company, which he retained until in 1901, when upon the organization of the Old Bank he became its assistant cashier, a position from which he has advanced to that of president and manager. He has been city treasurer of Hanford since 1902, in which position he has handled big responsibilities with much conservatism and discretion.

In 1894 Mr. Hight married Miss Mary Williams, a native of Colorado, and they have four children, Harriet L., Robert B., F. Raymond, and Helen I. Hight.

ABRAM HUNTER MURRAY, Sr.

Of Scotch-German blood Abram Hunter Murray, Sr., was in everything that the term can imply a typical patriotic American. From his father he inherited the rugged constitution and intellectual characteristics of a long line of ancestors who lived their lives and died in Scotland, and through his mother many qualities which have made for good citizenship on this side of the Atlantic since Germans first set foot on American soil. His ancestor, Thomas Murray, born in Tennessee, removed to Missouri with his family, one member of which was Thomas, who was born in Campbell county, Tenn., January 28, 1797, and who in his early manhood had plenty of experience of war. He went to the front in 1812, took part in the Black Hawk war and was in command of troops in the Mormon war. From his old home at Boones Lick, Cooper county, Mo., he moved to the mouth of the Moniteau river, in that state, where he was a farmer and a ferryman until 1843, and then settled near West Point, Cass county, Mo., and resumed farming. Responding to the call of gold in California, his sons came to the Pacific coast as pioneers, and in 1853 he and his wife and their three daughters joined them at Petaluma, where he died in his eighty-fifth year. In Missouri he was county judge fourteen years and there and in California he long held the office of justice of the peace.

The woman who became Mrs. Thomas Murray, Jr., was Miss Barbara Hunter, who was born in Powell's Valley, Tenn., July 7, 1797, and died at Cloverdale, Cal., in her eighty-fifth year. Her family came over from Germany to Virginia and moved from there to Tennessee, where her father was a farmer. She bore her husband twelve children. Mary M. (Polly) became Mrs. Walker and died at Santa Rosa. Margaret (Mrs. Hensley) died in Madera county. Jane C. married Enoch Enloe and died in Cole county. Emily M., of Inyo county is Mrs. Hugh Enloe. Abram H., Sr., is the immediate subject of this notice. Urith (Mrs. Orr) died in California. Barbara Ann, of San Diego county, is Mrs. Williams. Joshua H. came to California in 1850, was a farmer and died at Visalia. Josephine died when she was ten years old. Rachael, of Santa Rosa, is Mrs. Clark. Sarah E., of Humboldt county, is Mrs. Stanley. Hannah Retta, of Cloverdale, Cal., is Mrs. Cooper.

Abram Hunter Murray, Sr., was born January 17, 1827, ten miles west of Jefferson City, Mo. At sixteen he moved to Cass county, where he lived until April 19, 1852, when, accompanied by his wife and three children, he started over the plains toward California with ox-teams, driving a herd of cattle. The journey was made by way of the Missouri, the Platte and the Humboldt river trails into California by way of the Carson river route. They stopped a few weeks in Stockton, then came into what is now Tulare county. The country was then a wilderness, and with the exception of S. C. Brown, who had arrived a few days earlier, Mr. Murray was the first settler here. The ill-fated attempt of a Mr. Woods to establish a settlement near the present town of Woodville in 1850 is a matter of history, which relates how he and seventeen of his men were killed by Indians, only one man escaping to tell the story of the slaughter.

In what is now the western part of Visalia, Mr. Murray began to farm on an extensive scale. From California and the general government he bought eighteen thousand acres of land which he afterwards lost through the vicissitudes of business, and in dry years he lost many sheep. In 1879 he engaged in steam-boating and in the wool trade, with headquarters at The Dalles, Oregon, but the climate there drove him back to California and he acquired a tract of two hundred acres in the rich San Joaquin valley. Much of this property was sold, but at the time of his death he owned forty acres in vineyard and alfalfa.

On April 25, 1844, Mr. Murray married Miss Sarah T. Hensley, who was born in Cole county, Mo., July 4, 1824. It was traditional in her family that her father, the Hon. John Hensley, a native of Tennessee and a pioneer in Missouri, passed through St. Louis when that old city was yet under the flag of Spain. For a time he lived in Gasconade county, that state, but later was a pioneer in Cole county, and

was three times elected to represent his district in the senate of Missouri, where he made a record as a man of honor and of progressive ideas. Mrs. Murray died July 8, 1902, and her place at the old homestead has been filled by her eldest child, Mary Fannie, wife of William J. Adams, who came to California in 1859, and is mentioned elsewhere in this publication. The other children are: Thomas H., a ranchman near the Toll Gate, in Fresno county; Commodore P., a retired rancher, of Humboldt county; Jackson C., who is farming in Fresno county; and A. H., Jr., court reporter of Visalia. Barbara E., who became Mrs. Taylor, died at her home on the White River, in Tulare county. Fraternaly Mr. Murray affiliated with Visalia lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., of which he was twice elected master, and he was a demitted Chapter Mason. Politically he allied himself with Democrats. In his religious ideas he was liberal, but he was generous to all local denominations, especially to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of which Mrs. Murray was a member. He passed away at his home in Tulare county, January 18, 1911.

GEORGE WASHINGTON WILLIAMS

In Polk county, Mo., George Washington Williams, who lives near the Santa Fe depot at Tulare, Tulare county, Cal., was born January 17, 1868. There he was reared and educated and there he lived, farming after he was old enough, until he was twenty years old. Then he turned his back on the parental homestead and set out alone in quest of the fortune which he was destined to find in far away California. Arriving in Tulare county in 1898 he worked there for a time on wages and then went to Butte county, where he was likewise employed a year and a half. Later he returned to Tulare county, within which he has since made his home. He continued working and saving his money four years and at the end of that time began farming for himself on three hundred and twenty acres of land on White river, where he made a crop of grain, and in the following year with a partner he seeded fourteen hundred acres, but the year was a dry one and the crop did not materialize. The next season he garnered a very good crop from five hundred acres south of Tulare, where he remained five years altogether, and then for one year farmed on rented land northwest of Tulare. In 1904 he bought eighty acres adjoining the city limits, on which he farmed and conducted a dairy four years, but which he now rents for dairying purposes. In 1907 he bought four hundred and eighty acres nine miles southwest of Tulare, which he sold in 1909, soon afterward buying four hundred acres six miles northwest of the city, and here he has farmed with much success

and has at this time one hundred acres in alfalfa, the remainder of his land being devoted to the production of barley, wheat and corn.

As a stockholder in the First National Bank of Tulare and otherwise, Mr. Williams has had from time to time to do with business interests not directly connected with the land, and in different ways he has, as occasion has offered, manifested a public spirit which has given him high place as a citizen. In 1898 he married Miss Emma Moody of Tulare.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF TULARE

A financial institution which was in its time powerfully influential in promotion of the advancement and prosperity of Tulare, Cal., was the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, organized under the laws of California, with a capital of \$25,000, in which Turner Nelson, John Goble, A. L. Wilson and H. M. Shreve were the principal stockholders and active factors. In 1907 the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank was converted into a national bank, under the title of the First National Bank, Tulare, Cal. Its original capital of \$25,000 was in 1910 increased to \$100,000, all paid in. An idea of its progress is afforded in these figures, showing comparative deposits: October 6, 1908, \$277,545.17; October 6, 1909, \$358,237.89; October 6, 1910, \$439,357.88; October 6, 1911, \$506,796.43; January 1, 1913, \$530,900.59. At the date last given the resources of the bank were as follows: cash, and due from banks, \$172,097.35; loans and discounts, \$458,552.03; U. S. bonds at par, \$80,000.00; banking house and safe deposit vaults, \$31,000.00; total resources, \$743,283.37. Liabilities: deposits, \$530,900.59; national bank notes, \$75,000.00; capital stock, \$100,000.00; surplus and profits, \$32,385.28; total liabilities, \$743,283.37. The bank is under government supervision and is a United States postal savings depository.

Statement showing increase of accounts for the year 1912:

Loans—

Total at December 31, 1912	\$458,552.03
Total at December 31, 1911	406,949.40

Increase for the year..... \$ 51,602.63

Deposits—

Total December 31, 1912	\$530,900.59
Total December 31, 1911	462,516.09

Increase \$ 68,384.50

Assets:	
December 31, 1912	\$743,283.37
December 31, 1911	662,365.01
Increase	\$ 80,918.36
Open Checking Accounts—	
Commercial accounts December 31, 1912	1453
Savings accounts December 31, 1912	175
Total accounts for 1912	1628
Total accounts December 31, 1911	1379
Increase in number of accounts for year 1912	249

Its officers and directors are T. Nelson, president; H. M. Shreve, vice-president and manager; W. E. Dunlap, cashier; J. J. Mitchell, first assistant cashier; A. T. Warden, second assistant cashier. The directors are: Turner Nelson, H. M. Shreve, Clarence M. Smith, M. G. Cottle and C. R. Scott. Mr. Smith is president of the National Bank of Visalia.

JAMES ADDISON MOOREHEAD

It was within the borders of West Virginia of today, then a part of the Old Dominion, that James Addison Moorehead was born in 1830, and there he remained until he was seventeen years old, attending school and learning something about farm labor and other work. In 1850 he went to Louisa county, Iowa, where he farmed until 1862, and in that year, in company with De Witt Maxwell and the latter's family, he came overland to California, the slow and wearisome journey consuming six months' time. They stopped at Salt Lake, Utah, three weeks, then came to Placerville by way of Carson, and from Placerville they pushed forward to Stockton, where the train was divided according to the respective destinations of the different members of the party. Mr. Moorehead worked a few days in a lumber yard in Stockton, and then found employment on the ranch of William Bailey, with whom he remained two years, when, with two men of the name of Neucl, he went to the mines in Eldorado county, remaining there until in 1869, when he came to Visalia. Having decided to take up land, he was advised to file a pre-emption claim on one hundred and sixty acres of public land six miles northwest of Tulare. Upon following this advice he lived there until he legally perfected his title to it and then he took up eighty acres adjoining his original claim. This land he improved and developed and farmed



J A Moorehead

with success until 1906, when he began to rent it out, its tenant at this time being Fred Billings. Mr. Moorehead was the first in this section to fence in a ranch and first to file on land here under the advertising law, his claim having been entered in the fall of 1869. On his place is one of the largest oak trees in the world. The original Grange at Tulare numbered Mr. Moorehead among its members, but when its charter lapsed, he did not join the new grange which succeeded it. For many years a feature of his business was threshing and one of his interesting reminiscences is of farming five hundred acres in Stokes valley in the period 1870-73, which were truly pioneer days in that section.

KENNEDY & ROBINSON

Among the prominent business men of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., the members of the firm mentioned above are in high repute. Their establishment is one of the leading business institutions of the city and in its own field is perhaps a leader in the county. It was opened July 1, 1910, though its proprietors had previously associated in business at Lemoore, where Mr. Robinson bought a half interest in the undertaking enterprise of Bryans & Kennedy, Mr. Bryans retiring from the firm. J. L. Robinson was born in Delaware county, Iowa, April 19, 1872, and when he was seven years old was brought to Sutter county, Cal., by his parents, who lived there but a year. Going back to Iowa, they came again to California at the end of another twelve months. Once more they lived in California a year, and this time they removed to Nebraska, where they remained until 1888, when they came to Redding, Shasta county, Cal. Not long thereafter they made their way back to Nebraska, whence they came to Hanford, arriving November 13, 1898. In the meantime Mr. Robinson had gathered a good knowledge of ranching by actual experience in the west and of the grain and elevator business by connection with that interest in Cedar Rapids, Neb. During the first five years which elapsed after his coming, he raised wheat along the lake, about twenty miles south of Hanford; then he bought a ranch half a mile north of that city which he traded after two years for another five and one-half miles to the northwest, which he operated three years and then sold out. Before this, however, he had bought into his present business, and in July, 1910, it was installed in a building built especially for it in Hanford. Since then the firm has conducted a branch establishment in Lemoore and its business in both towns has been very successful. Their equipment is as complete and as expensive as that of any of its kind in Central California and they operate

the only ambulance in Kings county. Mr. Robinson has the Hanford end of the enterprise in charge, while Mr. Kennedy superintends the branch at Lemoore.

Since he became a member of the business circle of Hanford, Mr. Robinson has in many ways demonstrated his public spirit. He is solicitously and helpfully interested in everything that tends to promote the city's growth and prosperity. Socially he affiliates with the Hanford organizations of the Order of Fraternal Aid and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having membership in the lodge, the encampment and the Rebekah auxiliary of the latter.

PASCHAL BEQUETTE, Jr.

In Iowa county, Wis., Paschal Bequette was born in December, 1845, a son of Col. Paschal Bequette, Sr. In 1852 Col. Bequette brought his family across the plains with ox-teams to California and was for a short time in general merchandise trade in Sacramento, but being a man of unusual ability he was soon called to a more important field of action. In 1853 he went to San Francisco to enter upon his duties as receiver of public money and pension agent under appointment by President Franklin Pierce, and these offices he filled through the administration of President Buchanan. In 1859 moving with his family to Visalia, Tulare county, he there became the owner of land and established himself as a breeder of cattle and horses. He served the county as its treasurer and as deputy recorder and passed away in December, 1879. His wife was Elizabeth P. Dodge, a native of Wisconsin, and a daughter of ex-Governor Dodge of Wisconsin, afterward the first United States senator from that state and a sister of Hon. A. C. Dodge, United States senator from Iowa, the father and son serving in the United States senate at the same time. Col. Bequette was a native of Missouri.

Following are the names of the children of Paschal and Elizabeth P. (Dodge) Bequette: Lewis L., Mary L., Christiana A., Philip, Mrs. N. O. Bradley, Mrs. S. G. Patrick, Frank R., and Paschal, Jr. The latter passed his childhood days in Wisconsin and was in his seventh year when his family moved to California. His education was begun in San Francisco and continued at Visalia, and it was in the office of the *Visalia Delta* that he served a five years' apprenticeship at the printer's trade. When he had perfected himself in his knowledge of "the art preservative of all arts" he went to Havilah, Kern county, and became half owner of the *Courier*, a newspaper published in that town. In 1869 he disposed of his interests at

Havilah and became a student at a business college at San Francisco, and in 1871 and 1872 he was connected with the *Los Angeles News* for a year. Returning to Visalia in the year last mentioned, he bought a half interest in the *Visalia Times*, which he disposed of eventually in order to engage in sheep raising in Kern county. On his return to Tulare county he took up general farming and interested himself more actively in local politics than he had ever done before. He has served eight years as deputy county assessor, four years in the United States land office, four years as under-sheriff, in the administration of B. B. Parker, and he is now deputy county recorder and deputy county treasurer. All of these various offices he has filled with ability and integrity which have commended him to the good opinion of his fellow citizens of all classes.

In 1875 Mr. Bequette married Martha L. Clarke, who has borne him children as follows: Augustus D., Paschal, Mary C., Elizabeth T., and James C. Mrs. Bequette is a daughter of James T. Clarke, a Mexican war veteran, and a California pioneer of 1849, who was a prominent early stock-raiser in this state. Her mother, who was Mary A. Graves, was a member of the famous Donner party, the awful experiences of which are a part of the history of pioneer immigration to California. Led by a man named Donner, these pioneers were snow-bound at the point now known as Donner Lake in Nevada county, Cal., and a great number of them starved to death.

E. C. FOSTER, M. D.

A native of California and a graduate of its leading medical college, Dr. E. C. Foster, whose office is in the Emporium building, Hanford, Kings county, Cal., has amply proven his ability and success as a physician and surgeon in general practice.

Born in San Francisco, Cal., in 1877, Dr. Foster was educated in the public schools there and in Oakland. He was graduated from the Oakland high school in 1898 and in that same year entered the medical department of the University of California, which in 1902 conferred upon him a diploma which declared him to be a duly educated and fully competent Medical Doctor. For nine months after his graduation he served with great profit to himself as an interne of the French Hospital at San Francisco. He began the regular practice of his profession in Colusa county, but soon went to Mexico, where he was in successful practice about a year and a half. In May, 1909, he came to Hanford, where he has since been in general practice, meeting with good success and winning a high place in the esteem of the people of that city and the surrounding country. He

is a member of the San Joaquin Medical Society and of the Fresno Medical Society. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masons, the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Brotherhood.

By his marriage in 1908, Dr. Foster was united with Miss J. E. Rathbun, who was born in Colusa county, a daughter of J. P. Rathbun.

The father of Dr. Foster, C. A. Foster, of San Francisco, is a native of Maine, who came to the Golden State in 1868 and was in 1893 appointed a customs inspector, with headquarters at the Bay City Custom House.

CHARLES W. HART

A native Californian, Charles W. Hart, farmer, stock-raiser and dairyman, three miles southeast of Farmersville, Tulare county, was born at Gilroy, Santa Clara county, June 30, 1860. His father, Charles C. Hart, born in Litchfield county, Conn., in 1826, represented old New England families. He married in his native state and came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama about 1857. His brother John had come by way of Cape Horn in 1849 and had settled at Gilroy as a dairyman, and later he moved to Tulare county and thence to Kings county, dying at Hanford. Charles C. joined his brother in Gilroy and was a dairyman there until 1861, when he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres three miles south of Visalia and went into ranching and stock-raising. In 1865 he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres, now the homestead of his widow, which he improved and put under cultivation. Later, with Charles W. Hart, his son, he bought six hundred and forty acres half a mile from his home and eighty acres of land under timber. They farmed together until he died, July 18, 1891. He married Miss Helen Payne, a native of New York, who survives him, and they had five children: Fred Miles, of Kings county, Cal.; Charles Weston; John H., a farmer near the Hart homestead; Carrie Ellen, wife of H. T. Anderson, and Kittie A., who married J. L. Tuohy, and died in 1904. The mother of these children is a consistent member of the Baptist church. The father was a man of strong principles, an advocate of progress and reform and a staunch Republican who took an active interest in all movements for the benefit of his community or his country.

Only six months of his life had been passed when Charles Weston Hart was brought from Santa Clara county to Tulare county. He was educated in the public schools in the district and received valuable early training from his father. At fourteen he was an



Dr. G. Hart

active farmer on his father's ranch, operating with remarkable ability and judgment. At twenty-one he was made his father's partner in the business of grain production and hog raising. After his father's death, Mr. Hart bought the farm outfit and stock and continued the enterprise, renting from time to time one thousand to twenty-five hundred acres of land for the purposes of his business, and he now owns six thousand acres. He has a herd of six hundred cattle of the Durham and the Aberdeen Polled Angus breeds, five hundred Poland-China hogs, one hundred and fifty horses and mules and a dairy of ninety cows.

The woman who became the wife of Mr. Hart was Miss Lila Conlee, who was born in Morro, San Luis Obispo county, Cal., a daughter of Frank Conlee, who was a native of Illinois and a settler in California in 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Hart became parents of children as follows: Weston C., Helen, Hazel Irene, Ethel C., Forest F. and Verna. Her father became a lumber manufacturer at Creston and in Tulare county, and he is now farming and growing fruit at Springville. Ella Robinson, who became his wife and the mother of Mrs. Hart, was born in Canada. Mrs. Hart is the third in their family of nine children, all of whom were early instructed in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which both Mr. and Mrs. Hart are also members. In his political convictions Mr. Hart is both liberal and conservative, preferring to reserve the right always to cast his ballot for the man whom he regards the best fitted for a specific office.

GEORGE JASPER

The well-known stockbuyer, George Jasper, of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., is a native son of the state, having first opened his eyes on the world in San Francisco, which city was his home until after he had entered active life on his own account. He was but thirteen years old when he began riding the ranges for the firm of Miller & Lux. Later he was in charge of their livestock in different parts of the San Joaquin valley until he became a buyer, in which capacity he traveled throughout the coast country in quest of cattle for that firm. For twenty-three years he continued in their employ, and in 1907 severed his connections with them and located at Hanford as an independent buyer. He buys stock in practically all counties in the valley, and ships about two carloads of hogs each week through the year, and about sixteen hundred to two thousand cattle annually. He is the owner of three hundred and eighty acres of pasture land located within six miles of Hanford.

In 1898 Mr. Jasper married Freda Von Helms, who has borne him two children, Myrtle and Tillie. Fraternally he affiliates with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Woodmen of the World and I. D. E. S. As a business man he is in high repute and is privileged to take pride in his success because it has been won with principles of honor and square dealing. He takes a helpful interest in everything that pertains to the growth and development of Hanford, his public spirit impelling him to aid to the extent of his ability all movements for the general good. His standing in the community is all the more noteworthy because he is one of the finest and most satisfactory examples of the self-made man to be found in Central California.

ST. BRIDGET'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Bridget's Catholic Church, of Hanford, Cal., was originally a mission attached to the parish of Visalia. In 1881 a plain little frame chapel was built by the Rev. Aguilera, pastor of Visalia, on two lots donated by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. This chapel was named after St. Bridget of Ireland, as the early Catholic settlers of Hanford were mostly Irish. The lots adjoining the church property were then a shepherd's camp.

From the church records it appears that in the fall of 1886 the Rev. P. J. Smith was appointed first resident pastor of St. Bridget's church. In July, 1891, he was succeeded by Rev. P. Murphy, who held the rectorship till 1894, when the Rev. J. Brady was appointed. Meanwhile the growth of the parish made it necessary to enlarge the modest little chapel and to give it a more imposing appearance. This work was ably planned and carried out by Father Brady, so that the present church has a seating capacity of three hundred.

In 1907 Father Brady being called to other fields, the Rev. G. Ashe was temporarily appointed pastor of St. Bridget's. During the six months of his labors in the parish a debt of several thousand dollars was liquidated. He was followed by the Rev. P. F. McLaughlin in 1908, who further embellished the interior of the church.

The present pastor, Rev. P. G. Scher, was appointed in August 1911. In February, 1912, an assistant was given him in the person of Rev. M. Salvador from Portugal. Immediately additional Sunday services were arranged for in order to accommodate the ever increasing attendance and new fields were opened as missions of St. Bridget's.

The Reverend Fathers now in charge master the English, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and French languages. All of Kings county and a good portion of Fresno county is the extensive field of their labors.

Owing to the growth of the city the church in recent years found itself in the best business section, hence the parish, after having successfully purchased a splendid site of nineteen lots in the heart of the residential district of the city, in June, 1912, moved the old church to the new site, disposed of the old parish rectory and erected in its stead another more spacious and better adapted to the needs of the parish.

It is confidently hoped by the present pastor that ground will be broken in the fall, 1913, for a large public hall and parochial school, large enough to accommodate from three hundred to four hundred children. A Sunday-school of two hundred children, a marriage record of over sixty and a baptismal record of nearly two hundred and seventy in the year 1912 give sufficient guarantee for a good school. A convent for a teaching order of nuns is also being contemplated at a later date.

Among the three missions of St. Bridget's that of Lemoore is the most important. On January 6, 1911, the cornerstone was laid by Rt. Rev. Mgr. J. McCarthy, V. F., of Fresno for the new St. Peter's church, which was erected at the cost of \$5,000. Instead of one monthly mass with an attendance of fifty, there are now three monthly masses with an attendance of one hundred and fifty to two hundred. The church was dedicated with great solemnity by Rt. Rev. Bishop Thomas Conaty, D. D., of Los Angeles, November 24, 1912.

Twelve miles from Hanford is the Indian Mission of Santa Rosa of Lima. The entire tribe of Taches, about sixty in number, is Catholic. Their present chapel, now in a deplorable condition, was built by them about forty years ago, under the direction of Father William, a zealous Indian missionary of the Dominican Order. A new chapel will probably be built in the near future.

Riverdale, nineteen miles northwest of Hanford, is the latest mission of St. Bridget's. Mass is said there once a month in a public hall. Catholics in that district have increased so rapidly during the past few months that the erection of a chapel in Riverdale or the near town of Lanare is at present receiving considerable thought.

Catholics in Stratford, about twenty-one miles southwest of Hanford, are also endeavoring to secure several lots, on which to build a chapel. Thus St. Bridget's parish can boast of a rapid and wonderful growth, which no doubt in the near future will become even more phenomenal, as Providence has placed it in the midst of vast stretches of fertile lands rarely found.

GEORGE A. BALLOU

It is said "the prophet is not without honor except in his own country." The pioneer is a prophet who is honored in his own country as nowhere else; that is, after his prophecies have come true. His faith in the country where he elects to establish his home is a prophecy, and the development of the community to numbers and to wealth is the fulfillment of his prophecy. Everywhere the pioneer is respected, and thoughtful men and women grieve because, like the veterans of the Civil war, our pioneers are passing away. Soon they will be seen no more. But the good they have done will live after them. The making of the Tulare county of today came largely through the long-distance foresight and the humble trust and work of its pioneers. All such who could be reached have been given place in these pages. Indirectly many readers of this owe much to George A. Ballou, who has earned the rest from activity and from material cares which follows honest and patriotic endeavor.

The Ballous of America are of French extraction. Bravely have they borne their part in the successive wars through which we have come to our national greatness. Many of the early Ballous were weavers, and it was but natural that in the infancy of our cotton industry they became connected with it in one way or another. Ballou's cottons, manufactured at Woonsocket, R. I., by Oliver Ballou, became known round the world. Harvey Ballou, Oliver's son, of Rhode Island birth and rearing, was a farmer and a bricklayer and plasterer. He married Ruth Gould, born at Cape Cod, Mass., and they both died in Rhode Island, he in 1854. Of their three sons and three daughters, George A. was next to the last born. September 26, 1832, was the time of his birth, and Cumberland, R. I., was the place. He gained a common school and academic education and received full instruction from his father in the secrets of the plasterer and bricklayer.

In 1850 Mr. Ballou came to California, with other gold seekers, by way of Panama, and stopped eighteen months at San Diego, whence he went to Los Angeles. His mining was more remunerative than was that of others whom he remembers, and after a stay of eight months in Los Angeles, a shorter one at San Francisco and a period of working at his trade in Stockton, he resumed it for a time in Mariposa county. From there he went, eventually, back to Los Angeles, and in 1860 he became a pioneer at Visalia. Here, after working as a plasterer and bricklayer several years, he began contracting in his line, and many of the early buildings of the town were erected under his superintendency. He continued his business actively till 1899, when he retired, the better to give attention to his property in town and his large holdings, of more than a thousand acres, in Tulare and two other counties. His lands were bought



J. H. Smith

when he could buy them cheaply, and he has wisely held them till they have participated in the rise in values which marks the difference between the California of the last half of the last century and the California of today. When he invested in them he very practically prophesied that they would be worth much more in his time than they were worth then, and he has been spared to know that his prophecy was not idly made. His sympathies with humanity, of high and low and intermediate degrees, made him a Republican in the days when men of his intellectual type cast their influence for the elimination of slavery from the United States, and through all its history, through all its changing issues, he has acted with that party ever since. All about him are evidences of his public spirit. Everywhere he goes he is greeted as a father and as a friend. He has been useful and in his declining years he is honored and happy and unflinching in his faith in things to come.

JOHN H. SMITH

A wide and diversified career has been that of John H. Smith, who was known as one of the oldest pioneers in the county. He was commonly called "Uncle John," his bright, cheerful and sunny disposition making him a favorite of all who were fortunate enough to know him. Born at Grimstad, Norway, November 28, 1813, he was there reared, but being early imbued with a desire to follow the sea he followed this inclination and was but a boy when he shipped as a sailor, and for thirty-five years thereafter he endured the hardships as well as the joy of living on the water and visiting every port of interest in the world. His sea life took him often to the East Indies, and he sailed around Cape Horn three times. It was in 1848 that he decided to give up seafaring life and at that time he landed in New York, where reports of gold found in the west immediately fired him with ambition to go there. He set sail for California, going around Cape Horn, and in 1850 reached San Francisco. He became a gold miner and followed this vocation for some years with varying success until 1866, his operations being chiefly in Tuolumne county. Turning his attention to more positive means of livelihood, Mr. Smith removed from that county to Summitville, Contra Costa county, and there engaged in coal mining in the employ of the Pittsburg Coal Mining company, remaining with them until 1875. During this service a fire broke out in the mines and Mr. Smith evinced the most courageous spirit in bravely entering into a burning shaft and rescuing seven men. For his heroism he received from his employers as a memento a handsome gold watch costing \$200. This watch, pre-

sented him by the president of the mining company, is solid gold and engraved as follows: John H. Smith, Pittsburg C. M. Co. For Noble Conduct during a fire at the Mine, Dec. 10th, 1871.

Leaving the coal mines Mr. Smith came to the present homestead near Guernsey in 1875. Subsequently he again engaged in coal mining at Coalinga, serving as superintendent of a coal mine for Messrs. Robinson & Rawlings, and it was while employed here that he lost his faithful wife and helpmate in 1889. The remainder of his life he spent engaged in farming and stockraising in company with his sons, Henry and William, at his home near Guernsey. Mr. Smith was well known for his honesty and kindly attitude toward everyone. Energetic and hardworking, when past eighty he performed his regular duties on the farm and he lived to attain a great age, his death occurring May 19, 1907, at which time he was probably the oldest man living in Kings county.

On July 26, 1855, Mr. Smith was married at Sonora, Cal., to Anna Nilson, a native of Sweden. They became the parents of six sons and two daughters, as follows: George, born in 1856, died in infancy; William was born in 1858, and is a partner of Henry C., his brother; Albert, born in 1860, died in 1887; Emma, born in 1862, married Charles Freisch, of Traver, and died without issue in 1902; George (2), born in 1864, died in 1888; Henry C. is mentioned elsewhere in this publication; Matilda is the wife of Joseph Dalton, of Coalinga; she was born in 1867 and is the mother of seven children; Lewis, born in 1870, still owns an interest in the home ranch. Mr. Smith was particularly well known by all the people in the Lakeside country and was highly respected. His noble and loving character has ever been a beautiful example of true living, and his influence for good was wide and strong, his memory being held dear by many who have just reason to honor his name and revere his memory.

ALBERT H. COLLINS

One of the up-to-date and prosperous farmers of Tulare county, whose career has been one of progressive success, is Albert H. Collins, whose home is on the Tulare road, rural free delivery route No. 1, near Tulare city. Mr. Collins was born in Scotland county, Mo., March 2, 1861, grew to manhood on his father's farm and was educated chiefly in the public school in his home district. In 1882, when he was twenty-one years old, he went to western Montana, where for a time he was a stock-raiser and afterward until 1892 a general merchant. Then he returned to his old home in Missouri, whence he came in 1894 to California. Renting land two miles west of Tulare,

he devoted himself to the production of wheat, alfalfa, vineyard and some miscellaneous crops until he bought his present place, five miles north of Tulare, where he has lived since 1902. It is a fifty-acre ranch, which he has greatly improved by the planting of shade trees and otherwise. He has forty-five acres in alfalfa, maintains a dairy of twenty cows and keeps thirty-six head of beef cattle, the same number of hogs, five horses and four hundred white Leghorn hens.

In 1889 Mr. Collins married Miss Emma Riley, a native of Missouri, and they have a son, Floyd W. Collins, who is now about ten years old. Mr. Collins was a charter member of the local lodge of the Woodmen of the World and of the local lodge of Women of Woodcraft, a sister order to the Woodmen of the World, and with which Mrs. Collins is also identified. He affiliates also in a fraternal way with Kaweah Tribe, Improved Order of Red Men, of Tulare. He was one of the promoters of the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery and has been a stockholder in the company controlling it during its entire history. He is a director also in the Tulare Irrigation Ditch Company and has from time to time been identified with other important interests. As a citizen he has met all demands on his patriotism with a ready liberality that has added not a little to his popularity.

JAMES MILTON SETLIFF

On North E street in Tulare lives James Milton Setliff, who is well and favorably known throughout Tulare county as a progressive and successful farmer and stockraiser. Mr. Setliff was born in Tennessee March 8, 1864, and was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools there. When he was twenty-one years old he came to California, locating in Tulare, where he was employed for three years at carpentering and doing farm work. He then began farming on rented land, taking a tract of two hundred acres a mile out of town and one hundred and sixty acres six miles southwest. On both of these properties he raised grain. In the following spring, in partnership with two others, he rented four hundred acres four miles west of Pixley and raised grain with good success. Next year he farmed that land and six hundred and forty acres a mile south of it, which proved a splendid undertaking. The following season was dry and he lost everything, and the next spring found him working for wages in an effort to recover. The year after, with a partner, he farmed seven hundred acres west of Wankena, near the Artesia school house, and was able to market nothing but ten tons of hay. During the succeeding year he devoted himself to teaming.

The following spring he seeded and planted forty acres near Paige, and in the fall he harvested fifteen tons of hay and four hundred and sixty-four sacks of grain. The subsequent year, with O. W. Griffith as a partner, he farmed seven hundred acres five miles south of Tulare and eighty acres of the Huff place near Paige. His next experience as a renter was on two hundred and forty acres of the Huff place and seven hundred and sixty acres in the section adjoining it on the west, but he did not receive a great gain from this, and since 1906 he has farmed one hundred and ninety-five Huff acres and conducted a dairy on eighty acres of his own land, milking thirty cows. Seventy acres of this tract, which he bought in 1896, are under alfalfa. In 1903 he bought sixty-four acres adjoining the Huff ranch, on which he keeps about two hundred and fifty hogs and breeds draft and driving horses. He has put eighty acres of the Huff land under alfalfa with a view to the establishment of a dairy-
ing enterprise. He owns an interest in a thoroughbred Percheron stallion that cost \$2,800 and has a good residence property in Tulare, to which city he moved in order to better educate his children.

In 1891 Mr. Setliff married Miss Nannie Gully, a daughter of Bryant Gully, who lives eight miles south of Tulare, and she died in 1898, having borne him three children, Russel, Guy and Nannie. Russel has passed away. In 1901 he married Miss Lydia Garrett, a native of Mississippi, and to this union was born a son, Roland. Mr. Setliff was married a third time. On August 2, 1910, Mrs. Azaela Nicholson, of Tulare, became his wife. She is a daughter of Silas R. Gully, of Tulare. As a citizen Mr. Setliff takes a public-spirited interest in the community and in a fraternal way he affiliates with the Odd Fellows, the Elks and the Woodmen of the World.

CHARLES EDWARD SMITH

A native of the Prairie State who has made good in California is Charles Edward Smith, of Porterville, Tulare county. It was in Madison county, Ill., that he was born December 20, 1854. There he was educated and in the intervals of study acquired a practical knowledge of farming. In young manhood, with his parents he went to Missouri, where he lived on a farm for about five years. After that he came to California, in the fall of 1886, locating in Tulare county and stopped for a short time at Lemoore. Later he made his home in Tulare City and from there went to Kern county and pre-empted land on which he lived until he located his home at Porterville in 1891. There he acquired land which he eventually sold in order to engage in the grocery business. Thus he was employed

for ten years, then he sold his interests at Porterville and moved to San Jose, the better to educate his children, and remained there three years. When he first came to Porterville it was a mere hamlet of a few houses, with only some small business beginnings of different kinds. By the time he removed to San Jose it had acquired considerable importance, and when he moved back in 1906 it was to a town something like the bustling and prosperous Porterville of today.

In April, 1883, in Girard, Kan., Mr. Smith married Miss Livonia Leach, a native of Clinton county, Ill., born April 18, 1862, who has borne him four children, three of whom are living. May married James Large and is living in Ventura county. Bessie is a student at the Normal school at Fresno, and Eda is in the grammar school at Porterville. Henry Allen died when he was twenty months old. Mrs. Smith's parents, William A. and Letty (Smith) Leach, immigrated to California in 1892. Her father died here in 1907; her mother survives, aged eighty-six years. Mr. Smith's father, Edwin Smith, is living at the age of eighty-six, but his mother, Elizabeth (Robinson) Smith, has passed away.

Fraternally Mr. Smith affiliates with the Odd Fellows' lodge and encampment. As a citizen he is liberally public-spirited, never failing to respond to any appeal in the interest of the public good.

DAVID ANTHONY VAUGHN

Few men in the vicinity of Porterville are in higher repute than David Anthony Vaughn, a brief account of whose career to this time is here given. He was born at East Greenwich, Kent county, R. I., October 7, 1846, a son of Caleb and Lydia (Hathaway) Vaughn, natives of the same town. Caleb Vaughn, who was born in 1816, and now ninety-seven years old, is still living there; his wife died in 1881. They had two sons and four daughters: David A., William Pheby, Susan, Lydia and Addie. Pheby, Addie and William are living at East Greenwich.

In May, 1868, Mr. Vaughn started for California by way of Panama, and arrived at San Francisco June 13, following. That same year in San Joaquin county, he leased a five hundred and ten-acre ranch and for three years engaged in stock-raising and wheat growing. In 1871 he moved to Porterville, Tulare county, where for twenty years he gave his attention almost exclusively to sheep raising. During that period he purchased about six thousand acres of land from individuals and from the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. He has sold three hundred and twenty acres of orange

land, which is now being improved, and now owns fifty-three hundred and sixty acres, sixteen hundred acres of which is number one orange land. For the last thirty years he has grown wheat and raised cattle. In 1904, upon the organization of the First National Bank of Porterville, he was one of its original stockholders and he has since owned a considerable interest in the institution. In 1907 he moved his family from his ranch to the city of Porterville, where he had bought a family residence at the intersection of Morton and D streets. He was elected mayor of Porterville in 1910 for a two-year term, after which he refused to again become a candidate. During his term of office he made a record as an able, honest and up-to-date executive. During all the years of his manhood he has been a Republican and he is still proud to support the policies of that party.

In 1880, at East Greenwich, R. I., Mr. Vaughn married Amanda M. Shippee, a daughter of Manser and Harriet Shippee, natives of that town. Mrs. Vaughn was educated in the public schools of East Greenwich, and came to California immediately after her marriage. L. U. Shippee, her uncle, had come to Stockton in 1853. Mrs. Vaughn's parents are both dead. She has two brothers and two sisters living in East Greenwich, R. I. Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn have two daughters, Minnie and Bessie. Minnie married J. S. McGahey, of Porterville, in 1903, and they have a son named Earl.

ROBERT M. SHOEMAKER

New Jersey has been the mother state of many men who have achieved success in the West and on the Pacific coast. One such who has attained to high rank among the farmers of Tulare county is Robert M. Shoemaker, who is located four miles south of Lindsay. His parents were natives of New Jersey, descendants of old families in the East. Born in 1847, Mr. Shoemaker remained in his native state until 1905. There he was educated, farmed successfully and took a leading part in local political affairs, filling the offices of township committeeman and supervisor for many years, until he came to California. There too, he married, in 1875, Miss Sue Llewellyn, a native of that state, who bore him four children, three of whom are living. Two are married and settled for life in New Jersey, the other, E. O. Shoemaker, is a member of his parents' household.

On coming to California, Mr. Shoemaker bought forty acres of raw land without any improvements. He has improved the place in many ways, adding to its productiveness and to its attractiveness as well. When Mr. Shoemaker came here in 1906 there was nothing

to be seen but wild oats and hog wallows, and not a neighbor within a mile, except Mrs. Allen Hunsicker, from whom he bought. He has now a beautiful cottage 40x24, a barn, 30x40, pumping plant, pipe lines for irrigation purposes.

His land is now planted as follows: Thirteen acres in Valencia oranges; eight acres in navel oranges; five acres in pomelos; three acres in pomegranates; one acre in building spot, alfalfa, garden, etc. Mr. Shoemaker has sold off ten acres. He has, from the beginning of his residence here, taken a deep interest in the affairs of the county and state and was one of the promoters and organizers of the Chamber of Commerce of Strathmore, Cal. Politically he has always been allied with the Democracy, believing that through the policies of the Democratic party greater good can be brought to greater numbers of the people than in any other way. Fraternally he affiliates with the Knights of the Golden Eagle, being a member of the Pitman Grove, N. J., organization of that order, and is a charter member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics at Pitman Grove, New Jersey.

SCHIMMEL BROTHERS

There are not in the vicinity of Tulare two men better or more favorably known than the brothers F. C. and A. R. Schimmel, who live eight miles west of the city on the Paige Switch road. F. C. Schimmel is a native of Yamhill county, Ore., while A. R. Schimmel was born in Portland in the same state. Their parents farmed for a time near Portland, then engaged in milling and the lumber business in southern Oregon until 1901, when they disposed of their interests there and came to Kings county and farmed four years with W. H. Wilbur, of Alpaugh. In 1905 the brothers bought a tract of nine hundred and sixty acres of land six miles west and two miles south of Tulare, on which they have made all the improvements, including a residence, barns, ordinary fencing and hog-tight fence and two artesian wells. Their irrigation is largely supplied from the Packwood ditch, in which they own four hundred and fifty-two shares. Four hundred acres of their land is in alfalfa and one hundred is under irrigation. The feature of their business is the breeding of mules, for which they keep two jacks and one hundred mares for breeding purposes only, and they give special attention to the raising of hogs. Besides the operation of the property just described they farm six thousand acres near Angiola, devoting the entire tract to grain. They use a Holt machine and mules and also a harvester; at times they have harvested for others near by, but they have decided to confine their work of this kind to their own lands

in the future. They employ ten men in season and keep about forty head of work stock.

In October, 1906, F. C. Schimmel married Fannie Garrison of Oregon. Both of the Schimmel brothers are members of Tulare lodge No. 1484, F. O. E., and F. C. Schimmel affiliates with the Tulare organization of the Woodmen of the World. They are popular socially and are welcomed in business circles as men of enterprise and of tried and dependable public spirit.

W. J. SMITH

In Montgomery county, Mo., W. J. Smith was born July 31, 1844, the son of M. H. and Rebecca (Eperson) Smith, natives respectively of Virginia and of Kentucky. His father passed away nearly thirty years ago and his mother, who married very young, died when she was but thirty-three years old. W. J. Smith was early taken to Audrain county, Mo., where he lived until he was eighteen years old, obtaining an education in common schools and accustoming himself to productive labor. At the age above mentioned he came overland to California with a wagon train of emigrants under the leadership of Captain Allen, taking his turn at standing guard whenever the party camped. His father and mother were of the party. The family halted at Marysville, then located at Knights Landing, where they lived from 1863 to 1872. In Modoc county Mr. Smith filed on public land on which he lived about fourteen years, and early in his residence there he and his wife were called upon to brave the terrors of the historic Modoc war. From Modoc county he came to Tulare county and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land near Red Banks. He is now the owner of forty acres, five acres of this being under orange trees, the balance devoted to peaches, apricots, miscellaneous fruits and grapes. His ranch is well supplied with buildings and all essentials to successful cultivation and he keeps six to eight horses. As a citizen he is influentially helpful, and in politics he is independent. He became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows while a resident of Modoc county, and it was there too that he married. The lady who became his wife was Miss Florence Warren, a native of Oregon, and she has borne him ten children, Emma, James, Frank, Viola, Steward, Wilbert, Earl, Essie, Charles and Delma. Steward and Essie have passed away; James married Bertha Swan, and they and their son make their home at Red Banks; Emma became the wife of Elmer Brotherton of Visalia and has borne him six children; Frank, of Wood Lake Valley, married Lena Ganes; Viola married August Woodward of Tulare.



W. P. Smith
Th. Lawrence & Smith

GEORGE WOOD

Men of English birth who have won success in California are numerous, and among them one whose career is properly within the scope of this work is George Wood, farmer and president of the Tulare Eucalyptus Company. Mr. Wood was born on the British isle, November 2, 1861. In 1884, when he was twenty-three years old, he came to Saskatchewan, Canada, and homesteaded land, which he improved until 1888. Then he disposed of his interests there and during the succeeding seven years farmed and raised stock in Ward county, N. Dak. Subsequently until 1909 he lived in McKenzie county, N. Dak., where he took up one hundred and sixty acres of land and started in to raise sheep and cattle. In 1906, however, he sold off his stock, and after that he devoted himself to farming until he settled in California. In 1907 he visited Tulare county, Cal., and with a partner bought one hundred and thirty-two acres of land, of which he eventually retained sixty-nine acres. Since he located here he has made improvements on the property and has put forty acres under alfalfa and intends to handle the balance of the tract in the same way. His principal business is in growing hay, and he keeps little stock beyond what is necessary to operate his farm.

In 1889 Mr. Wood married Miss Caroline E. Jones, an English woman, and they have four children, Arthur, Maggie, Frank and George. Maggie is the wife of Roy N. Johnson, of North Dakota. Mr. Wood knows farming as well as any man in his vicinity and his farm is sufficient evidence of that fact. He has achieved his success in life by wise planning and hard work. His interest in the community with which he has cast his lot impels him to a course which marks him as a citizen of much public spirit.

CHARLES F. BLASWICK

A Californian born and bred, Charles F. Blaswick was born October 4, 1857, in Plumas county, and he was taken by his parents to Colusa, then to Yuba county. From Yuba county he came to Tulare in 1886, and for the succeeding fourteen years he was employed continuously on the ranch of Joseph LaMarche. During that time he lived on the place, worked steadily and saved his money, and in 1900 he bought one hundred and twenty acres on which was a small house and barn, and soon thereafter had built an addition to the residence, fenced the land and put in a dairy of thirty or forty cows and was breeding horses and hogs and making a specialty of poultry. In these lines he has continued till the present time. Much of his land is used for pasture. At the present time he is putting in eighty

acres of alfalfa, and has installed electric lighting for his house and premises. He obtains water for domestic purposes by means of an artesian well with a six-inch pipe and for irrigation from two large wells, one a fifty-eight-footer, the other an eighty-footer, the pumps in which are operated by one gasoline motor, one hundred inches of water being produced. Mr. Blaswick also raises stock on a small scale. His sons, William and Frederick, rent three hundred and twenty acres of the Gibson ranch, operate a dairy on the property and have one hundred and twenty acres in alfalfa and two hundred in grain. They rent also one hundred and sixty acres of the Birch Williams ranch, all of which is devoted to grain raising.

The Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery Company of Tulare numbers Mr. Blaswick among its stockholders. He affiliates with the Tulare lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a regular and social member of the Tulare organization of the Woodmen of the World. His sons are identified with the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Brotherhood, his daughter Wilhelmina with the last mentioned order and Mrs. Blaswick with the order of Fraternal Aid.

Mr. Blaswick married, November 27, 1884, Miss Anna Mahle, a native of Yuba county, Cal., and they have four daughters and two sons. William and Frederick are ranchers, and the latter married Winifred Kessell. Wilhelmina married Elmer Berkerhoff and resides in Tulare county. Mary Ann, Allie and Leona are members of their parents' household.

ROBERT O. NEWMAN

In North Carolina was born Jacob Newman, son of a patriot of the war of 1812. He settled at Booneville, Mo., in 1821, and was a farmer and distiller, his distillery having stood a mile from the Missouri river. He went to Texas in 1854, and lived out his days at Port Sullivan. His son Jesse G. Newman was born at Booneville, Mo., grew up there, married and went to work as a farmer. In 1849 he turned his back on Booneville and, crossing the plains with ox-team, mined on Feather river, Cal. In 1852 he went back to Booneville, where he died, aged fifty-two years. A man of ability, he was judge of Cooper county, Mo., eight years and was for a time captain of a company of Missouri Home Guards in the Federal service in the Civil war. He was well known as an Odd Fellow. He married Elizabeth Hill, a native of Kentucky, daughter of James Hill, a Mississippian by birth, and an early settler and pioneer farmer at Booneville. Mr. Hill was sheriff of Cooper county and died there.

after a life of activity and usefulness. Mrs. Newman survived her husband and eventually passed away in Tulare county. Of their twelve children, six are living: Robert Oscar, whose name is above; Jesse H.; Harry Hill; Frank; Fannie, wife of George P. Robinson of Nevada; and Maggie, widow of the late Marion Grove, of Visalia.

The birth of Robert Oscar Newman occurred July 4, 1848, in Booneville, Mo. There he was brought up to the life of a farmer's boy and educated in a district school, the Booneville school and Allison's Academy for Boys in that town. In the Civil War he served as a member of his father's company, which was called out during Shelby's raid in 1863 and Price's raid in 1864. Price came to Booneville with thirty thousand men, and as there were only a hundred and fifty men in the Home Guards, the latter was forced to surrender, but its men were paroled three days later. After the war Mr. Newman farmed on the Newman place, near Booneville, till he was twenty-three years old. Then, in 1871, he went to Elko, Nev., where for two years he teamed in the mountains. After the death of his father he returned to Missouri and conducted the home farm for his mother till in 1882, when he purchased an adjoining farm, which he sold two years later in order to come to Tulare county, Cal. Soon after his arrival he rented land on the Cottonwood and went into wheat growing, having in charge four thousand acres of the Fielding Bacon holdings, running a big farming outfit which included seven eight-mule teams. By 1892 he had accumulated \$25,000, but the financial stringency of 1893 and the reverses of several dry seasons made him as poor as he had been at the beginning of these extensive operations.

In 1898 Mr. Newman settled on his present home property, then known as the old Morgan Beard ranch. His property now includes three hundred acres devoted to grain and alfalfa and six hundred and forty acres of the Fielding Bacon land. His specialty is the raising of fine trotting stock, and he is conspicuous as the dealer in Tulare county who invariably offers regular Standard bred horses. He has produced more record horses than any other man in the San Joaquin valley, among which have been the following: Robert Basler, 2.20, by Antebolo, 2.19, son of Electioneer, his dam being Elizabeth Basler; De Bernardi Basler, 2.16 $\frac{1}{4}$, by Robert Basler; Ida May, by Grosvenor, the dam of Homeward, 2.13 $\frac{1}{4}$, by Strathway, sired George G., 2.05 $\frac{1}{4}$; Dr. W., 2.18 $\frac{1}{4}$, by Robert Basler; Jonesa Basler, 2.05 $\frac{3}{4}$, by Robert Basler; Stoneway, 2.22, by Strathway, 2.19, whose dam was Elizabeth Basler; sired Myway, 2.15 $\frac{1}{4}$; Stoneletta, 2.15 $\frac{1}{4}$ at two years old. He owns at present Robert Direct, ten years old, by Direct, 2.05 $\frac{1}{2}$, dam Daisy Basler, by Robert Basler, one of the finest bred horses in the United States; Dew Drop Basler, by Robert Basler; Ida May, by Grosvenor; Daisy Basler, by Robert Basler;

Wedding Bells, by Robert Basler; all fine Standard bred mares. Mr. Newman is reputed to be one of the best judges of horses in America. For a time he dealt also in cattle and was the owner of a splendid herd of Jersey cows.

At Booneville, Mo., Mr. Newman married Frances Ziegel, daughter of Andrew Ziegel, an early settler, farmer and tanner in Missouri, and they have seven children: Grace, wife of Henry J. Lyman, Hilo, Hawaii; Walter, a graduate of the University of California; Tracy, a merchant at Portland, Oregon; Elizabeth, a trained nurse, at Honolulu; Nellie, a graduate of the Visalia high school; Robert O., Jr., who was educated at the University of California; Lola, a graduate of the Visalia high school. Mr. Newman is a Democrat and has been useful to his party in Tulare county by his long service as a member of the county central committee. He advocates all measures which, in his opinion, promise to benefit any considerable number of his worthy fellow citizens, and, taken all in all, is one of the most prominent, substantial and useful citizens of his part of the state.

LOWERY B. KING

Among the progressive and prosperous Missourians who are making a record of success in Central California is L. B. King of Tulare county, whose ranch is on rural free delivery route No. 1, out of Visalia. Mr. King was born in Buchanan county, in the state mentioned, March 5, 1865, a son of James W. and Elizabeth J. (Jones) King. He was reared and educated and taught farming in his native state as it was practiced there, and in 1886, when he was twenty-one years old, he came to California and settled near Visalia and for five years leased and operated a ranch belonging to Sands Baker.

Later Mr. King farmed land in the Kaweah Swamp district for several years, raising potatoes and other crops which yielded good returns. Then, responding to the call of the east, he went to Oklahoma and Missouri and tried to farm there, but was driven back to California by destructive droughts; and here he has been content to remain ever since; here he firmly believes he will live out his allotted days on earth. For a time after his return he was foreman on the Kane ranch in Tulare county. Since January, 1907, he has farmed a one hundred and twenty acre ranch owned by Sands Baker, his father-in-law, which includes a profitable dairy of thirty-five cows. He gives attention to the breeding of horses and has several good brood mares which invariably raise fine colts. Hogs and chickens are a source of revenue to him; he has forty acres of alfalfa and a

garden. All in all, he is one of the really successful farmers of his part of the county. As a citizen he is public-spiritedly helpful. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America. While he has never been particularly active in political work, he is alert and patriotic in the performance of his duties as a voter and has ably filled the office of clerk of the school board of the Union district and the office of school trustee.

In 1892 Mr. King married Miss Mattie Baker, a native of Fresno county, and they have four children, Ethel F., Lauris M., Sands E. and Helen B. Lauris M. was graduated at fourteen from the Union High School, took a course at a boarding school in Los Angeles, and is now attending the Visalia high school.

SAMUEL A. BREWER

The prosperous rancher whose name is sufficient to direct the attention of the reader to this notice had lived in Kings county since 1873 and is one of the best known tillers of the soil and breeders of fine stock and poultry in all the country round about Hanford. Born at Coyote, Santa Clara county, Cal., March 8, 1867, he attended public schools until he was nineteen years old, then working on the ranch for his father until he was twenty-three, at which age he entered upon an independent career. It will be noted that he was only six years old when his family settled in Tulare county, in that part now known as Kings, and that he has lived here practically all his life. His first land purchase was one of twenty-one and one-quarter acres, but he rented and ran in connection with it the old Dillon place. This arrangement lasted but a year, however, for at the beginning of his second season he settled on his home place and branched out in the raising of cattle, hogs and chickens. Six years later he added to his holding by the purchase of another twenty-one acres, and by subsequent purchases has brought the area of his ranch up to eighty-five acres, well stocked, well provided with buildings, machinery and appliances, and exceptionally well tilled. In recent years Mr. Brewer has devoted himself particularly to dairying and to hog-raising.

In 1908, as an experiment, Mr. Brewer put in four acres of sugar beets and from that planting secured sixty-two tons, which netted him \$164, showing that, all things being equal, this is a profitable crop. He brought the first beet-drill to his ranch, the first cultivator, plowed the first beets and put the first beets in the car at Odessa. He was successful, following directions given to see what the possibilities were.

January 18, 1890, Mr. Brewer married Miss Effie Webber, who was born in Newport, Pa., June 22, 1871, and they have three children living, whom they have named Harry A., Ethel M. and Clara L. One child died in infancy. While he is not very active politically, Mr. Brewer takes a broad view of all economic questions and loyally performs his duties as a citizen. He has never sought office, nor has he ever accepted it except in one instance, when he consented to become a school trustee, in which capacity he labored effectively for local education during a period of six years. His public spirit has been many times tried and never found wanting and his influence is always exerted for the amelioration of the conditions under which he and his neighbors must work and live. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Fraternal Brotherhood.

HENRY BERTCH

An up-to-date and prominent dairyman of Tulare is Henry Bertch, who was born November 11, 1857, in Erie county, N. Y., twelve miles from Buffalo. There he followed the life of a farmer's general boy, gaining an education in the public schools, and he remained there until 1884, when he was twenty-seven years old. Coming then to Tulare county, Cal., he readily found farm work. He homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres and in 1885 bought one hundred and sixty acres more near Delano, in Kern county. These tracts he farmed six years without any adequate returns, suffering losses because of dry seasons. Later until 1895 he worked a rented farm in Tulare county, and then leased an adjoining farm and controlled an aggregate of three hundred and twenty acres, which he operated until 1898. In that year he bought one hundred and sixty acres eight miles west of Tulare, on which he made improvements, enclosing five fields with hog-tight fences. He planted three acres to orchard and gave fifty acres to alfalfa. He now has a dairy of twelve cows and devotes sixty-five acres of his land to grain and the balance to pasture. He has put down a well one hundred and seven feet deep for irrigation, which is fitted with a six-inch pump, the motor power of which is a fifteen horse-power gasoline engine, and a seventy-foot well for domestic uses. Dairying is perhaps his chief business aside from farming, and he is a stockholder in the Dairy-men's Co-operative Creamery at Tulare.

In 1903 Mr. Bertch married Harriet Hoffman. Socially he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a member

of the Tulare lodge. As a farmer he is well informed on all subjects pertaining to that vocation, being considered an authority. His public spirit is of a quality that makes him a most useful citizen.

ORLANDO D. BARTON

A great-grandson of a soldier of the Revolutionary war and a grandson of a soldier of the war of 1812, his progenitors in the paternal line, Orlando D. Barton was born in La Salle county, Ill., in 1847, a son of James and Susan (Davenport) Barton, natives of Morris county, N. J., the former born November 2, 1819, and the latter on October 30, 1823. James Barton crossed the plains with his family in 1865, following the North Platte river route to Salt Lake and the Austin & Walker's lake route from there on. The Sioux Indians were then at war and caused the train of which the Bartons were members considerable trouble. However, the family arrived safely at Visalia October 6, that year, and camped near the present site of the Santa Fe depot. The father took up land at the site of Auckland and raised cattle there on four hundred and forty acres for fourteen years. In 1879 he moved to Three Rivers, where he lived until his death, September 2, 1912, except during the periods of his inembency of the office of supervisor of Tulare county, when his home was in Visalia.

The elder Mr. Barton was honored by election to the office in the county for five terms and was prominent in the management of county affairs. The court house was built under his supervision and he had charge of the erection of the old and the new county jails. He reached the advanced age of ninety-two years and ten months, his wife dying January 19, 1912, aged eighty-eight years and two months, and died on the sixty-ninth anniversary of their marriage. Both were honored as pioneers who braved the hardships of the overland trail to pave the way for the present civilization of California. Of their children we mention the following: Hudson D. married Sarah Harmon and they have six children—James, who married Nellie St. Clair and has two daughters; Frank, who married Miss Foucht, who has borne him two children; Albertus, who married Miss Downing and has three children; and Royal V., Hugh and Orlena. Orlando D. is the immediate subject of this sketch. Enos D. was the next in order of birth. Jane married J. B. Weathers, of Visalia, and they have two children, Grover and Mrs. Carrie Sweet. Adelaide is the wife of J. H. Butts, of Hanford, and they have two children, Dell and Mrs. Ida Hamilton. Melissa married R. C. Hardin of Visalia and they have three children, Norman, Mrs.

Blanche Young and Benjamin. James and Susan (Davenport) Barton had, all counted, about fifty descendants.

It is as a writer that Orlando D. Barton is perhaps best known, his articles about the Indians and other western subjects having been widely read. In the days of his youth he ranched with his father and brothers, helped to build sawmills and to get out lumber in the mountains, and taught three terms of school in the Cottonwood district. Later he settled on a ranch at Three Rivers, which is now the site of the River Inn, and raised cattle and hogs there eight years. In the period since he has been interested in mining and oil, being a practical mineralogist of many years' study and experience. He is the owner of quite extensive oil interests in the Lost Hills and in the Devil's Den mining district of Kern and Kings counties.

In 1880 Mr. Barton married Miss Maggie Allen, a native of California, who died in 1888, leaving two children. Their daughter Phoebe, wife of Alexander McLennan, of Visalia, has a son. Their son Cornelius is employed by the San Joaquin Light and Power Company.

ASA T. GRIFFIN

As soldier, farmer and citizen Asa T. Griffin has won the respect of all with whom he has from time to time been associated. He was born in Cooper county, Mo., August 8, 1842, and from there his family soon afterward moved to Benton county, where he grew up. In 1861, when he was only nineteen years old, he enlisted in the Sixty-fourth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the Civil war, when he was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., in July, 1865. He took part in much historic fighting, including that at New Madrid, the siege and battle of Corinth, and later served under General Sherman in the South. Going back to his old home, he soon afterward located in St. Clair county, Ill., where he farmed successfully.

In 1873 Mr. Griffin came to California and settled in Tulare county, and since that time he has been ranching near Visalia. Formerly he gave attention especially to cattle and to dairying, but now he owns twenty acres four miles southwest of Visalia, ten acres of which is in Muir and Lovell peaches, another ten in alfalfa. Since 1906 he has been a rural mail carrier, delivering mail from Visalia over part of route No. 1. His service as a soldier makes him eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic, and in his post he is active and helpful. March 9, 1869, Mr. Griffin married Miss Ann Esther Preston, born February 2, 1849, in St. Clair county,

Mo. They have had six children: Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Collins, deceased; James M.; George P., also deceased; and Benjamin, Thomas and Bernard.

It will be seen that the Griffins have been pioneers, generation after generation. Mr. Griffin's grandfather Griffin settled in Howard county, Mo., in 1817, and his forefathers were pioneers further east. Mr. Griffin is a citizen of helpful impulses, who, in different ways, has done much for the general good. The patriotic spirit that impelled him as a mere boy to risk his life for the preservation of the union of the states has directed him along the ways of public usefulness ever since, wherever he has cast his lot.

LINCOLN HENRY BYRON

One of the progressive and up-to-date business men of Lemoore is Lincoln Henry Byron, who was born in 1866, in Contra Costa county, Cal. In 1868 he was brought by his parents to Lemoore, Kings county, where he has since lived and which is now his headquarters for the automobile agency, the success of which has made him well known throughout this part of the state. He was educated in the public schools of Lemoore and in the University of the Pacific at San Jose, and then engaged in farming on the lake bottoms near the lake, where, in association with his father for seven years, he operated twenty-seven hundred acres. For two years thereafter he was in the livery business at Los Angeles, and the next two years he spent as proprietor and manager of the Germania hotel at Oxnard. Returning to Kings county he was for two years engaged in boring wells for water, and during the next four years he was a traveling agent for the Watkins Medicine company, with headquarters at Vancouver, Clark county, Wash. Then coming again to Lemoore, he bought, in 1906, the Joseph Marriott homestead of eighty acres which he developed into a fine vineyard, meantime devoting part of his time to dealing in horses and selling tents and awnings. In 1911 he bought a half interest in the Lemoore garage. He is the agent for the Ford auto for the western half of Kings county, including Lemoore and Coalinga and their tributary territory, and so successful has he been in handling this car, which ranks among the best, that he sold twenty-one machines between October 31 and February 10 following. From time to time other interests have commanded his attention and he has invested in oil land in the Devil's Den country and is promoting the oil development in that field.

In 1887 Mr. Byron married Julia Bozeman and they have three children. Their daughter Bertha is the wife of Louis Burke of

Coalinga, and their sons, Carl and Lawrence, are students in the high school at Lemoore. As a family the Byrons are popular wherever they are known. Their circle of acquaintance is wide and constantly extending and their influence in all their relations is exerted for the uplift of the community. Mr. Byron is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

ARTHUR G. DALY

This native son of the Golden State was born in Lake county May 20, 1858, a son of Patrick M. and Mary E. (O'Hara) Daly, natives, respectively, of Ireland and of New York. The elder Daly came to California, by way of Cape Horn, in 1848, and was the first bottler of porter in San Francisco. He was long in the cattle trade and in the pork packing business in the employ of Ruth, Brum & Company, and later bred cattle in Lake county until 1906, when he died. His wife had passed away December 20, 1881. Of their children the following survive: James P., of Exeter; Dennis B., of Yokohl valley, Tulare county; Mrs. Maggie Clancy, of San Francisco; and Arthur G., of Visalia, who is the immediate subject of this notice. The father was one of the organizers of the Ancient Order of United Workmen in Lake county, and was otherwise active and influential.

It was in Lake county, Cal., that Arthur G. Daly was reared and educated, his book studies having been prosecuted in public schools near his boyhood home. In 1882 he went to Ashland, Ore., and engaged in the sheep-raising industry. He came to the Yokohl valley in 1888, and for a number of years raised cattle on a ranch of seven hundred and fifty acres. In 1904 he bought one hundred and sixty acres near Farmersville at \$25 an acre and improved it and subsequently sold it at \$90 an acre, a price that afforded him a fine profit. His present home farm of three hundred and twenty acres, three miles north of Visalia, he purchased December 1, 1907. Eighty acres of it is in alfalfa, and he raises many hogs, cattle and fine horses and has a dairy of thirty cows.

Mr. Daly married Mrs. (Lee) Smith, a native of California, March 27, 1890. William Lee, her father, was an overland pioneer in California in 1849, making the journey with ox-teams. He was born in Virginia and reared in Missouri, and had been a brave soldier in the Mexican war. For some years after he came to California he teamed in San Francisco, Fresno, Stockton and Sacramento. Then he came to Tulare county and got into the cattle business, in which he was active and successful around Visalia for many years. His death, April 24, 1892, was sincerely mourned by family, by friends, by all who had come within the influence of his personality. His

recollections of the west went back to the real pioneer days, the days of the miners, the outlaws and the vigilantes, of Indians and of the stern white men who risked their lives to defend their women and children against savage raids. He had done his part in Indian fighting and had known many of those bold spirits who had made a profession of fighting the redskins. Of his children, the following named were living in 1912: Joseph, Charles, Mrs. Mary Dumont and Mrs. Arthur G. Daly.

With Exeter lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Mr. Daly is identified. He takes a helpful interest in all that pertains to the advancement of the people among whom he lives, is intelligently concerned in all public affairs and may be counted upon to be on the sane and patriotic side of any question of economic import.

JOHN H. HAUSCHILDT

New York has sent to California many men who have been an acquisition to its citizenship, efficient in the promotion of its important business interests and helpful in numerous directions. Among men of this class who are well known in the vicinity of Tulare, Tulare county, is John H. Hauschildt, a native of New York City, born August 20, 1869. As a youth he was taken to Kansas, where he lived until 1894, acquiring an education and farming and working in general merchandise stores. The Cherokee Strip in Oklahoma was opened September 16, 1893. He went down there from Kansas in 1894 and secured eighty acres, to the development of which he gave the ensuing three years and a half. Then he was in the Indian service six years and a half, until in 1904, when the state of his health impelled him to seek the climate of California. He came on here, and April 18, 1906, made his first land purchase in the state. It consisted of eighty acres of orchard, located six miles northwest of Tulare. In October, 1907, he bought twenty acres two miles west of Tulare, on the Hanford road, and here he has eighteen acres in alfalfa, a dairy of ten cows, many cattle and hogs and five hundred hens. As to his eighty acres, he disposed of the peach orchard and devoted twenty-five acres to prunes and fifteen acres to Muscat grapes and put the remaining forty acres under alfalfa. This property he lets out for a cash rental.

In 1896 Mr. Hauschildt married Miss Nora Hansen, of Kansas, and they have a son, Carl Hauschildt, who is a member of their household. The family are of the congregation of the Methodist Episcopal church at Tulare and Mr. Hauschildt is prominent in the

affairs of the organization, filling the office of steward and acting as choirmaster. Believing in the idea that the human race should advance and that the place in which to begin all good work is at home, he gives generous aid to all efforts for the uplift of the community.

F. A. THOMAS

A native son of Tulare county, one of the comparatively few elder ones who are leaders there now, F. A. Thomas was born October 6, 1858, a son of William and Mary A. (Jordan-Courtner) Thomas. His father came across the plains from the east in 1852 and settled in San Bernardino county, whence he moved to Tulare county. His first marriage was to Eda Hall, who bore him a daughter named Adilla. Mary A. Jordan married William Courtner, and they came across the plains from Texas with ox-teams in 1847, John Jordan, father of Mary A. and grandfather of F. A. Thomas, having been captain of the train. After an eventful and wearisome journey of six months, they arrived in San Joaquin county, and there Mr. Jordan and Mr. Courtner passed away. The following are the names of the children of William and Mary A. (Jordan) Courtner: Eli, Jennie E., Lee C., James, Mary, Alice E., Ellis T., Preston B. and Melissa (who died in infancy). James is also deceased.

All his life Mr. Thomas has farmed and raised stock. That he has prospered may be inferred from the fact that he owns one hundred and ten city lots in Tulare, eighty acres of timber land, twenty-eight acres of orange grove, an interest in the Courtner sawmills in the mountains, and he has recently sold twenty-two hundred acres of land in Drum valley. He freights lumber from his mill to Tulare, fifty-eight miles. His experiences in this part of the state compass the entire period of its modern development. He remembers well the killing by Digger Indians of Pioneer Woods and was well acquainted with Evans and Sontag and other celebrated characters whose names are identified with the earlier history of central California and has been on the spot where the two desperadoes mentioned were captured, and had often hunted on the plains and in the woods and was one time treed by wild hogs. Among others whom he knew in earlier days was Mr. Breckenridge, who was killed by Indians in Eshom valley, and it was since he came that the Dalton brothers had their short but eventful career in this part of the country. Politically he early affiliated with the Democratic party. He was a charter member of a local organization of the Woodmen of the World of Visalia. He has been very prominent in many movements for the benefit of the community, in which he is well known.

RICHARD CHATTEN

The Chatten family, which for years was worthily represented in Visalia by the late Richard Chatten and now by his son Thomas A. Chatten, is prominent in Ontario, Canada, where Richard Chatten was born, December 11, 1826. Of English origin they have lived in Canada since the Colonial times, and here Mr. Chatten was reared to manhood, working in the lumber woods there and in the northern part of the United States. His educational training was procured in the common schools of Canada and New York, and in 1849 he returned to Canada for a short time. Anxious to see other parts of the world and find a more encouraging field for his labors he decided to seek the western country, and accordingly made his way to St. Louis, Mo., working as a river raftsman, rafting logs from the Wisconsin pine woods, and at the age of twenty-seven years he was residing in that city. In the spring of 1850, in company with others, he outfitted seven ox-wagons and started overland for California, eager to try their fortunes with the rest of the gold-seekers. Taking a southern route they traveled through the state of Texas, and while there Mr. Chatten met his future wife, who was Margaret Glenn, daughter of Alexander and Eleanor Glenn, who were also on their way to the coast, and they accordingly joined their trains and traveled the remaining distance together. On the way the Indians stole several head of their cattle, but the animals were so tired from their long trip that they could not be driven fast enough and the party recovered them. They stopped at Salt Lake city for three weeks to rest and two weeks of this time Mr. Chatten was employed by Brigham Young, for which he was amply paid. The party finally arrived in Los Angeles in the fall of the year, and Mr. Chatten and the four Glenn boys pushed on to what was then Sonora county, where they engaged in placer-mining near Mariposa, where he met with some success and after working there for a year and a half returned to Los Angeles, where he purchased about two hundred head of cattle, and this was the start of his extensive stock business.

Driving his cattle about nine miles west of Visalia he settled there for a time, and was married there in the home of John C. Reed on January 12, 1854, to Margaret Glenn, above mentioned. They suffered many hardships through the troublesome Indians and as business often took Mr. Chatten to Stockton and Los Angeles he was compelled to bring his wife to Visalia for protection during his absence. He came to Visalia in 1886 and that city had in him a wide-awake, industrious citizen until his death, which occurred there August 12, 1896. He prospered in his stock business by his clever management and untiring perseverance, and added to his property

from time to time until he became one of the largest landholders in the vicinity. He owned the Mineral King fruit ranch of six hundred and sixty acres, which lies east of Visalia and disposed of it at a gratifying profit. He also owned one of the first apple orchards in the county and at the time of his death his property holdings covered an area of about four thousand acres. Mr. Chatten laid out the Chatten ditch, now called the Fleming ditch and a part of the Mineral King Fruit company's holdings.

Mrs. Chatten passed away in 1890, leaving one son and three daughters, namely: Thomas A., a prominent stockman and dairyman of Visalia; Frances, of San Francisco; Celesta; and Eliza, wife of Louis Whitendale, near Visalia. For a second wife Mr. Chatten married, in 1892, Mrs. Leah (Miller) Davis, widow of the late Thomas H. Davis, a pioneer of Antelope valley. Mrs. Chatten was born in Arkansas and crossed the plains to California in 1856, and since 1857 has been a resident of Tulare county. Mr. Chatten was a well-known Mason, and was always a prominent factor in movements that had for their object the benefit of his community, and his memory will ever be held sacred by his many friends and associates in Visalia and the surrounding country, where he was best known.

FRED C. HOWE

It was in Santa Clara county that this native son of California was born in 1858. Henry N. and Rebecca J. Howe, his parents, came out here in 1852 from Maine, his father coming around Cape Horn, his mother by way of the Isthmus of Panama. For some time his father mined in Mariposa county and ran a sawmill near Felton in Santa Cruz county. Then the family went to British Columbia and lived there several years, while the father mined with little success near Caribou. Returning to California, they located at San Jose, Santa Clara county. When Fred C. Howe was sixteen years old he went to Solano, whence in 1875 he and his brother Frank came to what is now Kings county and located near the site of Hanford. They acquired railroad land and remained in that vicinity until 1905, devoting themselves principally to the raising of grain. Then Fred C. Howe settled in Tulare county on eighty acres, eight and a half miles southwest from Tulare, which he bought of J. W. Stitt. There was on the place an artesian well, a house and some fencing, and eighty acres of it was given over to orchard. Mr. Howe has built a barn on the property, eliminated the orchard and enclosed the entire eighty acres in hog-tight fence. Irrigation is obtained from an artesian well and from the Tulare irrigating canal.

With fifteen acres in alfalfa, Mr. Howe is doing general farming and raising blooded horses, cattle and hogs. Besides the operation of his home farm, he rents three hundred and twenty acres adjoining, on which he raises grain. For the past thirty years or longer he has run a thresher in season in Tulare and Kings counties. He is a stockholder in the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery Company.

In 1890 Mr. Howe entered into a marriage by which he had two children, one of whom, Edith, is living at Oakland. In 1909 he married (second) Miss Elizabeth Stitt.

HENRY GODFREY TRAEGER

As proprietor of one of the leading furniture stores of Porterville, Tulare county, and as a high-class business man and man of affairs, the subject of this brief notice is well known in the central part of the state. He was born in Kenton, Hardin county, Ohio, April 10, 1859, a son of Augustus and Margareta (Schope) Traeger. His parents were born in Germany, his father at Halle-on-der-Saale January 23, 1824, his mother at Reichenburg, Bairon, November 6, 1831. Their marriage was celebrated April 15, 1852, at Kenton, Ohio. The son attended the public schools of Kenton until he was twelve years old, then took up the active duties of life as a clerk in a dry goods store in that town.

Mr. Traeger came to Porterville in 1884, arriving November 26, and, failing to secure work in a store, began chopping wood by the cord. Soon, however, he fell a victim to fever and went to the mountains and found work as a herder of hogs. Forty-eight days later he returned to the valley in good health. He worked ten acres of vineyard on shares, making from five thousand to six thousand gallons of wine each year for three years. He then went to work for Wilko Mentz in his store, as he supposed for only a week, but remained for fourteen years, and gave it up only because of ill health in order to go to the mountains. For a time he took care of a lumber yard for A. M. Coburn; then he mined in the White River district. Next we find him in Alaska, increased in weight from one hundred and thirty-five pounds to two hundred and eight pounds and greatly improved in health. There he remained one season, and after his return he became a grain buyer for Eppenger & Company. Later he was in the furniture business for five years, then traded his store for a grocery business, sold that and became interested in the electrical business, and then traded that for orange land, but soon discovered that he was not likely to succeed as a farmer and took advantage of a good opportunity to dispose of his holding.

For three years Mr. Traeger was deputy assessor under J. F.

Gibson and assessed the taxpayers of the city of Porterville in the first and second years of its corporate existence. As a Republican he was elected a member of the board of trustees of Porterville, in which capacity he served faithfully and efficiently three years, when he resigned. Socially he is a member of the Tule River Fishing and Shooting Association. Fraternally he associates with the Masons, being a member of Porterville Lodge, F. & A. M., and the Royal Arch Chapter.

At Porterville, September 5, 1891, Mr. Traeger married Mary Schmidt, a daughter of Joseph Schmidt, who was the leader of the Second Regiment Band at Black Point and the Presidio. They have children named Henry A., a trap-drummer, and Wilko J., the latter attending high school at Porterville. As a citizen Mr. Traeger has always been helpful to every movement for the advancement of Porterville and the country round about.

CARYL CHURCH

In 1878 Caryl Church moved to Tulare county and became a settler in the San Joaquin valley. He was born in Erie county, Ohio, June 6, 1846, and was eleven years old when his family immigrated to Iowa and twenty-three when he came to California. His early life was spent in school and at work on his father's farm. For a time after he came to this state he worked for wages, mostly on ranches, and the knowledge of farming that he acquired in that way was a fitting complement to that which he had acquired under his father's instruction. Now he was a California farmer, fully competent to go into business for himself. Coming to Kings county, he located on what is now his home place, a fine ranch not far from Hanford. By successive purchases he has become the owner of four hundred acres of as productive land as is to be found in his vicinity. He began as a wheat raiser, and as such he was successful until stock raising promised him better returns. He raises hogs, horses and cattle, and his stock of whatever kind is as good as is offered in the market, always sells well and sometimes brings top-notch prices.

In 1871 Mr. Church married Miss Annie E. Howland, who was born in the state of New York. They became the parents of six children, Charles, Elery, Beecher, Birch, Carrie (the wife of Frank Sanborn), and one daughter who died in early childhood. The sons are living on adjoining ranches, all prospering by their devotion to the interests that have brought their father so much success. A recent specialty of Mr. Church is grapes, to which he has given five

acres of suitable land. In the affairs of his township, county, state and nation he takes a sincere and most intelligent interest, and he has many times manifested a commendable public spirit.

THE FENWICK SANITARIUM

In this era of advanced surgery and scientific treatment of disease, the sanitarium properly equipped and conducted is an absolute necessity in any city. Visalia possesses in the Fenwick Sanitarium, conducted and owned by Miss D. V. Fenwick, an institution affording every facility in emergency and surgical cases and a quiet retreat for persons desiring a restful environment in which to regain health. Miss Fenwick, who was graduated from the Los Angeles county and city hospitals in 1902, and from the Children's hospital in San Francisco, is experienced in her chosen line. Patients in her care are allowed choice of physicians, and leading physicians and surgeons practice in and recommend the institution. This sanitarium is ideally located on Mineral King avenue, far enough from the city to insure quiet and pure atmosphere. Fresh fruit from orchards surrounding the building, vegetables from the sanitarium garden, butter and milk and cream from Miss Fenwick's own dairy and eggs from her poultry yard add much to the efficiency of the institution. The place has recently been remodeled and improved, and the building is one of the best appointed of its kind in central California. A new operating room, completely equipped, has been added and every modern aid to surgery is supplied; two trained nurses are regularly employed and others as they are required, and the sanitarium is equal to the accommodation of fourteen patients. The various railroads of this section patronize it, which is in itself a splendid recommendation.

The history of this institution dates from 1902, when it was established, in a small way, on South Court street, by its present owner and manager, who deserves great credit for the enterprise and perseverance which she has employed in maintaining and building it up. Miss Fenwick is a native daughter of Tulare county. Her parents, P. L. and Sarah (Jones) Fenwick, who were born in Illinois, came overland to California in the early '50s. For a time they stopped in Fresno county, then came to Tulare county, where her father became a farmer and cattle-raiser and operated extensively near Orosi and in Antelope valley until January 15, 1911, when he died, aged eighty-one years. Following are the names of his children: Jasper, who died February 15, 1911; Alonzo L., Edward and Miss D. V. The latter left home at the age of sixteen to be-

come a graduated trained nurse. How successful she has been is known to all who are conversant with the splendid work done by the institution of which she is the head.

Miss Fenwick is constantly improving her institution; within the past year she has remodeled the basement, installed electricity for heating and cooking, and has added restrooms, thus increasing the comfort of her patients, and is always looking out for the sanitation of the place and the health of its patrons.

EARL BAGBY

In Clay county, Kans., January 8, 1887, Earl Bagby was born, and when he was a year old his family moved to California, locating at Visalia, where his parents, R. J. and Elizabeth (Hughes) Bagby, are still living. After his graduation from the grammar and high schools of that city, he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, from which institution he was duly graduated with the LL. D. degree with the class of 1908, and soon afterwards was admitted to practice in the courts of Michigan. In November, 1908, he was admitted to practice in all the courts in the state of California and opened a law office in Visalia. In November, 1910, he was elected to the office of justice of the peace, upon the duties of which he entered in January, 1911, and in the latter year he was elected judge of the recorders' court of Visalia. Before his election to these offices he had been for some time attorney for and assistant secretary of the California Humane Society.

Fraternally Mr. Bagby affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, in which he holds the office of Council Commander; with the F. O. E., in which he is president; with the Loyal Order of Moose, of which he is treasurer, and the Independent Order of Foresters. He is vice president of the Tennis club, a member of the Kaweah club, secretary of the board of trade of Visalia and secretary of the Democratic County Central Committee. In 1911 he married Miss Celissa B. Wing, a native of Maine, being a daughter of F. H. and Sadie Wing.

Mr. Bagby practices in all the federal courts of the state, except the court over which he presides. He was admitted to the United States District Court in the month of May, 1909, and to the United States Circuit Court in the same month. He has gained the respect of the entire community and has built up a large and lucrative practice in the superior courts. As an office attorney his counsel is sought by a large clientele. A great part of his work consists of conveyancing, in which line he has had a very extensive experi-

ence. A large part of his legal work deals with the law of real property and contracts.

In 1912 Mr. Bagby helped to organize the Teal Gun Club. This club has built two club houses and made large duck ponds from the waters of an artesian well in section 28, township 24, range 25, upon six hundred and forty acres of land held under lease by said club. He is one of three directors; it is limited to twenty, and its membership extends to Kings as well as Tulare county.

THOMAS E. HOWES

The Middle West, constantly drawing on the East to fill up its quota of citizens, is as constantly sending some of its best blood to the Pacific coast, and its men arrive in California imbued with the spirit not only of the land immediately beyond the Rockies but of the whole broad country to the Atlantic. It is probable that Illinois has sent as many good citizens to California as any other state in the favored region under consideration. One of them who is located near Hanford, Kings county, and is making for himself an enviable record is Thomas E. Howes, who was born in Dekalb county, in the Prairie State, February 11, 1863, the same year in which his father, Philip Howes, was killed in the Civil war. A few years later the boy came with his mother to California and was a student in the public school at Eucalyptus, Tulare (now Kings) county. At an early age he began to work on ranches round about and in a few years he gained a practical knowledge of farming as it was then conducted in this part of California.

In 1882 Mr. Howes began farming on his own account on rented land, and so successful was he that by 1886 he was able to buy eighty acres of good land, which is now included in his homestead. As he has accumulated money he has invested it in land from time to time until he is now the owner of over five hundred acres devoted to general farming and to dairying. He has improved his ranch in many ways, and it now presents a view in which a good home and ample barns and outbuildings are pleasing features. His methods of cultivation are up to date, and he works only with machines and appliances of modern construction and efficiency. Since 1873 Mr. Howes has been a resident of the vicinity where he is now living. At that time no trees were to be seen between Cross creek and Mussel slough on the plains. As a citizen he is known for his liberality of thought and for his generous co-operation in the promotion of measures for the public weal. Fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Foresters and with the Woodmen of the World. He married

Cora Yuel November 15, 1885. Mrs. Howes, who is a native daughter of California, was born June 20, 1868, and they have five children, Ralph, Everett, Marion, Forest and Ora.

CHAUNCEY M. BAKER

It was in Mill Creek valley that Chauncey M. Baker, one of the well-to-do farmers in the vicinity of Dunlap, was born July 3, 1877, and there he has spent his life to the present time. He attended the Mill Creek school and was initiated into the mysteries of farming under his father's instruction.

At San Rafael in 1905, Mr. Baker married Olive Hargrave, a native of Mendocino county, whose father, Charles M. Hargrave, crossed the plains in the pioneer days and was an early settler on Cache creek, Yolo county, whence he moved to Mendocino county. For several years prior to her marriage, Mrs. Baker taught school in Mendocino and Fresno counties.

Mr. Baker homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and January 10, 1908, received his patent from the government. That same year he bought four hundred and eighty acres, known as the old Turner place; in 1910 he added two hundred and forty acres known as the Wilson place and one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land, and he is now the owner of one thousand and forty acres. He cultivates two hundred and fifty acres, and on fifty-five acres he raised one hundred and eighty tons of hay in 1910, and from some of his valley land he cleared \$10 an acre in 1909. He has about three thousand cords of marketable wood on his place. He has given some attention to breeding fine stock and has on hand an average of forty to fifty head. He has lived here long enough to have witnessed the development of the district from a mountain country to productive ranches and remembers when there were but half a dozen houses between the hills and Visalia, a section now dotted with modern California farms. As a citizen he is generously public spirited. Politically he is a Republican and fraternally he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America.

MRS. IDA MARGARET KAEHLER

The highly esteemed woman whose name is above lives at No. 107 Hockett street, Porterville, Tulare county, Cal., and is a representative of an old German family. Ferdinand Rodler, her father, a native of the Fatherland, was born May 24, 1823, married in 1857

and came to the United States and devoted himself to the blacksmith trade. He was a fine mechanic, and, being also a good business man, he prospered. He died at his home in Davenport, Iowa, March 10, 1904, and his widow, formerly Johanna Louisa Paschke, is living there at the age of eighty-five years, having been born in March, 1828. Their daughter, Ida Margaret, was born in Davenport June 20, 1860, and when she became of school age entered the public schools of that city, in which she was a pupil until she was thirteen years old, when she was sent to Berlin, Germany, to finish her education. Returning to Iowa when she was sixteen years old, in 1878 she married N. M. Kaehler, and they had three children. Walter, the eldest, died young. Alfred, the second son, is living at Hobart, Ind., with his wife and two children. Ferdinand is a machinist at Porterville.

In 1884 Mr. and Mrs. Kaehler came to California and settled on White river, in Tulare county, where she lived six years. In 1890 she moved to Plano and in 1902 from Plano to Porterville, which at that time was not a very promising village, having no railway facilities and few stores, its scanty population trading for the most part at Visalia. She now has a valuable and very attractive property, having built the house she occupies, and is concentrating her holdings in Porterville and vicinity, having recently sold her real estate at Plano. What she owns she has earned herself, owning unimproved property and an interest in the gas plant. Brought up in the Christian faith of her fathers, Mrs. Kaehler is devoutly religious, with faith in God and in her fellow men. She is firm in the belief that all people may become much better if they will learn the right and try to do it.

MANUEL I. MACHADO

It was on one of the Azores that Manuel I. Machado was born March 19, 1869, and he was reared and educated there and came to the United States in 1884. After remaining fifteen months in the East, most of the time in Massachusetts, he came to California and located at Fresno. Herding sheep in the vicinity for wages for a short time, he bought sheep and was in the business for himself six years. Then he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land a mile and a half from the Cross creek school, where he raised alfalfa three years and lost his holdings because of crop failures. He then came to near Woodville, in Tulare county, and worked six hundred acres of land one year with good success. Using the money he made to pay his debts, he then began again at the bottom of the ladder, working

for wages, and after two years he was able to rent forty acres of fruit and vineyard land eight miles southwest of Tulare. He replaced eighteen acres of the trees with alfalfa and set out six hundred trees of new varieties in place of others that had ceased to be profitable. Renting forty acres adjoining this land, he set out on it six acres of young orchard and devoted the remainder to vines. The first of these tracts he operated five years, the latter only one year, and then he bought one hundred and sixty acres three miles north of Waukena, which he has improved with good buildings, hog-tight fences and other appliances essential to successful operation. Eighty-five acres of the land is under alfalfa. He has put down four wells, with depths of thirty feet, fifty feet, ninety-six feet and one hundred and twenty-five feet, respectively, for stock and domestic use. For irrigation he gets water from the Packwood ditch, in the company controlling which he owns one hundred and twenty shares of stock. A feature of his ranch is a fruit orchard for home use. He makes a specialty of horses, cattle and hogs and conducts a dairy of seventy cows. As a means to success in the latter venture he holds a membership in the Dairymen's Association of Tulare. He rents three hundred and ninety acres adjoining his home place and devotes one hundred and fifty acres of it to alfalfa, the remainder to grain and pasturage. On this place he has a partner in stock-raising. In 1910 he bought forty-two acres at Paige's Switch, on which he built a fine residence, fences and other improvements. Twenty-five acres of this property are devoted to alfalfa. Here he lives, conducting a dairy of seven cows and raising a few horses, cattle and hogs. He has long been one of the foremost in all that pertains to agricultural advancement in the county, and besides belonging to the Dairymen's Association he is a stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery and in the Rochdale store at Tulare.

In August, 1893, Mr. Machado married Rosa M. Souza and has seven children. Joseph is a member of their household. Mary is the wife of M. T. Barrerio of Tulare. The others, who are comparatively young, are named Vivian, Louisa, Ida, Rosa and Sarah. Mr. Machado is a member of the I. D. E. S. organization of Tulare. He is helpful to religious and educational enterprises and is actively interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community.

ALVIN B. SHIPPEY

In and around Visalia stand many monuments to the enterprise and good taste of Alvin B. Shippey, architect, contractor and builder. Mr. Shippey is a native of the capital city of Tulare county and was

born March 28, 1874, a son of Daniel P. and Martha A. M. (Hurt) Shippey, both of Missouri birth, who came to Visalia in 1872.

A carpenter by trade, Daniel P. Shippey operated a planing mill and worked at his trade in Visalia and has long been well known in connection with contracting and building interests in this city. Here some of his children were born and all of them grew up and were educated. The eldest is Mrs. Eva Sanders. The others are Mrs. Lela White, Walter of Porterville, Wilbur of Utah, Albert of Los Angeles, and Alvin B. of Visalia.

After his graduation from the public schools of Visalia, Alvin B. Shippey learned the carpenter's trade under his father's instruction; in fact, he began to learn it long before he left school, for he has driven nails since he was thirteen years old. He began his business career as a partner with his father and brother in the Shippey planing mill at Visalia, and in 1902 branched out for himself as a contractor and builder, making a specialty of doing architectural work and drawing plans for his buildings. The following products of his artistic handicraft should be mentioned here as a part of the record of his busy life to date: The James Crowley home, a house for John Frans, the Co-operative Creamery building, the homes of L. Scott, J. B. Simpson, John Daly, O. P. Swanson and L. Lucier, the North Methodist church, the new cannery building, the Palace stables and the residence of J. T. Akers; also twelve fine residences in Lindsay, the ranch house and barns of E. O. Miller, the Fred Hamilton residence, the Prairie Center school house and the residence of Louis Felder.

In 1902 Mr. Shippey married Miss Ethel Hamilton, a native daughter of California, whose father, J. Hamilton, was an early settler in the state, and they have two children, Chester and Mervyn.

MARTIN V. THOMAS

In the state of Mississippi, one of the proud old Southern commonwealths, Martin V. Thomas, who lives on the road two miles north of the Hanford road, northwest of Tulare, and is one of the well-known citizens of Tulare county, was born May 28, 1846. He was taken to Arkansas in childhood, and later went to Texas. He was reared to farm labor and educated in public schools, and in 1869 became a member of a party that consumed a year in making the overland journey across the plains to California. In April, 1870, he arrived at Visalia, where he had friends and relatives, and, liking the place, decided to stay there. For ten years he worked in and around Visalia for wages, then farmed in the Visalia and Porterville neighborhoods until 1885, when he homesteaded one hundred and sixty

acres at White River, which he improved and farmed seven years. Selling that property, he bought four hundred and eighty acres east of Porterville, where he raised cattle and other stock two years. He disposed of that holding in order to buy sixty-six and one-half acres near Woodville, where he conducted a dairy two years. Finding a purchaser for the property, he bought one hundred and sixty acres at Tipton, where for two years he raised stock and ran a dairy. Selling out there in 1911, he bought forty acres four miles west and two miles north of Tulare, on which he is successfully operating a dairy, milking ten cows and giving considerable attention to poultry. He has twenty-five acres in alfalfa and four hundred fruit trees. His land is irrigated by electric power.

In 1866, while he was a citizen of Arkansas, Mr. Thomas married Miss Lydia L. Dillard, a native of Alabama. She came across the plains with him from Texas and they became the parents of eleven children, ten of whom are living: Sam, of Tulare; Mrs. Ella Kirby, of Lindsay; Mrs. Ozie Orton, of Lindsay; Mrs. Frank Creech, of Tulare; Mrs. Chidester, of Tulare; Mrs. John Klindera, of Tipton; Jefferson Thomas, of Tulare; Elmer, of Tulare; Ivan and Roy, members of their parents' household; and Edwin, who is deceased. Mr. Thomas is a genial, whole-souled man, whose friends admire him for the active interest which makes him helpful to all local issues.

JAMES W. WRIGHT

The birthplace of James W. Wright was Newton county, Mo. He was born October 29, 1855, a son of John Wesley and Margaret (Lindsey) Wright, natives of Kentucky. The family moved to Texas in 1857 and remained there until 1879. Mr. Wright starting the first blacksmith shop in Decatur, Wise county. The elder Wright came out from Missouri to California in 1852 and stopped in Hangtown. His party started in the spring, with ox-teams, and was six months in making the journey. Indians stampeded their stock, most of which they never recovered, and were troublesome otherwise. A young man of the party fell ill of fever and was left in a tent near pure running water, of which he drank copiously, with the result that his fever was subdued and he recovered and eventually made his fortune in California gold mines. Crude law was established in the mining camp and swift justice, and sometimes injustice, was inflicted by self-constituted hangmen. Mr. Wright spent two years at Hangtown and at Georgetown, then returned to Newton county, Mo. From there he went eventually to Chico, Texas, where he engaged in the livery business. He had made some money in California, with which he got a good

start in his new home, where he prospered satisfactorily and where he spent his last days.

James W. Wright first located, in 1879, in Pomona, Los Angeles county, remaining there until 1891, when he located in Inyo county and farmed, raised stock and mined for eighteen years. In 1909 he went to Dunlap, Fresno county. He married, May 29, 1883, in Los Angeles county, Joan Hickox, who was born on November 8, 1860, in Nueces county, Texas. They have nine children: Alfred W., Gilbert W., Walter L., Winfield, Florence C., Katie, Warren, Felix and Lois. Alfred W. married Mary Remkes, and they have three children, Viola, Gladys and Arthur. Gilbert W. married Alice P. Remkes, and they have two daughters, Iola and Grace. Walter L. and Winfield served in the United States navy. The others are at home.

Ranching and stockraising were long Mr. Wright's principal business. He is now the proprietor of a hotel and feed barns in Dunlap and is materially adding to the capacity of his hotel by the construction of additional rooms. As a business man he is highly respected in his town, where he is prominent in the local Democracy and affiliates with the Masonic order. He has in his possession a rocking chair in which he was rocked when he was an infant and a gold nugget from a Placerville mine, taken out in 1852 by his father-in-law, and other valuable relics of pioneer days. Mrs. Wright's father, Alfred Hickox, a native of Illinois, went to Texas in young manhood and from there came to California in 1852. After mining for a time he returned to Texas and engaged in stockraising. He again came overland to California in 1869, bringing with him his wife and four children and a step-daughter. Mr. Hickox was captain of the train, which suffered considerably at the hands of the Indians. He told afterward of a young man of the party who killed a squaw and was given up to the Indians, who took him away and he was never seen again. Another of his reminiscences concerned an event in Arizona. Some emigrants dropped a wagon wheel in a spring to tighten its tire; it dropped out of sight, and the prairie schooner to which it belonged was abandoned by the trail side.

ALEXANDER CLARKE ECCLES

Educated at Balmoral Agricultural College, Belfast, Ireland, an institution established under the patronage of Prince Albert, consort of the late Queen Victoria, Alexander Clarke Eccles, of Kings county, Cal., who was for a time horticultural commissioner for that county, was exceptionally well-fitted for the duties of that office and he is widely known as one of the scientific farmers of Central California.

It was at Belfast, Ireland, that Mr. Eecles was born March 21, 1854. He remained there until he was thirty years old, for a time devoting himself to practical farming. He came to the United States in 1884 and after tarrying briefly in Kansas and Oregon, came to Redding, Shasta county, Cal., where he became a naturalized American citizen. From Redding he went to Chico, Cal., and for three years was foreman on the fruit farm of General John Bidwell. Then he came to Kings county and set out thirty acres of vineyard, north-east of Hanford, one-third of which he received for his work. After that he was made superintendent of the Del Norte Vineyard & Fruit Company and was in charge of its one hundred and sixty acres of fruits and vines for twelve consecutive years. After the termination of that service he bought forty acres of land two miles and a quarter east of Lemoore and put his brain and hands to the work of its improvement. He now has thirteen acres in vineyard and ten acres in orchard. On this place he built a fine house and established his home. Later he bought eighty-five acres at Hardwick, which is under alfalfa and devoted to dairy purposes.

In 1909 Mr. Eecles was appointed horticultural commissioner of Kings county, an office which he filled with much ability and for the duties of which he had a distant liking, but which he was compelled in 1911 to resign because of impaired eyesight. Personally he is popular throughout the county, being a stockholder in the Kings County Fruit and Raisin Company, a member of the Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and Foresters of America. He is a member of the Armona Baptist church. His career here has been one of success, as will be readily understood when the comparatively late date of his coming is considered in connection with the fact that when he arrived he had but one dollar and is now worth \$40,000. In 1901 he married Miss Maggie May Chamberlain, who was born in the state of Washington but was then a resident of Kings county. They have three children—Alexander Clarke, Ruth May and William Sloan.

JOHN BROTHERS

As favorably known through his connection with the Italian Swiss Company as through his identification with the Lemoore Chamber of Commerce and various fraternal organizations, John Brothers has won repute in Kings county, Cal., as a man of ability and efficiency, who may be depended upon to assist to the extent of his ability any movement which in his opinion promises to benefit any considerable number of his fellow citizens. He was born in Illinois,

April 16, 1879, and was brought to California by his parents in 1883, when he was about four years old. He is a son of George A. Brothers, a veteran school teacher, who won success also as a farmer. His mother, Mary E. Brothers, also a teacher, became known as a woman of much ability. The elder Mr. Brothers first came to this state in 1876 and immediately engaged in teaching. He went back to Illinois and in 1877 returned, bringing his family, and remained until 1880, though his wife returned before that time to their old home in the East. In 1883 they came to Lemoore and were both employed as teachers in the public schools of that city. Mr. Brothers had previously taught in Grangeville and in the Roades School district. He died January 19, 1911. The last eighteen years of his life he was engaged in the Government service and a large part of this time worked in the revenue service from the San Francisco Department of Internal Revenue.

It was in Lemoore that Mr. Brothers grew up and began his education in the public schools. Later he continued his studies at Fresno, where he was duly graduated from the high school. During his youth he worked in grocery stores in Fresno and Lemoore and gave considerable time to the acquisition of a practical knowledge of blacksmithing and of the butcher business. From time to time he worked on farms in the vicinity of Fresno and later was associated with his father in some agricultural enterprises. He obtained a complete knowledge of ranching, fruit-growing and stock-raising and by 1902 was well fitted to enter the employ of the Italian Swiss Colony as superintendent and local manager. In this connection he has had charge of the colony's fifteen hundred acres of land, six hundred and fifty acres of which is in vineyard, the remainder being devoted to the cultivation of barley and alfalfa. Mr. Brothers personally owns forty acres, two miles and a half northwest of Lemoore, which he has put under alfalfa and is farming with good results.

His solicitude for the advancement of Lemoore impelled Mr. Brothers to consent to become a member of the board of trustees of that town, in which office he has served eight years, four years of the time as president of the board. He is one of the leading spirits in the local Chamber of Commerce and is secretary of that body. In the fire department of Lemoore he has always taken a helpful interest, and he is the very efficient secretary of that organization also. Socially he affiliates with the Independent Order of Red Men and with the Woodmen of the World and he is secretary of the local division of the first mentioned society. In 1903 he married Miss Illie T. Foley, daughter of Dr. R. E. Foley, and they have two children, George E. and Carolyn E. Brothers.

JAMES H. MAY

Natives of the South have always been warmly welcomed to California and none more so than sons of Alabama. James H. May was born in the state just mentioned and went early in life to Montgomery county, Ark., where he was in office fourteen years either as tax collector or sheriff. When the Civil war began he issued a call for volunteers and quickly recruited a company of three hundred and thirteen men, only nine of whom returned to Arkansas alive. He rose to be a major and later served as lieutenant-colonel of his regiment. Three of his sons were lost in the war, one being instantly killed in a charge within ten feet of the Union breastworks. In 1865 he became a cattleman in Texas, accumulated two thousand head of cattle, and prospered well until his business was ruined by dry seasons. He came to California in 1869 as captain of a train of ox-teams and later found in Tulare county some cattle that he had owned in Texas and marked with his brand "MAY," which had been driven overland by another man.

Mr. May left Texas with one hundred and ten families in his train. In Arizona all but seven of these families were killed by Indians or died from sickness. His account of these events was very interesting. Until 1874 he teamed at and near Porterville. Then he raised sheep and cattle until he was driven out of business by the dry season of 1877, when his stock died. He was for a number of years road master of his district and in 1879-80 built the road across the Blue Ridge in the mountains. He served also as constable in the Tule River district.

Miss Caroline Hockett, a sister of the famous John Hockett, who came to California before the discovery of gold, became the wife of Mr. May, and their children who survive are: James J.; Mrs. R. T. Hogancamp, of Bakersfield, Cal.; and Mrs. Victoria M. Clarke. There were other children who are now dead. The father passed away in 1888, the mother seven years earlier.

The only surviving son of James H. and Caroline (Hockett) May is James J. May, who lives a half a mile south of East Mineral King avenue, near Visalia. He was born in Montgomery county, Ark., and assisted his father in the latter's farming operations until the elder May died in 1888. Then for a time he teamed in Kern county and afterward farmed ten years near Tipton and from there moved to Exeter, where for six years he operated the farming land on the Las Palomas ranch. He came to his present homestead in 1899. Here he owns forty acres which he has developed from wild, rough land to a productive ranch with an adequate irrigation system. He gives his attention principally to fruit and has planted six acres to prunes, twenty to Bartlett pears and two to peaches.

Fraternally Mr. May affiliates with the Masonic lodge at Visalia, Tulare City lodge No. 306, I. O. O. F., and the local organization of the Woodmen of the World. As a citizen he is popular and he has in a public-spirited way done much for the benefit of the community. In 1885 he married Miss May E. Boas, a native of California, whose father settled at Lemon Cove in the early '50s. She has borne him four children: Loyal A.; Frank H.; Lena, who is the wife of Arthur T. Dowse of Oakland, and Ruby.

ALEXANDER WELLINGTON BASS

In Dallas county, Mo., Alexander Wellington Bass was born, October 30, 1861. It was in that county that he was reared and gained much of his education in the public school. When he was eighteen years old he accompanied his father to Boise City, Idaho, where he attended school two years longer. He early gained a knowledge of farming and at Boise City learned the carpenters' trade. Eventually he returned to Missouri and started back to Idaho by way of the coast in order to see California. He stopped off at Hanford March 9, 1888, and liking the town and the country round about obtained employment on a farm, where he worked several months. Then, locating in Hanford, he took up carpentering and after three years became a contractor and builder. Three years later he added house-moving to his business and that part of his work became so important that it gradually commanded all his time and attention. As a contractor he had for a partner J. D. Ellis, and they confined their operations mostly to building residences, of which they built as many in their period of activity as any concern in this part of the state. As a house-mover his operations have extended throughout the San Joaquin valley from Bakersfield to Stockton and he was once awarded a four-month contract as far away as Santa Rosa.

As a Democrat Mr. Bass has been active in local and state politics for ten years. In 1909 he was elected to serve four years as a member of the board of trustees of Hanford. Fraternally he affiliates with Tent No. 40, K. O. T. M., the Foresters of America, and the Woodmen of the World. He was long a member of the old Chamber of Commerce and has for twenty-one years been identified with the volunteer fire department of Hanford. For twelve years he has served without pay as a trustee of the Hanford Cemetery Association. When he was elected there was no fund even to pay the sexton, but because of his good management the association now has a surplus of \$11,000 to \$12,000 at interest, a fund for the up-keep of the cemetery.

September 6, 1888, Mr. Bass married Alice Howard, daughter of

John A. and Mary Howard and a native of Clarke county, Mo. They have had six children: Earnest, born May 20, 1891; Ethel, July 5 1897; Edna, August 16, 1900; Anita, April 12, 1902; Clarence, who died in 1906, aged seventeen years; Avis, who died at the age of ten months. Earnest is at home, and Ethel, Edna and Anita are attending school.

DANIEL M. HERRIN

Incidental to our economic development of the last half century has been the evolution of the modern creamery, a corporate agency which has come to do the work of a large number of individuals, and to do it better and to give results of a more uniform quality than was possible under the old order of things. Creameries are located here and there throughout the county, none of them are very large or conspicuous, and none of them attracts attention by such loud and discordant noises as emanate from industrial plants of various other kinds. But the products of creameries are used everywhere by everybody, in such an immense volume that the statistics of the industry are almost staggering. However, it was not to comment at length on this subject that this article was begun, and what little has been said concerning it has been set down by way of showing how important a work has engaged the talents of Daniel M. Herrin for some time past.

Mr. Herrin was born in Marion county, Ind., July 2, 1862, and attended the public schools until he was nineteen years old. In 1891 he engaged in stock-raising and farming and gradually concerned himself in the creamery business. His interests in that way, small at first, increased until he was called to the management of the Tulare Creamery Company of Corcoran. He continued as the manager of the Corcoran plant of the Tulare Co-operative Creamery Company until March, 1912, when he resigned his position. He then organized the Lake View Creamery Company June 1, 1912, and began running regularly November 1 of that year.

This is a stock company incorporated under the laws of the State of California with a capital stock of \$50,000.00 of which Mr. Niss Hanson is president, F. A. Cleveland of Corcoran, secretary and treasurer, and Daniel M. Herrin is manager. They have installed a car lot service and are now shipping and selling direct to the wholesale trade of Los Angeles their choice milk and cream products. A three-ton automobile truck transports their products from the plant, which is substantially constructed and built of concrete and equipped with the best of machinery and located six miles southwest of Corcoran, to the Santa Fe railway station. Thus expeditiously handled

the said products net their patrons about four cents per pound of butter fat more than can be realized if sold to the creameries.

Mr. Herrin has been a citizen of Kings county since December, 1910, and since that time has never failed to respond liberally to any demand upon his public spirit. He is a Mason and socially he is a favorite with all who know him. His business methods are such as to appeal strongly to the farming community, and the institution of which he is the head is one of the most popular in this part of the state and is patronized more and more liberally with each passing year.

ENOCH WORK

It was on Cache Creek, Yolo comty, that Enoch Work was born November 8, 1851, a son of Hopkins and Martha (Parker) Work, natives respectively of Tennessee and Kentucky. They came across the plains with ox-teams from the latter state in 1849, stopping at Hangtown and later at Georgetown and eventually moved to Yolo county, whence they came in 1859 to Tulare county and settled near Kaweah. The elder Work engaged in farming and stock-raising in that neighborhood and prospered there until 1873, when he homesteaded land on Mill Creek, Fresno county, but soon relinquished the title which was taken and perfected by his son Enoch. He bought an additional one hundred and sixty acres, increasing his holding to three hundred and twenty acres. This property they improved and it has been the family home to this time. When they came, only the Baker and Turner families lived in the neighborhood and there was no settlement at Dunlap. Cattle and horses roamed everywhere at will, there was an abundance of wild game and bear were so plentiful that Mr. Work lassoed one in the road and led him home, a feat which his cousin soon duplicated. These animals were made food for hogs. The early settlers killed many deer.

One hundred acres of Mr. Work's land is devoted to farming, nine acres to orchard, peaches, pears and apples being the principal fruit, the remainder being under timber and pasture grass. He keeps thirty head of horses and cattle and one hundred and fifty hogs.

In politics Mr. Work is non-partisan. As a citizen he is public-spirited and helpful and he was for some time school trustee in the Mill Creek district. He married, in Drum valley, Miss Alma Fenwick, a native of Illinois. They have ten children: Angeline, Polly, Sarah Nettie, Thomas, Nicholas, Leora, Alma, Daisy, Orville and June. Angeline married Frank Hutchinson and bore him a son and a daughter; J. W. Howell is her present husband. Polly married

W. L. McElroy and has two children. Sarah Nettie is the wife of C. H. McElroy and has one son. Thomas married Alma B. Howell and they have one child. Leora is the wife of Frank McHaley. Two of the younger children of Mr. Work are attending school.

STEPHEN E. HENLEY

Born in Scott county, Iowa, in 1858, Stephen E. Henley of Porterville, Tulare county, Cal., attended the public schools near his home during the years of his boyhood and when quite young engaged in the stock business, raising and selling cattle. He continued in that line in his native state until 1901, when he came to California. Locating at Porterville, he bought three tracts of land, one of twenty acres set to oranges, one of eighty and one of forty acres. In 1907 he sold this property, retaining only mining rights on eighty acres. His mining claim consists of a twelve-foot ledge of high grade china clay, an outcropping of spar, suitable for the making of porcelain and dishes. When he came to the county and had looked around a little he concluded that there was more ore here than more experienced miners would have believed, but he prospected for six years before he found what he was looking for, then opened the ledge known as the "Lost Squaw." He has been offered \$12,000 for the claim, but says that with \$20,000 exposed to sight he could not sell at such a figure. While Mr. Henley had the direction of the matter, his son, O. F. Henley, and Budd Creeks actually discovered the ledge. He originated the Tulare County Power Company and was the first man of this company to file on the water rights of the Tule river, by which power has been developed and is being transmitted three hundred miles and used for pumping plants and other purposes. He sold out his interest in the company in 1911.

Mr. Henley's wife was Laura M. Hartley, a native of Johnson county, Iowa, and their marriage was solemnized in that state in 1880. They have five children, all of whom live in California. O. Floyd married Edith Bursell and has two children, Alta and Alberta; his home is in Tulare county. Ada married Charles Roberts, and has two children, Ray and Alice May. May is Mrs. Bert Hoover, of Tulare county, and has one daughter, Aysha. Minnie is the wife of Ash Crabtree and has three children, Ramona, Clair and Emory. Maud is Mrs. Floy Wyer of Modesto, who has one son, Cecil. Mrs. Henley's parents were natives of Iowa.

The story of the event that was instrumental in bringing Mr. Henley to California is not the least interesting feature of his biography. In 1889, while he was living in Northwest Iowa, he was

caught by a terrific storm that carried damage to a wide and long stretch of country and fell under a nearly fatal lightning stroke. After that he was long in the hospital, and when, at length, he was discharged he had lost the use of his limbs, partly from paralysis caused by his accident, and partly from disuse, and was so impaired in health and vitality that his physicians advised him to seek the recuperative influence of a milder climate.

CHARLES R. BLAMQUIST

This well-known contractor, builder and farmer of Tulare, Cal., was born in Sweden, January 8, 1866, and was there educated and fully instructed in the trade of the wagon maker. In 1884, when he was about twenty-two years old, he came to the United States and locating in St. Paul, Minn., found employment at his trade. In the fall of 1890 he went to Montana and there began his career as a contractor and builder. From 1891 to 1893 he devoted his energies to that business in Seattle, Wash., then came to Los Angeles, Cal., and acquired a half interest in the Los Angeles Fertilizer Company, which he retained until 1897. Then, disposing of his interests in Los Angeles, he went up to Lincoln and Yakima counties, Wash., where during the ensuing fourteen years he devoted himself to grain and stock-raising on eight hundred acres of land, occasionally doing a little building in order that his hand might not lose its cunning. We find him next at Klamath Falls, Ore., where he lived nine months and thence came to Tulare in July, 1909. Here he has devoted his attention principally to building, though in December, 1911, he bought forty acres of land two miles southeast of Tulare which he planted to alfalfa and is developing for dairy purposes.

At Tulare Mr. Blamquist has built twelve houses and he has built two others in the country nearby. Among these are the residences of N. E. Stanley, Mrs. N. Anderson, E. S. Higdon, Mrs. West and Mr. Martin, and also two for Charles Henley; the house which he erected for Alfred Crawford also deserves mention. By doing work in every way satisfactory he is gaining the confidence of the public, and his continued success is by no means in doubt. He affiliates with the Order of Fraternal Aid and in other ways manifests an interest in the social and business affairs of his community. At Pasadena in 1897 he married Miss Margaret V. Smith and they have the following children: Georgia, Miller and Newland. The success which Mr. Blamquist has achieved is purely that of the self-made man who is alert for opportunities and quick to grasp them, honest and straightforward in his dealings with his

fellow citizens, and he commands respect by showing respect for the rights and opinions of others. He has in many ways shown an admirable public spirit.

GUSTAVUS A. RICHARDSON

In San Jose, Santa Clara county, Cal., Gustavus A. Richardson was born January 12, 1856, a son of Roswell and Louisa (Rodgers) Richardson. His father was a native of Plymouth, N. H., born June 24, 1797, a grandson of Samuel Richardson, who with his brothers, Ezekiel and Thomas, founded the town of Woburn, Mass., in 1641. Louisa Rodgers became his wife in 1849, in Clark county, Mo. In 1855 they came to California across the plains. After living in Santa Clara county three years, they moved to Tulare county, where Mr. Richardson died, July 4, 1877. His widow married George W. Hayden and died June 4, 1881, and was buried in the North Tule cemetery. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Richardson four children: Martha Matilda, born September 15, 1850, died in 1863; Georgiana, born August 8, 1862, died July 5, 1888; Benjamin Franklin, born October 30, 1854, died November 2, 1880; and Gustavus A. is the immediate subject of this article.

A common school education was all that was afforded Gustavus A. Richardson in the days of his youth and he was only a small lad when he began to assist his father in the work of the ranch. When he was sixteen years old he took a bunch of horses to Salt Lake City and sold them and came back to Tulare county, being the only one to make the entire trip of the eight who started. In 1875 he went to Arizona and remained there until 1881, when he returned to Tulare county, where he controlled ranches until 1884. Then he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land on the North Tule river, where he farmed about twenty years, during which period he added to his acreage by various purchases. At this time his ranch is one of the best and most productive in its vicinity. The family home has been in Porterville since 1911.

October 1, 1888, Mr. Richardson was appointed postmaster at Milo, Cal., and held the office until January 1, 1908, when he was succeeded by F. M. Ainsworth, in whose interest he had resigned, October 1, 1907. Politically he is Republican. Fraternally he affiliates with the Knights of Pythias, and is a charter member of Porterville lodge, No. 93, of that order. He married at Visalia, June 2, 1884, Mary Agnes (Braden) Ainsworth, daughter of John Braden, and widow of Andrew E. Ainsworth. Mrs. Ainsworth, who was a native of Kansas, had a son (A. E. Ainsworth) by her first marriage. He

was born January 16, 1877, was graduated at the Stockton Business College and when he was only eighteen years old was awarded a teachers' diploma. He taught successfully in public schools until his death, which occurred December 9, 1899. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, all natives of Tulare county: Roswell Guy, born at Milo February 22, 1886, was educated in the public schools and at the Oakland Polytechnic. Gustavus Alvah, born at Milo, February 5, 1888, was graduated from public schools at fourteen, and from the Porterville high school at nineteen and was a student at the Potts Business College in 1909-10, and has since been employed by the Pasadena Ice Company. Eunice Marguerite, born at Milo, June 21, 1890, was graduated from public schools at thirteen and from the Porterville high school in her eighteenth year. She married Wilko Cutler Knupp at Porterville, September 22, 1908. Her child, Benora Knupp, was born May 31, 1909; Mrs. Knupp later entered the State Normal school at Los Angeles and was graduated therefrom June 23, 1911, and is now teaching in Tulare county. Roscoe Vinton Richardson, born at Milo, April 11, 1896, had two terms in the high school at Pasadena and is now attending the Porterville high school. While the children were attending schools in Southern California, Mr. Richardson purchased and maintained a home in Pasadena, which he still owns.

JAMES B. MAYER

From a land of long, frigid winters to a land of winters short and summery came the subject of this notice about the first of October, 1907. How well he has prospered here and how much he has done for the prosperity of his community is well known to business circles throughout Kings county, Cal. James B. Mayer, president of the First National Bank of Corcoran, was born in Superior, Wis., March 21, 1863. When he was about ten years old his father moved onto a timbered farm in northern Minnesota and he soon became well-known there, not only as a farmer, but as lumberman, merchant and banker. Here young Mayer grew up to young manhood. He had begun his studies at the public schools of Superior, continued them in Minnesota and took a special course at the Curtis Business College of Minneapolis.

At the age of twenty-four he became the deputy county recorder of Carlton county, Minn., in which position his pleasing personality made him a favorite of the general public. His next venture was in the general merchandise business and it was while thus engaged he married Miss Nettie E. Hayes of Thomson, Minn., November

4, 1879. The felicity of this union was broken, however, by the death of his wife, which occurred at Floodwood, Minn., February 24, 1905, leaving him a son and daughter, Mildred, aged nineteen, and Jay, aged seventeen years.

Other interests than banking engage Mr. Mayer's attention. He is secretary of the Corcoran Gas & Water Company, which he helped to organize in 1908, when it took over the Security Land & Loan Company, and has since provided an ample supply of good water for the needs of the growing town of Corcoran. He is also associated as stockholder in the Corcoran Land Company, also in the Los Angeles Suburban Homes Company. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masons and Odd Fellows. Socially he is in favor with all who know him and politically he is active in the promotion of all that he deems best for the general good.

THOMAS McCARTHY

Ireland has given to the United States an element of fellowship that, by itself and by admixture with others, has been potent for progress since immigration began to come to these shores. Thomas McCarthy, born in County Kerry, on the Emerald Isle, April 22, 1855, sailed over to New York in 1872 and made his way with all possible speed to California, which was his real objective point. He stopped in Stanislaus county until 1874, then came to Kings county, where he has since lived and prospered. He became a land owner here in 1875, when he bought eighty acres. In 1877 he bought another eighty-acre tract on which he has since established his home, and in 1887 bought forty acres southeast of Armona. He acquired two hundred and forty acres more in 1902, and is now owner of four hundred and forty acres of as good land as is to be found in the country round Hanford. He gives his attention to general farming and to hog-raising. His products always bring good prices and he has raised some of the best hogs that have been grown in his part of the county in recent years. His ranch is well equipped with everything essential to its successful operation and is provided with a good residence and plenty of up-to-date outbuildings of all kinds.

As a citizen Mr. McCarthy is practical and progressive, having a firm faith in the fundamental principles underlying the government of his adopted country and having at heart always a deep solicitude for the happiness and prosperity of his fellow citizens of all classes. He was one of the builders of the Lakeside ditch and is serving as a director.

JOHN E. HALL

One of the Tennesseans who have found fortune in the golden fields of California is John E. Hall, prominent citizen and farmer, who lives a mile west of Hanford in Kings county. Mr. Hall was born in Tennessee June 13, 1868, and was reared there and educated in the common schools and worked at farming there until he was twenty-one years old, when he went to Wichita county, Texas. There he remained until he came, in August, 1893, to Hanford, where he rented three hundred and twenty acres of land just northwest of the city limits and raised grain, grapes and fruit for five years. Then he bought the nucleus of his present ranch, consisting of forty acres. A year afterward he bought another forty acres and later he bought eighty acres, then another forty acres a mile northwest of Hanford. Of the land in these several purchases he has set forty acres in vines and sixty acres in orchard. The remainder of his land is in alfalfa and pasture. In 1911 he erected a large residence suited to his needs.

Politically Mr. Hall is a Democrat who takes a really helpful interest in the affairs of his town and county. In 1905 and again in 1909 he was elected to represent the fourth district as a member of the Kings county board of supervisors. During the time he has served on the board the county purchased the fifty-six acres for the site of the present county hospital and the building was erected thereon; also the courthouse park was enlarged at a cost of \$23,000. Besides he has built roads in his district and been identified with all the progressive movements for the upbuilding of the county. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masons, holding membership in lodge, chapter and commandery at Hanford.

In December, 1891, Mr. Hall married Miss Addie Templeton, a native of Tennessee. Their seven children are: Ethel, Edna, Leslie, Vesta, Lois, Florence and George.

RICHARD H. ARNETT

As a farmer, as a friend to education and as a genial companion, Richard H. Arnett was known to many people in the vicinity of Visalia, Tulare county, Cal. He was born in West Virginia in September, 1850, and died at his home near Visalia, October 27, 1902. He left West Virginia for Missouri when he was eighteen years old, and later came to California.

Arriving in Tulare county in 1875, Mr. Arnett began ranching north of Visalia before many months passed, and two years later he moved to the city. In 1882 he became owner of a ranch on East

Mineral King avenue which he began to improve in many ways and cultivated with success, though he had not been able down to the time of his death to clear it of all incumbrance.

In 1877 Mr. Arnett married Miss Mary E. Shippey, a native of Missouri, whose father was an early settler in this part of California, and they had ten children: Dora, May, Frank, Richard H., Thomas, Fred, Blanche, Earl, an infant not named, and Walter. Dora is the wife of Clarence Goble. May married Andrew Goble. Frank married Etta Beede. Richard H. married Stella Swanson. Fred has passed away. Blanche is Mrs. J. R. Thompson. After her husband's death, the burden of managing the ranch fell on Mrs. Arnett's shoulders. She had never had much to do with business, but had learned a good deal about it by observation. Rising to her responsibilities, she accepted the situation, and how well she has discharged all the obligations of her position is known to the community with which she and her husband cast their lot. Not only has she made a success of her farming and stock-raising, but she has cleared her property of all debt and now owns sixty acres of land in three sections of twenty acres each, all close to Visalia and valuable from every point of view. She raises cattle, hogs, chickens and turkeys which find a ready sale at good prices. All who know her rejoice in her prosperity, declaring that she is one of the best business women in Central California.

WILLIAM E. FURMAN

In Portage county, Ohio, September 4, 1841, William E. Furman was born, a son of Eli and Diantha (Hall) Furman, and when he was about four years old was taken by his parents to Marion county, Iowa. He attended school until he was about fifteen years old, and for thirty years afterward was employed by his father on the latter's farm, sometimes in one state and sometimes in another, for the elder Furman tilled the soil in different places. The family came from Iowa to California in 1859, when William was about eighteen years old, and settled in Santa Clara county, where they lived thirteen or fourteen years. In 1873 they moved to Merced county, where the mother passed away at the age of sixty-one. It was not until his marriage, which was celebrated in 1882, that Mr. Furman took up the battle of life independently. Coming to Kings county in 1883 he settled on an eighty-acre ranch on which his home is now located. In 1887 he bought a second eighty-acre tract, forty acres of which he subsequently sold, and eight years later he bought one hundred and sixty acres. He gives his attention principally to stock-raising. His ranch

has been improved by himself with the exception of the house, which was built at the time of purchase. Those who know what Mr. Furman has accomplished know full well that he is a scientific farmer of varied attainments.

September 25, 1882, Mr. Furman married Miss Mary Stothers, who was born in Pennsylvania, April 2, 1856, and came to this state in 1881. Of their seven children, Eli W. and Joseph M. are deceased. Those living are: Jesse I., Fred A., Florence A., wife of Duncan Hanker, Ella I., and Elmer L. As a citizen Mr. Furman is patriotic and public-spirited, interested in everything that pertains to the advancement of the general welfare. His father came to Kings county and made his home with his son, dying at the age of eighty years.

OSCAR SAMUEL DEARDORFF

That well-known young farmer, Oscar Samuel Deardorff, whose success near Hanford, Kings county, Cal., is being commented on in farming circles in all the country round about, is not only a native of California, but the son of a native of California, a fact which gives him a double claim to notice in a work of this character. He was born February 29, 1880, not far from his present home, a son of John H. Deardorff, who was born in Amador county, Cal., in 1852, came to Kings county in 1873 and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits, winning much success, until he retired from active business.

In the Cross Creek school, Oscar S. Deardorff was a student until he was seventeen years old. Thereafter he assisted his father until he attained his majority, and then he went into business for himself as a farmer and hog raiser. His success has been more than noteworthy and he is now the owner of a ranch of one hundred and twenty acres, highly improved, which is equipped with good buildings of all kinds essential to its operation and with machinery and appliances of the most modern construction. Mr. Deardorff's knowledge of farming is both accurate and diversified and he is probably as good a judge of all that affects the production of good crops as any rancher in his neighborhood.

September 9, 1903, Mr. Deardorff married Irene M. Dodge, a native of Kings county, born August 11, 1881. Socially he affiliates with the Fraternal Brotherhood and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Beyond doing his full duty as a citizen, at the polls and elsewhere, he is not particularly active in politics, but his understanding of public questions is definite and his knowledge of all affairs

of state is exact and comprehensive. He has in many ways demonstrated that he possesses public spirit adequate to all reasonable demands upon it.

A. LEROY DIBBLE

Many a native of Iowa has brought success to or found it in California, to which Iowans have immigrated in large numbers for many years. It is a notable fact that not a few of the men at the head of affairs in this state were born there or born of parents who came from there. A. L. Dibble, whose successes will be mentioned in this notice was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, January 9, 1861. He received a good public school education, and during the year before he attained his majority was employed by his father. The family had come to California about 1864 and to Tulare county in 1873, and the young man was thoroughly at home on the soil and practically acquainted with the most approved methods of husbandry which farmers were applying to their problems here on the coast.

In 1882 Mr. Dibble began farming for himself on rented land, and in due time he bought an eighty-acre ranch and engaged in stock-raising and dairying. This place, which he has greatly improved, has been his home continuously from that time till the present, and as a home ranch it is one of the cosiest and best equipped in his vicinity. On May 7, 1882, he married Miss Mary A. Lewellyn, who was born in Nevada county, Cal., August 16, 1864. Their five children are: Grace Arvilla, widow of M. J. Devine; Effie E., Lawrence Leroy, Leonard A., and William Oscar.

Mr. Dibble is identified with the Fraternal Brotherhood. Politically he is not active beyond the requirements of his duties as a citizen, but his positive convictions concerning all questions of public policy make him a party man who yields staunch allegiance to the principles he feels called upon to espouse. He has never sought office and has steadfastly declined such official preferment as has been tendered him; but he yielded to the solicitations of his friends that he become a school trustee in the Fraser district, and that office he filled with singular fidelity and efficiency.

JAMES A. CRABTREE

Born in Jefferson county, Ill., November 13, 1829, James A. Crabtree, now of Porterville, Tulare county, Cal., was taken to Arkansas by his parents, John B. and Rebecca (Wilkerson) Crabtree, when about a

year old. The father was with Gen. Jackson at the Battle of Orleans and was one of the general's body guards. He lived there three years, in Missouri three years and after that in Texas until in 1852. There James A. was educated in the common schools and learned to farm and handle cattle. In the year last mentioned the family started to California with ox-teams but on the way sold their oxen and bought mules. They came to the coast through Mexico, and then made their way from Mazatlan to San Francisco by boat. Enroute they were four days and nights without food, even without a drop of water, and it was with great difficulty that Mr. Crabtree's father prevented some of the other passengers from throwing the captain overboard. They were rescued by another boat, but did not reach their destination until more than two months after their embarkation.

On August 26, 1852, they went to Santa Cruz, where they remained three years. After that they lived at San Juan six years, and then at Windsor, on Russian river, in Sonoma county, and again at San Juan for various periods until 1859, when they came to Tulare county, arriving in March. The elder Crabtree brought considerable stock to the county. He bought land of a squatter but never proved up on it. In 1857 James A. came to Tulare county from Pacheco rancho to look over the county, returning to the rest of the family later on and then coming with them in 1859. In 1857-58 he engaged in the hog business, driving them to the mines, where they found ready sale. After that he engaged in the sheep business and after moving onto his present ranch in 1873 has farmed, prospected and been in the fruit business. James A. bought land in 1868, when he bought the property on which he now lives. He owns in all one hundred and sixty acres, fourteen acres of which is in oranges, and the balance devoted to general farming, and every improvement he has put here himself. When the family came to this county white settlers were few, and Indians had killed several who had come before them. Deer, antelope, bear and other game was plentiful. In one memorable bear hunt Mr. Crabtree came near losing his life, but the bear was killed and proved to be the largest grizzly ever seen in these parts. There being no fences in the mountains, the settlers had to watch their growing crops. Mr. Crabtree has vivid recollections of strenuous occurrences at the time of certain big floods which are historic.

In 1860 Mr. Crabtree married Miss Paulina Moreland, a native of Missouri; she passed away January 12, 1903. Two of their five children are living. Their son, William Crabtree, born in Tulare county in 1861, lives near his father. Their son Thomas was born in Santa Clara county in 1863, and looks after his father's interests. One daughter, Rebecca Maria, died aged about twenty-three, the other two children in early childhood.

As a public-spirited citizen, Mr. Crabtree has always had the high regard of all who have known him. Deeply concerned for the public welfare, he has never failed to respond promptly and generously to any demand on behalf of the general good. He is honored as a pioneer, as a self-made man and as one who has achieved success honestly and richly deserves it.

ELBERT R. MONTGOMERY

It was in Blount county, Tenn., that Elbert R. Montgomery was born, October 10, 1869. He was educated in the public and high schools, and early began working with his father, being so employed until he reached the age of twenty-one years. He then took up farming and stock-raising, which has commanded his attention to the present time.

In 1892 Mr. Montgomery moved from his old home in Tennessee to Texas, where he bought land and farmed until in 1894, when he came to California. Settling in Fresno county, he engaged in ranching there, remaining four years. In 1897 he removed to Kings county and settled at his present location near Hanford, where with his brother John he rented six hundred and forty acres of land for three years, at which time they purchased it. Later they sold a quarter section of this tract and divided the remainder. At the present time Mr. Montgomery owns two hundred and fifteen acres, which he devotes very successfully to stock-raising. His ranch is one of the best of its class in its vicinity and he gives attention to fine stock, which he handles with a success born of long experience and with an intimate knowledge of breeding conditions and of the market.

Faternally Mr. Montgomery affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to the various interests of which he is helpfully devoted, and as a citizen he has shown himself to be possessed of a public spirit equal to any reasonable demand on behalf of the community. He married Laura E. Barnett, December 3, 1905. She was born in Kings county, June 25, 1880, a daughter of Z. T. Barnett of Hanford. They have one child, Elbert Montgomery, who was born October 13, 1906.

WILBUR COOLIDGE

A comparatively late comer to California who achieved success here was Wilbur Coolidge, who lives on rural free delivery route number three, Porterville, Tulare county. Mr. Coolidge was a native

of the state of Pennsylvania, born December 24, 1849. He was reared and educated in the Keystone state and lived near Wellsboro, until the fall of 1908, when he came to California and located in Tulare county. Most of his years of manhood were passed in the work of a skillful joiner.

In 1873 Mr. Coolidge married Miss Lucy Kimball, of Pennsylvania, who has borne him six children: Jennie married S. F. Bellinger and lives in Philadelphia, Pa.; Leon is married and lives in Kent, Ohio; Purley V. is married and a resident of Tulare county, Cal.; Milton, who is married, is associated with his brother Purley in conducting the ranch; Morton, next in order of birth, is in San Francisco; Gordon is in school. Mrs. Coolidge's parents, Hiram and Katharine Kimball, have passed away.

Mr. Coolidge bought twenty-six acres of raw land which he set to the best grade of oranges. He was interested in everything that pertained to the uplift of his community, in schools, in churches, and in politics. Especially did the economic questions which have so much to do with the general prosperity invite his thought, and as a voter he considered all things involved very carefully before casting his ballot for specific men or measures. Mr. Coolidge passed away September 10, 1912, aged sixty-three years.

FRANK E. HOWE

Perhaps a man who was born at Silverville, San Mateo county, Cal., January 31, 1853, could not with entire propriety be called a pioneer, but that he was the offspring of pioneers cannot be doubted. The place of his birth does not now appear in the Postoffice Guide, but in those days it was a mining camp and very much alive. When Frank Howe was two years old he was taken by his parents to Mariposa county, when he was seven years old they took him to Santa Clara county, and when he was sixteen years of age he had at least temporarily shaken off the shadow of the parental roof and was working for wages in a sawmill, a hopeful young citizen of a great country, with not so very much behind him but with the whole world before him. In October, 1875, he came to Kings county and in the following year, when he was twenty-three, he was settled on what is now a portion of his home farm and had made a good start with grain-raising and dairying. He has added to his original acreage from time to time until he now owns five hundred and sixty acres, most of it given over to pasture and to alfalfa. He is making a success with stock, raising a goodly number of horses and cattle and many hogs.

In his political affiliations Mr. Howe has been for many years a Republican, devoted heart and soul to the work that has been done by his party and supporting its men and measures in all campaigns and elections. Such political work as he has done has been in the public interest, not to secure official preferment for himself. He has accepted only one office, that of school trustee, which he filled with much ability and credit, using all his influence to improve the school in his vicinity. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, generously helpful to all its interests. May 22, 1877, he married Annie Dibble, who was born in Iowa in 1859 and has a vivid recollection of having crossed the plains in a wagon in 1862 with a train of fourteen wagons drawn by oxen and mules. She is a daughter of Edwin J. and Hannah (Blend) Dibble, pioneers of California. They have children named Edwin H., Albert P., and Chester M. Two died in early childhood. Ernest and Frank both died in 1886.

ROLAND L. KINCAID

The father of R. L. Kincaid was James A. Kincaid, who came across the plains to California in 1850, took up land in Tulare county, about the present site of Tulare City, moved to Springville, and is now living at Porterville, Cal., his wife, Mary Bibbins, having passed away in 1904. Their son was born in Mountain View, Santa Clara county, on October 2, 1871, and in 1879 was taken by his parents to Tulare county, to a home on the ranch on which he now lives. It embraces four hundred and eighty acres and is devoted principally to grain-growing.

In the public school in Frazier valley Mr. Kincaid received his primary education and it was by three years' study in Los Angeles that he attained his graduation. On October 2, 1892, he married Miss Alice Weddle, a native of Washington county, Ind., born in 1873. She has borne him seven children: Gertrude A., Ava L., Harold R., Mary B., Bessie I., and Erma A. Edith died in infancy. The four eldest have finished their grammar school studies. Mrs. Kincaid's father, Arne L. Weddle, a native of Virginia, has passed away; her mother, Lucinda Motsinger Weddle, is living in Dinuba.

As a farmer, Mr. Kincaid is up-to-date in his methods and his success is such as is achieved only by close attention to the work of the farm and by the application of an intimate knowledge of its requirements. He is not active in a political way but has the interests of the community at heart and, officially and otherwise, has done much for the school in the Frazier valley district. It is probable

that no other important question appeals to him so strongly as does that of public education, but there is no demand on his public spirit that does not receive prompt and generous response.

MICHAEL M. LYNCH

In the county of Limerick, Ireland, Michael M. Lynch was born in 1849. There he was reared to manhood and educated and when he was twenty years old, he and a cousin came with his brother, who had been in New York a year, to California via Panama. In his native land he had worked on farms and in order to get a start in America, had made up his mind to come west. California had been his objective point, and in his journey to the other side of the continent he was destined to encounter discouraging vicissitudes. The vessel on which he started was disabled and wrecked and put back into New York harbor twice. Then he made a successful departure and came to San Francisco, arriving in June, 1869. After a short stay in the Bay City, he went to Santa Cruz county, where he remained from late in 1869 until in April, 1873. Then, locating in Tulare county, he pre-empted and homesteaded land and engaged in farming and raising horses, sheep, hogs and cattle and was so successful that he was enabled to buy land from time to time until he owned more than two thousand acres.

At this time, Mr. Lynch, though he has sold off a considerable acreage, retains a large holding. In the days when he farmed and ran cattle he had many exciting encounters with cattle thieves. He sold the last of his cattle about a year ago and at his ranch, seven miles and a half northeast of Porterville, is living in retirement from active enterprise, or as he expressed it is "taking life easy." He has been too busy to take any active part in political work, but he has always been deeply interested in economic questions and has been ready at all times to do his utmost for the welfare of the community.

In 1885 Mr. Lynch married Miss Fannie Grant, a native of Ireland, who has been a resident of California since 1880.

W. H. McCRACKEN

In Hickory county, Mo., W. H. McCracken, the successful orchardist of the Woodlake district of Tulare county, was born February 8, 1861. There he made his home until he was twenty

years old. Then, after spending some time in West Texas, a year and a half on a range in the Panhandle district, he returned to railroading, in which he had had some experience in his native state. In 1887 he came to San Bernardino, Cal., and after twelve years' residence there began planting orchards. Some of his early work was for F. E. Harding and the J. H. Pattee Land Company, for whom he planted two hundred and fifty acres, the first one hundred and fifty acres thirteen years ago, mostly with his own hands. Having completed this work, he spent a year and a half at Lindsay in orange culture, then came to Woodlake valley for the Woodlake Orchard Company, the first purchase of whose large holdings was a tract of eight thousand acres. It has since made other purchases and has sold off fifteen hundred acres to the Citrus Land Company. Now it has about twenty-five hundred acres in one tract, six hundred acres of which was planted before 1913, when the company planned to plant quite extensively in the near future. Its trees range in age from one year to four or five years.

During recent years Mr. McCracken has ably filled the position of superintendent. His prominent connection with the business of Captain Thomas of Lindsay is well known. Mrs. McCracken died some years ago, and he and his son, C. P. McCracken, live on the Woodlake ranch, which has electric railway connection with Visalia. They are promoting the development of an orange and lemon orchard of thirty-three acres, twelve of which is devoted to lemons, the balance to oranges. As a citizen Mr. McCracken is helpful in a truly public-spirited way and is independent in politics and a staunch protector of home industry.

MICHAEL F. ROURKE

A native son of the Emerald Isle, descended from families famous in history and tradition, Michael F. Rourke was born January 22, 1860. He was brought to the United States by his parents in 1863 and lived in the city of New York until 1876, when he came to California and located in the Lakeside district in Kings county. In 1889 he went to Coalinga, Fresno county, where he was engaged in general farming, devoting some of his time to teaming. It is a matter of local history that he hauled the first oil rig set up in that district, and hauled the first oil that was shipped from the oil fields. He owned three hundred and twenty acres of land where the Empire Oil Company and the Castle Oil Company are now operating. There he remained until 1904, prospering fairly and winning honors as a citizen, then came back to Kings county and

resumed farming here. In 1910 he settled on the land which is now his home place. He owns in all one hundred and sixty acres which he devotes to general farming. The place is improved, has adequate buildings and modern machinery and is operated in a scientific way that insures the success of its proprietor.

In the Civil war Mr. Rourke's father, William Rourke, won honors as a Federal soldier in the Eighteenth New York Cavalry, Volunteers, and as the son of a veteran he holds membership in the local body of the Sons of Veterans. He affiliates also with the Woodmen of the World and with the Foresters of America. As a citizen he is progressive and public-spirited, ready at all times to do his full share in promotion of the general welfare. He married Miss Ruth E. Garner, November 21, 1885. She was born near Reno, Nev., April 11, 1864. To this worthy couple have been born four daughters: Anna S., wife of W. J. McDade of Los Angeles; Irene, Ruth E., and Mildred Frances. Irene died in 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Rourke have an ever-widening circle of acquaintances in which they are always welcomed, by reason of their friendly interest in all forward movements and they retain the friendship of all with whom they come in contact.

JOHN MONTGOMERY

In that picturesque and productive state, Tennessee, in the county of Blount, John Montgomery, a resident of the Hanford district of Kings county, Cal., and one of the well-known stockmen of the central part of the state, was born in February, 1861. He attended public school and State Normal school until he was eighteen years old and applied himself with diligence to his studies. Then until he attained his majority he helped his father on the home farm, and his independent career in business was begun as a farmer in his native state, remaining there until 1884, when he came to California. The first two years in this state he passed in the Mussel Slough district, where he and his brother leased a section of land. Subsequently he lived six years in Fresno county, but returned to the vicinity of Hanford, where he now owns two hundred and sixty-five acres, which he devotes to the raising of cattle, hogs and horses, and in this he has been very successful. He has gradually improved his homestead until it is one of the most valuable and attractive in the district, outfitted with good buildings and all of the accessories requisite to its profitable operation. As a citizen he has proven himself public-spirited and helpful to the best interests of the community.

A. FRED DODGE

A native son of Kings county, Cal., who is winning a commendable success on the home soil, is A. Fred Dodge, who is descended from old American families and whose family name has been prominent in all periods of the history of the United States. He was born July 22, 1877, and attended the public schools until he was fifteen years old and after that he gave his services to his father until he was twenty-one, at which time he was deeded a tract of land. He was his father's partner, and they gave their attention to dry farming, hog-raising and dairying, in which they were very successful. In 1907 Mr. Dodge moved on his eighty-acre tract, which he has developed into a fine ranch and home, with a good residence and barns and ample outbuildings of all kinds. His methods of cultivation are thoroughly scientific and he is probably as successful as a breeder of hogs as any rancher in his vicinity.

On October 3, 1901, Mr. Dodge married Miss Nellie E. VanVlear, a native of Michigan, born December 14, 1879, who was brought to California by her parents when she was about three years old. Mrs. Dodge has had three children who are here mentioned in the order of their birth: Richard V., Doris and Dortha. Doris died in 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Dodge take an interest in all that pertains to the public welfare and are generously helpful to all propositions promulgated for the general good. He has served his fellow townsmen as a trustee of schools and as such has been influential in elevating the local standard of education. He is a member of the Independent Order of Red Men, in the work of which he is practically interested.

JOHN WHITMORE DOCKSTADER

A splendid example of the selfmade, self-reliant man, who from early boyhood has earned his own livelihood, is John Whitmore Dockstader, now prominent as a business man and an official at Lemoore, Kings county. He was born in Montgomery county, N. Y., November 23, 1870, but was reared in Missouri, where he had been taken by his parents when a small boy. When he was fourteen years old he found himself obliged to earn his way and going to Nebraska he worked there for about a year and then went to Barton county, Mo., remaining there three years. At this time he had reached his nineteenth year and he decided to come to California and in 1889 he stopped at Tulare where he remained twelve months and later engaged at farming near Porterville for two or three years. For the next five years he conducted a store and bakery at Porterville, but gave that up and

during the ensuing four years he was in the barber business at San Francisco, whence he came to Lemoore in 1899 to open a barber shop, which he conducted until he became a partner in the grocery business of L. S. Stepp. After four years he disposed of his interest in the grocery business to Stepp and bought back his barber shop, which he operated a year. In 1903 he bought the draying business of Mrs. Thomas Winsett at Lemoore, in which his brother, Hiram Dockstader, soon acquired a half interest. Besides doing a general draying and moving business they handle ice in large quantities, distributing it throughout the city. Their enterprise requires the use of four wagons and teams, besides a big Packard motor truck which was the first brought to Kings county.

In 1899 Mr. Dockstader bought eighty acres of land three miles south of Lemoore on which he raises stock and alfalfa. He has also an eighty-acre dairy ranch, mostly under alfalfa, and milks fifty cows. This land he rents on a cash basis, as he does also forty acres, nine miles south, for farming purposes. He has found time from his business to devote to the public welfare, and in 1909 accepted appointment as city trustee of Lemoore, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of that office by his old grocery partner, L. S. Stepp; at the expiration of the term he was elected to the same office for the ensuing term. In 1908 he was elected a member of the school board of Lemoore. Fraternally he associates with the Circle, and with the Woodmen of the World. In 1894 he married Miss Lulu Kelly, a native of Tulare, and a daughter of H. C. Kelly, who long farmed at Porterville and who now makes his home with his sons. Hiram Dockstader, father of John W., is a member of his son's household. He was born in New York state, married Louada Whitmore, and came to Kings county in 1908. John W. and Lulu (Kelly) Dockstader have two children—Lansford and John W. Dockstader, Jr.

CARL AUGUST PETERSON

The prominent orange grower of Tulare county, Cal., whose name is sufficient to direct attention to this brief narrative of his life, was born in Sweden in 1871 and when he was nineteen years old came to the United States. He first located in Iowa, whence he moved to Humboldt county, Cal., in 1891. There he remained seven-teen years, conducting a dairy business and was foreman in a mechanic's shop at Ferndale. In the fall of 1908 he came to Tulare county and bought twenty-five acres of land. His first work here was the planting of thirty acres to trees for others. The entire

product of his place is divided between Valencia and Navel oranges which are just coming into bearing.

In 1902 Mr. Peterson married Miss Theoline Swanson, who has borne him three children: Ivan L. and Edna H., in school, and Paul Wesley. A progressive man of great public spirit Mr. Peterson is as solicitous for the welfare of the community as for the success of his own enterprise and never fails to respond to any reasonable demand upon him for the general good.

A. J. WOODS

In Andrew county, Mo., A. J. Woods, of Tulare county, Cal., was born. The time of his birth was October 5, 1845, and he came to California in the spring of 1863, when he was between sixteen and seventeen years old. The youth settled near the site of Lodi, San Joaquin county, where he developed to manhood and farmed till 1888. Then he came to Tulare county and located at Waukena and went into wheat raising. He gradually increased the volume of his business until he was farming, some years, as many as two thousand acres. In 1890 he bought his present ranch of one hundred and ninety acres at Tulare, a productive dairy and alfalfa farm, which he now rents out. He has always raised fine horses, and recently sold a two-year-old colt for \$250.

Miss Eva Pierson, a native of Indiana, whom Mr. Woods wedded in 1872, bore him children as follows: Albert B., of Stockton, Minnie and Claude E. His present wife—their marriage was celebrated in 1907—was Miss Lizzie Moore. Mr. and Mrs. Woods are active members of the Tulare Grange, in which they have held many offices. For thirty-five years (since 1877) he has been a Granger, nearly all the time holding high positions in the organization. In fact he is one of the oldest Grangers in the state. Tulare Grange No. 198 was instituted in 1886 and now includes sixty members. It has been an instrument for the promotion of many public interests, one of its notable achievements having been its agency in securing the Sequoia National Park, in the mountains. The Mooney Grove Park, north of Tulare, was promoted by Tulare Grange and a committee of its members will handle the money raised by the board of supervisors for the improvement of the property. In a general way, this Grange has, during the last twelve years, done much to better highways in the county and to bring about the construction of good roads. Mrs. Woods was its worthy master in 1911. Its officers were in 1912: Master, Mrs. C. A. Sayer; lecturer, Mrs. A. J. Woods; overseer, Mrs. L. C. Lawson; steward, Frank Stiles; assistant stew-

ard, Thomas Jacobs; chaplain, Mrs. Emma Loman; treasurer, George Watts; secretary, Mrs. Bertha Morris; gatekeeper, A. J. Woods. Mr. Woods is a Mason. In San Joaquin county he served for some years as a member of the board of education of his town.

PHILLIP AULMAN

Another of those good German citizens who have so nobly done their part in the development of California was Phillip Aulman, who came to the state in 1855 and died at Visalia, Tulare county, in July, 1910. Born in the Fatherland in 1827, he came to America when he was twenty-two years old and in 1849 he settled in Iowa and engaged in farming. After six years there he came across the plains to California, where he put in his first twelve months at mining, meeting with indifferent success in the venture. Subsequently he turned his attention to farming and dairying near Suisun, Solano county, and later he operated in the vicinity of Gilroy, Santa Clara county. At length he went back to Iowa, farming there until 1864, when he went to Oregon and Washington, and there prospered as a dairyman. He came again to this state in 1869 and lived for a time in the Packwood district, Tulare county, whence he subsequently moved to the vicinity of Visalia, which was his home for many years, and where his widow now resides. There he engaged in dairying and developed a farm of a hundred and sixty acres.

In 1850, five years before he started overland from Iowa to California, Mr. Aulman married Miss Parthenia E. Hughes, a native of Indiana, born in 1833. Her experiences enable her to relate many interesting incidents of their trip across the plains. She is one of the dependable business women of Tulare county, recognizing all responsibilities and discharging all obligations, carrying out very ably the plans made by her late husband for the conduct and improvement of the home interests.

LOUIS F. PLATT

This progressive and popular architect and contractor of Tulare City, Cal., was born in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1874, and began his education in the public schools of his native city. After a five years' course of study he was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, where he was fitted for the professions of architect and civil engineer. He devoted himself to a practice of the two

professions in the east till 1908, when he came to California and, locating in Tulare, took up contracting and building. It should be recorded that in New York City he designed sixty residences and store buildings, in Wilmington, Del., one hundred and seventy-seven, and in York, Pa., thirty-two, all of brick and stone construction. In 1905 he designed a beautiful residence for A. M. Clegg, of Brooklyn, N. Y., which is one of the show places on the Ocean Park and Burly road boulevard. At the time it surpassed in cost and magnificence any other house in the vicinity.

In beginning his work in Tulare county Mr. Platt recognized the necessity of combining contracting and building with his practice of architecture, and he was the first builder there of the bungalow now so popular throughout California. He has designed and erected residences in and around Tulare City for Dr. Charles, George H. Castle, F. N. Schnable, W. E. Flagg (for whom he built two), W. Sampsons, A. Primmes, F. E. Standley, A. Frazer, Joseph Myers, Dr. C. E. Harper, F. Newcity, E. F. Treadway, Mrs. Lathrope, A. Martin and others, and stores for W. L. Weidman and A. W. Wheeler. His work both in design and construction takes rank with the best in the state and his services are coming into greater demand with each passing year. Perhaps the concrete buildings on South J street constitute the most conspicuous monument to his artistry as an architect and his skill and integrity as a builder. Personally he has become popular in a wide circle of acquaintances and socially he affiliates with the Eagles and the Modern Woodmen of the World. In 1904 Mr. Platt married Miss Sarah E. Bowers, a native of Pennsylvania.

FRANK BLAKELEY

Among the most active and enterprising citizens of Kings county, and a progressive advocate of good roads, is Frank Blakeley of Lemoore, who was born in Iowa, April 22, 1869. In 1882, when he was thirteen years old, he came with his father, James M. Blakeley, to Kings county, where the elder Blakeley farmed near Grangeville, then moving on land five and a half miles southeast of Lemoore, the first acreage he purchased in the county. Frank Blakeley lived with his father until 1890, then came to Lemoore and began farming on rented land, but soon began to buy land and finally came to own ten thousand acres in the lake bottom. His policy was to buy and sell as occasion offered and in a general way to improve his holdings, which he did by constructing levees and ditches. He began operating there in 1898 and 1899, and farmed on a large scale, having under

cultivation from year to year from one thousand to twenty thousand acres. He has done more ditch and levee work than any one else in that vicinity and he was the first there to use steam machinery, such as traction engines and combined harvesters, sometimes owning and operating five outfits at a time. In 1905 he sowed twelve thousand acres to wheat but lost the entire crop because of rust. In 1906 he sowed twenty-four thousand acres to wheat, twenty thousand of which was his own property, and all the time from September 1 to February 1 was consumed in putting in the seed. Because of flood this crop with the exception of five thousand acres was lost, and since then he has conservatively farmed on a small scale. Meanwhile he has bought and sold land in the lake district and has operated extensively as a contractor, constructing ditches and leveling land.

For ten years Mr. Blakeley has been a city trustee of Lemoore; he has been trustee of Lemoore grammar school, and in 1910 was elected a member of the board of supervisors of Kings county. He is manager of the Lemoore baseball team and during the past four years has ably promoted the sport here and round about. If he has a hobby it is good roads, and since he has been a supervisor all the roads in his district have been greatly improved under his personal supervision, he having repaired twenty miles of road and built ten miles of new road. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, the Modern Woodmen, the Red Men, and the Foresters. On September 22, 1891, he married Miss Clara M. Cadwell, and they have had seven children, one of whom has died. The following are the names of the surviving ones: Ambrose, Ervine, Floyd, Frank, Jr., Melvin and Albert.

HIRAM MOORE

The life story of a pioneer, however briefly or however crudely told, must of necessity be of interest for two reasons—it inevitably possesses historic interest and human interest. Out of the fragments of personal experience history is largely constituted, for when it is finished it is a composite of biographical material. The history of man is the history of the country in which he lives. Such life histories as that of Hiram Moore, a native of New York state and a pioneer of 1849 in California, are in the aggregate the material from which our local history must be constructed. It was among the 49ers that Hiram Moore came across the plains, on the overland trail, to the then half-fabulous land of gold. He mined in Nevada City, Nevada county, Cal., with varying success until 1868, when he settled at Porterville, Tulare county. Later he was the proprietor and land-

lord of the old railroad hotel at Tipton. It was in 1873 that he came to Tulare. At that time, according to good authority, there were only four houses within the present limit of the city; but there was travel through the place and it was beginning to attract attention. By 1876 the settlement had advanced somewhat and representatives of one of the political parties erected a liberty pole, the first that ever stood up against the sky above the town. Mr. Moore helped to select that pole and to put it in place. During the pioneer days of Tulare he filled the office of justice of the peace. It is significant of his versatility that he was given charge of one of the first stationary engines set up in the town. He affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Tulare until his removal, late in life, to Bakersfield, where he passed away in 1899. He married Jane Atkins, a native of Scotland, and they had a son and a daughter, Hiram Moore, of Fresno, Cal., and Lizzie, Mrs. A. J. Woods, of Tulare. There will be found in this work a biographical sketch of Mr. Woods, which includes interesting mention of the activity of Mrs. Woods in connection with the Grange movement in Tulare county.

Hiram Moore, Jr., is a railroad man in the employ of the Santa Fe. He began railroading while a very young man at Tipton and was a conductor on the Southern Pacific, and in that capacity when he was twenty-one years of age he took one of the first two trains that were ever run over the Tehachapi mountains. His mother still survives and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. A. J. Woods, being now seventy-four years old. Where the Rochdale store in Tulare now stands the firm of Sisson, Wallace & Company had a general store some years ago, and on the fourth of July, 1876, wishing a flag for their flagstaff they found it impossible to procure one. Finally the material was procured from them and Mrs. Moore and her daughter, Mrs. Woods, then a young lady, assisted in the making of the first flag ever used in a celebration at Tulare.

JOHN WILLIAM HARVEY

The successful vineyardist of Wankena, Tulare county, Cal., John W. Harvey, is a native of Cumberland county, Ky., and was born October 2, 1863. He attended public school until he was seventeen years old, then turned his attention to farming for which he had fitted himself by practical experience during all the days of his youth. In 1885 he went to Hill county, Tex., where for two years he grew corn and made crops of cotton. Then he returned to his old home, and after remaining there for a short time came in December, 1888, to Tulare county and settled on the place which is now his home farm,

none of which, however, did he purchase until 1890, when he became the owner of fourteen acres of bare land. Meanwhile, he devoted one year to the service of the Kings River Lumber Company. He has made other land purchases from time to time, as he has prospered and laid aside money for the purpose, and he now owns ninety-five acres of good land in the Waukena neighborhood. For the past fifteen years he has been the proprietor of a combined harvester, which he has operated in season and which he has made a source of considerable yearly profit. He is a farmer of skill and resource, who knows his ground and his seed and every condition of locality and climate that can possibly affect crop production, and his success is achieved not only by industry, but by careful attention to every detail of the work in hand.

Fraternally Mr. Harvey affiliates with the Fraternal Aid Association. In his political alliance he is a Democrat. On October 3, 1893, he married Miss Carrie F. Torrey, who was born in St. Louis, Mo., November 16, 1862, and they have three children, Elizabeth, Catherine and John W.

WALTER S. BURR

A loyal son of the Golden State, who despite discouragements has become one of its successful ranchers, is Walter S. Burr, whose birthplace was in Yolo county, seven miles west of Woodland, and the date of his nativity was January 22, 1857. His childhood was passed in Yolo and Tehama counties and in 1869, when he was about twelve years old, he was brought to Tulare county. His father, B. F. Burr, was a farmer who tried his fortunes with the soil near Tulare a short time, then went to the eastern part of the county and operated a sawmill and handled lumber until the spring of 1876, when he moved to the Mussel Slough district, where he soon became known through his activity in the promotion of the construction of the People's ditch. For several years he lived on and farmed lands which were ultimately appropriated by the railroad company, but he had in the meantime bought forty acres adjoining, in the next section, and consequently was not left without a home. There he planted a vineyard and an orchard and lived until 1886, when he joined a colony in Mexico. He returned to Tulare in 1896 and died there soon afterward, aged seventy-one years.

As a farmer Walter S. Burr may be said to have begun at the bottom of the ladder. He acquired a claim to a quarter-section of land seven miles south of Hanford and homesteaded it. About the same time he pre-empted forty acres, and later, when fortune had

smiled on him, he bought two hundred acres adjoining his original purchases and now has four hundred acres. He devotes himself to farming, stock-raising and dairying, owning seventy-five head of cattle, many horses and mules and about two hundred and fifty hogs. One hundred acres of his land is in alfalfa. Water for irrigation he draws from the Lakeside ditch, and on his place are ample wells for his stock as well as for irrigation, he having two pumping plants. In association with his sons he operated an alfalfa thresher for two years. He was active in securing irrigation ditches for his part of the county and the legislative passage of the no-fence law.

For three terms aggregating twelve years he ably filled the office of supervisor, representing the second district, and during one of the terms he was president of the board. His activity in the work of the local Grange brought him election as secretary of that body. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and with the Foresters.

Mr. Burr married, December 30, 1884, Mary L. Graham, daughter of John Graham, a pioneer in the vicinity of Visalia, and they have three children, Carl T., Maud and Reel G. Maud is the wife of E. H. Howe. Mr. Burr has won his success in life by the exercise of those qualities which enter into the character of all self-made men, and those who know him best know that he has prospered honestly and deservedly.

EDWIN H. HOWE

One of the many native Californians who has made a success of stock-raising and farming in the country round about Hanford, Kings county, Cal. is the son of Tulare county mentioned above. Edwin H. Howe is the son of Frank E. Howe, and was born April 14, 1879. He was reared to manhood in the Lakeside district, now in Kings county, and educated in public schools near his home. Associated in a business way with his brother, Albert P. Howe, and their father, he farmed in the Lake bottoms from 1898 until 1906, when the filling up of the old lake bed brought an end to their enterprise. They had been successful there, however, and Mr. Howe and his brother bought from their father the one hundred and sixty-acre ranch, nine miles southwest of Hanford, which is now the home of the former. In 1906 he bought his brother's interest in the place, and since then he has bought from the Walker estate one hundred and sixty acres adjoining the homestead ranch on the north, in the west one-half of section thirty-four, ranges nineteen and twenty-one. He devotes his energies and his capital to the raising of horses,

mules and hogs; at least that is his principal business, though he does general farming and has seventy-five acres in alfalfa. Formerly he gave attention to dairying, but he is converting his land to an alfalfa ranch as rapidly as is expedient. All of the improvements on his homestead, including house, barns and fences, he has made since he bought the place. He obtains water for irrigation from the Last Chance ditch and the People's ditch and has on his place a well for his stock and domestic use. He is operating rented land also, notably one hundred and sixty acres west of him, which belongs to his father, and eighty acres still further west, growing grain and alfalfa on both tracts.

In February, 1905, Mr. Howe married Mand Burr, daughter of Walter Burr, and she has borne him three children: Edwin Orval, Lucile and Herbert L., who died in infancy. Mr. Howe's success in life has been won by his own effort and, as has been seen, not without his having to make the best of serious discouragements. The optimism which has borne him up in his business struggles thus far gives him hope for the future, not a little of which is based on his belief in the destiny of Hanford and its tributary territory, for the up-building of which he is ready at any time to give public-spirited aid.

FRANK L. BLAIN

The well known farmer and cattleman whose name heads this sketch is a native of California who made his start and has won success in life within a few miles of the place of his birth. He first saw the light of day in Visalia, Tulare county, in 1880. After finishing a course at the public schools of the town he took a six months' course at the Stockton Business College in 1899, and in the following year he took over all of his father's large ranch interests, which he conducted successfully during the ensuing three years. In 1904 he moved to his present ranch of eighty acres, to which he has added one hundred and sixty acres opposite, built him a comfortable bungalow and in a general way got ready for success as a farmer and cattle raiser. He put twenty acres in peaches of the Tuscan and Muir varieties, gave forty acres to alfalfa, prepared for extensive operations as a stockman, and cleared and cleaned up the ranch, greatly improving the property in every way. In partnership with his sister, he has taken possession of all of the real estate left by their father and is managing the same with much success. He devotes himself principally to the raising of beef cattle, is acquiring large cattle ranges and bids fair soon to rank among the leading cattlemen of the county. He and his sister have seven thousand acres of range land in the mountains, on

which they have from seven hundred to eight hundred head of cattle, also thirteen hundred and sixty acres of good cattle land north of Visalia. He owns one hundred and sixty acres near the San Joaquin Hill. Mr. Blain controls a total of five good ranch properties in Tulare county.

Busy as he necessarily is with his cattle-raising industry, Mr. Blain finds some time to devote to general interests, especially to such as affect men who get their living off the soil. As an instance, it should be noted that he is a director of the People's Co-operative Ditch Company, a concern which is doing good work in the way of irrigation. He is not an active politician, but views all public questions with a patriotic intelligence. In November, 1906, he married Miss Bertha Givens, of Californian birth, and they have a daughter whom they have named Carroll.

DANIEL ABBOTT

Born in Washington county, Ark., January 3, 1836, Daniel Abbott has been a resident of California since 1857 and has attained much prominence in the San Joaquin Valley. He was a son of Joshua Abbott, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1800 and had come to California in 1850 and engaged in mining for a time. He returned to Arkansas and farmed, and here his son Daniel was reared and trained to the work on the farm, having but little chance to go to school. In May, 1857, the family started for California overland with oxen and prairie schooners; there was a large train and the party arrived in Calaveras county in the following October.

In Calaveras county Daniel Abbott farmed on a small scale and in the year 1861 he went to Tulare county, settled near Porterville and engaged in raising stock. The rains came that winter with such force that there was a flood and for almost forty days it fell, everything portable was washed away and the settlers had difficulty in saving themselves. Mr. Abbott built a raft of some lumber he had and in this way saved the family from perishing. He was offered \$500 for it after he had finished it. In 1862 he went to Mariposa county and engaged in contracting for wood for the mines, but two years later went to Stanislaus county, bought land, and embarked in the sheep business. Upon the settling up of that part of the valley Mr. Abbott came again to Tulare county in 1874, bringing with him his band of sheep and he finally became the owner of thirty-nine hundred and sixty acres of land, for which he paid an average of \$3 per acre. He was, in all, in the cattle and sheep business for about forty years, at the end of which time he sold his land and stock and bought prop-

erty at Porterville, where he erected two business blocks and several residences. About 1902 he purchased the home in which he now lives, his object in removing into the city being to further the educational advantages for his children, and here they have since made their home.

In 1880 Mr. Abbott married Mrs. Frances Elizabeth (Fine) Burse, a native of Arkansas, who bore him nine children; five daughters survive, viz.: Mrs. Louisa Mahaffrey, Mrs. Lana Nancollis, Winnifred and Minnie (twins) and Emma Lee. Those children who are deceased are Martha, Arlesa, Charles and Daniel.

In 1886 occurred the death of his father, who was born in Ohio in 1800. Mr. Abbott, who has been a cripple since August 24, 1857, has been by his infirmity forbidden the activities of some other men and he has been too closely confined to his home to take a prominent part in politics, but he has been a member of the school board and has found other ways to serve his fellow townsmen. He is fond of reminiscence and sometimes tells some interesting stories of his overland journey to California in 1857. Once when the party was encamped one hundred and twenty-five miles this side of Salt Lake, Indians stampeded the cattle and wounded some of the men. Mr. Abbott himself was shot while coming in from guard duty, and got to the camping place only to find that his comrades had moved on. He was able soon to rejoin them, however, but one of his companions, an intimate friend, who was shot at the time, died soon after.

JOSEPH LEWIS FICKLIN

It was in Scott county, in old Kentucky, the cradle of Western history, that Joseph Lewis Ficklin was born November 27, 1831. When he was four years old he was taken to Missouri, where he remained until 1852, scarcely leaving the neighborhood of his home. Then he came to California as a gold-seeker, remaining four years. He returned to Missouri, to come out again to the coast country in 1886, when he settled on his present homestead. His first journey across the plains was made with oxen. There were with the party four hundred cows and fifty head of work cattle, and the trip consumed six months time. His second journey to California was made by rail in four days.

In Missouri Mr. Ficklin gained such education as was afforded by the public school near his home. He married Miss Elizabeth Turner, a native of Missouri, who bore him one child and passed away in 1864. In 1865 he married Miss Sarah A. Davis, who was born in Crawford county, Mo., and they had five children, two of whom died in infancy. The survivors are William Kennett Ficklin, in Yellow-

stone Park, Anna Ficklin, who married F. O. Fridley, and Mirtha, who is Mrs. H. A. Powell. Benjamin Ficklin, Joseph L. Ficklin's father, was born in Kentucky in 1808 and his father, John Ficklin, participated in the Black Hawk war, serving as captain under Col. Dick Johnson. The father of Sarah A. (Davis) Ficklin was born in Virginia, in 1798, and her mother in Scott county, Ky., in 1802.

When Mr. Ficklin came to Tulare county he bought eighty acres of land at \$10 an acre which was at that time devoted to wheat, and he helped to harvest grain where the city of Exeter now stands. During the last four years he has converted his ranch to a fruit farm and vineyard. One of Mrs. Ficklin's brothers came to California in 1850 and four of them died in Tulare county. Mr. Ficklin has held public office and affiliates with the Masonic order. Politically he is a Democrat. As a citizen he has in many ways demonstrated his public spirit.

GEORGE WARNER CODY

Near Pontiac, Mich., George Warner Cody was born January 31, 1842. When he was seven years old he was taken to Wisconsin, on the removal of his parents to that state. From there they went to Nebraska, where he lived until 1874, except during the term of his military service, variously employed in milling, merchandising, farming and other useful work. In 1861, at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., he enlisted in Company H, Eighth Regiment, Kansas Volunteer Infantry, and his recollections of the Civil war, in which he was in fifteen general engagements and many skirmishes, includes scenes at Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga and a number of Confederate prisons. After his capture at Chickamauga he was confined at Ringgold, then in the bull pen at Atlanta, then in Libby prison, then at Pemberton, then at Danville, then at Andersonville, then at Charleston, then at Florence. He escaped from Andersonville and was recaptured while attempting to cross Flint River. His experiences at Florence were terminated by his exchange. He was one of six out of one hundred who were liberated, the others being kept until the end of the war. After his exchange he was sent to Annapolis, Md., where he was paroled and forwarded to Fort Leavenworth.

After Mr. Cody was discharged at Fort Leavenworth he returned to Nebraska, where he was warmly welcomed after his fifteen months' incarceration in Confederate prison pens, and took up farming. Later he operated a grist mill and sold goods until 1874, when he came to Tulare county and located near Armona. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land south of Hanford and one hundred and sixty acres two miles south of Lemoore and farmed tracts of rented land aggre-

gating seventeen hundred acres. From 1874 to 1881 he raised grain and broom corn, then sold his property and for the next five years lived at Los Angeles. Next we find him located near Santa Ana, where he planted twenty-seven acres to walnut trees and fifteen acres to raisins. Coming to Kings county, he bought thirty-four acres north-west of Hanford, a part of which was unimproved, and now has seven acres in vineyard and twenty-five acres in peaches and apricots. His property is improved with a good house and adequate outbuildings which he erected after it came into his possession. He was one of the organizers of the Last Chance Ditch Company and helped to construct its improvements, and he was identified also, in the period 1874-1881, with the promotion of the People's Ditch and the Lower Kings River Ditch.

In 1866 Mr. Cody married Mary M. Gray and they have had five children: Thorley G., Harvey P., Rinney, deceased, Andrew Milo and Terrill, deceased. It is probable that no part of his life will always be as fresh in Mr. Cody's memory as that part of it which he passed in Confederate prisons. He considers himself fortunate in having come out of that experience alive. "Clara Barton told me," he says, "that she put up thirteen thousand gravestones at Andersonville and one stone for the graves of two thousand unnamed soldiers. There were seven thousand deaths in Florence prison and there is no record of those who died in the other prisons that I was in."

ALEXANDER CROOK

A pioneer and a son of a pioneer, the career of Alexander Crook has been a most active one in this vicinity. He was born in Harrison county, Ind., in 1838, a son of Wiley Crook, and came to California when he was nineteen years old. He and his brother made the long journey by way of the Isthmus of Panama and settled in Sonoma county, remaining in the valley five years. Subsequently they lived for a time in Nevada, and in the interval between their departure from that territory and the year 1874 they lived in various places east and west. In the year just mentioned they located in Tulare county, where the land had just been surveyed by the government, and took up one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Crook is now the owner of six hundred and forty acres on which he is farming and raising cattle and some fruit with a degree of success that makes him conspicuous among farmers of his vicinity.

In 1873 Mr. Crook married Elizabeth Kipp, a native of Indiana, and they had five children, all of whom are natives of California. Catherine married Holmes Batcheler. Blanch is the wife of Bert

Smith. Ethel is Mrs. Frank Gill. Arthur B. and Fred A. are members of their parents' household. The family is well-known and popular in the county and Mr. Crook has demonstrated his deep interest in public affairs by assisting movements for the general good. In association with George Dillon he promoted the organization of the first school near his home, was instrumental in having the first school house built there, and for a time he ably filled the office of school director.

His father, Wiley Crook, was born in Indiana and came to California in 1849, eight years before the settlement here of his two sons, making the journey on board an old English brig which was forty days at sea without a landing. He began here with about one hundred dollars in cash, with a part of which he secured a few cattle, and prospered fairly well until 1885, when he died, leaving his possessions to his two sons.

LYMAN D. FARMER

The youngest man who ever held the office of sheriff in California is Lyman D. Farmer of Kings county. It should be a matter of pride to Californians that he is a native of the state and doubly so to the people of Kings county that he was born within its borders, nine miles northeast of Hanford. He made his advent in this world November 7, 1885, a son of George and Gertrude D. (Ruggles) Farmer, natives respectively of Iowa and California. George Farmer came to California in 1875 and located on a farm near Cross Creek Switch, in Kings county, where he still lives and of whom a sketch will be found on another page in this work. His wife was a daughter of L. B. Ruggles, a native of Michigan, who came around Cape Horn to California in pioneer days, returned east by way of the Isthmus of Panama and brought his wife back to this state. After mining for awhile, he farmed and worked at lumbering at Woodland, Yolo county, until he took up his residence in Tulare county. In 1876 he pre-empted land seven miles southwest of Traver, on which he engaged in farming and to which he eventually acquired title. With the aid of his sons he constructed the Settlers' Irrigation ditch in that part of the county. After a life of usefulness he passed away in 1896, and Mrs. Farmer is his only surviving child. Of Mr. and Mrs. Farmer's ten children, eight are living: Leta D. is the wife of Dr. L. C. Cothran; Milton T. is a graduate of U. of C. and now attorney for the State Superintendent of Banks with law offices in Oakland; the others are Lyman D., Ethel R., Theodore P., Paul L., Clarence W. and Lucile B.

Lyman D. Farmer acquired his primary education in the public schools and was a student one year at the University of California.

He helped his father on the home ranch until 1909, when he was appointed deputy sheriff under Sheriff W. V. Buckner. He was elected sheriff on the Republican ticket in 1910, when he was twenty-five years of age, and is filling the office with ability and fidelity that would do credit to a man twice his years.

Fraternally Sheriff Farmer affiliates with the Sons of Veterans; the Native Sons of the Golden West; is a Royal Arch Mason; a member of the Eastern Star, Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of Hanford. Popular as he is in these orders, he is held in no higher esteem than by the citizens generally. In 1911 he married Miss Ethel Rhoads, a native of California, a granddaughter of Daniel Rhoads, a pioneer of California. Her father, J. W. Rhoads, who also was born in this state, came to San Joaquin Valley among the early settlers and passed away in Tulare county and is buried at Hanford.

HENRY C. HORSMAN

Of Kentuckians who have become prominent in Tulare county, Henry C. Horsman of Dinuba is, perhaps, as highly regarded as any. He was born in Daviess county, in that grand old state, in 1844. His father was a native of Virginia and his mother was a Kentuckian by birth and ancestry. When he was five years old, which was in 1849, his family removed to Illinois, and thereafter he did not leave that state until in 1861, after he had enlisted in Company H, Twenty-sixth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. By re-enlistment he served four years and was finally discharged at Louisville, Ky., and given papers testifying to his bravery and fidelity as a soldier. It is somewhat remarkable that he participated in twenty-seven hard-fought engagements without receiving a wound, and it is to his credit that he enlisted as a private and rose to be a corporal.

It was not until 1884 that Mr. Horsman came to California. He homesteaded land in Tulare county and the woman who later became his wife also acquired government land. All of this he sold when he removed to his present homestead near Dinuba, where he raised grain a number of years, but eventually turned his attention to fruit and vines. For his ranch, which is one of the most beautiful in this vicinity, he paid \$47 an acre ten years ago, and today it could not be bought for \$500 an acre.

The lady who was the wife of Mr. Horsman's youth was Nancy E. Smith, a native of Illinois, who came with him to California in 1884 and died in the fall of that year. In 1886 he married Lydia E. Hoskins, a native of Oregon, who had come to California. Mr. Hors-

man is a patriotic citizen, who has in a public-spirited way done much for the community and has been called to some public offices, which he has filled with ability and credit. All who know him deem him a Christian gentleman, having at heart the welfare of mankind, and there are not a few who have felt his kindly influence for good and his generous helpfulness.

By his first wife Mr. Horsman had one child, Clarence E. Horsman, who is identified with the educational profession of Tulare county as a public school teacher, having followed this profession for about twenty years. He was principal of the Orovi grammar school six years and has been principal of the Dinuba grammar school four years. He is at present in charge of the public school at Venice in Tulare county. Mrs. Horsman is a member of the local W. C. T. U. and has given much active attention to the upbuilding of that society. She was president of the local organization for four years, then became president of the Tulare and Kings county W. C. T. U., which position she held with great ability. Mrs. Horsman is a daughter of the Golden West. She was born in Douglas County, Oregon, and came with her parents, William and Peninah (Hobson) Hoskins, to California in 1867, when she was thirteen years of age, and settled in Tulare county in 1873.

F. M. PARRISH

This efficient city trustee of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., was born at Soquel, Santa Cruz county, Cal., September 10, 1856, a son of Joshua and Narcissa (Dell) Parrish, natives of Ohio. The father crossed the plains with mule teams in 1849, mined and later hauled freight to the mines till 1851, when he settled at Santa Cruz, Cal., and farmed land which is now within the boundaries of that city. After a time he rented land at Soquel, then took over a Spanish grant and for many years farmed the land involved in it. He died at Soquel in 1898, and his wife survived him till in May, 1911. Their children were all born and raised in Santa Cruz county. Mary, the wife of Charles Spreckelsen of Soquel, died in December, 1911. F. M. is the immediate subject of this notice. Winfield S. lives on a ranch four miles west of Hanford. Benjamin F. was next in order of birth. Anna is the wife of A. J. Wymann of Soquel.

On the second of November, 1878, F. M. Parrish moved from Santa Cruz county to Hanford. During his first year in Kings county he worked for wages. In the second year he put in a crop of wheat, five miles west of Hanford, and he has been ranching in the county ever since. For ten years he farmed a quarter-section north of Han-

ford, raising wheat, alfalfa and grapes. In 1890 he sold his land and for a decade thereafter lived on a small place which he bought near Grangeville. He still owns the last mentioned homestead of eighty acres, which has twenty acres of peaches, thirty of grapes and thirty of alfalfa. The family have lived in Hanford since 1901.

At Hanford Mr. Parrish has proven himself to be a public-spirited citizen with the interest of the community at heart. In the spring of 1910 he was elected a city trustee for a four-year term. He had been previously for many years a school trustee at Grangeville. He affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, and is a director in the Hanford Savings Bank, the Last Chance Ditch Company and the Lone Oak Canal Company. In 1880 he married Miss Martha Robinson and they have four children: Maud is the wife of Royal L. Waltz of Armona; May married R. O. Deacon of Lemoore; Emma is Mrs. H. A. Thedieck of Fresno; Ada is a member of her parents' household, and is a student at the Southern California University.

ARTHUR W. MATHEWSON

In Wheelock, Caledonia county, Vt., Arthur W. Mathewson was born November 14, 1834, a son of Charles Mathewson, a native of Rhode Island and a descendant of English ancestors who early settled there. He married Sarah Williams, also of Rhode Island birth, a direct descendant of Roger Williams and a relative of Governor Sprague of that state, with whom members of her family were largely interested in cotton manufacture. Arthur W. Mathewson, the sixth in a family of ten children, was brought up to farm work by his father and educated in public schools and at an academy at Linden, Vt. Self-supporting from the time he became sixteen years old, he worked in a tannery about two years, then on his father's farm three years, and in 1856 came to California by way of Cape Horn. For two years after his arrival here he worked in the mines and in 1858 he was in Tulare county a short time, then bought land at San Jose, which he operated until 1864, when it passed from his possession because of a previous Spanish claim. Returning to Tulare county in the year last mentioned he engaged in herding sheep and in time acquired four thousand head. From time to time he bought and sold ranch property and, August 17, 1896, when he died, he owned a ranch near Farmersville, Tulare county. He did much to promote irrigation and was for many years president of the People's Consolidated Ditch Company. Fraternally he affiliated with the Farmers Alliance and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In his politics he was Republican.

In 1866 Mr. Mathewson married Miss Lucinda Tinkham, a native

of Iowa and a daughter of Nathaniel Tinkham, who was from Vermont. They had eight children of whom five are living: Mrs. Pearl Ogden, Levi, Mrs. Edith M. Mosier, Earl and James A.

October 1, 1870, Levi Mathewson was born near Visalia, Tulare county, where he was reared and educated. He began his active life by helping his father on the ranch, and in 1891 bought forty acres near Visalia, which he devotes to the cultivation of prunes and alfalfa and to the breeding of hogs, and on which he formerly had a dairy of twenty-five cows. He set out ten acres to prunes and has otherwise improved the property. In 1911 he sold six tons of dried prunes from two hundred and fifty trees and he has no difficulty in gathering from five to six crops of alfalfa each season. His ranch, one of the oldest in the valley, has been farmed for more than half a century and was formerly known as the old Judd place. Mr. Mathewson remembers the old slab house that was built on it by Mr. Judd some time before 1860.

In 1897 Mr. Mathewson married Margaret J. Bacon, a native of California, whose father, John Bacon, settled early in Tulare county. Mr. and Mrs. Mathewson have two children, Guy and Madeline. Socially Mr. Mathewson affiliates with the Native Sons of the Golden West and with the Woodmen of the World. He is interested in everything that pertains to the development of the county and responds generously to all demands for public-spirited promotion of the community.

A. FRANK SMITH

An efficient member of the board of supervisors of Kings county, Cal., whose name heads this article, was born in San Jose, Cal., December 6, 1866, a son of Buck and Fannie (Heisley) Smith, natives respectively of Iowa and Pennsylvania. Buck Smith came to California in 1859 and engaged in stock-raising in Santa Clara county. Later he operated at the New Idra mines in San Benito county and in 1872 again went into stock-raising. In 1880 he transferred his farming and stockraising business to a point near Hanford and in 1891 he bought land at Lindsay, Tulare county, known as Lindsay Heights, on which he has lived to the present time.

Wheat-raising at Hanford first engaged the attention of A. Frank Smith, though later he took up contracting and building and erected many cottages and residences in and around that city. In 1906 he engaged in the bee business and has become one of the extensive apiarists in his part of the state, selling about a carload of honey annually. He was elected supervisor in 1906 and re-elected in 1910,

elected a third time in 1912, and is now serving in that office. Since he entered upon his duties the following undertakings have been successfully carried out: Annexation of a part of Fresno county to Kings county; purchase of the southwest portion of the plat to enlarge the court house grounds; purchase of the fairground property of fifty-three acres half a mile west of Hanford, for the site of the new county hospital; building of the county hospital in 1910 at a cost of \$30,000; and the selling of the old county hospital site and the purchase of an addition to the court house grounds in 1911. Mr. Smith is secretary of Hanford Lodge No. 264, I. O. O. F., and one of the managers of Hanford Lodge No. 163, W. O. W.

In 1886 Mr. Smith married Miss Cornelia Vermason, a native of California, and they have a daughter named Veda.

BENJAMIN V. SHARP

This prominent citizen of Kings county, Cal., whose office is in the court house at Hanford, is the present efficient horticultural commissioner of that division of the state. Benjamin V. Sharp, a native of Schenectady county, N. Y., was born April 29, 1839. There he grew to maturity and gained his primary education. In 1858, when he was nineteen years old, he went to McLean county, Ill., and located not far from Bloomington. He began his higher education in the Illinois Wesleyan University. It was interrupted, however, in 1861 by President Lincoln's call to arms. Young Sharp enlisted in Company K, Second Illinois Cavalry, but was discharged on account of ill health after a year's strenuous service. Returning to his home in Illinois he resumed his college course and was duly graduated.

After leaving college he was for two years superintendent of a soldiers orphans' home at Bloomington. Then he was for some time in the hotel business in that city. Later he farmed until 1900, when he settled in Kings county, Cal. He bought one hundred and twenty acres of land a mile and a half south of Hanford. It was mostly in fruit, but some of the trees have since been removed. He made his home on the property until 1905, when he rented it; in 1906 he sold it, and since that time he has lived in Hanford. In 1896 he was appointed by the Board of Supervisors horticultural commissioner for Kings county, an office which he filled with great ability and wholly to the satisfaction of the public until in 1904, when he resigned it. He was reappointed in 1906 and has served continuously ever since. As a citizen he is public-spirited and helpful to a remarkable degree, and so great is his faith in Hanford that he has invested heavily in its real estate. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masonic order.

In September, 1864, Mr. Sharp married Elizabeth A. Hazel, a native of Ohio, but then a resident of Illinois. They have two sons, James A. Sharp of Chicago and Burns B. Sharp, a contractor well known in Hanford, which is the center of his business operations.

OSCAR TROUT GRISWOLD

In the Buckeye State Oscar Trout Griswold was born December 7, 1842, a son of Edward and Helen M. (Trout) Griswold. He is a descendant of Edward Griswold, who with his brother Matthew came over from England in 1639 and settled in Massachusetts, and is tenth in line of descent from that pioneer. Solomon Griswold, his grandfather, went from New England to western New York and lived there until 1831, when he went to Fort Dearborn, now Chicago, whence he returned to Ohio. Later he visited Wisconsin and still later settled in Iowa, where he died, aged ninety years, having been all his life a farmer. Edward Griswold, father of Oscar T., settled in Iowa in 1851. He had become acquainted with that country as early as 1837, when he was a member of an exploring party which explored the Wisconsin river and the vast forests to the westward. He was long a prominent figure in the middle west and was an early and to his death an ardent abolitionist. Oscar T. when only twelve years old, remembers John Brown as a visitor at his father's house and he later saw Brown on the road to Harper's Ferry. Edward Griswold died when Oscar T. was but fourteen years old. He had two other sons, who have passed away.

When his parents took him from Ohio to Iowa, in 1851, Oscar Trout Griswold was about eight years old. He was reared on a farm and after he was nineteen was a farmer and a grower and shipper of stock until 1888, when he came to Hanford. He had made a trip to California two years before, riding through the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys on a mule-cart, looking for a location. When he brought his family west, leasing his eastern property, he bought one hundred acres of land east of Hanford which he sold in order to buy, in 1893, eighty acres, including water, three miles north of Hanford, at \$40 an acre. This land, which is now worth \$400 an acre, his sons have set out to fruit, and two of them reside on the place. In 1894 Mr. Griswold bought forty acres near this property on which he has since made his home, though he has done no active farming since he came to California. His sons S. P., Oscar E. and A. E. Griswold during 1911 produced thirty-four tons of honey and fifteen hundred pounds of beeswax from seven hundred and fifty stands of bees. They have been

in the bee business more than twenty years and are members of the California State Bee Keepers Association.

The oil industry has long had strong claims on Mr. Griswold's attention. He was one of the organizers of the Baby King Oil Company, and is a stockholder in the St. Lawrence Oil Company. Four hundred and eighty acres of land in section eleven, township twenty-three, range sixteen, Kings county, is owned by the Baby King Oil Company in which he is the largest stockholder. He is serving his fourth term as director of the People's Ditch Company and has been for twelve years a director of the First National Bank of Hanford.

In 1867 Mr. Griswold married Miss Lucretia Thompson, a native of Ohio, six of whose nine children are living: Elmer B., James C., Alpheus E., Oscar E., S. Perry and May. The latter is the wife of George W. Anderson of Fruitville, Oakland, Cal. Elmer B. is living at Modesto and the other sons live in the vicinity of Hanford.

O. E. GIBBONS

The prominent citizen of Plano whose name is well known throughout Tulare county, Cal., as an enthusiastic promoter of the development and prosperity of Central California and as a man whose public spirit is always equal to any demands that may be made upon it, O. E. Gibbons is a native of Lake county, Ill., born August 2, 1850. He lived in Texas from the time he was about four years old until he was nearly ten. Then his father started with his family to California, arriving at Plano September 2, 1861. There the boy was educated and has lived continuously to the present time except for such brief absences as the developments of life often demand. His father, Deeming Gibbons, took up a homestead which was number nine of its series, a fact which in itself would suggest how sparsely the country was settled at that time. He planted a few trees on the place and raised a small crop of grain in 1863, and it is said that he was the first man in Tulare county to set out orange trees and sell oranges. He had half an acre of seedlings and sold the first oranges from them at twenty-five cents each.

O. E. Gibbons was brought up on the farm and carefully instructed in the details of agriculture and horticulture by his father. The father died January 4, 1884, his wife April 1, 1880. At this time Mr. Gibbons is the proprietor of the only general merchandise store at Plano; he is the local postmaster and has been justice of the peace and served as a member of the school board. Fraternally he affiliates with the Knights of Pythias. He is a man of enterprise and of helpful dis-

position, who while winning success for himself has not forgotten his obligations to the community.

In 1874 Mr. Gibbons married Miss Fannie E. Thomson, a native of Ohio, and they have three children: Clara E. married M. F. Singleton; Hiram E. married Nellie Monroe; and Pauline is living with her parents and acquiring an education in the high school at Porterville.

WILLIAM H. BLAIN

More than a half century in the land where he came as a pioneer brought to the late William H. Blain well deserved rewards. California has proven herself a generous mother to her adopted children, and Mr. Blain was loyal to her. He was a Missourian, born in Pike county, twelve miles from Bowling Green, January 3, 1839, son of W. W. and Ann (Turner) Blain. The father, a cooper, a mason and a brickmaker, built and conducted the Blain Hotel, at Bowling Green. In 1844 he built the Pike county court house. There he lived and kept tavern till the end of his days; his wife died at Hannibal, Mo. Of their nine children, six are living. Two came to this state. The oldest of the girls emigrated thither with her brother and married Hugh Jones, a retired pioneer of 1849, and died at Gilroy.

The second born of his father's family, William H. Blain, was brought up at Bowling Green, attending the public schools and, under his father's instruction, obtaining a knowledge of stock-raising. His first trip to the coast, in the year 1854, was made with a bunch of cattle. He was but fifteen at the time, a mere boy, but observant and receptive for one of his age, and he stood guard at night like the most seasoned plainsman in his party and shrank from no other duty that came to him. He left Missouri April 20, reaching Santa Cruz in October, after having made the trip by way of Sublett's Cut-off, thence down the Humboldt, through the Thousand Springs valley to Walker's, thence to Tuolumne county, a route on which there would be no lack of feed for the cattle. From October until December Mr. Blain stopped at a point near Santa Clara; then he went to Monterey county, now San Benito, where he managed a stock ranch a year. Going back to Santa Clara, he farmed there on shares till 1857, then engaged in hauling lumber in Tuolumne county, whence, eventually, he went to Monterey county, to raise cattle on shares in Pacheco Pass. He sold out there early in 1863, and in June drove to Visalia, Tulare county, and, making headquarters there, teamed to the mountains till the spring of 1865. The first winter of this period he spent at Wilcox canyon. From 1865 to 1869 he was in the sheep business, making money, and then he opened a butcher shop at White Pine, Nev., whence

he went later to Eureka, continuing in the same business. By 1873 he had mastered the butcher trade so that he had no thought of changing his occupation, and it was as a butcher that he then went back to Visalia, where he established a market, which he conducted successfully many years, in conjunction with a cattle business so large that he at one time owned six hundred head. He acquired an improved cattle ranch of thirteen hundred and twenty acres near Monson, Tulare county; three hundred and fifty acres northeast of Visalia; five thousand acres in the foothills of Tulare county; a hundred and sixty acres east of Visalia; and a handsome home in that city. For a time he was in the dairy business, but eventually he gave attention only to stock-raising.

In Santa Cruz, Mr. Blain married Sarah Collier. Their daughter, Mrs. Laura Zimmerman, lives at Tiburon, Cal., and their son, William, is a citizen of Bakersfield. His second marriage was to Julia Strube, a native of Texas, whom he wedded at Visalia. Mrs. Blain, who crossed the plains from her old home in 1861, has had four children: Frank L., who became his father's partner; George William, who is dead; Gladys and Marguerite. Mr. Blain was a stockholder in the First National Bank of Visalia, and in various ways manifested his solicitude for the town and its people. He was a member of the Independent Order of Good Templars, in which he passed all chairs of the subordinate lodge, and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In the promotion and development of the San Joaquin Valley Cattle Growers Association he was helpfully active. His religious affiliations, as are those of his family, were with the Presbyterian church. He passed away November 1, 1908.

JOHN AUGUST LEEBON

The productive ranch of John August Leebon is located three miles east of Visalia, Tulare county, Cal., on East Mineral King avenue. Mr. Leebon, who is one of the most progressive and successful ranchmen of this district, was born in Sweden, May 16, 1861. He grew to manhood there and was educated in the common school near the home of his childhood and youth. In 1881 he came to the United States and made his way west as far as Minneapolis, Minn. In order to acquire necessary English education, he went to school there a year, then was employed as a laborer on a Minnesota farm. In 1886 he came to California and found employment in an orchard at San Jose. Eighteen months later he went to Tacoma, Wash., and worked in a saw-mill, where he received an accidental injury which kept him in a hospital for a long time. He came back to San Jose in 1889 and

from then until 1897 was profitably engaged in the teaming business. Then he came to Tulare county and leased one hundred and eighteen acres of land, not far from Visalia, from the First National Bank of San Jose. In 1901 he was able to buy this property, the bulk of which was then planted to fruit, eighty acres in peaches, twenty in prunes, six in nectarines, the remainder devoted to grain and pasture. He now has a dairy of eighty cows and keeps an average of one hundred and sixty hogs, and one hundred acres of his land is under alfalfa.

An enterprising and public spirited citizen, Mr. Leebon commands the esteem of all who know him. He is a stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery company of Visalia and is from time to time identified, directly or indirectly, with other important local interests. Politically he is Republican, and though he is without ambition for political preferment he accepted the office of school director and was made secretary of his district board of education. He was one of the founders of the Swedish Mission church of San Jose, of which he was a constituent member. He donated the land for the Mineral King chapel and helped build it, and is a member of the board of trustees. Mr. Leebon was married in San Jose to Annie Anderson, of Swedish birth, who died at their home in Visalia, leaving two sons, Oscar William and Carl Edward Leebon.

STEPHEN B. HICKS

The best authority in Kings county on irrigation ditches is Stephen B. Hicks of Hanford. How he came to be such an authority will be of interest in this connection. To begin with some pertinent biographical data, it may be said that he was born in Green county, Tenn., May 1, 1842, three years later his family moved to Schuyler county, Mo., and still later they went to Wayne county, Iowa, where he passed eight years of his life. In 1882 he came direct to Hanford, where he has since made his home. Soon after his arrival he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land four miles southwest of the town, where he raised wheat and alfalfa four years. He sold that and bought one hundred and sixty acres three miles east of Hanford. Later he bought one hundred and sixty acres eight miles northeast of Hanford. On these places he farmed many years, raising alfalfa and fine horses and cattle and other stock. In 1891 he went into the mercantile business at Hanford. After seven years of success he sold his store and goods and later he sold his ranch northeast of the city; but he still owns his quarter section to the east, which is rented for dairy purposes.

Since 1888 Mr. Hicks has been interested in irrigation by ditches and, as stated before, is conceded to be better informed than any other

man in the county on water systems. The Settlers' ditch was started in 1874 and Mr. Hicks was successively director, president and secretary of the company. In the early '90s, under authority of a vote by the stockholders, he as secretary sold the franchise to the Tulare Irrigation Company, of Tulare county, and from the proceeds of that sale the old company bought somewhat more than a fourth interest in the People's Ditch Company of Kings county, which takes its water from Kings river; soon after the latter transaction Mr. Hicks was elected a director of the People's Ditch Company and as such served several years. In the sequence of events he was elected president of the company, which place he filled until January 1, 1909, when he resigned. During his service as president the first weir at the head of the ditch was built and stood seven years, and he was chairman of a committee of three to effect a compromise with the Fresno Canal Company in the matter of water rights and a member of a committee of three appointed to arrange for a survey to locate reservoir sites in the mountains.

One of the busiest men in the county, Mr. Hicks has yet found time to yield to his inclination to do public service on behalf of his fellow citizens. He was four years a city trustee of Hanford and his two years' service as chairman of the board made him the third mayor of the city. In the erection and formation of Kings county in 1893, Mr. Hicks was active and influential. Fraternally he affiliates with Hanford lodge, F. & A. M., and with the Royal Arch chapter of that order. He has been a Master Mason for over twenty years and long been treasurer of the local lodge and is identified also with the Eastern Star chapter. It is a matter of local and Masonic history that he had charge of the erection of the Masonic temple in Hanford. In 1866 he married Margaret Green, a native of Indiana, who is also a member of the order of the Eastern Star. They have three children: Alice is the wife of J. L. Payton, a rancher living east of Hanford, and has six children. Hannah E. married J. W. Payton, a merchant at Hanford, and they have two children. Mollie is Mrs. J. J. Adams and her husband is a dairy rancher near Dinuba.

HENRY COLPIEN

In his career, which on the whole has been very successful since he came to America in 1893, Henry Colpien of Enterprise colony, Tulare county, Cal., has demonstrated the advantages of following a life of integrity, industry and perseverance. He was born in Holstein, Germany, March 6, 1874, and there grew to manhood and was educated in the public schools. He learned farming there also, according to methods in vogue. In 1893 he determined to come to America, and

being without funds, he borrowed \$135 from a friend with which to pay his passage. He was not very provident on the voyage, and when he arrived in California, which was his objective part of the country, his entire cash capital was ten cents and no more. His first work in the United States was in Tulare county, herding sheep, which he says he ran all over the county and into the mountains. He was thus employed for nineteen months, and from 1895 to 1899 he did hard ranch work for wages. Up to this time he had spent his earnings as fast as he received them, but he now began to see the error of his financial ways and decided that if he were to save his money he must have some definite use for it and some ambition to gratify. Accordingly, in the fall of 1899, he rented two hundred and twenty-seven acres northwest of Tulare City, which for two years he operated on shares, devoting his attention principally to wheat and stock. Accumulating money he wisely laid it by for future use and soon was able to buy forty acres of land near where he had been farming. He cleared and improved it and built on it a good house and other necessary buildings. The land cost him thirty dollars an acre and soon was yielding him a splendid profit in alfalfa. By 1907 land values in his vicinity had materially increased and he bought another forty-acre tract, paying sixty dollars an acre; in 1909 he bought forty acres more, under some improvement, and had to pay for it \$125 an acre. At this time he owns, clear of all debts, one hundred and twenty acres of improved land in one piece, all of which he acquired in a comparatively brief period of eleven years. Twelve acres of his land is in Egyptian corn and fifty-five acres are producing fifteen sacks of wheat to the acre. He raises fine horses, has a dairy of twelve cows, and usually keeps about one hundred and fifty head of hogs. In 1912 Mr. Colpien added to his holdings by buying another forty acres, for which he paid \$7,500.

In 1901 Mr. Colpien married Ollie M. Johnson, a native of Indiana, and they have children named Herman J., Raymond C. and Heubert H. Socially he affiliates with Tulare City lodge No. 306, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he is also a member of an encampment of that order.

JULIUS BURGAMASTER

Among the first land purchasers in his part of Tulare county was Julius Burgamaster, who was a native of Missouri, and came with his family to California in 1901, buying a tract of fifteen acres of land from Dudley Brothers and locating permanently in Tulare county. His wife was Margaret Tiedemann, also a native of Missouri, and they both were descended from German ancestry. Upon coming to California in 1901, they settled in Farmersville, then came to the

present location of the homestead, where Mr. Burgamaster purchased fifteen acres of land and developed and improved it, ever after making it his home, until his death, which took place in Tulare county in 1911. Three children were born to this couple, of whom two survive, Otto and Mattie. In politics Julius Burgamaster was a Democrat and was devoted heart and soul to the principles of his party, all of which he has handed down to his son, who is following closely in his footsteps. As a man of enterprise and public spirit he many times demonstrated his high citizenship. Believing that his interests could be advanced only with those of the community at large, he was always generous in his help to movements for the general benefit.

Otto Burgamaster, son of Julius, who since his father's death has conducted the splendid ranch, was born in Missouri, August 29, 1885. Educated in the public schools there, he was taught the fundamentals of farming and while yet young was afforded much practical experience as a tiller of the soil. Six acres of the ranch are in vineyard, producing Muscat and Thompson grapes, and during 1911, which was an unusually dry year, the vines produced four tons of grapes. Two acres are in orchard and the ranch is in a high state of cultivation, and ranks among the most productive in the county.

HARRY A. CLARK

The esteemed citizen of Tulare county, Cal., Harry A. Clark, has achieved good results as farmer, fruit culturist, dairyman and stock-raiser and is known through his interest in the Tulare Canning company and his activities as a member of the finance committee of the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery company. From time to time he has been identified with other important interests in Tulare and the county at large, and in many ways he has demonstrated that he possesses a public spirit that may be safely relied on whenever its exercise is demanded.

It was in Woodson county, Kans., that Mr. Clark was born, July 30, 1872. He came to California in 1892, and worked for wages at and near Tulare during the ensuing three years, and then went into wheat growing, nine miles south of that city. His operations soon became so extensive that they involved the cultivation of six hundred and forty acres of land, which he farmed till in 1904, when he bought his present home ranch of seventy-one acres, five miles north of Tulare, and under his able management and scientific cultivation this property has been greatly improved. He has set out twenty-five acres to peaches and fifteen are in alfalfa. He has a small dairy, and is setting out at the present time fifteen acres to prunes. He has one hundred head of Jerseys, large Durocs. In 1910 he planted to Egyp-

tian corn eighteen acres between rows of peach trees, and the crop yielded thirty and one-half sacks to the acre, in all amounting to four hundred and thirty-nine sacks, truly a record achievement. He planted also black-eye beans between the trees and they produced, in 1911, eighteen sacks to the acre. Fine blooded brood mares are among his choicest possessions and he raises each year two or three colts bred to a Percheron stallion. He makes somewhat of a specialty also of mules. One of his colts recently was sold for \$250.

On December 9, 1908, Mr. Clark married Miss Iris Hemphill, a native of Missouri, and they have children, Hazel G. and Jessie E.

B. L. BARNEY

At Gouverneur, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., B. L. Barney was born, March 24, 1849. Educated in the public schools and at the Gouverneur Wesleyan seminary, he was early interested in merchandising, farming and the tannery business in St. Lawrence and Jefferson counties, N. Y., until 1891, when he settled at Hanford. For a time he engaged in ranching and later he went into the grocery trade at Hanford, under the firm name of Foster, Barney & Felton. He sold his interest in the business to Mr. Foster and with Mr. Birkbeck as a partner organized a new enterprise under the style of Barney & Birkbeck. Later he became sole proprietor and after a time the firm became known as Barney, Kelly & Widner, and under the last name a store was conducted at Grangeville. Eventually Mr. Kelly bought Mr. Barney's interest at Hanford and Mr. Barney became sole proprietor of the Grangeville store and conducted it until he sold it to J. C. Stewart, in order to give attention to his ranch interests.

While Mr. Barney was interested in the grocery trade he engaged in the raisin and dry fruit packing business as head of the firm of Barney & Cameron, which was succeeded by the B. L. Barney company, of which Mr. Barney was proprietor until he retired from that branch of business. He has purchased a ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, three miles and a half east of Hanford, which is given to the production of fruit and vines, cattle, horses and hogs, and is now conducted by his son, Fred M. Barney.

One of the most active advocates of the formation of Kings county in 1892 was Mr. Barney. He was elected as a Republican to the office of supervisor, in which he served four years, during which time the present courthouse and jail were built. He was chairman of the building committee and was active in the superintendency of the work. He has been a member of the Hanford Chamber of Com-

merce and of commercial bodies having for their object the promotion of the interests of the county. In 1908 he was elected a member of the board of trustees of the City of Hanford and in 1909 was made chairman of that body, which office he filled one term. He is junior warden in the Episcopal church of Hanford and a member of the local lodge of Knights of Pythias.

In 1873, Mr. Barney married Mary E. Herring, a native of New York state, and they have two children, Anna Louise and Fred M. Anna Louise Barney was graduated with honors from the grammar and high schools at Hanford and from the University of California, and during the last four years has been a teacher of English in the Hanford high school. Fred M. Barney is operating the ranch near town.

JOHN W. BAXLEY

One of the most successful of the citizens of Tulare county who have come within its borders in recent years is John W. Baxley, a native of Berkeley county, W. Va., born February 8, 1852. Mr. Baxley was brought up and educated and became acquainted with the details of practical farming in his native state, where he successfully raised wheat, corn, red clover, tobacco and other crops till 1882, when he removed to Allen county, Kans. There he farmed many years, acquiring eight hundred acres and giving his attention principally to wheat and corn. It was in 1909 that he came to Tulare county, Cal., where he rents one hundred and sixty acres of the Giannini ranch and has charge of six hundred and forty acres more of it as superintendent. He raises chiefly prunes, grapes, olives and almonds and has produced some fine crops of beans between rows of fruit trees. In the spring of 1911 he planted a sack and a half of black-eyed beans and fifteen pounds of brown beans and harvested two hundred sacks of the former and thirty-four sacks of brown beans.

In Kansas Mr. Baxley served his fellow townsmen as township trustee and road superintendent. Since coming to California he has been too busy with his purely private affairs to give any time to political work, but he has well defined ideas concerning all questions of public policy and, being an outspoken man, he is quite certain to be heard from whenever he shall consider it necessary to raise his voice in advocacy of any measure directed to the enhancement of the public weal. He married, at Gettysburg, Pa., February 11, 1875, Miss Amanda C. Beecher, a native of that state, and they have had eleven children, all of whom survive: William A. married Alice Griffin, and

they have two sons, Walter and Marvin. David D., who married Anna Orth, has three daughters, Rose, Violet and Lillian. Charles married Maud Meyers and they have a son named Ralph. Mary is the wife of Edward West and has borne him three children, Russel, Irene and Everett. Laura married R. R. Ross and they have a son, Elmer. Grace became the wife of M. J. Adams and their children are Viola, Harold and Catherine. Bessie is the wife of William Stevens and they have a daughter named Edna. Ernest married Edna Dornburg and has borne him a daughter, Hilda. Mattie married Howard Clark and they have one child, a son, Clive Howard. The remaining two are Clarence and Gladys.

I. B. HUNSAKER

This native son of California was born in Contra Costa county, August 24, 1867, and was only about a year old when his parents moved to Tulare county, locating near the Tule river, where they engaged in farming, and he eventually became a student in the public school. His first venture in the field of independent endeavor was as a grain farmer in the Waukena neighborhood, on Tulare lake. After operating there with success for fifteen years he developed an alfalfa ranch four miles and a half southeast of Tulare, where he established a dairy. This property consists of four hundred and seventy-five acres, four hundred acres of which is under alfalfa. It is occupied by two dairies and is operated by tenants.

In 1906 Mr. Hunsaker, whose residence is at F street and Kern avenue, Tulare, was elected a trustee of that city and he was re-elected in 1910. As a citizen he is public spirited and helpful to all local interests. Fraternally he affiliates with Olive Branch lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., and with local organizations of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Woodmen of the World.

In 1893 Mr. Hunsaker married Miss Eva Galbraith, a native of Stockton and a daughter of George Galbraith, and she has borne him two children: Juanita is a student at the University of California at Berkeley; Mary is deceased.

OSCAR F. COLLINS

Of the number of able men who have succeeded as dairymen in Tulare county, Cal., none has more richly deserved his success than Oscar F. Collins, of Tulare. Mr. Collins was born in Memphis, Mo.,

May 17, 1858, and was reared and educated in his native state. There, too, he learned farming according to methods then in vogue, and it was at farm work that he was employed till he came to California, where he saw before him the road to success, straight and wide and not too long, and he set himself cheerfully to the task of working for wages to acquire capital with which to make a promising beginning. He was employed thus, saving every dollar possible, from in 1887 until in 1890, and then he was able to rent a hundred and sixty acres of land a mile west of Tulare, where for two years he raised grain, hay and stock. Then, moving to a point north of Tulare, he went into dairying with his brother, A. H. Collins, as his partner, and they continued their joint efforts till 1902. From that time, Oscar F. Collins operated independently in the same place till 1905, when he came to his present dairy ranch of one hundred and twenty acres, where he has twenty-five acres in alfalfa, a goodly field of Egyptian corn and a dairy of sixteen fine cows. He has some good horses also, and recently sold a fine animal for \$250, and has also sold colts from one mare to the value of \$1115.

Of the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery association Mr. Collins is a stockholder, and he is otherwise active in a general way for the advancement of the dairy interests of the county and state. He is a charter member of a local body of the Woodmen of the World and has for twenty-one years been identified with Tulare City lodge No. 306, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. There is no movement for the public benefit that he does not encourage to the extent of his ability. In 1892 he married Miss Marietta E. Riley, who was born in Missouri, and they have three children, Edith M., Jessie M. and George B.

JOHN W. DUNLAP

Hannibal, Mo., was the scene of the birth of John W. Dunlap, champion sack sewer of California, November 24, 1850. He was a son of Lemuel S. and Cynthia A. (Zunwalt) Dunlap, natives respectively of Kentucky and Missouri. The family arrived in California November 1, 1869, having made the journey from St. Louis in eleven days on one of the earliest trans-continental railway trains. The trip was a novelty not only to them, but to nearly all who participated in it. They settled in Colusa county, where Lemuel Dunlap established himself as a farmer.

Early in life John W. Dunlap began working on threshing machines in Colusa county, and he soon became the best and fastest sack sewer in the state, sewing as many as two thousand sacks in a

day and making a record of two hundred and fifty-six sacks in one hour. In 1883 he bought of Sammel DeWitt his present ranch of fifty-one acres, three miles and one-half north of Tulare City. He makes a specialty of raising chickens and is probably one of the most scientific poultry men in California, a state in which there are so many such dealers that to excel is somewhat of an honor. In 1911 he received \$1500 from the sale of eggs from five hundred chickens, mostly leghorns. His chicken ranch is well appointed in every particular and is one of the most complete in the county. Its incubators and other appliances are of the most efficient kinds and of the latest models. Mr. Dunlap has given some attention to peach culture and in two years received \$1200 from two acres devoted to that fruit. He now has six acres in peach trees and two acres in prunes. A feature of his business is a small dairy, by means of which he adds considerably to his yearly profit.

Mr. Dunlap married, April 2, 1876, Lillie F. Green, a native of Nevada county, Cal. Jeremiah Green, her father, was a pioneer in that county and was a storekeeper there in the old gold-mining days. Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap are the parents of five children. Bertie is the wife of Alexander Whaley. William E. is cashier of the First National Bank of Tulare. George L. is employed by the E. F. Cox Lumber company of Tulare. Harry is connected with the Stockton Iron company. Leslie is a member of his parents' household.

JAMES M. ELLIOTT

The life of James M. Elliott, Waukena, Tulare county, Cal., began in Cherokee county, Texas, August 23, 1881, and he was brought to California in 1888 by his parents, who settled at Pomona, Los Angeles county. In 1890 they removed to Orange county, and there he remained until 1908, when he took up his residence at Waukena and became a partner in a general merchandise business with his sister, Miss Mattie Elliott, who is postmistress of that town, an office which she fills with great fidelity, giving to its duties the most careful attention in all details. In connection with merchandising, Mr. Elliott gives attention to another enterprise, that of the installation of pumping plants, in which he is associated with his half brother.

As a merchant, Mr. Elliott is progressive and up-to-date, handling salable articles of good quality which he offers at such prices as to make them available to the trade of Waukena and its tributary territory. As a citizen, he takes an intelligent interest in everything

that pertains to the general welfare. He is a believer in the square deal which would give the greatest good to the greatest numbers and is ready at all times to respond in a public-spirited way to any demand on behalf of the enhancement of the good of the community, for he realizes that he who reaps must first sow and that the prosperity of one is the prosperity of all.

The father of James M. and Hattie Elliott, the venerable William M. Elliott, who was born in Mississippi January 6, 1827, was during all his active years a successful farmer, and is now a member of the household of his son at Waukena.

WILLIAM REINHART

One of the numerous Pennsylvanians who have become successful as farmers in Tulare county, Cal., and passed on to the long reward of the honest and the industrious was William Reinhart, who was born in Greene county in the Keystone State in 1832, and died in his far western home in August, 1888. When he was two years old his parents left Pennsylvania and settled in Ohio, where he was reared and educated and took up the battle of life on his own account. In 1857 the family moved to Cole county, Mo., and located near Jefferson City. There Mr. Reinhart farmed until 1874, when he came to California. He put in ten years at ranching near San Jose, in the Santa Clara valley, and early in 1885 rented land north of Tulare City, where he resumed farming with much promise of success, but died three years later. He was a man of considerable business ability and was for some years deputy sheriff of Miller county, Mo.

On January 1, 1863, Mr. Reinhart married Margaret J. Dripps, a native of Pennsylvania, and they had several children, of whom five survive: Madora, wife of Frank E. Dalzelle, of Berkeley, Cal.; Imbrie D., who lives on the Reinhart home farm; Pliny E., who married Martha Luck and has a son named Kenneth E.; James A., of Hollister, Cal., who married Laura Asheroft, and they have four children, James H., Margaret P., Ulla and Laura J.; and William C., who is a mining engineer. Mr. Reinhart was a member of the Grange. He loved his home and his farm and had little to do with politics beyond doing his duty as a citizen. His public spirit was such that he was ready at all times to aid to the extent of his ability any measure which in his opinion promised to benefit his town, his county, his state or the American people in a broader sense.

For some years after her husband's death Mrs. Reinhart managed the farm property which he had accumulated. Later her son,

Imbrie D. Reinhart, bought the ranch, which he has operated with much success. It consists of forty acres, eight of which are in vineyard. Considerable alfalfa is grown and the family derives a good income from a dairy. It should be noted that, while in his latter years the elder Reinhart was working leased land, he was ambitious for a home of his own and his widow and son have carried out his plans so far as they have been able.

JOHN F. EVANS

When the Evans family went to Tipton the plains about the site of that town were a runaway for wild cattle. John F. Evans, of Tulare, was born in Santa Clara county, October 5, 1865, a son of Dudley and Sarah A. (Doty) Evans. Edward Doty, his mother's great-grandfather, came to America with the Mayflower Pilgrims and is said to have been the first of the party to set foot on Plymouth Rock. Later he had a memorable experience as a sailor in Greenland, being wrecked and cast away on the shore of that inhospitable land, and having to subsist there through an entire winter under circumstances such as to make his survival depend on the merest chance. Dudley Evans was a native of New York, while his wife, Sarah A. Doty, was born in Ohio, 1834 being the year in which they both were born. Dudley Evans crossed the plains to California in 1852, and went into stockraising in Santa Clara and San Luis Obispo counties. On coming to Tulare county, he settled six miles west of Tipton, taking up government land. To his original one hundred and sixty acres he added a purchase of one hundred and sixty from the railroad people and then owned three hundred and twenty acres, all in one body. When he came to the vicinity there were only seven houses in Tulare. It should be noted that there is evidence in support of the statement that to him belongs the credit of having burned the first kiln of brick in Tulare City. He passed away in 1893. His widow, who lives at Tipton, is surrounded by loving relatives and friends, happy in her declining years and most interesting in her reminiscences of the pioneer days which tried the souls of men and women among the mountain passes and prairie stretches of beautiful California, a land of promise and of fulfillment, but a land of vicissitudes which sometimes sank to the plane of fatal disappointments. Following are the names, in order of birth, of the children of Dudley and Sarah A. (Doty) Evans: John F.; William, of Fresno; Albert D., of Cochran; Elmore H. and Harry N., of Tipton.

John F. Evans spent his early life on his father's ranch, went

to school and gained a good deal of useful knowledge of different kinds in the college of hard experience. His ranching life is varied and was spent in different parts of the country. It includes the operation of threshing machines, rough work on the Creighton ranch near Tipton and the breaking of wild horses, and it has other interesting features. He started farming on his own account in 1889, on rented land, six miles east of Tulare, where he remained only one year. After that he operated a thousand to fifteen hundred acres in the Dinuba and Orosi section of Tulare county. Returning to the vicinity of Tipton, he first rented and later bought two hundred and forty acres. He is now renting out two hundred and forty acres near Tulare. A dairy of fifty cows is a feature of his enterprise, and he has one hundred acres in alfalfa. In 1910 he had twenty acres of Egyptian corn which yielded eighteen sacks to the acre, and in 1911 eight acres, planted to the same corn, gave him twenty-two sacks to the acre. He owns a fine home on East King street, Tulare, where he and his family have lived for some years.

John F. Evans married, September 25, 1892, Mary Cortner, a native of California, and they have children as follows: Reba L., Harry D., James and Helen A. Mrs. Evans's father was William C. Cortner, a native of Tennessee, who came overland to California in 1852, ox-teams affording him a means of transportation. For a time he mined with some success, but we find he was in Tulare county before the end of 1853, with a stock ranch in the mountains and a farm north of Visalia, but later he farmed near Orosi, and died in March, 1894. The father of Mrs. Cortner was John Jordan, who was in command of the party with which he came overland to California—the same pioneer Jordan who helped to blaze the Hockett and Jordan trail in the mountains. The following-named of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Cortner were living in 1912: Mrs. S. L. N. Ellis; Lee, of Tipton; Mrs. John F. Evans; Talbert, of Orosi; Preston, of Auckland. Mr. Evans is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters and a director of the Tipton Co-operative Creamery, and in other relations he has demonstrated his public spirit so unmistakably that he is regarded by all who know him as a citizen generously helpful to all public interests.

FRANK GIANNINI

Of Italian ancestry, Frank Giannini was born at Porto Ferrajo, Island of Elba, off the Tuscan coast, March 3, 1864, and is one of three brothers who came to the United States. His parents,

Dominico and Magdalena (Bolano) Giannini, had also four daughters. The mother died on Elba in 1869, the father, who was a prosperous farmer and vineyardist, died there in 1911.

Frank Giannini early learned the secrets of grape culture and at seventeen was given charge of his father's vineyard. Soon after he was twenty-one, he carried out a well-studied plan to immigrate to California, of which he had read much, believing that here he would find a climate not unlike that of Elba, which would offer better chances for advancement than he could obtain there. Bringing with him \$1200, for the purchase of land, in 1885, about a month after he landed at San Francisco he began grain farming on his own land near Brentwood. An experience there running through two years convinced him that he had not hit on the true plan for industrial and commercial success. He first saw Tulare county in 1887, but did not buy land there until about two years later. Meanwhile he farmed and raised fruit and grapes in Madera and Fresno counties and during the period from 1887 to 1902 he operated a stock farm and was manager of an orchard, both located at Reedley, Fresno county. In 1889, with two others, he bought a hundred and sixty acres of raw land, two miles and three-quarters northeast of Tulare. The price paid was \$20,000, a very high price for the time, yet as events proved a good investment. A hundred and twenty acres were set out to an orchard and the rest of the tract to vineyard, and in 1891, by replacing an occasional vine with a tree, increased profits per acre were made possible. In that year Mr. Giannini bought out the interests of his partners. By purchase he has acquired four hundred and eighty acres adjoining, and now he has an entire section in one body, eighty acres of which is devoted to alfalfa. On his place are two wells with never-failing supply of water which are pumped by two fifteen-horsepower electric motors. He has displaced his gas motors formerly used for pumping by electric motors; he is a stockholder in the Electric Power company. He is now putting down a third well which will be pumped by means of twenty-horsepower electric motors. On the place are modern buildings of ample capacity for every purpose, and drying yards and packing houses for preparing the fruit for shipment and forwarding it when ready. There are also a new winery, with a capacity of two hundred thousand gallons annually, and a branly plant, with an annual capacity of fifty thousand gallons. In the busy season Mr. Giannini employs on the place one hundred and fifty men. In 1910 he incorporated the Elba Land company, which now includes most of his interests, being capitalized at \$500,000, and he is the president and general manager.

Besides his regular business Mr. Giannini has interests of importance, being a stockholder in the First National Bank of Tulare,

having given the site for the Tulare Power company's plant and promoted the Tulare Milling company and bought the first share of its stock that could be purchased. He sold his Tipton ranch in 1908, his dairy ranch in 1911, and devotes his attention to his land business, to fruit, alfalfa and wine. He has had much to do with organizations to promote the advancement of these and kindred interests, and is a Mason, of Blue lodge and Royal Arch chapter, having originally identified himself with the Madera lodge and been transferred to the Reedley lodge. His acquaintance with the California fruit and wine fraternity is large and constantly increasing in a measure commensurate with his advancing fortunes and the growth of his home interests. His home stead has been enlarged to twelve hundred and sixty acres; he has two hundred and fifty acres in peaches, five hundred and sixty in vineyard, one hundred and seventy-five in prunes and the largest individual orchard in Tulare county. His home acreage in alfalfa is ninety acres. In 1911 he sold prunes at \$115 a ton.

Miss Louise Lombardi, daughter of a pioneer in northern California, became Mr. Giannini's wife and was most helpful to him in all his aspirations, working with him side by side for all that has meant success to both. She died in 1907, leaving one child, Aulrina.

EMERIE RENAUD

The French Canadian, wherever his lot may be cast, generally develops into a good and prosperous citizen with much credit for his easy manner and thrifty qualities. This fact is illustrated in the successful life and high standing of Emerie Renaud, a native of the province of Quebec and a descendant of one of the oldest and most honored French families of Canada, who owns and occupies one of the most attractive of the many beautiful home farms in Tulare county, a stock farm four and a half miles north of Tulare. Mr. Renaud was born July 25, 1857, near Montreal, which was the birthplace of his grandsire, Charles Renaud, Sr., and of his father, Charles Renaud, Jr. The former farmed all his life near Montreal, and his home-stead is now the property of one of his grandsons. Following in the footsteps of his ancestors, Charles Renaud was a farmer all his life, and passed away when he was but fifty-seven. His wife was Marcellian Pelon, born in Quebec, daughter of Celesta Pelon, who was a farmer. She and ten of her twelve children survive.

Emerie, the third in order of birth, is the only one of them living in California.

In the district school and on the farm Emerie Renaud received the practical education that has made possible the success he has achieved. When he was sixteen years old he came with a brother and an uncle to Nevada, but soon located at Sacramento, Cal., where he worked as a farm hand two years. After that he mined four or five years with indifferent success in the diggings at Bodie, Cal., and at others in Nevada, then returned to Sacramento, where he married and whence he came in 1884 to Tulare county. He bought a farm on Elk Bayon, which, however, proved unproductive, and when he had operated it at a loss for two years he rented land and engaged on an extensive scale in grain raising and this latter venture met with great success. Leasing from J. Goldman & Company the old Stokes estate of three thousand acres, he raised grain in large quantities on that land as well as on a three-thousand-acre ranch near Porterville, which he leased a number of years. Other purchases and leases brought his holdings to the ten thousand acre mark, and the prosecution of his enterprise required the use of one hundred and fifty horses and mules and two harvesters. In 1903 he bought the old J. B. Zamwalt place, four hundred and twenty acres, in the management of which he has been very prosperous, having four hundred acres in alfalfa, a dairy of one hundred cows with modern equipment, including a separator, plenty of good horses and three hundred hogs. Besides operating his homestead, he operates under lease thirteen hundred acres adjoining, which he devotes to grain and stockraising. He is constantly improving his home place and now has one of the really fine residences of that part of the county, standing as it does amid palms and orange trees, on a beautiful lawn. Mr. Renaud is a director in the Dairymen's Co-operative Dairy company.

At Sacramento, Mr. Renaud married Miss Mary Giguere, born in Yolo county, Cal., daughter of Frank Giguere, a pioneer of 1849, and they have nine living children: Joseph, Walter, Laura, Flora (wife of J. Damron, Jr.), Arthur, Blanche, Bryan, Elma and Collis. Mr. Renaud affiliates with Tulare City lodge No. 306, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, with Tulare Encampment, and with Olive Branch lodge No. 269, F. & A. M. His moral and theological creed is "Do right and it will be right." Politically he is a steadfast Democrat, and as such he was elected to the presidency of the board of school trustees of the Enterprise district. In a public-spirited way he takes a deep and abiding interest in all propositions looking to the advancement of the community or the amelioration of the condition of the people at large.

JOSEPH SILVEIRA

On one of the Azores Islands of Portugal, Joseph Silveira was born October 24, 1877. He came to the United States in 1895, when he was about eighteen years old, and that same year he located in California. For three months he was employed near Truckee on a dairy farm, then went to Marin county, Cal., where he was similarly employed for three years. From there he went to Nevada City, Nevada county, Cal., where he worked in sawmills in the mountains and at times prospected and mined for gold. Oakland, Cal., was his next objective point. There, in partnership with his brother, he was in the creamery business about a year. In 1903 he came to Tulare county, where for a short time he was a partner with another in a dairy ranch, but in the fall of that year he came to his present location. He is the owner of eighty acres and rents two hundred and forty acres, has seventy-five cattle and milks fifty Holstein cows. Ninety acres he devotes to alfalfa. As a farmer and dairyman he is prosperous in Tulare county even beyond his expectation and is recognized by a wide circle of acquaintances as a self-made man of much prominence and of even greater promise. He affiliates with the U. P. E. C. and the I. D. E. S., Portuguese orders, and with the Woodmen of the World.

In 1897 Mr. Silveira married Violante Eserada, a native of the Azores Islands, and they had five children, here mentioned in the order of their nativity: Manuel, Mary, Louisa, Carrie and Hilda. On June 2, 1912, Mrs. Silveira died. Mr. Silveira married again, August 26, 1912, Miss Mary Brazill, born on the Azores Islands, becoming his wife. Though Mr. Silveira has not been as long in Tulare county as some of its American-born citizens, he has demonstrated that his public spirit is adequate to any demand that may be reasonably made upon it. His aspirations are for the uplift of the community and there is no movement for the general good that does not receive his heartfelt encouragement and support.

GEORGE ULYSSES WRAY

One of the most popular and well-known citizens of Tulare county who by the exercise of untiring energy and inflexible will has forged to the fore in many industrial circles is George Ulysses Wray, who was a pioneer stockraiser in this vicinity, having settled about five miles east of Tulare City in 1874. He is a brilliant type of the self-made, self-reliant man, who in spite of many hardships and numerous impediments in the road for knowledge has so thoroughly

overcome them that he is today numbered among the reliable and noteworthy short-story writers, his chief theme being nature study. Added to this he is a newspaper correspondent of some note and active interest and wide knowledge of all current events and political subjects makes him a valued acquisition on the publishing staff.

George W. Wray, his father, was born in Crawfordsville, Ind., and came across the plains in 1851. He was a cabinet-maker by trade and upon coming to California followed mining at Hangtown, now Placerville, in Eldorado county. He was married at Suisun City to Miss Ethalinda Vanderburgh, who was born in Iowa and came across the plains in 1861. After his marriage he engaged in farming and the nursery business at Placerville and continued to live there until they came to Tulare county in 1874. Mr. Wray was the first man to make a success of farming under the no-fence law by taking up trespassing stock under a law passed by the state legislature in 1875, and was also organizer of one of the best and oldest ditch systems in Tulare county. This is known as the Farmers' Ditch company, and he served as its superintendent for over twenty years, and he was the largest stockholder during that period. Mrs. Wray is now living near Los Angeles at sixty-four years of age, Mr. Wray having passed away November 24, 1910. They were the parents of a family of ten children, seven daughters and three sons, who are all living. George W. Wray had homesteaded a tract of a hundred and sixty acres on the north fork of the North Tule river, which he proved up, and which his son, George U., bought at the time of the former's death in 1910.

The eldest of his parents' family George U. Wray was born at Placerville, March 25, 1869, and was about five years of age when he was brought by his parents to Tulare county. Owing to the unsettled conditions at that time educational facilities were meager and the boy was obliged to go to work on the stock farm at an early age. When he was fifteen he started out for himself, working at general farming for wages for four years, when he engaged in farming and stockraising for himself. When he was twenty-one he homesteaded a hundred and sixty acres east of Milo. On March 25, 1904, he was married in Fresno county to Miss Josephine Wood, who died without issue at the present home of George U. Wray in May, 1905. Mr. Wray came to his present ranch about fourteen years ago and bought a hundred and twenty acres, also homesteading the hundred and sixty-acre tract mentioned above, and he now owns two ranches aggregating four hundred acres of land on which is done general farming and stockraising. He has started a young nursery and is clearing land, intending to put in

about twenty-five acres to apples and it is also his intention to raise his own nursery stock.

Mr. Wray has steadfastly refused political preferment, for he is widely known for his unusual ability and broad intelligence on matters of the moment. He was tendered the nomination for supervisor on the Populist ticket at the time Populism was at its height in Tulare county, but declined this honor. Nevertheless he has taken a very active interest in politics, being forcibly active wherever there is a principle at stake and he is known as an ultra radical progressive. In fighting the saloons he has been especially active and he has assisted in wiping out several of these evils in the county through his writings and active political work. Notwithstanding the fact that he was handicapped by few advantages when a child, he is of an active, alert and inquiring mind, and through extensive reading, close observation and natural intelligence he has become well-informed and is acceded to be among the most entertaining as well as instructive writers of the day. For two years he was a correspondent for the *Visalia Times*, also the *Farm View*, which was printed at Porterville, and for fourteen years served as the regular local correspondent for the *Porterville Enterprise*, and is now local correspondent for the *Porterville Recorder*. He is strongly opposed to the liquor traffic and has written many stirring articles against it. Having ever lived the simple life, close to nature, he has become quite a hunter and has experienced many thrilling adventures which he has told in a number of short stories with such interesting style as to endear him to his many readers, not the least of which are the young readers of the *Youth's Companion* and similar popular publications. A few years ago he started writing up his own experiences in hunting bear, deer, etc., in the Sierras, writing under a nom de plume, which are printed in magazine form and attract much favorable attention.

ARCHIE F. LANEY

A native son of California and of Tulare county, Archie F. Laney was born in 1877, a son of George W. and Octavia (Retherford) Laney. His father was born in Ohio and came to California in 1873; he was married in Iowa. He bought land and raised grain and cattle until he retired from active work about fifteen years ago, when his sons assumed the management, and they have continued the business in which he was the pioneer and are yet raising and buying and selling stock, being as well known in the market as any other

dealers in the central part of the state. Their ranch comprises twelve hundred acres and they carry about three hundred fat cattle each year, raising only enough grain for feed and growing alfalfa for their own use. The father passed away November 13, 1912.

While Archie Laney has never taken an active interest in practical politics and has never sought public office, he has well defined ideas concerning all questions of economic bearing and in a very public-spirited way performs his whole duty as a citizen. In fact, if we may believe those who know him best and are best able to testify in such a matter, he is liberally helpful to all movements having for their object the advancement and prosperity of the community and in a private way has many times proven himself a dependable friend, doing what he could by word and deed to help struggling neighbors over some of the stony places in life's pathway.

WILLIAM GOUGH

In Ohio, Preble county, William Gough, who lives two miles northwest of Orosi in Tulare county, was born October 12, 1838. There he was reared and educated and obtained a practical knowledge of farming and of different kinds of useful labor. He was about twenty-two years old when, in 1860, he came to California, the party of which he was a member being under command of Captain McFarland, who had twice before crossed the plains to and fro. The train consisted of sixty-two wagons and the party included one hundred and twenty men and thirteen young women. The route was by way of Omaha, Lone Tree, along the Platte, Salt Lake City, the sink of the Humboldt and thence through beautiful California valleys to Sacramento. The Indians were menacing and succeeded in running off a good many cattle, but none of their attacks were fatal to any member of the party. Forty or fifty cattle died by the way and at Rabbit Hole Springs one member of the party passed away. For a number of years Mr. Gough lived in Sacramento, most of the time engaged in teaming between that point and Nevada. He drove a ten-mule team and the rates on freight ranged from six cents to fifteen cents for one hundred pounds. From Sacramento he came down into Kern county and filed on one hundred and sixty acres of government land which he later relinquished in order to move to Visalia to engage again in teaming. For seven years he drove a stage back and forth between Visalia and Havilah. It was after he took up his residence in Visalia that he married Miss

Malinda J. Pemberton, a native of Missouri and a daughter of the Hon. James E. Pemberton. With his brother as a partner Mr. Pemberton conducted the first general store in Visalia. He was elected to the state legislature for the session of 1865-66 and served with much ability. Later he was elected treasurer of Kern county on the Democratic ticket and re-elected on the same ticket with the Republican indorsement. He was elected for a third term and died in office. A man of much business ability, he became one of the leading cattlemen of the county. Mrs. Gough has borne her husband four children, Ruby A., Anna P., Elmo and Leroy. Ruby A. married R. E. Montague and lives at Orosi. Elmo, who is a graduate of the public schools, married Beulah Howard and they live on the Robert place; they have three children, Howardine, Eugene and an infant. Leroy took for his wife Ethel Tellyer and lives on Sand creek, Squaw valley.

When Mr. Gough came to this spot little or no farming had been done in the vicinity and cattle were fed on the plains, over which deer and antelope roamed almost unmolested. In the swamp were many elk and the bear was a pest to all who tried to raise hogs. He has participated in and aided to the extent of his ability the development of the community from that time to the present, and as a Republican has been influential in local affairs.

GEORGE ALEXANDER ROBISON

An identification with Tulare county interests for more than a quarter of a century, during which time he has been almost a continuous resident in the county, has placed George Alexander Robison among the best known citizens here. He is a native of Linneus, Linn county, Mo., born April 27, 1851, son of Andrew and Eliza (Marlow) Robison, who took their son when a babe in arms to Perry county, Ill. In that county he was reared and educated, living there until 1874, when he went to Indiana, his father at that time coming to California. It was in November, 1875, that George A. came to California to join his parents, and two years thereafter was located in Tulare county. From there he moved to near Santa Rosa, Sonoma county. During these travels he had been working for wages in the intervals of farming rented land. Returning to Tulare county he farmed three-quarters of a section, which was part of the present site of Orosi. In Sonoma county he worked land north of Santa Rosa near Fulton. He remembers 1877 as a dry year in Tulare county; wheat growing and stockraising failed, horses died, and young sheep were killed in order to save the old ones.

In 1880, in Sonoma county, Mr. Robison married Mary Russell, a native of Sonoma county, Cal., and a daughter of Hugh and Sarah Russell. She has borne him five children: Minnie, Lawrence, Dora and Nora (twins), and Pearlle. Minnie married Lee Finley, of Tulare county, and they have two sons and a daughter. Lawrence married Martha Griggs. The three others are members of their parents' household.

After his marriage Mr. Robison came back to Tulare county and bought twenty acres of land near Orosi at \$75 an acre, his present home, which was part of a grain ranch. He has fourteen and a half acres under vines, his leading grapes being Muscats and Sultanas. An orchard of four hundred young peach trees is a feature of his farm. It includes three and a half acres and in 1912 brought him \$152. While Mr. Robison regards 1911 as having been a poor crop year, he states that in that year he sold eighteen tons of raisins. A comparison of these figures with those of 1893, his first crop, when he shipped his crop to New York and cleared \$50 on it, is not at all discouraging, and his many years' residence in this vicinity, while it has not been without its disappointments, has nevertheless on the whole brought him substantial prosperity. Pre-eminently a self-made man, he has succeeded because he is a good farmer and a good citizen. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party.

MOSES S. JENANYAN

One of the most prosperous fruit growers in Tulare county is Moses S. Jenanyan, who was born April 22, 1864, in Armenia and there made his home until in 1893, when he came to Chicago, bringing with him an exhibit of goods from his native land. In 1894 he brought the exhibit to San Francisco and then returned to the east. He came to Tulare county January 4, 1904, and bought ninety acres of land, bare and uncultivated, which he has developed into a fine fruit farm, having now ten acres of Emperor and sixty acres of Muscat grapes, also ten acres of oranges and ten acres of peaches. In the season of 1910 he sold forty-five tons of Muscats, his Emperors not being in full bearing, and his peach crop brought him \$1000. He is improving his place with a modern cement residence and has built a barn and made other improvements on the place.

One hundred and thirty-two acres of fruit land in this vicinity is owned by Helena R. Jenanyan, a native of New York, who lives in Philadelphia. She has ten acres in Emperors, thirty in Muscats, thirty-five in Thompsons and ten in Malagas, and has an orange grove of fifteen acres. She sold in 1910 fifty-five tons of Emperors, thirty-five of Muscats, thirty of Thompsons and thirty-five of

Malagas. Her orange crop in 1911 brought about \$1500.

The Rev. H. S. Jenanyan bought about fifteen hundred acres of land in association with his brother, Moses S., and they brought twenty-five families to a colony which they have established on this land on Rural Free Delivery Route No. 1, four miles southeast of Mr. Jenanyan's homestead. This has increased to about sixty families in 1913. They employ about thirty workmen and at bleaching time hire about forty people. Most of their fruit they ship direct to eastern markets.

In Philadelphia, in 1899, Mr. Jenanyan was married to Miss Maude P. Pulsifer, a native of Canada, and they are the parents of four children, viz.: Gladys and Clarence, who were born in Boston, and Vincent and Alden, natives of California.

The ranch of Mr. Jenanyan, of ninety acres, which had been a wheat field before he bought it, has been improved by an irrigation system and transformed into a fine orange and grape farm. Mr. Jenanyan is as enterprising toward the public welfare as he is where his own personal interests are involved. As a Republican he has been elected to the office of school trustee of the Churchill district. In religion he affiliates with the Presbyterian church.

DANIEL MURPHY

A career of usefulness and unceasing labor has been that of Daniel Murphy, who has figured prominently in the development of Dinuba and Orosi for many years. He was born February 1, 1828, in Antigonish (Indian name for River of Fish), Nova Scotia, and there his life was spent until he reached the age of about sixty-five years. He made a marked success of his life as a farmer and manufacturer, devoting himself principally to milling and to woolen manufacture. He built up the business from a small beginning, in partnership with Robert Trotter, combining gristmilling and woolen manufacturing of tweeds and yarns as well as blankets and flannels, and so extensive did the enterprise become that he long employed a hundred or more skilled workmen. Later he built a small steam mill, and this he sold for \$7,000, in order to come to California, and in November, 1892, he became one of the pioneers of this section of the county, buying forty acres of land, twenty of which he later sold. His land was all wheatfield and there were no graded roads. He acquired other property and had two stores and seven saloons in Dinuba, and two houses and one store in Orosi. Mr. Murphy planted six acres to grapes, seven acres to peaches and in 1909 replaced the peach orchard with an eight-acre tract of oranges.

So well equipped is his place in the matter of water supply that he could irrigate it more cheaply with his own plant than from the ditch. Nevertheless his public spirit impels him to patronize the latter. His well is eighty feet deep, with eleven-inch casings and a five-horsepower engine for pumping. All his operations are carried on by the latest and most scientific methods.

In Nova Scotia, Mr. Murphy married Miss Ann MacDonald, who has borne him children as follows: Bessie (Mrs. Sydney Holland), who has a son, Percy; William, who married Rose Phelps and lives in St. Paul, Minn.; Tina, who married Wesley Ferguson and has four children, they residing in Minneapolis; Huntley, who married Abbie Wheelock, and is an employe of the Southern Pacific Railroad company, living in Oakland; Grace, who became the wife of J. H. McCrackin, druggist, at Dinuba. Four children died in Nova Scotia. Mrs. Murphy passed away June 18, 1902.

In politics Mr. Murphy is a staunch Republican and in religion a communicant of the Presbyterian church. As a citizen he is public-spiritedly helpful to all worthy interests of the community.

ELIZABETH NAVARRE

It was in Monroe, Mich., that Elizabeth Navarre was born in 1842 and lived until 1881, when she accompanied her husband, Samuel Navarre, to California, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Tulare county, the site of her present home. They were married in Michigan in 1868 and had three children, Bert, Dot and Lillie. Bert passed away in 1901, aged thirty-one years. Dot and Lillie are married. Mrs. Navarre's parents were natives of Ireland, who sought and found their fortunes in America and have gone to their reward. Mr. Navarre was born in Michigan and was a man of winning personality, who was beloved by all who knew him. He died at his home in Tulare county in 1897, aged fifty-six years. Their children were all born in Monroe, Mich.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Navarre has sold a part of the old farm, but retains what she has always called her home place. When she came to the county, settlement was so sparse that many miles intervened between the houses. The country was wild, lonely and unproductive, and her husband had no difficulty in buying good land at \$2.50 an acre. Most of her land is planted to grain, and along this line she is farming very successfully. A woman of the highest character and genial and affable, she has made and kept many friends in the community in which she has cast her lot, and in a public-spirited way she has done whatever was possible for the

promotion of the general interest. Her late husband is remembered as having been a friend of education and a promoter of progress and prosperity.

LEWIS A. SICKLES

In Lewis county, northeast Missouri, Lewis A. Sickles was born, in 1874, and there made his home until he was about twenty-five years old, when he went to Kansas City, Mo., where he lived until 1904. Then he came to Porterville, Tulare county, and after living there two years he removed to Springville, Cal. Two years later he bought the Springville hotel, which he still owns, and which has been written up in the *Visalia Morning Delta*, published December 21, 1912, as follows:

There is no class of institutions throughout the whole category of business concerns which exercise so wide an influence or have so important a bearing upon the general character of a city as its leading and most representative hotels. These establishments have an individuality which becomes impressed and engrafted upon the character of the community, and to the vast majority of the transient traveling fraternity a city is just what its hotels make it; for it is here that the visitor receives his first and his last distinct impressions, and accordingly as he is favorably or unfavorably inclined toward the hostelry of his temporary abiding place, in just that measure is he pleased or displeased with the community in which it is located.

Springville has every reason to be proud of the Springville hotel; it has thirty-two large airy rooms, all comfortably furnished, and the dining room has a seating capacity of seventy-two.

Mayor L. A. Sickles bought this hotel six years ago, and then it was not the hotel that it is today, for it was only one-third of its present size. Mr. Sickles is commonly referred to as the Mayor of Springville, for it was to him that the honor fell to drive the last spike in the completion of the railroad. Mayor Sickles is a genial host, ever looking after the comforts of his guests, and he leaves no stone unturned to impress upon all of his patrons the wonderful resources of this chosen spot.

In 1906 Mr. Sickles married Anna Akin, a native of Shelby county, Ohio. In 1895 his father and mother came to this state and his father, B. T. Sickles, is living in Porterville. Mr. Sickles is one of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce of Springville and was so important a factor in securing the construction of the rail-

road to that city that on the completion of the line he was tendered the honor mentioned.

This progressive man was educated in his native Missouri and has always been connected with enterprises of importance. For four years before he came to California he was a foreman in the packing house of Schwarzschild & Sulzberger at Kansas City. After coming to California he became proprietor of the hotel as stated. This is the only hotel in the town and he manages it with much ability, catering successfully to both transient and commercial trade.

It is as a self-made man that Mr. Sickles should appeal most strongly to those who come to know him. Starting out in life with nothing, he has made a success in every way creditable, and such of this world's goods as he possesses he has won by his own unaided ability and industry. Wherever he has lived his public spirit has never been found wanting. He is deservedly popular in business circles and in a fraternal way he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen.

WILLIAM H. MILLINGHAUSEN

Of German-American lineage, William H. Millinghausen was born at Lincoln, Neb., in 1877. His father was a native of Germany and his mother made her advent into this world in Michigan; they are now living in retirement from the active labors that commanded their devotion through all their earlier years. They gave their son such advantages for education as were possible, and under his father's instruction he learned the practical side of lumbering and farming. When he was two years old they moved, taking him from Nebraska to Oregon, and two years later the family came to Tulare county, and it was in the Mountain View school that he fitted himself for business life.

Practically all of his life Mr. Millinghausen has spent in Tulare county, and practically all of it has been given to two interests, lumbering and farming, and in the latter avocation he has given particular attention to stockraising. As a lumberman and an owner of stock, he naturally engaged in the hauling of lumber, and from that work a graduation to miscellaneous freighting was natural, and as a freighter he has also busied himself profitably from time to time.

The father of William H. is August Millinghausen, who is a man of strong character; his mother is such a woman as gives herself heart and soul to the moral instruction of her children; and consequently Mr. Millinghausen in his youth did not lack the ethical

and patriotic instruction which is essential to good citizenship. Those who know him recognize in him a fellow-townsmen of public spirit, who does all that can be expected of him in the encouragement of measures directed to the general good. While he is not an active politician, he is well informed on all public questions and votes for the men who will, in his judgment, do the best for the community. He has always been liberal in support of the church and of public education.

ULYSSES GRANT PARSONS

A self-made man who in spite of many vicissitudes and hardships has succeeded and is now prospering as a farmer in Tulare county is Ulysses Grant Parsons, a native of Meigs county, Ohio. Named in honor of General Grant it appears that he has taken as his motto Grant's dogged declaration, "We will fight it out on this line if it takes all summer."

It was in July, 1866, that Mr. Parsons was born. In 1884, when he was eighteen years old, he turned his back on his Ohio home and went west as far as Nebraska, with a few dollars in his pocket over and above the sum absolutely necessary for traveling expenses. He worked there on farms until in 1890, when he went to Portland, Ore., and found employment on a ranch at thirty dollars a month. From Oregon he came to California, arriving in Tulare county, February 22, 1891, and here for a time he was variously employed, sometimes working for wages and sometimes cutting wood and selling it in town, just as General Grant had done at St. Louis many years before. But all the time he was saving all the money he could possibly put aside until at length he was able to buy a team with which he returned to Oregon, seeking better opportunities. Nevertheless he found conditions there so bad that he made his way back to Nebraska and put in one hundred acres of corn, which failed because of lack of rain. He then found work in the hay fields at one dollar a day and board. Returning to California by way of Nevada he left his wife and children there and came on to Tulare, arriving with twenty-five cents in his pockets and owing the railroad company \$1.80 baggage charges. He borrowed the latter amount from a friend, securing his scant personal property, and then looked around for work. Bound to get a start in some way, he worked at odd jobs in Tulare and Fresno counties, being at one time obliged to work for only sixty cents a day. By working and scrimping and persevering he at length managed to save enough money to enable him to rent a farm of forty acres near Visalia.

Later he bought the place, paying fifty dollars down, improved it and then sold it at a profit of six hundred dollars. He next, in 1903, purchased the one hundred and forty acre farm northwest of Tulare which has since been his home, and at this time he owes not a dollar in the world and owns one of the most productive ranches of its size in the county. He has twenty acres of Egyptian corn and fifty acres of alfalfa, raises grain and sells fifty to one hundred and fifty tons of hay each year. One of the paying features of his enterprise is a dairy of fifteen cows.

In 1889 Mr. Parsons married Miss Annie McConnaughay, who has borne him children as follows: Gertrude, Maud, Edna, Inez, Frank, Fred and Fay (twins), and George. Mrs. Parsons has always been a true helpmate to her husband and during the earlier years of their married life encouraged and assisted him so effectively that he readily accedes to her the credit for more than half of his success.

FRANK P. ROBERTSON

At Willamette Valley, Ore., Frank P. Robertson, now one of Tulare county's best known farmers and dairymen, was born February 18, 1855, son of William J. and Mary (Matthews) Robertson, the former a native of New Jersey, the latter of Missouri. William J. Robertson was the captain in command of the troops which fought for law, order and civilization in the Rogue River war in Oregon, and years afterward he ably filled the office of justice of the peace at Tulare, Cal., where his son has come to the front as a splendid citizen and a first-class man of affairs.

When he was but sixteen years old, Frank P. Robertson left Oregon, and, making his way to California, settled in Tehama county, where he farmed till he moved on to Modoc county to take charge of a sawmill. He came to Tulare county in 1885 and found employment on the old J. B. Zumwalt ranch, where he set out many of the trees which, developed to largeness, now adorn the place. For some years past he has been the owner of ranch interests more or less extensive, mostly within the limits of Tulare county, and at one time owned a ranch three miles south of Visalia. He first occupied the ranch which is now his home by lease, and in 1906 acquired it by purchase. Formerly he farmed it to grain, but for ten years has been operating it as a dairy plant, having now about twenty-five cows. Fifty-five acres of the place he devotes to alfalfa and pasture, and recently he has grown Egyptian corn with much success.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, lodge and encampment.

includes Mr. Robertson in its membership, and he affiliates also with the Woodmen of the World and with the Circle of Woodcraft. He has a wide acquaintance throughout the county and is esteemed as a high-minded, public-spirited citizen who has the welfare of his community very much at heart. He married, in 1888, Josephine Siddall, who died in 1896, leaving three children, Nellie, wife of James Tingley, of Visalia; Charles, and Elmer.

WILLIAM C. RHODES

The death of William C. Rhodes, which occurred in 1888 on the frontier between Texas and Mexico, removed from his vicinity one of the oldest and most honored pioneers of California. He was born in March, 1817, in Knox county, east Tennessee. From his native state he went to Texas in 1847, and in 1857 made his way overland to California by the southern route, starting with a band of cattle which were eventually run off by Indians. At the Platte river it was necessary to block up the beds in the wagons to keep them out of the water in crossing, and a box floated off with three children and their mother in it. About this time Mr. Rhodes saw a Mexican amputate an arm of a man whose life was thought to be in danger from a gunshot wound, he having been accidentally shot while unloading bedding from his wagon. Mr. Rhodes made his home in San Bernardino three years, returning to Tennessee at the end of the first year via the Isthmus to bring back more stock. At Carson City he left his stock for the winter in care of the Houston brothers, but the animals all died before spring. For a time after his arrival in 1860 at Tulare county he engaged in farming and later was in the sheep business on land where he had settled east of Visalia, and which was his home for years. Subsequently he moved south of Porterville and remained there until some time before his death. His widow, who before her marriage was Sarah Rebecca Douglas, survives at the present age of eighty-four. They were the parents of twelve children; Naney, now deceased; Thomas; John; Harriet, Mrs. J. L. Johnson; Julia, Mrs. A. Scruggs; Ann Hazleton, Mrs. C. Harper; William R.; Tennessee B., Mrs. S. Fay; Martha E., Mrs. E. Halbert; Samuel S.; Hugh, deceased; and Ora, Mrs. G. Robbins. Thomas married Sarah Fly and they have several children. John married Mrs. Mary Tewksberry and they have five children. Harriet married J. L. Johnson and has three children. Julia became the wife of Thomas Turner and they had one child; by her marriage with Alba Scruggs she had nine children. Ann Hazleton married Charles Harper and bore him eight children. William R. married Miss Lou

Mefford and has six living children. Tennessee B. became Mrs. Spencer Fay and has two children. Martha E. married Edward Halbert and they have four children. Samuel S. married Mary A. Garrison. Ora is Mrs. George Robbins.

As a pioneer Mr. Rhodes won great honor. Fraternally he affiliated with the Masonic order. In his politics he was a Democrat and as a citizen he was helpfully interested.

WILLIAM UNGER

In Petaluma, Sonoma county, a place made famous by General Vallejo, whose old adobe will live long in history, William Unger, who now lives near Orosi in Stokes valley, was born January 3, 1869, a son of Frederick and Dora (Jantzen) Unger. His parents, natives of Germany, came to New York City and from there sailed for California by way of Panama in 1849. Arrived within the present territory of the Golden State, they lived in Sonoma, Santa Clara and Solano counties successively. In 1880 they settled at Selma, Fresno county, and that remained the family home thereafter. For a time Mr. Unger mined and later he worked for the United States government at \$4 a day. In the old mining days he one day picked up a gold nugget which was of considerable value. He died in 1902, his wife in 1904.

It is now thirty-three years since William Unger came to Fresno county, where he remained until 1904, buying and improving three fine homes, one after the other. From there he came to Stokes valley, where he bought one hundred acres of land. He has sixty-five thousand citrus trees and is building up a nursery business and improving his land. His place is well improved and is well provided with modern irrigation facilities, having a pumping capacity of five inches. He was the first to put in a well and pumping plant here, and has over thirty inches of water from the plant installed in 1912. His twelve acres of nursery stock has attracted much attention and he intends soon to plant one hundred acres of oranges and limes. His farm has been made entirely from raw land and as now advanced is one of the best in the vicinity. Since Mr. Unger came to the valley many colonists have followed him and \$600,000 worth of land has been sold there, all of which amply demonstrates the wisdom of his choice, as he has shown the possibilities of this section of the country for growing citrus fruit.

In Fresno county Mr. Unger married Miss Ada E. De La Grange, and they have three children, Bertha, Elwood F. and Velora. Bertha has graduated from the grammar school and Elwood F. is a student.

The members of this family are popular with all who know them. Mr. Unger is a Republican in his politics, and is actively interested in all public affairs.

HOMER DAILEY WOODARD

A successful and greatly lamented farmer and stockman who before his death was a prominent representative citizen of Tulare county was Homer Dailey Woodard, who was born November 22, 1850, and died in 1908. His native place was Waukesha, Wis., and he was a son of Myron Woodard, who was born near Rochester, N. Y., June 9, 1819. The family of Woodard had been prominent there during several generations. William Williams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was an ancestor of Myron Woodard in the maternal line and Mr. Woodard's father saw service as a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and served under General Scott in the war of 1812. Myron Woodard was an early settler in Waukesha, Wis., where he cleared a farm and assisted to build up the best interests of his community. In 1854 he crossed the plains with the Hawkins boys, driving cattle, and became a gold miner in California. He went back in 1857, spent a year in Wisconsin and brought his family to Knights Ferry, San Joaquin county, making the trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Until 1862 he was again a miner, and then he engaged in farming and wool growing in the Washoe valley, Nevada. Returning to California in 1867, he spent three months in Linden, San Joaquin county, then again took to mining, this time at Columbia, Tuolumne county. In 1870 he went to Badger, on the Mill road, where he organized a school district and established a postoffice of which he was the first postmaster. There he farmed, raised stock and conducted a hotel until he retired from active life and made his home with his son, Homer Dailey Woodard, with whom he lived until in 1886, when he died, aged sixty-seven years. His political and religious attitude will be understood when it is stated that he was a Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He married Miss Eunisa Dailey, a native of Rochester, N. Y., born June 8, 1822. After her husband's death she sold the Badger property and lived on the Woodard farm in the Townsend district until her death, October 4, 1899, aged seventy-seven years. She left four children: Marvin W., in Tehama county; Melvin C., a farmer in Tulare county; Homer Dailey, and H. P., a railroad man of Arizona.

In the district schools in California and Nevada Homer Dailey Woodard acquired such education as was available to him, and when

he was twenty he became a brakeman on the Southern Pacific railroad between Fresno and Sacramento. After three years of such work he turned to farming and stockraising. In the fall of 1876 he homesteaded a hundred and sixty acres in section two, township seventeen and range twenty-six, a site that later became known as his home stead. He bought other land from time to time until he owned sixteen hundred acres here, fifteen hundred acres in the foothills, a hundred and sixty acres near Tulare and another one hundred and sixty acre tract in Kings county, all of which he devoted to stock-raising and general farming, with such success that he was recognized as one of the leading farmers in this part of the state. His sons, Chester H. and Myron F. Woodard, are partners with their mother in the old home ranch. They sold out their cattle interests in the mountains and now own three hundred and ninety acres and are renting two hundred acres more. They have a dairy of twenty-five cows and have two hundred Poland China hogs. Fifty acres are planted to alfalfa, seventy to Egyptian corn and one hundred and fifty acres to barley.

Mr. Woodard's marriage in Tulare county, May 24, 1876, united him to Susie F. Rook, who was born near Carrollton, Ark. She was a daughter of Thomas Rook, a Tennessean by birth, who came by the southern overland route to California in 1859, he and his family constituting a part of a large immigrant train. He stopped near Visalia for a while and later became a pioneer in the Cricketville neighborhood, where he farmed during the remainder of his life. His wife, formerly Miss Mary Daniel, was born in South Carolina, daughter of Abner Daniel, who died there. She died in Fresno county in 1889. Of her thirteen children eleven grew to maturity and five were living in 1912. Mrs. Woodard was educated at the Visalia Seminary and taught school five years in Tulare county. She bore her husband six children: Flora, a graduate of the San Jose State Normal school, and formerly a teacher in the public schools of California, married H. Swank and lives near Visalia; Orvis, who was educated at the Pacific Business college, San Jose, and at the Kings Conservatory of Music, married Viola Smith in 1911, and they have a daughter, Mildred; Myron F. married in 1906 Alice Fudge and they have a son, Homer D.; Chester H. married Ethel Elster in 1911, and they have a daughter, Dorris; Hazel and Myrtle are members of their mother's household. Hazel is now teaching the Chatham school and Myrtle is a student, being a senior in the State Normal at Fresno.

Fraternally Mr. Woodard was associated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen and he was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church at Antelope, with which his widow affiliates. Politically he was a Republican and always took a keen interest in local

affairs, serving from time to time as a member of the county central committee. He was a member of the first board of directors for the Townsend district and long acted either as its clerk or as its trustee, and it is worthy of note that the school building of the district stands on an acre of ground which he donated as its site. In many ways he was useful to the community, always occupying places of trust and responsibility.

MARTIN L. WEIGLE

Many a man who has come to California hoping to find good health has found that and good fortune as well. The experience of Martin L. Weigle is evidence in point. Born in York county, Pa., in 1846, he obtained some common school education in his native state, after which he acquired a practical knowledge of cigar making. When he was about eighteen years old he went to Ohio, where he worked at his trade until failing health made necessary a change of climate. In February, 1890, he came to California and soon afterward bought forty acres of land northwest of Tulare City, and to his original holding he has added by purchases from time to time until he is now the owner of two hundred acres. His farming operations have been somewhat extensive and at one time he worked five hundred acres in the county. At present he has fifteen acres in vineyards, giving special attention to raisin grapes, and ninety-five acres in alfalfa, with twenty acres devoted to a peach orchard, in which he grows freestones and canning fruit. He has also ten acres of four-year-old peach trees which in 1911 produced fruit amounting to the value of \$1,700, and twenty acres of young peach orchard not yet bearing. Among his possessions is a fine flock of Indian Runner ducks. There are on his place several good breeding mares and he has raised some fine colts, having recently sold a pair for \$450. It will be seen that his career in California has been one of increasing success, and it should be noticed that this success has been the result of careful planning and intelligent labor. To an extent it has depended also on a good knowledge of crops, climate and market peculiarities. In short, Mr. Weigle has made a careful study of everything that could possibly affect his business and has taken advantage of every opening for improvement and profit.

In 1878 Mr. Weigle married Miss Matilda B. Wilson, a native of Pennsylvania. Though he takes an intelligent interest in all important public affairs, he is not in the usual sense of the phrase a practical politician, but he has demonstrated the possession of public interest of the kind that makes him a useful citizen.

JOHN BROWN BURNHAM

The Burnham family to which John Brown Burnham belongs came originally from England and settled in Massachusetts at a very early date. They were Pilgrims. Mr. Burnham's paternal grandmother was born in England and died at Essex, Mass., at the age of a hundred and ten years. An interesting record of this family will be found in a volume, "Genealogy, Eight Generations of Burnhams," by Rosana Angeline Burnham, which was published at Boston, Mass.

In the old Bay State, in the old town of Essex, John Brown Burnham was born July 7, 1838, the third son of a family of seven children born to Nathan and Sarah A. (Brown) Burnham, the latter of whom was a native of Ipswich, Mass., and was Mr. Burnham's second wife. Nathan Burnham was a merchant and stockman. He was born at Essex, Mass., where he lived and passed away.

John B. Burnham was brought up at Essex and at Lawrence, where he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he was employed until after the outbreak of the Civil war. December 3, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Nineteenth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. He received his baptism of fire at Yorktown, where he for the first time faced the enemy in an engagement. He fought later at West Point and Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, and in intermediate engagements, and at Malvern Hill was taken prisoner. At one time, through a blunder, he came near shooting General McClellan, and while he was held at Richmond he had a memorable talk with Gen. T. J. ("Stonewall") Jackson. He was near the spot where Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston fell, when that brave Confederate officer yielded up his life for his beloved South. In Richmond he was confined in Libby Prison eighteen months and had many gruesome experiences. One of his recollections is of having paid \$2.50 in gold for a green apple pie for a dying comrade. After his release he bore rifle and knapsack through many a hard-fought fight till 1865.

At the close of the war Mr. Burnham went back to Massachusetts, where he remained two years, then went to Wisconsin, intending to take up government land. Not finding conditions there to his liking, he went to Waterloo, Blackhawk county, Iowa. In 1887 he came to Fresno county, Cal., but soon located at Visalia, where he worked as a carpenter nineteen years. Eventually he bought thirty-seven and a half acres of land, on which he has a sixteen-acre vineyard and a family orchard. He has built a fine house on the place and has built and sold four city homes in Visalia. As a citizen he is helpful in a public-spirited way to every movement for the general good. Politically he affiliates with the Socialists.

In Iowa Mr. Burnham married Elizabeth Van Derburgh, a native of that state, a daughter of Isaac Kelly and Charlotte E. (Gleason)

Van Derburgh. Her father went to Iowa when a boy, and was married in Dubuque, Ia., where Mrs. Burnham was born July 25, 1846. Her mother died in Cedar county, Ia., when Mrs. Burnham was in her fifth year, leaving her and a little sister, Laura, then in her third year. Mr. Van Derburgh married a second time in Iowa and by his second marriage became the father of three sons and three daughters. John B. Burnham and his wife have six children: Sarah E., Jessie B., Anna B., Pluma B., John B. B., and David C. Sarah E. has married three times. David Carlton was her first husband, Oscar Nelson was her second and Frank McCain is her present husband. She has two children by her first marriage, four by her second and one by her last. Jessie B. is the wife of Hans Larson of Forest City, Iowa, and has ten children, three of whom are sons. Anna B. married Tilden H. Botts, and has five sons; they live in Dinuba. Pluma B. is the wife of O. H. Philbrick, of Oakland, Cal., and they have a son and a daughter. John B. B. became the husband of Emma Castilian and she has borne him a son. David C. married Etta Cline, of Dinuba, and they have one child.

ZENIAS KNIGHT

A son of James H. and Mary M. (Worley) Knight and a well-known citizen of Tulare county, whose residence is half a mile southeast of Monson, Zenais Knight was born in Jones county, Iowa, November 16, 1854. In 1860, before he was yet six years old, he came as an emigrant to California. A train of one hundred wagons left Wyoming, Iowa, and at Baker, Idaho, was divided into two trains, one of which, consisting of thirty to forty wagons, started for Oregon, while the other came on to California. Of the Oregon party an aunt of Mr. Knight was a member. Indians at that time were very troublesome and they attacked the train, killing most of the emigrants, appropriating the stock and burning the wagons. The lady mentioned was one of those who escaped and it was not until four or five years afterwards that she was enabled to inform her California friends of the fate that had overtaken the train. The journey to California was made by way of Omaha and Lone Tree, Neb., up the Platte River valley, by Salt Lake and down the sink of the Humboldt to Hangtown, where the party rested for a few days. The Oregon party consisted of about seventy-five individuals, the California party of about one hundred and seventy-five.

The Knights located in Green River valley, after a short stop at Sacramento and took up one hundred and sixty acres of railroad grant land which they had later to abandon. The father lived out

his days in California; the mother is living in Merced county. Zenias Knight's early days were passed as a pioneer in a new and undeveloped country. Work was plentiful and educational advantages few, but by reading, study and observation he became well informed. He married, at Hanford, Miss Sarah E. Halford, who was born in California, and they have had seven children: Warren, Walter, Laura, Alice, Wallace, Harvey and Zenias. Alice married Jacob Christen and had a son named Christopher. They live at Dinuba. Warren, a resident of Bakersfield, married Elizabeth Worthley.

After his marriage for a time Mr. Knight lived in Merced county. From there he moved to eastern Oregon, whence after seven years he came back to California and located in Tulare county. He bought sixty acres of land in 1904 which he has since developed into a fine fruit ranch, giving attention at the same time to stock. He has eight acres of peaches five years old and from twelve acres of his land he secured three cuttings of alfalfa in 1911. His stock consists of eight head and he has ten good hogs.

When Mr. Knight first came to this county there was not a house between Visalia and Fresno, and he saw herds of from five hundred to seven hundred antelope and many elk, while bear were numerous in the swamps. The whole country was a vast undeveloped plain. He was acquainted as boy and man with many pioneers and one man of note among several he knew was Evans of doubtful fame. In 1867 and 1868, then only a big boy, Mr. Knight freighted between Stockton and Bakersfield, often visiting Sacramento, hauling mill stuff. He recollects that on one occasion the transportation charges on a steam boiler amounted to \$50 more than the original cost of the boiler at Sacramento. Those were the days of primitive things in California. In the later development of this part of the state Mr. Knight has manfully borne his part. Politically he is a Republican. He formerly had membership with the Baptist church. In every relation of life he has been public-spiritedly helpful to those with whom he has been brought in contact.

GILBERT M. L. DEAN

At Clarksville, Red River county, Texas, Gilbert M. L. Dean was born November 11, 1839. In 1850 he came with his parents overland to California by the southern route, reaching Visalia by way of Fort Yuma. He was the son of Levi and Letitia (Paten) Dean, natives of Tennessee, who had been pioneers in Red River county, Texas, in 1836. The party was in charge of Captain Bailey

and Levi Dean would appear to have been second in command. They were often menaced by Apache Indians, from whom they were successful in concealing the knowledge of their numerical strength, sometimes camping for the night in stockades well guarded on all sides. Indians claiming to want to buy tobacco or oxen to be killed for beef, sought entrance to their stronghold but were excluded on one pretext or another. Nine months was consumed in making the trip, for the party often withdrew to one side of the trail to rest their stock and hunt. They brought one hundred cows and eighteen yoke of oxen. At this time a span of mares and a carriage would be a small price to pay for one hundred cows, but such a purchase was made on that basis by these immigrants in 1850. The party, consisting of thirty-two men in charge of the same number of wagons, arrived at Visalia just before Christmas of that year and Mr. Dean soon located on the Jacob Brus ranch up the creek. His family consisted of himself, his wife and their eight children, the latter being Anna N., Martha J., Helen, Mary A., Henrietta, George W., Gilbert M. L. and Albert L. Anna N. married Robert Huston, whom she bore six children and with whom she went back to Texas. Martha J. became the wife of Robert Hamlington and they had five children. Mary A. married Claiborne Dunn and bore him two children. Henrietta became Mrs. John Baker and had two daughters. George W. is married and has two sons and a daughter.

Gilbert M. L. married Laura E. Shaw, and following are the names of their eight children: Levi, Letitia A., John H., Laura B., Martha J., James S., Mary A. and Jesse L. Levi married Adeline Filey, who bore him two sons. Letitia A. became the wife of Alfred Wooley and had two daughters. John H. married Martha Filey and they were the parents of three children. Laura B. became the wife of George Hill and the mother of his three sons and one daughter. Martha J. married John Findley and has borne him three daughters and a son. Mary A. married George T. Seamunds. Jesse L. took for his wife May Downing and they have a son. Mr. Dean has sixteen grandchildren and one of his granddaughters is married.

For several years Mr. Dean lived near Visalia, where he carried on an extensive stock business and raised corn and vegetables. He remembers when he thought he was doing well to sell one hundred pounds of shelled corn for seventy-five cents. He was for a time engaged in freighting from Stockton and had a government contract to deliver supplies for soldiers at Fort Independence. He voted at the first election in the county, casting his ballot for Lincoln with his father, under an oak tree in the open. He remembers well when the county seat was changed. He herded stock quite extensively and sold many cattle at the mines in California and Nevada and was for a time in business in Visalia. In 1867 he homesteaded

land in the county, which later he sold in order to lease a ranch of nine hundred acres for stock raising purposes. He keeps an average of two hundred head of cattle and horses and sufficient number of hogs for his own use.

Mr. Dean's experiences in Tulare county cover the period of much of its development. He has seen land which was formerly worth only \$1.25 an acre sold for \$5 to \$20 an acre and other lands at much higher prices at a corresponding increase in value. During his early years here he hunted a good deal, killing many deer and bear. He has seen as many as two hundred and fifty deer in a single winter and more than one hundred bear, sometimes in groups of eight or ten. At one time he shot a bear which had come to the mill at Visalia for water. He killed also many antelope and saw numerous elk. For a time his association with Indians was rather intimate and they often called upon him for advice in their relations with their white neighbors. At one time they counselled with him as to whether they should give a war dance or peace dance at Isham. His knowledge of Spanish and of Indian tongues made him useful in this capacity. He has been school trustee of the Isham Valley school fourteen years. In politics he is a Democrat and as a citizen he is markedly public-spirited. Mrs. Dean passed away in February, 1911, after forty-nine years of wedded happiness.

FRED GILL

For many years Iowa has attracted settlers from the east and distributed them through the southwest and the Pacific coast country, and Tulare county has profited because of this fact. Fred Gill was born in Iowa in 1869 and when he was five years old was brought by his father to California, and his education was acquired in the public schools at Exeter. He grew up in the stock business and his earliest recollection is of hundreds of cattle and hogs ranging on the plains in sight of his father's house. In fact, he never turned his hand to work of any other kind. In 1897 he married Miss Carrie Hlickman, a native daughter of California, who bore him three children. Roy, now sixteen years old, is a student in the grammar school, and Emmett and Adolph, aged thirteen and eight years respectively, are students in the public school.

In Tulare county Mr. Gill and his brother are recognized as leaders among stockdealers. They own forty thousand acres of land, mostly devoted to grazing, keep an average of four thousand head of cattle, and in 1912 their sales reached three thousand head. Mr. Gill's whole active life has been given to the raising of horses, cat-

tle and hogs, in which business he has been peculiarly successful, having made all that he possesses practically within the last fourteen years. He has never affiliated with any secret or fraternal order, nor has he ever held a political office, but he performs his duties as a citizen in a public-spirited way that makes him valuable to the community. His father was a native of Iowa and a man of ability and considerable success, who passed away in 1910, aged seventy-three years. His mother is living in Porterville. Mrs. Gill's mother is dead, but her father survives, and is an honored citizen of Tulare county.

JOEL W. WILLIAMS

An honored pioneer who has passed away within a comparatively recent time was Joel W. Williams, a native of Missouri, born in 1841, who came overland to California in 1857, when he was about sixteen years old, making the journey with ox-teams and having in his possession at his arrival a cash capital of fifteen cents and no more. Locating in Sacramento, he soon found employment stringing telegraph wires on a line then under construction between that town and Reno, Nev. Later he was long in the employment of railroad companies as a foreman, and afterward for fifteen years he worked in the wiring department of telegraph installation and repairs, saving money with which he started in the sheep business in Fresno and Tulare counties, with which he busied himself profitably until 1883. In 1881 he bought the Joel W. Williams ranch of one hundred and sixty acres, a mile and a half northeast of Lemoore, where in 1886 and 1887 he planted forty acres to vineyard. He devoted himself principally, however, to the breeding of fine horses, making a specialty of standard bred animals. Bay Rose, a stallion of his raising, was sold when six years old to the Queen of Guatemala. For many years he was successful in his chosen line and was widely recognized as a leading stock-raiser of Central California.

In his religious preference Mr. Williams was a Presbyterian. He was a charter member of Lemoore lodge No. 225, F. & A. M. In 1882 he married Miss Christie E. Edmonds, of Kirksville, Mo., who bore him a daughter, Iva W., who is the wife of William J. Bryans, of Lemoore. He passed his declining years on his ranch and died December 14, 1907. He is survived by his widow and the daughter mentioned, and the inevitable termination of his long and useful career was sincerely regretted by many admiring friends, who during their many years companionship with him had had the daily encouragement and consolation of his loyal and warm hearted friendship.

JESSE W. HARRIS

In that grand old midway state, Missouri, in the historic old county of St. Clair, Jesse W. Harris, now a well-known contractor and man of affairs at Corcoran, Kings county, Cal., was born February 24, 1869. When he was five years old he was taken to Union City, Ind. He was educated in public schools in that state and at the State Normal school at Winchester, Ind. One of the conditions under which some students are admitted to State Normal schools is that they shall teach for a certain time after their graduation. Mr. Harris devoted seven years to that work and won great success as an educator. In 1907 he came to California and stopped for a short time in Los Angeles, then came to Corcoran to assist in the erection of a sugar factory which is one of the conspicuous buildings of that town. Eventually he went into contracting and building, in connection with which he later took up real estate, in both fields of endeavor being satisfactorily successful. In all directions may be seen buildings which attest his mechanical skill and his business ability, and he has turned some of the notable local land deals of the last few years.

On November 6, 1894, Mr. Harris married Miss India Peacock, who was born in Indiana, June 14, 1876. Fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Knights of the Golden Eagle. As a citizen he is public-spirited to a degree that makes him dependably helpful in any emergency demanding action for the good of the community. He is filling the office of justice of the peace with the highest honor and integrity and to the general satisfaction of the people of the town, who have learned to respect and abide by his judgment and to seek his friendly advice in the private settlement of many of their difficulties.

GEORGE T. FARMER

Born at Hamburg, Fremont county, Ia., January 14, 1859, George T. Farmer was a son of John M. and Martha J. (Utterback) Farmer. Attending school until he was sixteen he then came to California, arriving in what is now Kings county, on March 11, 1875. On April 17, following, he was employed in the construction of the People's ditch, but a little later he was heading grain on the present site of Lemoore, and in the fall of that year he was hauling lumber. Later, in association with his uncle, William T. Farmer, he was raising wheat and buying hogs, and their first harvest was the grain produced on one hundred and sixty acres of land, situated one and a half miles south of his present home. In the fall of 1879 he

married and removed with his bride to Iowa, but came back to Kings county in 1880, and in the fall of 1881 moved to Yolo county, where he worked on road construction. He later came to Kings, then Tulare county, and in 1888 went to Siskiyou, where he served as justice of the peace of Lake township. It was in 1891 that he moved to his present locality, and in 1896 moved to his present ranch, which he bought January 19, 1903. He has been very successful here and is now extensively engaged in stockraising and dairying, giving attention to thoroughbred cattle, including Guernsey dairy cattle, and is considered one of the leading breeders of his class in the county.

Fraternally Mr. Farmer affiliates with the Sons of Veterans and the Woodmen of the World. Taking a public-spirited interest in affairs of the community, he has filled several local offices. For eight years he was deputy assessor of Kings county, and for seventeen years he has been a school trustee, including seven years as trustee of the Hanford high school, during two years of which he was president of the school board. He has served also as his party representative in the county central committee of Tulare and Kings counties.

On November 11, 1879, Mr. Farmer married Miss Gertrude Ruggles, a native of Woodland, Yolo county, born September 13, 1858, one of the first white girls born in that county, and a daughter of Lyman B. and Martha Ann (Dexter) Ruggles. They have eight children: Leta, who married Dr. Cothran, of San Jose; Milton T., who is at Berkeley; Lyman D., who is now filling the office of sheriff of Kings county; Ethel, a teacher in the Hanford grammar school; Theodore, who is on the home farm, and Clarence and Paul, who are in the high school, and Lucile, in the grammar school.

CHARLES O. GILL

No ranchman in the Porterville district of Tulare county is more widely or more favorably known than C. O. Gill, who lives seven miles and a half north of that city. Born in Ohio, August 15, 1863, he was taken to Iowa and there remained till he was ten years old, then was brought by his parents to California. The family located in Tulare county, and here the boy was sent to school at the Yokohl valley school house, where, under the tutelage of the teachers there employed, he acquired a practical education which has been of great benefit to him in his active life as a stockman and man of affairs.

The first work to which Mr. Gill gave attention was among his father's stock, and when he was twenty he was raising cattle on his own account, and from that day to this his energies have been directed to the advancement of this one kind of business. He has

found this concentration profitable. In 1888 he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of public land, and since then has bought tracts, from time to time, till he now has twelve thousand acres, all of which is devoted to stockraising. He keeps on hand about six hundred head of cattle and from fifteen to twenty horses. His homestead is fitted up with all appliances and improvements essential to a successful enterprise in his line.

In 1887 Mr. Gill married Miss Clemmie Anderson, a native daughter, whose father, Garland Anderson, came to California in 1851, among the pioneers. They have two children, Maurice, born in 1889, and Ada, born in October, 1910. The son was educated in the Frazier school and is assisting his father in his business affairs.

In the city markets, in which Mr. Gill always sells his cattle and hogs, he is popular and highly respected because of his fair and square business methods. In all of the relations of life he is friendly and helpful and as a citizen he has many times demonstrated his public spirit.

JAMES MUNROE BLAKELEY

Indiana has sent to California many men and women who have won honored place in the citizenship of the Golden State. Among those who have lived and prospered in the vicinity of Hanford, Kings county, mention should be made of James Munroe Blakeley. Mr. Blakeley was born in 1837 and was reared and educated in his native state. In 1857, when he was about twenty years old, he settled in Iowa, where he farmed successfully for a quarter of a century. He married there, in 1861, Miss Mary A. Thomas, like himself a native of Indiana, who had gone to Iowa with her parents, and they have had eight children: Eva married Harvey Burns; Olive May was the wife of H. Clawson; A. W. lives at Riverside; Frank is a citizen of Lemore; Arthur E. is well known in Kings county; Mary is the wife of David Porter of Hanford; Grace, who is Mrs. Charles Moss, lives in Kings county, and Bessie married John Bowden and lives in Philadelphia, Pa.

In 1882 Mr. Blakeley came with his family from Iowa to Grangeville, Tulare county, Cal. During the first two years of his residence here he farmed leased land, but eventually he bought land on the lake. He sold that property soon, however, and bought a farm on the Mussel slough, and there farmed for some years, then selling the place in order to buy another near Armona. In 1904 he secured by a trade five acres of land adjoining the northwest corner of the city of Hanford, which he has developed into a profitable orchard and which has since provided him an attractive home. As a farmer,

Mr. Blakeley has been successful within the limits of his operations, and as a citizen he has shown a public spirit which has won him the regard of all who know him. He is especially interested in education, and wherever he has lived he has done his utmost for the advancement of the schools in his vicinity.

HENRY ALDEN CRANE

The career of Henry Alden Crane of the Paddock district, southwest of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., has been that of a self-made man, who, by his sterling qualities, has profited by his opportunities and done, directly and indirectly, a good deal for the benefit of his community. Formerly one of the leading apiarists of Central California, he is now making a success in the production of fruit and stock. Mr. Crane is a native of Kansas and was born September 2, 1872, son of O. Crane, who came from the Sunflower State to California in 1874, when Henry A. was about two years old, and lived in Yolo county until 1877. Then the Crane family moved to Tulare county, locating eight miles southwest of Hanford, in what is now Kings county, and the elder Crane took up railroad land which he later lost through litigation. While he occupied the property he farmed it successfully and took an active interest in the development of the district. He was a factor in securing the construction of a ditch through his part of the county and in bringing about the utilization of Mussel slough as a source of irrigation. He passed away May 7, 1909, after a life of industry and usefulness.

In the neighborhood of his present home Henry Alden Crane was reared and educated, and to the public schools he gives credit for his literary start in life. His business beginning was as an apiarist in the district between Hanford and Cross creek, and he soon extended his operations until he had at one time four hundred colonies of bees. In 1900 he bought eighty acres in the heart of the Paddock district, eight miles southwest of Hanford, on which there was then twelve acres of old vineyard, but no other improvements. He has developed the place into a modern home ranch, with good and ample buildings and up-to-date appliances and appointments. He now has twenty-nine acres of his land in vineyard, six acres in peaches and the balance in alfalfa. He gives considerable attention to the breeding of horses, cattle and hogs, which bring a high price in the market. In 1911 he bought forty acres of the Jacobs tract, about twelve miles southwest of Hanford, which he is improving and expects soon to devote almost entirely to alfalfa.

In April, 1902, Mr. Crane married Winifred Battenfeld, of Kings

county, and they have a son, William Dale Crane. Mr. Crane takes a public-spirited interest in the economic and political affairs of his county, state and nation, and his solicitude for the improvement of the public schools in his vicinity caused him to accept the office of trustee of the Paddock school district, which he is filling with much ability and credit.

WILLIAM BURGAN CLARK

One of the many self-made men of Kings county, Cal., who are deserving of an especial place in this work, by reason of their perseverance in the face of difficulty and their ultimate worthy achievement, is William B. Clark, whose farm property is located six miles south of Hanford. Born October 21, 1865, he made a beginning in active life in 1883, when he was about eighteen years old, by working on ranches in his neighborhood. Later he rented land and farmed on his own account till 1898, when he went to Alaska, being one of those who made the first great rush for the Klondike. Perhaps he had inherited some of the venturesome spirit of his father, who had been a pioneer miner in California. After four years of hard work and indifferent success, the young man came back to Kings county and soon afterward bought his present home ranch of eighty acres, on which he has put all improvements. He devotes himself to stockraising, dairying and the breeding of hogs and has twenty acres of his homestead in alfalfa. In 1907 he bought one hundred and twenty acres near Guernsey and in 1911 thirty-five acres adjoining that purchase, which land he uses for stock.

The mother of William B. Clark is Mrs. Amanda B. Clark, a daughter of William Burgan. She was born in Ohio, November 11, 1833, and when she was fifteen years old was taken by her father to Wisconsin, where she lived till 1854, coming then to California. She was married in January that year to Charles W. Clark, who was born September 13, 1822, and they came overland to Tuolumne county, Cal., where Mr. Clark mined several years, finding some gold, but experiencing much disappointment. In 1866 he was made superintendent of the Pittsburg coal mine in Contra Costa county, and there he labored till in the spring of 1873, when he came to Tulare county and bought two thousand acres of land on Lake Tulare, nine miles south of Hanford, at \$2.50 an acre, and engaged in stock and cattle raising and in the growing of alfalfa. It is generally conceded that he had the first alfalfa in Kings county. He was one of the promoters and builders of the Lakeside ditch and was its principal manager for several years. Later, he took up grain and sheep,

and became one of the most extensive sheep men in the county. He had bought a flock which his brother in Fresno county looked after for him and which he brought with him to this county, and that was the nucleus of is later large property of this kind. In time he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his land and bought three hundred acres of mountain land in Fresno county. In 1880 the reverses of several successive dry years culminated in his loss of his property, and he rented land at Lambert's Grove, six miles east of Hanford, and resumed sheep raising, also doing a little farming. In 1885 he and his family emigrated to Woodville, Jackson county, Ore., where he bought a small ranch, put in an orchard and engaged in merchandising. For four years they remained there, and then came back to a ranch on the plains, near their old place. Mr. Clark died at the home of his son, May 13, 1894. Mrs. Clark lived with her son Frank at Tulare till 1902, since when she has been a member of the household of her son William B. She bore her husband six children: Frank B., born January 28, 1855, lives in Tulare. Albert, born December 3, 1855, died April 22, 1859. Ida B., born May 2, 1860, died November 16, 1862. Grant U., born October 1, 1863, lives near Hanford. William B. was next in order of birth. Gracie G., born January 18, 1868, died April 19, 1878.

Not only is William B. Clark a well-informed and resourceful rancher and stockman, but he is as well a useful and patriotic citizen, a promoter of all good for the public and a firm believer in the ultimate great destiny of California and of America.

LOUIS DECKER

Prominent and active in the industrial and civic world of Lemoore is Louis Decker, born at Ligonier, Ind., January 14, 1866. When four years old he was taken by his parents to Alexander, Nebr., where he lived until 1886, when in company with Charles Russell, also of Alexander, he came to Lemoore, where he has attained to prominence in many ways and become one of its well-known merchants. Mr. Decker was employed five years as a clerk in the store of M. Lovelace, then bought a fruit farm at Grangeville on which he lived during the ensuing five years. In 1896 he became a clerk in Kutner-Goldstein's store at Hanford, and after three years' employment there he went to the oil fields in Kern county and put in two years in the development of oil lands. After that for some time he was a successful contractor and builder in San Francisco. Coming back to Lemoore in 1901, he a second time entered the employ of Mr. Lovelace with whom he remained four years until he became

bookkeeper of the Bank of Lemoore, and this position he filled until January, 1912, when he resigned it to buy the M. Lovelace store. He carries a line of farm implements, agricultural machinery and carriages, his specialties including the McCormick and Buckeye implements, the California Moline plows and the Studebaker wagons. He is part owner and manager of the Lemoore garage, with L. H. Byron, who has the agency for the country round Lemoore and Coalinga for the Ford motor vehicles and does a general garage and repair business. His implement building is constructed of corrugated iron and occupies a ground space of 100x150 feet, and his garage, of the same material, occupies a ground space of 75x150 feet. The latter has been enlarged three times. The original garage was 75x75 feet in area; twenty-five feet was added to its length and later it was brought up to its present capacity. Having recently built a new residence on Lemoore avenue, Mr. Decker is now the owner of two houses in the city. He has in many ways demonstrated his public spirit and has served as city clerk of Lemoore, a term as city clerk by appointment, and a term in the same office by election. In 1893, at the first election after the organization of Kings county, he was a candidate for county recorder against F. M. Fraser and was defeated by only five votes. He is secretary of the Odd Fellows' Hall association and is a Past Grand of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, a past clerk of the Lemoore organization of the Woodmen of the World, and in 1891 was a delegate to the High Court of the Independent Order of Foresters held at Los Angeles.

On May 3, 1911, Mr. Decker married Maria Westerhoff, of Alexander, Nebr., a daughter of William Westerhoff, who was a pioneer in that state.

JAMES E. DUNLAP

An extensive land owner and cattle dealer of Tulare county and one who has figured prominently in business affairs here is James Early Dunlap. His father, John Dunlap, was a native of Missouri and a pioneer in Texas and in California, and met his death on the San Bernardino fair grounds by being struck by a sulky. His wife, a native of Texas, died there when James E. was five years old.

James E. Dunlap was born January 1, 1838, in Washington county, Tex., and here learned something about books in the public schools, and a good deal about handling cattle on the ranges which stretched for miles and miles in all directions round about his home. When he was in his seventeenth year he came overland to California

with his father and others, and the Dunlaps located in Los Angeles county. In 1855 the younger Dunlap made his first visit to Tulare county, bringing Texas cattle to Visalia. He had started with about thirteen hundred head, but about nine hundred had died by the way for want of water. His father came to Tulare county in 1858 and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land of Mr. Lynn. James took up a homestead in Lynn's valley, and he has been a land owner in the county ever since, having owned at one time three hundred and twenty acres, but never less than one hundred and sixty acres. He has been an extensive handler of cattle for the market and from time to time has farmed considerable tracts to various crops. He deeded to the Bald Mountain Mining company a strip off the side of his ranch on which the mine of that corporation is located.

On September 23, 1860, Mr. Dunlap married Miss Lucy Ellis, a native of Texas, who has borne him six children: Thomas is deceased. Henry lives near Bakersfield, Cal.; John's home is at White River, Cal.; William James is well known in Tulare county; Emma married Henry Conner, and Mary is deceased. Mr. Dunlap's recollections of his early experiences in this county are those of a pioneer. At this time there are very few others living here who were here when he came. He relates that during the time of the Indian trouble his father camped near Deer creek; he has himself killed many bear and deer within the limits of the county. For some time after he came, there were few houses within a radius of many miles in any direction from the place of his settlement, the whole territory being open country, utilized as cattle ranges. He has prospered with the community in which he lives, and while he has been winning fortune for himself has watched the development of a wilderness country into one of the rich and important counties of a great state; and as opportunity has offered he has encouraged and aided that development in a public-spirited way that has insured him the respect of all who have known him.

JOHN V. CLEMENTE

It was across the ocean on the other continent at Pico, in the Azores islands, that John V. Clemente was born, May 6, 1864, and he now lives a mile north of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., and is a successful dairyman and fruit grower. He is a true citizen of America, devoted to the best interests of his adopted country and especially to those of the community with which he has cast his lot. He remained on his native isle in a far-away sea until he was eighteen years old, then came to the United States, and direct to California,

locating at Pescadero, San Mateo county, where for four years he was employed at ranch work. For the five years thereafter he worked on ranches in San Luis Obispo county. In 1891 he came to Kings county, bought a band of sheep and went into the sheep business, to which he devoted himself nine years, having at one time a flock of twenty-five hundred.

In 1901 Mr. Clemente bought one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land, on which he has put fences and buildings and which he is now cultivating with success. He has ten acres of vines, two acres of orchard and thirty acres of alfalfa, the remainder of his tract being given over to pasturage. In connection with this business he manages a small dairy. With three associates, he bought four hundred and eighty acres of land north of Lemoore, his interest in which he sold in 1910. He is a stockholder in the Hanford Mercantile company and affiliates fraternally with the U. P. E. C. and the I. D. E. S. As a citizen he is public-spirited to a degree that makes him helpful to every worthy local interest.

In June, 1903, Mr. Clemente married Maria Garcia, and they have three children: Leonard, Elvira and Maria.

CARLETON JAMES SHANNON

Prominent as a farmer and dairyman and through his connection with the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery association and the Farmers' Irrigation Ditch company, Carl James Shannon of Tulare is probably as favorably known as any other citizen of Tulare county, where he has lived since 1889. He was born in Coleborne, Ontario, Can., June 9, 1870, the second in a family of four sons and one daughter, born to Robert and Deborah (Richardson) Shannon. The parents left Canada in 1891 and came to California, making their home on a farm near Visalia, where Mr. Shannon died. His widow lives at Dinuba. Their son, Carleton J., lived on the parental farm in Canada until he was sixteen years old, attending the public school near his home. At sixteen he became self-supporting and for three years worked at such employment as he could find in the vicinity of his birthplace. At nineteen he was making only fifteen dollars a month and he was not at all satisfied with his income. But he saved the little money that he could and in 1889 reached Tulare county, all traveling expenses paid, with twenty dollars in his pocket. Here he began working for one dollar a day. He remained with his first employer, J. R. Robinson, a year and eight months and then worked two full years for John Frans at stockraising. Next he ventured in the field of business on his own account, renting the R. H. Stevens ranch near his present farm for

five successive years. Returning to the Frans ranch he became Mr. Frans's partner in handling stock, and by 1897, through good management, acquired enough capital to purchase a farm of one hundred and forty acres, which was the nucleus of his present ranch. In 1900 he bought two hundred and forty acres more and in 1902 another hundred acres, bringing his holding up to four hundred and eighty acres in sections thirty-two and thirty-three, township nineteen, range twenty-five, located five miles northeast of Tulare. He has improved and cultivated the tract until it ranks with the best ranches in the county. By later purchases he has become the owner of fifteen hundred and sixty acres. Forty acres is devoted to peaches, one hundred to alfalfa and eighty to vineyards. He has a dairy of sixteen Holstein cows, keeps an average of four hundred hogs and raises seventy-five beef cattle yearly, and he has also raised some fine Percheron colts. In 1911 he planted one hundred and two acres to Egyptian corn which yielded thirty-three hundred sacks. He is a member of the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery association and president and manager of the Farmers' Irrigation Ditch company, which has an eight-mile ditch whose practical length is greatly increased by many laterals. Besides President Shannon, the officers of the company are W. P. Ratliff, secretary, and Bank of Tulare, treasurer. Its directors are Carl J. Shannon, P. F. Roche, E. P. Foster, Joseph LaMarche and A. W. Church.

In Fresno, Cal., in 1902, Mr. Shannon married Mrs. Lulu B. (Jordan) Smith, born near Visalia, daughter of James B. Jordan. By her former marriage Mrs. Shannon had one son, Leslie Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Shannon have three children, Gordan, Dorothy and Richard. Fraternally Mr. Shannon is an Odd Fellow, affiliating with Four Creeks lodge No. 92, of Visalia, and politically he is a staunch Democrat. Public-spiritedly he is all that his many admiring friends could wish him.

DANIEL HEADRICK

It was in Kentucky in 1832 that Daniel Headrick was born, and when a child was taken to Missouri. From there he came to California in 1860 with his mother, his father having died previously. He had learned the blacksmith's trade, but settling in Butte county, he worked there as a farmer for some time and from there went to San Joaquin county, where he was both farmer and blacksmith several years, as he was later for ten years in Fresno county. His next place of residence was near Kings river, in the vicinity of Hanford, until 1883. He removed from there to Deer creek, thence to

Tulare, thence to Round valley, thence to Porterville and thence, in 1899, again to Tulare, where he remained until his death, which occurred November 9, 1909. Wherever he lived he combined his two occupations, farming and blacksmithing.

In 1866 Mr. Headrick married Sarah Palmer, a native of Wisconsin, who had been reared in Iowa and was then living at Fresno. She bore eleven children, six of whom are living: Leonard Fry, George Fry and Della Fry, who married Ellis Marvin of Hanford, Cal. (these three by a former marriage), and Arna, Emory and Ivy (by her marriage with Mr. Headrick). Arna is the wife of John E. Walker of Tulare, a biographical sketch of whom appears in these pages; Emory lives at Porterville; Ivy married S. J. Miller of Tulare.

HENRY JOSEPH BORGMAN

A leader in the transfer business at Exeter, Tulare county, Cal., Henry Joseph Borgman is the owner of considerable property in that city and its vicinity. One of the successful men of the town he has made his way in the world by his own unaided efforts and is recognized as one of the prominent self-made men of the county. He was born in Kewaunee county, Wis., in 1871, was educated in the public schools there and lived there until 1902, about the time he attained his majority. His father, Max Borgman, a native of Germany, landed in New York city April 14, 1865, the day of the assassination of President Lincoln. He died in 1894, and his widow, also a native of the fatherland, survived until 1907.

When Mr. Borgman came to California he found employment as a laborer and by industry and frugality as well as by good business ability, he has made himself the owner of the most extensive transfer business in his part of the county. He keeps five teams and five men constantly busy. In connection with the enterprise he maintains a large storage warehouse which has been installed at considerable expense during the last year. He has bought property from time to time until he owns several valuable pieces in Exeter and in the country round about. Politically he is a Republican, and as a citizen he has in many ways demonstrated his public spirit, showing a willingness at all times to do anything in his power for the community with which he has cast his lot. Fraternally he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen and the Woodmen of the World.

In 1895 Mr. Borgman married Miss Frances Wahl, a native of Wisconsin, whose father has passed away, but whose mother is a

member of Mr. Borgman's household. Mr. and Mrs. Borgman have eight children: Lena, Eddie, Katie, Mary, Joseph, Clara, Antone and Adolph. The first four mentioned were born in Wisconsin, the others are native sons and daughters of California. Lena, Eddie, Katie, Mary and Joseph are students in the public school at Exeter.

WINFRED D. DRENNEN

This enterprising and skillful harnessmaker and saddler, whose place of business is on North Irwin street, between Sixth and Seventh streets, Hanford, Kings county, Cal., was born in Kansas, January 1, 1877, and lived there until he was about eight years old. Then his father died and his mother brought him to California, locating in Hanford, and here he was reared and educated. His first employment was on a ranch, and for some time he divided his labors between ranch work and such work as he found in packing houses. Eventually he began to learn the harnessmaker's trade with C. S. Cunningham of Hanford. Two years later Mr. Cunningham sold out to Mr. Uberbacher, for whom the young man worked until Mr. Uberbacher died, leaving the business to his widow, who continued it till September, 1911, when she sold it to Mr. Drennen, who has owned and managed it since. He manufactures harness and saddles and deals in them and in whips, robes, carriage trimmings and harness and leather supplies, besides doing in a workman-like manner all repairs in his line.

Fraternally Mr. Drennen affiliates with the Improved Order of Red Men, the Foresters of America and the U. P. E. C. In these orders as well as in business circles he is justly popular, for he is of a friendly and helpful disposition, and as a citizen is public-spirited and solicitous for the general welfare of the community.

JOSEPH BEZERA

In the Azores, in February, 1866, was born Joseph Bezera, who is familiarly known to people around Hanford, Kings county, Cal., as Joe Bezera. He was brought up on a farm on his native island and remained there until he was sixteen years old, when he emigrated to the Sandwich islands, whence he came when he was eighteen years old to California, locating at Hanford before the end of 1884. Until 1893 he worked on farms and sheep ranches, and then he became a sheep raiser on his own account, and so successful was he in ac-

cumulating stock that he came in time to have a flock of seven thousand; he disposed of this interest in 1911. Meanwhile, in 1900, he had bought one hundred and fifty-eight acres of land, a mile northwest of the city limits of Hanford. It was unimproved and he built fences and barns and a fine residence and otherwise fitted it for profitable use. About one-half of the place is in alfalfa and he raises much stock. With others he is the owner of an extensive dairy business which is conducted on a rented ranch of six hundred and forty acres, near Visalia, and there, too, stock is raised.

In 1911 Mr. Bezera revisited his native isle to renew acquaintance with scenes and friends of his earlier years, and after an absence from Hanford of one year and eight months, returned in 1912 and was gladly welcomed by the many friends he had made in his adopted country. He has become known as a man of progress and enterprise, who takes an interest deep and generous in the general prosperity of the community. Fraternally he affiliates with the I. D. E. S. and the U. P. E. C. He married, in 1902, Miss Mary Amelia Rogers, who has borne him three daughters and three sons: Lena, Mary, Mannel, James, Joseph, Jr., and Amelia.

HERBERT ASKIN

In 1869 Herbert Askin was born in Crawford county, Mo., and in 1888 he came to California, having in the meantime acquired such education as was necessary to fit him for the career of usefulness upon which he was about to enter as well as a practical knowledge of the plumbing and tinning trades. For three years after he arrived in California he made his father's instruction available by work as a plumber in which he was so successful as to win the approbation not only of his employers, but of the general public of Fresno. From Fresno he went to Hanford, where he remained until January, 1894, when he came to Visalia and established himself in business as a plumber and tinsmith.

In 1896 Mr. Askin married Miss Louisa Dinely, a daughter of a Tulare county pioneer. He was successful almost from the outset of his career in Visalia, and in July, 1911, occupied his new building on East Main street, which he erected according to his own plans and which in actual use has proven to be one of the most modern and best equipped structures of its class in this part of the state. While doing a general line of tinner's work he makes a specialty of water tanks and galvanized iron work. The following brief mention of buildings in which he has done the plumbing since he came to Visalia will afford an idea of the scope of his enterprise: City Hall, addition to the Court House, First National Bank build-

ing, new high school, Washington grammar school, American hotel, Boone hotel, new Mt. Whitney Power company building, the Visalia club building, the Goldstein block, the Kaweah club building and very many of the fine homes erected or remodeled in the city in recent years.

In 1907 Mr. Askin was elected a city trustee of Visalia, in which office he served four years. He was especially honored in 1907 by being chosen to serve as acting president of the board on the occasion of the opening of the new city hall. The work of the board of trustees during his term of service resulted in many important improvements and the administration of the municipal affairs at that time has passed into history as one conspicuous for its high business character. It relieved the city of a debt of \$7,000, and in 1911 turned it over to the new board of trustees with \$8,000 in the treasury. It put through a \$45,000 bond issue to raise funds for the building of the new city hall and the erection of concrete bridges over irrigation ditches running through Visalia. It resurfaced all the paved streets of the town and laid twenty-nine blocks of new pavement. Not the least of its achievements was the putting of the Mill creek conduit into Visalia. Of all these measures Mr. Askin was a promoter and with the working out of some of the more important of them he was personally concerned. During a part of the period of the activities of the Visalia Building & Loan association he was one of its directors.

MORGAN J. WELLS

A residence of over fifty years in California entitles Mr. Wells to the name of pioneer, and as such he has borne a noble part in bringing about the improved conditions which we of the present day enjoy. He was born in Dixon county, Tenn., June 15, 1833, the son of Henry Gilbert and Nancy (Wilson) Wells, both also natives of that same southern state. Mr. Wells has no knowledge of his native state, for he was less than six months old when his parents removed from Tennessee and settled in Pope county, Ark. Upon wild and unbroken land which the father purchased he improved a fine farm, carrying on general farming and stockraising for several years. Another removal of the family in 1856 brought them to California, ox teams being the motive power, and here the parents rounded out their useful lives, the father passing away at the age of eighty-one years, and the mother when sixty years old. Mrs. Wells was the daughter of Adam Wilson, a native of Ireland, who after his immigration to the United States followed farming in Tennessee.

Of the seven children born to Henry G. and Nancy (Wilson) Wells, Morgan J. Wells was the sixth child and is now the only one living. Needless to say that his educational advantages were meagre when it is known that his entire boyhood was passed in frontier surroundings. The school he was privileged to attend was a rude log affair with shake roof and slab benches, and he was taught to write with a quill pen of the teacher's own manufacture. When he was less than twenty years of age he was attacked with the gold fever and in the spring of 1852 he formed a company and started with ox teams for the Pacific coast. By way of what was known as the Cherokee route they went up the Arkansas valley, through Denver and along the Platte river to Salt Lake, and from there by way of Humboldt and Carson City to Tuolumne county, and from there to Sonora, six months having been consumed in the journey. After a year's experience in mining there Mr. Wells went to old Millerton, there combining mining and teaming for about three years, when he came to Tulare county and for a number of months thereafter he continued freighting, hauling lumber from the mountains with ox teams.

The year after coming to Tulare county, in 1857, Mr. Wells was married and settled with his wife on the ranch which they now occupy, five miles northwest of Visalia. The nucleus of his present property was one hundred and sixty acres which he entered from the government. The old shake house which at first adorned it gave place in time to a more substantial frame house. Year by year improvements have been made upon the property, enhancing its value as well as its beauty. Mr. Wells carries on general farming and teaming, making a specialty of raising wheat, and he also raises cattle and hogs. Of late years he has given some attention to the raising of fruit, and now has a fine family orchard, thirty acres alone in prunes, which seem to be especially adapted to this locality. As means and opportunity have made it possible Mr. Wells has added to his acreage, the home farm now containing two hundred and forty acres, besides which he owns what is known as Bone Canyon ranch, eleven hundred acres of land fourteen miles northeast of his home ranch. The last-mentioned property is devoted almost exclusively to grain and stockraising. The Wutchumma canal, in which Mr. Wells is financially interested, supplies water to his property.

Mention has been made of Mr. Wells's marriage. In maidenhood his wife was Miss Catherine Fudge, a native of Tennessee, the daughter of John B. Fudge, a farmer, who settled as a pioneer in California in 1856. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wells: Mary, the wife of L. H. Douglass, died at the age of twenty-three years, leaving one child, David Roy Douglass, a graduate of the San Francisco College of Pharmacy; Sallie is a resident of Visalia; Susan E. became the wife of David Douglass and died in Visalia at

the age of thirty-two; Maggie died when eighteen years old; John died when twenty years old; and William Reid is a prominent farmer and stockman, having charge of the Bone Canyon ranch. The son last mentioned married Linda Pleas, a native of California, and they have one son, Donald Morgan.

Politically, Morgan J. Wells is a Democrat, and at one time served as a member of the county committee. Elected to the office of sheriff in 1879, in March of the following year he took the oath of office and rendered his constituents valued service for two years and ten months. While holding this office Mr. Wells became associated with a number of celebrated cases, among them being that of Ben Harris, a negro, who killed his wife and child. Harris was overtaken in the brush by Mr. Wells and his deputies, and being defied by their victim, he was shot by one of the deputy sheriffs. Mr. Wells belongs to Visalia lodge No. 128, F. & A. M., as does also his son, William R.; and he is also a member of Visalia chapter, R. A. M., and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Mrs. Wells is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Since 1909 Mr. and Mrs. Wells have resided in Visalia, having built a pretty little bungalow suited to their needs at No. 423 South Garden street.

ANDREW JACKSON DAVIS

To the pioneer belongs all honor, and he is invariably given due respect in his own country, for when he has passed away he is remembered as one who gave his life as a part of the foundation on which rests the splendid social structure of a later day. Andrew Jackson Davis was a pioneer whose life spanned the period from November 3, 1833, to May 1, 1901, when he passed away. He was a native of Tennessee and in 1854 left his old home and came overland to California, arriving at San Francisco in the spring of the following year. For three years he was a miner at Hangtown and at other mines on the Frasier river. In 1858 he came to Tulare county and took up government land, near Farmersville, which he improved until he had one of the good farms in that vicinity. He married Sarah Ann Davis, a native of Illinois and of a family of Davises which bore no known relationship to his, and they had children as follows: Alfred A., Fitzhugh, Eva, Irene, Elizabeth A., Clement B., and Andrew P. Fitzhugh died in early manhood, Eva when she was seven years old, Irene when she was five years old and their mother in August, 1880. Elizabeth A. is the wife of B. W. Jennings, a ranchman near Farmersville. Clement B. died when thirty-three years old, leaving two children and a widow, residing in Los Angeles.

The youngest of his father's family, Andrew P. Davis was born at Farmersville, Tulare county, Cal., May 27, 1877. After leaving school he helped his father on the latter's ranch of one hundred and sixty acres until his father's death, then received thirty acres as his share of the property. He began to farm on his own account in 1898 and planted a fine orchard which adorns his place. Having made a careful study of fruit culture, he has been enabled to obtain the very best results from his trees and in a general way his entire venture has been very successful. In 1907 he took two hundred and thirty tons of prunes from one thousand trees, an average of eight boxes to the tree, and in 1911 the same trees yielded him two hundred and twenty tons. From two hundred and seventy-five Phillips cling-stone peach trees he gathered sixteen tons of fruit in 1910 and fifteen tons in 1911.

In 1897 Mr. Davis married Elizabeth Titrich, a native of Kansas, and they have children named Melbourne and Irvin P. Fraternally Mr. Davis affiliates with the Woodmen of the World.

JOHN WHITTAKER BAIRSTOW

Numbered conspicuously among the successful fruitgrowers of Hanford and vicinity is John Whittaker Bairstow, who was born in England, May 23, 1859. He was reared in England and there educated and taught the secrets of the nurseryman, and it was as a nurseryman that he was employed in his native land till he was thirty years old. Leaving his wife and three children behind him in England he came to California about the first of July, 1889, crossing the continent by rail from New York city. He sought work in vain at different nurseries in Oakland and Alameda and was finally compelled to take employment in the planing mill of George C. Pape at East Oakland, where he worked about eighteen months. Meanwhile he made the acquaintance of J. C. Kimball, the well-known prune grower of Kings county, and went with him to Hanford in 1891, remaining in his employ till the fall of that year. During this time he was engaged in setting out a prune orchard for Mr. Kimball and the latter's brother and some of their relatives, handling all the trees and distributing them to different ranches until five hundred and four acres had been put under that fruit. For six months he helped to bud nursery stock in the Lucerne vineyard.

Mr. Bairstow later brought his family over from England and set up his home near Hanford, renting twenty acres of vineyard of N. M. Newell. After the first season, he pulled up the vines and for six years he farmed the land, working out whenever he could spare time from the place. His next venture was as a nursery-

man, raising his own stock. In 1896 he bought twenty acres of the J. C. Courtner ranch, and ten years later an adjoining twenty, of the Lucerne vineyard. He set seven acres of vineyard on the original twenty, an acre of apricots and a small family orchard, but at this time he uses all the land for nursery stock. In 1902 he established a nursery yard at Hanford, where he carries Early May, Elberta, Lovell, Muir, Admiral Dewey, Wheatland and late and early Crawford free-stone peaches and Heath, Sullivan, Orange, Phillips and Lemon cling-stone peaches; Early Royal, Routier Peach, Tilton and St. Ambrose apricots; Ben Davis, White Winter Pearmain, Red June and Red Astrakhan apples; Bartlett and Winter Nellis pears; French, Robe de Sargent and Tradegey prunes; Prunes Simona and English Dawson plums; Muscat and Thompson seedless grapes; nectarines, and sycamore, maple, California walnut, poplar, Texas umbrella and other shade and ornamental trees. He was the first nurseryman to put on sale the Tilton apricot, exhibiting it at the State Fruit Growers' convention in Sacramento in 1902 and taking a first grade diploma for choicest dried fruit in competition with all the fruit produced in the state. This apricot originated here in Kings county with J. E. Tilton, and Mr. Bairstow handles it in his trade.

In March, 1877, Mr. Bairstow married Miss Louisa Williams, a native and then a resident of England, and she has borne him five children, of whom two, Lott and Samuel, survive; Rosson, their eldest, died at Hanford; Ethelbert died in infancy in England, and another, born in California, died in infancy. Mr. Bairstow is an American in everything except actual birth that the name can imply. His interest in the community with which he has cast his lot is such as to make him a citizen of much public spirit, and no call for aid toward the betterment of the condition of any considerable number of his fellow citizens fails to receive his prompt and generous response.

EDMUND J. FUDGE

Among the most prominent citizens of Visalia was the late Edmund J. Fudge, who made his home at No. 423 South Garden street. He served for eight years as deputy sheriff of Tulare county, Cal., and was four times elected marshal of the city mentioned. Mr. Fudge was born in Madison county, Tenn., in 1832, a son of John B. Fudge, and was taken in infancy to Arkansas, where his family lived until 1856. Then they crossed the plains to California with ox-teams, driving cattle and otherwise making the journey in primitive ways

of pioneers. In 1859 they came to the vicinity of Visalia, where the father prospered as a stockraiser until he passed away.

After acquiring such education as was afforded him, Edmund J. Fudge took up the activities of life in the teaming business in Tulare county, and in 1861, when he was thirty years old, he went to Arizona and New Mexico, where he teamed and prospected for ore, and about this time he mined in Nevada and for a year in Stanislaus county, Cal. In Arizona he narrowly escaped being killed by Indians; he and four companions were chased by a band of redskins, and three of his companions were killed. Mr. Fudge's horse was shot under him, and he sprang to a seat beside his remaining companion, whose horse made good in a race with their pursuers. For many years after his return to Tulare county Mr. Fudge was engaged in stockraising with M. J. Wells, his brother-in-law, who has an enviable place in the history of Tulare county as one of its most efficient sheriffs. Under Sheriff Wells Mr. Fudge was appointed deputy sheriff, in which office he served eight years, giving the greatest satisfaction in that capacity. Elected four times city marshal of Visalia, he filled the office with singular fitness and fidelity.

Mr. Fudge owned a quarter-section of ranch land near Visalia and a quarter-section of timber land in the mountains, but was for some time before his death practically retired from active business. Fraternally he was affiliated with Knights Templar Masons and with the Knights of Pythias. As a citizen he was always public-spiritedly helpful to all good interests of the community. Mr. Fudge died at Visalia November 14, 1911. He left an estate valued at about \$16,000.

HARRY JEROME RAISCH

The ability to see a good opportunity and the promptness and energy which enables a man to take time by the forelock are as requisite to the farmer who would succeed as to men in any other business or profession, and perhaps in his work these factors are brought into demand oftener than in the work of his neighbors in other walks of life. One who has demonstrated this fact by the sagacious buying of good land, and by improving and cultivating it with due regard for all influencing conditions, is H. J. Raisch, who lives five miles north of Hanford, in Kings county, Cal.

It was in the honored old state of Kentucky that Mr. Raisch was born on February 7, 1861. However, he lived there but a comparatively short time, for he was early taken by his family to Kansas, where he was reared to manhood, educated in the public schools

and initiated into the details of practical farming. In 1883, when he was about twenty-two years old, he came to Hanford, where he prospered for some years at teaming and as a farmer on rented land. In 1907 he bought twenty-two acres five miles north of the city, ten acres of which was a fine peach orchard. He has since acquired an adjoining tract of the same area and is preparing to go quite extensively into fruit culture. Besides this property he owns one hundred and sixty acres of grazing land on the west side which he rents out. In 1912 he inherited twenty-two acres of his father's estate, which is located opposite his home place and is all in vines. He has improved his homestead with buildings and fences and outfitted it with everything in the way of machinery and appliances that is essential to the successful prosecution of his enterprise.

In 1885 Mr. Raisch united his fortunes by marriage with those of Miss Cinderella Barlow, who by her sympathy and advice has aided him materially in the winning of his most substantial success. Genial of disposition and social in all his instincts, he has from time to time identified himself with fraternal orders, notably with the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World. As a citizen he has shown his devotion to the general good by giving all due encouragement to such measures as have been promoted for the development of his town, county and state.

JOHN CULBERSON RICE

A pioneer of Central California who has been identified with its development for over half a century is John Culberston Rice. He was born in Benton county, Ark., April 27, 1849, son of Isaac and Martha E. (Gardner) Rice, natives of Tennessee. In 1857, Isaac Rice, with his wife and children, crossed the plains with ox-teams to California, their journey consuming six months. They passed the winter of 1857-58 in Napa county and in the following spring went to Clear Lake, Lake county, where the elder Rice went into the raising of cattle, horses and hogs. In 1862 he went back to Wooden valley, where he had passed his first winter in California, and bought one hundred and sixty acres, on which he raised stock until in 1867, and then moved to Vacaville, Solano county, in order to obtain better educational facilities for his children. Buying town property there, he also rented land outside which he farmed with success till 1872, when he came to Tulare county and took up a quarter-section north of Visalia. Later he farmed near Dinuba, where he passed away in 1888, his wife surviving him till in 1907. As a Mason and as a citizen, Mr. Rice stood high in the public regard. Following are

the names of his children: John C.; Laura, wife of E. Edwards, of Globe, Ariz.; Mrs. Melissa Smith, of Dinuba; Ella, wife of John Bacon, a rancher north of Visalia; Maimie Burke; Jessie B., who married James Ryce of Selma; Thomas; Hattie, wife of William Hunter; Charles and Frank.

Through the first winter after the departure of his father from Vacaville, John Culberson Rice remained there. He spent the next two years in Nevada and came to Hanford on Christmas Day, 1876, and farmed for a time south of the city. His present ranch, one mile from the city line, contains seventy-six acres set to fruit and vines, including twenty acres of Muscat grapes, eight of Thompson seedless, three of prunes, twenty of peaches and three of apricots. The remainder of the place is devoted to alfalfa and pasture.

In 1877, Mr. Rice married Miss Carrie Barton, a native of Burlington, Iowa, and they have children, George, at Reedley; J. Clarence, coroner of Kings county, a biographical sketch of whom appears in these pages; Mrs. Leila (Rice) Shields, and Lulu, a student at Mills College. Mr. Rice is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Woodmen of the World.

J. CLARENCE RICE

The coroner of Kings county, Cal., J. Clarence Rice of Hanford, prominent as a funeral director, was born near that city December 5, 1880, son of John Culberson Rice, and was educated in the public schools of Hanford and at Heald's Business College in San Francisco. For a time after his return from the institution just mentioned he was in commercial employment, but eventually he went into the undertaking business with E. J. Kelly as a partner. Later Mr. Kelly retired from the enterprise and in September, 1902, W. M. Thomas became a member of the firm. In 1908 Mr. Rice bought the interest of Mr. Thomas, and since then has been sole proprietor. He served as deputy county coroner under Coroner Thomas and under Coroner Denton, and so efficient was he in the office that in 1910 he was elected to the office of coroner.

Real estate has commanded Mr. Rice's attention for some years and he has bought and sold quite extensively. At this time he is the owner of fifty acres of apricot and peach orchard, a mile and a half south of Armona. He served as the first president of the Kings County Chamber of Commerce, which was organized in November, 1908, to succeed the Kings County Promotion association. In other ways he has amply proven his public spirit, and he is regarded as a patriotic and helpful citizen who has close to his heart the best interests of his community. Fraternally, he affiliates with

the Masons, being a Shriner and a member of subordinate orders, with the Knights of Pythias and with the Woodmen of the World. In September, 1902, he married Miss Eva M. Sutherland, a native of California, whose father was a pioneer in Tulare, and they have a son, Leland Rice.

WILLIAM H. DAVENPORT

For more than a quarter of a century there has been identified with Tulare county William H. Davenport, the present general manager of the Wutchumna Water company, who was born in Missouri in 1842 and was among the early pioneers of the state of California. The son of Stephen and Elena (Holloway) Davenport, both natives of Kentucky, he shared their early experiences, which were filled with adventure incident to the coming to the west. In 1846 his father went to New Mexico, but returned in the winter of 1847-48 and in the following spring he treked back to Santa Fe, N. M., taking with him his wife, but leaving William H. and his elder brother, John, with their grandparents. In the fall of 1849 Stephen Davenport followed the onrush to California for gold, arriving at the town of Mariposa on March 17, 1850.

In 1853 William H. Davenport and his brother John crossed the plains to California with the late William R. Owen, a California pioneer of 1849, who brought with him about five hundred head of cattle, and they arrived at Mariposa in September, 1853, joining their parents there. Until the fall of 1857 the family remained there and then moved to Tulare county, settling just north of Visalia near the present site of that city, and here the parents passed away.

In 1863 William H. Davenport went from Tulare county to Nevada, where he was employed in lumbering operations until in 1870, when he made his way back to Tulare county. After ranching in a small way until 1875 he expanded his operations in the Mussel slough district, where he met with varying success until 1882. Then he came to Visalia and connected himself with the Wutchumna Water company, for which he has been general manager ever since. This irrigation ditch company was founded in 1871 by Stephen Barton, Samuel Jennings and Joseph Spear. Its ditch was enlarged in 1879 and its system now comprises twenty miles of irrigation ditches, supplied by the water of the Kaweah river. The system, which follows the contour of the land, has its terminal on section twenty, township eighteen, range twenty-five, and includes the largest artificial reservoir in the county, which has an area when full of one hundred and sixty-five acres, when empty of sixty acres, its sides extending ten feet above low-water mark. Many of the orchards,

as well as other farming lands, situated to the north and east of Visalia, are irrigated by this canal.

In 1870 Mr. Davenport married Miss Ann Early, a native of Texas, and a daughter of a hero of San Jacinto, who fought under Gen. Sam Houston in that memorable battle of 1836 by which was won the independence of Texas. Her father crossed the plains to California in 1849 and returned to Texas, bringing his family to the coast in 1852 and locating in Mariposa county. In 1868 he moved to Glennville, Kern county, where he lived until 1884, when he passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Davenport have a son, Frank Davenport, who married Mrs. Helen Huff and is a conductor on the Sierra railroad in Tuolumne county. Mr. Davenport is a man of much public spirit, devoted heart and soul to the interests of his community, who never neglects an opportunity to aid to the extent of his ability any movement for the general good.

ETHELBERT S. WEDDLE

The family of which Ethelbert S. Weddle was a member removed to Tennessee in 1854 and lived there until 1865, then settled in Indiana, where it made its home until 1874, when it came to California. Mr. Weddle was born in Virginia, April 1, 1849.

Soon after he came to Tulare county, Mr. Weddle went into the sheep business, which profitably occupied his attention four years. At that time the land was all raw and sheep could roam throughout all the territory between the river and the mountains. When he sold his sheep he engaged in contracting and building. Later he took up grain farming and fruit raising and now he has eighty acres in fruit, fifty-five in vines, two in oranges and forty in alfalfa. In 1911 he sold a ton of Muscats to the acre. His seedless grapes yield a ton and a half to the acre. He is a thoroughly up-to-date farmer, filled with new ideas, and he employs modern methods in every detail of his work. As a citizen he is public-spirited and devoted to the general interests. Fraternally, he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and politically he is a Republican.

In Indiana Ethelbert S. Weddle married Theresa Wilson, a native of that state, who bore him children named Charles and Walter E., who are now physicians in the active practice of their profession, one in Fresno, Cal., the other in Reedley, Cal. Dr. Charles Weddle, of Fresno, married Maymie Jacobs and has daughters named Barbara and Beatrice. Dr. Walter E. Weddle, of Reedley, married Margaret Parker, and has children named Robert and Dorothy.

Mrs. Theresa Weddle, who died November 30, 1908, was the daughter of Olli S. and Elizabeth (Hamilton) Wilson, and a lineal

descendant of Alexander Hamilton. The Wilsons figured in the period preceding the Revolutionary war, and trace their ancestry to John Wilson, who participated in that conflict.

J. ALBERT RAGLE

Farming has been the chief occupation of J. Albert Ragle. A son of California, he was born in Sonoma county in 1861 and has lived in Tulare county since he was four or five years old. Here he was reared and educated and taught practical farming in a most practical way. His first memorable experiences were in the cattle business in the period after 1870. It was in 1871 that he began to take an active part in the work of the ranch, his father owning at that time six hundred and forty acres and being a leader among the ranchers of his part of the county.

In 1884 Mr. Ragle located on his present home farm, then new land with negligible improvements, and since that time he has devoted himself to its development, making it one of the best orange and general fruit ranches in the vicinity. In 1889 occurred the marriage of Mr. Ragle to Miss Jennie M. Lynn, a native of Arkansas, whose parents are living in Fresno county, where her father, William F. Lynn, is well known. Mrs. Ragle has borne her husband three children. Adah was educated at Tulare, and on December 26, 1912, was married to W. A. Stone, of Fresno; Etta is in the high school at Exeter, and Orval is attending school near home. William C. Ragle, Mr. Ragle's father, came to California in 1853, one of a party who made the trip with an ox-team train, consuming more months than it would now consume days to accomplish the same journey. He began his active life practically without means and achieved a success which made him one of the well-to-do men of his community. He passed away in 1895.

The public spirit of J. Albert Ragle has been demonstrated in so many ways that he has come to be known as a useful citizen of the progressive type. For fifteen years he has been a member of the school board, and in a fraternal way he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, and with the order of Artisans.

J. M. SAGE

That popular and successful dairyman of Wankena, Tulare county, Cal., whose name is well known throughout the county, was born in Jackson county, Mo., August 13, 1858, and has lived in Tulare county since 1890.

J. M. Sage grew up in the states of Iowa, Missouri and Kansas, where he was a student in the public schools until he was sixteen years of age. At seventeen he began work with a gang on a construction train in Carroll county, Mo., and continued at this work until he was twenty, then procuring employment in the roundhouse as fireman, determining to become a locomotive engineer. Later he accepted a position as fireman and stationary engineer. In 1881 he engaged with the Santa Fe at Las Vegas, N. M., soon thereafter going to Los Angeles, where he went to work for the Southern Pacific and later became engineer on a run from Bakersfield to Fresno by way of Porterville. He saved his earnings and used the \$2500 saved as an investment in farming operations in San Joaquin and Tulare counties, having eight hundred acres planted to wheat, but met with almost complete financial failure in this venture owing to the drouth. His holdings now comprise forty acres, which he has developed into a fine dairy property, it being in Kings county, and he feeds and accommodates thirty-seven milch cows. In this venture he has proved most successful.

In 1886 Mr. Sage became the husband of Miss Louisa Minges, born at Stockton, Cal., in 1859, a most worthy woman who was to him an admirable helpmate until her death, which occurred in August, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Sage had children: Bernice, Hazel, Philomena and Wesley, who survived her. Mr. Sage married (second) Mrs. Josephine Simpson of Salt Lake city.

As a dairyman Mr. Sage has won high reputation, and his business, already large, is rapidly increasing. The quality and purity of his products commend them to all discriminating buyers. His dairy is up-to-date in every respect and all his methods and appliances are such as meet the approval of the most critical judges. As a citizen he is public-spirited and helpful.

ANDREW SCLARONE

A pioneer farmer of Tulare county as well as a pioneer business man of Hanford, Andrew Sciarone was born in the Canton of Ticino, Switzerland, July 13, 1834. There he received his education and remained until he was twenty-one years old, when he went to Australia and was variously engaged until 1870, then returning to his native country. He arrived in the United States in January, 1872, and came direct to San Francisco. He traveled to Gilroy, Hollister and Fresno, and engaged in farming, and became the owner of land by pre-emption and later on homesteaded a tract of eighty acres, owning two hundred and forty acres in Tulare county, near the

boundary of Fresno county. In 1879 he came to Hanford, when it was a struggling village, and ever since then has made it his home, where for the past fifteen years he has lived retired from all business pursuits. He invested in business property in Hanford and has been interested in the growth and development of the city from its start. Agriculture has interested him ever since he arrived in this country.

In 1854, Mr. Sciarone married in Switzerland and became the father of one daughter, Josephine, who married J. Martinetti. Mr. Sciarone has two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. His wife passed away in 1897. Of his descendants one grandson, Albino Martinetti, is attending the University of California at Berkeley. In every way Mr. Sciarone has demonstrated his public spirit and has lived to see a wonderful change in the Golden State. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Hanford.

JOHN SIGLER

It was in the Old Dominion, the Mother of States, and the mother also of men who have won fortune in every state in the Union, that John Sigler was born, February 3, 1852. Such schooling as was available to him in his boyhood he obtained near his father's home, and at seventeen he moved to Maryland, where he lived four or five years before he came to California. He located in Yolo county in 1873 and in 1875 came to Tulare county and bought three hundred and twenty acres of land six miles southwest of the site of Hanford, his present home. He helped to secure the Lakeside ditch and with its aid developed his farm and grew grain for twenty years until he gave up grain in favor of cattle and sheep, which were his principal products till he turned his attention to general farming, though he raised a good many hogs. He has recently bought one hundred and sixty acres, distant from his homestead about half a mile, which he will put into alfalfa. His interests in irrigation ditches has not been confined to the one just mentioned, for he is a stockholder in both the Lakeside ditch and the New Deal ditch.

In 1875, when Mr. Sigler first came to Tulare county to buy land, which was selling very cheaply at that time, he arrived in Visalia and from there he came across the country to Lemoore. Some few ditches had been started, but none completed. From the appearance of the soil he concluded that the land would wear out with a couple of crops after irrigation began, and cease to yield paying returns. However he determined to purchase property and the returns he has reaped since that date show that his prediction was

not fulfilled. By farming to wheat many years the soil did show the ill effects, but with fruit and rotation of crops wonderful returns are possible.

In all things Mr. Sigler is conservative. He is especially so in his political views, and while he glories in the progressive principles of American democracy he has no desire to be classed with traveling Republicans. His interest in public education impelled him to accept the trusteeship of the Rustic school district, which he is discharging with characteristic efficiency and fidelity.

In 1887 Mr. Sigler married Miss Lodema N. Dewey and she has borne him three daughters, Leah and Catherine, who are members of their parents' household, and Arlie, who is the wife of Marvin Roberts.

OSBORNE L. WILSON

That venerable and honorable citizen of Kings county, Cal., O. L. Wilson, who is living in retirement at No. 602 East Ninth street, Hanford, was born in Washington county, Ind., August 29, 1825, and has lived in California since August 8, 1849. He grew to manhood on a farm on Blue river, went to school at Salem and was managing a farm there for his father at the time of the outbreak of the Mexican war. Enlisting in Company D, Second Indiana Volunteers, he was sent to Mexico in 1846 and served until the expiration of his term of enlistment. He returned to his home in Indiana, but again enlisted in Company B, Fifth Indiana Volunteers, under Captain Green, and was sent again to Mexico in 1847 and served gallantly until the end of the war, when he was honorably discharged. He took part in many important engagements, including those at Buena Vista and Del Rey under such commanders as Generals Taylor, Woolfe and Scott, the latter having been commander-in-chief. He has kept a copy of the Salem News, published at Salem, Ind., April 7, 1847, an extra edition devoted largely to the events of the Mexican war and containing bulletins of the very latest news from the camp of General Taylor. After the war he went to Scotland county, Mo., where he remained through the winter of 1848-49. On April 15, 1849, he started with an ox-team wagon train to California and arrived within the borders of this state August 8 following. For two years he mined at Ringgold and Weavertown, on the American river, at Yuba, at Rough and Ready, at Nevada City and in Nevada, meeting with fair success. His associations were not to his taste and in 1851 he bought land at Gilroy, Cal., part of the Los Alamos grant, and devoted himself to cattle raising with farming as a subsidiary business. There he remained until he sold his land to

Thomas Rey and drove his cattle and sheep over into that part of Tulare county which is now Kings county and squatted on part of the Laguna De Tache grant. Later he secured one thousand acres of land on his Mexican war land warrant, lying on the Kings river in sections 1, 12 and 13. After that he bought land from time to time until he owned six thousand acres in that vicinity and in Fresno county and for about thirty years he was engaged in sheep raising. Eventually he divided most of his land among his children and in 1900 retired from active life.

On December 3, 1854, Mr. Wilson married Miss Rose Wilburn at Gilroy, and they had thirteen children, six of whom are now living. Mr. Wilson has nineteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Those children who survive are: John A.; William C.; Julia, widow of John Alcorn; Mrs. Rose Henry; Mrs. Fannie Hughes, and Calhoun Wilson. During all his long and honorable career Mr. Wilson has consistently demonstrated his public spirit and has been in the van of all worthy movements for the public uplift. He has bought eight cemetery lots, on which he has erected a replica of the Washington monument, which when he has passed away will be his lasting memorial.

THOMAS CLINTON NEWMAN

A member of an old pioneer family of California and a native of Tulare county, Thomas Clinton Newman, who lives nine miles north of Exeter, on rural free delivery route No. 1, was born December 5, 1882, a son of Thomas W. Newman, who was born while his parents were en route across the plains, in 1856, from their old home in Ohio. William Newman, grandfather of Thomas Clinton, had come out to California in 1848 and gone back in 1849. He finally returned accompanied by his sons, R. S., C. O. and Thomas W. Newman, and the latter's wife, and the family settled on the Sacramento river, but were driven out by floods, and after living at different places in the state Thomas W. Newman at length located in Tulare county and in 1872 settled on the present homestead of his son.

Had William Newman arrived at his first location in California one day earlier than he did he would have been the pioneer of pioneers there. While crossing the plains half of his party had been killed in the Mountain Meadow massacre. Thomas C. Newman has several relics of the overland trip, among them part of the chain used by his grandfather on the cattle he drove and an old shotgun that his grandfather used while standing guard over the train.

After locating in Tulare county Thomas W. Newman set about

clearing land and putting it under cultivation and soon developed a farm that compared favorably with any in his neighborhood and which he operated successfully until 1909, when he passed away, his wife having died when their son was about five years old.

December 20, 1905, T. C. Newman married Miss Eva May Sterrett, a native of California, and their two children are Iola, now six years old, and Bernice, who is four years old. In the house which is now his home there passed away his grandfather, his grandmother, his father and his uncle, R. S. Newman. The place now consists of eighty acres, and is devoted to the cultivation of alfalfa and potatoes and to the purposes of a dairy of about ten or twelve cows.

It was in the St. John's district school that Mr. Newman was educated, and to him belongs the honor of having been the first graduate of its grammar school. While not active in political affairs, he is helpfully public spirited. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masons.

FRED STORZBACK

Germany has given to the United States a class of citizens industrious, honest, thrifty and law abiding, who have done much to build up the interests of the communities with which individually they have cast their lots. One of the most progressive citizens of Corcoran, Kings county, Cal., is Fred Storzback, a native of Wurtemberg. Young Storzback attended public schools near the parental home until he was fourteen years old, when he immigrated to England and engaged in the butcher business. From there at the age of twenty he came to the United States in 1885, settling in Philadelphia, where he acquired a practical knowledge of the baker's trade. After working as a baker in different parts of the United States he came to California in December, 1905, and January 15, 1906, he settled at Corcoran, where he operated a combined bakery and restaurant for two years, then transformed his establishment into a combined bakery and ice cream parlor. His business, which from every point of view is successful, is one of the most popular in Corcoran, and the purity of his goods and his courtesy to all patrons commend him strongly to the general public.

In 1895 Mr. Storzback married Elizabeth Schiep, who was born August 17, 1876, in the state of Louisiana, and they have children as follows: Pauline, Augusta and Bertha, who are mentioned here in the order of their nativity. Mr. Storzback is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a Woodman of the World, loyally devoted to the interests of these orders and ready at all times to meet any demand upon him in behalf of their beneficent work. As

a citizen he takes a vital interest in everything that pertains to the growth and development of the town and to the economic problems of its people. So flattering has been his success thus far that to his observant neighbors his future is full of brilliant promise. In 1913 Mr. Storzback built a fine two-story brick building, 50x112, which is equipped with the finest and most up-to-date machinery and appliances for the bakery business and is a fitting testimonial to his laudable enterprise.

JOHN BURRELL

The most extensive breeder of jacks in the territory round Hanford, and in fact in the state, is John Burrell, who is operating seven and one-half miles southwest of that city. It was in Tulare (now Kings) county that Mr. Burrell was born January 5, 1880, a son of Monroe Burrell, who lived near Armona. The elder Burrell, who had grown to manhood in California, had come to this vicinity in 1876. He is now running a fruit ranch near Grangeville.

It was in the neighborhood of Grangeville that John Burrell was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools. When he made his start in life for himself it was in the oil fields at Coalinga, where he worked two years. Then, returning to Kings county, he rented the Haas ranch, near Grangeville five years, operating it successfully as a stock and alfalfa farm. Then he rented three hundred and twenty acres seven and one-half miles southwest of Hanford, twenty acres of which is in vineyard. He devotes himself chiefly to the raising of mules and hogs, his yearly average being forty mules and eight hundred Duroc hogs. Some time ago he bought seven valuable imported jacks for breeding purposes, which he has sold besides a number of others that he has raised, in all about twenty head have been disposed of during the past three years. He has another importation of jacks from Kentucky and Missouri to arrive about January, 1913. Besides these he owns twenty head of Mammoth jennets which he uses for raising jacks. Thoroughly up-to-date in all his methods, having intimate knowledge of the work in hand and using only the latest improved aids, he is successful in his special line beyond many of his neighbors and competitors. His knowledge of the market is such that he is usually able to sell to the very best advantage. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, devoted to all the interests of that beneficent fraternity. As a citizen he is notably public spirited and helpful.

THOMAS JEFFERSON CLARKSON

In Scott county, Ill., Thomas Jefferson Clarkson, who lives in Exeter, Tulare county, Cal., was born in 1860, and he was nine years old when his parents brought him to California. The family lived in Yolo county until 1871, then came to Tulare county. He attended the public schools more or less until he was twelve years old, and from his twelfth to his twenty-eighth year he rode after cattle on the plains. Then he turned his attention to blacksmithing, which has employed his energies ever since. For a time he worked from place to place, but during the last nine years he has operated a general blacksmithing and agricultural repair shop at Exeter.

As a Democrat Mr. Clarkson has long been prominent in the affairs of his town and county, and was appointed a member of the health board of the city of Exeter, in which office he is serving with ability, integrity and discretion at the present time. Fraturnally he affiliates with the organizations of the Woodmen of the World and Knights of Pythias of Exeter. He is devoted heart and soul to the general interests of the county. Coming here when the land was wild and there were about as many Indian inhabitants as white ones, he has witnessed and participated in its development to one of the rich sections of one of the great states of the Union.

The woman who became the wife of Mr. Clarkson was before her marriage Mrs. Mary Angeline Anstin. She was born in Kansas of a family who were among the pioneers there. Four children have blessed their union: Annie, May, Presley and Hazel. Annie is Mrs. V. W. Lucas of Exeter. May married Charles Maddox of Exeter. Presley is in the high school.

CHARLES GREEN McFARLAND

An innovator among farmers and dairymen in Tulare county, Cal., Charles Green McFarland, who lives two miles west of Tulare, is undoubtedly deserving of special mention. He is a native of Green county, Mo., born February 27, 1872, who came to California in 1887. During the five years after his arrival he was employed by his father, and in 1892 bought the Exeter stable at Tulare, where he conducted a livery business for about a year and a half. Subsequently he grew grain eight years, and in 1901 bought forty acres of land and rented three hundred acres, on all of which he set up as a stockman and dairyman and he operated with success five years. His location during that period was four miles south of Tulare. He now bought thirty-two acres two miles west of the

Tulare post office and rented an adjoining thirty-two acres. He has on his own place twenty acres of alfalfa and twenty-five acres on his leased land, and milks thirty cows, disposing of their products over a milk route which he has established in Tulare. He has the only herd of registered Jersey cows in the vicinity, thirty-five head altogether, the largest milk producers thereabouts, the average test of their milk yielding 4.8 in butter fat. He has raised no cattle except thoroughbreds and it is only after years of selection and of careful attention to details that he has been able to produce a herd so excellent. In 1910 he built a silo on his place, in which respect he was a pioneer in his part of the county, and in 1912 he installed an electric pumping plant which furnishes ample water for all purposes.

On February 27, 1896, Mr. McFarland married Matilda Monroe, who has borne him a daughter and two sons, Lois, Merrill and Loren, who are aged respectively fourteen, ten and eight years. The family are communicants of the Methodist Episcopal church of Tulare, and Mr. McFarland is a member of the order of Fraternal Aid of that city. He is a stockholder in the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery Company of Tulare, and also a stockholder in the Tulare Power Company.

ELMER A. BATCHELDER

It was in Plainfield, Vt., that Elmer A. Batchelder, a prominent fruit grower, living two and one-half miles east of Lindsay, Tulare county, Cal., was born in the year 1866. He was brought up and educated in his native place, and when he was seventeen years old came to California and was for a year and a half a resident in Nevada county. Then for a year he was in the Sacramento valley, whence he went into Humboldt county, where he passed the succeeding twelve months. During this time he had been employed at ranch work and had acquired an intimate knowledge of California farming in the best of all schools—the school of experience.

In 1887 Mr. Batchelder came to Tulare county and for a time worked rented land. In 1892 he homesteaded a quarter section in the district known as Round valley and made improvements on it and devoted it to wheat growing till 1906, when he set out twenty acres of orange trees and fifteen acres of vines, including five acres of Valencia oranges. His orchard is so well advanced that the crop for 1912 from the twenty acres promises to reach the 1,000-box mark. By later purchase he has added to his land holdings until he now has one hundred and forty acres.

The parents of Mr. Batchelder, natives of Vermont, both have passed away. In 1893 he married Catharine Crook, a native daughter of California, and she has borne him two children: Harold, now eighteen years old, and Eunice E., now in her fourteenth year. They are attending school at Lindsay. Mrs. Batchelder's parents were early settlers in Tulare county. Mr. Batchelder has never aspired to public office, but because he was known to be a good-roads man of advanced ideas he was three years ago given the oversight of the roads in his district, and so well has he discharged his trust that he is likely to be kept at the same task year after year. Public spirited in a generous degree, he is ever ready to respond to demands upon him for the good of the community. Fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

ALBERT A. HALL

There are probably few men known more widely or more affectionately in Tulare county than Albert A. ("Dad") Hall, of Tulare. A native of Watertown, N. Y., he was born July 6, 1846. While he was yet quite young, his family moved to Baraboo, Wis., where he was brought up and educated so far as he could be before he went away to the war between the North and the South. That was in 1863, when he was but seventeen. He enlisted in Company F, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, which regiment was under command of Colonel Barstow, and saw arduous service, principally in guerilla warfare in Missouri and Arkansas, till he was mustered out at Leavenworth, Kans., June 27, 1865. Returning to Wisconsin, he was interested in hop raising there two years, then went to Nebraska and took up some government land. The grasshoppers were so numerous, however, that after five years filled with attempts to save from them enough for his absolute personal needs, to say nothing of improving a farm, he gladly turned his face toward California. He arrived in February, 1877, and bought a hundred and sixty acres of land near Forestville, Sonoma county, which he cleared of trees and planted to a vineyard which yielded him grapes for seven years. In 1888 he came to Tulare county and, settling on forty acres north of Tulare city, engaged in the dairy business and sold milk in Tulare fifteen years. Two years during that period he fed cattle in the mountains. In 1904 he established at Tulare City an express and transfer business, which, under the half joecular title of Dad's Transfer Company, has come to be one of the popular institutions of the town. In this well established enterprise his son, Rozelle E. Hall, is his partner.

Naturally, Mr. Hall is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Thus he keeps alive memories of the days of the Civil war in which he was a faithful, if a very young, soldier. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a member also of Tulare Lodge No. 269, Free and Accepted Masons. With Forestville Lodge No. 320, Independent Order of Odd Fellows he affiliates also. He married Miss Adilla Plummer, a native of Wisconsin, in 1867, and they have children, Rozelle E., Carrie (wife of J. E. Robidoux, Eda (Mrs. F. A. Thomas, of Tulare), Beryl and Edna.

JOHN R. REED

A native of England, John R. Reed, of Orosi, Tulare county, Cal., was born in Leicestershire, November 14, 1840, was brought to the United States when six months old, stopping at New York City and Philadelphia, and about 1848 arrived in what is now Evanston, Ill. He was the oldest of the six children of his parents and eventually became one of the bread winners of the family. In 1851, when the boy was about eleven years old, his father, responsive to the lure of gold, left for California, and made the journey by way of the Isthmus of Panama. After his arrival his family heard from him several times, then came rumors of Indian outbreaks in California, they heard from him no more and his fate has been a mystery which none of his children have been able to unravel.

In the course of events the family settled in Illinois, whence the mother took her children to Geauga county, Ohio, settling not far from Cleveland. During their residence there ex-President Garfield boarded with Mrs. Reed for a time while attending school. The support of the family devolved upon her and John R. The latter early found work at \$3 a month and his board. He kept busy, his fortunes improving until in 1861 he was receiving \$13 and his board. Then he enlisted April 24, 1861, in Company F, Nineteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served for a time in West Virginia. Returning home he veteraned by enlisting in Company C, First Ohio Light Artillery with which he served until in 1863. He had now earned \$400 in bounty and he married and gave his mother \$300, his newly wedded wife \$75, then re-enlisted in his old company to serve during the period of the war. He was duly discharged and mustered out at Cleveland in June, 1865. He participated in many notable engagements, including Rich Mountain and Chickamauga, and was under Sherman on the march from Atlanta to the sea. His last engagement was at Bentonville, N. C., where his brother was killed. At the close of his service he returned home. His first wife, who was Miss Adelaide Gillmore, bore him two

children. George V., cashier of the First National Bank of Lindsay, married Jennie Mitchell and they have two children, Jay and Earl. Daniel L. married Lelah Bander and they have two children, Rosecoe and Lola, and are living near Reedley. Mr. Reed's second wife, Mary Ann Post, whom he married in Ohio and who was a native of that state, bore him four children: Bernice (deceased), Eliza Mabel, Rayson J. and Sarah A. Rayson J. married Edith Bacon and they have a son, John Allen Bacon Reed and live at Lindsay. All of Mr. Reed's children were born in Ohio and all have been given a good education as is afforded in common schools. The family removed to California in 1886 and located in Fresno county, where Mr. Reed engaged in wheat farming. Later he took charge of four sections, increasing his acreage to fifteen thousand acres, and broadened operations by raising wheat and barley. He was thus engaged for sixteen years in the vicinity of Reedley. He came to Orosi in 1902, bought seventy acres, partly improved with vines. At this time he has eighteen acres in vines, ten in peaches, forty in alfalfa, and also engages in dairying and the stock business.

The educational advantages of Mr. Reed were limited, but by reading and otherwise he has become a well informed man. In his political affiliation he is a Democrat and his influence in local affairs has been considerable. He was the organizer and the first master of the Masonic Lodge at Orosi and is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

ROBERT A. PUTNAM

John and Polly Ann (Shields) Putnam, natives respectively of Illinois and of Indiana, were visiting at Mount Sterling, Ind., when their son Robert A. Putnam was born, April 24, 1856. Burland Shields, grandfather of Robert A. Putnam in the maternal line, came overland to California in 1849 and settled in Shasta county. His party was several times menaced by Indians, but no member of it was killed and all arrived safely. For a time Mr. Shields mined, but later he became a stockman and was successful in that way until his death. No other member of the family came to the Pacific coast until 1901, when Robert A. Putnam located in Tulare county. He married in 1877, Sarah A. Shackelford, who was born in Mississippi in 1856, of parents who were natives of North Carolina. She was reared and educated in Illinois and one of her brothers served as a soldier in the Civil war. She has borne her husband seven children: John F., George William, Laura E., Pina M., Myra N., Mabel G. and Sadie B. John F. of Orosi married Blanche Miller and has two children. George William mar-

ried Katie McKersie and has two children. Laura E. married Duane Straw. Pina M. has graduated from the Orosi high school and the others have been educated in the public school.

When Mr. Putnam came to his farm nine acres of it was devoted to peaches and five acres and a half to Muscat grapes. In 1910 he sold seven and a half tons of dried peaches, a goodly quantity of green peaches and eleven tons of raisins. A portion of his ranch is devoted to pasture and he has some stock, but he keeps only enough horses for his own use. He is as progressive a citizen as he is a farmer and in a public-spirited way aids every movement for the good of the community. He and Mrs. Putnam are Democrats.

ALEXANDER M. BEST

In the state of Iowa Alexander M. Best, of Tulare county, Cal., was born April 23, 1867. He passed his boyhood and youth on a farm there and was educated in a public school near by. In April, 1888, when he was about twenty-one years old, he arrived in California and located on a ranch in Poway valley, twenty miles northeast of San Diego, where his father took up government land. For seven years he lived and farmed in San Diego county, then located in Orange county and lived at Santa Ana, and he also bought land at Newport. He farmed in that vicinity five years, on the San Joaquin three years, and at La Habra one year, and in October, 1901, came to Tulare county and bought the Jones ranch of one hundred and twenty acres, twelve miles east and two miles south of Tulare. After raising grain there four years, he sold the property and bought eighty acres a mile and a half west of town, a homestead of forty acres with forty acres adjoining it at one corner, on which he put all improvements, including house, outbuildings, fences and roads. Until February, 1911, he conducted a dairy, but he then sold his cows, retaining his stock and horses, for the excellence of which his place is well known. He also gives attention to hogs and poultry. Thirty-five acres of his land is in alfalfa.

December 3, 1894, Mr. Best married Susan Columbia Bardsley, of Poway valley, Cal., and they have a son named Edwin Bardsley Best. Fraternally Mr. Best is identified with the Woodmen of the World lodge of Tulare. Politically he has well defined ideas about all public questions and does his full duty as a citizen, but he has no liking for professional politics and has never sought any elective or appointive office. He has at heart the welfare of the community and is generous in his encouragement of movements for the general good.

J. L. TAYLOR

The prosperous farmer and fruit grower of Three Rivers, Tulare county, Cal., whose career it is intended here briefly to refer to, is a native of Fallbrook, Tenn., born in 1846. In 1866, when he was twenty years old, he came to California and settled near Three Rivers and Lemon Cove and, having faith in the future of the state, he resolved to grow up with it, deserving his share in its prosperity.

It was at ranch work for others that J. L. Taylor was employed until 1893. He became known as a hard and steady worker and as a man who saved his money, and in the year mentioned he was able to buy one hundred and sixty-five acres of land, on which he has been successful with fruit and grain. It was in the year 1893, the year in which he started for himself, that he married Miss Louise Elizabeth Myrten, a native daughter of California, who in 1904 bore him a son, Edward, who is engaged with his father in conducting the ranch and developing the fruit and nursery business. Mr. Taylor has always been too busy to take much practical part in political work, but as a citizen he has performed his duties with the ballot, voting always for such men and measures as in his opinion promised most and best for the general good. He has never petitioned for nor accepted public office. Fraternally he affiliates with the Lemon Cove organization of Woodmen of the World. His father is living, retired from the activities that once made him a factor in the uplift and advancement of the community.

LUCIUS HERVEY TURNER

The well known native of Tulare county whose name is above was born December 6, 1866, a son of Peter Q. and Emily S. (Keener) Turner. His father was born in Hampton county, Va., February 15, 1828, his mother in Missouri, December 9, 1843. The former lived in his native state until 1850, when he was about twenty-two years old. He then went to Alabama and Mississippi, where he had more or less intercourse with Indians, and lived for a time in New Orleans, where he passed safely through a historic epidemic of cholera. At one time, believing he had been attacked by the disease, he found relief by drinking burned whiskey. It was during this early period of his life that he had his first experience with a stove. He took up his residence in Texas, where he married Miss McGlassen, of Texan birth, who died three months later.

In 1858 he came from Texas to California, making the journey overland with oxen, a member of a party of which his future father-

in-law, John D. Keener, was captain. At one time, while traveling a new route, they were without water for seventy-two hours. Mr. Turner's tongue became so swollen that he could not talk, all his companions suffered and one of them became temporarily insane. They came to Los Angeles in 1858, where they remained some time, selling their cattle. From Los Angeles they went to Visalia, where in July, 1861, Mr. Turner married Miss Emily S. Keener, who bore him fifteen children: Nancy A., Peter Q., John H., Lucius H., Anna B., Edna M., Laura I., Charles A., Ida C., Frank E., Marcus A., Elizabeth, Lottie, Ada C., and another who died in infancy. Nancy A. married J. A. Drake. John H. married Mary E. Dunham. Lucius H. married Grace Lenell, who has borne him three children. Anna B. married C. H. Foster and bore him four children, she died May 30, 1889. Ida C. is the wife of J. E. Foster and they have seven children living. Frank E. married Edna Jones and they are the parents of four children. Marcus A. married Elsie Brothers and they have three children. Elizabeth F. married H. B. Mitchell and has five children. Charles A. married Mary Mades. Lottie married George Fickle and has one child. Ada C. married J. G. Jones and they are the parents of two children. Peter Q., Edna M. and Laura I. have passed away. The father died at Dunlap June 6, 1883; the mother makes her home with her children.

It was as a farmer and carpenter that Mr. Turner was instructed in the practical work by means of which he was destined to earn his living. His first purchase of land was of twenty acres. He later bought ten acres on which he now lives. Six acres of his land is devoted to fruit and berries, the remainder to pasturage. Fraternally he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is a charter member. His political affiliations are Socialistic. Mrs. Turner is a communicant of the Church of God.

ERASTUS F. WARNER

Well and favorably known in Tulare county, where he has been a resident since 1858, Erastus F. Warner is prominently mentioned among the representative citizens of this section. He was born in Cambridge, Washington county, N. Y., October 24, 1842, the son of Captain Gerrit W. and Julia A. (Fenton) Warner, both natives of that state also. The news of the finding of gold in California brought Captain Warner to the state in 1849, the voyage being made via the Horn in the vessel Morrison. He was successful beyond his expectations in his mining experience on the middle fork of the American river, and with the means which he accumulated by his efforts he returned east for his family in 1851. It was not until two years later,

however, that he was able to settle his affairs in the east and make his second and last trip to California. The year 1853 found the family coming to the west by way of Nicaragua. Settlement was made in San Jose, and that was the home of the family until the fall of 1855, when the father became interested in mining at Hornitas, Mariposa county, and subsequently he became the proprietor of a hotel at Mariposa. January of 1858 found the family in Visalia, where the father continued to follow the hotel business, being proprietor of the Exchange, the Eagle and the Esmeralda Hotels. Going to Porterville in 1863 he opened a hostelry and also conducted a stage depot, a business which he followed profitably until death ended his labors on June 1, 1865. His wife is also deceased, having passed away August 30, 1898.

The parental family comprised three children, Mrs. Sarah M. Cousins and Frederick A., both deceased, and Erastus F., of this review. At the time the family removed from the east to California in 1853 the latter was a young lad and the experiences of the voyage made a lasting impression on his plastic mind. They left New York March 5 of that year and all went well until April 9, when their ship, the propeller steamship Lewis, was wrecked off Bodega bay. Total destruction threatened them, and although the ship was driven ashore and considerable damage done, no lives were lost. The passengers were finally taken aboard the Goliah and the steamer Active that were sent to their rescue from San Francisco, and thus they reached their destination in safety.

Throughout Tulare county Mr. Warner is well known as an expert well borer, having followed this business for the past thirty-eight years. Considerable work of this character has been done for the Southern Pacific Railroad, ranging all the way from El Paso, Texas, to Salt Lake City, and he also made the borings for setting the railroad bridges all over the line. Mr. Warner's services are still in constant demand, and that his work is entirely satisfactory is evidenced in the fact that his reputation is county wide, and visible evidences of his work are as broadly scattered. In the early days he was a member of the volunteer fire department of Visalia, and he is still connected with the department as foreman of old Eureka Engine Company No. 1. He is an honorary member of the Volunteer Veteran Firemen of San Francisco, and fraternally is a member of Four Creek Lodge No. 94, I. O. O. F., having joined the order in 1866, and is also identified with Damascus Encampment No. 44, and Canton No. 24. His political sympathies are with the Republican party.

The first marriage of Mr. Warner occurred December 24, 1868, uniting him with Maud A. Baker, a native of Pennsylvania. She died in 1893, leaving one daughter, Mrs. Evelyn English. Mr. Warner's second marriage, May 21, 1903, united him with Mrs. Kitty (Schreiber) Horsnyder, a native of Kentucky.

EARL MATHEWSON

Among the native sons of Tulare county who are winning success as farmers is Earl Mathewson, who lives on the Exeter road, near Visalia. Arthur W. Mathewson, his father, married Miss Lucinda Tinkham in 1866, who was born in Iowa, daughter of Nathaniel Tinkham, a native of Vermont, and bore her husband eight children, of whom five are living: Mrs. Pearl Ogden, Levi, Mrs. Edith M. Mosier, Earl and James A. A biographical sketch of the father has a place in these pages. Earl Mathewson was born near Farmersville, August 28, 1876, and was educated in the public schools near his boyhood home. For a time he helped his father on the ranch, then made some money running cattle through the mountainous portion of Tulare county.

In 1900 Mr. Mathewson rented of his mother a ranch of one hundred and fifty-one acres which he has since operated with much success. He has twenty acres of three-year-old French prunes, ten acres of Egyptian corn yielding a ton to an acre, and twelve acres under alfalfa. He makes a specialty of the breeding of cattle, horses and hogs and has produced some stock that is as fine as is to be seen in his vicinity.

Fraternally Mr. Mathewson affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. In 1909 he married Miss Marie Holtoof, a native of Trinity county, Cal., and they have a son named Orley. As a citizen Mr. Mathewson is public-spiritedly helpful to all worthy local interests.

WILLIAM F. BERNSTEIN

As a baker and also as a stock-raiser William F. Bernstein has achieved a high standing in Kings county, Cal., and his bakery at Hanford and his stock farm near that town are among the best, each in its class, of their respective kinds in Central California. Mr. Bernstein was born in Ohio, near the old town of Lebaun, Warren county, in April, 1873, and there was reared to manhood and educated in common schools and at a normal school, and began teaching some years before he attained his majority. He was twenty-three when he came to Hanford and found employment in the bakery establishment of Fred Bader. Three years later he bought a one-half interest in the business and at the expiration of another three years he became its sole proprietor. Since then he has been its able manager and has developed it commensurately with the growth of the town. He handles a general line of first-class bakery goods and his ice-cream and candies have won a reputa-

tion which keeps them in constant demand. His business occupies a two-story and basement building which takes up a ground space of 25 x 150 feet and employs in its various departments twenty-one skilled workers.

Adjoining the city on the southeast is a ranch of six acres which is the property of Mr. Bernstein, and he owns forty acres located a mile west of the city on which he breeds thoroughbred registered Poland-China hogs, as well as saddle horses which are in high favor with discriminating users of animals bred and trained for such service. He has exhibited his thoroughbred hogs at various local fairs. His entire ranch is devoted to alfalfa and to the feeding and development of the stock mentioned.

In the promotion and organization of the Kings County Chamber of Commerce Mr. Bernstein was influential, and he was elected its first president and re-elected to that office in December, 1911. In a fraternal way he affiliates with the Masons, being a Templar and a Shriner, and also with the Hanford Camp, Woodmen of the World. As a citizen he is helpful to all worthy local interests, ready at all times to do his full share in the encouragement of the development of the town. He was married, May 28, 1902, to Mary Pearl Trehwitt, who was born in Tennessee, but had been brought to Hanford by her parents. Her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Trehwitt, is a resident of that city.

JOHN T. MORGAN

Synonymous with the name of Mr. Morgan is the name of the Morgan's Market, of which he is the owner and proprietor, a thriving enterprise in Visalia, which is known for the high character of the goods handled and for the excellent service rendered. From seven to ten employes are required in the conduct of the business, and two delivery wagons enable the owner to make prompt delivery. All of the meats carried in the market are killed and prepared under the direct supervision of Mr. Morgan, whose slaughter house is located on the outskirts of town.

A native son of California, John T. Morgan was born in San Bernardino in July, 1863, the son of Thomas and Eliza (Mee) Morgan, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of England. The Morgan family became established in California in 1859, when Thomas Morgan came hither from the middle west and settled in San Bernardino county. He was a man of versatility and ability, and in addition to carrying large personal interests he rendered invaluable service to the young and growing community in which

he settled. He was elected and served acceptably as the first sheriff of San Bernardino county. He died in 1863. His wife was also a pioneer to the west, having crossed the plains from Utah at the time of the Mountain Meadow massacre. Reared and educated in his native county, at the age of fourteen years John T. Morgan went to Pinal county, Ariz., where he entered the employ of the Silver King Mining Company and also for several years worked in a butcher shop. This latter experience, combined with the knowledge of the business that he had acquired in his native county, led him to undertake a business of his own, and going to Riverside he opened and managed a meat market for Barker Brothers for four years. Subsequently he purchased the business and conducted it alone for four years. He then sold out and went to San Jacinto, where he opened and conducted a market until coming to Visalia in 1902. In that year he bought out the nucleus of the business which he owns today, then a small, unpretentious store, which in the meantime has expanded in business and reputation until it is now conceded to be one of the best appointed butchering establishments in the state, doing a wholesale and retail business.

In April, 1911, Mr. Morgan was honored by his fellow-citizens by election to the office of city trustee of Visalia, from the sixth ward. He is a property owner and an influential member of a number of fraternal orders, being a member of Four Creek Lodge No. 94, I. O. O. F., Fraternal Brotherhood, Woodmen of the World, Foresters of America, and the Native Sons of the Golden West. He was married in 1891 to Miss Lillian R. Cleveland, who was born in Iowa, and they have three children, Everett C., Howard G., and J. Thomas. Visalia has no more public-spirited citizen than Mr. Morgan, who is ever on the alert to promote the development of the city, as is indicated by his liberal assistance toward every worthy public movement.

ALPHEUS C. WILLIAMS

The present supervisor of the Third District of Tulare county, Cal., A. C. Williams, who lives at No. 420 N. Church street, Visalia, was born in Dent county, Mo., November 24, 1868, and after leaving school became connected with the train department of the St. Louis and San Francisco railroad.

It was in 1891 that Mr. Williams came to California. Locating at Tulare city, he worked on different ranches near there for three years, then moved to six hundred and forty acres of land east of Visalia, where he engaged in grain farming, in which he was successful for some years. In 1903 he established the Visalia Feed,

Fuel & Storage Co., an enterprise which under his management became one of the most important of its kind in Central California. For a considerable period he has been prominently identified with local political affairs and in 1908 he was elected supervisor to represent the Third District of Tulare county, and it is worthy of note that he was the first Republican elected to that office by that constituency. How well he has served in that important capacity his fellow citizens well know and his record for efficiency and integrity is a most enviable one. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In 1893 Mr. Williams married Miss Mary Ellen Goad, daughter of John C. and C. Odele (DeBolt) Goad, the former of whom was born in Madisonville, Hopkins county, Ky. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Williams, Ellen M. and Alpheus C., Jr. Mrs. Williams' father came across the plains to California in the early '60s, and lived in Nevada county until 1873, when he came to Tulare county and located on a ranch eight miles northeast of Visalia. He was one of the most prominent ranchers in the neighborhood of old Venus until his death, which occurred September 25, 1905. When he was twenty-one he joined the Masonic order and was popular in those circles. His wife, whom he married in Grass Valley, Nevada county, was a native of Ohio and passed away April 25, 1906. They were the parents of the following children: Pearl, Anna G. and Frank A., all deceased; J. E. Goad, of San Diego, the only living son; and Mary Ellen, who is now Mrs. Williams.

IRA BLOSSOM

Among the early pioneers of Tulare county who have become successful ranchmen is Ira Blossom, who was born in 1832 in the state of New York. He grew to manhood and was educated in the Empire State and in 1852, when he was twenty years old, sought his fortune in California. For a time he stayed in San Francisco, and from there he went to Stockton and soon went into the mines, where he worked a year. After that he lived six years in the San Joaquin valley. In 1860 he moved to Tulare county and during the ensuing six years assisted in the operation of a flour mill near Visalia. Next we find him located on South Fork river, in a section of Tulare county in which he has since made his home. His first land purchase was a tract of eight hundred acres on which he lived for a time, but which eventually he sold in order to buy land near Three Rivers, where he has lived during the past decade.

In 1860 Mr. Blossom married Mrs. Julia Clough, and they have

four children, three of whom are living. One of their daughters lives in San Francisco, the other in Mt. View, Cal., and their son is with his parents on their family homestead. The latter is filling the office of deputy park ranger, the duties of which he is performing with much ability and credit.

The present land holdings of Mr. Blossom aggregate one hundred and thirty-five acres, part of it in fruit and most of the remainder in grain. He has given part of his time to stock-raising, in which he has achieved considerable success, and is regarded as one of the old reliable farmers of his district, being honored by the people of Tulare county as one of their few remaining pioneers. His personal characteristics are of the kind that make men popular with their fellows and many a man who has had the benefit of his acquaintance has found in him a valued friend. He never held office or identified himself with any order, but is public-spirited in support of all worthy interests of the community.

J. A. CRAWSHAW, M.D.

While giving attention to general practice Dr. J. A. Crawshaw specializes along lines safely and sanely within the limits of the field of the family physician. His residence and office are in the Bissell Building, Hanford, Kings county, Cal. Born August 10, 1879, at Carbondale, Ill., he was there educated in the public schools and in the state normal school in the usual courses of such institutions. When advanced sufficiently in his professional studies, he matriculated in the medical department of the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1901, and after passing the prescribed examinations was duly graduated therefrom with the degree of M.D., June 5, 1905. After eighteen months devoted to the practice of his profession at Murphysboro, Ill., he came in 1907 to Hanford, where he has since prospered increasingly as a general practitioner of medicine and surgery, specializing in diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat.

Dr. Crawshaw is a director of the Hanford Sanitorium, which he helped to organize and which is now in the course of construction. It is a modern structure, costing \$30,000, and is to be completed February 1, 1913. The Doctor holds membership in the Fresno Medical Society, the San Joaquin Medical Society and the California State Medical Society. He is identified with the Kings County Auto Association, is a Blue Lodge, Royal Arch and Eastern Star Mason, a Forester of America and a member of the Independent Order of Foresters and its ladies' auxiliary order, a

Modern Woodman, a member of the order of Fraternal Aid and of the Portuguese orders of U. P. E. C. and of I. D. E. S. In all of these societies he takes a helpful interest, greeting their members in fraternal brotherhood and advancing their many good works in every way possible.

Beside his professional work Dr. Crawshaw has found some time to devote to other interests, notably to ranching. He owns a farm of one hundred acres, eight miles north of Hanford, all under irrigation and devoted to stock-raising. At this time he is arranging to give special attention to the breeding of unles.

In 1904 Dr. Crawshaw married Miss Bessie Hagler, who was then a resident of Illinois. They have an interesting little daughter named Alleen.

The Doctor, although an adopted son of California and a comparatively late arrival to the city of Hanford, yet enters heartily into the political and social life of Kings county. He took part in the program of the "Kings County Karnival" in May, 1911, and rendered an original poem on the birth of Kings county, from which we quote the following:

" 'Twas in the spring of ninety-three,
 In the county then of Tu-lar-e,
 With division talk on every tongue,
 That the battle of politics was sprung.
 Fast the missiles flew each way,
 Until the twenty-third of May,
 When Captain Blakely with his dart
 Plunged the weapon in their heart.

"With the sun still shining in the skies,
 And the tears undried in the mother's eyes,
 Out from the wounded, bleeding heart,
 The "Baby County" made a start,
 To spread afar its honored fame
 And win itself a Christian name,
 Whose echo o'er the plain would ring,
 In honor of our Baby King."

CHARLES E. JOYNER

In the country round about Exeter, Tulare county, Cal., there are few citizens who are more highly regarded than is Charles E. Joyner, a native of Tennessee, born in 1859, who came to California

in 1872, when he was thirteen years old. It should be noted that he came here simply as a visitor, expecting soon to return to his old home and that except for brief absences he has remained here ever since. He grew to manhood on the J. H. Johnson ranch and finished his education in the public schools in that neighborhood. He was an orphan, his mother having died when he was an infant, his father when he was but a small boy, but he found friendship and encouragement under the sunny California skies and set his face bravely toward the future. He may be said to have made his way in the world since he was a mere boy. In 1884 he married Catherine Mabrey, a native of Arkansas, who has borne him seven children, all of whom are being educated in the public schools near their home.

Fruit has engaged Mr. Joyner's attention and he has thirty-five acres in three-year-old navel oranges. Formerly he raised grain. His land cost him about \$2.50 an acre and at a fair market valuation it is worth today \$700 an acre. He has prospered, and in so doing has generously conceded the right of the community at large to do as well. While he is very public-spirited, he cares little for practical politics and has steadfastly refused office.

JOSEPH W. LOVELACE

A native of the Lone Star State, born in Fannin county, in 1858, Joseph W. Lovelace, now living at No. 502 S. Church street, Visalia, is a son of John W. and Arminta (Stallard) Lovelace, natives respectively of North Carolina and of Tennessee. The family came to California, members of a party that came across the plains with ox-teams and seventy-five wagons, consuming six months in the journey. Coming over the southern route, they stopped in the fall of 1861 at Bakersfield, where John W. Lovelace built a small cabin, which in the following winter was swept away by a flood. After the breaking up of their home there they moved to El Monte, Los Angeles county, where they lived until they removed to Tulare county in 1863. The father fought through the Civil war in Gen. Sterling Price's Confederate army. After receiving his discharge, he brought his family back to Tulare county and engaged in merchandising, at Farmersville, where he bought the store of Crowley & Jasper and formed a partnership with T. J. Brundage. He interested himself also in stock-raising and in 1869 took up a stock ranch at Three Rivers which he improved. Returning eventually to Texas, he died there in 1875; his wife also has passed away. During his residence at El Monte, Los Angeles county, this pioneer became a member of the local lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. As a

citizen he was public-spirited and helpful to all good interests of the community.

Following are the names of the living children of John W. and Arminta (Stallard) Lovelace: Martin F., Charles P., Willis R. and Joseph W. The last named was but a lad when his father brought his family to Tulare county during the war of the states. He grew to manhood at Visalia and there finished his schooling. For twelve years he was engaged in stock-raising in the Three Rivers district of Tulare county, and in 1900 he moved to Visalia in order to give his children better educational training. He is interested in real estate in that city and owns besides a one hundred and twenty acre grain ranch fifteen miles east of Lemon Cove. Socially he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. He married, in Texas, Miss Helen Schlichting, a native of Wisconsin, who has borne him children as follows: Byron O., county surveyor of Tulare county; Nathaniel F.; Clay; Walter; and Lee. Mr. Lovelace is well known for his helpful public spirit.

Mr. Lovelace's deceased brothers and sisters were: Mollie, who died about the year 1884, was the wife of the late Hon. J. C. Brown, who represented Tulare county in the legislature several times and was a member of the Constitutional committee which revised the state constitution of California in 1876; John Almer, who was married, died in Texas in 1889; and Lillian Josephine, who also was married, died in Texas in 1882, leaving no children.

JOHN CHATTEN

A resident of California from 1868 to 1907, when he passed away, the late John Chatten was of English extraction and a native of Canada. Thomas Chatten, his grandfather, brought his family from Norfolk, Eng., and settled in Ontario, where his son Robert Chatten, father of John, farmed near Colborne till 1896, when he died aged seventy-eight. Robert's wife, Betsy Doe, a native of Ontario, died there aged seventy-two. She was of English ancestry, a daughter of James Doe, who was a Canadian settler and farmer. John Chatten was their second oldest child and the oldest son in a family of nine children, all of whom attained to maturity. He was born near Colborne, Northumberland county, Ont., December 8, 1848, and grew up where the work was hard and the living not the best. From the time he was eleven, when he was taken out of school, he worked on the farm and one of his tiresome and painful tasks was the picking up of stones, which made his back ache and

wore the skin off his fingers. His uncle Richard Chatten had come to California as a 49er, and his accounts of the climate and the ease with which a living might be earned or a competency secured were alluring reading to the folks in the bleak Canadian backwoods. This finally lured John Chatten to the state and for two years after his arrival he worked for his uncle. After his marriage he took up independent farming and stock-raising on one hundred and fifty acres of his uncle's land, and a year later bought an unimproved tract which he transformed into an attractive homestead.

More than ordinary success rewarded Mr. Chatten's efforts as a farmer, and late in life he made a profitable specialty of dairying. His activity in local affairs was displayed in efficient service as a member of the county central committee of his party, and his interest in education impelled him to accept the trusteeship of the Elbow school district, the duties of which he discharged for thirty years, assisting to build a school house and to put the home school on a firm and substantial basis. Other praiseworthy measures were given his aid and counsel, and he was recognized as one of the leading men of the county.

Miss Celeste Reynolds, who became the wife of Mr. Chatten December 11, 1870, was born in Iowa and brought across the plains to California by her parents when she was but seven months old. They came in an ox-train and seven months were consumed in the journey. Her entire life in California has been lived in Tulare county. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Chatten were: Wesley, an engraver in Portland, Ore.; Arthur; Wilmot L.; Ray, deceased; Fred, and Elsie. The family residence was built in 1903 and the homestead includes a hundred and seventy-two acres on Elbow creek, irrigated by the Wutchumna ditch, Mr. Chatten having been a director in the ditch company. Every acre of this homestead is tillable, and he also owned a quarter-section of adjoining land which he devoted to grazing.

The third in order of birth of the children of John and Celeste (Reynolds) Chatten, Wilmot L. Chatten was born near Visalia, November 11, 1878. He began his active career by ranching with his father. In 1902 he bought land, which he farmed until after his father's death. He now rents of his mother the home place and the adjoining land. He has twenty-five acres in barley and twenty acres in alfalfa, the remainder being pasture, and he maintains a dairy of twenty cows and keeps an average of about a hundred hogs. His family orchard is one of the best in its vicinity, and he gives some attention to chicken-raising. He is a man of public spirit and, as was his father, is a Republican. In 1902 he married Miss Lola Fudge, daughter of William Fudge, an early settler in the county. They have two children, Meredith and Dallas.

HARRISON A. POWELL

Most of the sons of Kentucky who have come to California have developed into citizens of whom Californians are proud and they have exacted from California the full reward of enterprise and industry. This is true in the case of Harrison A. Powell, one of the best known citizens in the Exeter district in Tulare county, who was born in Henderson county, Ky., August 11, 1859, and lived there until 1902. He came to California at this time and located at Exeter, where he has made his home up to this time. He had passed the earlier years of his life as a farmer and it was but natural that he should have continued here to woo fortune after the manner of his youth. But at first he had not the capital with which to establish himself as he planned to do. He went to work, saved money and invested it in land, and while the land was increasing in value added to his fund by continuing his labors. Then when the land was worth selling he converted it into money and put the money where it would draw interest, and as a financier he has perhaps prospered as well as he would have done had he carried out his original intention to become a farmer.

In 1879 Mr. Powell married Leurah Cottingham, a native of Kentucky, and they had six children: Chester E., Ernest C., Judith A., Mary, Rhea and Earl. Mrs. Powell died in 1891 and in 1909 Mr. Powell married (second) Martha Ficklen, a native of Missouri. His father was born in Virginia, while his mother was a native of Kentucky. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, affiliating with both lodge and encampment, and was vice grand of his lodge in 1911. Politically he adheres to the Democratic faith. Having at heart the welfare of the community, he is public-spirited in such measure as to make for the very best citizenship. He is essentially a self-made man who has prospered by industry and frugality at the expense of his brain and brawn and not to the cost of any of his fellow citizens. Some idea of his quality may be inferred from his recent assertion, not boastful yet delivered with an air of satisfaction: "I am fifty-three years of age and have never been under the influence of liquor."

WILLIAM WHITAKER

In Connecticut William Whitaker, now of the Dinuba district in Tulare county, Cal., was born in November, 1833. His start in business life was as an axe-maker. Later he manufactured clothespins until about the time of the beginning of the Civil War. Re-

sponding to President Lincoln's first call for seventy-five thousand three months' troops, he enlisted in the First Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the service of the United States at Concord, N. H., in April, 1861. Later he re-enlisted in the Fifth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. During the period of his service he held all ranks from private to captain of his company, having been commissioned for the latter office just before his discharge. His first experience in battle was in June, 1861, and he was in thirty regular engagements with the Army of the Potomac, including the fighting at Petersburg and Gettysburg and in many skirmishes, passing through many perils, not the least of which were those incident to an explosion which he is not likely ever to forget. After the war he engaged in the lumber and sawmill business in Ashford, Conn. Later he devoted himself to farming, which he followed there until in 1899, when he came to Tulare county, where he has since made his home. His first purchase of land here was five acres, which he has since sold in town lots from time to time. He owned twenty acres at Yettam, eleven of which is in Muscat grapes, also five acres of Malagas. At this time he is practically retired from active business life. He keeps alive memories of the Civil war by membership with Shafter Post No. 92, G. A. R. Politically he is a Socialist. In his religious affiliation he is a Seventh Day Adventist. Besides his home at Dinuba he is the owner of considerable valuable property in the East. His brother Edward W. Whitaker was promoted from his original place as private in the ranks, by successive advancements, to the office of brigadier-general in the Federal army in the Civil war and is now stationed at Washington, D. C. Daniel Whitaker, another of his brothers, rose to be a captain and was killed June 17, 1863. He had another brother, George, in the Union Army, enlisting from California. Another brother, Horace Whitaker, who died in Stokes valley in October, 1910, unmarried, came to California in 1856, via Isthmus of Panama. He followed the stock business in Tulare county from 1858, and became a well known factor throughout the county, having won a suit over land title from the Southern Pacific Railway Company after being in litigation about twenty years.

In 1866 Mr. Whitaker married Ada Ferguson, a native of Pennsylvania and she bore him six children: Mary J. married Wilbur Devoll and has four children. Ada became Mrs. Clifton Wright and died leaving three children. Eva married Clifton Church and they have two children. Etta married Charles McDonald and they have three children. Helen is Mrs. William Heffron, who is the only one of the children residing in California. Jesse L., the fourth in order

of birth and the only son, met an accidental death in December, 1909. The wife and mother passed away in 1899 and in 1901 Mr. Whitaker married Mrs. Frances C. White.

HANFORD NATIONAL BANK

This well established and dependable institution, one of the strong and popular banks of Kings county, Cal., was organized in May, 1903, was incorporated in the following month, and was opened for business July 28, that year. Its savings department, known as the Peoples Savings Bank, was organized November 1, 1903.

The first president of the bank was Dr. N. P. Dumcan, who died February 15, 1905, and he was succeeded by W. V. Buckner. Its original vice-president died and was succeeded by Charles A. Kimball; H. E. Wright was cashier, S. E. Railsback, assistant cashier. The capital stock of the Hanford National Bank was \$50,000, all paid in, and the capital stock of the Peoples Savings Bank was \$25,000, \$12,500 of which was paid in at the time of its organization, and the remainder of which was paid two years later. The board of directors serves for both banks and is constituted as follows: W. V. Buckner, L. Hansen, Charles A. Kimball, S. E. Railsback and H. E. Wright.

The cashier and manager of this bank, Harland E. Wright, is represented in a biographical sketch in this work. He came to Hanford as assistant cashier of the Farmers and Merchants Bank and soon became cashier. In 1903 he sold out his interest in that bank, in which he had become the largest stockholder, in order to promote the organization of the Hanford National Bank. Mr. Railsback is still assistant cashier.

SIDNEY H. WOOKEY

Among Hanford's most progressive business men is Sidney H. Wookey, proprietor of an enterprising hay and feed trade. It was at Fond du Lac, Wis., that Mr. Wookey was born November 19, 1861, and there he grew to manhood and obtained his education both in books and in the business which engaged his attention for many years. He began his active career in his native town as a contractor and builder and engaged also in the fuel trade. The latter became his sole business and he followed it with success until October, 1901, when he again turned his attention to contracting and building until

1906, when he located at Hanford, where he established a wood-yard and operated it until July, 1911, then selling it to the Hanford Fuel Company.

The retail hay and feed trade at Hanford now commands Mr. Wookey's ability and attention. His warehouse, which he erected in August, 1911, occupies a ground space of forty by ninety feet and affords storage for three hundred tons of hay. With his office, it constitutes a thoroughly adequate and up-to-date business plant, well appointed in every detail and equipped for the successful transaction of his large and constantly growing enterprise.

By his personal geniality and his "live and let-live" business methods Mr. Wookey has commended himself to the good opinion of the people living at Hanford and throughout its tributary territory, and the success which he has obtained is popularly regarded as but an earnest of the still greater successes which will come to him in the future. As a citizen he has in many ways manifested his loyalty and public spirit, and his neighbors at Hanford find him ever ready to yield generous support to any measure proposed for the development of the town or for the improvement of general conditions through the introduction of such economic provisions as seem to him possible. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

BENJAMIN DONAGER, SR.

Natives of Ireland have always been peculiarly welcome as immigrants to this country and their prosperity here has equaled that of our native-born citizens. One of those who have been successful in the quest for home and prosperity in Kings county, Cal., was the late Benjamin Donager, whose widow and son own and operate the New Method Laundry in Hanford. Mr. Donager came to the United States in 1874 and after stopping for a time in Sacramento, came on to Tulare county and located at the site of Hanford, in the portion of that old county which is now known as Kings county. At that time Hanford had just been platted and offered for sale in lots convenient for building purposes. Mr. Donager became the local station agent for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company and filled that position ably and honorably until September 25, 1882, when he died. His marriage occurred in 1879 to Miss Hattie Coe, a daughter of Julius T. Coe.

It will be of interest here to say something of the career of Mrs. Donager's father. Julius T. Coe was born in Fulton county, N. Y., where he farmed in early life and later manufactured gloves. In 1874 he was attracted to California as offering a field for larger oppor-

tunities and brought his family to a farm near Vacaville, Solano county. In 1876 he came to a tract of government land two miles south of the site of Hanford and his original purchase of one hundred and sixty acres of land was increased by the acquisition of other tracts until he owned two hundred and forty acres, which he managed and cultivated with fair success and which was his home until in 1884, when he died, aged sixty-four years. In his religious belief he was a Presbyterian, and politically he allied himself with the Republican party. His wife, who before their marriage was Miss Catherine Simpson, also a native of Fulton county, N. Y., survived him, making her home in Hanford, until 1909.

To Mr. and Mrs. Donager was born a son Benjamin, Jr., June 10, 1880. He began his education in the public schools in Hanford, continued it at Santa Cruz and at Oakland, and took a commercial course at Heald's Business College. He then found employment for two years with George West & Son and later for three years with Sehnerger & Downing. In 1906 he married Miss Frances Kuntz of Hanford. Fraternally he affiliates with the Hanford organizations of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Woodmen of the World and the Native Sons of the Golden West.

In 1906 Mrs. Donager and her son started their enterprise, the New Method Laundry, installing it in a building fifty by ninety-two feet, which was erected for the purpose. It is a modern, well-appointed structure, occupied entirely by their flourishing and constantly growing business. Besides doing fine laundry work they have a cleaning and pressing line. Their methods and machinery are thoroughly up-to-date; they employ only experienced help and their relations with the public are based on the idea of the square deal. Their prosperity is in every way richly deserved.

FREEMAN RICHARDSON

During the last half century the laundry business has been developed to proportions which make it, in its peculiar way, one of the important industrial interests of the country. Among the leaders in this industry are many Californians, and among the best known of these in the central part of the state is Freeman Richardson, proprietor of the Hanford Steam Laundry, an auxiliary feature of which is his establishment for the cleaning and pressing of tailor-made clothing.

Mr. Richardson first saw the light of day in 1868, over the Canadian border line, in New Brunswick. There he was reared and edu-

cated and from there he came in 1889, when he was about twenty-one years old, to California, locating at Fresno, where he worked in a laundry until 1893. He then made his advent in Hanford and established the Hanford Steam Laundry, until 1900 occupying quarters on Front street, which by that time became too small for his enterprise, and he then moved into his present principal building on West Seventh street. Later he erected an adjoining building and now has a ground space of fifty-eight by one hundred feet, equipped with modern machinery which is operated only by skillful laundry workers. His pressing and cleaning plant for gasoline work is located on Second street, beyond the fire limit, and his laundry work as well as cleaning and pressing process are equally satisfactory to his large and growing list of patrons.

In 1903 Mr. Richardson married Miss Lola Manning of Hanford and they have a daughter named Mary Eleanor. Fraternally, he is a Knight of Pythias and a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. As a citizen he has proven himself to be most patriotic and public spirited.

J. GRABOW

In the promotion of irrigation in central California the sinking of wells is an important factor and among the enterprising men giving attention to this industry is J. Grabow, of Hanford, Kings county, a native of Denmark, born in 1841, who came to the United States in 1881. He had learned the trade of well borer in his native country; his first employment here was as a farm hand, but it was not long before he was called upon to help bore for water, and the possibilities of well-drilling at once became apparent to him. Locating at Paso Robles, he gave his attention to this work and was one of the first, if not the first, in the state to develop water by the hydraulic process for domestic use. He operated in that vicinity until 1903, then came to Hanford, where he has devoted himself to well-boring on a larger scale than before, having put down more than a thousand wells, among which were those of the Ogdens, the Armona Winery, Dr. Miller (on his dairy ranch), Mecfussel (of Hardwick), Richards (of Grangeville), fourteen on the Floribel ranch and others, all of which have been so successful in operation that they have attracted wide attention to his enterprise. Mr. Grabow finds that in this vicinity good water for domestic uses is reached sixty to one hundred feet below the surface of the ground.

In 1876 Mr. Grabow married Miss Nanny Heger, a native of Sweden, who has borne him seven children: Fannie is a school

teacher at Coalinga; Hans is his father's assistant in the latter's well-drilling operations; Ellen married Fred Donohoo; Esther is a student at the Conservatory of Music at San Jose; two died in infancy; and Anna died at the age of twenty-one years.

The progressive spirit which has marked Mr. Grabow's persistent development of his enterprise commends him to the general public as one of the leading business men in the country round about Hanford. He has established a shop in which, during the past two years, he has made all the casing he has used in his wells. The metal which he most favors for use for this purpose is galvanized iron. In municipal affairs he favors and supports those measures for the betterment of local interests, and has come to be known as a most helpful and up-to-date citizen, who has the welfare of the community at heart.

NAPOLEON PETER KANAWYER

Peter Kanawyer, the first of the name to come to California, brought hither his son, Napoleon Peter Kanawyer, when he was a lad of fourteen years. He was born in Indiana in December, 1849, and was a small child when the family moved to the frontier of Iowa and from that state came to California. The family settled near Sacramento and later were pioneers at Grangeville in Kings county, where they became well and favorably known. Mr. Kanawyer married Viola Blunt and she bore him three children. Napoleon married Cisly Collins and they have seven children: Napoleon, Doris, Cyril, Gertrude, Mervin, and twin babies, and they reside at Sanger in Fresno county. Thomas is next in order. Frances is the wife of Jay Robinson. Mr. Kanawyer died in 1908.

Thomas Kanawyer, the second son, was born in Tulare county, the part now set aside as Kings county, on September 26, 1879. He was reared and educated in the common schools and with the family moved to Fresno county, settling near Dunlap. He married Miss Margaret Main, born in Fresno county February 20, 1882. They are the parents of two children, Viola Frances and Margaret Ruth. In 1910 Thomas Kanawyer purchased three hundred and ninety-five acres of land which he is clearing and developing. One hundred and twenty acres of it is tillable and the balance is in timber and pasture. He keeps about one hundred head of stock on his place and has about thirty-five hundred cords of marketable wood.

With his mother he is the owner of several jennys which are used for pack animals, and he is otherwise assisting his mother in the care of the family homestead. As a farmer he has won a place for

himself in his neighborhood and as a citizen has proven his worth as helpful to the general interests. He is a Republican in politics but has never sought office. Like his father, who was a well known citizen, he is giving his attention to the building up of his own fortunes and in aiding public movements to the best of his ability.

HARVEY N. DENNY

Born in Putnam county, Ind., June 25, 1834, Harvey N. Denny, whose residence is now at No. 602 North Church street, Visalia, Tulare county, Cal., passed his early life on a farm in his native state. He and two of his brothers did duty as soldiers in the Federal army in the Civil war. Enlisting in the Fifty-first Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, he served under Major-General George H. Thomas until he was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., June 18, 1865, during his service participating in many historic battles and in numerous minor engagements. Returning to his old home in Indiana he was given charge of the old Denny homestead, which he operated six years, clearing \$1,000 annually.

In 1870 Mr. Denny married Miss Melissa D. Hoskins. His wife's health failing, he sought relief for her in California, arriving in the spring of 1873, and here for twenty years, until his retirement a few years ago, he was engaged successfully in the undertaking business at Visalia. Mrs. Denny died in March, 1875, leaving a daughter, Carrie A. In a patriotic way Mr. Denny is deeply interested in everything that makes for the betterment of the community. He is a charter member of the Visalia organization of the Grand Army of the Republic and because of his many sterling qualities of head and heart is popular with the leading citizens of all sections of the county.

C. E. FREEMAN

In Boone county, Mo., which has given several prominent citizens to this part of California, Clorie Elmer Freeman has born March 20, 1879. When he was about twenty years old he came to California. His parents, James Monroe and Sarah Roxanna (Green) Freeman, natives of Missouri, are living in Callaway county. His father enlisted in 1862 in a Confederate regiment under Captain Price and served in the infantry until the end of the Civil war.

When C. E. Freeman arrived at Dinuba, which is now a town of

two thousand people, he found only one hotel, two general merchandise stores, a drug store, a livery barn and a few dwellings. The country round about was all under grain and the fields stretched clear down to the village limits. In 1902 Mr. Freeman bought fifteen acres near Orosi at \$50 an acre. It was just plain wheat land with no vines. He has since planted thirteen acres to grapes, eight to Muscats, five to Sultanas, and in 1911 he sold eight-and-a-half tons of Muscats and five of Sultanas. He keeps ten head of live stock and has a small family orchard. Among the many improvements which he has witnessed in the country round about has been the introduction of a telephone system. When he came there was not a yard of telephone wire to be seen in any direction and now nearly every house is reached by this means.

In his politics Mr. Freeman is a Democrat, devoted heart and soul to the principles of his party. He and Mrs. Freeman are members of the Baptist church. She was Miss Lena Johnson, a native of Missouri, and they were married in Visalia in 1904. They have one daughter, Grace Ellen.

EARL POWERS FOSTER

Not only a native Californian but a native of Tulare county, where he now lives, Earl Powers Foster was born November 4, 1867, the oldest of the six children of Leander P. and Hattie (Munson) Foster, four of whom survive. His father, who first saw the light of day in Vermont, settled early in life on a stock ranch in Tulare county, but later moved to a farm of three hundred and twenty acres near Atlanta, San Joaquin county, where he grew grain until in 1875, when he died. His wife, Miss Munson, whom he married in California, was a native of Maine. She came to the coast in her girlhood with Nathan Munson, her father, who lived out his days and passed away in Humboldt county. For some years she has made her home at Pacific Grove. She died November 26, 1912.

Only eight years old when his father died, Earl Powers Foster grew to manhood and gained a knowledge of farming on the Foster homestead near Atlanta and later was a student at Woodbridge College. He came to Tulare county in 1894 and engaged in stockfarming and grain raising in which he has since been successful. He rented two thousand acres, two miles and a half southeast of Tulare, the property of James Turner, of San Joaquin county and popularly known as the Turner ranch. He farms six hundred and forty acres to grain, summer-fallows about two hundred and fifty acres a

year and uses the remainder of the property for pasturage, carrying about one hundred head of cows year after year.

The marriage, in 1892, of Mr. Foster and Sarah, daughter of James Turner and a native of San Joaquin county, has resulted in the birth of three sons, James, Powers and Forest Frederick. Their wedding was celebrated at French Camp, San Joaquin county. This California family of Turners was founded by John Turner, an Englishman, who settled in San Joaquin county, lived afterward in Stanislaus county and died in Tulare county at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His son James was a California pioneer of 1850, who came into this country with a party that had made its way across the plains with an ox-team outfit. In his first winter here the mines yielded him \$400, but he later engaged in teaming and in the spring of 1852 settled on a quarter section of land near Stockton, which he bought. He now owns two thousand acres of tillable land there, on a part of which he makes his home. In his politics he is a Republican, in his religion a Methodist. His wife was Hannah Blosser, a native of Pennsylvania, who died on their California homestead in 1882. Jacob Blosser, her father, came overland from the east with oxen in 1850 and settled on raw land in San Joaquin county, and the closing years of his life were passed in Mendocino county.

Fraternally Mr. Foster affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and with the order of Fraternal Aid, holding membership in local organizations of these bodies whose stated meetings are held in Tulare. He has achieved remarkable success in his efficient handling of such extensive tracts of land and has taken rank among the leading business men in this part of the county, and is known to his fellow citizens as a man of public spirit who aids to the extent of his ability every measure proposed for the general uplift or for the advancement of the prosperity of his community.

R. M. GRAHAM

It was in the Hoosier State that R. M. Graham was born in 1849. In the years of his young manhood he was a successful school teacher, then for many years he published the Boonville Standard, a weekly paper, at Boonville, in his native state, disposing of it in 1886 to come to California. Here, finding no opening in the publishing line, he worked by the day on ranches and as a carpenter until eight years ago, when he went into the real estate business at Visalia, maintaining his residence at Lindsay. Three years later he established his office at Lindsay, where he has done a successful

business to the present time. He has a beautiful orange grove of twenty-five acres and has given considerable attention to the growth of olives. As a citizen he is public-spirited to an eminent degree, and in a business way and otherwise he has done much for the promotion of the best interests of the community. In 1873 he married Miss Mary J. Hunsaker, a native of Indiana, who has borne him two children, one of whom has passed away. Joseph B. Graham, his father, was a native of Ohio; his mother was born in Pennsylvania; both have passed away. He is the present city recorder of Lindsay, which office he has held since the summer of 1912. When he accepted this office he resigned as a member of the Board of Health of Lindsay. He is also ex-president of the Board of Trade and has ably filled the office of justice of the peace. Fraternally he has affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Lindsay since he came to the town. He became a member of the order in Indiana in 1872 and has passed all the chairs of the subordinate lodge and been a representative in the Grand Lodge. In real estate circles he is widely known through his efficient management of the Central California Realty Company of Lindsay.

DAVID H. HICKMAN

Born in Missouri, March 6, 1877, the subject of this sketch is a son of Anthony G. and Louisa (Rose) Hickman, natives respectively of Kentucky and of Missouri. He lived in his native state, acquiring a good common school education, until he was about twenty years old, and then, in 1897, came to Tulare county, Cal., where he has lived during the past fifteen years, making an enviable record as a citizen, as a farmer, and as a man of affairs. The days of his youth were spent on a farm and in his new environment he naturally depended on the land as a source of livelihood. On coming to the state he at once apprehended the wonderful opportunities that it presented. In 1901 he bought forty-one and one-half acres, most of which he devoted to hay and alfalfa, reserving a few acres for pasturage. He bought a number of cows and began feeding them for their product. Later he made another purchase of eighty acres, of which he devoted thirty-five acres to hay, thirty to alfalfa and fifteen to pasture. During the last four years he has operated a cheese factory, and he manufactures thirty-six pounds of cheese per day from the milk of fifteen cows, keeping about this number of cows year to year and selling the increase for veal. His cows produce an average of fifty cents a day the year around for each animal, paying for themselves in about twelve months. Mr. Hickman is the owner

of two of the finest mammoth jacks to be found in the county, each of which commands from \$10 to \$15 for service. He gives considerable attention to mules and during the past two years has sold ten mule teams at from \$350 to \$450 per team. Keeping seven good brood mares and eleven head of young horses he raises several good mule teams each year. One of the most notable of the animals owned by Mr. Hickman is an Australian shepherd pup which has but three legs, being minus one leg and shoulder in front.

In politics a Republican, Mr. Hickman is also a Prohibitionist. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World and he and members of his family are communicants of the Baptist church. He was married at Orosi to Eunice Dye, who bore him three children: Marie, Kathleen and Rita May. Marie is a student in the public school at Orosi. Mrs. Hickman died January 6, 1912.

WALTER D. MURRAY

Near Palo, Linn county, Iowa, Walter D. Murray, a son of Alexander and Jane (Morris) Murray, natives of Ohio and Massachusetts, respectively, was born March 8, 1865. When he was twenty years old he went to Beadle county, S. Dak., where he lived five years. In three successive years during that time he did all that was possible for him to do as a farmer. The first year his crops were destroyed by hail; the second they were killed by drought. In the third year he garnered a good crop, with the proceeds of which, minus what he used to pay his debts with, he came to California. Locating in Tulare county, he engaged in the raising of goats, in which he continued six years, at one time owning twelve hundred Angoras, ranging them in the Sierra Nevadas on eight hundred acres he owned. Later he bought thirty acres of land one mile east of Sultana. During the last ten years much of his land has been under alfalfa, which he has been able to cut four times each season without irrigation. He runs a dairy of eight cows and keeps twenty head of horses and mules and about thirty-five hogs. When he started in the goat business he had one hundred and twenty-five head, for some of which he paid as high as \$7.50 each, and the others cost him \$3 a head. He sold the mohair at thirty-five cents per pound, the larger animals yielding twelve and the others eight pounds each. Politically Mr. Murray is a Republican, and as a citizen he has demonstrated a fine public spirit. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, Mrs. Murray with the Women of Woodcraft. They were married in South Dakota in 1886, and she has borne him four children, Florence, Lionel, Sam-

nel and Reba. Florence and Lionel are graduates of the public school and Samuel and Reba are now acquiring their education. Mrs. Murray was, before her marriage, Miss Nina Perry. She was born in Wisconsin.

ALEXANDER W. WHEELER

Sons of Illinois, a field of enterprise and of patriotism, have with few exceptions done well in California. In La Salle county, in the Prairie State, Alexander W. Wheeler was born October 7, 1859, a son of William and Elizabeth (Brown) Wheeler. His parents were natives of England and his father was a graduate of Oriol College at Oxford.

In public schools near his boyhood home, under his father's able direction, Alexander W. Wheeler obtained a practical education. In 1880 he came to California and was employed for a time in a fruit orchard at San Leandro, Alameda county. Later he was in the service of the Baker & Hamilton Company at Benicia. He came to Tulare City with his brother February 1, 1882, and bought a carriage and blacksmith shop which was doing business in the town, his brother having been his partner in the enterprise. Later they sold the plant and Alexander W. Wheeler went to a point near Tipton, on the plains south of Tulare City, and devoted nine years to grain farming. Returning to the town he was in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company until, in 1893, he bought a furniture business in Tulare, which he has conducted with increasing success till the present time. He has recently erected a fine business building, after his own designs, on North K street. The structure occupies a ground space of fifty by one hundred and twenty-five feet, and his store room is eighteen feet from floor to ceiling without any obstructing posts. The building is thoroughly modern, with attractive plate glass show windows. He carries an extensive line of fine furniture, and sells not only to people of Tulare but to hundreds of families in all the country round about who come to him confidently for good goods at fair prices.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Wheeler affiliates with the Masons and the Odd Fellows and has passed nearly all the chairs in Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., and Tulare City Lodge No. 306, I. O. O. F. He has from time to time been brought to general notice through participation in public affairs, notably as a jurymen at the trial of the Dalton brothers, train wreckers, some twenty years ago. In 1883 he married Miss Mattie B. Holcombe, a native of Ohio. Her father, who came to Tulare county in the early '70s, was a pioneer

merchant at Tulare City and was for a time identified with the interests of the Southern Pacific railroad. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler have a daughter, Claire J.

CHARLES F. STAYTON

In San Joaquin county, Cal., Charles F. Stayton was born October 29, 1859, a son of John F. and Martha (Hawkins) Stayton, natives, respectively, of Missonri and Tennessee. His father, who had fought in the Mexican war, crossed the plains with ox-teams in 1852 from Independence, Mo., by way of Westport and old Fort Bridger, thence on by way of the Sublett cut-off and the sink of the Humboldt to Hangtown and Sacramento, the trip consuming between five and six months' time. Indians were a constant menace, but did the party little damage. After his arrival in California he began to buy stock, which he drove to the mining camps and sold. In 1869, five years after he had come to California, he went to Utah, where he mined till in 1887. Next he traveled to the White Mountains in New Mexico, where he was engaged in lumbering and mining. He died December 31, 1911, at the home of his daughter at Kingsburg while on a visit in California, aged eighty-seven.

In 1869, when his father left Tulare county, Charles F. Stayton was ten years old. In 1873 he went to herding sheep for John Tuohy, a pioneer in San Joaquin and Tulare counties, who owned at different times from five thousand to fifty thousand sheep. His favorite breed was the Spanish Merino, and he paid as high as \$59 for single animals of pure blood and often sold rams for \$50 each, ewes for \$10 each. The thoroughbred sheep yielded an average of twelve pounds of wool to the fleece, and the others eight. After packing and herding for about eight years Mr. Stayton turned his attention to grain farming, and after ten years of that he went into the stock business. After another ten years of success in that field he took up vine and fruit growing in Tulare county, buying twenty acres, fifteen of which is in Muscat grapes. He has a small family orchard started, and from four-year-old vines made a satisfactory crop of grapes in 1911, selling eighteen tons of raisins and three tons of other grapes. A private means of irrigation cheapens his production quite materially.

Politically Mr. Stayton affiliates with the Republican party and his active public spirit makes him very useful to the community. He married, near Porterville, Ella M. Mankins, a native of California, whose father was a pioneer here in 1852. Following are the names of their nine children: Lawrence, Clarence, C. Forest, Arthur, Mary, Belle, George Gordon and Ruby and Ruth (twins). Lawrence lives at Klamath Falls, Ore. All the others are residents of Tulare county. Arthur was accidentally killed by drowning in 1910.

CHARLES J. CARLE

It was in Mariposa county, Cal., that Charles J. Carle, now of Lindsay, Tulare county, was born in 1858, a son of Andrew Jackson Carle, a pioneer of 1849, who died in San Francisco in 1866, and whose wife died in 1878. He was a small child when he was taken from Mariposa county to San Francisco by his parents. In 1868 he was taken to Sonoma county and lived at Healdsburg until 1869, then went to Illinois, where he remained two years. After that he was employed three years on his uncle's farm at Newcastle, Pa. Returning to Illinois, he remained there five years, during which period he was for a time a student at Butler University. Coming back to California, he lived in San Francisco in 1879 and 1880. The ensuing two years he passed as a clerk in the employ of different merchants in Inyo county. The next two years he spent in the market business in San Francisco, whence he moved to Santa Clara county, where he remained twelve or fourteen years, including eight years at Milpitas. In 1893 he bought twenty acres of land at Lindsay and planted five acres of it. Four years later he removed to Lindsay. That was in the fall of 1897. He settled on his place near there and has planted it gradually to the present time, having at this time one hundred and twenty-five acres of orange orchard and about four hundred and fifty acres of raw land. He was an original stockholder and a manager of the El Mirador Land Company, which was organized about 1904, and has been handling about five thousand acres of land. He helped also to promote the Lindsay Orchard and Vineyard Tract of fifteen hundred acres, in which he owns a one-sixth interest.

The sons of Mr. Carle are named William Ashley and Jackson Tyler Carle. Both were born at Lindsay. The former is thirteen years old, the latter is ten years old, and they are both in school at Lindsay. The father has served as a school director and has in many ways demonstrated a helpful public spirit. Fraternally he is a Mason of the Royal Arch degree and is a Knight Templar of Visalia. When he came to Lindsay there were no orchards in this part of the county except one of forty acres that had been planted by Mr. Cairns.

FRED M. BARNEY

In Gouverneur, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., Mr. Barney was born September 10, 1884, a son of B. L. Barney. He came to Kings county, Cal., in 1891, when a boy of seven years, and attended the public and high school until he was twenty, graduating from Hanford high school in 1905. He then took up a government homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he has long since obtained title, and he farms

one hundred and sixty acres of land owned by his father, located three miles east of the city. While devoting himself somewhat to general farming, he raises fruits and grapes and specializes on hog raising, the breeding of mules and dairying. The farm is outfitted with a good residence, ample barns, stables and other outbuildings and up-to-date appointments such as are required. Mr. Barney studies his business very carefully, gives close attention to every detail and is very successful in his business operations.

Mr. Barney takes an intelligent interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the township and county, and is well informed and has decided opinions concerning all matters of public policy, state or national. He has in many ways demonstrated a helpful public spirit. On November 16, 1911, he married Margaret Kautenberg. He is a Master Mason, belongs to the Eastern Star and is devoted to Masonic principles and mindful of all precepts of the order.

ALBERT GALLATIN OGILVIE

Ohio has contributed as generously to the good citizenship of California as any other state in the Union, and the quality of its contribution does not suffer by comparison with that of any other. Albert Gallatin Ogilvie, a son of Ohio, who has become successful in Tulare county, Cal., was born in Delaware county March 25, 1856, a son of Johnson and Margaret (Norman) Ogilvie, who were born and brought up in Coshocton county, in the Buckeye state. He was an attendant of a country grammar school near his home until in 1874, when he was eighteen years old.

Early in life Mr. Ogilvie familiarized himself with the details of farming and of the development, handling and sale of nursery stock, and these interests have commanded his attention during most of his active life. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, the Knights of Pythias and the Artisans. In his religious adherence he is a Methodist, having identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal church of Alhambra, Los Angeles county, Cal. Politically his alliances are with the Republican party. Taking a deep and abiding interest in everything that pertains to the welfare and prosperity of the people of California and the United States, he has believed that they could be promoted better through the activities of that party than by means of any other influence. Personally his public spirit has been many times exerted for the good of the community. In fact he is responsive to every legitimate demand upon him in behalf of the general prosperity.

June 21, 1896, Mr. Ogilvie married Mrs. Sarah Frances (Jasper) Askin, daughter of James A. and Margaret E. Jasper, their marriage

having been solemnized at Lemon Cove, Cal. He has children named as follows: Harry J., who married Cora Blackburn; Addie F., Howard J., Laura A., Benjamin A., William J., Oscar O., Fred N., J. Raymond and J. Alden. Harry J. and Addie F. were born of a former marriage. By her first marriage Mrs. Ogilvie had three children: Elbert Leroy Askin; Margaret Myrl, now the wife of Frank L. Atwood, and Dora Bernice.

BYRON GLOYD COMFORT

One of the successful and scientific farmers in the vicinity of Hanford, Kings county, is Byron G. Comfort, who has been a resident of the county since 1887. He was born at Palatine, Ill., June 17, 1863, and attended public schools near his home until he was seventeen years old. Then he found employment on farms and saved a little money with which he came to California and eventually settled near Hanford. His farming here was successful and he was soon enabled to buy a ranch of one hundred acres on which he has lived since 1902. He gives his attention to hog raising, dairying and general farming, making a study of his land, the climate, the crops and of everything that can in any way influence productiveness, and it is probable that he has met with as few failures as any farmer in his vicinity.

In 1886 Mr. Comfort married Miss Carrie H. Drullard, who was born in Stockton, Cal., February 22, 1864. They have four children living, here named in the order of their nativity; Elvira G., Almer B., Ward R. and Wayne M. Of much public spirit and with a real desire for the uplift of his community, Mr. Comfort has commended himself to his fellow townsmen as one who may be depended on to advance to the extent of his ability any movement which in his opinion tends to the general good.

LEVI BLOYD

The prominent contractor and builder of Hanford whose name is above was born in Sutter county, Cal., April 22, 1864, and was quite young when his parents came to what is now Kings county and located four miles west of Hanford, where his father homesteaded a quarter-section of land and bought a quarter-section of railroad land. There Levi grew up and attended the public schools and later farmed until 1898, since when he has lived at Hanford. He learned the carpenter's trade with David Gamble and was with him seven years as foreman.

For a time he was employed at cement work and afterward with the San Joaquin Light and Power Company. Because the latter employment kept him much of the time away from home, he gave it up and turned his attention to contracting and building, and since that time has built many residences, among which are some of the finest in Hanford and vicinity, those of Lyman Farmer, I. R. Horton and E. Pickrell being among them. While his operations have been confined principally to buildings of this class, he has done other work, including the fixtures and show windows in the Brown & Nieson store, those of the Hanford Hardware Co., and improvements on the Stewart packing house. In the cement department of his work he has his brother, Winfield S. Boyd, as a partner. He employs several carpenters and several cement workers. As his merits as a contractor and builder become known he is brought constantly into a larger and yet larger demand, and there are those who predict that his operations will in time surpass in volume those of any other builder in the county in his peculiar fields.

On March 4, 1886, Mr. Boyd married Miss Rose Ellis, a native of Stanislaus county, Cal., who had come to Kings county, and they have a daughter and two sons. Hazel married William Tyler, and they reside in Kings county; they have a daughter, Rosalee. Raymond is becoming a machinist at Hanford. Stanley is a student. Mr. Boyd is a member of the Fraternal Aid and of the Improved Order of Red Men. As a citizen he is public-spiritedly helpful.

R. J. ESTES

In Alabama, January 16, 1865, was born R. J. Estes, who lives on the Orosi rural free delivery route No. 1, Box 64, Tulare county, Cal., a son of Jack and Jane (Berry) Estes, who when he was about a year old took him to Mississippi, where they were early pioneers, settling thirty miles from any other human inhabitant. There young Estes grew to manhood, obtained some little education and was initiated into the mysteries of backwoods farming and familiarized with all the sports of a new country, including hunting, of which he became very fond. His father procured most of the living for the family in the woods. It has been estimated that he killed thousands of deer and many thousands of turkeys. It is certain that he made quite a deal of money from deerskins. He attended many turkey shoots and was usually the winner of most or all of the prizes offered. He lived out his days there and died in 1901. His wife survives him and is now living on their old homestead in Mississippi.

Until he was twenty-six years old, R. J. Estes lived in Mississippi. He married there Miss Anna Watson, who was born in Alabama and

who has borne him a daughter, Troy Estes, who was graduated from the Visalia high school in 1902 and is married to Van La Port, a native of Iowa, and has a son, Wythal La Port, who is a student in the public school of Bakersfield. Mr. Estes came to California in 1890 and began farming in Tulare county. He is working eighty acres of the Vacovich land, having sixty acres devoted to grapes, twenty acres to oranges. His ranch is outfitted with everything essential to its successful cultivation and all the improvements have been installed by himself. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and with the Fraternal Aid. He is a member of the Christian church, generous in support of all its interests. Politically he is a Democrat, thoroughly alive to all economic questions of the day and public-spiritedly solicitous for the welfare of the community.

MIKE V. GARCIA

A native of the Azores, M. V. Garcia was born June, 1861. He is now a highly esteemed citizen of Tulare county, living one mile south of Sultana. He grew up and was educated near the place of his birth and in 1882, when he was twenty-one years old, came to the United States, landing at Boston. From there he came to Alameda county, Cal., where he raised sheep two years. Then he made his advent in Tulare county and broadened his operations until he had one of the notable sheep-herding enterprises in his vicinity, handling French and Spanish Merinos and other fine grades, which he was able to dispose of at a large profit. At one time he owned five thousand sheep, at another he raised twenty-five hundred lambs in one season. In those days the sheep industry was at high tide. The country was new and unimproved and antelope, bear and deer were to be seen in all directions and all kinds of game were plentiful in the mountains. He remembers having made what he calls "a summer trip" into the Blue mountains and back to Fresno. His outdoor life brought him many strange acquaintances, and he knew Sontag and Evans very well and was the only witness of their capture. He relates how Evans went over to Mrs. Beekin's and Sontag was killed. These desperadoes were often at Coalinga, and menaced every good citizen. Though they did not molest Mr. Garcia personally, he has said: "I was glad to get out. I did not know what was under ground." He often saw the Dalton brothers and he remembers when they went through Antelope valley.

Eventually Mr. Garcia sold his sheep, five thousand head, at from \$3.75 to \$5 a head, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he operated from 1901 to 1910, then sold for \$24,800 cash. In all the business transactions here referred to Mr. Garcia demon-

strated that he was a man of ability for large affairs. He has identified himself with American institutions and is a member of the Republican party, but inclined to be independent. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masons and with the U. P. E. C. As a citizen he is public-spiritedly helpful to all good interests of the community.

On the day of the San Francisco earthquake, April 18, 1906, Mr. Garcia was married by telegraph to Francisea Silva, an old sweetheart in the Azores, at an expense of \$36. She died December 30, 1907. His present wife, whom he married December 2, 1911, was before their marriage Miss Mariana Tavaz, also a native of the Azores, who had come to the United States on the same vessel as her husband and was married in Boston. In 1911 Mr. Garcia left California and began a year of travel through the United States and the old country, meeting with many people and investigating social conditions. He finally came to the conclusion that California offered inducements unsurpassed and returned here and purchased twenty acres of land, part of a tract he had formerly owned. Here he has begun improvements and is making a comfortable home.

CHRIST S. HANSEN

Many natives of Denmark have made good in central California and in Tulare county, though not one has achieved higher repute for all that makes for the best American citizenship than Christ S. Hansen, who is making a success of vines and fruit trees two miles and a half northwest of Orosi. Descended from old Danish families, Mr. Hansen was born December 23, 1874, and was reared and educated in his native land. He was about thirty years old when, in 1904, he came to the United States. California was his objective point and he lived a year in Fresno, where he arrived with his wife and two children with a cash capital of \$50. However, he bought his present ranch of forty acres at \$125 an acre and has partly paid for it and in many ways improved it. He has thirty acres in Muscats, Thompson and Emperor grapes, a peach orchard of one and one-half acres, and sold in 1910 twelve tons of Thompson and Muscat raisins and about thirty tons of Emperor table grapes. He has five head of stock on his place. As a farmer he is proceeding along scientific lines and is winning an enviable success. Politically he is a Republican, and Mrs. Hansen is a voter in the same party. They are members of the Presbyterian church. His public spirit makes him helpful to all good interests of the community. He married, in 1899, in his native land, Miss Sene Nelson, and they have children named Carla M. and Ester, who are students in the public school at Orosi.

LEWIS BRUCE

The science of osteopathy has made a place for itself among recognized curative agencies, and the practitioner of osteopathy is entrenched as firmly in the good opinion of the general public as are the regular practitioners of medicine and surgery. A leader in this field in Kings county, Cal., is Lewis Bruce, whose office is in the Sharples building in Hanford. A native of Cass county, Iowa, born December 5, 1878, he received his elementary education in public schools near the home of his youth. In 1899, just before he became of age, he entered the Dr. S. S. Still College of Osteopathy, at Des Moines, Iowa, where he was graduated in 1902, and during the vacation which followed he took special courses in official surgery and gynecology. He began the practice of his profession at Greenfield, Iowa, in February, 1902, and in June, 1903, came to Hanford, where he has devoted himself to general practice with much success, specializing in chronic diseases.

As a business man the subject of this notice is coming to the front in different ways. He is a director of the Lindsay National Bank at Lindsay, Tulare county, and owns an interest in a citrus nursery near Riverside, Riverside county, on which are thirty thousand trees. For a time he was engaged in raising racing horses of good blood and capabilities. He owned Beauty N. (trotting record, 2:23), also Sir Valentine, a three-year-old colt which in 1911 took the first premium as a two-year-old and holds the championship over all other standard-bred stallions of any age. Dr. Bruce was one of the incorporators in 1912 of the Blue Ribbon Manufacturing Company, with \$100,000 capital, to be located in Hanford; the principal article for manufacture will be the Blue Ribbon pump.

By his marriage with Olive L. Peterson, of Iowa, in 1903, Dr. Bruce has a daughter, LaVerne Gloria. As a private citizen he takes a deep and abiding interest in all that pertains to the advancement of his city, county and state, and he has often manifested a public spirit responsive to all reasonable demands upon it.

ELIAS T. COSPER

Indiana has given to California many popular and successful men, among them the prominent lawyer and man of public affairs whose name is above. It was in Noble county, that state, that Elias T. Cosper was born, May 12, 1849. He was educated in public schools in his native county and at the LaGrange Collegiate Institute at Ontario, LaGrange county, Ind., having been graduated from the last-named institution about 1870. For a time thereafter he taught school

in Indiana, Ohio and Iowa, and so successful was he in this calling that he was made superintendent of the school at Lima, Ind. By this time his reputation was so well established that his services were sought as superintendent of the schools of LaGrange county, in which office he served two terms with efficiency and honor. Meanwhile he had determined to become a lawyer and was already well read in the principles of the profession. Finishing his law studies under the preceptorship of J. D. Ferrall of LaGrange, he was admitted to the bar of Indiana in 1878. After eight years' successful practice there he located in Tulare, Cal., in 1886, opening an office, afterwards associating J. F. Boller with him as partner, and this relationship continued four years. He was elected to represent his district in the thirty-third session of the California legislative assembly, in which, as well as in the special session in which the Hon. Thomas Bard was elected United States senator, he served with distinguished ability and credit. Meanwhile he had moved from Tulare to Hanford, where, after the expiration of his legislative service, he formed a law partnership with H. P. Brown, which existed two years, since when he has been in independent practice with offices located in the Emporium building. From the time of his settlement at Tulare he was prominent in Republican politics and eventually was made chairman of the county Republican central committee, an office which he filled for several years while acting as a member of important committees of that body.

As a lawyer Mr. Cosper has had to do with a large number of important cases. His defense of Ike Daly, the murderer, is a matter of record as well as of history. He also appeared in the defense of Frank Smith and of Ward, the burglar, and bore a conspicuous part in the water cases of Lovelace versus the Empire Insurance Company and the C. A. Reagan and Patrick Talent will contests.

In 1884 Mr. Cosper married Miss Sarah Moore, at LaGrange, Ind. Their son, Volney B., of San Francisco, is superintendent of the Sartorius Structural Steel and Iron Company's works. Their daughter, Laura M., is the wife of H. L. Bradley of San Antonio, Tex. Mr. Cosper became a Mason at LaGrange, Ind., and is a member of Hanford Lodge No. 279, F. & A. M. It was at LaGrange, too, that he became an Odd Fellow. Here he affiliates with Hanford Lodge No. 264 and with Encampment No. 68, and with Truth Rebekah Degree Lodge No. 326. Court Reges of the Independent Order of Foresters includes him in its membership. His interests in the advancement and development of Hanford early made him a promoter of the Chamber of Commerce idea for the town and he is a member of the present local body, as he was also of earlier organizations of similar aims. As a communicant of the Episcopal church he has at heart the various interests of the local organization and has for some time been an active member of its vestry.

HENRY AND PHILENA A. MURPHY

The well-known breeder of horses, hogs, sheep and cattle, whose name introduces this brief notice, was born in Dennison, Clark county, Ill., in 1836, and when he was three years old he was taken to Woodford county, in the same state, where his parents established a new home. There they lived until 1854, when Henry was eighteen years old. Meanwhile he had attended school as opportunity offered and had acquired a practical knowledge of farming as then prosecuted in that part of the country. In the year last mentioned the family went to Iowa. There Mr. Murphy lived until 1860, when he went to Pike's Peak, Colo. After leaving Colorado in May, 1863, he took a pack train to the gold mines in Montana, and after selling his outfit took up mining. In February, 1864, he opened up the first paying claim on Alder creek, in Pine Grove district, six miles above Virginia city. The claim was a good one, yielding \$40,000 returns. He took his gold to Philadelphia to the mint to be coined, and was there when Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. After disposing of his gold to a Broadway banker in New York city, Mr. Murphy went to Barton county, Mo., where he purchased considerable land and erected two stoneware pottery plants at Lamar, Mo. In 1880 he erected the finest cut-stone building in Barton county. Two years later he engaged in the grocery business in Lamar and subsequently he removed to Wolsey, S. Dak., remaining there two years, when he came to California and settled on the north fork of Tule river, where he now makes his home. This property was inherited by Mrs. Murphy, it formerly belonging to her father. The property comprises eight hundred acres, and this Mr. Murphy is operating with much profit, giving special attention to horses, hogs, sheep and cattle. So extensive is his business that he has become known as one of the leading stockmen in his part of the county.

In 1879 Mr. Murphy married Philena A. Bailey, a native of Ohio. When he came to the county it was mostly wild land and he was one of the pioneers in improvement in his vicinity. He has watched the development of this now rich region and has done whatever was possible to encourage and promote it. To those who best know him it is well known that no legitimate appeal to his public spirit is unheeded. While he is not active in political work he entertains very definite convictions concerning all questions of public policy, and always favors such men and measures as he believes promise to confer the greatest good upon the greatest number. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have no children of their own, but have taken into their home and brought up and educated ten orphan children.

CHARLES HENRY HOWARD

A man who is well regarded in Hanford and Kings county is Charles Henry Howard, who formerly had to do with ranching and with the oil industry, and who will be remembered for his prominence in the partition of the county. Maine is the native state of Mr. Howard, his birth occurring February 3, 1850. He attended the common schools of the Pine Tree State, which from time immemorial has been famous for its public educational system. When he laid away his school books it was to take up the implements of the carriage builder and in time he became expert in their use, setting up for himself as a carriage builder at Brownsfield in Oxford county, western Maine, where he prospered until the spring of 1884, when he came to California. In the fall of the same year he located in Hanford and for the succeeding eighteen years he most efficiently filled the position of superintendent of A. L. Cressy's ranch, a mile from the city. His principal concern there was with respect to stockraising, and he soon developed into one of the best informed, most careful and most proficient stockmen in central California.

While Mr. Howard was thus employed he bought forty acres of land three and a half miles southwest of Hanford which he developed into a profitable vineyard and which has been for some time operated by tenants on sharing terms. He also made some investments in oil property which turned out quite well. In 1884 he married Miss Addie F. Harmon, a native of Maine, who passed away December 21, 1910. Gifted with all of the natural progressiveness of the down-east Yankee and imbued with the spirit of western progress, Mr. Howard has been interested in everything pertaining to the development of his community and helpful to all local interests.

CLAUDE D. COATS

One of the prominent farmers and stockmen in the Paddock district, eight miles southwest of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., is Claude D. Coats. Mr. Coats was born at Dayton, Nev., December 9, 1860, a son of Thomas Coats, who was until the end of his career a leader in mining enterprises in that part of the country. The family had been at Fort Churchill four months during Indian troubles and were returning to their home in Virginia City, stopping at Dayton to look after some mining business when their son was born. In October, 1881, after his father's death, Claude located a mile east of his present ranch. He and his brother L. B. Coats rented one hundred and sixty acres and were associated in farming and stock-raising for fifteen years. Meanwhile Claude D. Coats bought two hundred and

forty acres, which is included in his present home property. He moved onto the ranch in 1890 and has since made all the improvements for which the property is well known throughout the county. While his principal business is the raising of horses and hogs, he does some farming and has one hundred and twenty acres in alfalfa. Some years ago he bought and sold seventy-three and one-half acres about a mile distant from his homestead.

By his marriage in June, 1902, Mr. Coats united his life and fortunes with those of Miss Mattie Finley, a native of Contra Costa county, August 29, 1864, but a resident of Santa Rosa, Sonoma county. They have many friends in the country round about Hanford who rejoice in their success thus far and express the firmest faith in their future. Mr. Coats is a man of much natural public spirit who is interested in the growth and development of Kings county.

JOHN V. CREATH

In his successful career as a contractor and builder, John V. Creath, whose place is at the corner of I and King streets, Tulare, in the California county of that name, has demonstrated the value of originality and initiative. He is a native-born Californian and his life began in Merced county in 1873. He was only a baby when his family moved back to the place in the East whence they had come out to the West. In 1888, when he was about fifteen years old, he went to Phoenix, Arizona, where he engaged in mining and as opportunity offered worked at the carpenter's trade. He came to Tulare in 1906 and has risen to prominence as a contractor and builder. Among the structures which are monuments to his enterprise and industry are the Post Office building at Tulare, the Moore block and the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery building. He constructed the concrete dam across the Tule river near Porterville, built twelve buildings on the Tagus ranch, built several houses in Lindsay, built a set of buildings on the R. F. Gearing ranch and another on the McGarver and Walker ranch. In fact, he makes a specialty of designing plans for complete sets of ranch buildings which he erects so substantially and artistically that they attract attention and proclaim his talent and skill as nothing else could do. In addition to the achievements mentioned he has erected many buildings of different kinds throughout the country. In 1911 he built twelve houses on unimproved property in Tulare City. His business gives constant employment to from ten to twenty-five men and requires the use of two automobiles. In the winter of 1912 he built the town of Graham, twenty five miles west of Fresno, for B. F. Graham.

October 9, 1895, Mr. Creath married Miss June B. Allison, who

was born in Illinois, and they have children named Ralph, James, Florence and Donald. Mr. Creath is identified with local lodges of Eagles, Red Men and Woodmen of the World. He is too busy to take active part in political work, but has a good knowledge of public questions, local and general, and a well defined opinion as to how he should vote in order to further the best interests of the people at large.

MRS. CATHERINE LOUISA TRAUT

In Livingston county, state of New York, June 10, 1836, the lady mentioned above, a citizen of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., was born and in the state of Pennsylvania she grew to womanhood. May 23, 1860, she married Henry A. Traut, a native of Girard, Erie county, Pa., born August 14, 1830. In 1890 they settled at Texarkana, Ark., whence in 1898 they came to Kings county, Cal. They lived at Grangeville when they came to the county and later bought five acres of land in the Emma Lee Colony and remained for about seven years, engaged in raising fruit and farming. In 1903 they sold out their California interests and returned to their old home in Pennsylvania for a visit, but came back to California before the end of that year, and in 1904 bought twenty acres half a mile north of the north limits of Hanford, a portion of which was in orchard, the balance pasture land. In 1906 they sold ten acres of this tract, retaining ten acres, which is now the home of Mrs. Traut.

It was at Girard, Pa., already mentioned as his birthplace, that Henry A. Traut was raised. When he was twenty-one years old he came to California, where he mined for eight years. Then, returning to Pennsylvania, he married and engaged in farming and merchandising. Eventually he removed to Arkansas, where he continued to sell goods until his failing health made it necessary for him to come back to California. Here he gave his attention to fruit growing until his death, which occurred May 7, 1907. Socially he affiliated with the Masons, and he and his wife were identified with the order of the Eastern Star from the time of coming to Kings county. They early identified themselves with the Methodist Episcopal church. Their one child, Minnie, died aged five years, in 1866. Mrs. Traut was a daughter of Samuel L. and Hannah (Crooks) Buckbee. Her father died soon after the beginning of the Civil war. There were many bushwhackers in the neighborhood at the time of his funeral and his family found it advisable to conceal from them the fact of his death. Those were strttmuous times in Missouri, when the Buckbee family was then living, and it was understood by Mrs. Traut and her

friends that Confederate marauders had decorated their bridle reins with scalps of Federal sympathizers. Thomas J. Buckbee enlisted at Chillicothe, Mo., in 1861, in the Federal cavalry, with which he served during the war. His brother David enlisted in 1861 also and served three years in the same Missouri regiment, then, instead of re-enlisting, came home to care for his aged mother. Thomas was the eldest and David was the second brother of Mrs. Trant.

PARKER RICE BROOKS

In the old state of Georgia, in the heart of the South, P. R. Brooks, now of Sultana, Tulare county, Cal., was born September 24, 1857, a son of Micager and Susan (Sansing) Brooks, both natives of Georgia. While he was yet an infant he was taken by his parents to Texas, where the family lived a short time. In 1858, with ox-teams, they made a six months' journey across the plains to California. They met many Indians, but were not seriously molested by them. Young Hambrite of the party was drowned in crossing the Colorado river. The Brooks family arrived at Porterville in the fall of the same year and they have lived in this part of the state ever since. The father of the family was a stock-raiser and for some time owned many sheep.

P. R. Brooks was a stockman from 1868 to 1893. Later he bought a homestead in Yokohl valley, one hundred and sixty acres of new land, and from time to time other tracts in the valley and in the hills near by. At the time he was proving up on his land the country was new and wild, with cattle, sheep and horses ranging in all directions. He has watched the progress of civilization and the agricultural changes that have developed Tulare county into vast fields of grain with vines and trees that are making it famous, not only as a farming district, but as a wonderful land of grapes and oranges. For several years past he has lived in Sultana, but has given his attention to important interests in the vicinity. On two tracts of leased land, one of one hundred and twenty acres, the other of three hundred and twenty acres, lying in the valley, he has hatched twenty-five hundred turkeys and has at this time fourteen hundred and fifty. He has forty acres near Sultana, purchased in 1901, which he calls his home, thirty acres of it in vineyard and orchard, the remainder in pasture. For the past thirty years he has given attention to turkeys, raising many each season. Since January, 1912, he has resided upon his home place and is looking after that with the care he has always displayed. When he began here there was plenty of wild game in the country, including elk, of which he saw more than one thousand specimens, and the territory now

within the limits of the county had not a population of more than two thousand souls.

In his politics, Mr. Brooks, formerly a Democrat, now inclines to Socialism. He married, near Hanford, Miss Ellen Burr, a native of Shasta county, Cal., who has borne him seven children—Myrtle (the wife of Clyde Bursford), Harry, Lillie, Dwight, Minnie, Josephine and Carmen. Josephine is attending school at Fresno.

JAMES MAXWELL CANN

September 1, 1861, James Maxwell Cann was born in Kentucky. In 1880, when he was not yet twenty years old, he went to Missouri, where he remained until 1886. His parents were John Miller and Margaret Franklin (Calhoun) Cann, of English ancestry. He married, near Visalia, Tulare county, Miss Lizzie L. Howell, who was born near Bozeman, Mont., and they have two children. Lewis H. studied at St. Mary's College, Oakland, and is playing professional baseball known as "Mike" Cann; Margaret J. is attending the State Normal school at Fresno.

Soon after his arrival in this county, in the spring of 1886, Mr. Cann found employment in cutting grain with a combined harvester. In 1887 he was employed in a flouring mill and for several years thereafter was in the grain business, for different companies. There was little business then in the country round about except the raising of grain. At Sultana he was later employed in a grain warehouse until his fruit on his ranch had grown to the paying point, he having carefully nursed it in the meantime and done something toward the development of his land otherwise. His property is located in the Alta Irrigation district, the ditch for which was completed about twenty years ago. The district itself was established in 1889. Before the days of irrigation, land could have been bought for \$2.50 an acre. With irrigation started, land cost Mr. Cann \$37.50 an acre for open stubble field without improvement. He planted thirty acres to Malaga and Sultana grapes and has five acres of Elberta peaches. His Malagas have brought him \$200 to \$300 per acre, his Sultanas have yielded a ton and a quarter to the acre. His experience covers all of the latter-day development of this district, he having seen raw land hereabouts increase in price from \$2.50 to \$200 and \$250 an acre in twenty-five years.

Having cast his first presidential vote for Grover Cleveland in 1884, Mr. Cann has been a consistent Democrat to the present time. In a fraternal way he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. Mrs. Cann is identified with the Women of Woodcraft and with the Eastern Star, and is a communicant of the Christian church.

L. W. BARDSLEY

This native of Missouri was brought to California by his parents when he was seven years old, when the family of Lafayette and Mary Bardsley, after a short stop in Sonoma county and another in San Diego, located in Poway valley. There young Bardsley grew to manhood and obtained an education in the public schools. He labored there principally at farming until he was twenty-five years old, when he rented a ranch near Santa Ana, Orange county, which he developed and operated with profit in connection with several pieces of land which he had rented, raising alfalfa and conducting a dairy until December, 1904, when he came to the neighborhood of Tulare. He bought eighty acres of the E. DeWitt ranch, on which he put all improvements including a residence, farm buildings and fences and made of it a fine dairy on which he keeps about twenty-five cows and raises and handles calves and horses for the market, incidentally keeping about twenty hogs; he is well known for his fine Holstein cattle. Sixty acres of his land is in alfalfa and he has a two-acre peach orchard, and the remainder is devoted to his stock. He was one of the organizers and is now one of the directors of the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery company of Tulare and is a stockholder in the Tulare Rochdale association. Besides having achieved success as farmer and dairyman, considerable notice is given to his fine Percheron horses, which he is breeding more and more extensively each year.

In 1895 Mr. Bardsley married Miss Maud E. Hartzell, a native of Iowa, daughter of the late Capt. T. B. Hartzell of San Diego, and who had become a resident in the Poway valley. They have a daughter, Zoe L. Bardsley. Fraternally Mr. Bardsley associates with the Red Men, the Woodmen of the World, the Eagles, and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which last order he holds membership in lodge and encampment and with the Rebekahs. As a citizen he is helpfully public-spirited.

WILLIAM B. WEST

The late William B. West, of Tulare county, Cal., was born in Henry county, Mo., in September, 1837, and died at his home in Porterville, October 13, 1903. He was reared in his native state and remained there until 1875, devoting himself to farming. His parents were natives of Kentucky, representatives of that old Southern stock that has done so much honor to American citizenship in successive generations. His wife, Ellen M. Gordon, also of Kentucky ancestry, was born in November, 1841, in Johnson county, Mo., a daughter of

Dr. Presley and Margaret (Wingfield) Gordon, and their union dated from March, 1857. She bore him five children, of whom only one is living. Rowena married William Moore and died in Tulare county; Thomas G. died at Visalia; William P. died in Tulare county as the result of a railroad accident, and Eunice also passed away in Tulare county. Nancy E. married Elias McDarment and is living near the Indian agency in Tulare county.

Mr. West and family settled near Porterville in 1875 and remained here up to the time of his death. He owned forty acres of land on Deer Creek, remained there six years, then moved to Porterville, which remained their home until he located on eighty acres in the Poplar district. He also invested in business and residence property in town. Mrs. West managed the ranch after her husband's death until September, 1912, when she sold out and moved to Porterville. When she and her husband came to California, in 1875, the country round about Porterville was very thinly settled and improvements in that part of the county were very few. Together they watched and assisted in the wonderful development that transformed Central California from raw territory to a vast garden of almost incalculable riches. She has seen the price of land in her vicinity advance from \$20 an acre to \$200 an acre and she owns town property at Porterville worth now more than \$10,000, for which her husband paid \$450 in the latter part of the '80s. Mr. West was highly respected by the many who came to know him and won an enviable reputation as a man of public spirit who was ready at any time to do anything within his ability for the uplift and development of his community. He was road overseer and helped build the roads in his locality. His widow is maintaining his enlightened and liberal policies.

SCHNERER & DOWNING

The house of Schnerer & Downing, bottlers and distributors of beer at Hanford, is one of the leading concerns of its kind in Kings county, Cal., the partners in the enterprise being Joseph Schnerer and Thomas Downing. Mr. Schnerer came to Hanford in 1885 and bought the soda bottling works of M. Hegele, which he conducted with success until 1899. It was in 1890 that Mr. Downing came to the town. For several months after his arrival he worked at his trade as a bricklayer, but in 1891 he began to bottle and wholesale beer and his business was increasingly profitable until 1899, and at that time Messrs. Schnerer and Downing combined their interests and consolidated their two establishments. So wise was this depart-

ture that they not only abolished mutual competition, but put themselves in a way materially to enlarge their combined interests. They have the local agency for the Wielands and Raimier beers, which they bottle and distribute throughout Hanford and its trade territory. They are owners of valuable business property in Hanford and Mr. Schnereger is a director of the Old Bank. There is no interest of the town, no proposition for the public uplift that does not have the moral and financial support of these two enterprising and progressive citizens.

WILLIAM STANTON BROWN

January 9, 1859, William Stanton Brown, who now lives a mile west of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., was born in Henry county, Mo., a son of William and Sallie Ann (Davis) Brown. They had a daughter, Mattie, who is the wife of David Pearson, of Hollister, Cal. The father died in Callaway county, Mo., in 1864. In 1865, W. H. Davis, Mrs. Brown's father, came across the plains to California, and in 1867 Mrs. Brown came out by way of the Isthmus of Panama, bringing her son and daughter. They had to take the train from Mexico, Mo., for New York, via St. Louis and Chicago, and embarked on the Henry Chancer for Panama, thence to San Francisco on the Sacramento, arriving on December 3, 1867. They located in Stanislaus county, where Mr. Davis farmed and later he established a ferry across the Tuolumne river, which was in operation before the bridge was built at Modesto, in 1869. He had made his first stop in California at Stockton, farming one year, then he took up a half-section of land, in 1867, and farmed in Stanislaus county.

From 1872 to 1875 W. S. Brown did farm work near Woodville, in Tulare county, then lived a year with his grandfather at Modesto, attending school. Returning to Tulare county, he located at Grangeville and was employed on different farms until 1887. During the period, 1887-90, he rented what is now the Kimble prune orchard. Then he set out and improved a prune orchard of two hundred and forty acres, of which he was foreman until 1893. In 1893-94 he worked the Ayers ranch near Grangeville, and in 1894 moved onto twenty three acres two miles west of Hanford, which he had bought in 1891. After two years' residence there he rented the Bardin ranch of four hundred acres, which he farmed 1897-1903. About that time he bought eighty acres of that property. In 1905 he bought forty six acres adjoining his other ranch. In 1909 he built a fine two-story house on his eighty-acre tract. In 1912, with Lee Camp, he bought eighty acres of the S. W. Hall ranch, two and one-half

miles south of Hanford, all in peaches, prunes and vineyard. He has fifty acres in vineyard, forty-five acres in peaches and apricots, has improved his property in every way, and gives attention to general farming. From time to time he has interested himself in noteworthy enterprises and he is now a stockholder in the California State Life Insurance company. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. In 1891 he married Miss Jennie McCamish, a native of Henry county, Iowa, and a daughter of the late R. B. McCamish, of Orange county, Cal.

LEO LEONI

One of the successful farmers of Hanford and vicinity is Leo Leoni, who was born in Canton Ticino, Switzerland, in 1865. He remained in his native land until 1884, when he came to California and located in what is now Kings county. For five years after his arrival he was employed as a farm hand, then renting land in various parts of the county at different times, engaged in grain farming for himself. After several successful years he made his first purchase of land, consisting of twenty acres near Grangeville, which he set out to fruit and grapes. As he prospered he kept adding to his holdings from time to time, buying, improving and selling, and in 1906, purchased forty-two and one-half acres west of the city limits of Hanford, which is now known as the Pfeil tract. At intervals he sold a greater part of this acreage, retaining his home place, which he now occupies with his family. Mr. Leoni buys and sells real estate, is a stockholder in the Farmers' and Merchants' bank of Hanford, has other interests of various kinds, and in many ways shows his public spirit.

In 1906 Mr. Leoni was united in marriage with Lena Onesti, a daughter of A. Onesti, and a native of Tulare county. They are the parents of two children, Milton and Verna.

HON. E. DEWITT

The busy, useful and patriotic citizen of Tulare county whose patriotic interests and unusual executive ability have won him much commendation throughout the county, is E. DeWitt, who was born in Kentucky, February 5, 1844. His family left that state when he was a mere boy, and coming to California in 1859, his father located with his household at Red Bluff, whence removal was later made to Colusa county. There young DeWitt lived until 1872, when

he was about twenty-eight years old, and from that time until in 1877 he was in the dairy business in Nevada. Then, coming to Tulare county, he located on government land near Deer creek, where he lived two years. In 1879 he settled on eighty acres just east of Tulare on which he lived until 1893, when he moved into the city and made his home until in 1908, farming meanwhile near that town. In the year last mentioned he moved to his present location, two miles and a half southwest of Tulare, which consists of three hundred and sixty acres of land which he had bought in 1903. He has since sold all but one hundred and twenty acres of this land and now has eighty acres in alfalfa, the balance in grazing land.

Politics from the point of view of the Democrat has commanded Mr. DeWitt's attention since he was a young man. He has served many years as a member of the Democratic County Central committee and was elected to represent his district in the state legislature at the session of 1885 and the extra session of 1886. He is a member of the board of directors of the Tulare Irrigation district, and as such has served ably for eight years, and he superintended the building of the Kaweah canal and in a general way has been influential in the work of canal and ditch construction.

In 1870 Mr. DeWitt married Margaret Ford, of Yolo county, and they have children as follows: Marcus of Porterville; Mrs. Edmondson of Tulare; Mrs. Frank Ellsworth of Tulare; Mrs. Joseph Sherman of Visalia; Mrs. Gertrude Evans of San Francisco, and H. C. DeWitt.

ROBERT P. FINCHER

It was in Kansas, the Sunflower state, that Robert P. Fincher was born June 3, 1857, son of Nelson and Paulina (Moore) Fincher, and there he lived until in 1862, when the family removed to California. As a forty-niner the father had visited that state before, coming overland and returning by way of the Isthmus, and had mined three years in Shasta, Sacramento and Placer counties. Now he brought his family overland, with a train of one hundred and eight wagons. Homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Stanislaus county, seven miles northeast of Modesto, he lived there twenty-five years. He then sold out and went to Fresno, where he passed away April, 1908. He was a native of North Carolina; his wife, who died in 1887, was born in Tennessee. There were born to them six daughters and five sons, all of whom are living. Alice is the wife of Prof. C. P. Evans of San Diego. Mary married G. D. Wootten, of Santa Cruz. Jesse M. lives at Madera and Nancy is

the wife of John High of that city. James, Letitia, Francis, Elizabeth, Vetal and Matilda live at Fresno.

Robert P. was reared at Modesto, where he remained until 1876, when at the age of nineteen he took up the battle of life for himself in Modoc county, where he was employed by Captain Barnes for a year as a buyer of cattle and a breaker of horses. After that he came home and in 1879 went to Nevada, where he bought and sold cattle until in 1881, when he came back to Modesto and purchased a ranch near Oakdale, where he farmed five years. Meantime, in 1882, a dry year, he went to British Columbia and for a time worked on a railroad near Westminster. Later he was employed for a while in a lumber camp near Seattle. Returning to Modesto in 1885 he worked his land until 1888, when he sold it and removed to Fresno, where he farmed until in 1890. Then he came to Tulare, now Kings county, and during the succeeding eighteen months was surveying land and locating settlers, until he took up land for himself near the lake. This he soon sold to William Hammond and went to work for L. Hansen. Then for three years he farmed land which belonged to Mr. Sharples. Next he moved onto the Woodgate place, which adjoins the Sharples ranch, where he lived until he bought ten acres of Mr. Hansen near his present homestead. He let this land go back and moved to Fresno and managed his father's ranch one year. Returning to Kings county he farmed Judge Neiswanger's place ten years. In the meantime he bought one hundred and sixty acres of the Stone ranch, on which he raised cattle three years, developing the land as rapidly as he was able. He sold this property and in 1908 bought his present ranch of eighty acres, eight miles southwest of Hanford. He has eight acres under vines and the remainder of the land is given over to alfalfa and pasturage. He has erected a fine residence, a good barn and other farm buildings and gives much attention to the breeding of cattle and hogs. In 1912 he purchased eighty acres five miles from his home place, which he intends putting in alfalfa.

In 1888 Mr. Fincher married Miss Minnie Hansen, a native of Germany, who had lived at Stockton and Modesto. They have had four children: Nelson, Mabel, Edna and Forrest. Nelson and Mabel died in Fresno. Edna was born in 1889 in Tulare county, and Forrest was born in 1891.

Of the first Sunday school of the Methodist church organized northeast of Modesto, Mr. Fincher was a member. It was organized in his father's house and his parents were influential in bringing it into existence. He was a student in the McHenry district school, the first school organized in Stanislaus county, and has during all his active life been a friend of education and a man of public

spirit. Fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the encampment and canton, and passed through the chairs of these organizations.

MARTHA J. BUCKBEE

Since Martha J. Buckbee has made her home with her cousin, Mrs. Catherine Louisa Traut, of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., she has been known and beloved by many citizens of Hanford and vicinity. She was born in Livingston county, N. Y., and was reared there on one of the large farms for which the Genesee valley is famous. Her parents were Edmund and Hannah (Clark) Buckbee. She has lived at the Traut homestead since October, 1909, when she took up her residence in Kings county. In 1905 Mary E. Buckbee, a sister, came to California, hoping to benefit her health, and found a home with Mrs. Traut, who cared for her with more than sisterly solicitude until her death, which occurred August 25, 1910. Before coming west the sisters Martha J. and Mary E. sold the old Buckbee homestead in New York. The former is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and during her residence here has affiliated with the Hanford congregation.

The only brother, Charles Buckbee, enlisted at the beginning of the Civil war in Company E, Eighty-fifth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, which regiment contained many recruits from Livingston county. After three years' service he veteranized by reenlistment, and was soon taken prisoner and confined in Andersonville prison, where he was kept for more than a year, and while being removed to another prison died as the result of starvation. During a portion of his service his regimental commander was Col. T. J. Thorpe, who is now at the Soldiers' Home at Sawtelle.

JESSE THOMAS TURNER

The native son of California whose name is above is a son of an overland pioneer of 1849 who is now living in San Joaquin county, and was born near Stockton, September 8, 1850. His education was obtained in the public schools and at a business college at Stockton. He assisted his father, James Turner, in the latter's farming operations, until in December, 1884. The elder Turner had bought the Hyde tract of fourteen hundred acres in 1881 and another tract of nine hundred acres in 1884. From the beginning of 1885 until 1897, Jesse Thomas Turner farmed an average of about one thousand acres of

his father's land on shares, the remainder of the large holding being devoted to live-stock, including cattle and hogs, and to summer fallow. In the fall of 1889 he bought four hundred and seven acres east of the Porterville road, and later he bought thirty acres more adjoining his first purchase. In 1897 he improved the place with a residence and other necessary buildings and has since made it his home and his sole field of agricultural enterprise. He has thirty acres of alfalfa and twenty acres of vineyard and usually devotes one hundred and ten acres to grain, though in some seasons he has given a good deal of attention to black-eyed beans. His vineyard produces fine raisin-grapes which he dries, selling an average of twenty tons annually. Though not making much of a specialty of stock, he raises cattle, horses and a few good hogs. During recent years he has rented one hundred and ten acres of his father's land, across the road from his own property, on which he has grown grain.

November 30, 1907, Mr. Turner married Mrs. Ada Ellis, who has a son by a former marriage. As a Mason he affiliates with Olive Branch lodge, F. & A. M., of Tulare, and is included in a Royal Arch chapter.

JAMES R. BEQUETTE

Conspicuous among those ambitious men who are fast coming to the front in Tulare county is that native son of the county, James R. Bequette of Lemon Cove, who was born near Farmersville, in 1861. His education in the public school, which was well begun, was interrupted when he was fourteen years old by the death of his father, a native of Missouri, who was a California pioneer of 1852. The years after that event which otherwise would have been devoted to his books he was obliged to spend in laboring for his living. His first independent ventures were in stock-raising, with which he was long successful. In 1909 he went into the fruit business and has since set out many orange trees, his entire place being now devoted to that fruit.

In 1891 Mr. Bequette married Miss Carrie McKee, a native of Missouri and a daughter of the late John McKee. Mrs. Bequette has borne her husband two daughters, Rita and Velma. The former was educated at the Lemon Cove public school and at the Exeter high school and is now in her seventeenth year. The latter, now in her fourteenth year, is attending school at Lemon Cove. Mr. Bequette's mother was a native of the state of New York. Mrs. Bequette's mother lives at Lemon Cove.

Fraternally Mr. Bequette affiliates with the organization of Artisans at Lemon Cove. While he is interested in political questions from the point of view of the intelligent voter, he is not a practical

politician and has never aspired to public preferment. He votes at all elections and usually deposits a Democratic ticket. In a public-spirited way he has always been devoted to the general interests of the community.

JACOB V. HUFFAKER

In Morgan county, Ill., Jacob V. Huffaker was born February 23, 1845, the eleventh in a family of thirteen, and passed away at Visalia, June 16, 1909, in his sixty-fifth year. His mother died when he was young and he was early compelled in a measure to look out for himself. He accompanied his father to Texas, where he herded cattle until in the spring of 1861, passing most of his time in the saddle. As a member of Captain White's company of three hundred and sixty-six wagons, he made the overland journey to California by way of the Platte and Snake rivers through Western Washington and Oregon, and arrived in California seven months after leaving his old home, having experienced many hardships on the way. The party was three days and nights crossing the Snake river, which they accomplished by caulking their wagons, thus transforming them practically into skiffs, which not without considerable difficulty they ferried over the stream. From time to time they met wandering bands of Indians, with whom they had fierce encounters, and Mr. Huffaker, being an experienced sharp-shooter, was able at one time to save the life of a companion named Wells.

At Visalia, Mr. Huffaker began his career in California as a breaker of wild horses and a herder of wild cattle, and in 1871 he rented an old stable at \$25 a month and embarked in the livery business. In 1882 he bought property of S. C. Brown on South Church street for \$1600. From time to time he took an interest in important enterprises at Visalia, where he was regarded as a representative citizen of much spirit and where he built up an enviable reputation as an honest, energetic, enterprising man of affairs. Fraternally he affiliated with Four Creek lodge No. 94, I. O. O. F., and with the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

In 1871 Mr. Huffaker married Miss Palestine Downing, a native of Missouri, and a daughter of Joseph and Louisa (Bell) Downing. Her father settled in Sacramento county and later farmed a year near Visalia. He died in Squaw Valley, in 1894, aged seventy-five years, his wife passing away in 1909, aged eighty-six years. Following are the names of their children: Mrs. Jacob V. Huffaker and Mrs. Clementine Weishar, twins; Mrs. Sarah Stout, of Fresno; William; Eli; and James. Mrs. Huffaker bore her husband these children:

William H.; Frederick E.; Joseph Edward; J. Arthur; Mrs. Elsie L. Dollner, and Harold P. Surrounded by children and friends, highly respected by all who know her, she is passing her declining years in her home at No. 530 North Court street, Visalia.

SAMUEL WHITSON HALL

The ranching and oil interests of Central California engage the attention of many men of ability and enterprise who succeed here not alone because of the fine natural opportunities presented by the country, but because they would succeed anywhere in any field of endeavor to which they might direct their attention. Of this class is Samuel Whitson Hall, who lives two miles west of Hanford, in Kings county. Mr. Hall was born in Tennessee, April 6, 1865, a son of John Ewell and Eliza Jane (Trigg) Hall. John Ewell Hall was born in Tennessee, May 11, 1831, the son of Wilson and Lucy (Ewell) Hall. He was reared on a farm in Bedford county, in that state, was educated in local public schools and farmed there until May 12, 1861, when he died. In 1854 he married Eliza Jane Trigg, daughter of William H. and Mary Ann (Whitson) Trigg, Tennesseans by birth. Mrs. Hall is now living with her son, Samuel Whitson Hall, of Kings county. She bore her husband twelve children, seven of whom are living, all in the vicinity of Hanford. Mary Priscilla is the wife of J. J. Cortner; Lucy Virginia married W. T. Holt; Neppie Jane is deceased; William Fergus Hall died November 27, 1912; Louis Edgar Hall and John Ewell Hall are next in order; George Arthur Hall and James Leroy Hall are deceased; Annie died in Tennessee; Finis Trigg Hall and Robert Vance Hall complete the family.

The immediate subject of this sketch, Samuel Whitson Hall, was reared on the old Hall homestead in Central Tennessee and came from there direct to Hanford in 1897. He bought land south of Hanford which remained his home until selling out in December, 1912. It consisted of eighty acres, fifty acres of which were devoted to vineyard, twenty-five to fruit trees. After he took possession he improved the place in many ways, setting out twenty acres of vines and eight acres of prunes and peaches. He bought forty acres of alfalfa land, half a mile west of the Hanford fair grounds, which he is farming to hay, but which he intends soon to set out to orchard. On this last property, where he is now residing, he has erected a fine modern home.

Not only farming but oil operations and other interests demand Mr. Hall's attention and abilities. He has been for some time identified with the oil industry in the Midway field in Kern county and is a

stockholder in the Visalia Midway Company, which has three good producing wells on eighty acres of its own land, and also in the Lacey Oil Company, which owns two sections of land in the Devil's Den country. As a public spirited citizen he is in the forefront of all movements for the general good. In local and national politics he takes an interest at once intelligent and patriotic. At his old home in Tennessee he was made a Mason and advanced to all degrees below those conferred in the Royal Arch body. He was raised to the Knights Templar degree at Hanford and is a member of Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco.

ELERY H. CHURCH

Nine miles south of Hanford, in Kings county, Cal., is the well appointed dairy farm of Elery H. Church, one of the most progressive and successful men in his line in that vicinity. Mr. Church is a Californian by right of birth, having been born in San Joaquin county August 7, 1875, a son of Caryl Church. When the son was yet quite young the father moved his family to Tulare county, and there Elery grew to manhood and gained an education in the public schools, meanwhile acquiring a pretty thorough training in farming on his father's ranch and under his father's careful instruction. His first venture for himself was on six hundred and forty acres of his father's land, and the following year he farmed eight hundred acres in the lake district. Thus far his success had been but indifferent. His next move was to his present homestead, which then consisted of one hundred acres, half of which he devoted to alfalfa, the remainder to general farming. In 1908 he bought eighty acres of farm land adjoining the original home farm on the west, and here his success has been all that he could have desired. His principal business is dairying, and he owns usually about forty cows, milking the year round from twenty to twenty-five, and raises each year as many hogs as he can conveniently feed.

In 1905 Miss Gertrude Brock, of Kings county, became Mr. Church's wife and she has borne him two children, Susan and Clifford. Not only does Mr. Church take rank with the leading farmers and dairymen in his part of the county, but as a citizen he has shown a patriotic devotion to the general good which has commended him to the good opinion of all who know him. Though he is not especially active in public work he fully performs his duty as a citizen, as a voter and otherwise, and has well defined opinions upon all questions of public policy and acts consistently with his party upon every question of political economy which is brought before the people.

EBER H. LA MARSNA

In the last quarter of a century the development of electricity and its application to many of the economies of our everyday life has involved in its scientific or commercial aspects the connection with the electrical business of many young men of exceptional natural abilities and of very exacting special training, and it has been the business in which a young man of the right spirit could begin at the bottom and speedily reach a high place. One of the young men of central California who has demonstrated this in his career is Eber H. La Marsna, agent for the Mt. Whitney Power Company at Tulare, Tulare county.

It was in Kansas that Mr. La Marsna was born December 31, 1875, and in January, 1887, he was brought to California by his father, Jeffery J. La Marsna, a biographical sketch of whom will be found in this work. He was reared in the Woodville district and educated in the public schools there, and in 1903 began his active business life in the employ of the Mt. Whitney Power Company at Porterville, and in the service of that corporation he labored a year and afterward at Visalia three years. During the succeeding three years he was in the feed and fuel business on his own account in Bakersfield, Cal. From Bakersfield he went to Arizona and was engaged in the electrical business a short time in Clifton, but returning to California, he again entered the service of the Mt. Whitney Power Company, this time as agent of its Tulare division, in which capacity he has served efficiently to the present time.

Fraternally Mr. La Marsna affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. He is a citizen of much helpful public spirit and he and Mrs. La Marsna are popular socially. They married in 1905 and have a son, Dardan, six years old. Mrs. La Marsna was Miss Nellie Barnes, of Hanford, Cal.

ALBERT E. GRIBI

The pioneer jeweler of Hanford, Albert E. Gribi, whose well known establishment at No. 113 West Seventh street is familiar to most of the citizens of Kings county, was born in Wells county, Ind., May 28, 1857. He attended public schools near his home and was graduated from the high school when he was seventeen years old. The succeeding three years he devoted to an acquisition of the knowledge of the jeweler's trade, and in 1913 he rounded out his fortieth year as a practical active jeweler. He came to California in 1876, and two years later he removed to Merced, whence he came to Hanford in

1882. Since that time he has done business in the city continuously and his store has become one of its landmarks. He is a skillful workman and the people of the town have such confidence in him and his ability that many valuable watches and pieces of jewelry are left with him for repair. He keeps a varied stock of high quality jewelry and silverware, and people who want only the best are sure to find satisfaction at his shop. His business has increased with the growth of the city and he is regarded as one of Hanford's substantial and dependable citizens.

On March 25, 1888, Mr. Gribi married Miss Mary A. Manning, who was born in Utah, September 9, 1860, and she has borne him eight children, who were all educated in the Hanford schools: Gerald E., Eugene J., Edward A., Otto R., Bertha A., Marjorie, Alberta and Mildred.

Fraternally Mr. Gribi affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. He is popular with the people at large and there is no movement for the benefit of the community that does not receive his generous encouragement and support.

JOHN W. DAVIDSON

It was in Bates county, Mo., that John W. Davidson, who now lives at No. 116 West Race street, Visalia, was born August 22, 1865, and in Cedar county, that state, he acquired a public school education and practical knowledge of farming as it was then carried on in that region. In 1885, when he was about twenty years old, he came to Vacaville, Solano county, Cal., and was employed as superintendent of the fruit ranch of Frank H. Buck and for a time by R. H. Chinn. He came to Exeter, Tulare county, in 1899, and was for a time superintendent of the Evansdale Fruit Co. Later he was for seven years superintendent of the Encina Fruit Co. until in November, 1907, when he resigned and moved to Visalia. He is at this time the owner of an eighty-acre fruit ranch, six miles east of town, on which he raises peaches of several varieties, having forty acres of Phillips clingstones. In 1910 he gathered from his orchard and marketed \$6,000 worth of fruit and in 1911 one hundred and twenty-two prune trees brought him an income of \$747. He is now developing twenty acres of Crawford peaches, and so thorough and informing have been his study and experience in this field of endeavor that he is widely recognized as an expert fruit-grower. He set the Phillips clingstone trees, and brought them to perfection with his own hands. Besides these he has Muirs and Lovells.

In 1886 Mr. Davidson married Lena L. Ellis, a native of Iowa,

and they have two children: Charles G., and Corda May, who married George P. French, of Tulare county. Politically Mr. Davidson is a Democrat, devoted to the principles and policies as well as the traditions and future work of his party. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, with the Loyal Order of Moose, and with Four Creek lodge, No. 94, I. O. O. F., and the encampment. As a citizen he has always taken a public-spirited interest in everything pertaining to the general welfare and there is no proposition which in his good judgment promises to benefit any considerable number of fellow citizens that does not receive his encouragement and support.

PETER LEAVENS
AND
WILLIAM A. LEAVENS

On Prince Edward Island, in the extreme east of Canada, Peter Leavens was born January 1, 1844. Until 1868 he there made his home, receiving his schooling in the public schools and later learning the carpenter's trade, and then came to San Francisco via the Isthmus of Panama. From San Francisco he made his way to Cordelia, Solano county, where for eight years he worked as a carpenter, and then moved to Lafayette, Contra Costa county, where he leased land and became a farmer. On December 31, 1863, he had married on Prince Edward Island Miss Martha Gerow and to them six children were born, viz.: William A., Euphemia, Walter, Louis, Frank (of Dinuba), and Gracie. Walter, Euphemia and Louis are deceased. Gracie is the wife of Julius Larson of Oakland. The mother died in Oakland.

William A. Leavens was born in October, 1864, and was but four years of age when his parents came to California. Educated in Solano county, he learned the trade of carpenter with his father and has ever since followed that line of work, also engaging in ranching at different periods. He married Helen Bordman, and they have had three children, Louis A., Frederick R. and Goldie E. Frederick R. married Alice Fees and they live at Salinas, Cal. Goldie married Andrew Rader, of Hanford, and they have a son and a daughter. Mrs. Leavens passed away in 1891 and in 1895 Mr. Leavens married Georgia A. Culberson, of Kings county, and three sons have been born to them, William Gordon, Bert F. and Edgar R.

From Contra Costa county Peter Leavens brought his family to what is now Kings county, where he followed farming and carpentering. Buying a farm of eighty acres near Yettem he made improvements and finally sold, obtaining \$100 an acre for half, while the other forty acres sold for \$125 an acre. Later he purchased twenty

acres at Yettum which he is now improving and preparing for sale. Carpentering, however, has been his chief industry, in which he has met with signal success. Mr. Leavens is a Republican in national issues, but in voting for local officials he supports the man best suited for office. As a citizen he has proven himself most public-spirited and very helpful to the community.

HENRY WASHINGTON BYRON

A career of much unusual activity and usefulness has marked Henry Washington Byron as one of the valued citizens of his community, he having been a strenuous worker in the pioneer days, evincing high traits of character and forceful will. Much credit is due him for his work and expense in securing the winery at Lemoore and the organization of the Kings County Raisin and Fruit Association, which has proved a splendid influence for good among the fruit growers of the community. Henry W. Byron makes his home a mile north of Lemoore, Tulare county. He is a son of an Englishman, Peter Byron, who located in Pennsylvania and there married Mary Hesketh, a native of that state and of Dutch stock, and took her with him to Ohio. Six children were born to Peter Byron and wife. James served in the Mexican war as artilleryman and during an engagement lost his left arm by a premature discharge; Philander served in the Civil war and was a prisoner at Andersonville; William was also in the Civil war, being a prisoner at Libby Prison; Olive became the wife of Mr. Greensides and went to live in Ohio; Elizabeth married in Peoria county, Ill., and lived at Elmwood, Ill.; and Henry Washington, born in Ohio, February 22, 1840, was so named because of the date of his birth.

When Henry W. Byron was seven years old he accompanied his parents to Illinois, where he lived until 1859, coming then to San Francisco by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and in 1860 was a miner in Placer county. In the year last mentioned, following the lure of the gold-seekers, he went to Australia, where he mined until 1864. Returning to San Francisco he made his way to Somersville, Contra Costa county, where he worked in a coal mine until August, 1869. Then, with \$25 in his pocket, he started in a spring wagon to move to Visalia, but at the ferry at Kingston he heard such glowing accounts of the land in the Mussel Slough country he drove to that point and took up one hundred and sixty acres where he now lives. He soon found employment digging ditches and making barriers of willow trees as protection against wild cattle and horses. Two years later he and twenty-five other men organized and constructed

the Lower Kings River ditch which was a boon to the whole section of country. After eight years of grain farming he began setting out vineyards, his first venture having been on forty acres. The next year he started a fourteen acre apricot and nectarine orchard and put some land under alfalfa. He now has seventy acres of vineyard and fourteen acres of fruit trees, and except for eight and a half acres which he gave for a cemetery the remainder of his homestead is under alfalfa. During recent years he has interested himself in oil and has become a stockholder in the following companies: The Devil's Den Consolidated, the Tressciretos Oil Company, the Alamo Oil Company, the Pluto Oil Company and the Lemoore Oil Company.

While in Australia Mr. Byron was married to Rosina Gallard, daughter of Matthew and Frances Ann (Smith) Gallard, both natives of England, near Kent. Mrs. Byron was born in New South Wales, Australia, and is one of a family of ten children born to her parents. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Byron, as follows: Lincoln H., of Lemoore; Dr. E. H., of Lemoore; Dr. W. P., of Lemoore; Dr. Albert, of Oakland; Olive and Rupert, both deceased; and Frank Mark, who died in infancy.

Fraternally Mr. Byron has long affiliated with the Odd Fellows. In Australia, in 1862, he identified himself with the Manchester Unity, the forerunner of American Odd Fellow lodges. When he returned to California he joined the lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Somersville, Contra Costa county, from which later he was transferred to the Lemoore lodge. He was identified also with Manhattan Tribe, No. 2, I. O. R. M., of Somersville, the second tribe organized in California, and later joined the tribe at Lemoore. He was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen until his lodge gave up its charter. In all the affairs of his community he takes an active interest. Until 1903 he long was president of the Lower Kings River Irrigation Ditch Company, and in all his various connections with concerns in this community he has evinced the habits of honorable dealing, straightforward and conscientious in every detail, and loyal and active in his citizenship.

EAN ROSS

Born in Kings county, Cal., February 26, 1884, the well-known young farmer whose name is above is a native son of the Golden State. He attended public schools until he was eighteen years old, then joined his father on the ranch and was his chief assistant as long as his parent lived. David Ross, his father, came to Kings county, Cal., in 1871, and in 1873 settled near Lemoore, where for a time

he taught public school, and he also taught in Tulare, Kern, Fresno, Mariposa, Merced, Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties, and for two years filled the office of school trustee.

In 1873 there came to California a young woman who was to become the wife of David Ross. She was Maggie Bell Ross, a girl of strong common sense, who took a hopeful view of life and was to him a helpmeet to the end of his days. Quite early in life he engaged in stock-raising, farming and dairying, in which occupations he met with considerable success and in 1874 he took up public land, to which he later acquired title and which he developed into the fine ranch which came to be known as the Ross place. On that property he labored with good financial results as long as he lived. He passed away February 11, 1911. His widow, Maggie Bell Ross, survives and is living with her son on the homestead. The latter manages the eighty-acre place, giving attention to general farming, dairying and stock-raising. He learned farming under his father's enlightened and practical instruction and has achieved successes in his specialties of which many an older agriculturist might be justly proud.

WILLIAM BUDD

One of the most successful horticulturists and general ranchmen of Tipton, Tulare county, is William Budd, who was born June 29, 1842, in Camden county, N. J., over the river from Philadelphia. He grew up and was educated in his native county and at seventeen located in Philadelphia, whence after a few years he moved to Kansas City, Mo., where he was for ten years well known in the shoe trade. In 1890 he came to California and made his home at Tulare, Tulare county, and four years later he bought eighty acres about five miles north of that town which he converted into a fine vineyard and eventually sold in order to move to a point five miles southwest of Tipton. Here he bought four hundred and eighty acres, and he has since given his attention to stock-raising, growing cattle, horses and hogs of breeds and quality which have always made them in demand in the market. When he came on the place it included thirty-five acres of orchard, but that is now out of bearing; in 1910 he set out ten acres of new orchard. He also has twenty acres in vineyards, given over entirely to raisins, and is preparing one hundred and sixty acres for alfalfa. In every respect his homestead is first class of its kind, its buildings being modern and ample and its appliances up to date. On the place is an artesian well which flows two hundred and fifty gallons a minute and two pumping wells, one of them supplied with a ten horse-power electric motor, the other, which is

exclusively for domestic use, having a two horse-power motor. Mr. Budd's residence is modern and substantial, one of its conveniences being an electric light plant. He gives considerable attention to dairying, at present milking fifty cows and planning to milk in the near future twice as many. He sells about twenty tons of raisins in a season from twenty acres of land. His live stock includes twelve horses, about one hundred and fifty head of cattle and many hogs, and he has also made quite an investment in poultry.

In 1890 Mr. Budd married Miss Katie Spankle, a native of Ohio. In comparatively recent years a member of their household has been William Blauw, their grandson and a son of Antonio Blauw, whom they have reared since he was eight months old. Mr. Budd is active, energetic and animated by public spirit. He has from time to time had to do with business interests not directly connected with his ranching. The dairy interest also has been fostered to an extent through his identification with it. He is at this time a stockholder in the Tipton Co-operative Creamery.

GEORGE BARTLETT

Two miles north of Orosi, Tulare county, Cal., lives George Bartlett, son of Isaac Bartlett, grandson of Abraham Bartlett, great-grandson of Cornelius Bartlett, and great-great-grandson of Dr. Josiah Bartlett, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Bartlett's father married Hannah Williams, who like himself was a native of Lebanon Springs, N. Y. She had five brothers in the army of General Grant in the Civil war, not one of whom was wounded, and they are all still surviving. She had five sisters, of whom one survives. The grandmother on the maternal side reached the age of eighty-eight and the grandfather passed his ninetieth year.

George Bartlett was born in Albany, N. Y., September 16, 1858. In his youth he learned the millwright's trade and at different times has converted many old-style grist mills to new-style roller process mills. For six years he traveled in the interest of the E. P. Allis Company, of Milwaukee, Wis., visiting twenty-two states, and then settled at Hay Springs, Neb., for a time. Later he spent one year in Salt Lake City and in November, 1890, settled in California, mining for a year in Tuolumne county, where he now owns property. He owned a half interest in the eighty acre Anthony prune orchard in Kings county, where he was a resident of Grangeville and vicinity for sixteen years. In 1908 he bought thirty-eight acres, nineteen acres of which are in Muir and Lovell peaches, paying \$7,500 for the property, and has sold over \$12,000 worth of peaches since he bought

the place. Without irrigation he is able to harvest five crops of alfalfa each year. He keeps just stock enough to properly operate the ranch and has made a specialty of chickens, having raised one thousand in 1911, when he sold \$180 worth of eggs from one hundred and eighty hens. His home is one of the most comfortable in its vicinity. He bought property in Berkeley which he traded for orange land near Bacon Buttes and owns an undeveloped mine in Tuolumne county.

In Sheridan county, Neb., Mr. Bartlett married Miss Julia M. Knowlton, a native of Salem, Oregon, and they have two daughters, Gladys and Ethel. Gladys was graduated from the University of California in 1910 and is teaching school, and Ethel is a student at the University of Berkeley, Cal. Independent in thought and action, Mr. Bartlett affiliates with no political party. He was a member of the high school board for three years and in that capacity has had to do with the advancement of the school at Hanford. He was reared in the Presbyterian faith. Mrs. Bartlett is a Baptist.

EDWARD G. SELLERS

Among the active citizens of Lemoore is numbered Edward G. Sellers, the progressive and flourishing farmer and contractor, who is honored not only as a worthy citizen of that place, but as having been the first rancher in this section to install a cream separator in connection with his dairy. This, however, is but one example of the aggressive initiative spirit which has marked Mr. Sellers' entire business career.

It was at Fruitvale, now a part of the site of Oakland, Cal., that Edward G. Sellers was born July 24, 1864, a son of Samuel Sellers. He was reared in Contra Costa county, where his father farmed, and received his education in the public schools near Antioch, and it was in that vicinity that he had his early experience in farming and fruit raising. In 1885, when he was twenty-one years old, he settled on a ranch near Lemoore and since then at various times he has bought several pieces of property. The first was his present alfalfa ranch of one hundred and sixty acres seven miles southeast of Lemoore. Another one hundred and sixty acres, located five miles south of Lemoore, he sold in 1905 after having put some improvements on it. Later he bought eighty acres four miles south of Hanford, which he improved with thirty acres of vineyard, putting the remainder under alfalfa, and this he sold in 1904. A year later he bought two hundred and twenty acres near Stratford, all in alfalfa, which is one of his present holdings. In 1902 he had invested in twenty-five acres, three miles north of Lemoore, of which eight acres is in

vineyard, seventeen acres in alfalfa, which improved place is a valued part of his property.

For many years Mr. Sellers has been a contractor in teaming, freighting, ditching and moving dirt. He did most of the ditching and much of the work on the levees on the Empire Investment Company's ranch of nineteen thousand acres near Lemoore, a large amount of levee work on the Riverdale reclamation project, and much heavy teaming in the hauling of pipe and machinery for a pipe line of the Standard Oil Company. In 1910 G. B. Chinn became his partner in this enterprise. They employ an average of twenty men the year round and their business requires the work of fifty horses. Mr. Sellers is a stockholder in the Chinn Warehouse Company of Lemoore and is a stockholder in and a director of the First National Bank of Lemoore.

Mr. Sellers married July 24, 1887, Miss Ella Graves, a daughter of Nathan L. Graves, born in Calaveras county, Cal., but at the time of her marriage she was living in Kings county.

JOHN E. WALKER

The famous bee culturist of central California, John E. Walker, was born near Woodville, on the Tule river, June 27, 1876. As a youth he had opportunity to learn a good deal about practical farming and acquired a good business education in the public schools. For some time after he started out for himself he worked for wages, early in his career becoming interested in honey bees. Since his boyhood he has kept bees and studied them and become more and more expert as a producer of honey; for the past decade this business has commanded his principal attention and he was the first in this vicinity to sell any considerable amount of honey, he having made his first delivery at Armona where a carload was being made up, the price paid him having been three cents a pound. The first load of honey, twenty years ago, was drawn by a four-horse team. The delivery at Visalia and Tulare in 1911 aggregated \$20,000. Mr. Walker has six hundred colonies of bees and his average output is about twenty-five tons a season. For some years past he has been selling agent for the Tulare County Bee-keepers Association of which for three years past he has also been president.

It was in 1903 that Mr. Walker bought his present homestead of twenty-one acres, most of which is under alfalfa, but carries only enough stock for his own business. He has become widely known among the apiarists of the entire country and is recognized as an authority on bee culture and the production and marketing of honey.

In his relations with his fellow citizens he is liberal-minded and helpful, and in his religion he affiliates with the reorganized Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints. On October 11, 1899, he married Miss Arna Headrick, and they have four children, Oliver, Vernon, Neva and Elvin.

RICHARD E. HYDE

The wise application of sound business principles and safe financial conservatism accounted for the noteworthy success of the late popular citizen of Visalia whose familiar name is the title of this article. Mr. Hyde was born at what is now Port Ewen, Ulster county, N. Y., and died at Visalia in 1911. He was a son of David and Sarah (Houghtaling) Hyde, natives also of the Empire State. He was fortunate, in his youth, in being poor and in living among people who respected labor, frugality and honesty and cultivated a feeling of good-will toward their fellow men. It was with such ideals that he fared forth in the chances of life. He was but a big boy when he began to earn his living as a clerk in a general merchandise store, and it was in the same capacity that he began his career in California, years afterward, in one of the then busy mining districts. Later, at Santa Cruz, he opened a store of his own, and still later he established the Bank of Visalia, the pioneer monetary institution of Tulare county and one of the oldest in the San Joaquin valley. It is a matter of record that this last important business beginning was made in August, 1874, and that he was at the head of the institution, latterly with the honored title of president, during the remainder of his life.

The large interests of Mr. Hyde reached out along many avenues of activity. Many buildings were erected at Visalia by him, and he naturally acquired landed interests. From time to time he was, in one way or another, associated with important commercial enterprises. Though his connection with some of them was only indirect and not avowed, his eminent ability for affairs was very potent in advancing them, and his faculty of success made him master of strong propositions.

The family of David and Sarah (Houghtaling) Hyde consisted of Richard E. and his six brothers, the others being Abram, Jeremiah D., Alfred, Christopher, John and William. Richard E. was quite young when his father passed on, leaving the training of his sons to a watchful and prayerful mother, whose affectionate devotion was rewarded by the compensating knowledge that her sons had all developed into honest and trustworthy men, each a credit to his com-

munity, helpful in its advancement and in sympathy with its people and their aspirations. Two of them, Christopher and John, were pioneers in Wisconsin and were leaders in the agricultural and economic affairs of their respective localities. Christopher reared two daughters and a son, the latter being a well-known business man of Oakland. John became father of a large family.

Like many others who have been instrumental in shaping the destinies of the far west, Mr. Hyde brought to the task eastern energy, industry and confidence. He became known as one of the wealthiest, as well as one of the coolest and most reserved and dignified men in Tulare county, recognized along the San Joaquin valley as the personification of social and business integrity.

GEORGE H. STEVES

The father of George H. Steves was Jeremiah Steves, his grandfather was Joshua Steves, his great-grandfather was Jeremiah Steves the first. The only other Steves to found a family in America was Franklin Steves, a nephew of the first Jeremiah. George H. was born in Chautauqua county, N. Y., January 24, 1840. On June 9, 1861, soon after he became of age, he enlisted in Company H, Ninetieth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry. Louisiana was the scene of his first battle experience and the last regular engagement in which he participated was at Cedar Creek, during the interim of which he saw active service in twenty-five or thirty hot skirmishes. At Cedar Creek a shot entered his breast and lodged behind his shoulder-blade inflicting a serious wound which, while it did not send him to the hospital, has troubled him ever since, and in recognition of which he has had conferred upon him a pension of \$36. He has a vivid recollection of service under General Banks in a small Louisiana town where he helped confiscate the silver spoons of certain Confederate sympathizers. The immediate effect upon him of his wound was to reduce his weight from one hundred and eighty-six pounds to eighty-six pounds, and he was honorably discharged from the service at Camp Russell, December 9, 1864, returning to his native county in New York. There he remained until 1902, when he came to Tulare county. He owned some property at Jamestown, N. Y., which he sold when he came West. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and politically he affiliates with the Republican party. In his religious identification he is a Methodist. Mr. Steves has during recent years been a great traveler. He married in New York state Miss Lucinda R. Wilson, a native of that state, who passed away nine years ago. The names of his children are Ida B., J. G., Melvin F. and Matie

L. Ida B. married Frank Wilcox and their daughter is named Rose Belle. J. G., guard at the Auburn, N. Y., penitentiary, married Ethel Sampson and has children Catherine, Ethel, William and Annie. Melvin F. married Louisa Karsthorse and they have children, Lewis, Louise, Mary, Henry and Elizabeth; their home is in Rochester, N. Y. One of Mr. Steves's most precious possessions is a Grand Army badge, Department of Utah, 1909.

WILLIAM G. WALKER

A native of Arkansas, William G. Walker was taken when a small boy to Texas, where his father's family established a home. There he grew up and was educated so far as local facilities permitted, and there he enlisted for service in the Mexican war, in which he bore the part of a true and dependable soldier. After immigration to California had set in, he came across the plains from Texas by the Mexican route and stopped for a short time at San Jose, and from there for a short time he devoted himself to stock-raising, and thence went to San Juan and later mined in Tuolumne county. In 1859 he took up his residence in Tulare county, and there for a short time he devoted himself to stock-raising, and thence went eventually to Mono county, where he passed away in 1863.

In 1846 Mr. Walker married in Texas Miss Martha M. Tolbert, whose parents had brought her in her childhood to Montgomery county, that state, where she was reared to womanhood. J. T. Walker, of No. 427 South Court street, Visalia, was the youngest of their children; Anna is Mrs. J. A. Keer of Los Angeles; Mary is Mrs. McEwen of Visalia; and Mrs. Amanda Wren is their youngest daughter. Mr. Walker was a member of Visalia lodge No. 94, F. & A. M., and as a citizen he was public-spirited and helpful to the community. Mrs. Walker, who is one of the few living connecting links between the old order of things and the new, has a vivid recollection of her overland journey to California. The Indians were at the time very hostile and her party had an encounter with a band of them. There were sixty people in the train and the mode of locomotion was by means of horses and mules. In the period before that of California immigration she had thrilling experiences in Texas in connection with the Mexican war, while her husband was absent from home in furtherance of his duties as a soldier.

It was in Tulare county that J. T. Walker, youngest child of William G. and Martha M. (Tolbert) Walker, was born in 1862. He attended the public schools near the home of his childhood and boyhood and learned the trade of harness-maker and saddler, at which

he was employed during his earlier years. Eventually he became interested in oil properties in Kern and Kings counties, Cal., and at this time he is quite successfully handling patent lands in the oil belt. A man of enterprise and of public spirit, he is not without his due share of local influence, and there is no movement for the good of the community which does not have his hearty encouragement and co-operation. A native son not only of California but of Tulare county as well, he is also a son of a pioneer and has himself witnessed much of the development of central California which has made it one of the wonderlands of the United States.

JONATHAN ESREY

In the Prairie State, Jonathan Esrey was born December 2, 1831, and when he was about ten years old he went with his father's family to Missouri, where he completed such education as was available to him and lived until 1852, gaining meanwhile a practical knowledge of farming. He was a member of a party which crossed the plains to California with ox-teams in the year last mentioned and after mining for a while at Placerville and at Sacramento, he came in the early '60s to Tulare county and went into the stock business. Later he took up farming and in time developed an important dairy interest. He pre-empted land along the line of the railroad, a mile and a half northwest of the present site of Lemoore, for which he was later compelled to pay the railroad company a good price. Eventually he sold this property and in 1878 he bought four hundred acres three miles from Lemoore and by later purchases he increased his holdings in this vicinity to nine hundred acres. He sold off tract after tract until he had only one hundred and sixty acres, a fine ranch two miles and a half northwest of Lemoore, twenty acres in vineyard, most of the remainder in alfalfa. Here he established an important dairy business, which his widow has conducted since his death.

In 1871 Mr. Esrey married Miss Sarah A. Winsett, a native of Missouri and a daughter of Robert and Nancy (Schooler) Winsett, natives of Tennessee. She came to California in 1870 and her parents came seven years later and lived in central California until they passed away. She made her home in the vicinity of Lemoore until her marriage. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Esrey: George lives on the family homestead; Kate married L. L. Follett and died November 20, 1908; Robert is conducting a ranch four miles from Lemoore; and Justin died April 7, 1912. Mr. Esrey was a man of well-defined public spirit who did much in his time to advance the interests of his community, and he was well known as a friend of

education. While not particularly active as a politician, he was influential in local affairs. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and for several years was a trustee and deacon of the church at Lemoore.

LEVI LUKENS GILL.

Born in Pickaway county, Ohio, June 23, 1837, Levi Lukens Gill was raised on a farm and educated in common schools there. He was married February 4, 1858, to Eliza A. Harriman, born in Pickaway county, May 18, 1842, daughter of Aaron A. and Eliza (Mitten) Harriman, the former born in Vermont and the latter in Ohio. At the time of the Civil war they moved to Ringgold county, Iowa, and there he farmed until 1873, when he embarked with his family on an emigrant train for California. Settling in Yokohl valley, he bought, homesteaded and pre-empted land and engaged in the stock business on a large scale, taking his sons into partnership. Here he was active until his death, September 4, 1909.

Levi L. Gill and his wife had sixteen children, ten of whom are living, viz.: Charles O., born in Ohio; Will and Fred, twins, born in Iowa; Louis, also born in Iowa; Julia, wife of Marion Anderson; Pruda M., widow of John C. Hodges; Frank and Lee, on the ranch; Martha, who married Harry Sickles; and Ora, at home. In politics a Republican, he assisted in organizing schools there. He bought the White ranch upon which the first orange trees were planted in Tulare county, in Frazier valley. He retired a short time previous to his death. Mr. Gill built a home in Porterville, at Oak and Gravilla streets, where his widow now resides.

JOHN AND SEREPTA WALKER.

One of the early settlers of Tulare county who remains to tell of the days of the pioneers when there was no Tulare city, when the country was just open plains, when stock-raising was the only business, and when the railroad had not been thought of, is Mrs. Serepta Walker, who lives two miles northwest of Tulare. She was born in Iowa in 1849, a daughter of Adam Pate, and in 1852, when she was three years old, was brought by her father across the plains to California. For a time after he came he ventured in the mines, but later turned to farming north of Stockton and still later moved to a place near that town. The daughter came to Tulare county in 1869 and for

five years lived near Porterville and then pre-empted a homestead on the Tule river near Woodville. After he had perfected his title to this property she moved to her present location, two miles northwest of Tulare, where she and her husband bought thirty-two acres which she owns at this time. She was married in Stockton in 1867, to John Walker, a native of Illinois, who came to California among the pioneers and died in 1888 on the ranch which is now his widow's home. Mrs. Walker, who was left with a large family of children, has farmed the homestead successfully to the present time. She is now conducting a dairy on a small scale and has sixteen acres of alfalfa and ninety colonies of bees.

Of Mrs. Walker's eleven children, nine are living. Clara is the wife of Jesse Fugate of Fresno. Loren lives with his mother and works a ranch adjoining hers. Edwin is an apiarist near Tulare. John E. is represented by a separate biographical sketch in this volume. Frank is a member of his mother's household. William lives at Tulare. Lydia married Preston Hodges of Tulare. Lucy lives in San Francisco and Edna is still of her mother's home circle.

A. N. ASHLEY

A man destined to strange experiences, much arduous travel and somewhat notable vicissitudes of fortune was A. N. Ashley, who first saw the light of day in Placer county, Cal., in 1864. There he was reared and attended school more or less until he was seventeen years old, when he went to work in the mines near his home. From there he went to Santa Clara county, in 1883, and was during most of the time until 1889 engaged in the mercantile business. Then selling out he went up into Washington and Oregon, where he mined about ten years, until after the gold strike there took him to Nome, Alaska. He was in Nome from 1900 till in 1905, when he came back to California to visit his parents, and took up eighty acres of fine land in Tulare county, with the determination to go back to Nome and dig out the money with which to pay for it. There he worked in 1907 and 1908. In 1910 he returned to California to take his place in hand and soon afterwards purchased twenty acres more with a view to devoting it to the growth of olives.

John T. Ashley, father of A. N., came across the plains to California by way of Salt Lake and was in his day a pioneer in the place of his location. Whether his forefathers had been navigators or explorers is not known, but it is certain that he had inherited blood of men who were explorers and carried civilization among strange peoples, and it is equally certain that he passed some of it down to

his son who, when he penetrated far into the northern gold regions and remained there year after year doggedly working to carry out a fixed purpose, had experiences which could they be given in full would in themselves constitute a most interesting volume. A. N. Ashley affiliates with the Arctic Brotherhood and with the Native Sons of the Golden West.

In 1905 Mr. Ashley married Miss Lizzie Firzloff, who has proven a helpful companion to him and enjoys with him the pleasure of having one of the most beautiful homes in the valley. He is a man of public spirit, who has in many different ways evidenced his interest in the community.

E. J. GIBSON

A Pennsylvanian by birth, born in Lawrence county April 19, 1849, E. J. Gibson was reared and educated there and lived there until he was twenty-two years old. He then went to Kansas, but soon returned to Pennsylvania and two years later went to Missouri, where he farmed on rented land three years. Going back to Pennsylvania, he was married in 1879 to Miss Nanny Alcorn, a native of that state, and returned with his bride to Missouri. In 1885, his wife requiring a change of climate, they came to California and Mr. Gibson bought sixty acres of land six miles southwest of Hanford. Two years later he sold off twenty acres of this tract and planted the remainder to orchard. Afterwards he sold twenty acres more and bought twenty-seven acres adjoining his original purchase. Next he traded the remaining twenty acres of his original sixty-acre place for land adjoining his twenty-seven-acre purchase and bought thirty-three acres adjoining this, then owning in all eighty acres in a compact body. In 1902 he bought twenty acres north of the city which he sold in 1904 to L. D. Porter; after this transaction he returned to Pennsylvania, visiting among old friends and relatives of his family and Mrs. Gibson's. In the fall of 1907 he bought his present home place, twenty acres, three miles west of the city. He has sold twenty-seven acres of his old eighty-acre purchase and the remaining fifty-three acres of the tract is farmed now by his son, Fred Gibson, who has thirty-five acres of it in orchard.

For his present homestead Mr. Gibson paid \$400 an acre and twelve acres of the twenty is devoted to peaches, seven to vineyard. He has put on the place all the improvements visible there now, including his fine residence which was erected in 1908. Taking an interest in Hanford and the country round about that thriving little city he has public-spiritedly assisted all local interests to the extent

of his ability. He is a member and supporter of the Presbyterian church of Hanford and he and his son affiliate with the Hanford lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The latter, Fred Gibson, married Kate Simpson, a daughter of Dr. R. G. Simpson, of Indiana, and she has borne him three children, Glenn, Gertrude and Lucile.

M. P. BRAZILL

The Portuguese farmer in California has set an example well worthy of emulation by those who are obliged to begin small and are ambitious to achieve success and prominence. One such at Tulare, Tulare county, Cal., is M. P. Brazill, a native of the Azores, born December 9, 1871. He was eighteen years old, in 1890, when he came to Tulare county and went into the sheep business, ranging his flock through the San Joaquin valley and into the Sierra Nevadas. In a few years he owned eight thousand sheep and he continued in the business until 1904, when he sold it out in order to give his attention to an up-to-date ranch about a mile from the business center of Tulare, which he had bought in 1901. He owns eighty acres all in alfalfa and is raising hogs, but his principal business is dairying. He milks seventy-three cows and sells their milk and other products in the city. In addition to the eighty acres which he owns he rents one hundred and eighty, thus making a dairy ranch of two hundred and sixty acres. As a dairyman he has won success beyond that of many others in central California. As a citizen he is popular because of his friendly disposition and of the real interest in the community which has commanded the exercise of a commendable public spirit. Fraternally he affiliates with the W. O. W., the U. P. E. C. and the I. D. E. S., which are among the numerous orders having local organizations at Tulare.

In 1899 Mr. Brazill married Miss Emma Hoskins of Tulare, who bore him two children and died in 1902. His present wife, whom he married in 1904, was Miss Mary Vierra, of Oakland, Cal., and by this marriage he has four children. The six children are here named in the order of their nativity: Emma, Louisa, Lee, Angelina, Josephine and Ernest.

ABSALOM BURTON

One of the successful general ranchmen of Kings county is Absalom Burton, born in Missouri, February 18, 1852, a son of Absalom Burton, Sr. In 1866, when he was about fourteen years of

age, he came to California with his father's family, and for three years thereafter helped the elder Burton at his work in the coal mines at Mount Diablo, Contra Costa county. In 1873 the Burtons moved into the part of Tulare county which is now Kings county and took up land ten miles southwest of Hanford, the title to which was subsequently secured by payment on the part of the young Absalom Burton's brother Richard. Absalom worked two years on the construction of the People's ditch, then started a herd of sheep, which he drove through a wide range of country round about and which he eventually sold to take up ranching. In 1873 he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, nine miles southwest of Hanford, on which he made some improvements while working out on ranches in the neighborhood. Later he sold eighty acres of this tract to his brother. He bought land six miles northeast of Visalia, which he sold after having farmed it a few months, and then for six years he farmed a rented half-section on the lake. After that he engaged in hog raising, a few years, subsequently turning his attention to dairying. At present he milks twenty cows, raises about one hundred hogs annually and keeps an average of about two hundred stands of bees. About forty acres of his original eighty is under alfalfa. In June, 1908, the family bought eighty acres east of his old homestead, forty acres of which he set out to peach, apricot and other orchard trees. The remaining forty acres he devotes to general farming.

In 1882 Mr. Burton married Mrs. Elizabeth (Robinson) Ogden, a native of England, who bore him a son, A. F. Burton, who assists him in the management of his business. By a former marriage with John Ogden, Mrs. Burton had two children, William and Lettie. Mr. Burton is a generously helpful man, actuated by a lively public spirit.

JOHN EWING, JR.

Conspicuous among the progressive farmers of Tulare county, whose many experiences in this country have made them the expert agriculturists they are to-day is John Ewing, Jr., the eldest and only survivor of the family of John and Margaret (Ewing) Ewing. The other members of this family are: Mrs. Margaret E. Bolton, whose sons were James and Charles; William, who left two children, Henry and Margaret; Mrs. Mary Sherman, whose three sons were David, John and William; Mrs. Elizabeth Swanson, who left two children, Elmer and Stella; Mrs. Isabella Sherman, whose children were Gilbert, Samuel and a daughter.

John Ewing, Jr., was born in Pennsylvania, fifteen miles from Philadelphia, April 3, 1840. In 1857 his family moved to Putnam

county, Ill. whence they came to California in 1876. He settled first at Big Oak Flats, in the mountains, thirty miles east of Visalia, where he early pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of government land and with his sons now owns an entire section. He raised cattle there until 1906, when he located two miles east of Visalia and operated a ranch under lease from Samuel Gilliam. Seventy acres were planted to alfalfa and a fine dairy of fourteen Holstein cows engaged his time; he has also raised some good draft horses and now has a bay colt three years old, weighing sixteen hundred pounds, in which he takes much pride. An average of fifty hogs was kept on the place, and Mr. Ewing became an expert in these lines. A scientific farmer, his machinery and methods are up to date, and his ideas and his manner of executing them are as advanced as any farmer's in the county.

In 1863 Mr. Ewing married Rachel Davis, a native of Pennsylvania, and they have several children. William H., of Exeter, married Jeanette Hatch, of San Francisco, and they have two children, Dorothy and Girard. John M. is a farmer near Visalia; he married Mary Cuda and they have two children, Salina and Emery. Mrs. Nira Kelley, next in order of birth, is a trained nurse and the mother of two sons, Cecil and Otis. Howard married Stella Chedester, and they have two daughters, Elva and Eileen. For a number of years Howard ran a pack team through the mountains and at times acted as a guide to tourists. He now assists his father in his ranching operations. Mr. Ewing is a man of strong convictions and has well defined ideas on all questions of public policy. He believes in the election of good and honest men to office and uses his influence as far as is possible to secure the nomination of such by his party. He is a man of undoubted public spirit, patriotically generous in support of all measures proposed for the general benefit.

JOHN FRANS

One of the most successful stockmen of Tulare county and a native son of California, having been born at Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, January 11, 1859, is John Frans, who lives at No. 609 South Court street, Visalia. His father, John B. Frans, was born in Kentucky and lived there until, in his young manhood, he removed to Missouri, to become a farmer in the vicinity of St. Joseph. There he enlisted for service in the Mexican war under Gen. Sterling Price. In 1853 he was one of a party that came across the plains to California with ox-teams. Remaining several years at San Jose, he then went to Santa Rosa, where he farmed until 1863, when he removed to Tulare county and bought four hundred and twenty acres.

three miles and a half east of Visalia. Here he farmed until in 1870, when his death occurred in his fifty-third year. He married Miss Elizabeth Fulton, a native of Indiana, who survived him, but is now deceased, and of their three sons and five daughters, John Frans was the fourth child and the youngest son. The other surviving children are: Thomas H. of Los Angeles; Mary; Mrs. Daniel Switzer of Visalia, and Mrs. Edward Hart, who lives near Farmersville.

John Frans was educated in the common schools near his home, and in 1878 began farming the Frans homestead in partnership with his brothers, Thomas H. and James Madison, the latter of whom died three years later in his twenty-sixth year. In 1882 he bought his present ranch and in 1886 began farming independently. He has met with such success that he is classed with the prominent business men of the county. For the past five years he has rented his ranch. The Cross Hardware block, on Main street, Visalia, was built by Mr. Frans and R. F. Cross, and later Mr. Frans bought Mr. Cross's interest in the property, thus becoming sole owner of one of the finest business properties in the city.

It should be noted in passing that Mr. Frans and one or more of his brothers operated the old Frans ranch until their mother remarried. His beginning was small, but he has added to his original purchase until he is now the owner of a large and valuable property. Politically he is a Democrat, and as a citizen he has proven himself remarkably enterprising and public-spirited. He married, at Visalia, Miss Dora Jones, who was born at Santa Rosa, Cal., and is a member of the Society of Native Daughters of the Golden West. They have a son whom they have named in honor of his paternal grandfather, John B. Frans.

JEREMIAH D. HYDE

The Hyde family, of which Jeremiah D. Hyde is a member, is well known in this part of the country. Son of David and Sarah (Houghtaling) Hyde, natives of New York state, Jeremiah D. Hyde was born in Ulster county, the scene of a historic Huguenot settlement, and died in Visalia, Tulare county, Cal., in 1897. He came from the Empire state with his brother, Richard E., mined with him and was with him in his mercantile venture at Santa Cruz. In 1873 he came to Visalia and was for many years receiver in the United States land office in that town, and was also interested with his brother in lands in Tulare county. As a man of affairs he developed an admirable ability. His character was

lofty and full of beauty and he was patriotic, charitable and devoted to the advancement of the human race along all lines of creditable endeavor. Though not a practical politician, he wielded a recognized political influence, and while never an office-seeker, he was at times prevailed upon in the interest of public welfare to accept public trusts. His interest in education impelled him to consent to serve on the school board, which he did for some time, with much credit to himself and greatly to the benefit of the local schools. His desire for certain reforms and innovations led him to submit to election as a member of the board of trustees of Visalia. He married Mary Schuler, a native of Iowa, and she bore him two sons, Richard E. Hyde, Jr., and Dr. Lawrence D. Hyde, both citizens of Visalia.

In Visalia, in 1878, was born Richard E. Hyde, Jr., son of Jeremiah D. Hyde and nephew and namesake of Richard E. Hyde, pioneer and financier. He was educated in the public schools and at the California State University at Berkeley. At present he has numerous ranch interests in Tulare county, and he is vice-president of the Visalia Savings bank and a director of the National Bank of Visalia. He was married, in 1905, to Miss Luella Burrel, daughter of Cuthbert Burrel, and they have two children, Cuthbert Burrel and Richard E., Jr. Mr. Hyde is able and ready at all times to do his full duty as a citizen as he has often heard it defined by his honored father and uncle, and his many friends in the business community regard him as a worthy successor of those useful and influential citizens of a day now past, but not soon to be forgotten.

HOMER C. TOWNSEND

A native of Noblesville, Ind., born January 8, 1832, Homer C. Townsend crossed the plains to California in 1852, prospered in the land of his adoption and died in 1885, after a career in many ways interesting. He was but twenty years old when he came to the state, young, hopeful, ambitious and determined to succeed. After a long journey full of trials, of dangers and of weariness, he arrived at a point on the American river, and there he began mining, continuing in 1854 and 1855 at Placerville, Eldorado county. He then was ready to take to ranching, and he followed this near Sacramento, remaining till in 1856, when he came to Visalia. In the spring of that year he located on the old Pratt place, on which he lived about a year, and then again became a miner, operating on White river in Kern county, meanwhile having an experience as a grocer, in a venture in which he had Ira Kinney as a partner.

Back to Visalia Mr. Townsend soon came, now to go into the harness and saddlery business, in company with Mr. Bossler. He served his fellow citizens as public administrator of Tulare county eight years and as deputy county assessor for a shorter period. Eventually he engaged in stock-raising and farming on a ranch two miles east of Visalia, where, in the course of events, he was washed out of house and home by a flood. His next location was at a ranch on the Mill road, in the mountains, which he bought and devoted to raising cattle and horses. There he lived out his days and passed from the scenes of earth. His widow conducted the ranch a few years after his demise, then sold it; before her marriage she was Miss Elizabeth Huston. She was born in Arkansas and her father was a pioneer in California, long well known in Tulare county. This daughter of one pioneer and wife of another, who now lives at Visalia, was the mother of children as follows: James H., who married Myrtle Pattie and has two sons, Russell H. and Ray W.; Thomas H., who has passed away; Fannie M., who is the wife of S. Simmons of Coalinga, Cal., and Frank A., of Montana.

A man of fine character, devoted to the development of his town, state and county, Mr. Townsend was a model citizen, active, patriotic and useful. The vicissitudes through which he passed in his earlier years here were a good preparation for the main struggle of his life which brought him success, contentment and honor.

ALBERT KNIERR

Born in Baden-Baden, Germany, in 1868, Albert Knierr came to the United States when he was sixteen years old and made his way to Burlington, Iowa, where he was employed a year as a butcher. During the next four years he traveled quite extensively in Illinois, Kansas and Colorado, stopping from time to time in one town after another to work at his trade. Eventually he came to California, arriving in San Francisco in 1889. For a time he worked there at his trade; then, with a Mr. Allan as his partner, he started a small slaughter house, killing one or two cows a day. Their business began to grow and at length advanced almost by leaps and bounds, and at this time they have one of the largest and best appointed slaughter houses on the Pacific coast and carry on a very heavy wholesale business. Their sanitary cold storage plant at Fifth and Railroad avenues, San Francisco, cost \$50,000; they kill eight hundred cattle monthly and one hundred and fifty

sheep daily. In 1909 Mr. Pyle became a member of the firm and its style was changed to Knierr, Allan & Pyle. Mr. Knierr has always attended to the outside work of the concern, traveling in its interest and buying cattle wherever he could do so to the best advantage. He has bought many in Tulare county in the last twelve years, and in 1909 he established his home in Visalia, at No. 415 South Court street. He has large personal interests in the county, owning three thousand acres of cattle-grazing land between Tipton and Angiola and leasing six thousand acres near that tract and five thousand acres near Cross creek. On these large ranges he constantly keeps fifteen hundred to twenty-five hundred head of cattle. At Visalia he is known, as he has long been known in San Francisco, as a man of great public spirit, who is alive to the best interests of the community. In the world of commerce he is rated as one of the best informed butchers in the country. His success in life has been won fairly and in the open, and those who know him best realize that it is richly deserved.

By his marriage to Miss Marcella Rowan, Mr. Knierr had four children, Byron, Marcella, Alberta and Francisco. Byron is deceased. Mrs. Knierr died in 1910 and in 1911 he married her sister, Miss Annie Rowan.

R. L. BERRY

Among these public-spirited citizens of Tulare county who have put forth their efforts toward promoting better conditions, is R. L. Berry, who was born May 6, 1860, in Tuolumne county, Cal., a son of John M. Berry, a native of Missouri. The latter in 1857 came across the plains with ox-teams to California, and his widow, a native of Virginia, is surviving him at the advanced age of eighty-seven years.

When R. L. Berry was ten years old he was taken by his parents to Tulare county and the family settled on the site of Lindsay when their house was one of two within the present limits of the city. The boy was given some opportunities for schooling but was early called upon to take the place of a hand at herding sheep and made familiar with the details of dry farming as it was practiced in the district at that time. Most of the land for many miles round about was government land subject to entry. Some years after his arrival there he entered three quarter-sections, but eventually went to Kern county and abandoned all claim to them. Returning later he took up farming and buying and selling land and

has since handled or operated tracts aggregating a considerable acreage.

In 1879 Mr. Berry married Miss Ella Berry, a native of San Joaquin county, and she has borne him a daughter, Ethel May, who is the wife of F. G. Hamilton, superintendent of the Mount Whitney Power company of Visalia, Cal. In his political affiliations Mr. Berry is a Socialist. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and the Women of Woodcraft of Lindsay, Mrs. Berry being also a member of the order last mentioned. He is a friend of public education and an ardent promoter of good roads. In fact, no demand made upon him on behalf of the community fails to receive his ready and helpful response.

JOEL KNEELAND

A native of New England, Joel Kneeland was born in Vermont in 1830. In 1860 he removed with his family to Shawnee county, Kans. In 1870 the family went to the western part of the same county and carried on farming there until 1874, when the father died. Subsequently the son came with his mother to Red Bluff, Cal., where they farmed four years, and from there they removed to Mr. Kneeland's present ranch, where he has since prospered. The woman who became Mr. Kneeland's wife was Agnes Wilson, of Scotch descent, who came to California about twenty years ago. They have five children: Eugene S., Francis F., Joel M., Mary O., and Willis W., of whom the three eldest are attending school.

Politically the father of Mr. Kneeland was a Republican, and he himself is a Socialist. His mother died at the age of sixty years, and her mother lived to the advanced age of eighty-seven. Mr. Kneeland is a member of the Farmers' Union and affiliates with the Modern Woodmen. As a farmer he ranks with the best in his neighborhood. Of his thirty-acre farm he has three acres under alfalfa, most of the remainder being pasture land. He keeps fifteen to eighteen head of stock, and from twelve to twenty hogs.

S. GAVOTTO

The name of Gavotto indicates the Italian origin, and it was in Italy that S. Gavotto was born March 18, 1865. There he grew to manhood, was educated in the schools and learned lessons of industry and economy. In 1884, when he was about nineteen years

old, he left his native land and in 1886 located in Sacramento, Cal., where he was employed until 1889, then coming for the first time to Tulare. He almost immediately went north, however, but in 1890 came back and paid \$800 for an interest in a small ranch which proved such a failure that he lost his entire investment. He then bought a lease of the D. A. Fox ranch with some stock that was on the place of a Mr. Pike, who had been operating the property. Establishing a dairy, he sold milk in Tulare until 1898, when he disposed of his entire dairy and farming interests. For four years thereafter he worked for wages, saving his money and planning for the future, and then embarked in the cattle business in a small way. After the bonds were burned in 1893, he bought seventy acres just outside the city limits of Tulare and established another dairy, and he now has ten cows and keeps an average of about seven hogs. Twenty acres of his land is under alfalfa and he farms a few acres to corn and a few other acres to grain, producing only enough feed for his stock.

In 1895 Mr. Gavotto united his fortunes with those of Margaret Monteverde, by marriage. This lady, who is a native of Italy, has two sons by a former marriage and their Christian names are Andrew and Frank. She has borne her present husband children named Lucca, Carlo, Henry and William. Mr. Gavotto is a man of much public spirit and of a genial and social disposition. Fraternally he associates with the Tulare organization of the Woodmen of the World.

JOHN KLINDERA

The popular citizen mentioned above, the second of the name to be known and honored in Tulare county, was born in Visalia in 1873, and is a son of John Klindera, Sr., and his wife, Annie. His father was born in Bohemia in 1843, made his way eventually to Chicago, and from there came by way of New York around the Horn to California in 1865. He remained in San Francisco until 1867, and then took up his residence in Visalia, where he became an accountant in the mercantile establishment of R. E. Hyde & Co. Later he went into sheep raising, three miles west of Tulare, where, in 1878, he was killed by a falling tree. He left four children, viz.: Robert is a railroad man and lives at Montalvo, Cal.; G. W. lives in Fresno; Lillie is the wife of Ed Tribau, and John, Jr. The mother of these children still survives.

John Klindera, Jr., lived three miles west of Tulare until he was six years old, then moved to Tipton, where he was reared and

educated. With his brothers, he went into the sheep business with sheep which they brought from the home place, and soon bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, their mother three hundred and twenty acres and one of the brothers two hundred and forty acres. They erected brick buildings on this property, improved it otherwise, and eventually sold it. Meanwhile, in 1884, they disposed of their sheep and after that they raised grain on their land until 1905. Then John engaged in dairying and stock-raising on four hundred and eighty acres of the Crowley ranch, near Tipton, on which he also grew grain. In 1909 he rented six hundred and forty acres of the Dresser ranch, of which sixty acres is in alfalfa. He milks thirty cows and raises horses, cattle and hogs, considerable of his acreage being devoted to pasture.

In 1898 Mr. Klindera married Miss Ethel Thomas and they have a son, Martie Klindera, named in honor of his grandfather, Martie Thomas, who was a pioneer in Tulare county and in California. Mr. Klindera owns and rents out a dairy ranch of forty acres on the Hanford road, a mile and a half west of Tulare. He is a stockholder in the Tipton Co-operative Creamery company and the cream from his place is marketed with that concern. He affiliates with the Tipton organization of the Woodmen of the World and as a citizen is public-spiritedly helpful to all important interests of the community.

GEORGE D. RAMSEY

Among the representative farmers in the vicinity of Hanford is George D. Ramsey, who was born in Knox county, Mo., October 28, 1866, a son of John Wilson and Eliza A. (McVey) Ramsey. The elder Ramsey was born April 3, 1843, in Adams county, Ill., remaining there until moving to Knox county, Mo. Here he lived until he brought his family to California in 1871. Arriving in this state he settled near Danville, Contra Costa county, one year later he went to the Panoche valley in Fresno county, and three years later came to what is now Kings county, settling on the Hanford and Tulare road. He was a member of the Settlers' league during the Mussel slough troubles. He worked on the Lakeside ditch and helped build and was superintendent of the Mussel slough ditch, also working on the construction of the Wutchumna ditch. Later he settled down to farming and was one of the first men to put in a crop on Tulare lake, from which he reaped a good harvest. He had to do with every progressive movement in the county, was a Mason before leaving for the west, and also held membership in

the A.O.U.W. for many years. While a resident of Fresno county he served as deputy sheriff and during his life was for many years a school trustee. From 1906 he made his home with his son, George D., his death occurring January 24, 1912, aged nearly sixty-nine years. His wife passed away on December 14, 1894, aged forty-eight. Their three children survive, John Theodore, George D., and Mrs. Effie P. McClellan.

George D. Ramsey was brought to California by his parents when he was about five years of age, and in October, 1875, was brought to Kings, then Tulare, county. He attended school until he was about sixteen years old, meanwhile working with his father on the ranch, and eventually he took up farming for himself; and he later drifted into the dairy business, in which he is now making a substantial success. Kings county remained his home until 1901, when he moved to Elk Grove, Sacramento county, and during the ensuing five years made a success of his venture there. Returning to Kings county at the end of that time he bought eighty acres of land from his father and engaged in raising hogs and horses and cultivating fruit. He is constantly developing his place along those different lines and in each of them has come to the front. What success he has made has been by his own efforts.

On November 20, 1898, Mr. Ramsey was united in marriage with Mrs. Margaret P. (Jones) Lewis, and of this union four children have been born: Velma I., George E., John H., and Delbert E. Wherever he has lived Mr. Ramsey has exercised a generous public spirit which has won him recognition as a helpful citizen, for he has been solicitous for the general welfare and devoted to the best interests of his fellow townsmen of all classes.

JEFFERY J. LAMARSNA

The life of Jeffery J. LaMarsna embraced the period from 1846, when he was born in Canada, to January 24, 1907, when he died at his home in Tulare, Tulare county, Cal. As a babe of six weeks he was brought from his birth-place to Michigan, whence his parents later removed to Illinois, and there he grew up and acquired some little education in public schools. In 1862, when he was only about sixteen years old, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry and did soldier's duty in the Civil war until he lost a leg in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain. When he was able to leave the hospital he returned to his home, crippled for life, when but in his eighteenth year.

In 1872, when he was about twenty-six years old, Mr. La-

Marsna married Miss Maria Clough, a native of New Hampshire, and they soon afterward moved to Pottawatomie county, Kas., where, in association with his father and brother, he raised cattle and sheep sixteen years. Then his services as a soldier and the bodily sacrifice he had made for his country were recognized by his appointment to a position in the pension office at Washington, D. C. After he had labored there four years, he was transferred to Ohio, where for three years he was in the field work of the department.

In 1887 Mr. LaMarsna came to California and located on a farm at Woodville, where he raised crops and stock until 1903. Then he moved to Tulare, where he made his home until he passed away. His ranch of eighty acres was sold when he gave up farming. As a citizen he was always patriotic and public spirited. Members of the Grand Army of the Republic were proud to hail him as a comrade and he affiliated also with the Royal Society of Good Fellows.

The children of Jeffery J. and Marie (Clough) LaMarsna, four in number, are named as follows: John Walter, who is a rancher at Woodville; Eber H., who is represented in these pages by a separate sketch; G. C., who is an electrician, and Ella, who is well known in Tulare.

BENJAMIN E. McCLURE

A member of an old-established family in central California, Benjamin E. McClure is the grandson of Thomas McClure, who was a very early settler in Woodland, where he built the first blacksmith shop and followed that trade. James M. McClure, father of Benjamin, was a native of Missouri, as was also his wife, Sarah (Ely) McClure. In the early '50s James M. came overland to this state and in 1857 his mother came by way of Cape Horn. Mr. McClure identified himself with the best interests of Yolo county in his time and spent most of his life there, winning a success that placed him among the enterprising men of that section.

Benjamin E. McClure was born at Buckeye, near Winters, Yolo county, in 1866. In the public schools near his father's home he was a student in his childhood and boyhood. He began his active career in Yolo county and won distinction there as a successful farmer, operating land in farms of a single congressional section to immense tracts which included five thousand or more acres. He remained there till 1902, when he sold out his Yolo county interests and came to Visalia. Seeing the value of real estate investment there he bought eighteen acres in the southern part of the city,

which he developed into one of the finest homes in its vicinity, and thirty-five acres south of his home, which he cut up into one-acre lots, on twenty-one of which houses have been erected and families are living. - On his homestead he has a four-acre alfalfa field, from which he cut forty tons of hay in 1910 with only one irrigation. For some years, until 1912, he leased the Coombs ranch of two hundred and forty acres and farmed it with good results. He cleared up the land and raised five crops. In 1911 he planted fifty acres to Egyptian corn and later sowed the same land to barley, which yielded twenty sacks to the acre. In 1910 he sowed eighty acres to barley with like results. With such an experience to refer to, he is naturally enthusiastic in praise of Tulare county as a place of residence and a promising field for the endeavors of the scientific farmer. He owns two eight-mule teams, one of which is employed in grading alfalfa land in the county, the other on street work at Dinuba. Socially Mr. McClure affiliates with the Woodmen of the World.

In 1896 Mr. McClure married Miss Ida B. Dearing, born in California. Mrs. McClure was born in California, the third of a family of eight children of John W. and Martha E. (Morris) Dearing, the former of whom was born in Missouri, was a pioneer of this state and died in 1884. Mrs. Dearing survives and makes her home with the McClures, enjoying splendid health. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dearing were California pioneers, the former crossing the plains with his father in 1849, driving ox-teams, and upon arrival he engaged in gold mining near Hangtown. The mother came overland by way of Texas when a little girl about six years of age, and her father "Uncle" Dickie Morris was one of the founders of Woodland and at one time owned eighty acres where the county hospital of Yolo county is now situated. Mr. and Mrs. Dearing were married in Lake county.

The beautiful residence of the McClures was built in 1903 on the homestead and is a model of architectural elegance. Here Mr. and Mrs. McClure dispense a broad and liberal hospitality.

HARRISON F. PEACOCK

Well known throughout central California as a fruit grower, Harrison F. Peacock of Hanford, Kings county, was born in Oneida county, N. Y., May 5, 1836. There he remained until he was twelve years of age and then began his education in the public schools near the home of his childhood. Then he was taken to Wayne county, in the same state, where from his sixteenth year to December,

1863, he was engaged as a farm hand, and thus he had begun his career as a self made man, and it was to be continued as a soldier. In the year last mentioned he enlisted in Company B, Ninth New York Heavy Artillery, for service in the Civil war. He participated in quite a number of important engagements and in many that were less noteworthy, was promoted to be a sergeant and received honorable discharge at the end of his term of enlistment, in 1865 at the close of the war, and was discharged from the Second Heavy Artillery.

In 1868 Mr. Peacock came to California and settled in Napa county, where he found employment at mason work in which he had had enough experience to gain a practical knowledge of the trade. He stuck to such employment for years, until his health failed, then turned to farming and teaming. Eventually he took up railroad land in Tulare, now Kings county, which he still owns and on which he has made his home since 1875. While his career here has not been without its reverses, his prosperity has been in a general way progressive and his success compares favorably with that of any farmer of the better class in his vicinity. During recent years he has given much attention to fruit growing, which he has made a source of considerable profit. He has taken an intelligent interest in irrigation and was one of the builders of the Lakeside ditch.

As a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Mr. Peacock keeps in touch with comrades of the Civil war period. He married, January 25, 1872, Miss Rebecca J. Bonham, a native of Illinois, and they had three children: Mary, deceased; Grace and George; of these George is in the dairy business in Kings county. As a citizen Mr. Peacock is public-spirited to a degree that makes him helpful to the community.

BRIGHT EARL BARNETT

Born in Kings county, Cal., October 15, 1886, Bright Earl Barnett attended public schools near his boyhood home until he was sixteen years old. After that he was employed by his father on the latter's ranch until he attained his majority, when he took up the battle of life for himself and met with much success. He is managing, at this time, three hundred and twenty acres of well improved land, which he devotes to the purposes of stock-raising and dairying. He has a vineyard of fifteen acres, keeps forty milch cows and raises many hogs. One hundred and fifty acres of his

land is used for pasturage and for the production of alfalfa, of which he harvests from four to six crops annually.

Fraternally Mr. Barnett affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He takes intelligent interest in public affairs from the point of view of his party and is ready at all times to respond with prompt generosity to any call on behalf of the community at large, and there is no proposition which in his judgment promises to benefit his community that does not have his cordial encouragement and support. On December 23, 1907, he married Miss Vera Russell, a native of Pike county, Illinois, born November 27, 1884, and she bore him a son, Glenn Ray Barnett, who was born May 8, 1911.

CUTHBERT BURREL

In Wayne county, in central New York, Cuthbert Burrel was born November 28, 1824, a son of George and Mary (Robinson) Burrel, natives of England, his grandfather, for whom he was named, being an English squire. Of his parents' nine children, Cuthbert was the fourth in order of nativity. In 1834, when he was ten years old, his people moved to Plainfield, Will county, Ill., where he attended school and grew to man's estate. He crossed the prairies and mountains to California in 1846, driving an ox-team, and consuming almost six months' time in making the journey. Stephen A. Cooper was the leader of the party which with its belongings constituted the train.

For about six months Mr. Burrel was in army service under Fremont, and after his discharge he went to Sutter's Fort, and there he found the wagon in which he had made his overland journey. Procuring it, he traveled in it to Yount's ranch, in Napa county, taking with him one of the children of the historic Donner party. Later he went to Sonora, where he was employed during the summer of 1847 by Salvator Vallejo, and for his work received \$100 cash, one hundred firkins of wheat and two hundred heifers. In 1848, working in a hay field in Suisun valley one day, he was approached by John Patton, who showed \$500 worth of gold that he had brought down from the mountains, assuring Mr. Burrel and the latter's companions that there was plenty more where that had come from. The haymakers at once determined to work no longer in the field, sold their interests in the hay and set out for the mines. Mr. Burrel mined three years, but soon after leaving the mines, he bought land in Green valley, Solano county, where he farmed and raised stock until 1860. Then he sold his ranch for

thirteen hundred and eleven head of cattle, which he drove to the Elkhorn ranch in Fresno county, where he raised stock until his death, acquiring there a ranch of twenty thousand acres. He was in the east during the period 1871-1874. Coming back to California in the latter year, he bought a thousand acres of land in Tulare county, five miles northwest of Visalia, and later he bought an additional thousand acres.

In 1873 Mr. Burrel married Mrs. Adaliza H. Adams, who has borne him four children, three of whom are living: Varina J., May and Luella (Mrs. Richard E. Hyde, Jr.). Mr. Burrel was a member of the Society of California Pioneers and was widely known throughout the San Joaquin valley. He found time from his farming and stock-raising to interest himself in business and commercial matters, as is evidenced by the fact that he was a director of the First National Bank of San Jose, and assisted in the founding of the Bank of Visalia. His landed interests became extensive and he was one of the leading men in his vicinity. He died August 7, 1893, deeply regretted by a wide circle of acquaintances.

WALTER FRY

The family of Fry is an old one in America and in different generations representatives of it have attained prominence. An offshoot of one branch of it located rather early in Iroquois county, Ill., and there Walter Fry was born in 1859. His father, a native of Ohio, died in 1897; his mother, who was of Illinois birth, passed away when he was ten years old. When he was nine years old the boy was taken from the Prairie state to Kansas, and he lived there and in Oklahoma, by turns a cowboy, a miner, a rancher and deputy United States marshal, till he came to Tulare in 1887. Then he was given employment with the railroad company and was made a peace officer, in which capacity he served until 1895. During the succeeding two years he lived elsewhere, and in 1899 he moved on his present homestead, comprising fifty-five acres, near Three Rivers. He has for some time been in charge of General Grant park and Sequoia park, with official standing as a ranger, and acting superintendent, which latter position he holds at the present time. With a record of eleven years' service under the United States government, he has for eight years filled his present position, for which he was selected by the Secretary of the Interior because of his special fitness and experience. As rancher, cowboy and ranger he has spent most of his years out doors.

and his life has been the full, free, broad life of the western plains, forests and mountains.

In 1879 Mr. Fry married Miss Sarah A. Higgins, a native of Illinois, whose father, John T. Higgins, died in Illinois in 1880 and whose mother is living in Tulare. Mr. and Mrs. Fry have four children, two of whom are citizens of this county. Fraternally, Mr. Fry affiliates with the Exeter lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the local division of the auxiliary order of Rebekahs, in which Mrs. Fry also holds membership. As a citizen Mr. Fry is public-spirited to a notable degree, ready at all times to assist to the extent of his ability any movement which, in his good judgment, is promising of benefit to the community.

ALBERT PRATT HOWE

A native-born son of Kings county, Cal., who is achieving success on his native heath is Albert Pratt Howe, of Guernsey. It was in 1881 that Mr. Howe was born and he was reared in the Lakeside district and educated in the public schools near his home. He and his brother Edwin and their father farmed on the lake bottom from 1898 to 1906, when they were driven from their land by the filling up of the lake. Before this catastrophe the brothers had bought of their father the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, eight miles southwest of Hanford, now owned by Edwin Howe, and there they farmed several years as partners. In 1906 Albert sold out his interest there to his brother and bought two hundred and seventy-five acres at Guernsey and eighty acres one mile south of that place. The land has been improved with a new house and a barn, occupying a ground space of 56x80 feet, with a capacity for the storage of one hundred tons of hay. Of the two hundred and seventy-five-acre tract, one hundred and twenty acres is in alfalfa, the balance being farm land and pasture. Mr. Howe sows forty to sixty acres to grain each year. The eighty-acre tract is improved pasture land.

The principal business of Mr. Howe is in stock-raising and dairying, though he raises some hogs, and he milks an average of about thirty-five dairy cows. From his farming and dairying he has spared some time and money for investment otherwise. He married, in 1907, Miss Elvira Comfort, daughter of B. G. Comfort, who is well known in Kings county, and she has borne him two daughters and one son, Carrie, Eunice and Earl. Mr. Howe is a wide-awake man who takes an interest in everything that can possibly influence the public good. He is especially interested in the

development of the community with which he casts his lot and is ready at all times to give generous aid to any movement proposed for the general uplift.

LOUIS N. GLOVER

A leader in things agricultural, who lives six miles south of Tulare city in Tulare county, Cal., and was born in the historic old state of Kentucky, October 2, 1860, is Louis N. Glover. He passed his boyhood and youth in the public schools and on the farm and when he was twenty-one years old went to Nebraska, whence after six months' residence there he went to Colorado. Two months spent there determined him to come to California, and he arrived at Stockton, October 10, 1882. In that same autumn he found employment on Roberts' island, and then, after three months spent at Lockeford, he came to Tulare county January 23, 1883, in response to an invitation of friends who had bought land there. Liking his surroundings, he entered the employ of Paige & Morton and marked off the land and set out the first orchard on the ranch of that firm, for whose cannery he employed all help. It is said that this was the first establishment of its kind in the county. After three years' connection with that enterprise, he began to farm rented land and at one time worked fourteen hundred acres. After operating the Laurel Colony property seven years, he put in two years at dairying in a modest way, and in the fall of 1904 he bought three hundred and five acres, six miles south of Tulare, on which he conducts a dairy of forty-eight cows, raises stock, keeps twenty-two head of horses, feeds one hundred and fifty head of hogs and maintains a growing venture in poultry. One hundred and seventy acres of his land is devoted to alfalfa and on the balance he raises corn and grain. He was one of the promoters of, and is a stockholder in, the Dairymen's Co-operative creamery, and he helped to establish the old Co-operative creamery at Tulare. Of the Tule River Riparian Water association he was the organizer and it was largely through his influence that certain historic differences concerning water rights near that river were finally adjusted to the satisfaction of all concerned. The official title of the association is now the Tule River Riparianist, incorporated. Its district comprises the country between the summit and the lake. One of Mr. Glover's possessions is a good residence property in Tulare.

At Tulare, Mr. Glover married, April 12, 1893, Miss Ettie Moody, a native of Kentucky, who has borne him three children,

one of whom died in infancy. Their son, James Earl, died December 1, 1907. Their daughter, Virma, born October 21, 1895, is a pupil in the high school at Tulare. Fraternally, Mr. Glover affiliates with the Tulare organization of the Woodmen of the World and with the Watsonville organization of the Yeomen. As a citizen, he is helpfully public-spirited, never withholding his support from any movement which he deems conducive to the good of the community.

D. W. LEWIS

Corcoran, Kings county, Cal., is the home of D. W. Lewis, president of the Tulare Lake Dredging company, who has made his home in that enterprising town since 1906. He was born in Redlake, Beltrami county, Minn., November 24, 1848, and while young was taken by his parents to Morrison county, where he lived until he was fourteen. At that time he was done with the public school at Belleplaine, Minn., and became a student at Oberan college. His studies were soon cut short, however, by his enlistment in the United States army, in which he saw arduous and hazardous service during the latter part of the Civil war. In 1866 he came to California and lived principally in Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties. He traveled over various parts of the state, and from Santa Clara county he moved to Fresno county in 1879, where he established the first commercial nursery in the valley south of Stockton, which he conducted until 1906, and then came to Kings county. His first venture there was to plant out a tract of land to asparagus, but he soon relinquished the latter business to embark in a dredging enterprise and organized the Tulare Lake Dredging company, of which he is president. This business has been highly successful and of much benefit to the country in which it has been operated. Meanwhile, Mr. Lewis has also given attention to wheat farming, which has brought good results.

In 1866 Mr. Lewis married Miss Margaret Clark, a native of New York city, who has been his helpmate and adviser in the various interests to which he has devoted himself from time to time. They are a genial and helpful couple, and their kindly interest in all with whom they come in contact insures them a welcome wherever they may go. Public spirited to an unusual degree, Mr. Lewis extends aid cheerfully and generously to any measure which, in his opinion, promises to promote the general welfare or to enhance the prosperity of any considerable number of his fellow citizens.

HENRY F. ROCK

That progressive merchant and real estate investor of Armona, Kings county, Cal., Henry F. Rock, was born in Shasta county, in this state, September 12, 1870. His youth and the earlier years of his manhood were passed on a farm and he was educated in the public school in his home district. When he was about twenty-nine years old he located on a farm in Fresno county, which he operated with varying success for some years. By this time he had made up his mind that he would be a merchant and had saved money with which to go into business. Buying the O. B. Hanan store at Centerville, Fresno county, he conducted it four years, meanwhile farming on rented land in the vicinity. In 1907 he closed out the merchandise business to Messrs. Elliott & Coleman of Conejo, Fresno county, and came to Armona, Kings county, to take over the well established mercantile enterprise of Muller Brothers, who had been trading here five years. He has since handled the business with increasing success. From his merchandising he has found time to interest himself in real estate, and has acquired an interest in town and country property, in different alfalfa ranches and in a farm of seventy-eight acres. Besides, he is a stockholder in the commission house of Zaiser Brothers, Los Angeles.

Fraternally, Mr. Rock affiliates with Lucerne lodge No. 275, I.O.O.F., Hanford. He married, November 6, 1890, Miss Lora Burner, at Glenburn, Shasta county. She was born in Colusa county, and has borne him four children, only one of whom survives, Carl E., who was educated in the public school of Armona and Heald's Business College at Fresno, and is now engaged in the bakery business at Armona. Taking a deep and abiding interest in the uplift and development of his community, Mr. Rock has proven himself dependable when demand is made for aid in movements for the public good.

J. C. C. RUSSELL

One of the few members of Kings county bar, who is a native of the Golden state, is J. C. C. Russell, who has offices in the First National Bank building at Hanford. Mr. Russell was born January 8, 1868, in Merced county, seven miles south of the site of Merced, a son of J. C. C. Russell, Sr., and his wife, Sophia M., who was a daughter of Dr. T. O. Ellis. The latter was a pioneer in

Tulare and Fresno counties and once prominent as a physician.

The elder Russell, a native of Winchester, Tenn., came to California in 1849, when he was eighteen years old, and after mining for a while, went to Los Angeles, where he remained until April, 1857, when he settled in Mariposa, within the present limits of Merced county. Here he homesteaded government land, which he improved and on which he farmed and raised stock until his death, which occurred September 30, 1891. His son, J. C. C. Russell, grew up and began his education in the public schools, continuing it in the high school at Oakland, where he was graduated July, 1886. The succeeding two years he spent in farming, then entered the University of California, where he was graduated in 1895. Meanwhile, in his spare time, he was a student in a law school at San Francisco, and such good use of his opportunities did he make that he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of California, January 9, 1894. After an English course, in which he graduated in 1895, he began the practice of his profession in San Francisco, where he remained for over two years, and then moved to Mariposa, but after a residence of not quite two years there he came to Hanford, September 14, 1897. In 1898 he established himself here in the general practice of his profession, which he has continued till the present time with much success, winning a high place at the bar and an enviable standing in the public repute.

Socially, Mr. Russell affiliates with the Foresters, the Eagles, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Native Sons of the Golden West, the Degree of Honor, the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America. On June 13, 1903, he married Gwendolyn Darnell, a daughter of Mrs. Clara E. Myers, and they have a daughter, Mercedes.

CLARK M. SMITH

Numbered among those brave patriots who fought so courageously for their country's cause in the Civil war is Clark M. Smith, born May 5, 1847, at Adrian, Mich., where he grew up, attending the public school. He did farm work until he enlisted in Company K, Sixth Michigan Infantry, and was transferred to Heavy Artillery, for service in the Federal army. He was enrolled January 4, 1864, and was honorably discharged August 20, 1865. During his term of service he participated in many historic engagements, notably at Mobile Bay, Fort Morgan and Fort Blakeley. His father was a member of the same company and died on the way home after having been discharged.

Returning to Michigan Mr. Smith remained there, employed mostly on the farm, until July 14, 1873, when he started for California. Locating at Ferndale, Humboldt county, he engaged in business, was soon elected constable and served as a special officer four years. Then he engaged in the furniture trade, continuing in it there till 1889, when he took up his residence in Hanford and bought out the old Lillie furniture store, but in 1893 the building he occupied was destroyed by fire. It was his intention to resume business, but before he could secure other quarters he fell ill and was not able to take up the activities of life again until four years afterwards. Then he was elected justice of the peace at Hanford, and after he had filled the office with much credit four years he was, in June, 1903, appointed to the same office at Armona by the board of supervisors of Kings county, and since then the latter town has been his home. He is a justice of the peace, a notary public and fills the office of secretary of the Grangeville Cemetery association, besides doing considerable business in real estate and insurance.

On October 22, 1890, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Georgia Ammer and they are the parents of two children, Osmond and Georgia Irene, both of whom have been educated in Kings county. Fraternally, he has passed the chairs in both the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, as well as the encampment. In 1895 Mr. Smith was commander of McPherson post, G.A.R., of which he has been quartermaster six years and is in his eleventh year as adjutant. He is also a member of the local organization of the Sons of Veterans. As a soldier, as a public official and as a business man and citizen, he has been equal to every demand.

JOSEPH WILLIAM STURGEON

As a farmer and as a business man, Joseph William Sturgeon has achieved distinction in the country round about Tulare, Tulare county. He is a native son of California, having been born in Amador county, October 7, 1855, and was in his sixth year when, in 1860, his father, Francis Marion Sturgeon, located near Farmersville, in Tulare county. There the boy was reared and educated in the common schools and on his father's ranch instructed in the fundamentals of farming and stockgrowing. His original land holding was one hundred and sixty acres, but he rented and farmed other land and grew as a stockraiser until he now has two thousand acres and handles about three hundred head of cattle. Fif-

teen hundred acres of his land is reserved for farming and is at this time used for pasture. He owns also eighty acres of alfalfa land on the Tule river, ten miles from Tulare, which is being improved under his personal direction. He lived on his ranch until 1895, when he removed to Tulare, where he has since made his home. Since his retirement from active farm life he has identified himself with several important interests and is a stockholder in the bank of Tulare. His father, Francis Marion Sturgeon, ranched near Farmersville until his activities were terminated by his death.

In 1889 Joseph W. Sturgeon married Matilda Evelyn Lathrop, and they have three children, Mildred Lee, and William Tyler and Wallace Ezra (twins). The Sturgeon family is well and favorably known to members of most of the best families in the county and its head is recognized as a citizen of much public spirit, who is never backward in assisting any measure which, in his opinion, promises to promote the public weal.

FRANK SMITH

This prosperous farmer, merchant and warehouse proprietor at Angiola, Tulare county, Cal., was born in Alameda county, Cal., June 15, 1862. He attended the public school near his home until he was eighteen years old, meanwhile acquiring a practical knowledge of farming on his father's ranch. After he left school he helped with the work of the family homestead until he was twenty years of age, and then engaged in farming on his own account, and so persistently has he followed out the well-laid plans of his youth that, while he has given attention to some other interests, he has been a farmer during all the years of his active life. He is at present engaged in ranching and wheat-raising on the lake. Locating at Angiola he went into the cattle business and bought and sold stock for eight years. In 1908 he engaged in the grain, feed and fuel trade, with a warehouse in Angiola, and he has continued in these lines to the present time with good success. He makes a specialty of the breeding of mules and he was in 1912 the owner of fifty head of as good stock of that class as was to be found anywhere in his part of the country.

In 1886 Mr. Smith married Miss Jennie Morgan, who was born in San Francisco, Cal., in 1866, and they have eight children: Cleve, Grover, Leo, Veva, Vera, James, William and Edward. Mr. Smith is a man of much public spirit, who has in different ways done much

for the welfare for Angiola, for he has the interest of the community at heart and strives earnestly to promote its development and prosperity.

DR. WILLIAM WHITTINGTON

Notwithstanding his comparatively recent advent at Dinuba, Tulare county, Cal., Dr. William Whittington has established a professional practice which evidences his skill as a physician. Making a specialty of tuberculosis of the lungs, he has achieved a success which has been remarked by his brother physicians throughout central California. His beautiful home is presided over by his wife, who is giving Christian training to their children, and he possesses the friendship of many and esteem of all who are so fortunate as to have made his acquaintance. Of Northern birth, but of Southern extraction, he mites all those qualities of enterprise and of cultivation which make for the very highest American citizenship. Besides, he represents honored families of pioneers. Early in the history of southern Illinois Joseph Whittington, his revered grandfather, came from Tennessee and settled near Benton, Franklin county, where he secured a tract of virgin soil on which he farmed the remainder of his life. His son J. F. Whittington was born and lived out his days near Benton, Ill., dying in 1886. His wife was Mary Spencer, a native born Tennessean, and accompanied her parents to Illinois, where she still lives in the companionship of some of her children. There were ten in all, of whom Dr. William Whittington was the first born, and of whom five are living.

Doctor Whittington is the only one of the family now living in California. He was born near Benton, Franklin county, Ill., and grew to manhood there on the old family homestead on which he was taught practical farming. Agriculture possessed few attractions for him, however, and early in life he turned to school teaching, and in his intervals of teaching read medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. C. O. Kelley, of Ewing, Ill. In 1878 he became a student at the Missouri Medical College, at St. Louis, Mo., where he was graduated March 4, 1880, with the degree of M. D. He began his practice at Ewing, Ill., but soon moved to Campbell Hill, Jackson county, that state. In 1891 he came to California and opened an office at Reedley, Fresno county, whence he moved in 1893 to Tulare county. In the period 1898-1900 he was in active practice of his profession in Los Angeles and in 1902 located in Dinuba. While a resident of Illinois, he was identified with the Southern Illinois Medical Association which still retains his name on its roll of members.

In 1876 Dr. Whittington married Miss Virginia Hackney, a native of Tennessee, their wedding ceremony having been solemnized at Elkhaville, Ill. Her father, E. J. Hackney, was born in Tennessee and represented long lines of Southern ancestry. To Dr. and Mrs. Whittington have been born children as follows: Pearl Ione is the wife of H. Hammer, of Fresno, Cal.; Frank Edmund died in infancy; William E., who is a salesman for the San Joaquin Light & Power Co., married Miss Grace Akers; Charles Roy, who is the proprietor of the Dinuba Electrical Works, married Miss Grace Nichols; and Ray Hackney is a graduate of the Dinuba high school. Dr. and Mrs. Whittington are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Dinuba and liberal contributors toward its maintenance and that of its numerous charities. He is a Thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of Dinuba lodge, F. & A. M., and is identified with the Woodmen of the World. As a stockholder and director, he is prominent in the affairs of the United States Bank of Dinuba, the history of which dates from its establishment in 1908. He is the owner of a twenty acre orange grove just coming into bearing in the Smith Mountain country.

HENRY L. WILSON

The family of Wilson of which Henry L. Wilson is the head came to Tulare county in January, 1906, and was the first to domicile itself on what is now the site of Alpaugh. Mr. Wilson was born in Morgan county, Ill., March 27, 1867. After he was old enough to go to school he was a student in the public school until he was nine years old, and he devoted the ensuing eleven years to acquiring a knowledge of farming on his father's ranch and incidentally helping his father with his work. In 1889, when he was about twenty-two years old, he began farming for himself in Nebraska, but in 1901 removed to Phoenix, Ariz., where he bought land and kept the books of a planing-mill concern. He remained there but a short time, however, and in 1906 he was established in Alpaugh as the proprietor of a blacksmithing and implement business and as a freighter between Alpaugh and Angiola. In the spring of 1907 he was elected manager of the local water company, which position he held three years with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of all others concerned. For some time he has been doing business as a building contractor and as a real estate dealer and ably filling the offices of constable and notary public. His latest venture has been in well drilling, and he possesses one of the finest well-drilling outfits in central California, thus being prepared to do such work at short notice, if necessity

so demands. His interest in education and in religion has made him useful in the community as a school trustee and as the organizer and chairman of the Christian association, of the bible class of which he is teacher. In a general way he has the progress and prosperity of the town at heart and is liberal in assistance of all movements for the benefit of its people. He is the owner of sixty acres of land near Alpaugh.

Fraternally Mr. Wilson affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen, the Royal Highlanders and the Fraternal Brotherhood. He married, November 30, 1893, Miss Minnie F. Lois, a native of Texas, and is the father of seven children: Chester H., Ralph C., Ross L., Earl O., Fred W., Lloyd E., and Grace L.

SAMUEL REHOEFER

One of the pioneer merchants of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., is Samuel Rehoefer, a member of the firm of Steele & Rehoefer, exclusive shoe dealers, his partner being F. J. Steele. Mr. Rehoefer is a native of Bavaria. When he was ten years old he came with his father's family to the United States and they settled in Kentucky. From there he went to Alabama, and thence to Texas, where he passed the years of his young manhood in different dry goods establishments. In 1878 he came to California, and in the period 1878-82 he was connected with dry goods enterprises in San Francisco, Dixon and Stockton successively. He came to Hanford in 1882 and established the dry goods house of the Kutner-Goldstein Co., of which he was part owner and general manager for twenty-three years. The first store of the company on Sixth street had a floor space of fifty by one hundred feet. This, under Mr. Rehoefer's progressive management, was gradually enlarged from year to year until the store was one of the largest and best appointed in the county. In 1903 he disposed of his dry goods interests and with Mr. Steele as a partner opened a shoe store on Seventh street, which has been so skillfully managed that it is one of the most conspicuous of the prosperous business institutions of the city. Other interests than merchandising have to some extent commanded Mr. Rehoefer's attention; he owned at one time an eighty-acre alfalfa ranch in Kings county and he is the proprietor of the Palace rooming house block on Douty street. In many ways he has demonstrated a public spirit which marks him as a useful and helpful citizen. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masons, in which he has attained the thirty-second degree, and with the Knights of Pythias.

WILLIAM GEORGE BASSETT

Elsewhere in these pages appears an interesting biographical sketch of Mark Bassett, an Englishman, who came to Kings county from Fresno county in 1895 and has achieved more than state-wide reputation as a breeder of stock, hogs and poultry. Among his children was William George Bassett, who was born in England, October 9, 1876, and is successfully farming eighty acres of his father's land at Armona, twenty-five acres being in vines and most of the remainder in orchard, his principal horticultural products being apricots and peaches. He also gives some attention to farming.

In the affairs of his community Mr. Bassett is patriotically interested and he is now filling the office of deputy sheriff by appointment of L. D. Farmer and is serving in his second term as trustee in the Armona school district. Fraternally he affiliates with the Hanford organization of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In May, 1903, Mr. Bassett married Miss Chloe Pursell, of Hanford, Cal., who has borne him three daughters, who are here named in the order of their nativity: Mildred Irene, Wilma Helen and Marjorie Ethel.

MANUEL R. HOMEN

Conspicuous among Hanford's men of affairs, and locally prominent as a Republican, Manuel R. Homen is fraternally popular through his identification with the U. P. E. C. and I. D. E. S. He is a native of the Azores islands, born December 6, 1855, and lived at Pico until 1875, when on becoming of age, he came to the United States and stopped in Boston until October of that year. From Boston he crossed the continent to San Francisco, and locating at Los Banos, Merced county, he worked there five years. He then went to Merced and built a hotel which he managed a year and then disposed of it. He had been to Hanford with sheep in 1881 and had become so favorably impressed with its possibilities that in 1886 he returned, intending to make his home here. His first year in the town he spent as a hotel keeper, meanwhile making a start in the sheep business, in which he has been actively interested to the present time. He was in the retail liquor business three and a half years. After he had established himself here he built his old home on Front street, where he lived twelve years, then moved to a second home in the town, at No. 924 N. Redington street, where he remained eight years. He has since sold both houses, and in May, 1910, he bought eighty acres of the Ira Rollins ranch, adjoining the south border of

the city, on which is one of the largest houses in Kings county, which serves as his residence. During all this time sheep raising has been his principal interest, but latterly he has given considerable attention to fruit. At one time he owned five thousand sheep which he says he fed at points all over the state. The west side is now the feeding ground for his flocks. Thirty-five acres of his homestead is in vines and thirty acres is in alfalfa.

Other interests than those mentioned have to some extent commanded Mr. Homen's attention. He is a stockholder and director in the Hanford Mercantile Company and has invested quite extensively in oil stocks. The economic affairs of the city and county are matters of solicitude to him and he responds generously to all demands upon his public spirit. At Oakland, Cal., in December, 1890, he married Rita Silva, who like himself was born in the Azores and had been reared to maturity at Pico. She has borne him six children: Mammel R., Jr., Alice, Adelaide, Arthur, Elvina and William, all members of their parents' household.

W. W. BLOYD

In Illinois, October 5, 1860, was born W. W. Boyd, a son of Washington Boyd. He was only a baby when his father brought him to California and he lived near Goose Lake until he was eight years old, and then his family moved to Marysville, Yuba county. In 1873, when the boy was thirteen years old, they came to what is now Kings county and located near Hanford, the father taking up a homestead and settling on a hundred and sixty acres of railroad land, to all of which property he subsequently obtained clear title. Making a home farm of it he lived there until his death, which occurred in July, 1910. His eight children and his widow all survive him and they all live in Hanford.

It was near Hanford that W. W. Boyd began farming, and he was successful there until 1886, then going to Fresno county, where he farmed until 1902, when he bought ten acres near Hanford. He also bought twenty acres adjoining the first purchase and diminished the latter by selling eight acres of it. He improved the place by the erection of a house and good barns, and as rapidly as possible put it under cultivation. He has four acres of vines, three and one-half acres of apricots and three and one-half acres of peaches, and gives attention to the breeding of horses. In June, 1904, he was made superintendent of the ditch systems of the Chamberlain-Carr Company, the Guernsey Canal and Lakeside System and the Branch Canal

Union Water and Ditch Company. He is a director and the secretary of the Settlers' Ditch Company.

In 1882 he married Mary A. Bostwick, and they have three children: Charles Edward, of Fullerton; Chester A., who lives near Hanford; and Ethel, who is a member of her parents' household. Mr. Bloyd affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and is a citizen of unquestionable public spirit.

MARK BASSETT

A native of England, Mark Bassett, who has achieved more than state-wide reputation as a breeder of horses, cattle, hogs and poultry and whose ranch three miles north of Hanford is one of the show-places of that part of Kings county, was born August 1, 1848. He remained there until 1880, becoming a farmer, then came to Canada and located in Ontario, where he farmed eleven years, until he made his way across the continent to California. He came to Kings county in 1895 from Fresno county and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land two miles north of Hanford, one hundred and sixty acres four miles north, and eighty acres at Armona. His one hundred and sixty-acre homestead has one hundred acres in orchard and vineyard; the other one hundred and sixty acres is in alfalfa except forty acres which is given to fruit; and his eighty acres at Armona is devoted to the cultivation of fruits and grapes. He has a total of eighty acres in vineyard and one hundred and twenty acres in apricots and peaches. Soon after he came to the county he began raising thorough-bred Poland-China hogs. He imported his original stock and now has forty registered sows. During the past six years he exhibited hogs at various state fairs and it is of record that he took first prize at the Seattle Exposition in 1909. His hogs and chickens have taken hundreds of first prizes at fairs and exhibitions in Oregon, Washington and California, and are known for their excellence throughout the entire coast country. He also makes a specialty of Percheron horses and is the owner of a thoroughbred stallion and owns a share in another. His chickens are barred Plymouth Rocks and black Minorcas. His land is all well improved and his home is one of the most attractive in this vicinity.

From time to time Mr. Bassett has very public spiritedly interested himself in numerous enterprises. He is a stockholder in the Lucerne Creamery, in the Armona Fruit and Raisin Packing Co. and in the Farmers and Merchants' Bank of Hanford, and is a member of the Kings County Chamber of Commerce.

In October, 1872, Mr. Bassett married Miss Helena Lander, a

member of old English families, who has borne him twelve children, ten of whom are living: Helen, wife of J. Malott; Mabel, who married Frank Pursell; William George; Mark, Jr.; John; Bertha, wife of John Day; Edith, who married Louis Nieson; Ernest; Guy, and Archie.

MELVIN A. HILL

A native of Indiana, born in La Grange county on March 14, 1844, Melvin A. Hill is a son of the late William Remington and Sarah (Gregg) Hill, natives of Monroe county, N. Y., and South Carolina respectively. The former was born in 1815, went to Indiana at an early day and grew up with the pioneer life of that period. He married in that state about 1841, and remained there until September 10, 1859, when with his wife and seven children he started across the plains with ox-teams and prairie schooners. Arriving in this state he settled down to the life of a rancher, following this until his death here, with the exception of a short time spent in Oregon, where he went to join his son Melvin A.

Melvin A. Hill attended school until he was fifteen and remained in California with his parents until 1864, when he went to Oregon. Soon after he returned to this state, and in 1874 we find him in Tulare county after having lived and labored for a time in Ventura county. Farming has been his occupation ever since reaching manhood. When he came to this part of the state Kings county had not been set apart from the mother county of Tulare and all trading was done in Visalia for many years. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on the Hanford-Tulare road, began its improvement and assisted to build the Lakeside ditch to supply the water for irrigation. All the improvements seen on his ranch have been placed there by himself and he has carried on general farming and stock raising with increasing success all these years. There is probably no man better informed than is Mr. Hill on the successful production and sale of crops and stock, and it would be impossible for any one to give himself more devotedly to his business or to have brought an enterprise to a higher plane of success.

In Santa Barbara, Cal., on September 1, 1872, occurred the marriage of Melvin A. Hill with Cynthia Reuk, a native of Adams county, Ill., and two children were born to them, Henry, who is farming on eighty acres given him by his father, and Cora, who died in infancy. Mrs. Hill passed away in September, 1909, and on September 15, 1912, Mr. Hill was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary Ball.

Mr. Hill has not taken an active interest in politics other than

to cast his vote for the men and measures that he considers for the greatest good to the greatest number. He is interested in the cause of education and served as trustee of the Frazer district for two years. He is patriotically interested in economic questions local and national, advocated the organization of Kings county, and assists all worthy enterprises for the advancement of the interests of the people and county. His success has been of his own making and he is looked upon as one of the substantial pioneers of the county, and has a wide acquaintance in this section of the state.

GEORGE W. HOUSTON

A breeder of cattle, horses and hogs in the district of Kings county, Cal., southwest of Hanford, who has won prominence by his excellent stock and good business ability is G. W. Houston. Born near Bloomington, Monroe county, Ind., August 11, 1853, Mr. Houston passed his early life there, learning farming and studying in the public schools. He was married in 1877 and some time later went to Kansas, where he lived about three years, and in 1889 he came to California, locating in what is now Kings county. His first year here was spent in operating the George Camp ranch near Armona, and the following year he was on the Ernest Rollins ranch. His next venture was to lease two hundred and forty acres for five years, on which property he put in ten acres of vineyard and twelve acres of orchard. His first purchase of land was in 1904, when he bought eighty acres which he has developed into a fine ranch. When it came into his possession part of it was devoted to vineyard and some of the rest of it to orchard. He has put out eleven acres of it to vines and taken up the old orchard and has forty acres under alfalfa. All the improvements on the place are due to the enterprise of Mr. Houston, who has used the best judgment in the selection of trees and vines. Cattle, horses and hogs are among his chief products. They are of the best breed and bring the best prices in the market.

On December 26, 1877, Mr. Houston married Miss Minerva A. Morris, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of Hiram and Rebecca Morris, and it was in the Hoosier state that their wedding was celebrated. Mrs. Houston has borne her husband four sons and two daughters, Ernest W. and Everett R., born in Indiana; Grace S. in Kansas; and Oscar C., Howard G. and Blanche in California.

Everett R. and Ernest W. are in the real estate business at Hanford. Grace S. is the wife of Claude C. Overstreet and lives in Lemoore. Oscar C. is a member of his parents' household. Howard G. is in the Coalinga oil field and Blanche is a student in the high

school at Lemoore. While Mr. Houston is a lover of home and confines himself very closely to his own private business, he is intelligently interested in public questions and is glad, whenever possible, to do his utmost for the good of his community.

U. G. HASTINGS

Two and a half miles northeast of Lindsay, Tulare county, Cal., is located the productive ranch of U. G. Hastings, a farmer and orange grower, who is well known throughout the community as a progressive, enterprising business man. Mr. Hastings was born in Contra Costa county in 1868 and was only four years old when his parents moved to Tulare county and settled near Woodville. Lyman H. Hastings, his father, a native of Ohio, came to California in 1850 and died in 1874. His mother, a daughter of Missouri, is still living.

After he was old enough to go to school, Mr. Hastings devoted his years until he was sixteen to his educational advancement in preparation for the life of endeavor which was before him. In his seventeenth year, he became self-supporting and was variously employed until 1892, when he began farming for himself. In 1896 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land at \$6 an acre and devoted his energies with considerable success to the cultivation of wheat and barley. In 1900 he made a purchase of eighty acres and in 1909 one of twenty acres more. He is now giving his attention almost exclusively to oranges and grain. His ranch is well improved and outfitted with every essential to its successful cultivation.

In 1904 Mr. Hastings married Miss Agnes Limegrover, of this county, who has borne him a daughter, Norma A. Mrs. Hastings' father has passed away, but her mother survives. It cannot be said that Mr. Hastings has been a lifelong resident of California. It is true that he was born here and lives here now, but in 1898 he entered upon a four years' gold quest in Alaska, in which he was successful. During this time however Mr. Hastings returned to California in 1902 and the next year made a second trip to Alaska, locating a claim in the Fairbanks camp, but he returned to California in the same year and was married in San Francisco in 1904. He then went back to his mining claim in Alaska, taking his bride with him, and they remained there until 1911, he meeting with marked success in his mining ventures. Their little girl, Norma A., was the first white child born on Clear Creek in the Tanana district, Alaska. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. Having no active participation in political work he is, however, intelligently interested in every question affecting the welfare of the people and does his full duty as a voter and a public-spirited citizen.

JUDSON ANDREW DIBBLE

The progressive and thoroughly up-to-date farmer and stockman who has won an enviable reputation among his fellow citizens, is Judson Andrew Dibble, a native son of this state, having been born at Santa Cruz, Cal., October 12, 1869. He was four years old when his parents moved from Santa Cruz to Tulare county and settled in the Lakeside district. There he attended school until he was sixteen years old, and after the completion of his studies he was busy until he was twenty-one years old in assisting his father in the latter's agricultural operations. The time had now come when he was to assume responsibilities for himself, and he went into stock-raising and farming and achieved success almost from the outset. In 1895 he acquired one hundred and sixty acres of good land which he has developed into a fine homestead, fitted up with suitable buildings of all kinds, including a comfortable residence, the farm being well stocked and provided with modern machinery and appliances such as are demanded in scientific farming in California.

Politically Mr. Dibble is a Republican, proud of the history of his party and devoted to the measures by which it plans to promote the best interests of our citizens of all classes. He faithfully performs his duties as a citizen and so far is he from having been an office seeker that he has declined such public preferment as he has been urged to accept. His interests in education impelled him, however, to assume the duties of trustee of the Lakeside schools, and in that capacity he was efficient in raising the educational standard in his neighborhood.

May 24, 1893, Mr. Dibble married Miss Lulu Skaggs, who was born in Tulare county, April 5, 1875. They have three children, Ella A., Alta E. and Nora L.

FRANK POE

From the position of an humble employe in the Farmers' Union Warehouse at Tulare, Frank Poe, through diligence and painstaking effort, rose after five years' service to his present place as manager. He is a native of Minnesota and was born August 5, 1868, a son of Hiram B. and Eliza Poe. Reared and educated in Minnesota he came to California with his parents when he was eighteen years old. After having devoted his energies to farming for many years, the elder Poe in 1907 sold out his ranch interests and moved to Tulare, where he died in July, 1911, his wife having passed away two years earlier.

From the time of his arrival in Tulare county until the beginning of his connection with the warehouse Frank Poe was variously employed, and after five years' faithful service he was made manager, this being seven years ago, and since has ably filled the position. The Farmers' Union Warehouse Company has a history of success dating from 1885, when it was organized at Tulare by outside capital.

By his marriage with Miss Phoebe Garrison Mr. Poe united his life with that of a good woman who has proven herself a most worthy helpmeet. Fraternally he affiliates with the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Independent Order of Red Men and the Woodmen of the World, all of which orders have representative bodies in Tulare. As manager of the Farmers' Union Warehouse, Mr. Poe is in close touch with the business community of Tulare and its tributary territory, and as a business man and citizen he has demonstrated a public spirit which has made him helpful to all local interests.

CHARLES FISHER

Philadelphia, Pa., was the scene of the birth of Charles Fisher, now of Tulare county, Cal., April 15, 1853. When he was three years old his family moved to Missouri, and there were passed the years of his boyhood and young manhood. It was not till 1886, when he was thirty-three years old, that he turned his back on Missouri with an intention of making a home elsewhere. Then he came to California, and locating near Cottonwood creek, Tulare county, farmed there for a year. Next we find him on the Robert March ranch, where he remained two years. The succeeding nine years he spent on the John A. Patterson ranch. On his present home place, southwest of Visalia, he has lived fourteen years. He rents the ranch, which consists of two hundred acres. Thirty-five acres he devotes to alfalfa, fifteen acres to prunes and peaches and seven acres to raisin grapes. He has also a fine dairy of seven cows. He has sold as much as \$1900 worth of fruit off the ranch in a single season. He has made a study of fruit-growing, to which he has given twenty years, and has not hesitated to experiment; some of his experiments have turned out well. At this time he has six acres planted to Egyptian corn. In the early days of his residence in California, he hauled grain from Lindsay. Then that part of the county was a wheatfield and land could be bought at \$5 an acre which now commands a high price.

In 1879 Mr. Fisher married Jane Kirkman, a native of Missouri, and they have six children: Agnes, Jacob C., James F., Anna May, Deva E. and Harley M. While he takes an intelligent interest in all

matters of public moment, Mr. Fisher has little liking for the activities which are popularly known as practical politics. He is, essentially, a business man and by choice devotes his abilities to farming and fruit-growing. In many ways he has demonstrated a public spirit which has been helpful to the community.

J. A. HANNAH

While the American people present to view about the most heterogeneous conglomeration of humanity ever known in history, it is true that the population has long been made up mainly of descendants of emigrants from the British Isles. Canada is a distributing station for much British immigration to the United States, and in our industries, from the railroad builder to the bank president, the men from Canada have shown excellent qualities and their offspring have not only been successful, but in most instances have been exceedingly prosperous. J. A. Hannah, lawyer, with office in the Harrell building, Visalia, Tulare county, comes of old families well known in the history of the mother country and its colonies and is a native of New Brunswick. He was educated in Canada and at the Harvard Law School, which he entered in 1876 and from which he was graduated in 1878. He practiced his profession in Nevada until 1888, when he located at Visalia, where he has since lived, gaining distinction at the bar. He is the owner of twenty-six hundred acres of valuable ranch land near Strathmore, Tulare county, on which he grows vines and alfalfa and has bred many fine cattle.

In 1899 Mr. Hannah married Miss Kate Miller, a native of California, and they have daughters, Margaret and Dorothy. Fraternally he affiliates with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and as a citizen he is helpfully public-spirited and not without recognized political influence.

JOHN MITCHELL GLASGOW

A native of the Emerald Isle, John Mitchell Glasgow was born near Belfast, September 20, 1864. He lived in Ireland until he was seventeen years old, acquiring a primary education and receiving some training in useful work. Then he crossed the ocean to the United States and located at Auburn, N. Y., where he was employed in the delivery of milk for a dairy. In 1887 he came to California on his wedding trip and settled in Tulare county. His first few

years here were busy ones. He farmed the old Terman ranch on shares, raised cattle in a small way and cut and hauled wood. Thus, and otherwise at times, he was employed until he bought his homestead of nine acres, which was the nucleus of his present one hundred and eleven acre farm, which includes several subsequent purchases. He has a dairy of twenty cows, six acres planted to Egyptian corn, and four acres in prunes and peaches. His land produces a ton and a half of alfalfa to the acre and he sold during the season of 1912 eighteen tons of prunes from three acres for \$450.

In 1887 Mr. Glasgow married Maggie Henry, a native of New York, and they have four children: Harry H., Ina B., Iva M. and Lena. Ina B. is attending business college in Stockton. In all things pertaining to the advancement of the best interests of his community, Mr. Glasgow is patriotically interested, and there is no measure that in his opinion promises to benefit any considerable number of his fellow-citizens that does not receive his encouragement and support. He is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose, devoted to its various interests and respected by its brotherhood. His success is but another demonstration of the fact that grit and hard work will win in the game of life if intelligently applied to everyday problems and persisted in until the hoped-for end is gained. What he has done and is doing other Irish-Americans have accomplished and are accomplishing, and they are proving the claim that has been made for them by many observers that they constitute one of the really admirable elements in our foreign-born citizenship.

ARTHUR BURTON

Scions of the old New England stock do well in California, and California is justly proud of many of them. They have helped make history from coast to coast. Of such ancestry is Arthur Burton, a native of Lee county, Iowa, born October 7, 1866. His parents were Edward and Mary J. (Wren) Burton, his father a native born Vermonter and his mother a product of Illinois. Edward Burton left Vermont in the early '40s and crossed the country with an ox-team to Chicago, then little more than a big country village, sitting low down in the mud and scarcely alive to the prospect of things to come. He farmed in Iowa until 1885, and then came to California. Having brought some money with him, he was able to buy a ranch near Visalia, Tulare county, which comprised seventy acres, on which he raised stock and alfalfa. He lived on that place until March 4, 1912, when he passed away, aged seventy-seven years, active to the

end. His children are Mrs. Edith Weston, and Arthur, whose name introduces this article.

In the conduct of the paternal farm Arthur Burton helped his father until 1903, when he bought his present ranch home, four and one-half miles west of Visalia. He owns sixty acres which he developed from its original condition. His homestead proper he devotes to the production of alfalfa. In connection with his own place Mr. Burton is conducting the home ranch.

On December 7, 1894, Mr. Burton married Ethel Wilcox, a native of Illinois, who has borne him two sons, Hollis H. and Carroll E. He is a member of Four Creek lodge No. 94, I. O. O. F., and affiliates with the Fraternal Brotherhood.

LEVY NEWTON GREGORY

The California citizen of the Dinuba neighborhood, whose career has been most worthy as a soldier, a pioneer and a successful man of affairs, is Levy Newton Gregory, who was born in Carroll county, Tenn., February 6, 1843. When four years old he was taken by his parents to Cedar county, Mo., from which place the family moved two years later to Springfield, Mo., where the son was educated in the public schools. Here he learned his first lessons in farming and made his home until 1870. Meanwhile, in 1862, when he was nineteen years old, he enlisted in Company I, Second Missouri Light Artillery, under Capt. S. H. Julean. A year and a half intervened between the date of his mustering-in and the date of his mustering-out. It was a time of hardship, of much rough service and poor living, which, however, is not the least pleasant of Mr. Gregory's recollections of the past.

When Mr. Gregory came to California it was as a poor man and it was not until 1891 that he was able to buy land. He remained on his first purchase until ten years ago, when he came to Dinuba and bought twenty-five acres of land at \$40 an acre, which because of his labor and the rise in property values in Central California is now well worth \$600 an acre.

In 1870 Mr. Gregory married Sarah J. Hill, a native of Missouri. Of their seven children three are living. George was born in Missouri and died in California. James G. married Nettie Patterson and is living in Tulare county. William A. married Maud Fairweather and he, too, lives in Tulare county. Fred A. was born in Oregon, Mo., and died, aged twenty-six years, leaving a widow and one child. Bert Wiley, who is a well known ranchman in Tulare county, is the only one living of triplets.

Mr. Gregory is an Odd Fellow and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Through his fraternal relations, no more than by his social intercourse with his fellow citizens he is popular with all who know him. In every relation of life he has proven himself generously helpful and his public spirit, many times tried, has never been inadequate to any legitimate demand upon it. His father, Wiley B. Gregory, a native of Tennessee, died in Texas at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. His mother passed away in Missouri. Mrs. Gregory's parents died in Missouri, where her father, Lawson Hill, was in some ways well known.

EDWARD ERLANGER

The well known attorney and counsellor at law and breeder of trotting horses whose name heads this article was born at the University of Marburg, Germany, June 15, 1852. He came from a family of bankers. His father, Moritz Erlanger, was a banker and merchant at Marburg. Our subject was educated at Gymnasium at Marburg. When seventeen years of age he entered the employ of the banking firm of von Erlanger & Son at Frankfurt on Main and continued till 1870, when he was forced to resign his position owing to the fact that he was drafted into the military service in the French and German war. He did service in the ambulance corps, after which he sailed for New York, where he arrived in October, 1870. He came to California in 1871 and in 1872 located at Kingston, where he was employed as bookkeeper in the store of Jacob and Einstein until the spring of 1877. It was while thus employed in the year 1874 that he and thirty-seven other white men were held up, bound and robbed by that historic California bandit Tiburcio Vasquez and his band of thirteen outlaws. They were plundered to the extent of \$4,000.00 and Vasquez and his men made their escape, but were later, in 1874, apprehended and arrested by officials from Los Angeles county and were hung in 1875. Upon the completion of the railroad to Hanford and Lemoore he came to the new town of Lemoore, where for two years he was a bookkeeper for J. J. Mack & Company, general merchants. Meanwhile he built the hotel and Masonic and Odd Fellows' hall building, and he established a general notion store in the building, which he was conducting when it was burned. He resumed business in Erlanger Hall, in which a store was operated in front and a dance hall in the rear, but sold out in 1884 and took up the study of law in the office of Judge Jacobs, with which he was connected until 1893, when the latter was elected judge of the Superior Court and moved to Hanford, since when Mr. Erlanger has

conducted a general law, notary, real estate, and insurance office. For a time he handled real estate in association with Otto Brandt. Always a lover of horses he engaged in ranching and stockraising, giving particular attention to trotters. His real estate interests broadened into the buying, improving and selling large tracts of land. His health failed, however, and in 1893-95 he lost most of his holdings. It will be remembered that that was a period of financial depression. But he kept to his horses, was made a notary public and had a fairly good law practice, and for two years was deputy assessor under G. W. Follette. In 1895 he branched out as a farmer and stock-raiser and bought considerable property in and around Lemoore. As an outcome of his enterprise he raised Toggles, trotting gelding, which for three years was the fastest horse in its class, taking all records in the state. In 1898 at Los Angeles he trotted the three fastest heats ever trotted in the West. Toggles was sold in 1898 to Mr. Babcock, owner of the Coronado Beach Hotel, and in 1899 won all stakes in the state, and in 1900 was taken East and there won three \$10,000 stakes and the championship of his class, and \$25,000 was refused for him that year. He took also the premium at a horse show as the most perfect trotter as a show horse in the state. It is interesting in this connection to note that Mr. Erlanger sold this valuable animal for \$2500. In 1901 Toggles was retired from the track by his owner. Mr. Erlanger has his dam and two full brothers of him. He has always bred standardbred horses. In 1891 he started by buying twenty-six standard-bred brood mares, which were the foundation of his successes. He calls his brood establishment the Royal Rose Breeding Farm. The sire Royal Rose was a finely bred trotting animal. Mr. Erlanger has at present a large number of horses for breeding and is developing Lightning Bug, a full brother of Toggles, which made 2:22 in 1911. He is now devoting himself principally to his legal and real estate work. In 1906 he was elected justice of the peace for four years and is also filling the office of city recorder. He has subdivided and sold off several tracts of land and was the builder of the first Masonic and Odd Fellows' hall in Lemoore. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party and as a member of the County Central committee and otherwise he has been a leader in its local work.

Personally Mr. Erlanger has a generous heart, a loving and cheerful disposition, and makes and holds many friends. He surrounds himself with many pets, horses, dogs and birds. One of his best pets is a native California bald eagle named "Old Abe," a bird which has won national distinction. In the year 1906 an agent of the United States Government from the Smithsonian Institute at Washington came to Lemoore, looking up data pertaining to the Indians of this region and other things of interest. He soon discovered in

"Old Abe" a perfect type of the bald eagle, and had his photograph taken, and this photograph it is believed is the original for the eagle engraved on the new five and ten dollar gold coins.

DAVID WARD DE MASTERS

A pioneer of pioneers, Marshall Foster De Masters, a native of Missouri, crossed the plains, with ox-teams to California in 1849, the memorable gold-seeking period that will be ever memorable in the history of this state and of the country at large. He settled in Tulare county, on the old Rush place, northwest of Visalia. Later he sold out there and moved to the Kibler farm, where he was a successful breeder of cattle, sheep and hogs to the time of his death, which occurred in 1861. In his time he was prominent in connection with the important affairs of his adopted county. In the days of the Indian wars he was captain of a local company that was pitted against the savages in defense of the settlements round about.

In Tulare county, October 16, 1855, was born David W. De Masters, son of Marshall Foster the pioneer. His has been, for the most part, the life of the cowboy, though he has at times acted as guide in the mountains of California. In all parts of the country he has driven cattle. At one time he drove a band of sixteen hundred cattle across country to Paso Robles for C. W. Clark, and in 1869 he crossed the Sierra Nevada mountains with a band of three hundred and drove it all the way to Spring Valley, Nevada, a trip which consumed five months and thirteen days. He enjoys the distinction of being one of the few cowboys yet living who ran cattle through central California in the early days. For the last thirteen years he has been superintendent of the Persian irrigation ditch in Tulare county, one of the oldest water systems in this part of the state. In the summer months he is much in demand as a guide to travelers and tourists through the mountain ranges.

In August, 1878, Mr. De Masters married Miss May Lloyd, a native of California. He and his wife are members of the Independent Order of Foresters. They had two sons; Remmert died in March, 1903, at the age of twenty-four years; and Harry passed away August 2, 1889, aged four years.

The experience of the De Masters family in California covers all periods of its history since the discovery of gold. In the early days of the elder De Masters the settlers had to grind their own flour and drive overland from Tulare county to Stockton for provisions. Flour sold at Stockton at \$50 a sack, and other provisions were proportionately high. Marshall Foster De Masters married Miss

Amelia Ridgeway. Of their children only three survive, Newton and Stephen D., of Fresno county, and David W. De Masters of Tulare county.

Mr. Lloyd, father of Mrs. David W. De Masters, came to California across the plains in 1850 and now at the age of eighty-five years is hale and hearty. His wife, Eleanor Coker, like her husband a native of Little Rock, Ark., is aged seventy-nine years. They have three daughters and one son living, all natives of California. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd were married at Rough and Ready, Nevada county, Cal.

S. D. COCHRAN

Of old Southern families, but of Irish and Scotch-Irish extraction, S. D. Cochran of Dinuba, Tulare county, Cal., was born in Logan county, Ky., and lived there until he was forty-five years old. He is a great-grandson of Andrew Cochran, who emigrated from County Down, Ireland, when his son Andrew, grandfather of S. D., was a child of seven years. This was in 1776 and in that year they settled in South Carolina, where the elder Andrew passed away. The surviving family then removed to Kentucky, settling in Logan county in 1804, and it was in Kentucky in 1865 that the grandfather, Andrew Cochran, passed away aged about ninety-seven years. The maternal great-grandfather of S. D. Cochran, John Beatty, lived to be ninety years old and died in Kentucky in 1809; his daughter married Andrew Cochran, and was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. John B. Cochran, father of S. D., was born in South Carolina and married Mary Sawyer, daughter of Squire David Sawyer, of English descent, who emigrated from Pennsylvania to Kentucky in the early years of the nineteenth century. Mr. Cochran passed away when his son S. D. was twenty-two years old and the latter took charge of the old homestead.

S. D. Cochran was educated in the public schools near his boyhood home, but from an early age gave his attention to farming. In 1873 he married Harriet Pierce Coles, who was born in Wilson county, Tenn., on the bank of the Cumberland river, daughter of John Temple and Amanda K. (Bandy) Coles, both natives of Tennessee. Mrs. Cochran is a member of a most distinguished family, characterized for great virility and longevity. Her great-grandmother (her father's paternal grandmother), was a Walters and a native of Tennessee and lived to be ninety-six years of age. Mrs. Cochran had six uncles in the Confederate army. It is of interest to remark that her parents had a family of twelve children, all of whom are

living. John Temple Coles, her father, is descended from old Irish families.

Twelve children were born to S. D. Cochran and his wife as follows: John Cowan was drowned in infancy. Robert Cleland married Edith Johnson, is a citizen of Watsonville, Santa Cruz county, Cal., and has three children. Temple Beatty married Emma Clapp, has three children and they are living in Tulare county. Enreka was born November 12, 1878, in Kentucky on the date of the anniversary of her brother John Cowan's death, and she died at her home in the year 1910 from burns received from an explosion. Elbert, assistant postmaster at Dinuba, Cal., married Emma Orrison of Selma, Cal., and they have one child, a son. Emnice married P. V. Carlson of Berkeley, Cal., and they have two children. Manson M. is postmaster at Dinuba, Cal., has been in the government service for the past five years; he married Minnie Wiley, daughter of Assemblyman Wiley, and they have one child, a son. Envie married Roy W. Wiley, a son of Assemblyman Wiley and they had one child, a daughter, and live at Dinuba. S. D., Jr., is a farmer and resides with his parents. Earl P. is a student at the University of Berkeley, and is taking a preparatory course to enter the Presbyterian ministry; he has held an important government position. Eulalia and Willard are members of their parents' household, the former a senior in the high school, the latter in the grammar school at Dinuba.

When Mr. Cochran came to Tulare county in 1892 much of the best land, as then improved, could have been bought at \$100 an acre, a small fraction of its market value at this time. In the school at Dinuba only two teachers were employed; the number at this time is about twelve. In the advancement of education and of all other local interests he has been a recognized factor. While residing in Kentucky he was twice elected to the office of justice of the peace, which office he resigned to come to California, in 1892. He is an elder in the Presbyterian church and a member of the Grange at Dinuba and he and Mrs. Cochran are charter members of the local body of the Fraternal Brotherhood.

REV. J. R. COOPER

On a farm in Perry county, Ill., fifty-five miles from St. Louis, was born J. R. Cooper. He was graduated from Monmouth College in 1877 and eventually entered the ministry of the Presbyterian church and now lives near Dinuba, Tulare county, Cal., on rural free delivery route No. 2. His parents were Hugh and Eliza (Despar) Cooper, natives respectively of South Carolina and of Kentucky, and

he was reared to manhood amid the healthful surroundings of an Illinois farm. His great-grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Mr. Cooper began his ministry at Solomon, Kansas, and labored there five years; his next pastorate, one of four years, was at Lake City, Colorado, eight thousand six hundred (8600) feet above the sea level. Then he was stationed briefly in Nebraska; then, for three years, at Aztec, San Juan county, New Mexico. Next he labored a year near the Mexican border, with headquarters at Douglas, Arizona. From this last station he came to Tulare county and bought forty acres of land. He has thirty acres in vines and six acres planted to trees and grows six acres of Grand Duke and Hungarian plums which bring a high price in the market. He has planted five acres to Rosaki grapes for shipping purposes and has installed a pumping plant with a four horse-power Holliday engine, by means of which he raises water from a depth of seventy-five feet for irrigation and domestic purposes, in such volume that one hundred and fifty gallons a minute may be discharged. Mr. Cooper's many friends are glad to be able to testify that he is making a distinct success of his venture in central California.

The lady who became Mrs. Cooper is of Scotch ancestry and was born at Ballymena, Ireland. They have a daughter, Jessie E., who was graduated from the Dinuba high school and has been teaching five years. The mother, who was Margaret (McPherson) Steel, came comparatively young to the United States, was educated at the St. Louis Normal school and for some time was a teacher at a yearly salary of \$1000. Her nephews, Mathew and Richard Steel, graduates of the University of New York and Edinburg (Scotland) University respectively, have won prominence, the one as a professor of chemistry, the other as a physician in the Indian service. Mr. Cooper is a Republican and a citizen of notable public spirit.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF VISALIA

This important financial institution occupies its own beautiful and substantial banking house at Main and Court streets, Visalia, where it has every requisite for the conduct of its large and growing volume of business. This bank was organized and began business in 1893. It is capitalized at \$150,000, fully paid in, and has a surplus of more than \$40,000. In 1907 its increasing business demanded more commodious quarters, and the present fine bank building was erected. Its premises are spacious, conveniently arranged and well lighted, and its atmosphere is one of solidity and comfort. They are well equipped for the prompt handling of the bank's extensive business.

and their facilities are at the disposal of friends and patrons, who are cordially invited to make use of them.

Included in the list of the officers and directors of the First National Bank of Visalia are the names of some of the best known financiers and men of affairs of the entire state, men of large capital, interests and influence, who are personally known to the business community for their individual integrity and for their ability as advisers in all matters in which considerable sums are involved or in which the welfare of the people at large is at stake. The officers are S. Mitchell, president; A. Levis, vice-president; C. M. Griffith, cashier; C. E. Coughran, assistant cashier. The directors are S. Mitchell, A. Levis, N. O. Bradley, W. R. Spalding, D. G. Overall, W. L. Fisher and C. M. Griffith. These men individually have done much for the advancement of Visalia and Tulare county. Mr. Mitchell, the president, is one of the best and most widely known of western financiers, and besides his heavy financial interest in this bank has large investments in other important business and monetary institutions. He is president of the Pioneer Bank of Porterville, the First National Bank and the Lindsay Savings Bank of Lindsay, the First National Bank of Delano and the Producers Savings Bank of Visalia. To such officials and directors, to its established reputation for reliability, to its strict adherence to correct and conservative methods, is due the high standing of the First National in business circles both at home and abroad.

HOLLEY & HOLLEY

This is the story of the California success of two Vermonters. The brothers H. H. and C. H. Holley came to Los Angeles, Cal., in 1889, and both graduated from the public schools of that city and from the engineering department of Stanford University. C. H. Holley has been a citizen of Visalia since 1901, H. H. Holley since 1904. Before they went into business for themselves, they were both engineers for the Mount Whitney Power Company. It was in December, 1907, that they opened an office and began business in Visalia as civil and electrical engineers.

In April, 1911, H. H. Holley bought the real estate and insurance business of the Tulare County Land Company. As engineers, their principal business has been the establishment of irrigation systems, pumping plants for subdivision and electrical power plant. For the last two years they have been quite busy in the organization and promotion of the Tulare County Power Company, an electrical development for furnishing electric power for irrigation and lighting.

the main hydraulic plant for which will be located at Globe, on the Tule river, fourteen miles from Porterville. They have installed a steam auxiliary station at Tulare City, which is now in successful operation. C. H. Holley gives his attention entirely to the electrical side of the proposition. He has land interests in the county, among them some orange land, and a vineyard at Exeter. H. H. Holley is a member of the Library Board of Visalia and in many ways both have demonstrated their usefulness as public-spirited citizens. They are widely known throughout the state in a professional way and both are members of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Having made an exhaustive study of land and water conditions in Tulare county, they are as well informed concerning them as it is possible for anyone to become, and they offer their clients the most thorough and efficient service available.

JAMES FISHER

On North Court street, Visalia, lived that venerable pioneer, James Fisher, who watched and aided the development of the town and of Tulare county. Having come to the state in 1857, he was a human landmark in local history and until his death a connecting link between the old order of things and the new. A son of Spencer and Elizabeth (Henderson) Fisher, he was born at Kaskaskia, Randolph county, Ill., October 13, 1823, and for many years survived the place of his birth, which once was the capital of Illinois. Spencer Fisher, son of an Illinois pioneer, was born and died in that state. His busy and useful years were devoted to farming. Elizabeth Henderson, who became his wife, was born near Little Rock, Ark., and passed away in the Prairie State. They had five children, of whom James was the longest survivor. "Brought up on the home farm," says a recent writer, "he obtained his early education in a subscription school, which was held in a log house clinked with mud, and having a puncheon floor and shake roof. On one of the slab benches, near the huge fireplace, he was taught to write with a quill pen, and under the instruction of his teacher made as good progress in the three 'R's' as his schoolmates." When he was twenty-one, he went to Murphysboro, Ill., where he found employment in a store, living at the old hotel owned by Dr. Logan, father of Gen. John A. Logan. In 1844 he took up his residence in Shreveport, La., and for some time managed a ferry, the property of a man named Douglas. Then going back to Illinois, he clerked in a store at

Chester until 1855. He was now ready for a change of scene and of employment and had contracted the "California fever." He came out, with horses and wagons, by way of Council Bluffs, Iowa, over the old Mormon trail, arriving at Millerton, Cal., after half a year's weary travel. He made and fulfilled a contract to cut two million feet of sawlogs for Alexander Ball, then built three miles of road down the mountains from Ball's mill. Later he purchased ox-teams of Ball and hauled lumber from the mill to Millerton and to other points. In the spring of 1857 he moved to Visalia, making that town the headquarters of his transportation enterprise, which he continued about eighteen months thereafter. His specialty was the transportation of manufactured lumber from mill to market. He hauled loads of three thousand feet with six yokes of oxen and received \$30 a thousand (\$90 a load) for a five days' round trip. In the fall of 1858 he went to Sonora, Mexico, bought a herd of branded cattle and drove them back to California, to a place in Antelope valley, Tulare county, where he sold them at a profit.

In 1860, Mr. Fisher bought two hundred acres of land of R. L. Howison and began the improvement of his homestead. As he made money he made frequent investments in land until he became one of the extensive property owners of Tulare county. Three and a half miles northeast of Visalia, in sections eleven, twelve, fourteen and fifteen, he had thirteen hundred acres under irrigation by means of Elbow creek and St. John's river and its canals. This property, Oaklawn Ranch, is devoted to grain and alfalfa. Four miles further north is the stock farm of ten hundred and twenty acres. At Taurusa, two miles north of Oaklawn Ranch, is a ranch of eight hundred acres which is included in the holdings, and seven miles east of Oaklawn Ranch is another of twelve hundred acres, which he gave to his son, William L. Fisher. Besides his general farming, Mr. Fisher gave much attention to stockraising in the days before the fence law came into operation, having at times twenty thousand sheep. As a stockman he was uncommonly successful, owning many cattle and raising fine mules and draft horses.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Fisher was Miss Mary E. Howison, daughter of R. L. Howison, who came to Visalia among the pioneers. They were wedded on Mr. Fisher's own home farm, in 1860. Mrs. Fisher has borne her husband three children: Mrs. Alice Markham, who died at Visalia; Mrs. Fannie Bodden of Visalia; and William Lee Fisher. The Fisher farm residence, one of the most hospitable in Tulare county, was built in 1875. In his politics Mr. Fisher was a Democrat. As a citizen, his public spirit had been many times put to the test and never been found wanting. He died on his home ranch September 18, 1912.

GEORGE S. CLEMENT

In Allegan county, Mich., twenty miles from Grand Rapids, George Stillman Clement, a prominent landowner and business man of Porterville, was born October 23, 1856. Near his boyhood home he attended school, and as the son of a farmer he early in life was made familiar with the duties connected with farm life. The year 1864 witnessed the removal of the family to Iowa, and from there in 1867 they moved still further west, settling in Nebraska and remaining there until 1880. That year found them once more in Michigan, and they remained there until 1887, when they came to California and settled near Springville, Tulare county. There G. S. Clement pre-empted a tract of government land and from time to time he added to this by purchase. At the time he settled there the country was wild and undeveloped and game was so plentiful that he could easily kill any number of deer or bear. He has watched the development of this part of California and has assisted in it to the extent of his ability, having been a member of the school board and identified from time to time with other public interests. For a considerable period he was a well-known figure in the stock business of the county, continuing his residence near Springville until 1910, when he came to Porterville. Here too he has become well and favorably known and has purchased considerable city property.

In 1887, in Michigan, Mr. Clement married Miss Effie May Cronk, a native of Michigan, whose father died in that state. Her mother was a member of Mr. Clement's household for fourteen years, or until 1912, when she passed away, at the age of eighty-eight. Mr. Clement's father, Jacob Clement, was born in the state of New York and died aged fifty-four years. His mother, who before her marriage was Miss Emily Gault, a native of Michigan, died when her son was about five years old.

LYMAN L. FOLLETT

The well-known citizen of Lemoore, Kings county, Cal., whose name is the title of this sketch, was born in Iowa in 1869, a son of Granville W. and Lucy (Abel) Follett. His father, a native of Ohio, born September 25, 1834, went to Fremont, Ind., when he attained his majority and became a clerk in a store there. Eventually the store was bought by Dr. L. L. Moore, who admitted him to partnership in the business, the association continuing until Mr. Follett sold out his interests in Indiana and went to Granville, Iowa. There he conducted a general merchandise business six years, and during

most of that time he also filled the office of postmaster. In July, 1875, he brought his son, who was in failing health, to what is now Kings county and deciding to remain here, opened a store within the boundaries of what is now Moore's addition to Lemoore and continued there until 1877. The railroad having been constructed, he found a better location on E and Fox streets, opposite the depot. About that time he and J. A. Fox and Dr. L. L. Moore bought squatters' rights to the quarter-section of land which is now the townsite of Lemoore and eventually the railroad bought their interests. For a time they raised alfalfa where the business of the town is now transacted. Mr. Follett continued in the mercantile business until September, 1882, when his store was destroyed by fire. From that time until 1884 he was profitably employed in boring artesian wells, and from 1884 to 1894 his principal business was threshing. In the last-mentioned year he was elected county assessor of Kings county and filled the responsible office with ability and credit for two terms until he retired from active life. He died at the home of his son, Lyman L. Follett, June 11, 1911.

In 1868, at Coldwater, Mich., Granville W. Follett married Lucy Abel, a native of Ohio, and she bore him four children, of whom Lyman L. was the eldest. The others were Mary E., who died in childhood; Carrie E., who died in 1877; and C. W., born in 1878, who lives at Tuolumne, Cal. In 1888 Mr. Follett married Mrs. Sue Thacker, a native of Tennessee. Fraternally he affiliated with the Chosen Friends and with the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

It was in July, 1875, that Lyman L. Follett came with his father to the site of Lemoore. He was then about six years old. He was reared at Lemoore and educated in a public school there and in the high school at San Francisco, then took up steam-engineering and ran engines twenty-two years in stationary work as well as in harvesting and similar operations. In 1909 he engaged in the insurance business at Lemoore in connection with real estate operations and since then has done much conveyancing and officiated as notary public. In November, 1911, he was appointed city clerk and sewer inspector of Lemoore. He served as deputy-assessor of Kings county under his father and was city assessor of Hanford in 1900. R. A. Moore, of whom a biographical sketch appears in these pages, is associated with him in the real estate business. Mr. Follett was formerly a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and his social affiliations now are with the Woodmen of the World, the Red Men and the Knights of Pythias. He married in 1894 Miss Kate Esery, a native of California, a daughter of Jonathan and Sarah A. Esery, and she died in 1908, after having borne him four children—Charles Granville, La Verne, Eileen and Ernest. The latter is with his uncle at Tuolumne.

In the municipal election at Lemoore, 1911, Mr. Follett was elected City Clerk, which office he fills with entire credit to himself and city.

ELIAS JACOB

The flight of years is not likely soon to make the people of Tulare county, Cal., forget the late Elias Jacob. He gave so much energy to the upbuilding of his personal success, he won so many signal triumphs, he did so much for others, that those who labored side by side with him in the pioneer days of the modern California remember him with a certain tender pride that is nothing short of personal mourning. His success meant the advancement of the country's best interests, the extension of all its affairs of moment, social, political and commercial. He was born in Germany, of German parents, in 1841. His father was a merchant, and even as a child the younger Jacob knew something about business. With a sturdy independence that was characteristic of him, he made his way to California when he was only twelve years old, found employment at Stockton in a drygoods store, and in that position busied himself till 1856, about three years after his arrival. He had learned something of American business ways. He liked California, but wanted to see more of it before settling down to a good long struggle for fortune. He passed a year at Millerton, then the seat of justice of Fresno county, and then came to Visalia to take charge of the store of his brother-in-law, H. Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell passed away in 1859 and young Jacob became his successor and enlarged the store and continued the business until 1876. Meantime he had opened several stores in different towns in Fresno and Tulare counties, which had been successful. Now, his health having declined, he retired from trade and devoted himself to the acquisition of land, and in the years following bought about forty-five thousand acres in Tulare county, his largest single tract containing fifteen thousand two hundred acres. It is a matter of most interesting farming history that in some years his entire acreage was sown to wheat. He improved his property with artesian wells, putting down as many as eight on some single tracts, using the flow of water both for irrigation and for stock. During his mercantile career, in the days before he was an extensive land owner, he was an enthusiastic advocate of the opening up of irrigation ditches, and his ventures in that way brought him manifold returns, and the lands he acquired have grown very valuable because of their ample water supply. The stock on his holdings long remained intact. He built many houses in Visalia, all

of which became a part of his estate when he passed away. His death occurred October 1, 1902.

The whole community appreciated Mr. Jacob's personal characteristics, recognizing in him a citizen who gave the best of himself for the public advancement. In his political affiliations he always gave his support to the men and measures of the Democratic party, and was one of its most influential workers in the county. Wanting no political preferment for himself, he repeatedly refused such as his admiring friends would have bestowed upon him, at the same time putting forth his best efforts to promote the principles he endorsed and to augment the prestige and influence of his party in his part of the state. He served for many years as a member of the county and state Democratic Central committees. Fraternally, he was a Royal Arch Mason, and it is a part of the Masonic history of Tulare county that he was the orator of the day on the occasion of the laying of the corner-stone of the courthouse at Visalia by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California.

LEWIS WASHINGTON HOWETH

The late and respected citizen of Porterville, Tulare county, familiarly known as "Luke" Howeth, was born in DeKalb county, Ala., June 4, 1837, a son of Thomas and Nancy Howeth, natives of the same state. Following are the names and birth dates of their other children: William, 1818; Tandy B., 1819; Fletcher, 1820; Harvey, 1821; Nelson, 1823; John W., 1824; Eliza, 1825; Martha, 1827; Sarah, 1828; Thomas, 1829; Jefferson, 1831; Cornelius, 1833; Catherine, 1836; Byron, 1838, and Franklin, 1841. Nelson, Jefferson, Cornelius and L. W. lived in California.

In his native state Lewis Washington Howeth was reared and educated and under his father's instruction and that of some of his elder brothers, acquired a practical knowledge of farming. In 1855, when he was about nineteen years old, he made an overland journey to California and mined in Inyo county until 1860, when he took up farming in San Joaquin county. From there he went to Tuolumne county, thence to Stanislaus county, and for a time he was engaged in lumbering in Mendocino county. After his marriage, which occurred September 25, 1867, Mr. Howeth removed to Tulare county, making his home here until his death, June 9, 1904. During his residence here he became one of the most extensive sheepmen of the county and he became equally well known as a tiller of the soil.

In maidenhood Mrs. Howeth was Miss Sophia Gardner, born

in Jefferson county, Ill., April 5, 1843, the daughter of Jacob and Sophia Gardner, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1840 and settled in Illinois. From there they came to California in 1852 by way of the Isthmus of Panama. They located in Tulare county and it was here, in 1858, that their daughter became the wife of John Hewey. He died in 1864, leaving a widow and two children, Emma R. and John W. Hewey. Mrs. Hewey's marriage to Mr. Howeth occurred in Stockton. Of this marriage the following children were born: Mary Lee, who died in infancy; Franklin J., who was born in 1869; Thomas A., born in 1871; Lucy in 1873, the wife of H. W. Manter and the mother of two children; Elizabeth, born in 1876 and the wife of H. J. Thomas; Edgar W., born in 1879; May, born in 1881, the wife of Roy Smith and the mother of two children; and Hazel, born in 1883, the wife of Fred LaBrague and the mother of one child.

In his political affiliations Mr. Howeth was a Democrat. Fraternally he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His place in the business community is filled in part by his son, Thomas A. Howeth, a native of Stanislaus county. The latter, who was formerly a farmer and merchant, is now handling real estate quite extensively at Porterville.

FRANK P. SMITH

At San Jose Mission, Santa Clara county, Cal., Frank P. Smith was born in 1852, a son of Henry C. and Mary (Harlan) Smith, natives respectively of Michigan and Illinois. His father crossed the plains to California in 1845, with Colonel Hastings, who blazed the way for the tide of emigration that was to follow, a little later, after the discovery of gold. For a time he was at Sutter's Fort. He was occupied in whip-sawing lumber in the woods north of Oakland and then went to the mines when the excitement was the greatest. In the early days, when California's capital was at Vallejo, he was three times elected to represent his district in the legislature, and for some years he was justice of the peace at the Mission of San Jose. As an interpreter of the Spanish language he had, perhaps, no superior in all California. As such he was often called upon to help in the settlement of matters of great importance. The last year of his life he passed at Livermore, Cal., where he passed away in 1875. He had children as follows: Frank P.; Emma, who has taught school at Livermore for more than thirty years; and Charles F., of Richmond, Cal. Mrs. Smith is now living at the age of eighty-six years, making her home at Livermore.

It was in the original Contra Costa county that Frank P. Smith grew to manhood. He engaged in ranching there, and after a time went to a place near Cambria, on the Pacific, in San Luis Obispo county, where he began dairying. After twenty years' residence he came, in 1901, to Tulare county. For four years he operated the old Broder ranch, east of Visalia, then came to the place that he has since owned and occupied. It is located five miles west of Visalia and comprises three hundred and fifty-eight acres, of which a hundred acres is in alfalfa, twenty acres in Egyptian corn, and the balance in grazing and general farming uses. He has a dairy of forty to fifty cows and has usually about a hundred and fifty hogs. As an example of the productiveness of California land, he says that in one year he cut from eight acres of land four tons of wheat hay and then planted the same land to Egyptian corn and produced a thousand pounds of corn to the acre.

In 1882 Mr. Smith married Miss Martha Chappell, a native of Gilroy, Santa Clara county, Cal., and she has borne him two sons, Henry C. and Charles L. In his work he is assisted by his sons, who take an interest in local affairs and are members of Four Creek Lodge No. 94, I. O. O. F., in which Henry C. holds the office of vice-grand. The father is a Native Son of the Golden West. A man of enterprise and public spirit, he has in many ways demonstrated his interest in the county and its economic problems. His uncle, Ira Van Gorden, was so early a settler in Tulare county that when he came he could count the white inhabitants of the county on the fingers of his two hands.

WILLIAM N. STEUBEN

The first agent of the Wells-Fargo Express Co. at Visalia, Tulare county, Cal., was William N. Steuben, a native of New York, who crossed the plains with other pioneers in 1849, mined in Placer county three years and came to Visalia in 1852. Soon he was made agent of a local express company, called the Overland Stage Company, which was later taken over by the Wells-Fargo company. His recollections of the business included the experiences of the days when all express matter came to California in the overland stages, guarded by sharp-shooting pony express riders, and of the days of the development of the express business along modern lines, in which the railroad is the chief utility. He passed away in 1892, having been succeeded as agent long since by his son Zane Steuben, who was the local representative of the company at Visalia for nearly fifty years prior to his death, which occurred on Washington's birthday, 1908. The elder Steuben took an active interest in all public affairs of the town, par-

ticularly in the establishment and development of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was a devoted member. He married Miss Katherine Hamilton, a native of New York, and their family consisted of: Zane and Katherine, married to Ned Hart, who in the early days was identified with the United States land office at Visalia; her children, William N., Frank R. and Ned Hart, are deceased.

It was in 1852 that Zane Steuben came to California, around Cape Horn. For a time he mined at Placerville; later he became his father's assistant in the express office, and in time his successor, as has been narrated. He married Mary Louisa Elme, and they had four children: Mrs. Mary E. Burland, William E., John and Catherine H., who died in infancy.

From the day when the Wells-Fargo company began to do business at Visalia to the present time, the Steubens have been in charge of its local affairs. Something of the administration of William N. and Zane Stenben has been told. William E. and Mrs. Mary E. Burland are now in charge of the office. John Steuben is working for the Central California Cannery, having the management of the receiving department. The history of the Stenben connection with this important interest for so many years is a history of faithfulness to duty and of fidelity to all trusts, a history that carries a lesson for good to men and women who would succeed worthily and permanently.

JAMES SWEENEY

One of the prosperous and highly respected fruit growers of Tulare county, Cal., is James Sweeney, who owns a fine ranch near Farmersville. Mr. Sweeney was born in Kentucky June 10, 1858, and left home when very young, working his way here and there around the country. For quite a while he lived at Cairo, Ill., and later at St. Louis, Mo. His opportunities for schooling were limited, but he has a good fund of practical information, which he gained in the "college of hard knocks," and which he finds very useful in various emergencies.

In 1890 Mr. Sweeney came to California and for some time worked for wages on the John Jordan peach, prune and grape ranch of eighty acres near Hanford, Kings county, which he later rented and operated for twelve years. He came to his productive ranch of one hundred and ten acres near Farmersville, in 1902. It was formerly the property of R. E. Hyde and is one of the best improved farms in the vicinity. He owns a tract of twenty acres near by and two town blocks in Farmersville. On his ranch he has four hundred apricot

trees, three acres of Tragedy French prunes, ten acres of Laval peach trees and three acres each of orange clingstone, Muir and Susquehanna peaches, and has recently set out eighteen acres of French and Robe De Sargent prune trees. Besides he has thirty acres in alfalfa and keeps hogs, turkeys and a dairy of twelve cows.

The woman who became Mr. Sweeney's wife was Miss Bridget Sweeney, of the same name, a native of Missouri, who has borne him nine children, viz.: Timothy, Albert, Nora, John, Mary, Dorothy, Michael, Maggie and Viola. As a farmer Mr. Sweeney is thoroughly up-to-date and in all his plans and work progressive. His place is well improved and outfitted with good buildings, modern machinery and appliances and every essential to its successful cultivation. As a citizen he takes an interest in all affairs of the community and extends public spirited aid to every movement for the general benefit.

JESSE A. THOMAS

Among the progressive farmers of his vicinity is Jesse A. Thomas, whose father, Dewbart W. Thomas, was a native of Illinois; his mother, Clarinda (Harrell) Thomas, was born in Texas. Jesse A. Thomas was born January 29, 1868, near Visalia, Tulare county, Cal. In 1849 Dewbart W. Thomas crossed the plains to California and for a little while mined in the northern part of the state. Then he came to the Four Creek section of Tulare county, and some time in the early fifties bought eighty acres of land on which he established himself as a farmer. Later he took up one hundred and sixty acres of government land, which he improved during the succeeding eight years, devoting it to the breeding of cattle and horses. He passed away in 1888, leaving seven children: Alexander, Jesse A., Mrs. Nancy Hicks, Sarah Janie, Frances, Weiley D. and Carrie.

Reared and educated in Tulare county, Jesse A. Thomas began his active life as a farmer in association with his father, and after the latter's death managed the home farm three years. He then rented three hundred and twenty acres of land north of Visalia, on which he has won success as a farmer and dairyman, maintaining a dairy of sixty-seven cows and growing much alfalfa. He now owns eighty acres of grazing land on Cottonwood Creek and another eighty acres three miles southeast of Visalia. Thirty acres of the latter tract he devotes to Egyptian corn, of which he has marketed ten sacks to the acre. He keeps about fifty head of cattle and as many hogs and is at this time planting peach trees on fifteen acres.

In 1889 Mr. Thomas married Miss Mattie F. De Pew, a native of Iowa, and they have had these children: Lawrence L., Hazel L., Dollie N., Augusta and Jessie F. Dollie N. has passed away. Fra-

ternally Mr. Thomas affiliates with Four Creek Lodge, No. 94, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and with the Foresters of America. As a man of enterprise he is making a distinct personal success, and as a man of public spirit he is prompt and generous in the aid of movements proposed for the good of the community.

JOHN W. WILLIAMS

One of the well-remembered citizens of Visalia, Tulare county, of the period including the latter part of the last and the opening year of the present century was John W. Williams, who was born in South Carolina and who died at Visalia, his busy and useful life having spanned the period beginning December 12, 1830, and ending October 12, 1901. He came to California, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, in 1853, and went to the mines of Tnolumne county, where he met with various degrees of success and failure. In 1859 he located near Porterville, Tulare county, where he divided his time for some years between farming and the superintendency of the Tule River Indian reservation. It is a matter of local horticultural history that he planted the first fig tree near Porterville. Later in life he was interested in sheep raising in the mountains. The pioneer days of this comparatively early settler were full of the vicissitudes of life on the border and in the mines. His skirmishes with Indians were frequent and some of them would make interesting reading were he here to supply the details. In 1862 he went to Sacramento, where he had a band of horses, and the animals were all lost in the flood of that year. Thus suddenly and providentially impoverished, he made his way back to Tulare county and made his home in Visalia, where he held the office of city marshal twelve years. He proved himself the man for the place and the time by ridding the town of a rough and lawless element that had so intimidated former marshals that not a man of them had stuck to the office after real opposition set in. Later he was deputy sheriff two years under Sheriff Parker and four years under Sheriff Kay, performing the duties of the position with characteristic bravery and fidelity.

The lodge of Free and Accepted Masons included Mr. Williams in its membership. He married Julia Storey in 1865. Her parents, Farris and Adella C. (Johnson) Storey, were natives of Georgia. Mrs. Storey died in her native state, and Mr. Storey brought his child Julia to California in 1852, making the journey by way of Panama. After having been for several years engaged in stock-raising in the Santa Clara valley and later near Los Angeles, he located at Visalia in 1857, continuing in the stock business. In 1860 he was put in command of a local company in Nevada which engaged in war-

fare against predatory Indians, and he was killed while leading his men in a fight. Thus he yielded his life in defense of the settlers. Storey county, Nevada, was named in his honor. Mrs. Williams has one son, J. Fred Williams, a member of the firm of Williams & Butz, Visalia. He married Miss Nellie Jones and they have two sons, Farris W. and Storey F. As his pioneer ancestors were leaders in their time, so is he in his, alive to the business possibilities of this part of the state and solicitous for the development and advancement of all its important interests. The widow of John W. Williams is passing her declining years in the town where he won some of his greatest triumphs, cheered by loving relatives and welcomed everywhere by a wide circle of admiring friends.

ROBERT McADAM

One of the most splendid examples of the self-made, self-reliant and persevering men who are now numbered among the prosperous and successful operators in California is Robert McAdam, whose wide interests and signal success in his undertakings have marked him conspicuously in many localities in the commonwealth. He is well and favorably known to the people of Tulare county as the promoter and part owner of the celebrated McAdam ranches, which are situated five miles west of the city. Mr. McAdam is a native of the north of Ireland, his birth occurring September 27, 1851, in County Mayo, son of Samuel and Eliza (Henderson) McAdam, both of whom were natives of Scotland.

The McAdam was a very prominent family in County Mayo, where they followed farming and milling and became land owners. In 1855 Samuel McAdam with his family immigrated to Huron county, Ontario, Canada, and here in the year following the mother passed away, leaving a family of four children: James, who is mentioned more fully elsewhere in this volume; Robert; Sidney, who became the wife of Robert Wright, lived in Michigan and died at the age of forty years, leaving one child; and Mary, who became the wife of John Jordan and died at her home in Toronto, Canada, at the age of twenty-four, leaving two children. Samuel McAdam married for his second wife Mrs. Sarah (Wiggins) White, of Canada and by her had seven sons, viz.: William (deceased), Alfred, Stephen, Samuel, David, Joseph (deceased), and Charles.

Robert McAdam, son of Samuel, was about four years of age when brought from Ireland to Canada. The loss of the mother at a tender age proved a great hardship and when but seven years of age he was obliged to take an active part in the work of pioneer-

ing, swinging the ax and working in the forests clearing land for many long hours. It is difficult to realize in this day that such labor and long hours could be withstood by such a small boy, who, deprived of leisure hours and the many games and diversions which go to cheer the heart of a boy, was instead forced to live the life of a laborer and become inured to the hardest kind of work. While he used the ax and handspike his education was of necessity neglected and as the schools were not modern or well equipped he had little opportunity to obtain a thorough training. However, by natural ability, close observation and attending diligently to good reading he became well informed and his wide and many experiences have been the most able teacher he has ever had. At the age of twenty-three Mr. McAdam married Miss Mary Elizabeth Gemmill, of Canada, and six years later they removed to Pembina county, Dakota territory, where they remained for nine years, successfully farming a tract of six hundred and forty acres especially in wheat. Selling their place they went to St. Martins Parish, Louisiana, where Mr. McAdam accepted a position as manager for the Huron Plantation, a large sugar plantation of eight thousand acres, owned by an English syndicate, and under his able supervision the business prospered, a refinery was built at a cost of \$800,000 and the enterprise rapidly advanced. Finding that the climate there did not agree with him he came to Pasadena, Cal., in May, 1892, buying thirteen acres of orange grove for which he paid \$6,000, and this he sold eighteen years later at a good profit. Meanwhile he had become the owner of a two-hundred-acre ranch, seventeen miles southeast of Los Angeles, which he sold in 1904 and then came to Tulare county to purchase sixteen hundred acres, five miles west of Tulare which he has improved and developed until it is now one of the best of its kind in the state. A further mention of this ranch property is given in this volume under the name of the McAdam Ranches.

Eleven children were born to Robert McAdam and wife, three of whom died in childhood. Of those surviving we mention the following: Isabelle, principal of the Linda Vista schools, is the widow of John McAlpine, and has a daughter, Catherine. Annie is a senior in the University of Southern California at Los Angeles. Frank S. is mentioned elsewhere in this publication as is also his brother William J. Grace is attending a private school at Pasadena. Robert and Fred are students at the high school at Pasadena. Helen is in the grammar school there. About two years ago Mr. McAdam became interested in mining. He is the owner of the Castle Dome Silver and Lead mines in Yuma county, Ariz., and it has already been brought up to a paying proposition; with the splendid energy of Mr. McAdam united with that of his two sons, William J. and Frank S., the present managers, the mines bid fair to become one

of the great dividend payers of Arizona. Mr. McAdam is also interested in a gold mine at Goldfield, Nev., and one at Kingman, Ariz. In fraternal circles he affiliates with the Masons, is a Knight Templar, member of the blue lodge, chapter, commandery and Scottish rite. The family are members of the Lincoln Avenue Methodist Episcopal church at Pasadena, where they make their home at No. 766 No. Orange Grove avenue, surrounded by many well-wishing friends who have come to appreciate their gentle and kindly ways, their unflinching hospitable welcome and their generous, thoughtful living.

JAMES McADAM

The McAdam family of which James McAdam is a member numbers among its representatives some of the best, most reliable and active citizens of the state of California, their interests being mostly in Tulare county and throughout southern California. James McAdam, whose residence is now No. 1248 East Colorado street, Pasadena, is a native of Ireland, having been born in County Mayo, March 17, 1849, son of Samuel and Eliza (Henderson) McAdam, of whom more extensive mention is made in the biography of Robert McAdam elsewhere in this publication.

Coming to Canada in 1855 with his parents, here the next year his beloved mother passed away, leaving her sons to face the battle of life together with two sisters who have married and passed away. Like his brother, Robert, Mr. McAdam had few educational advantages, but was compelled while still a young child to assume the duties of hard and arduous toil, which though beyond his strength and years served later to create in him the strong character, inflexible will and unswerving courage for which he is known. In 1884 he removed to Pembina county, Dakota territory, and with little or no capital he began to work for himself and after three years had fully paid for a hundred and sixty-acre wheat farm which was located about three miles from a railroad station. Selling his holdings there in 1894 he came to Pasadena and immediately purchased property which he improved and sold, buying more and entering the real estate business which has increased until he today is reputed to be one of the prosperous men of Pasadena. He is the owner of a quarter block of business buildings there, located on East Colorado street, which is estimated at \$60,000. His interest in the dairy ranch in Tulare county is large and he has given close attention to all his property with a view toward improvement and bringing it to the best state possible. A clear-headed, keen-sighted business man, who has attained success largely through his straightforward, honest

manner of dealing, he has ever displayed sagacious judgment in his operations, and he is a thorough, practical worker in every line he undertakes.

Mr. McAdam became interested in Tulare county property in 1910, when he purchased three hundred and twenty acres seven miles west of Tulare. He has improved this place by erecting three barns thereon, 44x60 feet in dimensions, with cement floors and stanchions of the most modern kind. In his dairy business every precaution is taken to promote the most extreme cleanliness, the most modern methods being used. Three irrigating electric pumping plants have been installed and every improvement is made toward developing the land. He is a great believer in the fertile San Joaquin valley as a splendid field for dairying purposes and the handling of stock. In spite of his meager educational advantages he has become a well-posted man through wide reading and study and he is looked upon as an authority on many subjects of the day, his most pleasing characteristics being his modesty and generosity to aid others in whatever manner is in his power. He believes in intelligence coupled with ability and industry and has no time for drones.

In 1873 James McAdam was married in the county of Huron, Canada West, near Toronto, to Miss Mary Ann Musgrove. They have two adopted children to whom they have given loving care, Pearl, who is now seventeen years of age, and Edith, eight years of age. Mr. McAdam is a Mason, being a member of the Masonic lodge, No. 272, Pasadena, and is also a devout attendant of the First Presbyterian church, of which his family also are members. A great admirer of William Jennings Bryan, for whom he has voted for President three times, he followed his politics as far as national affairs are concerned. While evincing the greatest interest in civic affairs he has never sought public office, choosing to fill the duties of a private citizen with conscientious effort.

HERMAN T. MILLER

Herman T. Miller, city attorney of Visalia, of Exeter and of Lindsay, Tulare county, Cal., is a native son of Tulare county, having been born in Visalia in 1874. His father, Artelius O. Miller, a contractor and builder, came to Visalia in 1858 and died there in 1888, after a career of success and honor. Mr. Miller was educated in the public schools and the high school of Visalia so far as his education was possible in those efficient institutions, was graduated from the University of California in 1899 and from the University of Michi-

gan at Ann Arbor, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, in 1901. Returning to Visalia he has prospered as a general practitioner and become well known throughout the state as the head of the legal departments of the three cities mentioned. He became city attorney of Visalia in 1902 and the Exeter and Lindsay appointments followed.

On December 11, 1907, Mr. Miller married Miss Blanche Hewel, a native of California, and a daughter of the Hon. A. Hewel, formerly judge of the Superior court of Stanislaus county, and their daughter, Arabella E., was born June 10, 1910. Mr. Miller is an Elk, a Mason and a Shriner. As a citizen he is influential and public-spirited.

MERRITTE T. MILLS

In Sacramento county, Cal., Merritte T. Mills was born January 13, 1853, a son of William H. and Louisa (Lawless) Mills, natives respectfully of Georgia and Missouri. The father crossed the plains in 1849, with an ox-team outfit that consumed six months in making the journey. After mining some time in Calaveras county he located in Tulare county, two miles southeast of Visalia, late in 1853, and later took up a quarter-section of land nearby, where he was for ten years engaged in the cattle business. Disposing of that interest finally in 1874, he located near Lindsay, where he farmed during the ensuing ten years. Then he returned to the timber belt, locating near the place of his first settlement, and there he and his good wife lived out their days and passed to their reward. Of their children Merritte T. and William H. survive.

Since his father passed away, Merritte T. Mills has been ranching on his own account. For a time he operated one hundred and fifty acres on the plains in the neighborhood of Lindsay, and during the last six years he has conducted his present ranch of forty acres with much success. At this time he has twelve acres in prunes and twenty acres in peaches of the following-named varieties: Phillips clingstones, Muirs, Susquehannas, Fosters, Tuscan clingstones, and early Alexanders. These trees were all planted by his own hands, and though his orchard is only seven years old it has produced good crops. His prunes are of the French variety and in 1911 he sold ninety-five tons of them. The soil of his ranch is rich, his irrigation facilities are good and the place is in every way well adapted to prune and peach culture. Some of his acreage is devoted to alfalfa. He has about eighty hogs of the Jersey Red variety and a dairy of eighteen cows.

The woman who became Mr. Mills's wife was Miss May Van Loan, a native of Wisconsin, and she has borne him eight children: Lula B., Elizabeth, Russell, Howard, Roy, Neva, Ford and Eva. As a citizen, Mr. Mills is public-spirited, devoted to the best interests of the community.

ROBERT NULL

The first day of July, 1835, Robert Null was born in Jefferson county, Mo. He received a limited common school education and when he was nineteen years old, which was in 1854, he crossed the plains to California with neighbors named McVay and Nelson. Their party had but three wagons, but there were larger parties before and behind them and four hundred head of cattle were driven on ahead. They came by way of the North Platte, the Sublett cutoff and the sink of the Humboldt, crossing the mountains east of the American valley, and eighty head of their cattle fell victims to alkali. Indians menaced but never really molested them. Six months after their departure from Missonri they arrived at Marysville, Cal., and began mining on Nelson's creek, where Mr. Null operated eight years. Then he fell ill of mountain fever and went south to recuperate. He worked a year on a ranch, then returned to mining, operating at Diamond mine and at Gold Hill for a year with good success. Then, following false lures, he and others tried to find mythical mines in one place and another until he became discouraged and went to Oregon, where he lived until 1884. Then he took sixty head of horses to Kansas. He bought them at \$10 a head and sold them there at \$50 to \$60 a head, making considerable money. He returned to California in December, 1892. He bought eighty acres of land a mile and a half north of Traver, where he now lives, and has since made further purchases. He has twenty acres in alfalfa and is conducting a dairy, having a goodly number of cows and twelve head of young heifers, his cows yielding him a profit of \$75 each per annum. Four horses are required on his ranch and he has a flock of about one hundred turkeys.

Politically, Mr. Null is a Socialist. In his religious affiliation he is a Methodist. He married Miss Mary Jane Warmoth, a native of Grundy county, Mo., and a daughter of John and Mary Jane (Collins) Warmoth. Mr. Warmoth crossed the plains with his family in 1861. Following are the names of ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Null: John D., Robert Lee, Mary Ellen, Nancy J., Louisa, T. Oscar, Richard, Alvin B., Cynthia and Anna B. John D. married Bertha

Tarr, and they live in Tulare county. Robert Lee married Mrs. Anna Banty. Mary Ellen, now Mrs. Lee, has four children, Lilly M., Mary Z., James W., and Ruby E. Nancy J. married Allen Anderson, has borne him five children, Robert L., Alfred, Mary E., Vernon and Leland, and they live near Orosi. Louisa married William Crawford and they have children named Robert R., Aaron, Winnie M. and Mary E. T. Oscar married Lily Mullis; they have a daughter named Mary F. and live near Orosi. Cynthia married A. R. Thompson and resides at Hanford; they have two children, Harold and Helen. Richard and Alvin are unmarried. Anna B. became the wife of Edward Hayes and has borne him a son, Robert Earnest, and is living in Tulare county.

GEORGE W. POLLOCK

In Washington county, Ind., George W. Pollock was born, February 7, 1856. He was reared among rural surroundings and gained such education as was available to him by attendance at the schools taught near his boyhood home. He was brought up to useful work and thus prepared to make his way in the world.

When young Pollock left his native state it was to go into the neighboring state of Illinois. After a stay of two years there he came, in 1880, to California and settled northeast of Stockton, where he lived and labored with more or less success for six years. From there he came to Tulare county and found employment with the Comstock people, operating sawmills in the mountains. Thus he busied himself six years, then he rented a hundred and twenty acres of land four miles east of Visalia, and farmed for two years, raising wheat, barley, alfalfa and stock. His next venture was on more rented land, this time two and a half miles south of Goshen, the old Tom Coughran ranch, two hundred and forty acres of rich soil, which produced for him alfalfa and stock. There he remained eight years, making some money and learning a good deal about California farming and stock-raising. In 1907 he bought the sixty acres which constitute his home farm, on which he has usually about two hundred hogs and raises considerable fruit. Twenty-five acres of his land is in alfalfa. Looking back on his life thus far Mr. Pollock sees in it a record of ups and downs, but the ups have been more permanent than the downs, and gradually, as all good things are accomplished, he has gone forward to greater and still greater success. He counts his experience as one of work and rewards, and tries to forget the obstacles he has had to overcome.

In 1893 Mr. Pollock married Margaret Preston, of Missouri

birth, who has borne him four children: Freal, Rita, George and Elizabeth. Socially he is a Woodman of the World. As a citizen he has in numerous instances demonstrated an admirable public spirit.

DANIEL WOOD

A native of the Empire State, at one stage of our national development a mother of pioneers, Daniel Wood went early to Wisconsin, whence, in 1849 he came across the plains to California as a member of a party of thirteen whose experiences during their six months' journey were perilous and painful in the extreme. Once they were obliged, in the desert, to burn some of their wagons for fuel, and a few of the party died of cholera. After his arrival in California, Mr. Wood went into the mines at Hangtown, where flour was \$50 a sack, one onion cost \$3, and eggs readily brought \$1 each. Of course it will be understood that the lack of local production and the excessive cost of transportation were factors in determining these almost prohibitive prices. When he was done with the mines, he went to San Francisco, whose Indian camps were then its most conspicuous features. From there he went to Mariposa county, where he taught school for a time. He was one of the first white men to visit the Yosemite valley. Eventually the fortunes of the border brought him to Visalia and soon he was employed to teach in the old Visalia Academy and later given charge of schools in other parts of Tulare county. He was one of the founders and a constituent member of the first Methodist class organized in Visalia and was the pioneer berry-grower of Tulare county, taking off a crop of strawberries worth \$1600 from one acre of ground. During the pioneer period he operated a ranch of two hundred and forty acres near Farmersville, Tulare county. For some time he held the office of justice of the peace, by authority of which he performed the marriage ceremony of the famous Chris Evans.

The state of Indiana includes what was the birthplace of Miss Carrie Goldthwaite, who became Mr. Wood's wife, and bore him children as follows: Daniel G., George W., Litta, Stella, Edna and Edward. John W. Goldthwaite, Mrs. Wood's father, came to California by way of the overland trail, in the pioneer days, took up government land and developed a ranch in Tulare county. He saw service in the Union army during the Civil war and had an intimate personal acquaintance with Gen. W. T. Sherman. In the years after the war until he passed away he was a leading spirit among Californians of the Grand Army of the Republic.

HENRY O. RAGLE

On October 15, 1860, Henry O. Ragle was born in Hawkins county, Tenn. His parents, natives of Virginia, both died in Tennessee. They were representatives of old Southern families and his mother was a woman of rare quality, who to an uncommon degree impressed her character on her children. He was about twenty-three years old when he came to California, well equipped by public school education and by much practical experience in farming to take up the battle of life in this then comparatively primitive agricultural region. For a time after he came here he did farm and ranch work for wages, but soon he took up one hundred and sixty acres of land and began to improve and cultivate it. From time to time since then he has bought other tracts until he is now the owner of more land than nine hundred acres, some of it grazing land, some of it fruit land, and some of it devoted to grain. Besides being a successful farmer he is quite an extensive handler of cattle.

In 1894 occurred the marriage of Henry O. Ragle, son of Henry Ragle, to Miss Jennie K. Underwood, a native of Tennessee, whose father has passed away, but whose mother is still living. Mrs. Ragle has borne her husband four sons and three daughters. Clarence is a student in a business college at Fresno; Eva is in grammar school; Lloyd, Herbert, Oscar and Marie are in the public school; Dorothy is the baby of the family.

Without capital when he came to Tulare county, Mr. Ragle has been successful beyond many of his friends and neighbors and as he has advanced he has been ready at all times to extend a helping hand to those who have been less fortunate. His interest in the community is such that he has been public-spiritedly helpful to every movement for the general uplift. Especially has the cause of education commanded his attention, and though having no liking for public office, he has been impelled by it to accept that of school trustee, in which he has served with much efficiency, with an eye single to the educational advancement of his neighborhood.

SANTOS BACA

A descendant of old Mexican and Spanish families, Santos Baca was born in San Bernardino county, Cal., in what is now Riverside county, November, 1865. His father was Jesus Cabeza De Baca, who was the son of Jose Baca, for whom Vacaville was named. (The name Baca was formerly spelled Vaca, hence the spelling of Vacaville.) Jesus Cabeza De Baca married Inez Baca, a native of

Spain, and he engaged in the stock business and grazed sheep where the city of Riverside now stands. He was directly descended from Spanish discoverers who landed on the shores of the United States in the middle of the sixteenth century and eventually settled in New Mexico. In 1849 the parents of Santos Baca came to California with ox-teams from New Mexico, and both passed away at old Spanishtown, near Riverside.

When Santos Baca was seven years old he was taken to Sacramento to attend school and in 1880 made his way to Tulare county and thence to Riverside. In 1883 he went to Vacaville but the same year found him in the employ of a liveryman in Tulare city. In 1902 he located at Porterville and was employed in the same business until 1910, at which time he became one of the proprietors in the Exchange stables. He has from time to time interested himself in other enterprises and has evidenced a helpful solicitude for the advancement and prosperity of the community. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

In 1892 Mr. Baca married Miss Nancy E. Doty, a native of Missouri, who has borne him six children, as follows: Fay and Harold, in the high school; Glenn and Rita, in the grammar school; Rene, in the primary school, and Damon.

JOHN H. LEACH

One of the comparatively few citizens of Porterville, Tulare county, Cal., who saw the place come into being on the prairie and have witnessed and promoted its development to the present time is John H. Leach. A native of Washington county, Ill., born January 15, 1849, he was reared and educated in Clinton county, whither his parents moved when he was a small child, there taking up the responsibilities of active life. In the spring of 1880 he left Illinois for the Black Hills, where he prospected for gold and worked in the mills four years. After that he lived for a time in Missouri and later until 1890 in Kansas, where he followed the carpenter trade. In that year he located near Porterville, Cal. He soon bought property and later brought his family on from the east. After he was well started here he bought land, planted orange seed, raised the plants and set out five acres, which he still owns, and has given considerable attention to truck gardening.

In 1875 Mr. Leach married Miss Louisa Lewis, a native of Clinton county, Ill., and they have two children. Their daughter, Mamie E., is a member of their household. Their son, William S., is an

architectural draftsman and resides in Baltimore, Md. Mr. Leach's success is all his own and he is recognized as a self-made man who deserves the high place in the community that is his, not alone by his record as a man of affairs, but by the fine character which has been manifest in his entire career and the generous public spirit that makes him promptly responsive to every demand for the general good. Mr. Leach's mother, now eighty-six years, is a member of his household.

SAMUEL C. BROWN

In Franklin county, Vt., Samuel Carr Brown, late of Visalia, Tulare county, Cal., was born August 17, 1826. He died December 31, 1908. His parents were James and Sarah (Smith) Brown, natives respectively of Rhode Island and of Massachusetts, and his father was long a merchant and an extensive land owner at Swanton, Franklin county, N. Y., but they moved eventually to St. Lawrence county, N. Y., where they passed away. Of their four sons and three daughters, Samuel Carr was the youngest. He was educated in the common schools, at the Pennsylvania College in the Western Reserve, and at Oberlin College, where he was a student in 1848. Under the instruction of Judge Wallace of St. Lawrence county, N. Y., he acquired a rudimentary knowledge of law; later through long connection with the justice court, he gained considerable experience of its practice and during all his active life gave much attention to legal matters. In 1849 he located in Pike county, Ill., and six months later joined a band of gold seekers who were turning their faces toward California.

The journey across the plains was begun in April and in September Mr. Brown reached the North Fork of the American river, where he mined for a year, but meeting with no success then went to San Francisco, where he was for six months a steward on the Vincennes, a sloop sailing out and in that port. In January, 1852, he came to Tulare county in company with about fifty people, most of whom were farmers from Iowa. Learning that the Indians had two years before killed the primitive white settlers, they built a stockade in which they erected eight or ten log houses. He came as a hunter and remained as a citizen, to practice law, teach school, buy land and engage in multifarious activities as settlement advanced and civilization took root and spread. In the Civil war period he was an active sympathizer with the Union cause and Confederate sympathizers made three attempts to wreck his office, but United States troops preserved order till the end of the war, by a request of a committee of three prominent Republicans and three prominent Democrats.

For a time Mr. Brown had as his law partner William G. Morris, later was a member of the firm of Brown & Daggett, and in 1891 retired from professional work and until his death gave personal supervision of his extensive property interests, which included an office building in Visalia, twenty-five hundred acres of farm land near that town and a half interest in four thousand acres in the mountain foothills. His land was divided into five ranches, most of which he usually leased. Many of the important enterprises of Visalia were encouraged and promoted by Mr. Brown. He was influential in the establishment of the Bank of Visalia, of which he was a director. The same may be said of his relationship to the local ice concern and to the Visalia Steam Laundry. He was a director of the Tulare Irrigation Company and of the soda works. Politically he was a Free-soiler and later a Republican. During early days here he was for two years district attorney, for two terms mayor and for three terms a member of the city council.

After Mr. Brown became a citizen of Visalia he married Miss Mary F. Kellenburg, a native of Illinois. The following are their children who are living: May, wife of William H. Hammond, of Visalia; Fannie, wife of C. G. Wilcox of Visalia; Philip S., who is succeeding as a farmer in Tulare county; Maude, who married J. E. Combs, of Visalia; and Helen, who is a member of her mother's household.

PETER BONDSON

The progressive and successful farmer whose name is above, and who is well known in Hanford and vicinity for his high character and respectable achievements, was born in 1848. He is a native of Denmark, a country that has given to the United States many citizens of the purest motives who are leaders in their communities and examples to all who take notice of their integrity, industry and determination, national traits brought to bear upon their careers in a strange land. Peter Bondson came to America in 1870 and was a pioneer at Merced. In 1876 he made his advent in Kings county, settling on the land which he has since developed into one of the most productive and valuable farms in its vicinity. Originally the place consisted of three hundred and twenty acres, but in the process of bringing it to its present perfection he reduced it to two hundred and forty acres. He gave eighty acres to his son Arthur, and he now gives his attention to general farming, hog and cattle raising. His stock is of good breeds and is always so well fed and skillfully handled that it brings the highest market price. The farm is ont

fitted with modern buildings and accessories and is in every respect thoroughly up-to-date.

The first marriage of Mr. Bondson occurred February 22, 1882, uniting him with Cordelia Nance, and they have three living children: Stella, wife of A. L. Miller; Pearl, wife of Charles C. Church; and Arthur. On June 16, 1910, Mr. Bondson married Miss Maud Waite, a young woman of many accomplishments, who is his devoted helper in his endeavors for success. They have one daughter, Ethel. Mr. Bondson has not thus far had much to do with practical politics, but he has decided opinions upon questions of local and national policy to which he gives expression at the polls. A friend of education, he has served two years as school trustee, and in that capacity has ably served the interests of his district. On several occasions his public spirit has commended him to his fellow citizens who recognize in him one who is ever ready to encourage to the extent of his ability any proposition having for its object the general uplift of the community.

WILLIAM WILLARD BROWN

In Jefferson county, N. Y., William Willard Brown was born November 13, 1851. When he was five years old he was brought to California by her mother, his father, William A. Brown, having come out a year before to look over the ground with a view to making a settlement here. The father was a school teacher and he was employed at Stockton and Visalia. He opened a school at Camels Crossing, Kings river, one of the first schools in the county. He enlisted as a musician for service in the Civil war, returned east and was transferred to El Paso, Texas, where he was mustered out and began teaching school at Terrill, Texas. He spent his remaining days in that state.

The son left Visalia in the fall of 1859, when he was about eight years old, with the family of his mother and her second husband, Huffman M. White. The latter homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in the Frazier valley and went into the sheep business, giving some intelligent attention to fruit growing. Mr. Brown states that in 1864 the first orange trees ever planted in Tulare county were planted on the farm of his step-father. The boy was educated in the schools of Tulare county and remained on the White ranch until 1882. He took up a government homestead in 1878 and remained on it most of the time until 1889, for a time making his home with his mother. In the year last mentioned he sold out and located in Porterville. Since settling in town he has been engaged in the

machine business and since 1904 has been the local representative of the Samson Iron Works of Stockton and San Francisco.

In 1882 Mr. Brown was a guide for the United States Government surveying party working in the mountain district of Tulare county and for a time he filled the office of road overseer. So well developed is his public spirit that he has been found ready at all times to aid to the extent of his ability movements which in his opinion have promised to benefit the community. Socially he has associated with the Knights of Pythias since 1884 and he has represented his lodge at the Grand Lodge in 1886 and again in 1911.

In 1876 Mr. Brown married Rosalia Ford, a native of California, and daughter of J. P. Ford, a pioneer of 1856. She has borne him six children, three of whom are living. Roy F. is in New Mexico. Lahlalla A. is the wife of Thomas Ferguson, of Porterville, Cal., and Pauline is a student in the Porterville high school.

ALFRED BALAAM

It was in Louisville, Ky., that Alfred Balaam, stockman and farmer, ex-sheriff of Tulare county, was born September 5, 1839, a son of George and Sarah (Swain) Balaam, natives of England. The family moved from Kentucky to Arkansas and from there to Texas, and from the Lone Star State came with a train of fifty ox-wagons across the plains to California in 1853, settling at El Monte, Los Angeles county, where they remained until the end of December, 1857. They then set out for Tulare county, where they arrived soon after January 1, 1858. The head of the family took up land a mile west of Farmersville, entering it at the government land office, a raw tract of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he raised horses, cattle and sheep. He was a man of ability who took a leading part in local politics, served in the office of justice of the peace and promoted the best interests of the community as long as he lived.

The following nine children of George and Sarah (Swain) Balaam are named in order of birth: George, the eldest, is dead; Sarah Ward; Ann Ward; Martha is the wife of Joseph Homer; Frank S.; Alfred; Edward; Mary Van Gorden is dead; and Mrs. Emily Van Gordon resides at Watsonville.

Alfred Balaam was educated in the public school near his boyhood home and early worked with his father at stock-farming. Later he farmed for himself and at one time operated a half section of land. At this time he owns thirty-one acres near Farmersville, Tulare county, which he devotes principally to hay, alfalfa and Egyptian corn. For sixteen years he has filled the office of roadmaster and has been

instrumental in introducing great improvements in local roads and bridges. By appointment of Sheriff Wells, he served as deputy sheriff under that official and in 1885 was elected sheriff of Tulare county, which office he filled for one term with great efficiency and integrity. A man of abundant public spirit, he has always promoted the prosperity of the community.

In 1862 Mr. Balaam married Anna Whitlock, a native of Ohio, who bore him two children, Charles and Nellie. His present wife, whom he married in 1869, was Miss Marion Bequette, a native of California, and children as follows were born to them: Ida Higdon, Carl and Edward.

DANIEL FINN

The late prominent and successful man of affairs of Kings county, Cal., Daniel Finn of Hanford, was born at Oswego, N. Y., May 11, 1858, and lived there, meanwhile acquiring an education, until he was about twenty years old. He then went to Colorado and between that state and Idaho and Nevada he divided his time until in 1883, when he came to Colusa county, Cal., and farmed about a year. In 1884 he located in Hanford, which has since been his home town, and it is probable that in all the years since he came no man has been more devoted than he to its growth and development. For about ten years he worked on farms and conducted a draying and transportation business and in the period 1895-1901 he was in the retail liquor trade. After the oil business began to assume some importance in California he gave attention to it and in 1898 was one of the locators and incorporators, whose foresight was destined to bring success to the Hanford Oil Company, the property of which was located at Coalinga, where the first discovery of oil was made in that district outside of section twenty. The holdings of this company were bought in small pieces by the Standard Oil Company in 1906-1907, the parcels having been deeded one by one to Martin & De Sabla, who later transferred them to the great corporation mentioned. Mr. Finn was president of the Hanford Oil Company until the termination of its corporate existence; he was one of the organizers and was from the first vice-president of the Hanford Gas and Power Company, which was incorporated in 1902; and in 1901 he was one of the incorporators of the Old Bank, of which he was a director through all its history and of which he was president after the death of the late President Biddle. As a Knight of Pythias he passed all the chairs of the lodge. In 1890 he married Mary Corey, who survives him. Mr. Finn was a self-made man, and found his true

field of endeavor and the profitable scene of his success at Hanford, hence the reason for his manifest devotion to the town and to all of the various interests which make for its advancement and prosperity. It is doubtful if any measure for the general good was proposed that did not receive his co-operation. As his fortunes advanced he was more and more generously responsive to demands upon his public spirit. He passed away June 22, 1912, mourned by many friends and admirers.

PHILIP S. BROWN

The home of Philip S. Brown, on the Exeter road near Visalia, is one of the show places of that part of Tulare county. A fine new residence graces the property, and its approach is by way of a roadway past a fountain and underneath palms and other ornamental trees and bordered on either side with many of the kinds of flowers for which California is famous.

In Visalia, June 15, 1867, Philip S. Brown was born, a son of S. C. Brown, who came to Tulare county among the pioneers. After he had finished his education he engaged in the real estate business in Visalia, as a member of the firm of Frasier, Prendergast & Brown, to the interests of which he devoted his energies until in 1896, when he began dairying and farming on nine hundred acres of his father's land near Visalia. He soon built up a large business which brought him good yearly profit and he had at one time one hundred registered Holstein cows, four or five hundred hogs, and one hundred acres of prunes and peaches. His fruit was killed by a flood a few years ago. At this time his ranch consists of three hundred and fifty acres, one hundred and fifty acres of which he has planted to alfalfa. As has been seen his career has not been without its vicissitudes, but he has overcome all obstacles and achieved success in the typical California way, and while he has prospered he has public-spiritedly promoted the welfare of the community. In 1896 he married Miss Jenevieve Loraine, a native of New York, who has borne him a daughter whom they have named Bernice.

DALLAS H. GRAY

One of the few men represented in this work who were born on property which they now own is Dallas H. Gray, who made his advent into the world in February, 1882, near Armona. Harvey P. Gray,

his father, was born in Wayne county, Pa., April 20, 1841, and came to California from Nebraska in the '50s. Before 1870 he came to Tulare county, before settlement had advanced to any considerable extent, and here homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. He mined in Tuolumne and Placer counties and in 1863 enlisted in the Federal army, serving until the close of the Civil war. It was in December, 1869, that he came to Tulare county and engaged in farming, taking over one hundred and sixty acres on army scrip and made a home to which he moved and lived out his days, passing away June 2, 1896. He was one of the pioneer raisin growers in the county. In 1879 he married Miss Emma C. Hurd, and they had two sons, Donly C. and Dallas H., the former living in Visalia. Harvey Gray was a man of public spirit and forceful character, and helped to promote the Peoples, Last Chance and Lower Kings River ditches and improved the home ranch to splendid condition.

Dallas Gray was educated at Armona and in the Hanford high school. After his graduation in 1903 he established a vineyard and orchard of eighty acres of the family estate, to which he has added by purchase from time to time. He now has ninety acres in vines, forty in orchard and ten in pasture. He is encountering success, drying fruit of various kinds and packing raisins. His packing house, covering a ground space of 80x120 feet, has a storage capacity of four hundred tons. He has erected nearly all the buildings on his place except the packing house. His dairy of twenty Holstein cows is becoming well known. He has erected sanitary buildings with concrete floors, 45x64 feet, for dairy purposes, and a hay storage building with a capacity of one hundred tons, elevated on concrete piling. His dairy requires thirty-four acres of alfalfa. He has also sixty acres in the orange belt of Tulare county and has an interest in one hundred and sixty acres of timber land in Madera county. From sixty-seven acres of vines he took one hundred and sixty-eight tons of product in 1910 and one hundred and fifty in 1912. He markets all his own produce in the East, selling direct to jobbers. On his ranch he has two three-room cottages and one five-room cottage for hired help. He has installed electric machinery and two electric motors and has a modern pumping apparatus. His chicken business dates from 1909. He raises thoroughbred White Leghorns only, increasing from one thousand to five thousand laying hens, and operates six incubators of a capacity of four hundred and eighty eggs each. All the eggs he sells are bought throughout the coast states for hatching, and to this interest he devotes three acres. He gives employment to from five to one hundred men in his various enterprises, according to season. His brooder house is one hundred feet long, with capacity for two thousand chicks. His fireless brooders generate their own heat. The hens have sanitary drinking fountains. Mr. Gray advertises his

chicken business extensively and cannot supply the demand that he has created.

In 1905 Mr. Gray married Miss Katie Biddle, daughter of S. E. Biddle of Hanford, and they became the parents of a son, Dallas H., Jr., who was born February 4, 1913. Mr. Gray is a man of much public spirit, having at heart the interests of the community, generously helpful to all good work.

FRANCIS MARION AINSWORTH

In Missouri, in 1845, was born Francis Marion Ainsworth, and in 1857, when he was about twelve years old, he participated with his parents and others in a memorable overland journey to California. They came with ox-teams and endured many hardships and braved many perils. Their first home in this state was in Mendocino county. There his father acquired land which he farmed and improved three years. Then, after living a little while at Santa Rosa and a short time at Sonoma, the family moved to Napa county, where they remained until 1864. Stockton was the scene of the family's activities for some years and after that Modesto numbered its members in its population. At Modesto the father died in 1870; the mother had passed away in 1863. It was from Modesto that Francis M. Ainsworth came to the Mussel Slough district of old Tulare county, near Hanford, where he soon began ranching. He moved to his present location at Milo in 1876. He owns here two hundred and forty acres of land which he is operating very profitably. It is remarkable to realize that Mr. Ainsworth, who at the age of sixty-seven years is enjoying splendid health and is giving personal attention to the conduct of his ranch as well as the duties of postmaster at Milo, was at one time a consumptive in a most precarious condition, suffering from hemorrhages of the lungs. His cure may be attributed to his tremendous will power and the exceptional climate and he has every reason to count his blessings and be happy that he has sought this country as his place of residence.

In 1872 Mr. Ainsworth married Nettie Braden, a native of Iowa, who bore him ten children, all native sons and daughters of California, four of whom have died. Royal Jasper Ainsworth married Clara Hinkle and lives in Tulare county. The other survivors are named Chester O., Archie W., Frances M., Lisle R. and Alden R. The parents of Mrs. Ainsworth moved to Kansas when she was about five years old and some two or three years later they came overland to California, settling in Santa Clara county, whence they later removed to Stanislaus county, and it was here that she first met her future

husband. She was the second child of a family of four children, one son and three daughters, born to her parents, the others being: William Braden, of Ventura county, Agnes Richardson of Porterville, and Malissa, who died in Tulare county in 1878, being at that time the wife of S. W. Webb and leaving no children. Mr. Ainsworth's uncle, Davy Crockett, is a justice of the peace at Ukiah, Mendocino county. Col. Davy Crockett, the hero of the Alamo, was Mr. Ainsworth's great-uncle. His life of adventure, his devotion to the cause of liberty and his tragic death for the freedom of Texas are all matters of history. Mr. Ainsworth is a man of public spirit and as a Democrat he has been elected school trustee and in 1907 was appointed postmaster at Milo, which responsible office he still fills with ability and credit.

M. E. WEDDLE

In Virginia, M. E. Weddle, late of the Dinuba district of Tulare county, Cal., was born July 28, 1844. When he was ten years old he accompanied his parents to east Tennessee. In 1861, before he was seventeen years old, he enlisted in Company H, Second Ohio Cavalry, under Captain Chester, with which he served until in 1863. In June of that year he re-enlisted, and served until the end of the war and was mustered out at St. Louis, Mo., in 1865. He took part in sixty-three battles and skirmishes, some of his memorable experiences having been in the Wilderness campaign and at the battle of Cedar Creek. In 1865 his father had removed from Tennessee to Indiana. In Tennessee he had had his war experiences as well, having operated there a corn mill which was patronized by passing soldiers, sometimes, but not always, to the profit of its proprietor.

At the close of the war young Weddle joined his father in Indiana, worked at ranching and at teaming and learned the carpenter's trade. He married Miss Lucy J. Newlon. They had six children: John C. married Mabel Day and has three children. Mary E. married Charles Snyder of Oregon and they have three children. George W. married and has four children. Hester married William Heine of San Jose, Cal., and they have a son and a daughter. Two have passed away. By his later marriage with Mary E. Robbins he had no children. She was the widow of David Alden Robbins of Iowa and had two children by her first marriage. Her maiden name was Mary E. Fulton and she was born in Westmoreland county, near Monongahela City, and is the daughter of Abraham and Rachel (Newlon) Fulton.

Mr. Weddle came to Tulare county in 1888. As far as the eye

could reach in every direction lay an expanse of wheat fields and Dinuba had just been platted. He found plenty of work as a carpenter, and helped to erect the first building in the town for a store and real estate office. He became owner of ten acres of land on Wilson avenue. Three and a half acres of it are under vines, one acre is planted to trees. For a number of years he prospered as a house-mover. Politically Mr. Weddle supported Republican principles and was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He passed away August 12, 1912.

JAMES THOMAS BOONE

In Missouri, Benton county, in 1862, James Thomas Boone was born. There he grew up and was educated. He began his active career as a clerk in a factory in St. Louis. When he was twenty-one years old he came to California and not long after his arrival he located at Traver. For a time after he came to the state he was bookkeeper in connection with one of the old canal projects which in their time promised to be influential factors in the commercial prosperity of this then new country. In 1884 he bought land at Traver, on which he lived until 1895, when he moved to Orosi. After two years' residence there he located at Dinuba and in 1899 he bought forty acres near that place. He was the first man to build a home in Section Eight, and when he planted most of his forty acres in vines it was as a pioneer vineyardist. The land cost him \$37.50 an acre and \$600 an acre would be a low price for it now.

In 1887 Mr. Boone married Matilda Isabelle Blakemore, a native of Tulare county, and their five children are all living in Tulare county. Roy B. Boone, prominent in the drug business at Dinuba, married Frances Williams. He is one of the few graduates in pharmacy who live in this part of the county. Guy H., who is prospering at Dinuba as a liveryman, married Ethel Alford. Estella Jeanette is a graduate of the high school at Dinuba; William is a student in that school; and Clyde Thomas is attending the grammar school. Thomas Jefferson Boone, father of James Thomas Boone, was a native of Kentucky and the woman he married was also a native of that state. William Bailey Blakemore, father of Mrs. Matilda Isabelle (Blakemore) Boone, was a native of Arkansas, who in pioneer days made the overland journey to California with ox-teams. His daughter, who was born in Tulare county, recollects seeing much game on the plains and in the woods round her home when she was young.

A man of much public spirit, Mr. Boone is ready at all times to do anything in his power for the advancement of the public good and

has served his fellow townsmen in the office of justice of the peace, making a record for just and wise decisions of which judges of many greater courts might well be proud. Mr. Boone was the first City Clerk after Dinuba was incorporated and served the first term.

JONATHAN W. MAY

It was in Mississippi, in the heart of the Old South, that Jonathan W. May of Springville, Cal., first saw the light of day in 1836. When he was six years old he was taken by his parents to Texas, where he lived until 1870. Then, aged about thirty-four years, he came overland by ox-team transportation to California, consuming nine months in making the journey, and settled at Pleasant Valley, Tulare county. When he came here there was no one living in the vicinity of his present home. He bought property at Springville and became the pioneer livery stable keeper there. At this time there is no other than his blacksmith and wood-working shop in the town. Meanwhile he has acquired a moderate sized but profitable ranch. In his younger days he raised stock, but in the more modern period he has kept abreast of California agriculture and horticulture.

In the Civil war Mr. May was a lieutenant in the Confederate army, and he once filled the office of deputy sheriff in Shackelford county, Texas. In 1868 he married John Ann Stanphill, a native of the Cherokee nation, and she bore him three children, the eldest of whom is dead, while the others are living in Tulare county. Mrs. May died in 1875 and in 1904 Mr. May married Mrs. Anna Brown.

Wherever he has lived Mr. May has, since he was a very young man, been interested in the growth and development of his community. In many ways he has demonstrated his public spirit since he came to this county and no movement is made for the benefit of any large number of its citizens that does not have his hearty encouragement or co-operation.

BENJAMIN J. FICKLE

The earliest recollection of Benjamin J. Fickle is of having seen a team of horses fall down when he was only two years old. That happened back in Ohio, where he was born December 12, 1832, a son of George and Margaret (Beckley) Fickle, natives respectively of Kentucky and of Pennsylvania and descended respectively from German

and from Irish ancestors. George Fickle fought for America in the war of 1812 and his father was a Revolutionary soldier.

In 1853 young Fickle crossed the plains to California and stopped at Volcano, Amador county. He was of a party that came by way of the Sublett cut-off, most of whom turned back to find grass for their stock. He and others pressed forward on foot, and after a day's travel they came upon a train under command of Clark, who was leading it to the Napa valley. The young man found employment with the train at \$18 a month and board. After the party had crossed the Green river, he met a man named Hogan, whom he accompanied to Volcano, helping with a drove of cattle until the animals ate too much grass and died as a consequence. Then he was employed near Amador and in the vicinity of Court House Rock. While he was there, three women went out to see the rock and were captured by Indians and were never seen there again. Here he mined for a time at \$3 a day until a passing stranger told him he was not being paid enough, and for a time he farmed at Nevada, then took up a homestead on the Tule river three miles below Porterville, to which he acquired title and which he subsequently sold for \$2200, taking his pay in cattle which perished on the plains for want of water. Next he bought three hundred and twenty acres of railroad land, near the site of Hanford, which he sold in two or three years for \$1000 and which is now well worth \$200 an acre. He now owns forty acres, eighteen acres of which is vineyard land, five acres peach orchard, the remainder pasture.

Politically Mr. Fickle is a Socialist. He affiliates with the Christian church. As a citizen he is public-spiritedly helpful to all the interests of the community. He married Emma Rutherford, a native of California and a daughter of pioneers, and she has borne him eleven children: Jerome F. married Beatrice Craft and has two children. Alfred H. married Katie Burch, a native of Missouri, who has borne him three children. George M. married Lottie Turner, and they have one son. Pearl F. married Charles Burch and has borne him three children. O. Estella married Clem Moyer and has four children. Delia is the sixth child. Flossie F. married Albert Carver and has one son. The others are: G. Frank, Flora L., John H., and Belle, who married E. H. Hackett and who has two children, Elmer and Flora.

SAMUEL DINELEY

The late Samuel Dineley, born in Worcestershire, England, in 1829, died in Visalia, Tulare county, Cal., August 5, 1907. His mother dying when he was quite young, his father brought their children to New York city, where later he took a second wife. After that some of the

children went away and the family was in a manner broken up, but Samuel remained in New York city until he was twenty-five years old and then crossed the plains to California, where he engaged in mining and later in the mercantile business.

About 1855 Mr. Dineley came to Visalia, where he lived out the remainder of his allotted years. He was the pioneer lime-maker in Tulare county and set up the first limekiln ever seen here. Later for some years he was a successful sheep-herder, and after his retirement from that business he long conducted a confectionery store on Main street, in Visalia. On April 2, 1861, Samuel Dineley was united in marriage with Charlotte E. Kellenberger, the ceremony taking place in the old Pasqual Bequette house. He took his bride to the home purchased from Nathaniel Vise in 1862, located at 417 North Locust street, which has since been the home of the family and is perhaps the oldest homestead continuously inhabited by one family in Visalia. There eleven children were born to this worthy couple, viz.: Mrs. E. O. Miller, Mrs. H. W. Kelsey, George, Mrs. George Vogle, Mrs. G. C. Lamberson, Mrs. Herbert Askin, Mrs. Fannie Burroughs, deceased, Mrs. Eve Bliss, Clarence, Harry and Frank, also deceased. Mrs. Dineley was born in Washington and was a daughter of F. J. Kellenberger, who brought his children to the Pacific Coast via the Isthmus of Panama in 1860.

WILLIAM F. DEAN

The well-known farmer, fruit-grower and educator, whose post-office address is Three Rivers, Tulare county, Cal., was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, in 1855, and when he was about four years old his parents removed to Iowa. A few years later the family moved down into Missouri. Thus young Dean was educated in both Iowa and Missouri. In the latter state he took the course at the State Normal School at Kirksville, and was awarded a state certificate as to his ability as a teacher, which gave him the privilege of teaching anywhere in Missouri. He taught there and in Illinois for some time, and in 1877 came to California and in that year and in 1878 taught in the public school at Poplar; later he taught two years more at that place. In California his abilities and his standing as an educator were recognized by Governor Perkins, who conferred upon him a life diploma, a document having the same effect here as the state certificate in Missouri. His recollections of his early school at Poplar are interesting. There was a goodly number of pupils, but the attendance was somewhat irregular in bad weather, as some of them came from a considerable distance. He says that some of the early school dis-

tricts in this part of the state were fifty miles from side to side. The houses of the settlers were widely scattered, each one practically isolated.

About ten years after he came to the state, Mr. Dean homesteaded land on the Kaweah river. By subsequent purchases he acquired a total of six hundred and fifty acres, on which he embarked in stock-raising. After disposing of his cattle, he turned his attention to fruit-growing, devoting himself chiefly to the production of apples. He has fourteen acres of apple trees, nine acres of them being winesaps which bore for the first time in 1912. He now owns six hundred and thirty-two acres, a part of it given over to grazing, the remainder being set to fruit.

Mr. Dean's father was Henry Dean, a native of Western Virginia, who settled in Ohio when he had reached middle age. His mother was born within the present borders of the state of West Virginia. They both passed away in Missouri. In 1885, in California, Mr. Dean married Miss Etta B. Doyle, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of parents both of whom were born in that state. She died in 1886, leaving no children.

When he came to this state, Mr. Dean expected to teach here a few years and go back East, but the longer he remained the less inclination had he to return to the old climate and the old environment. Now he is a loyal Californian who expects to die under the sunny sky that keeps flowers blooming the year round and makes fortunes of golden grain and golden fruit that are more reliable and more valuable than the fortunes of real gold that lured men to this coast in the days before and after the Civil war. In his political affiliations he is a Republican. In an official way, he has helped to enumerate the census of Tulare county and by election on the Republican ticket has served his fellow townsmen as a member of the local school board. There is no home interest that does not have his encouragement if encouragement is needed, and in many ways he has demonstrated a public spirit that makes him useful and popular as a citizen.

MARTIN DONAHUE

Among the retired citizens of Tulare county, and one who has figured prominently in the industrial circles there, is Martin Donahue. His parents were born in Ireland. This blacksmith, so long known by the people round Springville, Tulare county, Cal., was born February 17, 1828, at Oswego, N. Y. He there went to school, learned his trade, and lived until he was thirty-two years old. In 1862 he enlisted in the Federal army for three years and served until honorably dis-

charged and mustered out at Raleigh, N. C., in 1865. After the war he went back to his trade, and in 1869 came to California. For some time after his arrival he was a prospector in the gold fields and later was employed at his trade and otherwise. In 1887 he located in Tulare county, and about one year later, in 1888, he came to this county and settled near Springville. He has divided his time between farming and blacksmithing and has prospered so well that he now owns three hundred and twenty acres of good grain land. He stopped working at his trade about two years ago, since when, except for the attention that he has had to give his land interests, he has enjoyed a well earned rest.

Politics has never strongly attracted Mr. Donahue and he has never been particularly active in political work. Always deprecating partisanship, he has at no time in his life yielded his allegiance to any political organization, but has held himself in readiness at all times to support such men and measures as in his belief promise most for the general good. To all measures for the benefit of the community he has always been generously helpful in a truly public-spirited way.

JAMES W. FINE

The death of James W. Fine, which occurred at Plano, Cal., January 12, 1900, removed from his community one of the old and well-known pioneers of California and ended the activities of a well-spent and splendid life, full of energy and unswerving perseverance. He was the son of John Fine, a native of Missouri, who died in 1868, at the age of seventy-two; he followed farming during his active years and brought his family to California in 1857, his death taking place at Woodville. The Fine family are well-founded, James W. Fine being of German extraction on his mother's side, while his paternal line is Irish. He was born April 13, 1823, in Missouri, and started with his parents from Randolph county, Ark., in May, 1857, to make the journey across the plains with ox-teams. There was a large party at the start of the journey, ninety wagons being required, but at Salt Lake City many remained behind, and the remainder of the party arrived in California in October. Mr. Fine first lived at San Andreas, Calaveras county, Cal., where he remained until 1860, his wife having been buried there. Subsequently he came to Tulare county, and settling on the Kaweah river, at the elbow, he farmed and followed stockraising on rented land, but finally he made his way to the Porterville section and buying six hundred and forty acres of land, remained there until upon selling out to Daniel Abbott, he retired from active life. His last days were spent with his son, Robert R., and

he passed away at Plano January 12, 1900, at the age of seventy-six years and nine months.

Mr. Fine was married December 7, 1848, to Martha Jane Warner, born September 13, 1831, in Arkansas. She passed away January 12, 1858, a short time after arriving in California. To their union five children were born: Mary Ann, born October 28, 1849, married S. B. King and has six sons now living, one daughter and two sons having passed away. Her sons are, John T. residing in Watsonville, George G. in Salinas, S. Frank in Merced, Charles W. in Porterville, William W. in Modesto and Daniel B. in Stockton. Mr. King was born in Kentucky and was reared in Missouri. Their marriage occurred in 1864, in California, and Mrs. King makes her home in Porterville, where in 1900 she purchased her home place. The second child born to Mr. and Mrs. Fine was Steven, who was born April 24, 1851, and now resides near Salinas. Robert R., born September 12, 1853, also resides at Salinas. Frances E., born April 26, 1855, is Mrs. Daniel Abbott, of Porterville. William A. was born April 2, 1857, and lives in Hanford.

LEVI MITCHELL

In the passing of Levi Mitchell, in 1885, Tulare county lost one of its oldest and most conspicuous pioneers. He was born in 1821 and was a child when brought to California. He married Miss Anna Stargarth, a native of Germany, who came to California with her aunt and located in Stockton in 1863, three years and a half before their marriage. After their marriage they located at White River, Tulare county, where Mr. Mitchell bought a store, and there they lived nineteen years and saw the place grow from vacant land to a thriving town. Miners and Indians were the only inhabitants, and for three years after they came Mrs. Mitchell was the only white woman there. Her husband built the hotel and schoolhouse and practically all the buildings there. He was a comparatively wealthy man when he came, and his fortunes improved. Twenty-two years after he died his wife moved to Ducor, where her son conducted a hotel, the Mitchell House. She remembers Porterville when it was a small cluster of houses; she saw the cattlemen supersede the Indians, as one of the early steps in the march of progress under which California has been transformed. Her husband bought mines and grubstaked miners and was in a general way ready for any speculation that promised good returns. Genial, friendly and naturally helpful, he was popular with all who knew him and to the end of his days was honored as one of the pioneers who blazed the way for the civilization of a later

day. He and his brother owned the first store in Visalia. Fraternally he was an Odd Fellow and did much for the benefit of his order.

Born in 1842, Mrs. Mitchell was considerably younger than her husband. She bore him eight children, four of whom are living. Her son Joseph is managing a hotel at Hot Springs, Cal. Michael married Deborah Samuels, a native of California, and has children named Ammie and Lee, aged respectively six and five years. Jacob is living at Hot Springs, Cal. Herman is employed at a bank at Visalia. All of Mrs. Mitchell's children were born at White River and are by birth-right native sons and daughters of California. Joseph and Michael are both Masons. Michael Mitchell fills the offices of justice of the peace and notary public and is secretary of the Ducor Chamber of Commerce and of the Ducor Realty Company.

DAVID GAMBLE

Formerly a trustee of the City of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., and member of its board of education, David Gamble is at the same time one of the leading contractors and builders of Central California, a man of enterprise and public spirit who would be a credit to the citizenship of any municipality. Mr. Gamble was born in Chester county, Pa., September 15, 1852, and grew to manhood in Philadelphia, where he gained a practical knowledge of contracting and building. When he decided to come west he planned the structure of his future success as carefully as he would plan a building of today. As the foundation must be first in the building, so the location must be first in his business career. He prospected, with eyes and ears both alert, through Nevada, New Mexico and Arizona and then into California.

In 1878 Mr. Gamble arrived in Hanford. He found employment at his trade and worked at it diligently, saving his money, until in 1886, when he became the pioneer contractor and builder in this city. Many of the buildings erected by him in the years immediately following have been destroyed. Among the blocks of his erecting in the central part of the city which are standing today are the Baker, Malone and Manasse buildings, the court house—of which he did the woodwork—the Hill and Robinson buildings, the offices of the Hanford Water Works Company, the Bernstein block and the high school building. One of his larger buildings is the hotel at Traver. The following residences in Hanford are monuments to his artistic skill and business enterprise: Goldberg's, Daniel Finn's, Kuntz's, F. A. Dodge's, Bernstein's, Wesebaum's, Kilpatrick's. Among those he has built in the county round about Hanford are D. Bassett's, H. E. Wright's, S. L. Brown's and the Ralestock home.

For twelve years Mr. Gamble has been a member of the board of education of Hanford and in 1908 he was elected city trustee. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and the Knights of Pythias. He married, in 1886, Miss Margaret A. Raisch, a native of Kansas, and they have four children: Katherine, a teacher in the Hanford grammar school; Edith; Florence, a student at Stanford University; and Raymond.

C. A. ELSTER

One of the most valued and industrious workers for the public welfare in Springville and one to whom is due much praise for his untiring efforts and generous aid in promoting the many enterprises with which he has been identified is C. A. Elster, who was born in Grass Valley, Nevada county, Cal., in 1862, and is now one of the leading business men and landowners in the community. He is a son of Alonzo Elster, who came to Nevada county in 1858 and became well-known through his activity in running a block mill at Grass Valley, which he built about 1861. He was born in New York and died in California in June, 1888. He had come to Tulare county in 1866 and engaged in freighting from Stockton and Banta to Visalia before the advent of the Southern Pacific Railroad. He hauled the first fire engine ever used in the city of Visalia and he also ran the Overland livery stable at Visalia in the early seventies.

When he was three years old, C. A. Elster's parents came to Tulare county, where he has since lived. He was educated here in the public schools and took fundamental lessons in ranching and in business under his father's instruction. He began to acquire land by buying a claim before he was twenty-one years old, and by later purchases he has brought his holdings up to about five hundred acres. For a while he operated a sawmill, but he later gave his attention to ranching and to stockraising, and has from time to time been active in large enterprises for the general good. He is known as the father of the Tulare Electric, Water and Power Company, the history of which dates from 1908, and it was largely through his and the efforts of C. W. Hubbs and C. H. Hawley that valuable water rights were secured on the middle fork of the Tule river about two miles above Springville, which when developed will generate at its full capacity about twenty-seven hundred horse-power electric current. In this connection Mr. Elster has been one of Tulare county's most active promoters. Desiring a road to Springville, he associated with Messrs. Hubbs and Hawley and other Tulare county men and proposed an electric line which was duly incorporated under the name of the

Tulare County Power Company, with capital stock of \$1,000,000, which consisted of ten thousand shares at \$100 each. It was proposed to operate this road by means of electric power and to run from Tulare to Lindsay, from there to Strathmore and from Strathmore to Springville. Mr. Elster supplied the necessary money for the preliminary survey, right of way, etc., and the Southern Pacific Railroad, observing their preparations, immediately built their branch line from Porterville to Springville, and thus Springville secured its railroad, and it has been entirely due to the work and enterprise of Mr. Elster that this has been accomplished.

Mr. Elster in 1912 completed a two-story brick building, 48x60 feet, the cost of which was \$12,000. He owns a comfortable residence in Springville and has an olive nursery and orchard, and he is today one of the largest taxpayers in the city.

In 1887 Mr. Elster married Miss Eva Hubbs, who bore him a son, Irvy Elster, who is now a member of his father's household. Mrs. Elster died in 1890 and in 1895 Mr. Elster married Miss Minnie Hubbs, by whom he had a daughter, Lora, who died when she was thirteen years old.

LOUIS BEQUETTE

In the state of Wisconsin occurred the birth of Louis Bequette, stockman and orange grower, one of the citizens of note in the vicinity of Lemon Cove, Tulare county, Cal. He was a child of three years when his parents came, with four teams, overland to California. The family located in Sierra county and remained there five years, the father working in the mines. Their next halt was one of two years in Yolo county, whence they moved to Tulare county, within the hospitable borders of which the immediate subject of this article has had a home ever since.

As a young man Mr. Bequette worked on ranches and helped herd cattle, and he has never been able to give up such employment in all the years that have ensued. In 1872 he married Miss Mary Eliza Davis, of Stanislaus county, Cal., whose father, Harvey Davis, was a pioneer of 1849. Their three children were: Irving Bequette, who was born in Tulare county in 1874 and died in 1909, in his thirty-sixth year; C. L. Bequette died in 1911, leaving three children; Leonard Bequette, born in 1877, is married and is in the stock business in this county.

When Mr. Bequette took up the burden of life on his own account he ventured a little at first with stock. There came a time when his operations in that line were very considerable and made him widely

known. His first tract of land was one of one hundred and sixty acres, and today he is the owner of twelve hundred acres, with fifteen acres in corn, five acres in oranges, and the remainder in crops, range and alfalfa. His home is one of the most comfortable in his neighborhood and his ranch is fitted up with every improvement and appliance necessary to its successful operation. He takes an intelligent and patriotic interest in the public affairs of the county, state and nation and responds readily and generously to all calls for aid in the advancement of his community.

J. CARL THAYER

The architect is able to show forth his good works as no other man, except, perhaps, the editor; though the architect's exhibit is permanent as any human creation, the editor's comes into being today and is gone tomorrow. Only in musty and dusty files, half hidden in a dark corner of some library, is the editor's record available after he has himself passed away, but out in the sunshine the work of the architect has its place in its own chapter of the history of the men who have lived and builded—on Earth's great open page, where men and the sons of men may see and read. So is the record of the professional achievements of J. Carl Thayer spread before those of this generation and of generations to come, everywhere in the business district and in the residence districts of Visalia, Tulare county, Cal.

In Lewis county, N. Y., Mr. Thayer was born. He was educated in the Booneville (N. Y.) High School, at Cornell University and at Syracuse University, graduating with the degree of C. E. and other professional degrees, after having pursued a collegiate course in architecture. The first six years of his professional career were passed in Pittsburg, Pa. Then, after two years in New York City, he came to California and located at Visalia for the practice of his profession. Here his success has been commensurate with his abilities and his personal popularity. He has drawn plans for the following mentioned buildings, among others: The R. A. Little residence, the Episcopal church, the Levey building, the Willows district school, the C. W. Berry residence, the A. D. Wilson residence, the George Baker building, the J. E. Richardson residence, the C. B. Moffatt residence, the N. H. Grove residence, the Presbyterian church, the Visalia club, the L. Lucier residence, the theater block erected by E. O. Miller at Hanford, the Lemoore grammar school building, which cost \$40,000; the Methodist church at Lindsay, the Second National Bank building at Lindsay, L. L. Brown's store block in Exeter, the store building of Frank Mixter at Exeter, the store block of George Tinker at Lindsay

and the store building of Tinker & Smith in the last-named town. Considering the comparatively recent date of his advent in Visalia, it will be seen that he has been very successful in a professional way. It should be noted that he is not merely an artistic designer, but is at the same time a practical designer, all his buildings being admirably calculated for the uses to which they were to be put and all giving the best of satisfaction in actual use.

It was in 1905 that Mr. Thayer came to California. He married Miss Mary Morrell, a native of the state. As a citizen he is public-spiritedly helpful to all important interests of the community. January 1, 1912, he removed to Fresno, where he is a member of the firm of Thayer, Parker & Kenyon, 348-9 Forsyth building.

LOUIS LEE THOMAS

The story of the self-made man is always interesting and it is always instructive. As such this brief account of the successful career of Louis Lee Thomas of Exeter, Cal., should be of service to some of the younger readers of this volume. Mr. Thomas was born in Posey county, Ind., in 1868. John Thomas, his father, was born in that state in 1838 and died in Missouri in 1904, and his mother also was a native of Indiana. When Louis was nine years old he was taken by his family to northern Missouri, where he grew to manhood and obtained such education as was afforded him in the public schools near his home. While he was yet a young man he went to the state of Washington and secured employment at farm work and remained there about fifteen years. Coming to California, he settled on the eighty-acre ranch on which he now lives. The place was well improved and he later sold all of it but thirty-six acres. Of this, twenty acres is planted to orange trees, which are now in full bearing, fourteen acres is in alfalfa and one acre is devoted to nursery stock. Mr. Thomas came to Tulare county with very little capital, but his industry, economy and good judgment have made him the owner of one of the best homestead properties in his vicinity.

In 1895 Mr. Thomas married Miss Grace Akers, a native of Decatur county, Iowa, who had gone with her parents to Oregon when she was seven years old. Her father, a native of Indiana, and her mother, a native of Iowa, are both living. Fraternally Mr. Thomas affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. While he has well defined ideas upon all questions of public moment, he has never been aggressive in political work, nor has he asked or accepted public office. He favors anything which promises to advance the welfare of the county and the country at large, and never fails to respond promptly and

generously to any legitimate demand upon his public spirit. As a farmer and fruit grower he has been successful beyond many whose opportunities and advantages have surpassed his. In 1911 he sold fifteen hundred boxes of oranges and in 1912 he raised two thousand boxes of oranges from twenty acres of five-year-old trees. His land will produce six crops of alfalfa each year, aggregating nine tons to the acre. The place is provided with an up-to-date water plant, and he spares no pains or expense to add to the value and productiveness of his property.

WILLIAM FREDERICK HEUSEL

At Kalamazoo, Mich., William Frederick Hensel was born August 6, 1859. He was reared and educated in that city until he was ten years of age, when the family moved to Sturgis and that was his home until 1879. After that he lived two years in Illinois and several years in Kansas and from the Sunflower State came to California in 1891, locating in Hanford, Kings county. He bought property in that city and worked there at plumbing and in season was a foreman in the Del Monte Packing House. Thus he was employed until 1900, when he bought twenty acres of land a quarter of a mile north of the city. It was entirely unimproved, but now he has it planted to orchard and vineyard. He now has nine acres of growing vines and about seven acres producing fine peaches and apricots. He was one of the first to settle on this sub-division. He has given special attention to poultry, raising fine chickens and ducks. His chickens are mostly thoroughbred buff and silver Wyandottes and Buff Orpingtons, his ducks are Indian Runners and Pekins. He has imported thoroughbred stock from the east for breeding purposes and hatches about five hundred ducks and as many chickens each year. At the state fair at Sacramento he has presented exhibits for four years and at local fairs throughout the state from time to time and has taken numerous prizes of many kinds.

July 13, 1882, Mr. Heusel married Mary L. O'Brien and they have five daughters: Jessie is the wife of W. L. Peers, a native of Colorado, and they live at Oakland. Irma married Walter Tandrow of San Francisco. Nora, Bernice and Muriel are members of their parents' household. In 1911 Mr. Heusel built a fine residence on his place, and until that date lived in Hanford in the home he erected, 214 West Ivy street, which he still owns. He is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and passed the chairs of the subordinate lodge while a resident of Wichita, Kans. As a citizen he is helpfully public-spirited.

FREDERICK M. CARLISLE

A progressive Tulare county farmer who has lived in the vicinity of Ducor since 1883 is Frederick M. Carlisle. He was born in Tennessee in 1852 and was a son of Wiley H. Carlisle, a native of North Carolina, who came to California in 1900 and died in 1906. When he was thirty years old Mr. Carlisle left Tennessee and during the succeeding three years lived in Texas. On coming to Tulare county he homesteaded land which is included in his present holdings. His ranch, which is located about one mile from Ducor, is a five-hundred-acre property, well improved and under systematic cultivation. He raised grain until two years ago, but is now giving his attention to fruit. He long kept an average of forty head of horses and mules, but has sold off much of his stock and in season operates a threshing machine.

In 1876 Mr. Carlisle married Elizabeth Haley, a native of Mississippi, whose father came to California and lived out his days here, her mother having died in Mississippi. Mrs. Carlisle has borne her husband nine children, six of whom are living: Joseph Node, born in Tennessee, is married and lives in Sacramento county. Eva M. (Mrs. Van Valkingburge) resides in Tulare county. Jessie H., who married A. F. Welsh, is living near Ducor. Viola E., who married Charles Hughes, lives in Ducor. Clarence M. and Clyde F. are in school.

As school trustee and as clerk of the school board Mr. Carlisle has done efficient and praiseworthy service to the community. He has never sought public office, but has well-defined opinions on all political questions, and his active interest entitles him to a place in the front rank of progressive citizens. Fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

MANUEL B. LEMOS

A native of one of the Azores, Manuel B. Lemos was born December 11, 1860, in the home of a farmer. When he was twenty-two years old he came to the United States, and for sixteen months after his arrival was employed on a farm near Providence, R. I. Coming to California, he stopped a short time in San Francisco, then went to Fresno, where he worked six years on a ranch. The succeeding two years he passed in the sheep business, which in his hands was so extensive that at one time he and his partner, Manuel Silva Gualarte, had fourteen hundred sheep. Selling his interest in this venture, he did ranch work again for a while, then with a partner he handled

sheep for eleven years. By this time he had done so well financially that he was able to take a trip to the land of his birth.

Returning to Hanford in 1898 Mr. Lemos bought the forty-acre ranch which is now his home property, two miles north of the city. All the improvements on the farm, including his comfortable house, he has put on since then. In 1905 he bought forty acres adjoining his first purchase of his brother, John B. Lemos. He has eight acres in vine and twelve in orchard, and the remainder of his land, except what he devotes to general farming, is under alfalfa. His principal business is the raising of hogs and sheep, but he breeds horses and cows for use on his place.

In September, 1896, Mr. Lemos married Maria Clara Cardoza in Hanford, and she has borne him ten children. Those living are: John, Bento, Frank, Andrea, Manuel, Joseph and Tony, the first-mentioned four being students in the public school. Manuel, the first born, died aged eight years, and Bento died aged fifteen months. Mr. Lemos affiliates with the I. D. E. S., of the interests of which society he is a liberal supporter. Though of foreign birth, he is a loyal American and his public spirit has impelled him to do much for the general benefit of his community.

PERRY C. PHILLIPS

A pioneer of his section of the county of Kings that was last partitioned from Fresno county, as well as one of the successful men who are now residents of the county, is Perry C. Phillips, who was born on April 7, 1838, in Gibson county, Ind. His schooling was limited to a brief attendance at the common schools in the vicinity of his home and he early gained experience in farming as it was carried on there. In 1854 he crossed the plains with ox-teams and located at Grizzly Hill, Nevada county, engaging in mining for a time. In 1860 he came to the San Joaquin valley and settled in Fresno county, locating on his present home place on October 23 of that year. Visalia, twenty-five miles distant, was the principal trading place. He first bought eighty acres of land upon which is now located his home, and by subsequent purchases increased his holdings until he is now the owner of about four thousand acres. Nearly all of this is fertile soil; twenty acres are now in fruit, the balance in alfalfa and grain for general farming purposes, and he makes a specialty of raising hogs.

In the early days of the irrigation movement Mr. Phillips became prominent and was one of the men of foresight who saw that by the construction of ditches to carry the water from the river a large area

of unproductive land could be converted into one of the world's garden spots. How well he and his associates planned the history of this whole region testifies. He was for a year a director of the People's Ditch Company, and as a citizen he has ever had in view the greatest good to the greatest number, firm in the belief that the prosperity of one is the prosperity of all, and he has been ready at all times to respond to any call on behalf of the uplift and development of the community.

Mr. Phillips was united in marriage April 29, 1860, at Vacaville, Solano county, with Elizabeth Hildebrand, born in Shelby county, Ind., October 22, 1840. She came to California in 1853 with her parents, who settled first in Sierra county and later lived at Grizzly Hill, where she first met Mr. Phillips. After their marriage they came that fall to Fresno county and settled on their present home place. They had eight children: Florence E., wife of E. D. Morton; Martha L., wife of W. D. Runyon; Carrie W., the wife of L. L. Lowe; Ada B.; Dora E., deceased; George H.; Robert H., and Oscar L., all born, reared and educated in central California. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are the last of the pioneers in this section of the county.

W. C. MACFARLANE

A native of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, W. C. Macfarlane was born June 3, 1868, and now is proprietor of the Richland Egg Ranch, at Hanford, Kings county, Cal. He went to Chicago when a lad and learned the printer's trade and finally engaged in business on his own account. He came to Hanford from Chicago in 1886 and for a time worked at his trade in this vicinity. His second claim to distinction is his prominence in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In the fall of 1911 he organized the lodge at Hanford and served as its Esteemed Leading Knight. February 16, 1891, he married Miss Mary Sevier, of Visalia, who has a son, Harry C. Macfarlane.

Writing, two or three years ago, of the beginning of his egg enterprise, Mr. Macfarlane said: "About eighteen years ago I traded a scrub calf for three dozen scrub hens, and the first month they netted me \$15. That caused me to 'sit up and take notice.' I then purchased a few settings of Brown Leghorn eggs and raised that breed for a few years; but finally discarded them for the White Leghorns, as they are a larger bird, lay larger eggs and as pullets get to laying a marketable sized egg much sooner than their brown sisters." His original White Leghorns were "bred to lay," but he improved the strain by the use of trap-nests, and constant work and breeding produced birds that laid as many as two hundred and twenty-seven eggs

in a year. Hens showing a record approaching this were yarded for breeding. Until five or six years ago he never offered or advertised eggs or birds for sale, and even now will not sell a female from the two hundred and twenty-seven stock, but is in the market with male birds and eggs. He confined his breeding to hens laying one hundred and ninety-two to two hundred and twenty-seven eggs a year and has increased his size of birds and eggs so that they are larger and more vigorous than the average Leghorn. Pullets from the high-grade layers were laying when fifteen weeks old and pullets from the one hundred and ninety-two egg strain were laying two weeks later.

The Richland Egg Ranch, four miles northwest of Hanford, comprises ten acres, its soil is good and it is watered by the People's Ditch. Mr. Macfarlane improved the place by building a small house and soon afterward planted part of his original five acres to peaches and sowed the remainder to alfalfa. When he was well started in the poultry business, he named the place the Richland Egg Ranch. A practical man of mechanical mind, he has done much of his own building and the ranch shows care and the painstaking work of a practical owner. The buildings are simple in construction, but neat and attractive. Under the sign bearing the name of the place stands the brooder, a building with a ground area of thirty-six by one hundred and twelve feet, which houses about twenty-five hundred pure bred White Leghorn chicks from a few days to a few weeks old. The brooder is fitted with thirty-two runs and is heated with nine gas heaters by which the temperature is kept at ninety degrees for the younger chicks down to seventy degrees for the older ones, according to season. Mr. Macfarlane averages a loss of but five per cent, leaving ninety-five per cent for successful breeding and maturing, notwithstanding many scientific poultrymen have a loss of fifty per cent. The incubators turn out fully ninety-four per cent of the fertile eggs and Mr. Macfarlane is able to keep the chicks alive and growing after they come out of the incubators. His brooders are devised on a plan of his own, adopted after he had visited all the principal poultry farms of the state, and the part under the mother boards is cleaned daily, the runways twice a week. During the first ten days of their life the chicks are fed on Richland Ten Day Chick Feed, a preparation of Mr. Macfarlane's own, and after ten days they are placed on a diet of meat, blood, bone, bran and barley, a food that stimulates the body growth of the fowls so that the feather growth does not impair its healthfulness. Pure water is furnished to the chicks in stone fountains. When they are ready to leave the brooder they are placed in yards laid out in a peach orchard, which furnishes the necessary shade. Each yard is watered automatically by means of pipe and automatic fountains and there are no puddles or mud holes.

Mr. Macfarlane breeds entirely for eggs. All the product from

October to July he sells for hatching purposes, usually taking up six or seven hundred eggs daily. He ships hens and cocks as far east as New York and as far west as the Hawaiian Islands. He sells about twelve hundred birds a year. Breeding only White Leghorns, he has taken first premium on his showings at the county fair for several years past. His four-story tank house, which cost \$500, was built with the profits of one season's broilers. His yards measure one hundred by one hundred and sixty-five feet and he never keeps more than eighty birds in one yard; and he never feeds any kind of food on the ground, but uses troughs for the soft food and hoppers for grain. Some information concerning the prices he receives will be of interest in this connection. For males from the one hundred and ninety-two egg strain he gets \$3.50 to \$5 each, age and appearance causing difference in price. For males from the two hundred and twenty to the two hundred and twenty-seven egg strain, \$7 each. For females, from April until sold, \$1.25 each; these, being hens in their second season, are the best breeders, especially when mated with a two hundred and twenty-seven cockerel; no females of the two hundred and twenty to two hundred and twenty-seven egg strain are sold. For eggs from selected trap-nested layers that pass the one hundred and ninety-two mark, \$2 for fifteen, \$7 for one hundred, \$70 for one thousand, delivered at the Hanford express office. He now offers settings from hens that have records of two hundred and twenty to two hundred and twenty-seven at \$4 for fifteen, or \$25 for one hundred. Having increased the number of birds of this class, he can supply settings in greater numbers than in previous seasons.

On his ranch Mr. Macfarlane now has three thousand White Leghorn chickens. In December, 1911, he received the largest order for eggs for hatching purposes ever given in California and at the highest price—two hundred and twenty-five thousand eggs at seven cents an egg. This great order came from Petaluma, Cal. He ships eggs in lots of fifteen hundred and twelve, for which he receives \$100 a lot. Mr. Macfarlane thanks his White Leghorns for a ranch worth \$10,000, a business block in Hanford worth \$30,000 and considerable other valuable property. All printing of catalogues is done by himself on his ranch, and he is now using his fifth press.

PETER THOMSON

Cattle raising has been the chief industry of Peter Thomson, who is numbered among the most progressive citizens of his community. Born in Sweden in 1844, he came to the United States when he was fifteen years old and arriving in New York he enlisted in the

United States navy and served one year, at the end of which he received honorable discharge. After that until 1870 he was employed on vessels sailing to different parts of the world, but in that year he landed at San Francisco, where he remained about twelve months. Then he worked in the redwood forests in Mendocino county for three years, later coming to Tulare county. In 1875 in partnership with L. W. Howeth, he went into the sheep business, and since then he has at times owned as many as three thousand sheep in a single band. He did not dispose of this interest until 1894. During the time of his connection with this enterprise he saw many of the ups and downs of sheep raising—of the sheep bought in 1875 most were lost. One of his largest purchases after that was in 1879, when he added two thousand to his flock. He now devotes his attention to cattle, of which he has about two hundred head. He owns six hundred and forty acres of land, which he judiciously devotes to various features of modern farming as it has been developed in this part of California. He feels grateful to the country at large for what it has done for him and more especially to central California for the opportunities of which he has so wisely taken advantage, and as he has prospered he has always tried in an unselfish, loyal way to make some returns to the community for the benefit he has received from it.

It was in 1889 that Mr. Thomson married Miss Eleanora Thaden, a native of Germany, who has borne him five children, four of whom are living. Lyla attends the State Normal at San Jose and will graduate in 1913. Ernest is at home and aiding in the conduct of the home farm. Beattie is a student in the Porterville high school. Olga attends school at White River. George E. is deceased.

HIRAM L. PARKER

It was in that mother state of the Middle West, Ohio, that Hiram L. Parker was born May 25, 1849. He was taken to Iowa by his parents when two years of age and there he was reared to manhood and educated, and in 1870, when he was about twenty-one years old, he came to California and located in Yolo county, not far from Woodland. There for seventeen years he raised grain and stock with increasing success and gained a financial start. He came to Hanford, Kings county, in 1887, and bought eighty acres of land which is now included in his homestead. He planted ten acres of it to vines in 1888 and the rest of the ranch was devoted chiefly to grain and alfalfa. In 1890 he planted thirty-five acres to peaches, apricots and prunes, in the proportion of twenty-seven, five and three acres, respectively. Eventually he sold forty acres and bought eighty acres more in the

same section. Of the latter tract fifteen acres is in alfalfa, the remainder in fruit. He sold it in 1912 to E. J. Hummel at \$400 an acre. In 1907 he bought twenty acres adjoining his homestead and planted it with peach trees. His last purchase was another twenty acres, which lies south of his homestead in the same section. It is now utilized for general farming, but he intends later on to devote it to fruit. His expenditures in fitting up his home ranch have been heavy, including the cost of buildings, fences, trees, machinery and appliances. His original house was destroyed by fire and he immediately built a new one on its site.

Aside from his farming, Mr. Parker has some other important interests, having been associated with others in the production of oil in the Lost Hills district, the general development of which is now being promoted. He is a stockholder also in the Lilian Oil Company.

In 1909 Mr. Parker married Mrs. Ella (Harris) Fraser. By a former marriage he has children as follows: Mrs. Nellie Hummel; Mrs. Mettie Moorehouse; and A. C. Parker, of San Jose. Mrs. E. E. Brooks, of San Francisco; Mrs. Clarence Kemp, of Lakeport; and Bruce Fraser, of Lake county, are Mrs. Parker's children by her former marriage. Mr. Parker's enterprise along the lines of private business is equaled only by his public-spirited helpfulness in all movements for the general good.

A. J. SALLADAY

In the Buckeye State, in 1854, was born A. J. Salladay, a prominent citizen of Tulare county and an enthusiastic promoter of the interests of Terrabella and its tributary territory. When he was twelve years old he was taken to Iowa by his parents on their removal to that state, and there he remained eighteen years, until 1884, when he came to California and settled in Fresno county. After a residence of two years there he removed to Tulare county, within the borders of which he has since made his home. It was in Ohio and Iowa that he obtained his education. His father was a rancher and all through his boyhood and youth the son was his assistant. When he left Iowa in 1884 he took up the battle of life for himself, buying forty acres of land in Fresno county, which he subsequently sold. In Tulare county he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, to which he added by subsequent purchases until he owned a whole section, which he sold a few months ago for \$42,000, it being good producing wheat land. There is food for thought in this brief statement of the success of a self-made man. It was dependent not alone on industry and perse-

verance, but not a little on a prophetic foresight which took account of values past and present and future.

In 1885 Mr. Salladay married Sophia Carr, a native of Iowa, and they have had four children, all of whom are living. Nita married J. B. Garver and lives at Terrabella. Sarah became the wife of Henry Owens and lives in the same neighborhood. Joe is unmarried, and Carr is a boy of five years. Mrs. Salladay's parents, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, are living in California. Mr. Salladay's father, also of Ohio birth, died soon after his son came to Tulare county. The latter remembers the country then as only a boundless sheep range, and he has watched and aided in its development until it has become famous as the citrus belt of California. When he came here the people did not dream of this latter day prosperity based on irrigation, and farmers were subject to all the vicissitudes of the seasons. Patriotic and helpful to an unusual degree, Mr. Salladay is not an active politician and has never consented to accept any public office except as a member of the school board, the duties of which his interest in general education has impelled him to undertake.

BYRON ALLEN

This native son of California, of Tulare county and of Visalia was born October 10, 1868, was brought up by his stepfather, James W. Oakes, and after leaving school was associated with him in the cattle business. Later he went to Arizona, New Mexico and Old Mexico on a prospecting tour, then, returning to Visalia, he again engaged in the breeding of cattle and horses; for, after all he had seen, ranching looked more promising than mining. Since the death of Mr. Oakes he has had the management of the interests left by the latter and is making a success that is notable among the many successes in his vicinity. With two hundred and eighty acres of land, he is making a specialty of the raising of fine blooded horses. Cattle also command his attention, he having a range of two thousand acres in the mountains and keeping year after year about two hundred and fifty head of beef cattle, a hundred and fifty hogs and forty turkeys. A feature of his home farm is a large family orchard, one of the most productive in the neighborhood.

In 1904 Mr. Allen married Miss Della Carter, daughter of an early settler in Tulare county. Fraternally he affiliates with the Eagles and the Woodmen. As a citizen he takes an intelligent interest in all questions of national or local significance and as a voter does his whole duty by helping to elect to office the men who will best

serve the interests of the people. His public spirit, many times tested, has never been found wanting either in spontaneity or in generosity, for he has near to his heart the uplift and prosperity of the community.

CAPT. ROBERT M. ASKIN

As citizen, soldier, artisan, merchant and official, Capt. Robert M. Askin of Visalia won prominence among his fellowmen. He was born in Dublin, Ireland, April 10, 1838, and died at his home in Tulare county January 1, 1908. John Askin, his father, an Englishman transplanted to the Emerald Isle, became a plumber under his father's instruction and worked at his trade in Ireland as long as he lived. He was married in Ireland to Miss Sarah Sophia Shea, a Dublin girl, who bore him five children, of whom Robert M. was the third in order of birth, and of whom two sons and two daughters grew to maturity.

In November, 1852, Robert M., seeking fortune in a new land before he was fifteen years old, crossed the Atlantic and joined an uncle at Trenton, Canada, where he gave about two years to learning the tinner's trade. From 1854 to 1856 he worked at his trade in Jefferson county, N. Y., whence he went to New York City at the request of another uncle. Three years later he was working at his trade in St. Louis, Mo., but he soon went with a Mr. Crippen to Steelville, Crawford county, that state, where he established a tinsmith's shop, which he operated until the fall of 1861. On September 6, 1861, he became a member of Company E of the Phelps Regiment, with which he served six months, during which he witnessed the battle of Pea Ridge. Receiving honorable discharge at the end of his term of enlistment, he re-enlisted in Company E, Thirty-second Missouri Infantry, August 14, 1862. From a private he was promoted in the following October to lieutenant, and April 14, 1864, he was commissioned captain. He served under Grant until 1863 and afterward until the end of the war under Sherman. It is somewhat remarkable that while he participated gallantly in thirty-two engagements he never missed a roll-call or a meal with his company and received but one wound, a mere scratch by a ball while he was charging on a battery at Jonesboro, Ga. He was mustered out of the service July 18, 1865, returned to Steelville, Mo., and worked as a tinner and sold hardware. In 1870 he moved to Cuba, Crawford county, Mo., and in 1878 to Salem, Dent county, Mo., where he dealt in hardware and house furnishing goods for twenty-one years. From his young manhood he was an active

Republican, and for a term he held the office of presiding justice of the county court and he served as postmaster of Salem by appointment of President Harrison. From the time of his arrival in California until his death he had his residence and business headquarters at Visalia.

Captain Askin married, February 22, 1866, Clara Alice Jameson, a native of Missouri, who bore him four children: Charles Robert and Mary Catherine are dead; William C. lives in Missouri; John Herbert was connected with his father in business at Visalia and is still a resident of that city. Mrs. Askin died at Cuba, Crawford county, Mo., April 12, 1876, and Captain Askin married (second) in that town Miss Frances Amelia Shephard, of New York birth, and they had children, Arthur Wesley, Adney Horace, Mervyn Leroy, Matie Amelia and Flora Dell. Captain Askin was a constituent member of the post of the Grand Army of the Republic at Salem, Mo., and on coming to Visalia transferred his membership to Gen. George Wright Post No. 111, of that city. In religious affiliation he was an Episcopalian and the surviving members of his family are communicants of that church. At Salem he was active in the work of the Masonic lodge and commandery and in that of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Wherever he lived he was in a public-spirited way devoted to the uplift of his community, and in this respect his son is following in his footsteps, giving generous encouragement to every movement at Visalia for the good of any considerable class of the people.

GEORGE BRIDGES

California is a field peculiarly alluring to young men of states further east, who, having good health and good character, are determined to prosper by their own efforts. This is proven by a glance at the facts in the life thus far of George Bridges, a prosperous farmer and dairyman near Visalia, Tulare county. Mr. Bridges was born in Morton county, Ind., March 3, 1867, and there he attended the public schools and gained a practical knowledge of farming as it was then carried on in his vicinity. In 1884, when he was seventeen years old, he came to California. His original settlement here was at a point west of Visalia, and eventually he bought ten acres of land near the Shirk ranch, which he still owns, and where for nine years he grew alfalfa. Then he rented a part of the Frans ranch, forty acres, east of Visalia. There he cultivated alfalfa and installed a dairy of thirteen cows, besides raising some vegetables. The following year he rented the Smith ranch of three hundred and twenty acres and increased his dairy to one of twenty-five cows, giving attention to alfalfa

and devoting an adequate portion of his land to pasturage. After living there a year he moved to his present residence, two hundred and twenty six acres of the old Patterson ranch, northeast of Visalia, which tract he has since operated under lease. At this time he has ninety eight acres in alfalfa, owns one hundred head of hogs and beef cattle and has a dairy of fifty cows. Thus, from a small beginning and not under the most favorable circumstances, he has developed a fine, growing business which stamps him as a man of ability and enterprise and holds much promise for his future.

In 1890 Mr. Bridges married Miss Mary F. Stokes, a native of Tulare county, where her father, Yancy Stokes, was an early settler, and they have four children: Flora May, Stella L., wife of Roy Switzer, George M., and Zelta E. Mr. Bridges is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, devoted to all its interests. He is a man of considerable public spirit, always ready to do his part for the advancement of any measure for the general good of his community.

ARTHUR P. HUBBS

It was in Porterville, Tulare county, Cal., that Arthur Preston Hubbs was born in 1870, a son of James Robert Hubbs. He was educated in the schools of Porterville and in the Mountain View school, and in his youth assisted his father in the latter's stock farming. The elder Hubbs came across the plains in 1840 with his father, making the journey with ox-teams, and later he and his father owned thousands of acres of land which they bought cheaply and sold while land was yet a drug on the market, and they operated extensively in stock while the stock business was only in its infancy. When Arthur Hubbs first saw the site of Porterville it was wild land without a building, and he remembers Springville when its condition was no less primitive. He has watched and assisted in the development of the country and observes its present prosperity with the just pride of the pioneer. At one time he served the community with ability as constable, and he remembers that being a constable then was not the peaceable undertaking that it is today. In all the years of his residence here he has always been ready in a public-spirited way to assist any movement proposed for the general good. Fraternally he affiliates with the Court of Honor, of which his wife also is a member.

In 1895 Mr. Hubbs married Miss Olla Doty, a native daughter of California, and they have had three children, Delpha, Gladys and Lawrence. Delpha and Gladys are in school. Mrs. Hubbs' father was a pioneer in California and is still living in Tulare county, where he was long a stockman. So extensive were his operations in that line that

he once owned a fifteen hundred and twenty acre stock range which he bought at two dollars an acre and sold later at six dollars. Some years ago he went into the livery business and now he is the proprietor of an up-to-date stable at Springville, Cal., which is one of the best appointed and most profitable in this part of the country.

ISAAC T. HALFORD

On October 10, 1848, in Moniteau county, Mo., Isaac T. Halford was born, the eldest of twelve children born to L. R. and Hester (Coale) Halford, both natives of Missouri. L. R. Halford was the son of Kentuckians and he passed away in Missouri, where also his wife died. In 1866 the family moved to Henry county, Mo., and there Isaac T. Halford worked on a farm and attended school until he reached the age of eighteen years. Two years later he was in the cattle business in Texas, whence he returned to Henry county, Mo., to engage in the mercantile business in Coalesburg, and continued in it successfully until in 1885, when he sold out. In 1887 he came to California and located at Orange, in Orange county, remaining for two years, and then moved to Porterville, Tulare county, which has since been his home. Opening a general merchandise store, he conducted it for a while and later engaged in stock raising. After forty-two years of active business life he retired to enjoy a three years' rest, and December 27, 1912, with Stephen D. Halford, his brother, he bought the grocery business conducted by Wilko Mentz, and they are now conducting the business under the firm name of Halford Bros. Mr. Halford has bought property in Porterville and improved it and has in different ways manifested a helpful interest in the town. While a citizen of Coalesburg, Henry county, Mo., he held the office of postmaster seven years, and at another time he was a deputy sheriff. Though he has wielded a political influence in Tulare county, he has never consented to hold office. Fraternally he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Encampment. He was a charter member of his lodge and has for some time served as its secretary. Mrs. Halford is a Rebekah. When he began business in Porterville there was not a brick building in the town, and his was the fourth store in operation.

In 1878 Mr. Halford married Cornelia Holston, a native of Tennessee. They have no children, but they have an adopted son, D. Wrinkle, born December 24, 1902, who has been a member of their family since he was three years old. Before her marriage Mrs. Halford was a teacher in the State Normal school at Kirksville, Mo.

JOSEPH WILLIAM HOMER

Born in England, the late Joseph William Homer early settled in New York, whence, while yet a young man, he went to New Harmony, Posey county, Ind. His father, Richard Homer, and other members of his family came to America also and lived in Indiana, where Richard died. After that event Joseph William Homer went down the Ohio river and enlisted for service in the United States army for service in the Mexican war, in which he did duty as a soldier about a year. Returning to Indiana, he later came through Arkansas and Texas and thence west to Los Angeles, and soon engaged in stock raising at Visalia in partnership with his brother-in-law, Ira Van Gordon. Later he lived a mile north of Farmersville, with stock-raising as his principal occupation. When he first came to California the Indians were very troublesome, and he assisted in the construction of a fort for the protection of women and children. He was a pioneer also in the construction of irrigation ditches and was in one way or another connected with many important movements and enterprises. He was well educated, spoke the Spanish language fluently, and taught his own children before schools were established. He voted at the historic local election held under the oak tree. He continued to live at his home at Three Rivers until 1879, when his long and useful life came to an end.

Mr. Homer married Miss Martha Balaam, a native of Kentucky, who bore him these children: Catherine R., S. Ellen, Truman J., Edward B., Thomas and Anna M. Catherine R. married James S. Price, and they have a son, Charles, and a daughter, Alta Florence. S. Ellen married John Hambright, whose parents were among California pioneers, and they have eight children. Truman J. married Alice Rice and they have a child, Carrol S. Edward B. married Anna Swank, and they have five daughters and live near Orange Heights. Thomas married Matilda Mehrten and they have two sons. Anna M. married Harvey Hodges, of Dinuba, and bore him one son.

With Jackson Price, his father, James S. Price, then only about six months old, came overland from Kansas to California in 1863. Later the family removed to Oregon, whence the younger Price eventually came to California, where he has won success as a dairyman and as a stock-raiser. He bought twenty acres of land at \$200 an acre and has three and a half acres under trees and vines, the remainder under alfalfa. He has recently sold seventy head of stock, but keeps an average of forty head and about one hundred head of Duroc hogs. Not long ago he sold a male pig for \$15. His cattle are of the Holstein breed. Politically he is Republican and his wife is a Progressive Republican. He very ably fills the office of postmaster at Orange Heights. He is an Odd Fellow, a Forester of America, a

Woodman of America and a member of the Order of Loyal Protection. Mrs. Price, formerly a member of the Women of Woodcraft, is identified with Rebekah Lodge of San Luis Obispo county.

S. C. KIMBALL

A successful merchant and financier of Hanford who is well known here for his exceptional business ability and honorable methods is S. C. Kimball, who was born in Barton, Vt., March 24, 1859. He was educated in the public schools and at the Eastman Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Meantime he early entered business life, and from the time he was seventeen until he was twenty-one years old he traveled through the New England states, buying wool in carload lots and establishing agencies for fertilizers. In this period he opened a general merchandise store at Albany, Vt., where he gained his first experience as a merchant. In 1889 he went to Puyallup, Wash., and there sold drygoods for six years, then returned to Vermont for the benefit of his health. He opened a drygoods store at Barton Landing and incidentally engaged in the flour, feed and grain trade to a large extent, having six agencies with one to five carloads of feed and grain on the track all the time during the shipping season. Meanwhile he bought and conducted his grandparents' old farm. Though he was doing well, he was longing for the west and he sold out his interests in Vermont and came to California, and by advice of wholesalers of his acquaintance, located, in 1903, in Hanford. Here he opened a drygoods store on the site of the present city market, taking over the old Hutchins stock. His small initial business was the forerunner of greater things and in a year and a half he moved to his present site at the corner of Seventh and Douty streets, moving into the ground-floor story of the building he now occupies. His store space was 125x35 feet; later he leased an adjoining building, acquiring an additional space of 25x100 feet, and not long afterward added to his establishment the second floor of the original building. In October, 1911, he opened two branch stores, one at Lemoore, the other at Exeter. In the first he sells drygoods and shoes, in the other drygoods only. His sons, Raymond C., Hugh A. and H. C. Kimball, are associated with him in business. H. C. Kimball is secretary of the New York department store and manager of the Lemoore branch store. The stocks of the three stores embrace general drygoods, cloaks, suits, carpets, shoes and men's furnishings, tinware, glassware, agateware and stationery.

In addition to his large department store, Mr. Kimball is be-

coming largely interested in banking throughout Tulare and Fresno counties. In the spring of 1910, associated with Chester Dowell, he organized the Lindsay National bank, of Lindsay, Cal., of which he was made the first president, and in February, 1911, he bought the First National bank of Exeter and was made president of that also. His sons are married and settled in Kings county, their financial interest in his business dating from June, 1911. Mr. Kimball is president of the First National bank of Exeter and the National bank of Orosi, the latter being capitalized at \$25,000 and opening its doors in February, 1913. He is a director of the Fowler National bank at Fowler, Cal., capitalized at \$50,000 which started its business also in February, 1913. He is largely interested in the Golden State's Security Co., Inc., of Exeter, capitalized at \$50,000, their holdings being practically all orange lands. This company has a bright future and handles twenty and forty acre tracts, and as director of this corporation Mr. Kimball is an active element.

In 1908 Mr. Kimball bought the Dr. Holmes fruit ranch, a mile west of Hanford, which he has converted into a fine estate. Besides this twenty acres he bought twenty-five acres near the city limits, all in orchard and vineyard. In 1912, with A. W. Quinn and two others, he bought nine hundred acres of orange land in the orange belt, four miles from Exeter, which they intend to improve.

A. W. PHELPS

Near Sheboygan Falls, Wis., A. W. Phelps, who lives north of Dinuba in Tulare county, Cal., was born June 24, 1862, a son of Benjamin and Matilda (Humes) Phelps, and lived there until he was nine years old, when he was taken by his parents to Missouri. There the family home was located directly across the road from that of the Samuels, mother and stepfather of the James boys, famous in outlaw history of the west.

The Phelpses, who were pioneers in Wisconsin, became pioneers in Oregon in 1875, settling near Salem and Silverton, in Marion county, where the family lived twenty-one years and where the father died, aged eighty-five. In 1896 A. W. Phelps came to California and located in Tulare county. He leases ten acres belonging to Mrs. Latin and another tract of twenty acres, and has four acres and a half in peaches and three in Malaga vines. As a farmer, considering the extent of his operations, he is achieving a marked success.

Mr. Phelps' experience as a pioneer in several states was replete with interest. On one occasion in Tulare county he wandered from the road on his way to a dance and came upon two young lions, and

while he was considering the advisability of capturing and making pets of them he was startled by beholding in the near vicinity a five-legged double-hoofed Jersey calf. How these strange animals came to be there or whether or not he took them home with him he did not inform his interviewer. Perhaps he left them because he was more anxious to attend the dance than to begin the collection of a menagerie. In the early days he saw many droves of elk and was successful in deer-stalking.

In his politics Mr. Phelps is an independent Republican. Fraternally he affiliates with the Maccabees. He married in Kingsburg, Tulare county, Miss Emma Peterson, a native of Kansas, and they have children named Minnie, Gracie and Eva. Minnie has passed through the local grammar school.

BREWSTER S. GURNEE

In any survey of the substantial enterprises of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., the Gurnee planing-mill is certain to attract attention. Its output in windows, doors, mouldings and bank fixtures aggregates \$60,000 yearly. The guiding spirit of these enterprises is Brewster S. Gurnee, who came to Hanford from the city of Fresno in December, 1891. Born in Stony Point, Rockland county, N. Y., May 26, 1859, a son of Walter F. B. Gurnee and a grandson of Mathew Gurnee, natives of the Empire state, he traces his ancestry to one of the Pilgrim fathers. Walter F. B. Gurnee, a farmer and a brick manufacturer, served the Federal cause in the Civil war as a private soldier sixty days, then was sent home because of ill health and died in his fifty-sixth year. He married Mary M. Smith, also a native of New York state, who died at Rye, N. Y., at the age of seventy-six.

In the public school near his boyhood home Brewster S. Gurnee obtained such education as was available to him. His first business experience was in Washington, N. J., where he learned the organ maker's trade with the Beaty Organ company. Later he was employed in a piano factory at New York, but was constrained by his wife's failing health to give up his position there and remove to California. His first location here was at Fresno. After working in a planing-mill there for about a year, he became foreman in the large planing-mill of M. R. Madary, a position which he filled four years, when he bought a half interest in the establishment. After two years of successful business life, he sold his interest in the planing-mill, December, 1891, and came to Hanford, where he established himself in a prosperous manufacturing business. His suc-

cess, however, was not achieved without discouraging reverses. Besides his mill property he early acquired a fruit farm near Hanford, and during the panic of 1893-94 he lost both mill and farm; but in 1899, on borrowed capital, he again became owner of the same mill and has since operated it with profit. His first planing-mill in Hanford was a small affair covering a ground space of fifty by sixty-five feet. His plant now consists of two buildings, one covering a ground space of one hundred and twenty-five by one hundred and fifty feet, the other seventy-five by one hundred feet. The Gurnee mill is one of the best equipped in the lower San Joaquin valley and its manufactures are sold in all parts of California. It gives constant employment to thirty men.

The Republican party has in Mr. Gurnee a staunch member, but he has persistently refused to accept public office. Fraternally he affiliates with Hanford Lodge, No. 279, F. & A. M.; Hanford chapter, No. 74, R. A. M.; the Hanford organizations of Woodmen of the World and Knights of Pythias; and the Fresno lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Gurnee is no less popular in business and social circles than in these orders, and as a citizen he has never been found wanting in public spirit. He married Eugenia A. Van Valer, a native of Stony Point, N. Y., and they have had five children, one of whom died in infancy. The survivors are Mary, Minnie, Candace and Adelia. Mary is the wife of F. M. Vincent, residing at Niles, Cal. Minnie is the wife of A. R. Schimmell, residing near Tulare. Candace is the wife of W. H. Wilbur, residing at Alpaugh, Cal.

EUGENE A. LUCE

The population of California is made up very largely of men from other states of the Union and presents more distinct elements than almost any other state. Yet it is a melting-pot in which all immigrants are converted into out-and-out Californians. In local industries, from the railroad builder to the bank president, the citizen of New York birth has shown excellent qualities. One such is Eugene A. Luce, formerly a plumber at Visalia, now a rancher on the Exeter road, east of that city, a self-made man, who has won high repute in the community for all those qualities of mind and heart which make for good citizenship. Mr. Luce was born in Buffalo, N. Y., January 19, 1845, and when he was two years old his father died. He was reared and educated in his native state, and in the spring of 1870 came to California and opened a plumber's and tinsmith shop in Visalia. After a successful business there

of twenty years' duration, he sold out his plant and bought a ranch of eighty acres near that city. It was set out to fruit trees which he dug up to convert the place into a dairy ranch of fifty acres of alfalfa and thirty acres of wild feed. He is able to gather six crops of alfalfa each year without irrigation. A dairy of thirty cows is a feature of his enterprise and he keeps fifty hogs.

In 1907 Mr. Luce married Mrs. Metcalf, a native of Iowa, who has two children: Herman and Odell Metcalf. Mary E. Luce is a child by a former wife. Mr. Luce affiliates with the Visalia Grange and is a man of liberal public spirit.

EDWIN F. HART

Many Missourians have come to California and have been perfectly satisfied by their change of location. One such is Edwin F. Hart, of Farmersville, Tulare county. He was born in St. Charles, Mo., December 24, 1860, a son of Amos and Sarah W. (Logan) Hart, natives of Kentucky. He came to this state in 1882, when he was about twenty-two years old, and located in Tulare county. With his brother, he bought three hundred and fifty acres of land at Cottage, on the Mineral King road, where they engaged in hog raising. Three years later they sold the place and Mr. Hart bought his present farm of two hundred and forty acres near Farmersville, forty acres of which is in alfalfa, eight in peaches, ten in prunes and two in a family orchard. He does general farming and has a dairy of twenty-five cows. He owns also a cattle range of one hundred and sixty acres on the Tule river, near Woodville. Fine draft horses are among the products of his farms and he is part owner of an imported Percheron stallion.

Farming and stock-raising do not command Mr. Hart's entire time so as to exclude other interests. His public spirit has led him from time to time to take part in movements for the general benefit of the community. He is president of the Consolidated People's Ditch company and has been at the head of the corporation since 1894. The other officers are S. T. Pennybaker, vice-president; Bank of Visalia, treasurer; J. C. Lever, secretary. The water used in the system under consideration comes from the Kaweah river. The ditch dug by the old company was merged with the new one in the consolidation and was the first in the county. It was begun with nine short ditches in 1852 and was known as the Swanson ditch. It was enlarged from time to time down to 1860, and in 1864 the Consolidated company took it over, including it in its present system of five miles of ditches with numerous laterals, each of ten to

fifteen miles, making an aggregate of nearly one hundred miles. In the dry season of 1898 the company irrigated more than sixteen thousand acres of land. This enterprise is one of utmost local importance and, as has been seen, has commanded the best efforts of leading citizens in all periods of its history and now is in the hands of some of the best men in the county.

Socially Mr. Hart is identified with the Woodmen of the World and the Fraternal Aid. He married Miss Martha E. Frans, the daughter of a Tulare county pioneer, February 2, 1887, and they have seven children: Sarah F., a teacher in the Farmersville public schools; Charles E., who married Belle Hartsell; John H.; Rebecca E.; James V.; Homer S.; Ruth E. Sarah F. and Rebecca E. were graduated from the San Francisco Normal School. Mr. Hart is recognized not only as one of the successful men of the county but also as one of the most public spirited of those who are leaders in affairs of general import.

WILLIAM H. BRALY

In Missouri, in 1862, was born William H. Braly, who now makes his home at Ducor, Tulare county, Cal. When he was three months old his parents made the journey by ox-team to Oregon, and there he lived for eight years. Then coming to California he settled in Alameda county, where he grew up, finishing his studies and familiarizing himself with the details of farming. In 1886 he came to Tulare county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land that is a part of the Braly Brothers' ranch.

The father of the Braly Brothers, Shadrach Braly, was a native of Missonri, and died in 1892. Their mother, who was born in Kentucky, is living on the Braly homestead, passing her declining years amid the scenes of her active life. Her sons, W. H., S. W. and J. C. Braly, constitute the firm of Braly Brothers. Another of her sons, B. F. Braly, lives in this vicinity. Braly Brothers own twenty-two hundred and forty acres of land. While they have raised many horses and mules, they give their attention principally to grain. They have made their own way in the world by hard work and have proven their right to succeed by showing their willingness in a loyal way to contribute their full share toward the prosperity of the community. Their ranch, two and a half miles west of Ducor, is one of the show places of that part of the county. William H. Braly has served his fellow citizens as school trustee, but has never accepted any other office.

ELMER L. KITCHEL

In settling in a new country, the measure of one's success is not so much what one brings in as what one acquires. The man who comes with capital does not always keep it, and the man who comes empty-handed may live to fill his coffers. The citizen of Tulare county whose name is above, arrived with thirty cents cash in hand. How he has prospered it is the task of the writer here to narrate. Mr. Kitchel was born in Warren county, Iowa, May 6, 1870, a son of James and Aleysana (Webster) Kitchel, the former born in Illinois, the latter in Indiana. The family came to California in 1887 and lived at Antioch, Contra Costa county, and from there eventually came on to Tulare county.

Elmer L. Kitchel made his appearance in the county with the small sum mentioned, but he had more and something better—he had work in him, work that was for sale because he needed cash, work that was wanted because it was honest and thorough and effective. For two years after his arrival he was a wage earner, then he rented the Johnson & Levison ranch near Visalia, which embraced forty acres, devoted chiefly to fruit. After operating it three years he was able to come to the ranch which he still leases and which has come to be known as his home. It is the old Patterson ranch, northeast of Visalia, which includes ninety-five acres of cultivated land and one hundred and fifteen acres of pasture. There he has lived since 1906. When he came to the place it was badly run down. He got busy, cleaning up, cutting down sixty acres of dead fruit trees, converting the trees into four hundred and fifty-eight cords of wood. Ever since he has been improving the property, on which there are now twenty acres of flourishing prune trees which produced nine tons of dried fruit in 1911, which tested fifty-two and sold at six cents a pound. There is also a young orchard of thirteen acres of French prunes which came into bearing in 1912. In 1909 Mr. Kitchel had forty-five acres of Egyptian corn, which on threshing yielded ten hundred and seventy-five sacks, which he regarded as a very favorable showing. In 1911 he had fifteen acres of corn. Sixty acres of the ranch is devoted to alfalfa, which in 1912 yielded over eight tons to the acre for five cuttings. Ten acres of this was sown in December, 1910, forty-five in October, 1909. A feature is a dairy of twenty-five cows, all young stock, and there are on the place five Percheron mares from which Mr. Kitchel raises fine draft colts. The mares weigh respectively from fourteen hundred and fifty to seventeen hundred pounds. In 1912 Mr. Kitchel became a stockholder in the Visalia Co-operative creamery, and also owns stock in a Percheron stallion.

Socially, Mr. Kitchel is an Odd Fellow, affiliating with Four

Creek Lodge No. 94. In 1896 he married Minnie E. Hummel, daughter of Thomas and Florence A. (Hill) Hummel, both residents of Tulare county for the past forty years. She was born in Tulare county in that part now in Kings. Mr. and Mrs. Kitchel have four children: Ralph, George, Elmer W. and Hattie.

GEORGE L. BLISS

Near Visalia, Tulare county, Cal., George L. Bliss, the reliable abstract man of Hanford, was born January 24, 1866, a son of Henry F. Bliss, Sr., and his wife Roxey (Jordan) Bliss. His father was the first of this family of pioneers to settle in Central California. He was born in New York state, the son of a Presbyterian minister, whom he accompanied to Michigan.

Amid frontier conditions, in Allegan county, Mich., Henry F. Bliss, Sr., grew to manhood. In 1850 he came overland to California with an ox-team outfit and settled at Sonora for a short time, and later on settled in Tulare county and bought land six miles south of Visalia, which he sold later in order to buy a farm about a mile south of that town, where he built up extensive stock-raising interests. It was after he came here that he married Miss Jordan, a native of Texas, who had accompanied Frank Jordan, her father, to California. From girlhood her home was on the Pacific coast and she passed away at the home of her son, Henry F. Bliss, in her fifty-fourth year. Henry F. Bliss, Sr., died in Visalia in his fifty-eighth year. Of their children, William died in Visalia; Henry F. died in Visalia, in 1909; Charles E. is in Fresno; George L. is the subject of this notice; Irving is a dairyman at Bakersfield; J. H. is in the abstract business in Bakersfield; Mary, the eldest daughter, died in Visalia; Cora is in the abstract business at San Diego; Maggie, a graduate of the State Normal School at San Jose, married I. E. Wilson of Hanford; and Earl (Maggie's twin) is in the U. S. army, located at Vancouver, Wash.

In the public schools of Visalia George L. Bliss was educated and in 1885 he connected himself with the abstract business of his uncle, John F. Jordan, of the Visalia Abstract company. Eventually he was made deputy county clerk of Tulare county and served two years as city assessor of Visalia. Later he moved to Bakersfield, where he was employed in an abstract office; then, returning to Visalia, he was again connected with the Visalia Abstract company until July 5, 1899, when he took up his residence in Hanford. There he bought a branch of the Visalia Abstract company, which he has operated to the present time, now known as the Kings

County Abstract company. Meanwhile he has engaged in real estate business, and since 1899 has been interested in the development of oil lands in this part of the state. He is secretary of the Coalinga-Pacific Oil and Gas company. In company with Richard Mills, he has lately erected a new brick block on Eighth street opposite the courthouse, which he has made the headquarters of his abstract business and his rapidly growing real estate business.

A man of public spirit, as well as of private enterprise, Mr. Bliss has done much for the development of Kings county. Fraternally he affiliates with Hanford lodge, Knights of Pythias. In 1890 he married Miss Hattie Beville, a native of Georgia. Their children are Iris M., Georgia J. and William Payson Bliss.

M. F. SINGLETON

Back in Indiana, a state from which many men have come to California to find here signal successes, M. F. Singleton, of Ducor, Tulare county, Cal., was born in 1862. When he was about twenty-two years old he went to Kansas, where he remained but a short time, coming on to California and arriving in Tulare county August 27, 1884. Such education as was available to him he obtained in public schools in the Hoosier state, but as he was obliged to go to work for a living when he was fifteen years old his literary training was necessarily not very liberal. He came to the county alone and for four years worked by the day as a farm hand, and his first land was a homestead of eighty acres, which he took up soon after he came. By later purchases he has acquired five other eighty-acre tracts and now owns four hundred and eighty acres. At one time his holdings included other land which brought them up to a total of six hundred and eighty acres. He is now raising grain in goodly quantities, being located six miles from Ducor.

In 1888 Mr. Singleton married Miss Eva J. Hunsaker, a native of Tulare county, who died in 1898. In 1902 he married Miss Clara E. Gibbons. By his first marriage he had five children, Claude F., Louis L., Nettie E., Elsie and Nora. Fraternally Mr. Singleton affiliates with Porterville lodge, No. 359, I. O. O. F., and with the Porterville organization of the Woodmen of the World. While he is not a practical politician and has never sought office, he was, in 1910, elected to represent the fifth district of Tulare county in the board of supervisors. This is said to be the largest and wealthiest district of the county. He has never accepted any other official position, but he is not without honor as a public-spirited citizen and as a self-made man, who having begun at the very bottom of the

ladder of success, has gained eminence in a fair and square struggle for advancement in which he has always been willing to give generous aid and honorable dealing. In the days before he was himself a landowner he was instrumental in inducing a well-known farmer to have a well put down on his place. It is worthy of note that this well was the first in the Ducor district for agricultural purposes.

W. D. TREWHITT

This prominent contractor and builder of Hanford, Kings county, favorably known throughout Central California, was born at Cleveland, Bradley county, Tenn. When he was twelve years old he became a resident of Fort Worth, Tex., and there while still quite young, served an apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade. He worked ten years there, then went to New Orleans, La., whence he came to Hanford in 1886. Here he has been busy as a contractor and builder, the majority of his buildings being handsome brick structures, among which are: the First National Bank, Emporium, Vendome Hotel, the New Opera House, the Sharples, Knowell, Bush and Kutner-Goldstein buildings, the Episcopal and Presbyterian churches, the Axtell block and the Slight & Garwood, Childress & Nunes, Kennedy & Robinson, Chittenden-Flory, Robinson, E. Rollins and Buck buildings, and the Hanford ice plant, all in Hanford; many fine structures in Fresno, Exeter, Porterville, Lemoore, Visalia and San Francisco; a bank building in Patterson, Stanislaus county, a \$50,000 apartment house in Fresno, a \$20,000 addition to the Burnette Sanitarium in Fresno, a \$40,000 addition to the court house in Visalia, a \$20,000 grammar school building at Visalia, the Mt. Whitney Power company's building in Visalia, the Hyde block in Visalia, high school buildings at Tulare and Porterville, grammar school buildings in Lindsay, Exeter and Fresno, a \$50,000 school building at Coalinga and some business blocks in Lemoore. One of his notable residences is that of D. R. Cameron in Hanford. The Hanford Sanitarium, the Delano high school, the high school at Visalia, Scally hotel at Lemoore and the Convention Hall at Fresno.

In 1907 Mr. Trehwitt, in association with L. E. Hayes, founded the S. P. Brick company of Exeter, which makes six million vire-cut brick annually. He is one of the owners of the Tale & Soapstone company at Lindsay, whose stone material is taken from the earth and ground up into a powder which is a base for many products, including paints and paper, soaps and face powders. He

has long been interested in ranch property in Kings county and now owns an eighty-acre farm, two miles west of Hanford, which is given over to vineyard, orchard and the raising of horses, cattle and hogs. In 1907 the firm of Trehwitt & Shields was organized, the partners being W. D. Trehwitt and H. W. Shields. Mr. Shields has charge of estimates and drafting.

Fraternally, Mr. Trehwitt is a Mason of the Knights Templar degree, a Shriner and a member of the Woodmen of the World. In 1890 he married Miss Mary Lillian Carney, a native of Kentucky, and they have three children: Elizabeth, Dorris and Douglas Trehwitt.

J. L. PRESTIDGE

This native of Mississippi and prominent farmer near Dinuba, Tulare county, Cal., was born April 1, 1861, and remained in the state of his birth until he was seventeen years old, attending school after he had reached school age and acquiring a practical knowledge of farming which has been the foundation of his later success. In 1878 he went to Washington county, Ark., where he remained six years. It was in 1886 that he came to California, locating at Hills valley and remaining one year. In 1887 he went to Kettleman's Plains, where he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres and a timber culture claim of one hundred and sixty acres, remaining there until 1894, and six years later he located near Dinuba, where he has since lived. Some idea of the quality of the man may be gained by the fact that he came to the county without capital and without influential friends and has prospered steadily year after year, in spite of many difficulties, until he owns a homestead which could not be bought for \$10,000. His friendliness and public spirit have been of material aid to him, for it is true that one cannot be a friend without gaining friends or help the community without helping one's self. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. In his political relations he is a Democrat and as such has been elected to important township offices. He is one of the most prominent producers of grapes in this part of the state, having a very large acreage devoted to vines. He also raises much fruit.

The parents of Mr. Prestidge were natives of Mississippi and his father died in the last siege of Vicksburg. In 1880 he married Myra D. Pore, who was born in Missouri of parents who were natives of Kentucky. Of their five children, three are living. Dean Prestidge is well known in Kings county, where he has lived at Cottonwood for some time past. He married Miss Hattie Totty of

Los Angeles. George R. is deputy county auditor of Tulare county. Johnnie is a student in the local public schools. It is probable that there is not another man in the vicinity who is more prompt and generous than Mr. Prestidge in the assistance of every movement for the public good.

FRED W. CONKEY

A native of Wisconsin, Fred W. Conkey, bookkeeper for G. W. Knox of Orosi and one of the successful farmers of Tulare county, was born August 16, 1864, a son of Lucius and Julia E. (Sheldon) Conkey, natives respectively of New York and of Michigan. His father died in Chicago, Ill., in 1904; his mother is still living. Her great-grandfather was captain of a company of patriot soldiers in the Revolutionary war and was captured by the British and might have been severely dealt with had he not been pardoned by King George because of his standing in the Masonic Order. His great-grandfather in the paternal line also fought for the colonies in the Revolutionary struggle, his grandfather being a soldier of the war of 1812.

Mr. Conkey entered the employ of the Swift Packing Company and rose to authority in the office and was for several years private secretary of Mr. Swift. For eleven years Mr. Conkey was chief teller in the office of the county treasurer of Cook county, Ill., which includes the city of Chicago. He married in Chicago Miss Jessie Nye, daughter of the Hon. B. F. Nye, now a member of the legislature of the state of Kansas. By a former marriage he has two children. After the death of his father, his mother removed from Chicago to California and bought fifty acres of the old Reinheimer ranch in Tulare county for \$19,000, and won much success with oranges, raisins, peaches and other fruit, having had many vines and seven hundred four-year peach trees. This property has been sold for \$22,000.

For two years after he came to California, Mr. Conkey did outside work. He now has a forty-acre fully improved ranch near Yettum for which he has refused \$16,000. He is conducting the El Monte Inn, a place of twenty-six rooms, in the management of which he is ably assisted by Mrs. Conkey, they having acquired this property by their united efforts, evidencing the reward for unceasing labor and toil. Their place is the only hotel in town and holds an enviable reputation among the traveling public. Mr. Conkey affiliates with the Masons, is secretary of the Orosi lodge, and is a member of Medina Temple of Chicago. He is a Republican in his politics and as a citizen has evidenced a public spirit which makes him useful and popular in the community.

JOHN J. DOYLE

A descendant of Irish ancestors, that enterprising Irish-American, John J. Doyle, of Porterville, Tulare county, Cal., was born at Lafayette, Ind., April 19, 1844, son of John Doyle. The latter was born in Kentucky, whence he removed in 1829 to Indiana and there followed agricultural pursuits until his death in 1876. John J.'s grandfather was William Doyle, who came from Ireland when a boy, settling first in Virginia and then in Kentucky, where his death occurred. John Doyle married Sarah Wilson, born in Virginia, who in 1876 died in California, where she came with her son John J. on his second trip to the coast. She was the mother of sixteen children, of whom John J. was the second youngest.

John J. Doyle was reared on the parental farm until he was nineteen, attending the common schools and also taking a course at a commercial college. Then he went to Ohio, but soon returned to Indiana, whence he came overland to California in 1865. It was not long, however, before he returned to Indiana, but he came again in 1867 and taught school in Sonoma county in 1869. He settled in Tulare county in 1871 and has paid taxes there ever since, during a period of more than forty years. In the historic Mussel Slough fight, in which J. M. Harris, Ira Knutson, John Henderson, Archie McGregor and Dan Kelley were killed, Mr. Doyle did not participate, but he and four of his friends were jailed for eight months because of their influence in bringing about the troubles which culminated in the encounter. He started the fight and fought the railroad company nine years and four months and was obliged finally to pay \$30.60 an acre for his land for which he had so long contended the railroad company had no title. It is a matter of history that more than six hundred other land owners set up a similar claim. The memorable year in which he served his jail term was 1881. In 1883 he was the first to locate a timber claim in the mountains at Summer Home. At one time he owned over one thousand acres, which he has since sold. After ten years of farming in that district he went to the mountains and planted an orchard at Doyle's Springs. He now owns about two hundred and eighty acres, one hundred and twenty-one acres of which, adjoining Porterville, he platted into lots and is offering for sale. In 1907 he bought ten hundred and forty acres east of Porterville, known as the old Indian tract, and divided it into twenty-acre farms, all of which, except one hundred, he has sold. One acre he gave for school purposes and a school house was built on it which accommodates about forty pupils. He is buying land and selling on easy terms, as much to benefit the town as for any purpose of his own, and he intends soon to plant near Porterville an extensive orchard of deciduous fruits.

In 1880 Mr. Doyle married Miss Lillie Alice Holser, a native of

California, who has borne him four children, three of whom are living and married, viz., Chester H.; Ruby S., wife of John McFadyen; and Floreda Alice, married to C. S. Pinnell. Mrs. Doyle's parents were California pioneers, settling in Sacramento county in the early mining days. Her father died in 1866; her mother December 19, 1911, aged ninety-two years. Mr. Doyle's parents both died in 1876. The experiences of the family link the early days with the present time. Mr. Doyle has always been noted for his public spirit and has never sought any office, though he has ably filled several appointive ones. He is helpful to an eminent degree and his most distinguishing characteristic is his disposition to look on the bright side of things.

CHARLES WILLIAM HOSKINS

No real success in life is won without a persevering struggle, and the self-made man is, in the commercial and financial sense of the term, literally self-made. At the beginning he is handicapped by lack of capital, and after that his progress must be made in the face of strenuous circumstances and often unfair competition. When he has reached the top he knows how he got there and so do those whom he has left behind in the race. One of the men of this class in Kings county is Charles William Hoskins. Born in Adams county, Iowa, June 8, 1861, it was in 1862 that he was taken by his parents to Pennsylvania. He was able to attend public schools only two years, but he made the best use of his limited advantages and has since acquired much knowledge from books and by an informing course of instruction in the college of hard experience. In his infancy he had reversed the general rule by going East. He was still but a boy, however, when he was in business life as a clerk in a store in Nebraska. In 1891 he came to California and in September settled in Tulare county. He moved in 1892 to the Lakeside district and opened a blacksmith shop which he operated about a year, then gave up the enterprise as having a not very promising future. He had now had experience in selling goods and in ranching and in blacksmithing, and, between times, had made himself useful in other ways. Returning to Hanford, where some of his experience had been obtained, he again became a clerk in a general store. Here he would have seemed to have settled down to the kind of business to which he was best adapted naturally and by association. In 1900 he became manager of a general merchandise store at Guernsey, which he bought a year later and which he conducted with steadily increasing success until August 1, 1912, when he sold out and removed to his property in Hanford. In 1882 he married Miss Alma Atwood, a native of Henry county, Ill., who has borne him

a son, Howard A., who is in the automobile business in Hanford. Mr. Hoskins is a member of the W. O. W., and is a man of public spirit who seeks rather to give to, than receive from, the community with which he cast his lot.

ADOLPHUS MITCHELL

The life of Adolphus Mitchell has been closely identified with the early history and development of the state of California, and he is numbered among those pioneer settlers who have been instrumental in its progress for many years. He is a representative of an old and honored family, members of which have taken active part in the wars of the new as well as the old world. He is the son of Lewis and Mary E. (Duff) Mitchell. His grandfather, Solomon Mitchell, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and fought under General Pickens of South Carolina, while his son, Lewis Mitchell, father of Adolphus, was a soldier in the war of 1812. The latter's death occurred in 1861, when he was aged about seventy years. On the maternal side, the Duff family is of Irish descent. His grandfather, Robert Duff, was major in the Irish rebel army. The Irish lost their cause, and so Mr. Duff came to America; but on account of religious difficulties he dressed in woman's clothes, was stowed away on a vessel and thus came to America, locating in West Virginia. Robert Duff married Miss Dickerson, who was also of Irish extraction, and their daughter was Mary E. Duff, who was born in West Virginia. Her husband, Lewis Mitchell, was born in South Carolina.

Adolphus Mitchell was born in Hawkins county, in eastern Tennessee, May 28, 1829, and in 1836 moved with his parents to southwestern Missouri, in what was then Barry county, but which has been changed to McDonald county. He attended the common schools there, but at that time the method of educating was very crude, owing to the lack of facilities. The lights used were pine knots and candles. His entire attendance at school here covered a period of only nine months, the last two months when he was over twenty years of age. Reared on the frontier, accustomed to face hardships and unflinchingly forge ahead, he was a man well fitted for work in his new home. He remained at home until he had reached the age of twenty-five years, when he started out with oxen and wagons for the coast, but finally decided to leave them on Green River, and packed from there. He had many encounters with Indians en route, both warriors and friendly, but he finally arrived in California August 5, 1855. As he was undecided what line of work to follow he stopped in the mines for a time and

then came to Tulare county, where, in 1857, he embarked in the cattle business, buying Spanish cattle to the amount of a hundred and fifty head, at \$12.50, pasture being free. The next spring he sold thirty head at \$30 each.

Mr. Mitchell had decided not to follow the miner's life because of their ill luck, and accordingly in 1859 bought land in Visalia, when that town had but three business houses. He had crossed the plains in company with his brother and there was also a Mrs. Billips in the party, whom he afterward found keeping a restaurant in Visalia. At the time of this purchase the houses there had canvas tops and were rudely built. He has seen this country grow to its present proportions and has benefited by it. In 1857 he met Colonel Baker, founder of Bakersfield, who advised him to buy land. This he did, from time to time, until he owned twelve hundred acres in that vicinity. Through all his hard struggle to gain a foothold in the new country, Mr. Mitchell had the assistance and earnest co-operation of his brother, Ozro, who was born June 4, 1831, and whose death occurred in December, 1906, at Mr. Mitchell's home, which had always been his. He had never married.

On January 11, 1862, the flood covered their tract with water, and there seemed to be three waves pass through the valley. The second flood, on December 24, 1867, coming in one wave, covered everything. Mr. Mitchell returned to Missouri in 1869, leaving Visalia on the 9th of June and arriving home in the same month. Here he remained for a time, being taken with an attack of typhoid in July, and he was obliged to stay there for fifteen months, during which time his marriage took place. He returned to California, by stage from Stockton, and settled on a ranch near Visalia, where he made a specialty of raising stock, but at the time the railroad came was giving his attention to the cultivation of wheat. Visalia courthouse was to be moved by the railroad, but as the Constitution prohibits removal more than once, and it was formerly at Woodville and thence removed to Visalia, it could not be taken to Tulare as they proposed. However, it was a hard fight to hold it at Visalia, but through the hard work of the citizens it was finally kept there. Mr. Mitchell had rented sixteen hundred acres for cattle in what is now Kings county, and owning cattle, was there when the county division was made.

Mr. Mitchell was married to Susan Bogle, who was born in Cannon county, Tenn., but had lived in Missouri since 1859. They had five children born to them, viz.: Mary, who is unmarried; Walter Franklin, who works on his father's ranch; Addie, who is the widow of Edward C. Jones, of Visalia; Chester, deceased; and Arthur Galen, who is also on the ranch with his father. Mr. Mitchell owned at one time about twenty-five hundred acres of land, but he has divided his property among his children.

Mr. Mitchell takes an active interest in all public matters and is a progressive, energetic citizen, but he would never consent to holding office. Since 1856 he has made many prophesies concerning the welfare and growth of his adopted state, and they have in most cases materialized. A self-made, self-educated man, he is public-spirited and interested in all that tends to the prosperity of his community, and he is well known throughout the county as a most successful man.

WILLIAM R. COOKE

This native of California and well known citizen of Tulare county was born in Placerville, January 22, 1857, a son of W. S. and Lucy (Rutledge) Cooke. His father was born in Leeds, England, in 1827, and his mother was born in England that same year. The former came to South Carolina when he was sixteen years old and was for some time engaged in shipping. Eventually he located in Boston, where he completed his education and whence he moved after four years to Davenport, Iowa, where for a time he sold fanning mills and John Deere plows. There he married Miss Rutledge, who had come from her native land when quite young. She is living in San Francisco at the advanced age of eighty-five years. In 1851 they came overland with a large train from Iowa, halting a short time in Salt Lake City. From time to time they had dangerous encounters with Indians and when they reached Hangtown, now Placerville, they witnessed the hanging of a man named Van Lugan. Later they were attacked by Indians who drove off their cattle, killing several. They witnessed the sinking of the Humboldt mine in Gold Canyon on the site of Gold Hill. At Hangtown, where Mrs. Cooke arrived wearing a green silk dress, she was one of but two women in the settlement. A dance was given on the evening following their arrival. It was at Ford's Bar on the American river that Mr. Cooke had his first experience as a miner. He long remembered the arrival of the first circus that visited at that diggings. At one time he walked from Hangtown to Sacramento, bare-footed, and brought back with other purchases a pair of copper-toed boots for his son, the subject of this review. From Hangtown the family moved to Mountain Springs and from there they moved about eighteen months later to Ford's Bar, where in 1857 more than five hundred votes were cast. Their next place of residence, where they remained until 1859, was at Iowa Hill. Mr. Cooke owned several mines one after another and made and lost considerable money. He became prominent in affairs in Placer county and for eight years filled the office of sheriff. Later at Virginia City he was elected police judge and

tax collector. He died there in 1898 and his widow removed to San Francisco.

The children of W. S. and Lucy (Rutledge) Cooke were named as follows: Sarah A., Mary E., William R., F. W., Jennie V., Henry S., deceased, Joseph E., Lucy, and Edwin, deceased. Sarah A. married Andrew Lane and has three children. Mary E. married W. G. Thompson of Storey county, Nevada, and has borne him two children. William R. married Iantha A. Kelso and their home is near Orosi; they have twin sons, Bruce E. and Roy A., born in 1886, who were educated at Selma and Stockton, graduating from the Western School of Commerce at the age of twenty years, Roy being now bookkeeper for the Kirby Winery at Selma. Bruce and Roy prepared for entrance at the National Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., received the appointment, but did not go. Jennie V. is editor of the Pacific Coast Nurses Journal, and resides in San Francisco.

From several of the leading families of America Miss Kelso, who became Mrs. Cooke, is descended, one of her ancestors having been Henry Clay. Her father, John Russell Kelso, a native of Ohio, was a colonel in the Federal service in the Civil War and was a member of congress. Mrs. Cooke's mother was born in Missouri and educated at Springfield. Mrs. Cooke was a normal school graduate of the year 1878, became a teacher and rose to the position of vice-principal from which she was promoted to that of principal. She taught thirteen years in Fresno county, six years in Selma, where she was for four years vice-principal. Later she was for one year principal of Bishop school in Inyo. Her recollections of California would make an interesting volume. She distinctly remembers seeing the notorious Sontag and Evans pursued by the men who later brought them to justice.

By trade Mr. Cooke is a machinist and millwright, in which capacities he worked thirty-eight years. In 1901-2 he mined in Alaska with indifferent success, was caught in the ice and sojourned for a time on Siberian Island. He was at one time interested in the purchase of five hundred and one acres of land and now owns one hundred and sixty acres of orange land, vines and figs. He has about six thousand budded trees for transplanting. He makes a specialty of white Leghorn poultry, owning about three hundred chickens. He is a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and is a popular citizen who does much for the public good. He and his family are Socialists.

WILLIAM NORVAL STUBBELFIELD

Arkansas, a state of central geographical location which partakes largely of the agricultural qualities of the East, North, South and West, has been for many years in a way a clearing house for pioneers.

gathering them from the older parts of the country and distributing them to newer fields further on. One of the numerous good citizens which that state has furnished to California is William Norval Stubbelfield, who was born in Fayetteville, Washington county, Ark., January 7, 1873, and lived there until he was nineteen years old.

From Arkansas Mr. Stubbelfield went to Baylor county, Tex., and after one year's residence there went up into Oklahoma and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres at Cheyenne, Roger Mills county. In six years he had proved up on his land, acquired title to it and sold it for two thousand dollars. Then he came to California and at Cutler, Tulare county, bought ten acres, six of which are in peaches, four acres in vineyard, and he secured a very good crop in 1911, selling two and one-fourth tons of grapes to the acre. Mr. Stubbelfield has given his entire life to different kinds of farming, and as he has made a study of soils and seeds and seasons and of every other factor in the production of crops of various kinds and operates by up-to-date and thoroughly scientific methods, he is able to achieve success where it is possible. He is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood. Politically he affiliates with the Socialist party.

Mr. Stubbelfield was married in 1894, at Fayetteville, Ark., to Miss Victoria Gulley, a native of that state. Seven children were born to them, viz.: Eula, Eddeth, Annie, William, Claud, Ladona and Bessie (now deceased).

A. CLIFFORD DUNGAN

A native of Virginia, A. Clifford Dungan, of Exeter, Tulare county, was born at Glade Spring, September 10, 1875, the youngest of the large family of children of Thomas N. Dungan. He came to California in 1894 and settled at Three Rivers, Tulare county, where he worked in his brother's sawmill. In 1895 he was employed by the Kaweah Lemon Company, and for three years had charge of one of its lemon orchards. The ensuing year he was in the employ of the Ohio Lemon Company. By carefully saving his earnings he was enabled to buy seven acres of land five miles southeast of Exeter. The property was rough and without improvements, but with characteristic energy and foresight he set out orange trees, erected a pumping plant and put on other necessary auxiliaries, and soon had seven acres of fine bearing navel trees, which proved very profitable.

After he had improved his original seven acres Mr. Dungan entered the service of George T. Frost, who had charge of the Bonnie Brae orchards, and was made superintendent of the vineyards of the

Frost & Carney Land and Lumber Company. Two years later he was given the management of the orange grove on Badger Hill. While thus employed he was studying the fruit business, and in 1903 he began caring for groves in the Bonnie Brae district on contract. He now has seventy-three acres under fruit and vines and a contract covering quite a number of orchards. Two hundred and fifty dollars an acre for a crop of grapes on twenty acres of four-year-old Emperors was the price paid him recently by R. D. Williams. This was a record price for a crop of grapes bought outright in the Exeter district, and was especially good for the product of a vineyard of that age. On the other hand the crop on this orchard was very heavy and Mr. Dungan made a fine profit. On the twenty acres there are approximately eight thousand vines, most of them yielding three or four crates to the vine.

At Fresno Mr. Dungan married Miss Nellie Tuohy, a native of Oakland, daughter of A. V. Tuohy of Vacaville and niece of John Tuohy of Tulare. She is a graduate of the San Francisco Normal School and was for a time a student at the Johns Hopkins Art Institute. Mr. and Mrs. Dungan have the following children, May Virginia, John Anthony and Helen Margaret.

In his political alliances Mr. Dungan is a Democrat, and fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. He came to California in 1894, without capital, and by industry and good business ability has made a fine property. His success is the success of the self-made man, and those who best know him say that it has been fairly won and is richly deserved. In many ways Mr. Dungan has demonstrated a public spirit that marks him as a citizen of much patriotism and helpfulness to all worthy community interests.

ANDREW J. LAFEVER

Born in Knox county, Tenn., November 14, 1826, Andrew J. Lafever was a representative of families noted for their valor and devotion to justice. His parents were William and Elizabeth (Roberts) Lafever. In colonial days Henry Lafever, great-grandfather of Andrew J., came from France to Virginia and remained there two years, then returned to his native land. Later he came with Lafayette and fought under that commander for American liberty and after the end of the Revolutionary war went back to France, and at Waterloo he was a brave soldier under Napoleon. His son, John Lafever, a native of Virginia, lived most of his life in Tennessee and gained wealth and prominence as a cotton-grower. He fought for the cause of the colonies in the war of the Revolution and yielded up his life in defense of free America in the war of 1812. He married Lucy Barbankez, a

woman of much courage and decision of character. While in the Revolutionary army, British soldiers stole sweet potatoes from his farm and she shot down seven of them. Though she was arrested she was not prosecuted, as the soldiers were appropriating her property and her stern sense of justice entitled her to a place in the history of those thrilling times. She bore her husband two children and lived to be eighty-seven. Her son William, father of Andrew J., was born in Tennessee and in 1834 became the owner of land in Ray county, Mo., partly by purchase and partly by pre-emption. He prospered as a planter and slave owner and achieved prominence through his interest in the state militia and in the training of soldiers, and fought in the war of 1812, the Black Hawk war and the Seminole war. He married Elizabeth Roberts, a native of South Carolina, and he lived ninety-seven years, she eighty-four.

The third of the fourteen children of William Lafever was Andrew J., who inherited much of the valor and stern sense of right and wrong of his forefathers in both lines of descent. Such education as he received he acquired in a private school. In his youth he had to do with the labor of cotton growing and through trading on his father's plantation became expert as a judge of horse-flesh. In 1846 he volunteered for service as a soldier under General Taylor and was assigned to the division commanded by Colonel Willock. In 1847 he re-enlisted and was assigned to Company C, Santa Fe Battalion, United States Army, under command of Gen. Sterling Price, and rose to be sergeant, and in 1847-48 was a member of the general's escort. He was honorably discharged from the service at Independence, Mo., in October, 1848, and November 4 following cast for his old commander, General Taylor, his first presidential vote. For a time he was in the meat-packing business at Camden, Mo., where he heard much of the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast. April 4, 1849, he left there for an ox-team journey across the plains, and about seven months later arrived at the Peter Lawson ranch, near Bidwell's Bar, Cal., and he mined in that vicinity during the succeeding thirteen months. At Bidwell's Bar, according to an interesting writer, "a thief was discovered in camp who had tried to purloin a can of syrup. A consultation was held by the other miners and it was decided to hang without ceremony. Mr. Lafever, however, objected, owing to the absence of a code of laws covering such misdemeanors. The life of the man was spared, but an attempt was made to obviate further trouble of that kind by drawing up a code calculated to terrorize evil doers." Flogging and hanging were features of this code. "Men condemned to trial had the benefit of the opinion and judgment of twenty-four substantial men of the community and every question had to be answered by the witness." From this point Mr. Lafever went as a member of a prospecting party to the south fork of the Feather river and took part in an unsuccessful

attempt to change the course of that stream. Later he mined at Marysville and then set out on a fruitless quest of Gold Lake, which the history of California mining tells us was never found. Before 1850 he prospected around St. Louis, Pine Grove, Howland Flat, Nelson Creek and Poor Man's Creek, and in that year he mined in Told's Diggings and at Forbestown. In the last mentioned camp he engaged in business as a butcher and as a general merchant. The spring of 1851 found him at Lexington, where he built and opened the Lexington house, which hostelry was kept in a log building near a spring which he had discovered the year before; and here also he engaged in general merchandising. He built a new house near the log cabin at Lexington, of lumber which he sawed by hand, in 1852, and established a hotel and butcher shop at Spanish Flat. In 1854 he disposed of his Lexington interests. He lived at Spanish Flat until 1857. "In the meantime, in 1856," says the writer already quoted, "there had been great excitement in camp over the water ditches, resulting in shooting scrapes and the organizing of a mob that would have hanged an innocent man had it not been dispersed by Mr. Lafever. In the spring of 1857 Mr. Lafever himself escaped serious trouble because of the justifying circumstances surrounding his act. In self defense he shot and killed Judge John Chapels, the leader of that mob, and though he surrendered to the authorities, nothing ever came of the matter. Mr. Lafever showed wonderful clemency for his fallen foe—hired a man to care for him, and so far ingratiated himself that the dying man shook hands with him and expressed an appreciation of his bravery." Mr. Lafever went to Marysville in the fall of 1857 and started thence for Mendocino county, but stopped at Petaluma and Santa Rosa. Later he bought a place at Ukiah in Mendocino county and eventually set out for Colorado, but passed the winter in Merced county, where he fed two hundred and fifty horses and mules, many of which fell sick. He reached Visalia with his stock in August and took his horses to the mountains for the winter. Twice, in Mendocino county, thieves tried to deprive him of his land and in 1870, in Potter Valley, H. Griffiths shot him through the left lung and left hand and wrist, almost destroying his left arm.

In 1873 Mr. Lafever bought land near Kings river in Fresno county, to which he added by later purchases until he had more than a township of unsurveyed land, including Pine Flat, a quarter of a township, which he presented to his only child, Henry C. Lafever. "When the fence law was passed," narrates the writer already referred to, "he experienced serious trouble with his land, for grabbers resorted to every device to deprive him of it, even waylaying and killing his son, November 17, 1882. During the trial following this brutal murder Mr. Lafever killed Zeb Lesley in the court yard at Fresno, the outlaw being at the bottom of the difficulties over the land

and the killing of his son. The outlaw was surrounded by forty-eight of his gang. Through the prevalence of injustice Mr. Lafever lost his cattle and land and practically everything that he had in the world." Mr. and Mrs. Lafever had at different times narrow escapes from Indians.

In November, 1885, Mr. Lafever bought forty acres outside the borders of Visalia, where he raised cattle, horses and hogs until 1893, when he moved to his home within the city limits at No. 409 Watson avenue. His house and all its contents were burned May 29, 1904, causing a loss of more than \$7,000, only \$2,200 of which was covered by insurance. He passed away at his home October 6, 1912. His estate consists of two ranches near Visalia upon which hog raising is carried on extensively.

March 19, 1852, at Marysville, Cal., Mr. Lafever married Catherine Trullinger, a native of Baden, Germany, who came to California in 1850. The tragic death of their only son saddened the lives of both. Mrs. Lafever passed away in May, 1908. A Democrat in politics, Mr. Lafever was formerly a member of the Knights of the Golden Circle, and was a veteran of the Mexican war, having served as commander of his division, and a member of the California Society of Pioneers. Few residents of Tulare county witnessed so much of its development as did Mr. Lafever, and there are few men remaining in California today who look back on careers as perilous and as full of vicissitudes as was his during the earlier years of his citizenship here.

RICHARD POWERS

Of the sons of Illinois who have come to California and made a success of their undertakings mention belongs to Richard Powers. He was born in the Prairie State, June 24, 1847, and came to California when he was twenty-one years old with his brother John, settling in San Joaquin county, where for thirteen years he was engaged in stock and grain farming. Then he went to Merced county and farmed near Minturn for ten years, after which he moved to Butte county and carried on farming near Chico for three years. Subsequently he engaged in railroad work for two years with headquarters at Redding. It was in 1884 that he came to Tulare county, and in 1891 he located in Porterville, devoting himself with ability and energy to the stock business. His specialty was the raising of draft horses and roadsters, which he exhibited at the different fairs and he secured many premiums for his draft horses. At the time he came to Porterville it was a mere hamlet of but few houses, and his was the first residence to be erected off Main street. He has seen the settlement grow to its

present importance and has witnessed and participated in the marvelous development of the country round about.

December 23, 1883, Mr. Powers married Miss Stella Smith, a native of Butte county and the daughter of Theodore and Sarah W. (Horton) Smith, who came to California in 1849 and 1852 respectively. The former was a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia. Both came across the plains with ox-teams and they were married in 1855 in Butte county. Later they lived for a short time in Shasta county, but returned to Butte county and there passed their remaining years. Besides Mrs. Powers two sons survive, Harry C., of San Francisco, and Jay, of Redding.

The devotion of Mr. Powers to the stock business during so long a period marks him as a man of persistency, who having formulated a plan of action will carry it out intelligently, allowing no obstacles to deter him, and bring it to ultimate success if years and opportunity are given him. He not only raises many cattle, but he buys and sells in the market, and in his business transactions has won a reputation for fair dealing of which any man might be proud.

REV. JAMES MURPHY

The long and useful life of Rev. James Murphy, which throughout its entirety signifies untiring energy, unselfishness and perseverance for the good of others, is a most interesting one, embracing many hard and trying experiences but withal receiving the tribute for the high calling which he had responded to in that he was beloved by all who were fortunate enough to come to know him, and his memory is revered by a wide circle of admiring friends. One of God's noble creatures, he had ever accepted his task without murmuring and filled his duties to the best of his ability and many there are who have had reason to bless him.

Born near Richmond, Va., March 18, 1803, James Murphy at an early date removed to Tippecanoe county, Ind., where he was married to Miss Jane Morris. To this union was born a family of twelve children, six of whom grew to maturity. He was ordained a minister in the United Brethren Church when he came to Indiana and continued to preach for forty years. Moving from Indiana to Woodford county, Ill., he resided there until in August, 1854, when he went to Iowa and settled at Clarksville, where he was a pioneer minister. He established the first United Brethren Church at Corbley Grove, Fayette county,

Iowa, which grew rapidly, and forty years later a new church was built at Westgate by that congregation, and this was named Murphy Memorial Church in honor of Rev. James Murphy, who had been its organizer.

In 1886 Henry Murphy, son of Rev. James Murphy, visited the latter at Oldwein near Westgate, Iowa, and finding him in ill health took him to his home on the north branch of the Tule river, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away March 18, 1892. Rev. James Murphy was twice married and as mentioned above six of his twelve children by his first marriage lived to mature age. Delilah, who was the wife of Daniel Fagne, had two children, Mary and Henry; she died in 1911, at Oldwein, Iowa, aged eighty-two years. Nancy was married three times, first to Ira Havens of Bloomington, Ill.; second to James Phillips, of Delhi, Iowa, and had one son, Zina; and third to Zina Wheelock, of Manchester, Iowa; she passed away in April, 1911. James, now deceased, was married in 1856 to Mary Buckmaster, and is mentioned below. Henry is mentioned fully on another page of this publication. John, a stockman residing at Atehison, Kans., is married and has a family; he is unfortunate in that he is blind. Emaline is the widow of Elonzo Spencer, formerly of Bloomfield, Iowa, and she had three children, Bert, Louise and William, all residing in the vicinity of Bloomfield. By his second marriage Rev. James Murphy was the father of three children: Hattie, conducting a hotel at Livingston, Mont.; Fred, a wholesale tobacco dealer at Pocatello, Idaho; and Wenrich, a railroad man on the Oregon Short Line.

James Murphy, son of Rev. James, married in 1856 Mary Buckmaster, and the eldest daughter of this union is Sara J., now the wife of W. R. Neal, who resides at Springville, Tulare county. Mr. Neal is one of the leading merchants and postmaster of Springville and was at one time state superintendent of public instruction of the state of Oregon. He is an educator of note, having followed the profession of teaching more than thirty years before taking up the mercantile business at Springville, and is pursuing his enterprise with unusual energy and such success as to mark him one of the leading business men of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Neal have had a family of six children, viz.: Minerva is the wife of Rev. William M. Olderby, pastor of the Northern Liberty Church at Philadelphia, Pa., situated at No. 510 Buttonwood street, and they have one child, James. William is married to Catharine Gulley and is a partner with his father at Springville. Jennie Neal is vice principal of the schools at Porterville. Lillie is bookkeeper in her father's business. Gwendolyn is a student in the school at Springville. James accidentally shot himself while the family were residing in Oregon when nineteen years of age.

A. J. PERRY

This well known citizen of Hanford, head of the firm of Perry & Barbeiro, was born on the Azores Islands, July 31, 1863, and worked in a store there from the time he was eleven years old until he was eighteen. His first employment in this country was on a farm near Fall River, Mass., where he remained twenty-two months. In 1883 he found employment in Fresno county in the construction of levees on the Laguna de Tache grant, to prevent the overflow of water, and was retained on the work seven years. After that for fourteen months he had a liquor store in Kingsburg. Then for a season he helped operate a threshing machine in the vicinity of that town and for a year after that had charge of some sheep. The next year he put in as a farmer on the Laguna de Tache grant. Next he opened a liquor store in Hanford, in the old Freeman house on Fifth street, but a month later removed to a store on Sixth street and still later to the McMunkin building, which was his headquarters until 1905, when he moved to a location at 104 Sixth street, where he sells soft drinks and cigars.

For a time M. V. Garcia was Mr. Perry's partner. He was succeeded by S. L. Jackson and he after two years and a half by J. I. Barbeiro. The firm conducts a ranch of three hundred and ten acres, four miles north of Lemoore, which is now rented out for dairy purposes. Beginning January 1, 1913, Mr. Perry will superintend the ranch and the business in Hanford will be taken care of by Mr. Barbeiro. Mr. Perry is a stockholder and was three years a director of the Hanford Mercantile store. He is a stockholder in the Portuguese-American bank, at San Francisco, in connection with which he is known to men of his nationality throughout the greater part of the state. Fraternally he affiliates with the U. P. E. C., the I. D. E. S. and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

In 1898 Mr. Perry married Anna S. Flores, and they have had eight children, seven of whom are living: Lillian, Edward, Tony, Lorianno, Earl, Geraldine, Harry and Edith. The latter died when she was six years old.

FRANK REA

The Rea family is one of the early Virginia families. Edward Rea, great-grandfather of Frank Rea, came from Ireland and settled in Virginia before the Revolutionary war. He was a Universalist in religion and every generation of the Reas has clung to that faith as does the present representative of the family. It was in Macon

county, Ill., that Frank Rea was born June 9, 1845, and he attended public schools until he reached the age of sixteen. Enlisting in the Civil War, he rendered faithful service to the Federal cause as a private soldier during three eventful years. After the war he returned home and for one year attended Lombard University, then completing a commercial course at Decatur, Ill. He worked for his father until after he became of age. During the succeeding four years he was engaged in farming in Illinois. Then he came to California and after spending two years in the Santa Clara valley came in 1874 to Kings county and later located on what has come to be known as his homestead. During the first few years of his residence here he worked for others, but as soon as water was obtained he went into stock-raising, dairying and fruit-growing. He has been active in ditch construction, and for some years was a director in the company controlling the outer ditch, which was under his superintendency a year, and consequently one of his public responsibilities after he came to the county. He has served as trustee of schools by election as a Republican, he being a member of that party, a venerator of its history and an ardent advocate of all its economic policies. By membership with the Grand Army of the Republic, he keeps alive memories of the Civil war days which tried men's souls. Mr. Rea has been a director in the Alta Irrigation District for fourteen years, and on February 6, 1913, was re-elected for another term of four years.

Even beyond his expectations Mr. Rea has been prosperous. From time to time he has bought land until he is the owner of ten hundred and eighty acres, eighty acres of which is devoted to fruit, the remainder to ranching and stock-raising. His cattle herd averages two hundred head of blooded stock. The improvements on his land are up-to-date and in every way first-class, and his home is one of the most attractive and hospitable in the county. His marriage occurred in September, 1868, to Miss Mattie Ehrhart, who was born in Macon county, Ill., in January, 1848. Their five children are named respectively Clara, Edgar, Frank, Bunn and Neva.

SQUIRE HAYDEN KINKADE

In Monroe county, Mo., S. H. Kinkade was born January 1, 1836, and there he went to school in a log cabin from the time he was six years old until he was fourteen, when the family moved to Boone county, Mo. From there they went to Scotland county, Mo., whence they started to California. Young Kinkade was about sixteen years old when the family set out to cross the plains in 1852. A large party was banded together for company and mutual protection and the long

journey was made with ox-teams, thirty wagons, which made slow progress over the prairies and through the desert for many long weeks which would have been dreary had it not been for the daily excitement inseparable from such a venture. Fortunately there were no Indian attacks. The party arrived at San Bernardino in the fall, the Kinkades wintering there, and in the spring settled in Santa Cruz county. There they remained two years, then moved to Contra Costa county, whence they came to Tulare county in 1857 and settled two and a half miles southwest of Visalia. Their first experience here was in raising hogs; later they took up cattle and in 1868 went into the sheep business, in which they continued twelve years, running their stock over a wide range of country and owning at one time four thousand head. There were at that time so many Indians in the county that out on the plains as many as six were encountered to each white man that was seen. Half a mile south of the Kinkade home about four hundred Indians were encamped for some time. Mr. Kinkade has passed through all the changes and revolutions of farming and ranching in Central California and since 1892 has resided in the vicinity of Porterville. He closed out his sheep interests in 1881, and after selling his ten-acre ranch in December, 1912, he moved to Porterville.

In 1887 Mr. Kinkade married Miss Harriet Anderson, who was born April 21, 1851, in Rock Island county, Ill. They have had two sons: Benjamin Harrison Kinkade, who is employed by Mr. Traeger in Porterville, and Milton Kinkade, who died aged eleven months. B. H. Kinkade married Jessie Lauders, by whom he had two daughters, Evid M., who died when about two years old, and Jessie Bertha, an infant. Mrs. Kinkade died in October, 1912. Mr. Anderson, the father of Mrs. Harriet Kinkade, passed away when she was about ten years old and her mother when she was four. Mr. Kinkade's father died in 1877; his mother in 1885. In his political affiliations Mr. Kinkade is a Republican, and his interest in the community makes him helpful in a public-spirited way to every movement looking to its advancement and prosperity.

ANDERSON W. LEE

It was in Indiana that Anderson W. Lee, who now lives four miles southeast of Dinuba, Tulare county, was born March 22, 1867. There he lived until in 1889, for three years thereafter making his home in Illinois and Missouri. On March 1, 1893, he came to Tulare county, Cal., finding the country round about the site of his present home practically a vast wheat field. Dinuba had two small stores, there was a little store at Orosi and at Sultana no beginning had been made.

He was a daily observer of the building of the railroad in his part of the county and often saw many ten and twelve horse teams awaiting the unloading of the wagons which they had hauled out to the line. Soon after coming to the county he bought eighty acres of land at \$45 an acre and planted twelve acres to vineyard, twelve to trees and gave most of the remainder to alfalfa. He early had a twenty-five acre melon patch from which he sold in one season about \$2,000 worth of melons, feeding about as many more to his hogs. His place is well planted to young vines and he has raised twenty-five tons of peaches on five acres of six-year-old trees and in 1912 planted twenty-five acres to peaches. He keeps eighty head of stock, besides four good horses.

In politics Mr. Lee is a Socialist, and fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. In Johnson county, Mo., he married Miss Mary E. Null, a native of that state and whose parents crossed the plains with ox teams to California. The party of which the Nulls were members were often menaced by Indians, who drove off their cattle but killed none of the emigrants. Among pioneers known to this family was Charles Crow, who crossed the Isthmus of Panama on foot. Among Mr. Lee's household possessions is a quart bottle weighing four pounds which was brought overland to California in 1852. Anderson W. and Mary Ellen (Null) Lee have three daughters and one son: Lilly M., Mary Z., Ruby E. and James W. Lilly M. has completed her school studies and is now studying music. Mary Z. is a student in the high school at Dinuba; while James W. and Ruby E. are attending grammar school.

JAMES LAFAYETTE JOHNSON

It was in the state of Arkansas that James L. Johnson was born August 22, 1844. Early in the following year, when he was about seven months old, his parents, Joseph H. and Mary (Murray) Johnson, took him overland to Oregon. After a four years' residence there, they came to California. They located first at Napa City, later engaged in stockraising in the vicinity, and then went to Oakland, and for several years they lived there and at Martinez and on San Joaquin Island. Subsequently they were at Merced, Gilroy and Watsonville, one after the other, and in the meantime James L. had acquired an education in the public schools. At Porterville he married Miss Harriet Rhodes, daughter of the late William C. Rhodes, a biographical sketch of whom appears in these pages. Mrs. Johnson bore her husband three children. Edna married William Lucius Kelley, of Fresno county, and they have had three children named Charlotte, deceased;

Loren and Ora. Elmo married Bertha A. Crocker and she has borne him three children: Idena, Florence and Odessa. Lena is deceased.

The first land in this vicinity owned by Mr. Johnson was bought from the United States government. He pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres in Jordan Valley and paid it out at \$1.25 per acre, and has added from time to time and now owns about four sections. Three hundred and fifty acres is devoted to farming, the remainder is hill land, used for pasture. On the place are kept about seventy-five head of cattle and one hundred head of other live stock. When Mr. and Mrs. Johnson settled in the valley, land could be bought at \$1.25 an acre which would now be cheap at \$200 and upward. The only buyers of stock in those days were Miller and Lux.

The old Democratic politics of his sire was in a way inherited by Mr. Johnson, a man of public spirit, ready always to aid to the extent of his ability any movement for the good of the community.

HENRY W. REED

The well known citizen of Tulare county whose name is the title of this article and who lives a mile north of Sultana could tell many an interesting story of the days before the law was fully established in central California. He was personally acquainted with Sontag and Evans and the Dalton brothers, and with George Radcliff, who was shot by the latter on Alkali Plains. He tells how the train was stopped by the bandits by force of arms and how, when the door of the express car was blown from its hinges, Radcliff received a load of shot in the abdomen, and he does not fail to add that the brave engineer hung to the throttle until he ran the train to Tulare, then died; and he could indicate the place in Fresno county where the Daltons for a time maintained their mountain residence.

A native son of California, Mr. Reed was born in Kern county June 23, 1873, and was reared, educated, and lived there until 1884. In 1900 he came to Tulare county, settling near Visalia. He married in August, 1907, Mrs. May (Price) Schaaf, widow of Lonis Schaaf. She was born in Crawford county, Kans., June 23, 1876, and had three children, Milo, Chester F. and Marguerite E. Schaaf. By the union with Mr. Reed, one son has been born, Harris Reed. Mr. and Mrs. Reed are Republicans.

In 1907 Mr. Reed located on twenty acres of land, which was the home of Mrs. Reed, all of which is devoted to fruit and vines, he having nine acres of vineyard and seven acres of apricots. In 1911 he marketed eight tons and a half of raisin grapes. He is an enterprising farmer and a progressive public-spirited citizen.

THOMAS SMITH

The sons of Ireland makes friends everywhere, succeeding in any community with which their lot may be cast, and California has always welcomed this industrious class to the ranks of its citizens among those who have sought a home under her sunny skies. One of the most prosperous farmers in the vicinity of Hanford is Thomas Smith, who was born in Ireland, June 27, 1841. He came, comparatively young, to the United States and finished his studies in New York, whence about 1860 he went to San Francisco, and from there he moved to Merced county. Later, in September, 1872, he settled in Tulare county, in that part now known as Kings county. Soon thereafter he located on one hundred and sixty acres which was the nucleus of the homestead which is now one of the land-marks of his part of the county. One year later, in 1873, he bought a second one hundred and sixty-acre tract, increasing his holding to three hundred and twenty acres. He engaged in dry farming and has given much attention to dairying and to hog-raising. Having been a farmer all his life he has obtained an intimate practical knowledge of everything making for successful cultivation, and so expert is he that in the operation of his fine ranch very little is left to chance except such things as unavoidably depend upon unforeseen developments in the way of blights and pests. He is one of the very few pioneers in his part of the county and every improvement on his ranch today was placed there by himself. In 1912 he and his son bought a twenty horse-power gas engine which is used for pumping water for irrigation on his place as well as his son's. The wells are eighty feet in depth, furnishing ample water for their need.

October 13, 1886, Mr. Smith married Mrs. Margaret (Gann) Whitworth, a native of Wisconsin, who in 1852 was brought in an ox-wagon across the plains by her parents, who were California pioneers of that time. By a former marriage Mr. Smith was the father of two children, William H., who lives on an adjoining farm, and Mrs. Stella Curry, residing near Hanford. One child was born to his union with Mrs. Whitworth, a daughter, Myrtle J. Wilkinson, who resides near Riverdale. Mrs. Smith was married (first) to P. Johnson and became the mother of two children, Mattie and Katie. By her marriage to Mr. Whitworth she had a son, Clarence.

CECIL H. SMITH

It was in Athens county, Ohio, that Cecil H. Smith was born in 1867. There he lived until he was seventeen years old, gaining an education in the public schools and obtaining an intimate knowledge

of agriculture by actual daily contact with the soil. When he left the home of his childhood it was to go to Kansas with his parents, who established a new home for the family in that state. There he worked for wages until in 1887, when he immigrated to California and settled in Tulare county, which was then almost entirely devoted to grain-growing. After he had farmed five years he and his brother began to buy land, their first purchase being a tract of one hundred acres, and they soon afterward bought another of fifty acres. At this time Mr. Smith has one hundred and fifty-five acres which he operates as a dairy, milking about forty cows and doing a business of about \$200 a month. Beginning with no capital, he has made all he has by hard work and the exercise of good business ability. The excitement of politics has never appealed to him and he has little liking for partisan activity, but he takes a public-spirited interest in everything that in any way influences the well-being of the people. At this time he is very creditably filling the office of school trustee. His parents passed away after lives of usefulness. His father was a native of the state of New York, while his mother was born in Ohio, a daughter of pioneers. He has himself been familiar with pioneering in the middle west and on the coast, and, accepting the conditions under which the pioneer must strive, he has striven and succeeded.

WILLIAM W. ROBINSON

The late W. W. Robinson was born in Indiana, and was united in marriage there when a young man to Miss Margaret McClintock, and they resided in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri, in which states their children were born. In 1880 they all came to California, and Mr. Robinson bought some land near where Armona is now located. There he lived with his family until recently, when he went over into Fresno county, when he had another ranch, and after putting in a crop was taken ill.

At his death Mr. Robinson left, besides his widow two daughters, Mrs. H. P. Brown of Hanford, and Mrs. George Campbell, of Suisun, also five sons, Marion, George, Grant, Henry and Charles, all of Kings county. One daughter, Mrs. Knapp, died near Armona in 1903.

W. W. Robinson was a brother of the late J. S. Robinson, who was likewise a Kings county pioneer and had one sister, Jane Sutcliff, of Albion, Iowa. Mr. Robinson was a man who was very successful in his business undertakings. He was a man of large executive ability, decided force of character, very reserved and unassuming, quiet, and very industrious, with exceptional powers for enduring work and sustaining effort. He was known as a thoroughly good man at heart, and

had many warm friends. In his home circle he will ever be remembered as a kind parent, while the vicinity in his death suffered the loss of a man of the strictest integrity. He died at Hanford Friday morning, February 24, 1905, aged sixty-nine years, ten months and twenty-three days.

WILLIAM A. SEARS

The Sears family, of which William A. Sears is a prominent member, is an old historic one in America, whose numerous representatives are residing in nearly every state of the Union, giving to their country patriotic and industrious service and adding greatly to the best and most representative citizenship. There are many branches of the family in this country and nine generations have lived in the United States. Originally of England, the first American ancestor of the family was born in England, probably not far from the Guernsey Islands, but there the name was spelled Sares. This progenitor was named Richard Sears, and the first authentic record we have of him is on the tax list of Plymouth Colony, dated March 25, 1633, when he was one of forty-four out of eighty-six persons who were assessed nine shillings in corn at six shillings per bushel. He soon crossed over to Marblehead, Mass., and was listed as a tax-payer of that place, and in the Salem rate list was granted four acres of land "where he had formerly planted." This was dated October 14, 1638.

Arthur Elliott Sears, father of William A., was an industrious and well-known minister in California as early as 1878 and his memory is deeply revered by all who have had the good fortune to know him. He was born in Cincinnati, and in Missouri was married to Eliza E. DeFrance, who was born in Mercer county, Pa., near New Lebanon. Mr. Sears had been previously married and was the father of five children by this marriage, William A. being the only child of the second union. In 1862 Arthur E. Sears came across the plains with ox-teams and settled in Oregon, bringing his family with him. He was a Methodist minister and was an early organizer and itinerant preacher, and was a pioneer of Methodist preaching, traveling and organizing in that state, giving his services up to that vocation for a period of thirty years. In 1874, his health becoming impaired, he went to Colorado and was given entire charge of the work of organizing for the Methodist Episcopal Church South in Colorado, where he labored diligently until he came to California in 1878. As a local minister he continued to labor in California for the rest of his days, and such was his influence for good that at his death in 1906 this community felt deprived of a kindly spirit whose place could never be filled. He made

his home with his son and his widow continued to live with him until she passed away February 14, 1913, at Porterville, where both of them were buried, and their memory will ever be held in high reverence for the lives of high principles and honor which they had led, to say nothing of their energetic efforts and achievements in their chosen field, which ever command unselfishness and untiring industry and courage, marked traits in their characters.

William A. Sears was born in Milan, Sullivan county, Mo., December 14, 1860, and lived in Oregon from 1862 to 1874. In the common school of Polk county, Ore., he received his elementary education and also at the schools of Golden, Colo., where he completed the high school course. Upon arriving in California he matriculated at the Normal school at San Jose and was graduated with the class of 1882. Eager to complete a law course he had read law with his uncle, the Hon. A. H. DeFrance, while he was in Colorado. Hon. DeFrance was then First Territorial Senator, then State Senator and then was appointed Supreme Court Commissioner, and later was elected United States District Judge from Colorado, which office he held with great honor until his death. He was also attorney for the Colorado Central Railroad Co., and under his able supervision Mr. Sears imbibed the rudiments of legal training which have served him to no mean purpose in his real estate and other business interests. After coming to California and graduating from the Normal he taught school for a time and soon began to interest himself in real estate investments. Buying land, he developed a fruit ranch in Santa Cruz county and this was his real start in his chosen line of work. In 1903 he came to Tulare county from San Jose and bought in partnership with A. V. Taylor, of Hanford, a tract of four thousand acres at Angiola, which for one year he superintended and then sold out his interest to Mr. Taylor and made his way to Porterville. He then bought a tract of three thousand acres on the White river which he still owns and which is operated as a stock and dairy ranch. Mr. Sears is the present proprietor of the Sears Investment Co., with offices at No. 508 Main street, Porterville, and is well known in his community as a prosperous business man, who is an authority not alone on land, but on fruit growing and all their relative branches. He is a stockholder in the Porterville Co-operative Creamery Co. He has just moved his family into their fine residence on El Granito avenue, Porterville, which is one of the picture places of that city. Independent in his political views he has always refused any political honors and votes locally for the man he deems best suited for the office. In national affairs he unites with the Democratic party.

Mr. Sears was married January 1, 1888, to Miss Sara B. Loucks, of Contra Costa county, the daughter of the late Hon. George P. Loucks, who was for many years in political office in Contra Costa

county. He was a leader in politics in the Republican party in Southern California, where he was justly well and favorably known. For years he was a member of the Republican National Committee and of the State Central Committee. The eldest of Mr. and Mrs. Sears' four surviving children is George Arthur, now manager of the telegraphers in the K office of the Southern Pacific Railway at Bakersfield. By his marriage with Miss Abbie Gibbons of Porterville he has two children, Georgie and Eloise. William Allison, Jr., is at present manager of a drug store at Strathmore and is unmarried. Emma Pauline and Annie Belle are both at home. These children represent the tenth generation from their American ancestor, Richard Sears. In religion the family are Congregationalists and socially are well known and number their friends by the score.

Mr. Sears has the honor of being the first grower to open up, advertise and make known the orange lands south of Porterville under the new irrigation system for oranges, and his success has been such as to attract the attention of many who have those interests at heart. A very interesting article written by Mr. Sears on this subject and giving a detailed account of the beauties and advantages throughout the Earlimart Colony in that vicinity may be found in the July, 1906, issue of the magazine entitled *Out West*. He was one of the organizers of the Porterville Realty Board and Chamber of Commerce and has since been one of its influential members. He has found time from his active business life to organize the Improvement Club here and this has been since taken over by the ladies of Porterville. Such a citizen merits the praise and earnest gratitude of his fellow-citizens, and Mr. Sears is fortunate in that he receives the esteem and confidence of all who know him and he holds an enviable place in the minds of many who have come to appreciate his excellent characteristics and his sagacious and well-informed mind.

FRED SAHROLAN

This skillful farmer is well known and respected in the vicinity of Yettum, where he is enjoying prosperity as the result of well-directed effort. He was born November 25, 1884, and remained in his native Armenia until he was fourteen years old, then came to the United States with his father and at Philadelphia, Pa., ate his first turkey dinner, an experience which he will always remember. After a short stay there, he came to California and settled in Fresno county, where he lived seven years. He attended school for a time, farming and fruit-growing for wages and learning the work and the ways of the country.

It was to Tulare county, where he has since lived, that Mr. Sahroian went from Fresno county in 1907. He soon bought twenty acres of land and later forty acres more, making a farm of sixty acres, which he has improved with a house, a barn and other necessary buildings. He has forty-three acres under vines, seven acres bearing peaches and ten acres devoted to oranges. One year he sold twelve tons of Thompson seedlings from six acres; also eleven and one-half tons of Muscats, and forty-eight tons of Zinfandels. His orange grove is young and his peach trees are just coming into bearing. As a citizen he has the good opinion of his neighbors, and fraternally he affiliates with the Yetteu Banavalum club. Politically he is a Republican. He married Victoria Meledonian in April, 1912.

Mr. Sahroian's parents, Melick and Elbis Sahroian, are members of his household. Of their six children he is one of the most helpful to them. His sister married James Daglighian and lives at Selma, Fresno county. Mr. Sahroian, still loving his native land with true patriotism, is nevertheless thoroughly Americanized, and his aspirations are all for the future greatness of his adopted country. In many ways he has shown that he possesses a commendable public spirit and there is no local interest that does not have his encouragement and support.

• JOHN J. SCHUELLER

One of the most persistent and successful promoters of the development of Central California is John J. Schueller of No. 401 South Bridge street, Visalia. Mr. Schueller was born in Prussia in 1844, and was brought to the United States by his family, which settled in Sheboygan county, Wis. After leaving school he became a salesman of agricultural implements, in which capacity he traveled many years, winning much success and acquiring a wide acquaintance. In 1884 he bought land and settled down to farming and cattle, horse and hog breeding, besides giving considerable attention to grain, and eventually he allied himself successfully with the insurance business. Twenty years later, in 1904, on account of impaired health, he gave up the latter business and settled at Visalia, Tulare county, becoming the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land northeast of town, so exceedingly rich and productive that in 1907 he marketed one hundred and eighty tons of hay cut from one hundred acres. This property is now operated by a tenant under lease. Mr. Schueller is the owner of valuable real estate on South Bridge street, Visalia, and being a man of much public spirit he has from time to time participated prominently in movements for the benefit of the community. He is much

interested in the development of Tulare county, and as a correspondent to German papers published in Wisconsin, has put many glowing accounts of local conditions and advantages before his countrymen in that state. This work he has followed up by writing letters to inquirers, setting forth the healthfulness of Tulare county's wonderful climate and giving in detail some account of the opportunities here offered to home-seekers. As the result of his personal efforts forty-nine families of Germans have become permanent settlers in the county. He is the moving spirit also in German Lodge, California D. O. H., No. 693, which has a membership of one hundred and twenty-two Germans, all of whom are able to read and write the English language.

In 1872 Mr. Schneller married Miss Augusta Poppe, a native of Germany, and he has seven children and thirteen grandchildren. Following are the names of his children: John P., Andrew, Herman, Casper, Joseph, Josephine and Clara. Josephine married Casper Schlaich, and Clara is the wife of A. L. Depute.

GEORGE H. TEAGUE

On the farm near Exeter, Tulare county, on which he now lives, George H. Teague was born in 1877. He was educated at Exeter and at Visalia and was reared to familiarity with farm work. John Teague, his father, was born in Missouri and came with an ox-team to California more than forty years ago and settled on the ranch which is now the home of his son. The country was then new and not very productive and his greatest success was in raising stock. He married Susan Buckman, a native of Kentucky, who survives him, he having passed away in 1907 on the family homestead near Exeter.

After his father's death Mr. Teague became associated with his mother in the conduct of the farming and stock raising enterprise which the elder Teague had brought to such important proportions. They have seventeen hundred and thirty-five acres of land in the foothills, which is a cattle range. Besides the homestead, which consists of one hundred and fifty-three acres, they own one hundred and sixty acres one-half mile north which George H. and his brother Edward E. devote to stock raising. A man of public spirit, Mr. Teague is in every way a worthy and useful citizen. In 1907 he married Miss Eva Wiley, a native of Iowa, whose parents had brought her to California. While he does not hold membership in any parlor of Native Sons of the Golden West, he is a native son of sunshiny California, proud of his birth within its borders and solicitous not only

for its material advancement, but for the moral uplift of all its people of whatever class or condition.

OCTAVIUS H. WEBB

A native of the Old Dominion, Virginia, O. H. Webb, whose present postoffice address is Dinuba, Tulare county, Cal., was born in historic Fluvanna county, January 27, 1857. His father, George H. Webb, a carpenter by trade, served under General Lee in the Civil war, from 1861 to the end of the struggle, and during the closing years of his service was detailed to the commissary department. He married Martha Noel, who like himself was a native of Virginia, and they had three children.

In 1887 O. H. Webb came to California and since then has given all of his active years to ranching. He has bought town lots in Dinuba and built a residence near the high school. For one acre he paid \$100 and for his other Dinuba lots \$100 each. He leases forty acres of the Humphrey land and has five acres in orchard, the remainder in vineyard, yielding an average crop of one ton per acre. Five acres he devotes to peaches, which yielded in 1911 one ton of dried fruit per acre at an average price of eight cents a pound.

In his youth Mr. Webb learned the carpenter's trade with his father, who was a contractor and builder, but he has not followed his trade since coming to California. Politically he has always affiliated with the Republicans. In Virginia he married Sallie Mahaynes, and they have a son, Horace L. Webb, who is married and has two children. Mrs. Webb died in May, 1887, deeply regretted by all who had known her. As a citizen Mr. Webb is public spirited to a noteworthy degree, taking a deep and abiding interest in all economic questions affecting the welfare of his community and state.

HARVEY L. WARD

December 28, 1851, Harvey L. Ward, son of Lewis and Mary (Harmon) Ward, was born in Shiawassee county, Mich. His father was a native of Vermont, his mother was born in the state of New York; they were the first couple married in the vicinity of their home and Mrs. Ward taught the first school there. Lewis Ward was a successful farmer. In 1862 the family crossed the plains with horse-teams to California by way of Omaha, Salt Lake City and the Sink of the Humboldt, traversing the desert and arriving eventually at Placer-

ville. They soon located at Mud Spring in Placer county and lived afterward at Bodega Corners, Sonoma county. In 1866 the family returned to Michigan, experiencing considerable delay at Greytown, where they had to wait for a vessel. For two years they lived near Clarence, Shiawassee county, Mich., maintaining themselves by farming, and in 1868 they returned to California by practically the same route over which they had come out before, except that they crossed the river at North Platte, taking their wagons across on hand-cars and swimming their stock, which they effected successfully, while others, who paid \$200 to have their stock taken over, lost some of it. On the way they saw many graves marked "Killed by Indians." After a short stop at Sacramento they went on to Bodega Corners, where Mr. Ward operated a hotel, meanwhile becoming owner of a farm in Green Valley.

In 1877 Mr. Ward came to Stokes Mountain and in 1880 he married, in the Wilson district, Miss Martha E. West, a daughter of California, whose parents had come across the plains in 1849. Her father, Morris M. West, a native of Kentucky, had lived some time in Missouri, whence he came to California, partially by the Platte route. His cattle gave out on the way and he made a trade by which he had a better outfit than that with which he started from Missouri. After living for a time in Sutter county, he moved to San Jose, whence he came to Tulare county, later locating in the Wilson district. Mr. and Mrs. Ward have had four children, Phoebe G., Arthur T., Henry H., and Stella. The last-mentioned has passed away. Henry H. married Mabel Allen, a native of California, and she has borne him a son, Allen Ward. Phoebe G. has distinguished herself in the high school at Visalia. Mr. Ward, most of whose schooling was obtained in the public school at Bodega Corners, Sonoma county, was determined to give his children the best education at his command. In 1892 he bought ten acres, where he now lives, two miles north of Orosi. That land was then mostly under vines. He has since been an extensive purchaser of land and now devotes twenty-two acres to vineyards, growing Muscat grapes and a few Sultanas. He has five hundred acres on Sand Creek devoted to pasturage, with two hundred acres of woodland adjoining. He also owns one hundred and twenty acres in the Baker Valley. Giving considerable attention to stock, he is especially interested in his fruit trees and vines. In a single year he has raised thirty-two tons of raisins and he has several thousand cords of wood on his property. When he came to this locality, where he and his brother, I. T. Ward, were among the earliest wheat growers, wild game was plentiful and he has killed many deer and antelope as well as bear, mountain lions and foxes. He was interested in teaming to the mountains 1877-99 and freighting to the mines in Toluque county 1888-1900. His recollections of the past are most interesting. Politi-

cally Mr. Ward is an independent Republican. He and his family are communicants of the Christian church.

WILLIAM A. WILLIAMS

In Queens county, N. Y., part of Long Island, in the old town of Jericho, William A. Williams was born January 1, 1840, a son of George and Mercy Williams, both of whom were natives of Hyde Park, London, England. When he was six years old his family removed to Mill Neck, N. Y., whence they went to Hempstead, Long Island. After two years' residence there they moved to a place four and a half miles west of Hoboken, N. J., near the Hudson river, and there lived for quite a number of years. The father was an industrious teamster and farmer, and there were nine children in the family. On July 30, 1862, William A. Williams enlisted as a private in Company K, Eleventh Regiment, New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, and later saw some of the most hazardous service of the Civil war. At Chancellorsville, his first battle, of five hundred men detailed for a certain duty, eighteen were killed, one hundred and forty-six wounded and five missing. On the second day of the fight at Gettysburg seventeen men of his regiment were killed, one hundred and twenty-four wounded and twelve missing. The Eleventh New Jersey was included in Humphrey's division of the Third Army Corps, being afterwards transferred to the Second Corps under General Hancock. Mr. Williams took part in twelve battles and in a large number of skirmishes, among them the second Chancellorsville, Battle of Wilderness, Spottsylvania and Cold Harbor. In his last general engagement he was wounded in the head by a Confederate sharpshooter and sent to the hospital, and in the course of events he was discharged from the service for disability, March 11, 1865, about a month before the collapse of the Southern Confederacy.

Returning to New Jersey, September, 1865, Mr. Williams married Josephine L. Williams, in June, 1866, and she bore him four children, Gertrude, Clark V., Josephine and one daughter, deceased. After his marriage, he lived three years in Adams county, Wis., where he devoted himself to farming and hop-raising. In 1870 he homesteaded land in Kansas, where during a time of privation he and his family lived on buffalo meat and artichokes, for the cooking of which there was no fuel but buffalo chips. It was necessary for them to haul their provisions one hundred and fifty miles, from Waterville and Marysville. The great grasshopper year, 1874, Mr. Williams will never forget. One of his neighbors had his grain in shock and he helped him to thresh his wheat. The man declared that he would cut

his corn as soon as the first grasshopper would appear, but the pests came in such numbers that they ate ten acres of corn before he could do anything to prevent them, and after having vainly attacked them with rollers, he and his wife were obliged to burn the prairie to kill them. From 1880 to 1906 he lived in various places in Colorado and South Dakota. In October of the year last mentioned he bought forty acres in Tulare county at \$40 an acre. Previously he had owned land in the Owens river valley, which he sold to the city of Los Angeles. His forty-acre tract in Tulare county was unimproved, but he has since built a house, a barn and other necessary buildings on the property and is making a specialty of the cultivation of Muscat grapes.

Associations of the days of the Civil war are maintained by Mr. Williams in a way by his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic and he receives a government pension of \$24. He was a charter member of General Shafter Post No. 191, G. A. R., of Dinuba. Politically he is a Republican. As a citizen he is public-spirited and helpful to all good interests of the community. Dear to him as are the memories of his youth and of the Civil war period, the recollections of his days of overland travel, in the period 1870-85, are no less fondly cherished. They picture to him the old road to Kansas and to Colorado, glimpses of Greeley and Fort Collins and of other wayside places and of Miller, S. Dak. Those days under the white-topped prairie schooner were days of discomfort, but they were days of hopes that after a time were fully realized. Mrs. Williams died in 1887 at her home in Missouri Hot Springs, whither she had gone on a visit and for her health while her husband was getting settled in his new location.

WILLIAM ALFORD

One of the native sons of California who are winning success in Tulare county is William Alford, who is farming and dairying eight miles north of Exeter on rural free delivery route No. 1. Mr. Alford was born in Plumas county in 1862 and began attending school near his childhood home. When he was twelve years old he was brought by his family to Tulare county, where he completed his education and where he has lived continuously to this time except during three or four years. His father, who was a native of Virginia, was a prominent farmer and an active promoter of irrigation who had much to do with the construction of early ditches in the county. His mother, also a native of the Old Dominion, was a woman of the finest character, who influence has been a beneficent force in her son's life. They came to California among the pioneers, as long ago as 1853, and passed to their reward many years ago. Mr. Alford has been familiar with the

work of the farm since his childhood, having been early instructed in it by his father. When he came to Tulare county the country was new, settlements were sparse and improvements were few and primitive. He has been permitted not only to witness but to participate in its development into one of the most productive districts of a state of wonderful resources.

In 1882 Mr. Alford bought forty acres of land and in 1907 one hundred and sixty acres more, constituting a farm of two hundred acres, which he devotes to farming, dairying and stock-raising, keeping about twenty cows the year round. His career has been successful from every point of view, for while he has prospered financially he has won the respect of his fellow-citizens by an exhibition of public spirit that has made him most helpful to all worthy local interests. His reminiscences, could they be given in full, would be most interesting as a contribution to the history of the county. He knew the pioneers and has known all the prominent men of a later day. At the time of the lamentable Mussel Slough fight, so-called, he was within a half a mile of the scene of action.

In 1890 Mr. Alford married Miss Mary Etta Mason, a native of California and a daughter of a pioneer freighter in this part of the country, and she has borne him twelve children, all of whom survive. Mr. Alford's interest in education has impelled him to accept the office of school trustee, which he has filled greatly to the advantage of the schools and his neighborhood.

JAMES ALLEN BACON

In St. Louis county, Mo., James Allen Bacon was born November 19, 1838, the eldest of the eight children of William Bacon, six of whom survive. The father was born in Kentucky in January, 1800, a son of Nathaniel Bacon, who located in St. Louis county, Mo., after the war of 1812. There William lived until 1849, when he started with his family to Texas. In Crawford county, Ark., they were detained by illness and there he bought a farm on which he lived until 1859, when he set out for California with his wife, four daughters and three sons. They came by El Paso and stopped for a while at Tucson, Ariz. Later they completed the journey to California by way of Yuma to Los Angeles and the Tejon Pass to Tulare county. They crossed the Colorado river at Ft. Fillmore and soon met Indians who run off their cattle; but followed two of them who had the cattle in charge and rescued the animals. Ten miles northeast of Visalia on the Kaweah, Mr. Bacon bought a farm, and in 1868 he took up one hundred and sixty acres, now the site of Orosi, where he was a pioneer settler. James

A. Bacon hauled lumber from the mountains and with help of hired men built the first house there, which is yet standing. The family afterward removed to Visalia, where the father died, aged eighty-one years. The mother, Mrs. Permelia Bacon, a native of St. Louis county, Mo., died in Fresno county in her seventy-ninth year. The sons of the family are James Allen; Thomas, of Fresno; Charles F., of Hollister; and William, of Phoenix, Ariz. The daughters are Missouri A. Kirkland, of Arizona; Elizabeth Campbell, of Sultana; Mary Smoot, of Cochran; and Martha Morris, of Orroyo Grande.

When he was ten years old James Allen Bacon accompanied his parents to Arkansas, where he was educated in a log school house. He drove a team to Tucson, Ariz., and remained there a year, driving a stage for Butterfield over a route east from Tucson some eighty miles, changing horses every ten hours at stations twenty miles apart. While thus employed he was twice attacked by Indians, but was saved by his swift horses. One of the red-skinned parties was in war paint. At another time his presence of mind enabled him to save his own life and that of his passengers as well. When he made his last trip as stage driver, Indians formed in line across the road and demanded whisky and tobacco. The passengers handed out their bottles, and while the Indians were drinking Mr. Bacon put whip to the horses and soon had the whole party out of danger.

Mr. Bacon's observations and experience would be interesting could they be given in full. He told of having seen a monument on the east border of Tulare county which was erected by General Scott in the early '50s. He was acquainted with the Dalton brothers, with Sontag and Evans and with James McKinney, and saw James McCreary hanged at Visalia. He said the condemned man had said he would never die with his boots on and pulled them off before going to the gallows. Mr. Bacon built a dwelling in the Orosi district, between Centerville and Visalia. He rode back and forth in all directions over this country before there was any fruit or grain raised here. He homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land east of Visalia and bought some railroad land. After he had gone into the sheep business, he met a man from Visalia to whom he traded for a horse a claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land where Orosi now stands, which is worth now \$500 an acre. In the period 1860 to 1870 he saw thousands of antelope and wild horses and many Indians, and on Fish slough and other swamps saw many elk. Bear were plentiful on the plains and many of them were killed for meat. Mr. Bacon himself killed fifty bears and was in many a desperate bear fight.

The Bacon family came on to California in 1859 and for a time James was employed by his uncle, James Fielding Bacon, in the stock business. In that same year he went to the mines at Princeton, in Mariposa county. After having been employed five years there, at

Marysville and elsewhere, he went to Orosi and built his father's house. Later he again helped his uncle for many years in hog and stock-raising. He also found lucrative employment in driving stock to the southern mines. After the organization of the California Raisin Growers' Association he was active in its development.

On October 17, 1880, in Tulare county, Mr. Bacon married Sarah Edmiston, a native of Calaveras county, and a daughter of N. B. Edmiston. The family home was at Orosi after January, 1889. Mr. Bacon died July 3, 1912, in Fresno. His wife passed away, in her forty-seventh year, March 17, 1901. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Following are the names of five children who survive: Alice Maud, married William Mackersie, of Dinuba, and has two sons, Gerald Edward and William Kenneth; Thomas Allen, of Dinuba, married Cora Tracy and has one son, James Emerson; Edith Theodate married R. J. Reed and has one son, John Allen; Jessie Ethel is the wife of Jesse Furtney; and Elsie Viola. In his political affiliations Mr. Bacon was a Democrat, and was a member of the county central committee and was also elected and served two terms as a school trustee. As a man of public spirit he always took a helpful interest in the community.

GEORGE EDWARD ALLEN

Near Lena, in Stephenson county, Ill., George Edward Allen was born January 27, 1850, a son of James Allen, who was born in Canada and died in Illinois in 1855. The widow remarried two years later and died in Illinois also. For a short time George E. Allen attended the common school and when about twelve years old became self-supporting. In 1869 he went to Knox county, Ill., and there followed coal mining for five years, at that time moving to Iowa and farming in Polk and Jasper counties. From there he went to Turner county, S. Dak., in 1883, and in July, that year, the crops were destroyed by a hail storm. After four years in Dakota, some of which were not as strenuous as the first one, Mr. Allen came to Tulare county, Cal., settling on White river, and for eighteen years harvested crops of wheat that ranged from one-half a sack to six sacks an acre and sold at sixty-eight cents to \$1.47 a hundred pounds. He located on his present homestead in 1906, when he bought forty acres of unimproved land, four acres of which are now in Marshall strawberries and two acres in orange nursery trees of one season's growth. His strawberry plants are bearing fairly well and in a recent season he sold eleven thousand baskets at an average price of seven cents a basket. His Muscat grapes are just beginning to bear. He has fourteen acres of them, intends

soon to set eleven acres to orange trees, and now has eight acres in peach trees just bearing.

Mr. Allen married in 1870 Margaret Morgan, in Knox county, Ill., and has two children living, Mabel B. and William M. One daughter, Jennie, died in childhood in Dakota. Mabel B. married Henry Ward, of Tulare county, and they have a son named Allen Ward. In political affiliations Mr. Allen is Republican, thoroughly devoted to the principles of his party, and as a citizen he is public-spirited to a degree that insures his usefulness to the community.

JOHN WALTON BOZEMAN

In Hinds county, Miss., August 31, 1836, was born John Walton Bozeman, who has lived in Tulare county about as long as any surviving pioneer. His grandfather, Howell Bozeman, built the first state house, at Milledgeville, Ga., and eventually moved to Mississippi, accompanied by members of his family and others. Thomas Jefferson Bozeman, who was John Walton's father, remained in Hinds county, Miss., until after his son was born and he left his wife Rachel Parker, buried there. In 1842 the family moved to Louisiana, where the father married Miss Eliza Ford, of which union two children, William and Mary Near, survive. In 1849 they settled in Texas and in 1854 crossed the plains in a party with ox-team outfits to California, where he became engaged in farming on Kings river and mining in Mariposa and Kern counties, putting up the first tent on Poso creek flats, where he mined, kept a boarding house, and did freighting.

J. W. Bozeman's recollections of that cross-country trip would be interesting reading could they all be put into print. He helped to bury the bodies of members of the Oatman family, who had been murdered by Indians on their way from Texas to California. Two of the Oatman children were captured by the savages and one of them was rescued later by friends. Usually emigrants were safe so long as goodly numbers of them kept together, but there was great peril for any who became separated from their trains.

It was when he was about eighteen years old that Mr. Bozeman arrived in California, passing through Tulare county along the immigrant trail, and on October 12, 1854, they stopped on Kings river. His opportunities for education had been very limited, as almost from childhood he had ridden after cattle or worked in the cotton field. In 1864, in San Bernardino county, he married Miss Susan Hendrey, born January 16, 1842, in Indiana, daughter of Isaac Hendrey, who was a pioneer of Oregon. He was a descendant of old Irish families and his wife was Miss Mary White of Indiana. Mrs. Bozeman passed

away in Kings county in 1898, while the family were living near Hanford. She was the mother of a large family of children, all natives of California, eight of whom grew to maturity and married, viz.: Preston Leander, of Exeter; Julia A., married to L. H. Byron, of Lemoore; Armazila U., wife of E. C. Nowlan, of Exeter; Jesse D., of Hanford; Melissa A., wife of J. Bloomhall, of Alhambra; John W., of Fresno; Hattie, married to Warren Hawley, of Lindsay; and Rachel, wife of Ralph Berridge, of Porterville. Three children died in infancy, and Chester W. passed away in early childhood. The father of Mrs. Bozeman lived to the age of ninety-six years, and one of his daughters, Mrs. Cleghorn, now lives at Highlands, San Bernardino county. Two of his sons are making their home at the Soldiers' Home at Eugene, Oregon.

After his marriage Mr. Bozeman went into the sheep business and was successful for about twenty years, keeping most of the time about ten thousand head. He became the owner of three hundred acres of land on Kings river, where he settled in 1854, with his father, and later rented large tracts on which he sowed grain. His last wheat crop was garnered from thirty-five hundred acres. He disposed of all his holdings in Kings county and lives with his children, and has been a resident of Porterville since January, 1911. He has always been an active, influential and public-spirited citizen.

MARTIN WIRHT

In that wonderful European republic, Switzerland, Martin Wirht, who now lives a mile and a quarter northwest of Exeter, Tulare county, Cal., was born in 1857. When he was eleven years old he came to the United States and made his way to Springfield, Ill., where he lived a year, and from that time until 1879 his home was in Missouri. He went from Missouri to Kansas, from Kansas to Wyoming, and then back to Kansas, and in 1896 from Kansas to California, living six years in Wyoming and six years in Kansas.

In Tulare county Mr. Wirht's first place of residence was Porterville, from which town he moved to his present home near Exeter, where he has fifteen acres bearing oranges, five acres under grapevines and twenty-five acres on which he grows vines and trees. His navel oranges are of fine variety and are usually among the earliest in his vicinity to reach the market. When he took the ranch in hand it was raw and without improvements, but he has provided it with a house and other buildings and developed it into one of the best homesteads in the Exeter district.

The marriage of Martin Wirht and Eliza Meredith, a native of

Missouri, has resulted in the birth of five children, all of whom were educated or are being educated in Tulare county. Their oldest daughter is married. The parents of both Mr. and Mrs. Wirht have passed away. Mr. Wirht is regarded as a self-made man who richly deserves the success that he has won. He has always been too busy to take up political work and is not ambitious for office, but he is public-spiritedly helpful to all worthy interests of the community.

RICHARD BURKE

This is the life story of a man whose activities were begun as a drummer boy in the Federal army in the Civil war. Born in Clay county, Ill., July 5, 1849, he was only about twelve years old when the war began. He enlisted at Louisville, Ill., December 21, 1863, in Company K, Forty-eighth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was attached to the Third Brigade, Second Division, Fifteenth Army Corps, with which the name of Gen. John A. Logan is identified. The first fight in which he participated was that of Buzzard's Roost, at Resaca, Ga. From that time on until the end of the war he took part in many hotly contested engagements of greater or less importance, participating in Sherman's march to the sea; his more immediate commanding generals being successively Harland, Hazen, Oliver and Rice. It was not long after his service began that he became a soldier in active duty. He was discharged August 15, 1865, and mustered out at Springfield.

Returning to Clay county, Ill., Mr. Burke remained there until April 20, 1870, when he started for California, arriving in Stockton, Cal., May 1, that year. He then came to Tulare county and remained until April, 1872, when he located in Squaw Valley, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land which he has improved and on which he now lives. By subsequent purchase he has come to own three hundred and fifty-two acres. He farms about one hundred acres, the rest of his land being under pasture and timber, and keeps about one hundred head of stock.

On August 5, 1868, in Louisville, Ill., Mr. Burke married Miss Mary R. Drake, a native of Ohio. Her parents, also of Ohio birth, came to California in 1870, being members of Mr. Burke's party. They found the country very new and were obliged to go thirty-five miles for their mail, which they got at Visalia. They paid eighteen cents a pound for brown sugar by the half barrel, and other things in proportion. Children as follows were born to Mr. and Mrs. Burke. Anna G., Floy I., Elva Lewis, Ahneda J., John W., Harry A., Oliver M., Viola L., and Harold R. Anna G. married C. C. Traweek. Floy I.

is Mrs. W. A. Hampton. Elva Lewis is the wife of L. B. Holcombe. Almeda J. is the wife of Harlan McIntire. John W. married Miss Jean Lawresten, formerly a teacher. Harry A. married Myrtle M. Akers. Oliver M. married Irene Fleming, who was a teacher. Viola L. married T. R. Byrd. Harold R. is a graduate of Heald's Business College of Fresno and is employed in that city. Mr. and Mrs. Burke have thirteen grandchildren.

In his politics Mr. Burke is Republican. He is a member of Atlanta Post, G. A. R., at Fresno.

A. M. DREISBACH

At Tiffin, Ohio, April 20, 1852, was born A. M. Dreisbach, who is now a farmer and a minister of the United Brethren church at Exeter, Tulare county, Cal. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, came to Ohio in his youth; he married a daughter of a German, and died in 1876. Mr. Dreisbach's mother has been dead many years.

A. M. Dreisbach remained at Tiffin until he was twenty-five years old, and there he secured a primary education which he supplemented by a course at the Eastman Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He had just completed his studies at that institution when he was recalled to his home by the death of his father. His earlier labors were all on the ranch, but eventually he entered the ministry. From his old home in Ohio he went to Kansas, and a year later went up into Iowa. From there he returned to Kansas, and he went thence to Utah. About eighteen years ago he came to California and settled at Exeter, where he now has a beautiful ranch of twenty-five acres, his principal crop being oranges. This property he has acquired by industry and economy and those other personal qualities which are the fundamentals of the success of the self-made man.

In 1878 Mr. Dreisbach married Miss Elizabeth Bollinger of Nebraska, who has borne her husband eight children, three of whom, Clara, John Wesley and Hattie, have died since the family came to California. The others are Minnie, Nellie, Harvey, Grace and Roy. The latter is a student in the high school at Exeter. Minnie married Rev. J. L. Hanson in 1909; he is pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church South at LeGrand, Cal. They have one child, Margaret. Nellie married T. W. Harvey, a furniture dealer at Los Angeles. The others are at home. Mr. Dreisbach is patriotic and public-spirited, interested in the political issues of the day, especially solicitous for the cause of temperance. He has held public office, but he does not affiliate with any secret order.

SAMUEL LAVERNE KENNEY

Back in Tennessee in Greene county, Samuel Laverne Kenney, who now lives three miles southeast of Orosi, in Tulare county, Cal., first saw the light of day in the year 1863. He lived there with his parents until he was seven years old, then the family moved to Missouri and located in Pineville, McDonald county, where the elder Kenney farmed sixteen years. It was in 1886 that Samuel L. came to Tulare county, within the borders of which he has since had his home, in the Alta district. The country round about was then a vast wheat-field, without trees or fences, and stock roamed at will in the swamps and hills. He now has on his homestead eighty acres of fine land, eighteen acres of which are in Malaga grapes, ten in peaches, ten in miscellaneous orchard trees, and the balance under pasture. His vineyard and orchard are just coming into bearing. He keeps enough horses to work his ranch and raises a few hogs each year. He has a four-year-old grove of eucalyptus trees.

The parents of Mr. Kenney were James D. and Nancy (Goodin) Kenney, natives of Tennessee. The mother died in Missouri and Mr. Kenney came to Tulare county in 1901, where he passed away in December, 1912. They had children named Ebie, Wroten, Bruce R., Samuel L., Callie, and Ida. Bruce R. married Lotta Scott, who bore him three children, Ralph, Laverne, and Goldie. With the exception of Samuel L. and Ida the others have passed away.

As a citizen Mr. Kenney has many times and in many ways demonstrated his public spirit by lending generous aid to movements for the uplift and development of the community. Politically he is a Socialist.

JOSIAH M. FERGUSON

A long and useful career which has figured prominently in national as well as civic affairs has identified Josiah M. Ferguson as one of the most valued citizens of his country and his service in the Civil war supplemented by active participation in the development of Tulare county has marked him a staunch patriot. In the state of Georgia, in the heart of the Sunny South, Josiah M. Ferguson was born March 25, 1843, son of Champ and Rachel (Dackett) Ferguson, the former an old Georgia planter, and a native of Kentucky, his wife being a native of Georgia.

Josiah M. Ferguson was reared and educated in his native place and learned much about the cultivation of the soil. In 1863 he made his way through the mountains and enlisted in Company G, Tenth

Tennessee Cavalry, serving in that company until he received his discharge. Soon after the war he removed to Tennessee, and there, October 20, 1872, he married Miss Parthenia C. Cundiff, a native of that state. From Tennessee, in 1875, they came to Tulare county, Cal., and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land which Mr. Ferguson developed into a good farm, on which he lived until 1904, when he moved to Porterville, and passed away in 1909. He helped to establish the postoffice at Poplar and served as postmaster one year. He was a man of public spirit, ready at all times to do anything in his power for the advancement of the interests of his fellow-citizens whom he held in warm affection as friends and neighbors. He aided in building the Poplar ditch, ran the first water, and was president of the company. Fraternally he affiliated with the Masons and was a member of the G. A. R. He was a Republican in politics.

The parents of Mrs. Ferguson were Thomas and Mary (Grass) Cundiff, natives of Virginia and descended from old and honorable Southern families. She bore her husband eight children, three of them native sons and four native daughters of California. All of them survive except James, who was drowned at Oakland in 1901. Cordelia, the eldest, born in Tennessee, was nine months old when her parents came to California. She married Fletcher Martin and is living in Tulare county. The others were Dora, Mrs. George Futrell, and Cora, Mrs. William Walker (twins), Mary, wife of Arthur Hayes, Tennia, married to Ernest Ridgeway, James, Thomas and Fletcher. The two last mentioned are in business at Porterville, Cal. Mrs. Ferguson has five grandsons and five granddaughters. She owns a half-section of fine land near Poplar, which was their old homestead. A woman of strong character, whose good influence is manifested in the lives of her children, she is fortunate in being able to pass her declining years in association with friends who honor her for her sake and for her husband's and regard her with gratitude for many kindnesses which she has rendered them.

MARTIN CLICK

Descended in the paternal line from old families of Germany, where his father, Peter Click, was born, "Mart" Click, who lives ten miles west of Porterville, Tulare county, is a native of Stark county, Ohio, where he opened his eyes to the world June 18, 1844. He spent his boyhood and youth in attending public schools and helping his father on the farm. In 1864, when he was twenty years old, he came to California. Stopping in Placer county, he worked for wages six years for B. C. Trefry, with whom he came to Merced county in 1870

and bought a band of sheep, numbering about nine hundred head. They remained partners and stayed there until 1874, when they sold out and came to Tulare county and again bought four thousand sheep on the plains. In 1881 Mr. Click bought his partner's interest, since which time he has been engaged independently. In 1877, the year known to sheep men as the "hard year," he had ten thousand head, all of which he lost except about two thousand, by which misfortune he was brought to practical ruin. In 1886, selling his sheep, he bought three hundred and twenty acres of land near Woodville and engaged in raising grain, cattle, horses and sheep, in which business he has continued up to the present time with a degree of success that has done much to make him forget his troubles of the past. His home has been on this ranch since that date, and he has witnessed the development of the county, in which he has been a participant.

In 1883 Mr. Click married Miss Hope Broughton, a native of Pennsylvania. She has borne him a son, Roy Click, who was educated at Stanford University, and who married Miss Nellie Stockton, they residing with Mr. and Mrs. Click. Mr. Click, while entertaining pronounced opinions on all political and economic questions, has never accepted any office, but he is not without influence among his townsmen, who honor him as a pioneer, remembering that when he came to Tulare county it and the territory in all directions was wild, open country where any man could feed sheep at will. When he went to Porterville there were only two stores there. Bear and deer were plentiful in the country round about and he often saw cattle come eight to ten miles for water. He has grown up with the country, whose development he has encouraged in many public-spirited ways.

JOHN BACON

A native of Pennsylvania, John Bacon went to the old frontier in Ohio when he was a small child. Thence he later emigrated to Missouri, and from Missouri he crossed the plains with ox-teams, in 1859, and made his way to the mines in Amador county, where he sought gold for a few months. In 1860 he came to Tulare county and engaged in cattle raising. Later he took up government land near Tulare city and still later he owned a ranch east of Visalia, where he lived the closing years of his life and passed away August 18, 1911, aged eighty-nine years. He married Margaret Hall, a native of Canada, and she bore him six children. Catherine, who was the third in order of birth of the family, became the wife of B. S. Velie in 1901. He is a native of New York state, who came to California in 1892 and went into the insurance business at Tulare. He came to Visalia in

1904 and established an insurance and real estate business here, which he manages while looking after his twenty-acre ranch on East Mineral King avenue, ten acres of which is producing peaches. Mrs. Velie has an old chest, a bed quilt, some german-silver spoons and other valuable articles which her father brought across the plains with him and which she prizes highly. The members of the family in order of birth are: Mrs. George W. Dailey; James; Mrs. B. S. Velie; Alexander; Mrs. Levi Mathewson; Mrs. G. B. Ralph, and Mrs. A. J. Teague. All are residents of Tulare county with the exception of Mrs. G. B. Ralph, who resides in Stockton, Cal.

WILLIAM FINDLEY

On the Siberian river, Texas, William Findley was born February 22, Washington's Birthday, 1851. When he was six years old his parents, John and Sarah J. (Masters) Findley, natives respectively of Missouri and Texas, brought him across the plains to California. The family was included in a party which came with ox-teams and had frequent trouble with Indians on the way. The savages often attempted to stampede or run off their cattle, and even when they were driven away they managed to kill the animals. At times the emigrants, under protection of wagon stockades, fought long battles with their red-skinned foes, whose flintlock guns laid many a white man low. Ten of the party were killed by the Indians and Mr. Findley's sister Martha died on the way out. The family came to Hackby Ford in 1858 and started in the cattle business, locating in Tulare later in that year. In August, 1871, the grandfather, John Findley, who was the owner of two square miles of land in Drnn Valley, was called to the door of his house by robbers, who demanded his money, evidently believing that he had considerable of it on hand. His wife died in 1900.

About 1907 William Findley located on his present homestead, where he has one hundred and thirty-three acres of grain and pasture land, a garden and about two thousand cords of wood in the tree. He keeps forty-five to fifty head of cattle and about half as many hogs. The elder Findley and his son are Democrats and their fellow citizens recognize them as men of public spirit.

February 22, 1868, his birthday, Mr. Findley married, in the Sand Creek neighborhood, Miss Ellen Woodey, who has borne him ten children. John M. married Martha Dean and has four children, Blanche, Cecil, Gerald, and Inez. William J. married Mrs. Ida Strong, a daughter of Stephen Gaster, at one time treasurer of Fresno county. Ivan married Susan Collier and their children are Aaron, Byron and Myrtle. Lee married Minnie Robinson and their children are Earl, Oswald and

Melba. Martha married John Dean and is the mother of the following children, Carroll, Maud and Cleo. Callie A. married Levi Dean and their children are Gilbert and Forest. Mary married Fred Kiner and their children are Clare E., Elsie, Harold and Denzelle. Ira, unmarried, resides with William J. Findley. Myrtle is single and lives with her mother at Dinuba. Daisy married Daniel Tullie and resides at Orosi.

CALVIN H. ANTRIM

A respected and well-known citizen of Tulare county, now living retired from active cares in Orosi, is Calvin H. Antrim, whose career has been indicative of energy, thrift and perseverance. Born in Clinton, Ohio, April 12, 1827, he was a son of Hiram and Sarah (Whitson) Antrim, natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania and who were the parents of a family of nine children. Receiving his education in the common schools of his locality, Calvin H. Antrim early learned the carpenter's trade, being quite proficient when he was but fourteen years old, and until 1895 that was his chief occupation. He left Ohio in March, 1866, going to Lewis county, Mo., where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, on which he lived for eleven years with his sons, and followed farming. In November, 1877, he went to Lee county, Iowa, where he farmed and raised stock in partnership with Dr. Todd until he give it up on account of poor health. In October, 1889, he decided to come to Tulare county, Cal., to recuperate, and buying seven town lots in Orosi he erected a residence on one which he sold in the fall of 1912 for hotel purposes. For thirteen years he ran the stage between Orosi and Cutler, carrying passengers, mail, freight and express, but since then he has lived in practical retirement, enjoying the well-earned rest from active life.

On February 6, 1851, Mr. Antrim was married to Nancy Jane Cohagen, a native of Greene county, Ohio, born October 20, 1833, and children as follows were born to them: Hiram, A. Ellen, Luella, Lincoln, Elmer, Susan H., Ira, Ida, Elbert, Cora, John W., and Lillian. Hiram, now deceased, married Belle Furtney and had five children. Luella married Andy Langwith and they were the parents of two children. Lincoln married Ida Smith, a native of Iowa, and they have two children. Susan H. married W. D. George. Elbert married Anna Powell and has two children. John W. married Dora Lovelace and they have one child. Lillian is the wife of Ed Combs. The others have all passed away, and the mother's death occurred November 19, 1908, at the age of seventy-four years.

In 1862 Mr. Antrim became a member of that famous military

organization known to history as the Squirrel Hunters and participated in the operations involving Morgan's raid into the North. He was honorably discharged from the service March 4, 1863. In politics he is Republican, and as a citizen he has always been public-spirited and helpful.

FRANCIS M. MAYES

A native of McDonald county, Missouri, Francis M. Mayes is a son of natives of that state and his parents were Richard and Elizabeth (Moffett) Mayes. He was born November 30, 1845, and came overland to California with his father with ox-teams when he was about twelve years old. The party, under direction of Captain Pogue, left their old homes in April, 1857, and consumed about the usual time in making the trip. There were about thirty wagons in the train and enough oxen for convenient relief. The party came by the North Platte, the Hudson Cutoff, the Honey Lake route, and thence by way of Red Bluff. Along the Humboldt river in Nevada the Indians were very troublesome and they had only a little while before massacred all the members of a large party of emigrants, appropriating the stock and running the wagons into the river. Only two yoke of oxen were lost to Indians by Captain Pogue's party and they were later recovered. Every precaution for safety was taken. Encamping, a stockade was formed and guards were ever on the alert. During the progress of the journey there was some sickness and two children were born to women of the party. After a brief rest at Red Bluff the journey was completed and Mr. Mayes and family went to a point near Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, where he lived from late in 1857 until in 1875. There the mother died in 1858, leaving three sons and four daughters, of which family but three survive. Coming to Tulare county the elder Mayes resided with his son until his death in 1878.

Having come thus to California, Francis M. Mayes gained his education in public schools in Sonoma county and learned blacksmithing under his father's instruction. He settled in Antelope Valley in Tulare county, on one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land which in the course of events he was obliged to relinquish. But he moved his house onto another tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Sand Creek Gap, which he purchased from the Southern Pacific Railway Company. Later he came into possession of two hundred and forty acres of railroad land which he improved and on which he lived until in 1897, when he sold it and removed to Orosi, buying property there and going into general blacksmithing. It was as a blacksmith that he busied himself during the succeeding eight years. When he first set-

tled in the Sand Creek Gap there was no townsite nearer than Visalia, all trading and postoffice business having been done at Visalia. Deer, bear, antelope, and other wild game was plentiful and much of the country round about was given over to the feeding of sheep. At the end of the period mentioned he sold out his interests at Orosi and bought forty-four acres on the Dinuba road, where he took up his residence and has since developed a fine home ranch. The land was mostly planted to fruit. He has ten acres of Malaga grapes, fifteen of wine grapes and five of Muscats. Eleven acres are given to peaches, his trees now being about six years old, and he has sixty orange trees, some miscellaneous fruit and several attractive palms. In 1911 he sold for shipment sixty-two tons of Malaga grapes at \$28 and \$30 a ton, grew ninety-eight tons of wine grapes on fifteen acres, produced ten tons of Zinfandels to the acre, of which he has five acres, sold four and a half tons of dried peaches for ten cents a pound, and received \$900 for wine grapes and the same amount for peaches. He keeps horses enough to work his ranch.

Politically Mr. Mayes is a Democrat and for more than twenty years he has filled the office of school trustee. He and members of his family are communicants of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. The lady who became his wife was Miss Mary E. Fandre, a native of California, and she has borne him children as follows: Mattie, deceased, Frances E., Etta and Arthur, deceased, Melvin L., Oscar O. and Edith, deceased (twins), Ella, and Clara. Frances E. became the wife of Victor Franzen, a native of Sweden, and they have two sons and three daughters. Clara married Fred G. Nelson, an Englishman by birth, and they are living in Tulare county and they have two sons and one daughter.

STILES A. McLAUGHLIN

The McLaughlin family, to which belongs Stiles A. McLaughlin, originated in Scotland. His grandfather, John McLaughlin, lived in Pennsylvania. His father was William Harrison McLaughlin and was a native of Pennsylvania, where he grew up and learned the trade of carriage maker, later removing to Ohio. Following his trade there for a short time he engaged in merchandising and various other pursuits with varying success. It was in Ashtabula county, Ohio, that Stiles A. was born January 3, 1852. When he was about ten years old his parents moved to Pennsylvania, and after a residence there of six years they went to Illinois, where they remained for a like period.

The changes of time brought the younger McLaughlin to California when he was about twenty-one years old. He worked in Yolo

county about a year, then came to Lemoore, Kings county, and soon afterward acquired a land claim half a mile south of that town. He relinquished it, however, and bought forty acres, bounded on one side by the city line, which he planted to fruit trees and retained until 1902, when he sold it to advantage. He then bought forty acres west of the forty just referred to and eighty acres adjoining this last purchase. After having lived there six years, he sold forty acres of the property, retaining the eighty acres, forty of which is in vineyard, and moved to Lemoore. In these various real estate deals he was quite successful, gradually accumulating money and land until he has come to be considered one of the well-to-do men of that part of the county. He is a director of the First National Bank of Lemoore and has been in one way or another identified with several interests of importance. His public spirit impelled him to accept the nomination of his party for membership of the Board of Supervisors of Kings county. He was three times elected and served continuously from November, 1895, to December, 1906.

Local lodges of Free & Accepted Masons, Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows include Mr. McLaughlin in their membership. In 1876 he married Mary Wright, daughter of Samuel Wright, a pioneer of 1868 in Kings county, who made his mark as a farmer and stockman. They have children as follows: Wilnot Wright, of Lemoore; Aimee, wife of Samuel McCorkle, of Dinuba; Mary, who is a clerk in the postoffice at Lemoore; and Elnira, a student in the high school. In April, 1912, Mr. McLaughlin completed his comfortable brick residence on West D street, which is up-to-date in every respect and adds greatly to the residence district of Lemoore, being most tasteful and attractive in design and appearance.

The Wright family of which Mrs. McLaughlin is a member came originally from England and were old Virginia settlers, coming to Ohio in the early part of the nineteenth century. Later they removed to Iowa, whence Mrs. McLaughlin's parents, Samuel and Amelia A. (Orton) Wright, came overland to California in 1849. Mrs. Wright is of Scotch ancestry and is now making her home at Lemoore, bright and active at the advanced age of eighty-four.

JOHN C. JOHNSON

In the year 1845, on the sixth of January, John C. Johnson was born near Palmyra, in Marion county, Mo., a son of William Shirley and Ruth (Risk) Johnson. His mother was one of sixteen children of William Risk, an American officer in the Revolutionary war, whose

shoe and knee buckles were run into six teaspoons and presented to her, as she was the youngest daughter in the family, and this custom is ever since followed from generation to generation, the relics descending to the youngest daughter. She was a native of Scott county, Ky., but moved to Marion county, Mo., and during her first winter there saw the snow three feet deep on level ground. She was early taught the ways of the housewife and often gave members of her family products of her spinning wheel and of her loom. Mr. Johnson has a bedspread which was woven by his mother from material of her own spinning, much of the work having been done by the light of one of the old style grease lamps. By her marriage with William Shirley Johnson she had a daughter named Elizabeth, who died in infancy, and a son, John C., who is the immediate subject of this review. By her first marriage with James Johnson, a brother of W. S. Mrs. Johnson had five children, of whom Mary A. is living. William R. married Clementine Adams, who bore him three children, and by a second marriage, with Louisa Dale, he had two daughters. Sarah J. became the wife of William M. Allen and bore him five sons and a daughter. Joseph S. married Rebecca Allen and had five daughters and two sons, all of whom are living in California. James H. married Sarah Shanks, daughter of the Rev. John Shanks, a Christian minister, and has two children. Mary A. married John W. Cason and has three sons and three daughters.

John C. Johnson, who was taken early from Marion county to Lewis county, Mo., has not married. He spent much of his life on the farm his father bought of the United States government at \$1.25 an acre, to which John C. added forty acres, making a ranch of four hundred and forty acres. His parents had sold their property in Kentucky before they came to Missouri. In 1905 and 1906 he sold off the Missouri homestead of the family and in the latter year came to Tulare county, Cal., and bought sixty-two acres, thirty-five of which is under vines, twenty acres devoted to peaches. He raises also some alfalfa which runs about a ton an acre to a cutting. He has taken thirty-five tons of dried peaches from his land in a season, which he considers the banner yield. In national politics Mr. Johnson is a Democrat, but on local issues supports men and measures he considers for the public good. His interest in the general good is deep and abiding and he aids to the extent of his ability any movement proposed for the benefit of the community.

WILLIAM MICHAELIS

In a conversation some time since someone said of this man, who lives in the vicinity of Porterville, Tulare county, Cal., "He is a great

booster for Tulare county." This is a homely way of saying very briefly that Mr. Michaelis, though a native of Germany, is loyal to the community with which he has cast his lot and is solicitous for its progress as any native son of the soil could possibly be. He was born August 1, 1882, was educated in the Fatherland and patriotically served two years in the German army. Coming to the United States when he was twenty-four years old, he spent his first few years in California in working at the mason's trade. His father and mother came to this county, too; the former passed away some years ago, and the latter is living in Tulare county.

Martha Yolitz, born September 24, 1881, a native of Germany, became Mr. Michaelis's wife in 1906. She has borne him two children, Willie, born January 4, 1908, and Martine, September 18, 1909. Soon after his arrival here Mr. Michaelis bought land, most of which is in grain, but seven acres are planted in pomegranate trees. His achievements, considering his opportunities, are noteworthy, the more so because they are the achievements of a self-made man, who in his day of small things began in a small way and has risen steadily year by year until he ranks with the prosperous men of his community. Politically he is a Republican, interested in all that pertains to the public good. As a citizen he is always generously helpful to all movements for the common benefit.

MICHAEL GILLIGAN

A native of Ireland, Michael Gilligan was born November 15, 1830. After he had grown up he came to Canada, where he was employed for a time in railroad work. Eventually, in 1871, he came to California and remained long enough to fall in love with the country, but went back to Canada and lived there another year before settling here permanently. He located a quarter-section, his brother having located the same amount of land also. All of this land ultimately became his and by later purchase his holdings were increased to ten hundred and twenty acres. The sheep business subsequently engaged his attention, starting with three hundred and seventy-four head, and in time he owned as high as three thousand, but in 1877 he lost all but about seven hundred head. He was compelled to conform to the changes in farming and in stock growing with which the history of Central and Southern California has made every observer and reader familiar, and in time he sold out his sheep interests and gradually paid more and more attention to his land, which he is now handling in a way that makes it very profitable. In 1911 he sold his sheep to his son, who in turn sold them to a Frenchman who rents the Gilligan ranch.

In 1866 Mr. Gilligan married Nora Broderick, who was born and reared in Canada. Of the ten children born to them six have passed away, the four remaining being John E., Hugh, Michael T. and Nora. The latter married Jesse Riley. Mr. Gilligan is a public-spirited man who does his full share in promotion of the general uplift. His interest in the country in which he has cast his fortunes is all the deeper because his recollections of it in the days that are gone are those of a pioneer, who came to it when it was practically a wild state, with antelope and other game plentiful and Indians in evidence everywhere. At that time there was only one house between his home and Visalia, twenty-five miles.

BARNEY DE LA GRANGE

The great grand-father of Barney De La Grange, of Orosi, Cal., came to America to fight for the independence of the colonies under command of General Lafayette, and hence Mr. De La Grange is a genuine Son of the American Revolution, without the necessity of joining the association of that name. Mr. De La Grange is one of the best known carpenters and orange growers in the district north of Orosi and a leading citizen of Tulare county, and was born in West Virginia April 16, 1858, a son of Omie and Elizabeth (McLain) De La Grange, respectively of French and Scotch ancestry. There were in his father's family nine children, five of whom were daughters. When Barney De La Grange was thirteen years old his parents moved to Ohio. He has in the course of his life been an extensive traveler in America, having covered the entire country from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes and from ocean to ocean. He married in West Virginia, Ida M. Lewis, a native of Kentucky, but of English parentage, and she bore him a daughter, Lena Marie, who married George M. Daniels, of Creston, Iowa, and has sons, James B. and Lloyd. Mrs. De La Grange passed away in 1895, in West Virginia.

In his youth Mr. De La Grange learned the trade of carpenter and builder in which he was employed at different times and at different places. He has recently bought a ranch of twenty acres north of Orosi and will plant it to navel, Valencia and other varieties of oranges. He has lived in Tulare county since 1909, having come here from Fresno county, where he had located eight years before.

It has been seen that Mr. De La Grange is a descendant of a patriot hero "of the days that tried men's souls." He is the proud owner of a pair of shoe buckles once worn by his great-grandmother when she danced with George Washington at a famous ball in Philadelphia. Of German silver, of beautiful design and fine workmanship,

they are exceedingly interesting relics. Omie De La Grange, father of Barney, was a veteran of the war of 1812 and served his country in the Mexican war. Mr. De La Grange's brother William enlisted in Company B, Eleventh Virginia Infantry, April 1, 1862, and served three years in the Civil war. He is now a citizen of Selma. Politically Mr. De La Grange is a Republican and his religious affiliations are with the Methodist church. Fraternally he is identified with the Woodmen.

JOHN B. HOCKETT

The life of the late John B. Hockett, of Porterville, Tulare county, Cal., spanned the period from 1827 to 1898. He was born at Huntsville, Ala., and died at his California home. From Alabama he moved to Arkansas and in 1849 from there to California. His father, William Hockett, came here with him and they mined for some time on the Tuolumne river. Eventually John B. Hockett went back east and remained over the winter, returning in 1854 and settling in Lagrange, Stanislaus county, where he operated a butcher shop. There in 1859 he married Miss Margaret McGee, a native of Texas, born January 27, 1840, who bore him seven children, all born in Tulare county, where they settled in 1859. At Visalia he engaged in merchandising with Johnson & Jordan, and later with Reinstein & Clapp. In 1864 he came to Porterville. He engaged in the hardware business in Porterville about 1889, remaining three years, and was interested in the stock business for years.

The parents of Mrs. Hockett made a nine months' journey with ox-teams across the plains to California in 1850, locating for a time at Los Angeles, thence to Santa Barbara, and in 1851 they settled at San Juan. In 1852 they were at Stockton and then settled between the Tuolumne and Stanislaus rivers near Knights Ferry. On the way across the plains the supply of food was exhausted and they were nourished only by eating boiled wheat. As if to add to their troubles, most of their stock died by the way. Mrs. Hockett states that when she first went to the site of Porterville the town, if such it could be called even by courtesy, consisted of one small shack and a tent. She has in her possession the first postoffice furniture ever used there, which was brought into requisition some years after she and her husband made their home there. In the early days of the locality there were many Indians near by, and some of them were not pleasant neighbors.

Of the seven children of Mr. and Mrs. Hockett, five are living. Benjamin F. lives near Hot Springs; Robert Lee lives on White river;

E. Barton is at Portola; Lena became the wife of R. H. Allen and resides at Roseville; and Dora married E. L. Scott, of Porterville. The old family home included land in Porterville now covered by part of the townsite. Mr. Hockett acquired land from time to time until his holdings were very large. His widow still owns five sections of grazing land in Tulare and Kern counties and one city block in Porterville, where has been the family residence since December, 1864. Mrs. Hockett's recollections of Porterville and vicinity are very interesting. It was four years before her arrival that the river changed its course, but she had her experiences and witnessed some exciting scenes at the time of the floods of '67-'68 and '69-'70 when the water covered almost the entire town and people had to go about in boats.

Fraternally Mr. Hockett affiliated with the Masons and was Master of the Visalia lodge, being member also of Royal Arch Chapter; the Old Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He was a busy and helpful man who counted his friends by scores, his business associates by hundreds. His interest in the growth and prosperity of Porterville impelled him to do everything in his power for the welfare of the community. He was instrumental in establishing the first school and the first church there, and served on the school board. Since his death Mrs. Hockett proved up on his homestead and purchased three claims of one hundred and sixty acres each, and has improved them; a well of four hundred and forty feet depth has been put down. When he passed away he was publically mourned by the people with whom he had lived so long and whom he had helped in so many ways.

WILLIAM SWALL

The life story of William Swall, one of the large landowners of the Visalia district and one of the honored citizens of Tulare county, a model of honesty and enterprise and foremost in all good works, is a most interesting one. He was born in LaSalle county, Ill., November 5, 1848, a son of Mathias and Elizabeth (Hayne) Swall, both natives of Germany, the father born in Berlin, January 24, 1824.

In 1840, Mathias Swall came to America in an old-time sailing vessel and settled in LaSalle county, Ill., where he married April 16, 1847. There he farmed till 1865, in the summer of that year coming to California by way of Panama. He remained that winter on a farm near San Jose, and in the fall of 1866 settled near Tracy, San Joaquin county. His land there he sold in 1871, when he went to Monterey county, and farmed and raised stock until in 1877, when he moved to Ventura county. Thence he went to Sherman, Los Angeles county, late in 1882. He farmed and conducted a dairy almost to the time of

his death in May, 1896. His widow still lives at Sherman. In religion Mr. Swall was a Catholic, in politics a Democrat.

First born of his parents' family of two daughters and nine sons, William Swall secured what education he could in the public school near his Illinois home. Later he attended school in Santa Clara county, Cal., and was for a term a student at the San Jose Institute. Meantime he had become a practical farmer of wide and accurate knowledge. In 1873 he homesteaded eighty acres of land in Tulare county and later bought land along the Tule river. In 1884 he moved to his present farm of seventeen hundred acres, known as Deep Creek Ranch, which as he has improved it is one of the finest properties in the county, and has four hundred acres in peaches, prunes, pears, apples, plums, nectarines and English walnuts. He owns all in all seventeen hundred acres, and his extensive operations necessitate the renting of an additional thousand acres, which he devotes to stock and fruit. As a farmer he has been well-informed and up-to-date in all respects. He employs on his ranch from thirty to fifty men. His dairy has an electric power plant for pumping water, and there is a similar plant for lighting his house and barns. The place is provided with an adequate and convenient water system. It is one of the notable alfalfa farms of the district, having six hundred acres set apart for that crop.

From time to time Mr. Swall has diverted his energies from the farm to the town and he is a director of the Bank of Tulare, a director of the Tulare Co-operative Creamery Company, a stockholder of the Tulare Telephone Company and a director in the Rochdale stores of Tulare. He has been prominent in the promotion of irrigation and was one of the originators of the Tulare Irrigation District. Since 1903 he has been one of the directors of the district. A Republican, interested in all public questions but never an office seeker, he has nevertheless been a director of the Elk Bayou school district. Mr. Swall married Emma Cole, born in Knox county, Ill., a daughter of Asa Cole, a native of Ohio, who crossed the plains to California with his family in 1856 and located in Contra Costa county. Several years later Mr. Cole went to Santa Clara county and in 1866 he located near Tracy, San Joaquin county. In 1873 he came to Visalia, whence in 1888 he removed to Brentwood, Contra Costa county, where he passed away in the autumn of that same year. Mr. and Mrs. Swall were the parents of children as follows: George, who is a dairy rancher near Visalia; Newell, who is deceased; Walter, who is also a dairy rancher near Visalia; Arthur, who is superintendent of the Neuman ranch, south of Tulare; and William, Jr., who lives south of Visalia, not far from his father. Mr. and Mrs. Swall also have eleven grandchildren.

Mr. Swall has been described as a prince of good fellows, always

ready to lend a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself. The responsibilities of citizenship appeal to him forcefully and definitely. While his character is commanding he is eminently fair in all business transactions and is admired for his kindness, sympathy and good judgment. His loyalty to his family, to his friends and to his convictions has never been questioned.

JOHN A. WILSON

One of the leading cattle men of his district, John A. Wilson, who lives at No. 720 North Irwin street, Hanford, was born in 1862, in the part of Tulare county which is now Kings county, twelve miles north-east of the site of Hanford, a son of O. L. and Rose J. Wilson. The elder Wilson came to California in 1848 and was a pioneer of pioneers. He mined in Placer county and on the Feather and American rivers and after 1850 settled in the vicinity of Gilroy, where he farmed extensively until 1857. In that year he married and came to this part of the state.

It was in the district schools of the days of his youth that John A. Wilson was educated. He began at seventeen, with some financial aid from his father, to fight the battle of life for himself. His career since then has been one of ups and downs, but he has never gone down hopelessly and he is undeniably up at this time so well established that there is little probability that he will suffer further disaster.

In 1887 Mr. Wilson married Miss Mary Alcorn, of California, and their daughter is the wife of Marion Hefton, of Hanford. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows includes Mr. Wilson as one of the most valued members of its Hanford organizations, and he is popular not only with the brethren of the order but with the citizens of Hanford and Kings county generally. Friendly and optimistic, he has a pleasant word for all whom he meets and a ready hand for the assistance of the general interests of the town.

JAMES HOUSTON

Noteworthy among the pioneer settlers of Tulare county was the late James Houston, for over forty years a respected and valued citizen of Visalia. The descendant of a long line of Southern ancestry, he was also a native of the Southland, having been born in Tennessee. During young manhood he located near Pochontas, Randolph county, Ark., this being at a time of an uprising of the Indians, and he val-

iantly took a hand in quieting these disturbances and other troubles that arose incident to border life. During the Sabine disturbances of 1837 he enlisted in the United States army and as a lieutenant of the mounted gun militia of Arkansas rendered a service that was appreciated, as was evidenced in the fact that at the time of his discharge he received the brevet of major. Mr. Houston was a second cousin to the famous Sam Houston of Texas, and no doubt inherited his intrepid spirit from the same source as did his celebrated relative.

The marriage of James Houston united him with Frances Sebourn Black, a native of Virginia and the descendant of a prominent Southern family, being related to the Sebourns of South Carolina and to General Cobb, the latter a conspicuous figure in the Revolution. In 1859 James Houston brought his family to California across the plains by means of ox-teams. For a short time he mined at Hangtown, now Placerville, but in the spring of 1860 he came to Tulare county and made settlement in Visalia. Purchasing land near town he made his home thereon until 1902, when his earth life came to a close, at the venerable age of ninety-three years. His wife survived him about three years, passing away in 1905 at the age of eighty-four years. Of the eleven children born to this worthy couple seven are living, as follows: Mrs. E. B. Townsend, of Visalia; Mrs. J. W. Oakes, also of Visalia; Miss Thalia Houston; Mrs. R. A. Robertson, of Kingman, Ariz.; Mrs. Ed Graham, of Berkeley; Mrs. John Wentworth, of Globe, Ariz.; and Andrew, an extensive cattle rancher near Phoenix, Ariz. The four children deceased are: Maria, who was the wife of A. H. Glascock, a well known citizen of Tulare county; Samuel T.; Mrs. Frances S. Chilson, and William, who was a well known attorney of Visalia.

JOSEPH LEY

In Seneca county, Ohio, January 27, 1852, was born Joseph Ley, son of Andrew and Mary (Steinmetz) Ley, natives of Alsace Loraine, Germany. When he was nine years old his family removed to Noble county, Ind. There he grew up on his father's farm and he was employed as a farmer until he was twenty-four years old. In 1876 he went to Iowa, farmed near Sionx City for five years, going from there to Thomas county, Neb., where for six years he followed farming. He came to Tulare county in 1891 with little worldly goods besides an ax and a cross-cut saw, with which he was ready to make his living unless some better means should be at hand. He prospered by hard work and was enabled, eventually, to buy seventy-five acres of land at \$3 an acre in Squaw Valley, Fresno county, and in

1905 he bought one hundred acres more. His holdings consist of one hundred and seventy-five acres, located in Squaw Valley, which was so named because in an earlier day Indians often left their squaws there to await their return from hunting expeditions. He has ninety acres under cultivation and some of it has produced four tons of hay per acre, and in 1911 he raised twenty sacks of barley to the acre. The remainder of his tract is in pasture. He keeps horses for his own use and usually has on his farm about twenty head of cattle. All the improvements he installed on the place.

Mr. Ley married, in Indiana, Miss Effie Smith, of English birth, whose parents had settled in Pennsylvania and moved thence to the Hoosier state. They have six children: John E., Martin M., Oliver, Mary, Rose Ann and Susan A. John E. married May Applegate and has a daughter and a son. Mary is the wife of Frank Volf; they have two sons and four daughters and their home is in Calaveras county. The others make their home with their parents.

Politically Mr. Ley is independent of party affiliations. He has no great liking for practical politics, and one of the most vivid recollections of his boyhood days is of having gone to the polls on election day to see and hear Northern and Southern sympathizers wrangle over questions on which they were at odds. He and his family are members of the Catholic church.

JAMES WALLACE OAKES

The Canadian family of Oakes, originally from France, had its first American representatives in New Brunswick. John W. Oakes died there at the advanced age of one hundred years. His son, Hammond Oakes, was for many years a lumberman on the St. John's river, then located near Port Ryerse, where he farmed and raised stock, prospering as a stock-raiser near Port Ryerse. He became the owner of three farms, and died aged eighty-five years. He married Miss Isabelle Hammon, who was descended from old New England families, and located as a farmer and stockman near New London. She died aged sixty-eight years. Of their eleven children, only five of whom are living, James Wallace Oakes, fifth in order of nativity, was the only one who came to California. He was born in Canada West, in 1836, and reared on his father's farm. He was not only well educated in a literary way, but was given practical training which was beneficial to him as long as he lived. He came to the United States in 1855 and stopped near Sabula, Jackson county, Iowa, until the following spring, when he bought one hundred and eighty acres of prairie and timber land in Harrison county, Mo., which he proceeded

to break and improve, one of his first purchases for his farm having been a yoke of oxen. In the spring of 1857 he was employed by Upton Hayes as driver of a freighting team between Fort Leavenworth and Camp Floyd. Relinquishing that employment, he went to Salt Lake, Utah, and from there he and fifteen others set out for California by way of Carson, Nevada, but at Genoa they sold their ox-teams, and came the rest of the way on mule back. He mined at Placerville, in Nevada county, and at Marysville until 1868, then came to Tulare county and rented a ranch of B. G. Parker, on Elbow Creek, where he began farming on a scale large for that time. He conducted three farms, meanwhile improving his own ranch, operating altogether about seven hundred acres. He also operated a ranch owned by his wife, Mill Creek and Packwood Creek and a ditch which he and others constructed all traverse this property, about one hundred and thirty acres of which was devoted by him to alfalfa, the balance having been given over to dairying. At one time he owned eighty-five milch cows. Toward the end he leased this ranch for dairy purposes, furnishing the stock. He had also a stock ranch of twenty-two hundred acres, about thirty-five miles east of Visalia, on which he raised cattle and horses.

Fraternally Mr. Oakes affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically he was a Democrat, never shirking the responsibilities of citizenship, but never consenting to become a candidate for office. However, he was for two years a deputy sheriff under Sheriff Balaam and later for three years a deputy United States marshal under Marshal Franks. The duties of the last-mentioned position included the settlement of the Mussel Slough troubles of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company and settlers on its land in this vicinity and demanded great tact and diplomacy, for the people were naturally suspicious of anyone attempting an adjustment of the dispute. Before undertaking the work, Mr. Oakes gained the consent of the railroad company to exercise his own discretion, and he soon won the confidence of the land claimants and brought about amicable settlement of all questions in controversy and returned to private life with the commendation of all with whom he had business dealings.

The lady who became the wife of Mr. Oakes was Mrs. Margaret I. (Houston) Allen, a native of Arkansas, whose first husband, W. B. Allen, came to California in 1857 and settled in Mariposa county, but later became a stock-raiser in Tulare county, where he passed away July 26, 1867. Her son, William Byron Allen, is engaged in farming on a ranch of two hundred and twenty acres, two miles east of Visalia, and owned by himself and his mother. Mr. Oakes died December 4, 1909.

M. L. CRAMER

This active and progressive citizen of Springville, Cal., was born in 1864 near Cottage postoffice, Tulare county, one of the early settlements in that part of the state. In 1865 his parents moved to Mountain View, on the north fork of the Tule, and continued to reside there until 1887. When he was a small boy there was no school near his home, but one was available to him there when he was nine years old and he attended it in 1872 and in 1873. His life has been a busy and useful one and he has had to do with many interests of importance. As a machinist he has been employed in responsible places here and there. Since locating in Springville he has worked at his trade as occasion has offered, giving attention, meanwhile, to other business matters also. His activities in connection with the Lindsay Planing mill are matters of public knowledge. Fraternally he affiliates with the Porterville lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. His experience in this part of the state dates back to the days when deer were plenty in the woods and wild game was to be found everywhere. He has seen the country settled and improved and villages spring up on every hand and quickly develop into cities of more or less importance. In all this growth he has taken the interest of a public-spirited man. As a member of the local school board he has done not a little to advance the efficiency of the public schools.

In 1887 Mr. Cramer married Miss Mae Baker, a native of Kansas, who has borne him six children: Morris, Bessie, Frank, Violet, Eleanor and John. Mr. Cramer's father, J. K. Cramer, a native of Pennsylvania, came to California in 1851, crossing the plains in the slow and dangerous way then in vogue. Taking up land which eventually proved to be railroad property, he suffered disappointment and loss in being compelled to forfeit it. His wife, Eleanor Ott, a native of Ohio, came overland with her parents in 1850, and they were married at Petaluma, Cal., in 1857.

HON. ALLEN J. ATWELL

The name above will be recalled as that of one who as lawyer, journalist, legislator and man of affairs was long prominent in Tulare county. The late Allen J. Atwell was born at Pharsalia, Chenango county, N. Y., April 16, 1836, and died at Visalia November 21, 1891. His parents were Daniel L. and Mehetabel (June) Atwell, both natives of the Empire State. When he was ten years old his family removed to Wisconsin, and after a preparation in the public schools he became a student at the Lawrence University at Appleton, Wis.

graduating with first honors from the first class of that university. Because of alphabetical precedence his name headed the membership list of the class.

The day after graduation, Mr. Atwell went to Nebraska, where he read law a year under competent direction. In the early '50s he crossed the plains to California, and after stopping for a time in San Diego he came to Visalia, where he was soon afterward admitted to the bar and where in due course of events he gained a place in history as the orator who delivered the first Fourth of July oration at that county seat. He succeeded as a general practitioner of law, was made district attorney of the county and was elected to represent Tulare county in the legislature of California. He won much success as prosecuting attorney, several important cases having fallen to his management during his term of service, and as an assemblyman the records show that he not only achieved distinction on the floor of the house, but did important and patriotic work as a member of committees. He was for a time owner of the Visalia Times, which under his control was a local newspaper of much influence. During another period he owned and operated a lumber mill near Mineral King, and among his possessions at one time was Atwell's Island, in Tulare lake, where he raised cattle and hogs. For some years he was associated in the practice of law with N. O. Bradley of Visalia. In his long and useful career he was identified from time to time with various local organizations, and as a citizen he was notably public-spirited.

In 1861 Mr. Atwell married Miss Mary M. Van Epps, a native of Illinois, who survives him, and they were the parents of nine children: Mary, wife of F. M. Creighton; Arthur J.; Nellie, wife of B. J. Ball, of Visalia; Irving, who is dead; Clarence C.; Allen L.; Paul; Ethel, who is the wife of Hugh McPhail; and Lizetta, who is Mrs. E. Martin.

HENRY CHRISTOPHER ROES

A native of Hanover, Germany, Henry Christopher Roes, who now lives three and a half miles southeast of Dinuba in Tulare county, Cal., was born November 10, 1835. He received the usual common school education of the place and time and when he was in his fourteenth year came over seas to New York. There he attended night school and was for six years a clerk in a grocery store. Then he came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, sailing to Aspinwall, crossing the Isthmus on foot and transporting his baggage on a mule, and from Panama came to Frisco on a ship that had come

around the Horn. The voyage from Panama to San Francisco consumed eight days and was not marked by any accident. After a short stay in Frisco Mr. Roes went to Stockton, where during the ensuing eighteen months he was proprietor of a general store. Then for three years he was mining in Calaveras county, where he and a man named Hines staked out a claim and were measurably successful, taking out some days as much as \$50 worth of ore, but not being experienced miners they lost in one way or another about as much as they made. Returning to Stockton, Mr. Roes operated a grocery six months, then went to La Grange, where he mined until 1868. Early in that year he went to Europe, and returning he made a tour of the Southern states and in November was in South California when General Grant was elected president the first time. About two years later he started for San Francisco by way of Panama. He arrived in San Francisco in February, 1870, and soon went to Stanislaus county, where he was for three years a merchant. His next place of residence was Merced, which was then coming into prominence by reason of the building of the railroad. There he dealt in lumber. It was in Merced that he married Miss Louisa Snedeker, of French descent and a native of New Orleans, in 1874. She bore him two children, Edna L. and Edna Louisa. The latter has passed away. Edna L. married W. E. Rushing, a native of Texas. Mrs. Roes died in 1887.

Mr. Roes sold his lumber yard two years before he was married and started in the sheep business in the Smith mountain district. At one time he was the owner of twelve thousand head of Spanish Merinos, had other important interests and was in receipt of a salary of \$125 a month and expenses as manager. The country all about him was in a state of nature. Standing on the mountain with a spy glass, he could see sheep, cattle, horses and antelope for many miles in every direction. Many herds of antelope contained as many as fifty or sixty animals and he killed many antelope for meat. Deer and bear were numerous in the mountains. He had but few neighbors and one of them, in his early days there, was Mr. Edmonson. He was in the sheep business eighteen years and made many thousand dollars. He left it to engage in wheat growing and eventually homesteaded and improved land. The business had not been without its disadvantages. Many of his sheep had been killed by bear and his loss by accident and disease was sometimes heavy. He was twenty-two miles distant from Visalia, his nearest market town, which he had frequently to visit for many purposes, on one memorable occasion running his horse nearly the whole distance. The journey to and fro consumed a day or more time. There being no roads a part of the way was necessarily difficult. About six years ago he bought twenty acres which he has devoted to vines and alfalfa and he has charge

of twenty acres, the property of another man. He has been particularly successful with the Thompson seedless grapes.

When he was twenty-three years old Mr. Roes became a member of the Masonic order and he has been identified with the Blue Lodge at Merced since 1899. In his politics he is Republican. He is a communicant of the German Lutheran church.

JASPER N. BERGEN

April 19, 1862, Jasper N. Bergen was born in Minnesota. He is now a prosperous fruit grower, two miles and a half southeast of Lindsay, Tulare county, Cal. His parents, natives of Indiana, have passed away. His sister was the first of the family to come to California. When he was twenty-six years old, in 1888, Mr. Bergen came here to visit her, and during a seven months' stay made trips of observation to different parts of the state. He went back to his old home and remained there seven years, then came again to California and during the succeeding seven years was farming five miles north of Woodville. It was not until 1902 that he occupied his present ranch of twenty acres. Small farms are rapidly becoming a feature of Tulare county; many families are not only making a good living, but are each year banking money from returns of twenty-acre orchard, vineyard or alfalfa field. Such farmers are always located close to town and they have daily mails and telephone service that rob rural life of its isolation and make social conditions agreeable. The home built up by Mr. Bergen is one of the pleasantest in its vicinity. For the vacant land he paid \$65 an acre, and planting seven acres of figs, he produced a good crop, packed it himself and sold it in the local market at fifteen cents a pound. Four years later he planted five acres of orange trees and two years ago he planted five acres more. His place is almost entirely devoted to figs and oranges.

In 1901 Mr. Bergen married Miss Sarah Etta Dunham, a native of Indiana and a daughter of parents born in that state. Socially he affiliates with the Lindsay organization of the order of Fraternal Aid, of which he was a charter member. While he is not an active politician, he takes an intelligent interest in all economic questions and is helpful to the uplift of the community in a public-spirited way. As a fruit grower he is progressive and resourceful and he is fast coming to the front as one of the leaders in that industry in his part of the county. With figs he has been remarkably successful, and in 1911 he packed about forty-five hundred pounds gathered from four hundred and eight trees.

WILLIAM SWAN

A son of Frederick and Sarah (Butler) Swan, William Swan was born in Kent, England, November 7, 1849, and was two years and a half old when he was brought to the United States by his mother, his father having preceded him in 1850. The family lived in Indiana until 1858, then settled in Decatur county, Iowa, where Frederick Swan bought one hundred and sixty acres of government land at \$1.25 an acre, which he improved and on which he lived out his days, dying in 1893, aged eighty-four years. Mrs. Swan died in 1900.

In Iowa William Swan learned farming and worked at it until 1875, when he came to Tulare county. He went up into the mountains in the neighborhood of Sequoia lake and worked in the timbers and later tended sheep for a while in Kings River at Reedley. Then he came to the valley. Those were pioneer days in a new, wild country, and he had often to cope with bears foraging for food and saw at different times as many as a thousand antelope. His first holding in the valley was two hundred and forty acres of railroad land. Later he bought six hundred and forty acres of other land and acquired a half interest in oak timber land in the mountains. He sold forty acres of land in small tracts, by judicious subdivision. He has now ten acres of fruit bearing land. Around his house are a number of large trees and he owns the biggest orange tree in Tulare county.

The woman who became Mr. Swan's wife was Mary Smith, a native of Kansas, who had taken up her residence in California. Their children who are living are: Bertha J.; Wesley W.; Gertrude; and Wilma E., at home. Bertha J. married J. W. Smith, a native son of California. The Swan family is a family of Democrats and Mr. Swan has served his fellow townsmen as school trustee, in which office his son-in-law, J. W. Smith, is serving at this time. Mr. Swan and Mr. Smith are enterprising and public spirited, ready at all times to do their utmost for the general good.

FRANK REMBRANDT KELLENBERG

Prominent in real estate circles in Visalia and the San Joaquin valley in general, Mr. Kellenberg's enterprise and ability have won for him an enviable place among his fellows, yet his high principles and keen sense of justice have actuated throughout his successful career none but the fairest dealings. Mr. Kellenberg was born June 11, 1854, in Alton, Madison county, Ill., and was the second youngest in a family of two sons and five daughters. His father, Francis Jerome Kellenberg, a native of Georgetown, D. C., was an artist of

exceptional ability, his early predilection for drawing having been followed by thorough training therein. In his home town he established a studio where he devoted his time to his beloved art, both landscapes and portraits receiving his attention, and after his removal to Alton, Ill., where he opened a studio, he continued to maintain his first work shop. In 1860, after the death of his wife, he took his family to Visalia, Cal., where, until his death in 1876, he continued to work at his profession, taking up artistic sign painting also during his latter years. Among his best works are his copies of the Duke of Athens, Venus Arising from the Sea, the Court of Death, upon which he worked almost twelve years, a portrait of Abraham Lincoln, and an original study, The Dance of the Four Seasons. He painted, also, many of the scenic charms of the beautiful Yosemite valley. His delight in life was to work out through the medium of his brush the dreams created by his soul, and his nature, kindly and compassionate toward all living creatures, was unswayed by selfish greed of gain.

Frank Rembrandt Kellenberg received his education in the schools of Visalia, whereupon he entered the employ of Richard E. Hyde, a pioneer merchant of that city, also for thirty years president of the Bank of Visalia. In his first position Mr. Kellenberg served eighteen months, when he became a clerk in the establishment of Douglas & Company, who later sold to Stevens & Company, with whom Mr. Kellenberg remained many years. Eleven years and six months from the date of his entrance as an employee of the store, he purchased a one-fourth interest in same, but in 1881 he disposed of his share in the establishment and started a retail shoe business, which for seven years he profitably conducted. In 1906 he sold his store and entered the real estate field which, offering a more untrammled and largely open air life, had long appealed to him.

In 1885 Mr. Kellenberg was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Rebecca Kelsey, a daughter of Hiram Kelsey, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Some of the most important sales of which Mr. Kellenberg is the author, are the following: The Bequette estate, consisting of eight hundred acres; the Benjamin Hicks tract north of Visalia, eight hundred acres; a tract of six hundred and forty acres in Kings county, and the twenty-four hundred acre Brandon ranch in Fresno county. He owned and sold also large ranch interests as follows: Three hundred and twenty acres near Orosi; six hundred and ninety-one acres near Orosi, in the Stokes mountains; one hundred and sixty acres near Cross creek; eighty acres near Farmersville; one hundred and sixty acres on the Tule river; fifty acres three miles from Visalia, and numerous smaller places. He is at present interested

in a section of land in the Lost Hills, Kern county, where oil has been found and where drillings are now taking place.

Mr. and Mrs. Kellenberg have been blessed with a son and a daughter, Frank Guido and Louise. In retrospection, Mr. Kellenberg frequently mentions his early days in the west, beginning with the never-to-be-forgotten stage coach trip across the plains, from Gilroy to Visalia, then inhabited only by wild horses and antelope, which took flight at the sound or sight of man. He has been one of Visalia's most dependable citizens, always prompt to lend his aid whenever possible toward the development of the community.

HIRAM KELSEY

One of Visalia's substantial citizens was Hiram Kelsey, who passed away August 8, 1907. He was born in Logan county, Ohio, December 10, 1829, his ancestors having been pioneers of Kentucky and also among the first settlers of Ohio. In 1799 his grandfather, John Kelsey, moved from the former state to Warren county, forty miles north of Cincinnati, when his son Abner, father of Hiram, was but six months old. In this section Abner Kelsey spent his youth, and ere he reached his majority wedded Miss Nancy Purdy, a native of Genesee county, N. Y., whose mother, Miss Brown before her marriage, was a native of Scotland. Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kelsey, nine of whom grew to maturity; but two, however, are now living. Both husband and wife lived to a good old age, ninety-one and eighty, respectively.

In 1852 Hiram Kelsey crossed the plains to California and prospected for a time in Placer county, later moving to the San Jose valley, where he conducted a farm. In 1854 he returned to Placer county and engaged in the butcher business, securing his beef from the well-known Todd brothers, cattle dealers of Napa valley. In addition to his profitable trade, Mr. Kelsey's income from his mine ventures was not inconsiderable. After three years in this location he returned east, where he married Miss Jemima Hill, and with his bride located on an Iowa farm, where they resided seven years, and where three of their children were born: Isadora May (now Mrs. George A. Butz), Harlan W. and Minnie R. (wife of Frank R. Kellenberg of Visalia). As a proof of his popularity and executive ability, Mr. Kelsey was elected three times to serve as supervisor while residing in Marion county, Iowa. Later he disposed of his farm and took his family to Michigan, where they resided two years, moving, in 1886, to Missouri. Their youngest son, John W., was born in California, and in 1873 the family came to Visalia, where

Mr. Kelsey engaged in business and where his conscientious principles and wide sympathies, soon recognized by his fellow citizens, were able to find adequate expression during his service of two years as health officer. Later he established a butcher shop in Tulare, and in 1887 retired from active life, spending his last days in Visalia. For many years Mr. Kelsey was the oldest member of the Knights of Pythias, and upon his death was mourned by a large number of friends who appreciated his genial, kindly nature and his keen sense of justice.

HENRY C. SMITH

The hardy Norwegian, wherever the fortunes of life may cast him, be he safely landed or shipwrecked, is quite likely to make the best of the situation in which he is placed and more certain than men of some other nationalities which might be mentioned to win all the success that is enwrapped in the possibilities of the unknown future. Kings county has had some pioneers and numerous citizens of this nationality. One of the best known of them is Henry C. Smith of Guernsey, son of John H. Smith, who was born in Norway in November, 1813, eventually coming to Tulare county, and died there May, 1907.

Henry C. Smith was born at Sonora, Tuolumne county, Cal., February 12, 1866, and lived with his father wherever the latter's agricultural enterprises caused him to establish a home until the old Norwegian farmer passed away. As a boy he attended Lakeside district school until he was seventeen years old. Afterwards, in accordance with the custom which has obtained quite generally with farmers' sons, he gave his services to his father until he was twenty-one years old. After that, as has been stated, the two were associated in business during the remainder of the life of the elder Smith. Since his father passed away the son has given his attention to general farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of the breeding of hogs. He owns eight hundred acres of good land and a one-half interest in an additional two hundred and eighty acres. As a farmer he has been very successful and takes rank with the best agriculturists in his part of the county.

In 1909 Mr. Smith built the Kings County Cheese factory, of which he is the sole owner, and its location is on the southeast corner of the northwest quarter of section twenty-five, township twenty, range twenty one. On his land are a hundred and seventy-five cows

whose milk is utilized in the factory. His cheese-maker is an expert in his line and they manufacture three brands of cheese, viz.: Young American, Flat and Monterey, all being full-cream and commanding the highest market prices because of their delicious taste and excellent quality. Constantly looking for improvements, Mr. Smith, in 1911 and 1912, put down two artesian wells so that his lands are now among the best irrigated tracts in the county. The wells have a depth of twenty-three hundred and eighty and two thousand feet respectively, and flow copiously, and in connection with the Lake-side ditch furnish an abundance of water for irrigation purposes.

In 1899 Henry C. Smith married Miss Marie Heinrich, a native of Kansas, who has borne him six children: Albert, Ethel, Clara, Vernon, Marie and Queenie. Mr. Smith takes a deep and abiding interest in everything that pertains to the advancement of his county and state and is ready at all times with liberal encouragement of measures directed to the benefit of the people at large.

VAIL BROTHERS

Painting and paper hanging is now a well recognized trade, and those who succeed in it are men who like the Vail Brothers of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., have given years to its acquisition and practice. J. W. and E. M. Vail were born at Antioch, Contra Costa county, Cal., sons of F. M. Vail, a painter, who had himself served an apprenticeship to a trade which he had perfected by long years of experience. When the sons were mere boys their parents took them to Lemoore, Kings county, where their father taught them their trade and they began their career as contractors of painting and paper hanging. It was in 1911 that they built their present store and shops on North Douty street, Hanford, materially extending their business after having devoted ten years of work and study to it. Besides handling materials for their own contracts, they sell house lining, wall paper, paint, oils and glass and merchandise of all kinds which can be utilized in interior or outside decoration of buildings.

There are not in Hanford, in the younger business circles, two more popular or well esteemed men than J. W. and E. M. Vail. They take a public spirited interest in all the affairs of the town and affiliate with several of its fraternal organizations, notably with the Native Sons of the Golden West, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Woodmen of the World. They are members of the Painters' union, of which J. W. has served as trustee and E. M. is the recording secretary.

In July, 1897, J. W. Vail married Miss Mary Bollman, a native of Atlanta, Ga., then living in Kings county, and they have daughters named Mary and Agnes. E. M. Vail married Miss Minnie Cox in

1901, and they have had two sons and a daughter. The second son died when two years of age. The two living are named respectively Frank and Minnie May.

To F. M. Vail, the father of J. W. and E. M. Vail, belongs the distinction of being the first man married in Kings county. His second union at an age of forty-three with his present wife, then Mrs. Hattie Stanton, a native of California, on the second day of June, 1893, is the first marriage recorded in said county.

ROBERT K. OGDEN

A native of the Prairie State, now one of the successful men of Tulare county, the career of Robert K. Ogden has been one of struggles and success. He was born at Victoria, Knox county, Ill., April 2, 1864, a son of Mathew B. and Catherine (Fisher) Ogden, the one a native of Pennsylvania, the other of Illinois. The father came to California and, locating in Riverside, was one of the pioneer orange growers in the southern part of the state. He met with much success and became widely known in fruit circles as well as in the leading markets of California and the East. He so far won the confidence of his fellow citizens that they called him to the office of justice of the peace and elected him a member of the board of supervisors of Riverside county.

In young manhood Robert K. Ogden engaged in freighting between Leavenworth, Kans., and Santa Fe, N. Mex. Buffalo and other wild game were plentiful in that part of the country at that time, and he saw buffalo chased by hunters through the streets of Dodge City, Kans. After he had freighted for a time he went to Indian Territory. He once drove a band of horses to New Orleans and later was engaged in the livery business for a year in Arkansas. We next find him in Montgomery county, in his native state, working for wages. From Illinois he went to Kansas City, Mo., where he was employed to assist in the construction of a railroad from that city to Beatrice, Gage county, Neb. California has been his home since 1889 and he began his career here as a rancher on Lewis creek, between Exeter and Lindsay. In the period 1891-95 he was farming west of Visalia, growing wheat extensively and breeding hogs in large numbers. In 1896 he bought his present farm of sixty acres on the Exeter road, four miles from Visalia, and has greatly improved the property, planting much of it to alfalfa and maintaining a fine dairy. He is considered one of the up-to-date farmers of Tulare county and his success is of so substantial a character that it seems to hold out a promise of noteworthy future achievement.

In December, 1891, Mr. Ogden married Miss Pearl Mathewson, who was born in Tulare county, a daughter of one of its pioneers. They own a fine home in Visalia. Mrs. Ogden has been a worthy helpmeet to her worthy husband and has given him her sympathy and encouragement in all the years since their marriage. They have children named Arthur M., Harry R., Beulah, Beryl, Ralph and Wanda. Mr. Ogden affiliates with the Eagles, the Modern Woodmen and the Woodmen of the World.

ENOCH A. SMITH

On his father's side the subject of this sketch is descended from old Virginia families and on his mother's from families long known near Frankfort, Scott county, Kentucky. His parents were Jephth and Nancy Rachel (Waller) Smith and he was born in Kentucky, January 26, 1840. When he was five years old his parents took him to Northeast Missouri, where his father farmed and where his mother died in 1848. In 1850 his father came overland, with ox-teams, with the Hill outfit, to California and located in Yolo county. From there he later went to Nevada county, where he mined for a short time and later was otherwise employed until 1866, when he passed away. Enoch remained in Northeast Missouri until 1857. In the spring of that year the Vines and McManus party was organized for immigration to California by the overland route. Ox-teams were to be used; there were forty wagons manned by twenty men. The train left St. Joseph, May 5, 1857, and arrived at Santa Rosa September 1, following. Six hundred head of cattle, the property of a Mr. Moore, were driven. At Gravelly Ford, Indians stole twenty-one cattle, seven of which they killed, but the immigrants rescued the fourteen others. The twenty men kept up a long running fight with twenty-five Indians, killing nineteen of them. Closely pursued, the surviving redskins sought safety by jumping into the Humboldt river, but the white men waited on the bank and shot at a head whenever it appeared above the water. After that there was no molestation of this party by Indians. Between Lassen Meadows and Honey Lake valley the immigrants came upon a deep spring which they sounded to a depth of one hundred and thirty-two feet without finding bottom.

After living for a time near Windsor, Mr. Smith came to Tulare county and located at Visalia in 1859. He was acquainted with all the old settlers, the Evanses, the McCrurys, the Morrisseys and the Shammons and others, and was a witness to the hanging of James McCrury and knew the latter's friend, Mr. Allen. For a time he had charge of a band of sheep in Frazier valley which numbered two

thousand head. After his marriage he bought government land in Sand Creek district, holding three hundred and twenty acres. He pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres in 1869 and has taken over land since until he and his son, George E. Smith, own one thousand acres, farming two hundred and fifty acres and devoting the remainder to pasturage. They keep an average of one hundred and fifty head of stock and seventy-five hogs.

When Mr. Smith came to this part of the state, cattle and sheep were being fed everywhere, houses were scattered very sparsely over the country and travelers found at Smith Ferry the only dwelling they passed in eighteen miles from that point to within four miles of Visalia. There were many bands of deer and antelope and he shot deer from time to time for food. Brown bear were numerous. He is the owner of many relics of by-gone days. Mr. Smith is a public-spirited citizen of Republican principles and has done his full share toward the development of the county. He married in 1872, in Northeast Missouri, Miss Ellen Harley, a native of Maryland, and their only son and child, George E., a native of California, is a member of their household.

LEWIS S. SMITH

In no lines of business is true progressiveness more eagerly sought or more quickly recognized than in those which touch upon our household economies. Especially is this true of the dairy business, which is ably represented at Hanford by Lewis Smith, proprietor of the up-to-date concern at No. 116 S. Irwin street, which is operated under the name of Smith Brothers. Mr. Smith was born in Lawrence county, Ohio, April 3, 1879, and was there reared and educated. He early inclined to a business occupation and was employed as a salesman in a general store until 1904. Then he came to California and, locating at Hanford, worked in that vicinity until 1907. Then, with his brother George R. as a partner, he engaged in the retail milk business and built and equipped the fine plant at the location above mentioned. It is a building eighteen by forty feet in area measurements, having a concrete floor and other equipment, thoroughly sanitary and of the latest models. In 1909 he bought his brother's interest in the business, but has since conducted it without change of name. His milk is purchased from R. R. Butler and Ray Campbell, both of whom keep inspected dairies. In 1912 he added a complete outfit for the manufacture of ice cream for the wholesale and retail trade.

December 20, 1910, Mr. Smith married Miss Bessie Johnson, a

native of Missouri, born April 2, 1891, who had become a resident of Hanford. They have one son, Lewis Sidney, born November 14, 1912. Socially he affiliates with the Odd Fellows lodge, encampment and canton at Hanford and with the organizations of Knights of Pythias. As a member of the Chamber of Commerce and in his other relations with his fellow citizens he has always shown a degree of public spirit that has commended him their good opinion.

WILLIAM M. CLARK

The birth of William M. Clark occurred in Scotland county, Mo., November 5, 1866. He was a son of James M. and Martha E. (Baker) Clark, the former a native of Kentucky, his mother a native of Missouri. James M. Clark served in the Civil war under General Morgan in the Confederate army and was one of ninety-nine of Morgan's men who tunneled out of the Federal prison for Confederate captives at Chicago. One of the guards hailed him after he had left the tunnel, and failing to get a response fired at him, but missed him. He had other narrow escapes which would be interesting could they be narrated here. He was in the service from 1862 until the end of the war, all the time in Lee's command and a part of that time under the great general's authority, took part in many battles and skirmishes, and from time to time did hazardous scouting. One of his recollections was of an involuntary horse trade on a bridge, another was of the instantaneous disappearance of the nose of the man near him whose face had unfortunately come into the range of Federal firearms. After the war he lived in Missouri until 1892, when he died, aged forty-five. It was beside his father's deathbed that William M. Clark married Miss Mary Johnson, and they have had three children, Arthur, Marvin and Laurin. Mrs. Clark was born in the same county in Missouri as was Mr. Clark. Their oldest child is now a student in the grammar school.

Mr. Clark lived with his father in Missouri until he was twenty-three years old. He learned farming, and contracting and building, and was employed at different times at these occupations. When he came to California and settled in Tulare county, in 1889, he found himself in the midst of a vast wheat country, the land ranging in market value from \$5 to \$15 an acre. Later he bought thirty acres at \$25 an acre, which is now worth \$200 an acre. He has fourteen acres of grapes and ten acres of peaches and will soon plant five acres to orange trees. His first crop of grapes yielded him three-quarters of a ton to the acre and his peaches in 1911 sold for \$400. He is not

giving much attention to stock and keeps only such as is required on his ranch.

Faternally Mr. Clark affiliates with the Modern Woodmen, Mrs. Clark with the Royal Neighbors. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political conviction he is a Democrat. As a citizen he is public-spirited and helpful.

JABEL M. DEAN

As citizen and official, Jabel M. Dean, of Hanford, Kings county, Cal., has impressed his personality upon the progress of that city. Born in Tennessee, June 29, 1860, he settled in Hanford in 1880 and learned the carpenter's trade with W. H. Nyswonger. He worked as a carpenter until 1896, when he engaged in contracting and building with W. W. Cole as a partner. Among the residences built in Hanford by this firm may be mentioned those of T. J. McJunkin, A. G. Parks, L. C. Dunham, Charles McGee, J. Bowman, William Trehwitt, Thomas Elbod, A. M. Fredericks, Frank Arnold, E. W. Pilkington, Mrs. Mary Brunner, and three for H. E. Wright. In Lemoore they erected the residences of Ed. Sellors and R. Deacon; they built an addition to the Methodist church at Hanford; and among the country homes of their fashioning are those of J. J. Cartner and John W. Jones, and those of Mrs. Hitchcock and Mr. Hackett of Grangeville. They draw their own plans for buildings and give the most conscientious attention to every detail of construction.

In 1906 Mr. Dean was elected city trustee of Hanford, and during his four years' service a number of important civic matters were undertaken, including the beginning of cement sidewalk construction in residence streets, the extension of the sewer system, the buying of chemical fire engines and of hose carts, and the extension of the electric fire alarm system. In this period a proposition was made to submit to the people the question of the abolition of saloons in the city, and Mr. Dean was the only member of the board who voted for it. He introduced an ordinance demanding that the people vote on the question of a municipal water system. In other ways he has proven his public spirit. He is a member of the Carpenter's Union.

WILLIAM BRYAN CHARLES, M. D.

In Salem, Washington county, Ind., William B. Charles, M. D., of Hanford, was born March 12, 1857, a son of Levin and America (Rodman) Charles. Nathan Charles, his grandfather, a Quaker, was

born in Maryland and was taken by his parents to North Carolina, where he married. In 1818 he settled within the present limits of Washington county, Ind., as a farmer and saddler, and died there in 1868, aged ninety-one years. His son, Levin Charles, born in North Carolina, was four years old when his parents took him to Indiana, where he passed the remainder of his years, dying at the age of sixty-five after a useful career as a farmer. He was prominent in local affairs as a Whig and later as a Republican. He married America Rodman, who was born in Shelby county, Ky., daughter of Hugh Rodman, a native Kentuckian, who settled in Washington county, Ind., about 1825. He had served in the war of 1812 and later became a successful farmer and he lived to be seventy-five years old. Hugh Rodman, Sr., his father, born in Bucks county, Pa., settled in Kentucky in 1786, going thence by boat down the Ohio river. He traced his ancestry to Scotland. America (Rodman) Charles died in Indiana in 1875, fifty-two years old, having borne eleven children, of whom Doctor Charles was the sixth.

After attending the schools at Salem, Ind., until he was nineteen years old, Doctor Charles came in 1876 to what is now Kings county, Cal., and for two years was employed at farm work and teaming. Then, returning to Indiana, he entered an academy at Salem to prepare himself for the university and was graduated in 1882. A part of the time while he was a student at the academy he taught school in the vicinity and gave some attention to an acquisition of a knowledge of the drug business under the instruction of his brother, who was a physician as well as a druggist. He entered the medical department of the University of Kentucky at Louisville and was duly graduated from that institution March 1, 1887. It was at Norcatur, Kans., that he entered upon the practice of his profession. There he remained until 1894, and in March of that year he located at Hanford, building up a lucrative practice and commending himself to his fellow citizens of all classes by his thorough knowledge of his profession and a winning personality. At Norcatur, Kans., Doctor Charles was married November 30, 1887, to Miss Carrie S. Wildfang, a native of Wisconsin, and two of the children born to them are living, Ethel and William Gordon. Though he was always very busy professionally, Doctor Charles, as a loyal, public-spirited citizen, found time to devote himself to the uplift of the community. He was a staunch Republican and influential in political affairs. He served as delegate to several county and state conventions and was a member of the Republican State Central Committee. He was appointed to the office of county physician in 1899 and served until 1906, when he resigned and, on account of his wife's ill health, returned to Kansas and practiced at Oberlin for one year. November 30, 1907, he returned to Hanford and in 1909 was reappointed county physician. In 1912 he was appointed city health officer,

and remained in active practice and official life until his death, October 13, 1912. His interest in his profession was deep and sincere and he kept in touch with the progress which medical science is constantly making. Fraternally he affiliated with Hanford Lodge No. 279, F. & A. M., and the Woodmen of the World, Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Knights of Pythias.

WILLIAM P. RATLIFF

W. P. Ratliff has been postmaster at Tulare since May 1, 1902, having received his original appointment under President Roosevelt in the preceding April. He has been a local leader in the Republican party, has served on state and county central committees, has been city assessor and city treasurer of Tulare and president and secretary of the Board of Trade. Fraternally he affiliates with Olive Branch Lodge No. 269, F. & A. M., in which he was made a Mason and in which he is past master; with Tulare Chapter No. 71, R. A. M., in which he is past high priest; with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and with the Woodmen of the World. With the members of these orders he is no more popular than in the business and social circles of the city and county.

In Oskaloosa, Iowa, Mr. Ratliff was born October 12, 1859, a son of John and Elizabeth (Madden) Ratliff. John Ratliff was a son of William Ratliff, whose father, a native of the Isle of Man, settled in Pennsylvania. William moved from Pennsylvania to Indiana and later pushed on to Iowa. When his parents left Pennsylvania John was but a small boy. In his early manhood he settled on a farm in Iowa, but the stories of gold in California which came to him in the late '40s awoke within him a spirit of adventure. He crossed the plains in 1850 and prospected and mined for eight years, then went back to Iowa by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York. He made a brief stop in New York City and there married Elizabeth Madden, a native of Dublin, Ireland, whose brother Michael had shared the ups and downs of mining with him in California. At the beginning of 1860, when their son William P. was about three months old, John Ratliff, who had stopped in Iowa to settle up some business preparatory to his intended return to California, was killed by being thrown from a horse. His widow brought their child to California before the close of that year and found a home in Plumas county, where she later married E. H. Holthouse, to whom she bore four sons and a daughter, who live in Santa Clara county. The family moved to a farm near Lawrence Station, not far from San Jose, in 1870. There Mrs. Holthouse died as the result of an accidental fall in 1902, when she was in

her sixty-ninth year. Her son, William P. Ratliff, supplemented a common school education by a three years' course in Santa Clara College, then became a clerk in the employ of T. W. Spring. In 1882 he came to Tulare and became a brakeman in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad company. In a year he was made conductor of a train running between Tulare and Huron. In 1888 he identified himself with the business of Braly & Blythe, real estate agents and representatives of the Wells-Fargo Express Company. He withdrew from that connection in 1892 to become cashier of the Tulare County Bank and the Tulare Savings Bank. In August, 1896, he resigned to accept the assistant cashiership of the Bank of Tulare, which he held until February, 1901, when he removed to Kern county as superintendent of two oil companies operating in the Kern River oil field. There he fell a victim to typhoid fever, which held him to his bed for five months. Meanwhile he was taken to San Francisco, where better attention and care were possible than he was receiving in Kern county. He came back to Tulare in November, 1901, and a few months later accepted the cashiership of the Bank of Tulare, which he held until his appointment as postmaster.

June 5, 1888, Mr. Ratliff married Alice Harter, a native of Stockton and a daughter of Isaac and Matilda (Parker) Harter, pioneers in California. Their wedding was celebrated in Tulare and there their son Clinton P. was born.

H. P. BROWN

This leading lawyer and man of affairs of Kings county, Cal., whose offices are in the Farmers and Mechanics Bank building at Hanford, is a native son of Tulare county and was born two miles west of Grangeville July 17, 1873. Primarily educated in the pioneer district schools near there, he later attended Hanford high school, from which he graduated in 1896. In 1899 he graduated from the Hastings Law College and in May of that year was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of California. Immediately thereafter he opened an office in Hanford, and here he has made his business and professional headquarters ever since. As a lawyer he has given his attention largely to special interests, but notwithstanding that fact he has achieved a notable success in general practice. He is deeply interested in agriculture, horticulture and stockraising, and in irrigation as a factor essential to success in those fields of endeavor under the peculiarities of local environment. He is the owner of six hundred and forty acres of land, half of which is devoted to farming, forty acres to fruit growing and the remainder to alfalfa, grain and stock grazing.

He owns a one-third interest in the reclamation company whose activities center on Empire ranch and is one of its directors. It irrigates a district extending twelve miles southwest from the river, a large part of the land having been reclaimed from the lake. He is a stockholder and director also in the New Deal Ditch Company of Hanford (whose ditch extends from a point southeast of John Sigler's ranch), a director in the Lone Oak Canal Company (whose ditch runs south of the old Lost Chance ditch), is attorney for the Wilber reclamation district (which includes thirty thousand acres of land under reclamation on the southeast border of Tulare lake), and attorney for the Fresno & Hanford Railroad Company. He was one of the organizers of and is a director in the New Kings County Chamber of Commerce and helped to organize the Kings County Dairymen's Association, of which he is a director, and organized the Lampenhein Creamery of Hardwick, in the company controlling which he is a director. There is no movement for the public good in which he is not interested directly or indirectly. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masonic lodge at Hanford, with Scottish Rite Masons and with the Shrine of Islam at San Francisco and with the Eastern Star, besides which he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen of the World, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Native Sons of the Golden West. In 1902 he married Metta Robinson, a daughter of the late W. W. Robinson.

M. J. FONTANA

In all of our industries, from the railroad builder to the bank president, the foreign-born citizen has always displayed excellent qualities, this being especially true of some of the sons of Italy who have located here. Among these none has made a more striking record in California than M. J. Fontana, general superintendent of the California Fruit Canners' Association. He came to America when he was quite a young man, determined to make a home and fortune for himself in the New World. Having worked in the fruit business in New York, this interest was continued in California, whither he came in 1868, arriving in San Francisco with very limited means. Today, measure him as you will, he is one of the big men of the state, for he has made a success in every sense of the word. For a time he worked at anything that his hands found to do, but later he managed to form an alliance with fruit men which was the beginning of his upward progress. In 1870 he started in the fruit and produce business in San Francisco, and afterward engaged in the canning business in the same city, also starting branches at Healdsburg and Hanford.

Finally in 1898 he sold out to the California Fruit Canners' Association, an organization in which he still holds an interest, being a director and a member of the executive board. His Hanford plant was the pioneer fruit canning and packing establishment in Kings county and was built in 1895. This plant has packed a yearly average of three hundred thousand cases of peaches and dried fruits for the past fifteen years, and also handles dried prunes, raisins and apricots.

Mr. Fontana has been a large developer in the fields of horticulture and viticulture in California for many years. He has large wine interests in the state, being president of the Italian-Swiss Wine Colony Association and director of the California Wine Association and is general superintendent of the California Canners Association, a director in the Italian-American Bank of San Francisco and is a director of the E. B. & A. L. Stone Co., a large contracting concern which did the construction work on the Western Pacific Railroad from San Francisco to Oroville, Cal. For two years he held the office of trustee of the city of San Francisco.

In 1877 Mr. Fontana was married to Nellie Jones of San Leandro, Cal., and they have three sons and one daughter, all of whom are married and connected with the California Fruit Canners' Association.

IVER KNUTSON

A native of Norway, Iver Knutson received a good education in that far northern country and served an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade. When about seventeen years old he came to the United States and made his way overland to California, where he was a miner in the early '50s. Eventually he went to Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, and from there to Gilroy, Santa Clara county, and in the latter place plied his trade of carpenter, and several buildings which he built or helped to build are still standing. Hearing of the rich lands in the Mussel Slough section of Tulare county, he moved there in 1872 and took up a claim, which he began to improve. In the history of this part of the state it is recorded how he was killed in the famous Mussel Slough fight of 1880. He married, at Santa Rosa, Miss Cynthia Clawson, a native of Wisconsin, who was brought across the plains when a small child by her father, coming overland to California soon after 1850. She bore her husband seven children and survived him until 1894, when she passed away. Their children were: Charles, deceased; William O.; Joseph F., deceased; James E.; Mrs. William C. Clarkson, of Lemon Cove, Cal.; Henry E., who lives in Exeter; and Albert E., deceased.

On October 8, 1868, William O. Knutson was born at Old Gilroy, Cal. He divided his time between the public school and work on his father's ranch, and his first venture on his own account was as a farmer in Kaweah swamp. For the past nine years he has been in the dairy business on the Exeter road near Farmersville, in the region known as the Visalia district, and at this time he is renting sixty acres, on which he maintains a dairy of twenty cows.

In 1896 Mr. Knutson married Miss Nellie E. Gray, a native of Iowa, and they have two children, Esther N. and Thelma L. In a fraternal way he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen, the Royal Neighbors and the Fraternal Brotherhood. Without being an active politician, he takes an intelligent interest in all questions of public significance and is prompt and generous in response to all demands toward the advance of the community.

N. B. BOWKER

Prominent in the mercantile circles and well known throughout Central California, N. B. Bowker, of Corcoran, is recognized as one of the leading citizens of Kings county, Cal., where he has lived since 1908. He was born in Defiance, Ohio, in 1884, and just missed being a Christmas present by making his advent in the home of his parents on December 26. As soon as he was old enough he was sent to the public school, and after he completed the course of study laid down for its students he took a thorough commercial course in an efficient business college. He was employed in his native state as a clerk until 1901, when he came to California. After employment about six years as an electrician, he located in Corcoran and not long afterward engaged in business for himself as proprietor of a men's furnishings goods store, and has won one of the conspicuous commercial successes which has brought Corcoran to the attention of an extensive tributary territory.

October 15, 1907, Mr. Bowker married Miss E. E. Dougherty, who was born in Iowa March 6, 1886, and they have two daughters, Mildred and Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Bowker have won the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances and their geniality and sincere interest in all with whom they come in contact make them welcome everywhere. Mr. Bowker has achieved popularity in business circles by doing business on strict business principles, while always showing a disposition to give the other man a chance. Customers once attracted to his store continue their patronage and bring their friends to take advantage of the bargains that he offers from time to time. With so satisfactory a past, so prosperous a present, his

future is full of promise, and the time is not far distant when he will take his place among the foremost merchants in his part of the state.

JESSE B. AGNEW

An identification with Tulare county's industrial affairs since 1883 has made Jesse B. Agnew well known throughout that vicinity, and although his present business takes him from the neighborhood on many occasions he holds his residence in Visalia at the old Young homestead, No. 600 South East street, where the family of his estimable wife had lived for many years. Mr. Agnew is a successful seed grower, with offices at No. 110 Market street, San Francisco, and he is also manager of the Pacific Seed Growers' Company. His father came to the west in 1846, locating in Oregon, and then returned east for a short time. He made in all seven trips to California before there was a railroad, and his experiences and knowledge on the traveling situation in those days is a most interesting narrative. A blacksmith by trade, he conducted a shop at the early mining camps and later removed to Santa Clara county, Cal., about 1873, and it was at this time that he purchased the old Agnew homestead.

Jesse B. Agnew was born at Eddyville, Iowa, September 15, 1863, and when nine years old was brought to Santa Clara county, where he was reared until 1883, at which time he moved to Tulare county. He was in the railroad land office of the Southern Pacific Railroad for a time. He married Miss Ida Young, daughter of Newton and Mary (Price) Young, who were among the earliest pioneers of Visalia. The Price family were natives of Wales, who came to America with the well-known Evans family.

TILLMAN B. PHARISS

Among the well-known and progressive cattlemen of his vicinity is numbered conspicuously Tillman B. Phariss, whose well-equipped ranch and fine range of cattle evidence his unusual ability in his chosen calling. His father was F. W. Phariss, who made the over-land journey across the plains and mountains to California with ox-team in 1852, and he experienced much of the hardship and danger of those early times. He later returned to the east, but in 1871 he again came to California, bringing his family with him.

Born in Dallas county, Mo., in 1871, Tillman B. Phariss was but five months old when his father came the second time to Cali-

formia, and he is therefore practically a native son. Settling in Sonoma county, the family remained in that vicinity for about six years and then removed to the Tule river country, in Tulare county, and here Mr. Phariss made his home and grew to manhood. Following in the footsteps of his father, who became an extensive cattle ranger in the county, Mr. Phariss familiarized himself with all the details of stockraising and the handling of cattle, and he now has a ranch of twenty acres on which he raises a high grade of stock for the market.

In 1899 Mr. Phariss was married to Evesa Grider, who is a native daughter of California. Four children have been born of this union: Elvin C., Walter S., and two who are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Phariss are popular citizens in their community and hold the respect and esteem of all who know them.

FRANK P. HAYES

This capitalist and man of affairs of Tulare, Tulare county, was born in Wayne county, Pa., in April, 1863, and was brought to California when he was five years old by his parents, who located at Oakland. Here he lived until 1885, in that year coming to Tulare county and renting twelve hundred and eighty acres of land, four miles west of Visalia. After raising grain there for three years he leased the Lindsay Land Company's land near Lindsay, a tract of six thousand acres, on which he began as a grower of grain and later embarked in the raising of cattle, combining the two interests until in the fall of 1910, when he bought nine hundred acres adjoining the Lindsay land and went into the cattle business exclusively. About this time he also bought thirty-two hundred acres on the lake, near Angiola, and fifteen acres on the Lindsay road. He sold out the last of his holdings in November, 1911. The records of the Dairymen's Co-operative Creamery Company show that he helped to organize that corporation and served a year as its president. He is a director of the First National Bank of Tulare and has from time to time been connected with other important business interests, though he considers that his principal business has been as a stockraiser. As a citizen he has evidenced a commendable public spirit which has made him always quick to respond to any appeal on behalf of movements for the general good. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masons, being a member of Tulare Lodge, F. & A. M., and having received the chapter and commandery degrees. He holds membership also in the local organization of the Woodmen of the World.

In 1889 Mr. Hayes married Miss Fannie Fielding, of Marysville, Cal., and they have four children, Mayo, Marlo, Carroll and Austin, all students in the public schools.

EDWARD E. BUSH

A pioneer and leader in many fields of industry in Kings county, and one who has won for himself an enviable record for industry and integrity here, is Edward E. Bush, who was born at Waukon, Allamakee county, Iowa, June 25, 1859, son of Moses D. Bush, whose name is associated with the history of pioneer industries in this region.

Moses D. Bush was born on a farm beside the Hudson river in the state of New York. When but nine years of age he was orphaned and became self-supporting, working on a farm, where he grew up, and experiencing many hardships which fitted him for his subsequent career as a pioneer. While yet young he went to the village of Chicago and conducted a boarding house, becoming the owner of a tract of a hundred and sixty acres upon which the house stood. Disposing of that interest he returned to New York and was married to Emily E. Randall, with whom he went to Allamakee county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming and practiced surveying, assisting in running the boundary line between Minnesota and Iowa. In 1864 he brought his family to California by the overland route, and, locating at San Jose, operated a small foundry there for about three years. He then sold it and later came to Kings county, where he took up land that is now a part of the site of Lemoore. This was a quarter-section, and when he settled here there was but one house between his and Visalia. He later sold the ranch to Lee Moore, for whom the town was named.

When Moses D. Bush came to Kings county it was sparsely settled, there being only about twenty-five people living there, among them being Uncle Dan Rhoades, Justin and Jonathan Esrey, who were following stockraising. In the train were Samuel Wright and H. F. Bicknell and their families, who settled on government land and started to make homes; they suffered many trials, being compelled to go to Gilroy and haul their provisions, as the stockraisers were opposed to them and refused to sell them meat or food of any kind. He was most optimistic as to the country's future and induced many friends to settle in what is now Kings county, giving them shelter and food and dividing his provisions with them. Geese and ducks were plentiful, and at one time Mr. Bush and his son were able to take eighteen hundred pounds to Gilroy, where they sold

them at \$1.25 per pound. They also operated a ferry boat across the lake, a distance of seven miles. He and a few others originated the first ditch hereabouts, taking water from Kings river, and he was one of the promoters of the Lower Kings River Ditch Co. and helped to dig its ditch with his own hands, taking in payment for his labor stock in that public utility. In 1879 he moved to a tract of four hundred acres, four miles south of Hanford, thus becoming a pioneer farmer and dairyman in the Lakeside district. In 1884 he sold his farm and took up his residence in Hanford, where he died November 16, 1898, aged seventy-six. He was a Democrat and held several public offices, and those still surviving who knew him are ever ready to praise his business acumen, his honesty and his generosity. His widow is passing her declining days with her son, Edward E. She and her husband were members of the Adventist church.

Edward E. Bush was a young boy when brought to Kings county and had had meager educational advantages. He was obliged to walk five miles to school, through herds of cattle, and he aided materially in the improvement of the home place. While still quite young he and his brother worked for Mr. Atwell on a small steamboat, hauling hogs from Atwell's Island, now Alpaugh, across where Corcoran now stands, and landing at Buzzards Roost, now Waukena. In 1881, when twenty-two, he became an independent farmer, but the next year ran a small livery business in Hanford, and by 1890 the enterprise was increased to such an extent that he sold at a gratifying profit; since then he has devoted his energies almost entirely to real estate. He has been materially helpful in many directions toward forwarding movements for the prosperity of Hanford, and was instrumental in procuring the extension of the Santa Fe railroad from Fresno to the Kern county line. In 1889 he started the Del Monte Vineyard Co., which put one hundred and sixty acres under vines and trees, and the next year the Banner Vineyard Co., which, together with the former vineyard, made a tract of three hundred and twenty acres, and this he sold within a few months. Soon after he bought the Grangeville vineyard of a hundred and sixty acres, planted it to vines and sold it in the second year. Meantime he bought a section of land of Foster Brothers, half of which he put to vines and sold to P. McRae, planting the other half in 1891, and this he sold to the Armona Orchard & Vineyard Co. In the fall of the latter year he organized the Silver Bow Vineyard Co. at Butte, Mont., and sold two hundred and forty acres of it to residents of Butte, Mont., the following spring selling to other residents there a half section which he had set to prunes and peaches and which is known as the Montana Orchard. In 1890 he bought and platted the Reddington Addition of forty lots in Hanford, and a little later bought twenty acres more

in the northern section of the town and platted half of that; since then he has observed these purchases develop into the city's most exclusive residence district. About the same time he bought another twenty acres of land in Hanford, which he sold in one body.

As Mr. Bush was a pioneer in fruits and vines, so was he also a pioneer in the oil industry. Soon after 1890 his attention was directed to oil possibilities, and in 1896 he organized the Consolidated Oil & Development Co., capitalized at \$50,000, which sunk a well in the Kroeyenhagen district and found oil, but not in paying quantities. Next he organized the Caribon Oil Co. in the Coalinga district with a like capital, became its superintendent and manager, and with C. C. and W. A. Spinks bought a section of land, a part of which was sold to the Peerless Oil Co., eighty acres to the Merced Oil Co., and eighty to the Great Northern Oil Co. Five wells on land still owned by the original company yield a good annual income. In the Kern river country he organized the Provident Oil Co., capitalized at \$200,000, developed sixty acres in oil and suspended operations owing to cheap oil. He organized also the McFadden Oil & Mining Co., with a capital stock of \$100,000, and sunk a well which, though operations were suspended, is still the property of the company. In both of these companies Mr. Bush owns a large block of stock. A larger enterprise of Mr. Bush's was the Del Rey Oil Co. Its capital was \$1,000,000; of its four hundred acres, forty are in the heart of the Kern river field, seven producing wells being sunk under the superintendence and management of Mr. Bush, who still owns stock in the company, as well as two hundred and forty acres of undeveloped lands in that district. In 1898 he organized the Del Monte Coal Co., which developed coal lands in this part of the county, but suspended operations because of exorbitant shipping charges.

Of the Hanford Abstract Co., which was organized with a cash capital of \$10,000, Mr. Bush has been superintendent and manager since November, 1901, owning a controlling interest in the stock. With four stockholders he organized the Hanford Gas & Power Co., of which he is secretary and general manager; their plant is one of the finest of its kind in the state, costing \$60,000, and to date (1913) has more than doubled the investment price. In the fall of 1892 Mr. Bush was one of the most enthusiastic promoters of the creation of Kings county from Tulare, giving generously of his money and time to that end, and he was one of the commissioners on organization appointed by Governor Markham. He has been directly concerned with most of the improvements which have marked the growth of Hanford from a village to a thriving industrial community. He was interested in the sugar beet industry and the erection of the \$1,000,000 factory at Corcoran, which means, when plans materialize for operation by proper financing, one of the greatest things for the

advancement and prosperity of the farmers in Kings county. He was one of the organizers of the Guarantee Land & Investment Co., which company purchased eight thousand acres of land between Corcoran and Hanford, now being developed for colonization.

Politically Mr. Bush is a Democrat. Though never an office seeker, he has been secretary of the County Central Committee and a delegate to the conventions and was one of the presidential electors on the Democratic ticket in 1908. Fraternally he affiliates with the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Foresters. Mr. Bush married in Kings county December 21, 1884, Miss Emma L. Byrd, who was born in California, and they have four children: Ruby Pearl, wife of G. M. Wilson; Clarence E.; Moses Lyman; and Grover L.

DAVID F. CARTER

It was in Platte county, Iowa, that David F. Carter was born in May, 1852, a son of William F. and Frances M. (Hill) Carter. His father, a farmer, was a native of Kentucky, and his mother was born in Tennessee. They had eleven children: Sarah A., Marion F., James L., Mary, Vicia J., William P., Joseph O., John P., David F., Columbus G. and Amanda. Sarah became the wife of Joseph O. Landsdowne, has borne him eight children, and they live in Visalia. Marion F. married Elsie Kent, of Visalia, and their two children are attending high school in that city. James L. married Elizabeth Strawn and their home is at Visalia. Mary married Joseph Ray and has borne him a son named Oliver. Vicia J. is also married. William P., of Lindsay, married Sallie Sherman. Joseph O. married Miss Vickery and lives at Three Rivers. John P. married Cenio Johnson and lives in North Dakota, where he is principal of a school. Columbus G. is dead. Amanda married Newton Kent. David F. married Elizabeth Reaves, and she bore him seven children: Frank, Lulu, Albert, Joseph O., Ora and Della, and one that died in infancy. Frank married Elsie Smith, and they and their two children reside at Reedley, Fresno county. Albert has devoted himself to educational work and his wife, formerly Miss Grimsy, is teaching at Porterville. He has served as a member of the board of education and is now principal of a night school and will graduate in law from the Hastings law school in 1913. He was for four years a student at the normal school at San Jose. Joseph O. is married. Ora married William Janes, a newspaper man at Taft, Cal., and has three children. Della married Byron Allen, a well-known stockman, and lives at Visalia.

In 1870 Mr. Carter came to California from Iowa, crossing the plains with an emigrant train. For a time he lived at Hill's Ferry

on the San Joaquin river and was engaged in farming and in driving a ten-mule team in freighting. He has lived in Tulare county since 1872. After following stockraising for a time he went into the lime business, in which he was successful, furnishing this necessity for most of the public buildings in the county. He located in Lemon Cove in 1876 and in 1878 was instrumental in establishing a postoffice there, of which he was in charge as postmaster for fourteen years. He was for a time prominent in the sheep business, at one time owning twenty-one thousand head. One of his transactions in sheep, with which he made a large profit on thirty-seven hundred sheep which he bought at Tulare, brought him to the attention of sheep men throughout the country. Finally he sold his sheep for \$10,000 and invested his money in cattle. He formerly ran his sheep in the mountains, but his cattle business centers at his ranch at Three Rivers. He was for a time the owner of a lemon orchard at Lemon Cove. He has latterly given his attention to the laying of cement pipe and his operations in connection with Mountain View ranch are well known to all his fellow citizens. Politically he is a Democrat. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. His interest in education has impelled him to accept the offices of school trustee, director of schools and clerk of the board of education.

JOHN H. HINE

In the struggle for success in which John H. Hine was for many years putting forth his efforts no one was more helpful and proved a mightier force in assisting him to gain prosperity than his estimable wife and helpmeet, and they are now making their home in Richmond, enjoying the fruits of their hard labor. Mr. Hine was born in North Carolina, in 1866, the son of John H. Hine, Sr., the latter of whom was a progressive fruit grower in California and is now making his home in Tulare county. When John H., Jr., was very young he was taken by his parents to Missouri, where the family lived until 1885, and there the boy began his education in the public schools. His active career began as a helper on his father's ranch, and there he remained until he was twenty-two years of age, when he married and settled on land which is now included in his extensive farm of ninety acres. Aided by his wife, he embarked extensively in general farming, growing fruit in large quantities and raising considerable stock for the market. As a citizen he has always been helpful to all good interests of the community, and in his politics he is inclined to be independent. Fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World and the Woodcraft Order.

The marriage of Mr. Hine united him with Mrs. Mary E. Hill, a native of Nebraska, and together they have since faced many hardships and reverses which they have bravely overcome with united forces, and have seen much of the growth and development of the great agricultural interests of Tulare county, witnessing many of the changes which have marked its progress from a primitive condition to its present excellent status. Before her marriage Mrs. Hine had conducted a small hotel in Dinuba, but she rented it for two years after marrying and then sold it at a good profit. She is an excellent example of the rare woman who unselfishly shares the burden of life's responsibilities with her husband, and they justly merit the well-earned rest they are now taking, for they are renting their ranch and making their home near Richmond, surrounded by many friends.

WILLIAM H. MILLER, M. D.

Dr. Miller was educated in the common schools near his birthplace in Illinois and at Auburn, Ind., and was graduated from the medical department of the University of Illinois with the M. D. degree in 1886. After a year's practice in Chicago he went to Dakota, where he remained two years, until he came to California. He opened an office in Hanford in 1889 and has since built up a very successful general practice. He served as health officer of the city, and was surgeon for the Southern Pacific Railroad until he resigned because of the demands of his private practice. As a member of the California State Medical Society and through other affiliations he keeps in touch with the profession.

Inclination has led Dr. Miller to take an interest in ranching and in dairying, and during the past seven years he has developed thirty-five acres, six miles south of Hanford, into one of the most attractive homesteads in this part of the county. He has three hundred and twenty acres also on Mill creek, east and south of Hanford, between that city and Tulare, which is devoted to dairy purposes. It is irrigated by means of a twenty horsepower electric motor and two ten-inch wells which produce fifteen hundred gallons of water per minute. One hundred and sixty acres of the property is under alfalfa, and the rest is given over to grain. He has a dairy of forty-five Holstein cows. All in all, this is one of the best properties of its kind in the vicinity. Too busy otherwise to give personal attention to its management, he leases it on shares. His house in Hanford, which he erected in 1901 with a view to making it a suitable residence for this climate, is one of the model homes of

that city. It is of brick, with double walls, separated by open spaces, and is surrounded by beautiful park-like grounds in which he has planted many trees.

Fraternally Dr. Miller affiliates with the Woodmen of the World, being a member of the Hanford lodge of that order. In a public-spirited way he has been a factor in the building up of the town, whose citizens recognize in him one willing, so far as he is able, to contribute to the general good.

ASBURY C. RANEY

It was in Missouri that Asbury C. Raney was born January 12, 1860. Reared and educated there, he made his home in that state until 1884. In that year, when he was twenty-four years old, he came to California and during the ensuing three years lived in Lake county. In October, 1887, he drove down to Tulare county in a prairie schooner, stopping at Grangeville. He entered government land on the plains near Huron, Fresno county, and after perfecting his title to it eventually sold it. For some time he was in the employ of others on farms, besides which he did considerable teaming, and for nine years he worked on harvesters. In November, 1890, he bought thirty acres of land five miles and a half northwest of Hanford, of which twenty-two acres are in vines and about six acres in orchard, the balance of the tract being his home site. Later he purchased forty acres near Orosi, in the orange belt in Tulare county, and this he devotes to general crops.

In 1885 Mr. Raney married Berintha Kern, a native of Missouri, and they have one son, Teddy Roosevelt Raney, born in April, 1903, now a student in the public school near his home. Socially Mr. Raney affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. Politically he entertains progressive ideas and is devoted to the development of his district and county and to the best interests of the people of the country at large.

WILLIAM RIVERS

One of the enterprising and successful dairymen of Visalia is William Rivers, whose establishment is on Goshen avenue. Bereft of a father's care at a very early age, he found it necessary to earn his own way when he was quite young, and it is largely to his credit

that he has reached his present comfortable state, having acquired property and becoming the proprietor of a well-paying business.

Mr. Rivers was born in Joliet, Ill., August 7, 1872, son of William and Mary (Miller) Rivers, and was but fifteen years of age when brought to California by his mother. He remained with his family on the small farm near Goshen, where they had settled, for about nine years, coming to his present place in Visalia January 1, 1911. With a partner, James Butler, he farms three thousand acres of land, having three hundred and fifty acres planted to alfalfa, and they expect to have a thousand acres devoted to that crop in the course of three years or less. Seventy acres are in vineyard and three hundred in Egyptian corn. The land produces half a ton of dried raisin grapes to the acre, or a ton and a half of wine grapes to the acre. They have been successful in the raising of beef cattle, hogs and mules, and their stock, being exceptionally fine, commands the highest market price.

Mr. Rivers was married May 12, 1903, to Daisy Williams, a native of Kansas, whose family came to California in 1887, and she has borne him the following children: Lois, Irene, William, Jr., Ralph, Edith and Ray. He is identified with the Woodmen of the World and with the Loyal Order of Moose. In his politics he is staunchly Republican, and the confidence which his townsmen repose in him is indicated by the fact that he has been a member of the County Central Committee for Tulare county and as such has acquitted himself with much ability.

The mother of William Rivers, who is still living at Goshen, aged about sixty-five years, is one of those strong, courageous women who have done so much in aiding in the development of this territory. Her family consisted of ten children, viz.: Mrs. Frank Halstead, of Fresno county; Mrs. Arthur Mitchell, of Visalia; Alice, wife of James Black, of Oakland; Mollie; David; William, Jr.; Roy; John; James, and Harry.

JOHN EARLY SCOGGINS

The Scoggins family of which John Early Scoggins is a member is of Scotch origin (the great-great-grandfather having been banished from Scotland on account of religious persecution, he being a Protestant in his faith), and many of its representatives in this country inherit the sturdy traits of character of that excellent race. The father of John Early Scoggins was Dr. Franklin Scoggins and was a native of Tennessee, whence in 1854 he set out for California, coming overland across the plains and enduring the untold hardships

and vicissitudes of that tedious journey. He was the father of nine children, as follows: Noah H., David T., Vesta Tennessee, John Early, Alice May, Newton Jasper, Nettie, Lena and one child that died in infancy.

In Yolo county, Cal., shortly after his parents had arrived there, occurred the birth of John Early Scoggins, on June 25, 1854, and he there grew to a boy of twelve years, attending the schools of the vicinity and receiving careful and attentive training from his excellent parents. He then was taken by his parents to Vacaville, Solano county, and attended the Methodist Episcopal College, there taking a preparatory course, after which he entered the State University at Oakland. His desire to complete a course was frustrated by the sickness of his father, which compelled him, after a year at the university, to relinquish his studies and athletic activities and return home to take charge of his father's large fruit farm near Vacaville. With his accustomed thoroughness in everything he undertook he learned the fruit business in its every phase, and in 1892 moved to Tulare county to take charge of the Grant Oak Fruit Ranch of four hundred and sixty acres near Farmersville. As manager of this fruit ranch he shipped out the first carload of green fruit from that place, thus establishing himself as one of the pioneers in the fruit exporting business of the county. For thirteen years he continued as manager of this ranch and then became interested in fruit farming on a tract three miles southwest of Dinuba, where he still owns a well-improved forty-acre fruit and alfalfa ranch, five acres being planted to peaches, twenty acres to grapes and the balance to alfalfa.

Mr. Scoggins is a staunch Democrat in political belief, and, notwithstanding his large ranching interests, has found time to fill the office of member of the Democratic County Central Committee, to which he has repeatedly been elected in Tulare county. In church associations he is a Seventh Day Adventist and has served on the association board for several years. On October 18, 1876, in Vaca valley, Mr. Scoggins was married to Miss Ida Orpa Decker, daughter of Mrs. I. L. Decker, who lives at Diamond, Cal., and to this union eight children were born, as follows: Ethel Ida, Mable Clair, Roy E., Adelbert Ellis, Paul Elmon, Edith Lucile, Nellis Louise and Helen Merle, all of whom are at present residing in Tulare county. Ethel Ida is the wife of Alva Leibsher; Mable Clair is the wife of Charles R. Thompson, of Farmersville; Paul Elmon is a minister in the Seventh Day Adventist Church, stationed at Tulare; and Roy E. is mentioned fully in another part of this publication.

The Decker family, of which Mrs. Scoggins is a member, are of old Colonial history, members having been among those brave people who came in the Mayflower to Plymouth, Mass. Her father, I. L. Decker, came across the plains in 1850, and it is an interesting fact

in the family memoirs to know that he was married on the way to California and took his bride to live in the Suisun valley. His death occurred in 1873, his wife still surviving and making her home, as above mentioned, at Diamond, Cal.

In all of his interests, industrial, commercial, political or religious, Mr. Scoggins has been ever an important factor for good and every emergency has found in him an active helper and a most generous contributor. A kind and thoughtful father, domestic in his tastes and loyal in his duties of citizenship, he has been most worthy of the honor and esteem which is accorded him by all. It is interesting to add that Mr. Scoggins has always evinced a great interest in athletics, having played first base with the Lone Stars team, and in 1873 was a valued member of the team of the University of California.

ROY E. SCOGGINS

Inherent qualities of an unusual character have qualified Roy E. Scoggins to fill the prominent position in the business world he holds, he being a member of a very old and well-known Scotch family on the paternal side, while in the maternal line he is a descendant of Mayflower ancestors of the Decker family. Mr. Scoggins' ingenuity has been evidenced by his invention of the Hard Pan Renovator, a machine made for the drilling of holes in which dynamite is placed for the blasting of hard pan. The machine is mounted on four wheels and is driven by means of an eight horsepower gasoline engine; by means of this power the holes are driven into the hard pan matter and into the holes thus made dynamite is placed and exploded, thus breaking the hard surface for several feet around and making the land, formerly so useless, very fertile and valuable for growing peach or lemon trees, alfalfa or any deep-rooted plant. In partnership with his estimable father, John E. Scoggins (a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume), Mr. Scoggins is now operating three of these machines in the field, and they have built up a new and very profitable industry in the county. The machines are made at the Briscoe Manufacturing Co., at Lindsay and Hanford, and the invention bids fair to become one of the most useful of the times.

Mr. Scoggins was born in Colusa county in 1882, son of John Early and Ida O. (Decker) Scoggins. When he was fourteen years of age he came to Tulare and prepared for college at Healdsburg, where he entered and completed his course with a good record. For some time he was employed on his father's ranch, and he then turned his attention to the carpenter's trade, which has been for many years

his chief work. In 1908 he married Miss Edith Jones, a native of Iowa, and they have a daughter, Oleta, who was two years old in 1912. They make their home in Lindsay, and it has become the center of many pleasant social gatherings, their host of friends always finding a most hospitable welcome there.

Mr. Scoggins has never been actively interested in political work, but he has well-defined ideas on all questions of domestic economy and his public spirit has prompted him to respond generously to all reasonable demands on behalf of the community. He is an enterprising and successful citizen, numbered among those young men of the state who have contributed the vigorous interest, inflexible will and indomitable courage to further interests, make larger attempts and bring about the prosperous conditions that exist at the present time. His invention has proved not only a financial success to him and a source of gratification as well, but it has given to many the means of improving land which heretofore had been waste and undeveloped.

J. NEWTON YOUNG

The Young family to which J. Newton Young belongs is one of the leading pioneer families of Visalia, having lived there since 1855, during which time many representatives of the family have become identified with its progress and development. Born at Visalia, Cal., at No. 600 South East street, which has been the family homestead for many years, J. Newton Young is the son of Newton and Mary (Price) Young, the former a native of Indiana, while Mrs. Young was born in Wales. The parents were married in Visalia, whence Mr. Young had come as a soldier to quiet disturbance incident to the Civil war. He was a private in Company I, and it was while serving in that capacity that he married. He was killed in a sawmill in the Great Forests by a large log rolling on him on August 24, 1871.

J. Newton Young was a posthumous child, his birth occurring April 24, 1872, just eight months after his father's accidental death. He had a sister, Ida, who became the wife of J. B. Agnew, a seed-grower with place of business at No. 110 Market street, San Francisco. The maternal grandfather of J. Newton Young was an old settler at Visalia. He built the old Visalia home and was identified with much of the development of that place. He came with the Evans family from Wales, that party comprising Samuel Evans, Sr., and his wife, Ann Evans; John Price, Samuel Evans, Jr., and James

Evans, and Mary Price. The last-named, who became the wife of Newton Young, passed away at Visalia in 1909.

J. Newton Young is now managing the Mary Young estate, which consisted of two hundred and forty acres and a dairy ranch, besides other property. He has farmed successfully, and during later years has invested in the oil industry at Lost Hills and Belle Ridge, in all of which interests he has met with signal success. He married Miss Maud Shuman of San Francisco, and they make their home in the cozy bungalow Mr. Young has built at No. 500 South Bridge street, Visalia.

JAMES M. WELLS

One who has achieved prominence as a contractor and builder throughout the West and Northwest is James M. Wells, who was born at Lansing, Mich., April 4, 1855. He was there reared and educated and was instructed in the essentials and the niceties of the carriagemaker's trade. Thus he laid the foundation of the splendid knowledge of mechanics which has enabled him to win success in another field of mechanical labor. He came to California in 1875, when he was in his twenty-first year, and worked at carriage-making, millwrighting and carpentering in San Francisco, and also in Seattle, Wash., Portland, Ore., in Idaho and Montana, and in British Columbia. In his work in connection with the construction of fine buildings he developed an exceptional ability for interior finishing in residences and office structures of the first class, and eventually this noteworthy specialty brought him to the notice of a leading contractor in the neighborhood of Los Angeles, by whom he was employed, mostly at Long Beach, for three years. He gave attention solely to interiors, and he worked there eight years altogether, helping to erect and beautify many of the largest and finest buildings in that field of remarkable building operations. He came to Tulare county in 1907 and bought a forty-acre ranch just out of Tulare City, raw land which he improved with a residence, outbuildings and a modern pumping plant, setting out a family orchard and devoting himself principally to the growth of alfalfa. This property he sold advantageously in 1910.

For several years past Mr. Wells has given his attention mostly to contracting and building. Among the notable buildings he has erected in Tulare City are the residences of Mr. Feltnig, Mr. Johns and Frank Moody, and in the county outside of that town he has built the ranch houses of Messrs. Ottaman, Wattenberg, Fry, Wolcott and Miller, besides the Dr. Scroggs home and a fine concrete

block house for Frank M. Adams. One of Mr. Wells' earlier ventures was as a ranger in Washington, where for some time he ran a large band of cattle over an extensive range. He was married in 1902 to Miss Strong, a native of Indiana.

ISAAC HENDERSON WARREN

In Coffee county, Tenn., Isaac Henderson Warren was born in October, 1866, a son of Thomas P. and Mary (Harris) Warren. His father lived to be seventy-five years old, and his mother survives, in her seventy-first year. They were natives of Tennessee, and it was at Hillsboro in that state that the elder Warren passed away in 1906. Mr. Warren married in his native state Miss Bobbie Willis, who also was born there. Her mother lived to be seventy-five years old, and John Willis, her father, attained to the same age; one of her grandmothers reached the advanced age of ninety-two years. After his marriage Mr. Warren removed from Tennessee to Brownwood, Brown county, Texas, where he farmed until he came to Tulare county. He bought fifteen acres of land near Tulare and has twelve acres in vines, Muscat grapes being his principal crop. The remainder of his land is a big chicken yard, he having about one hundred fine chickens. While he is interested in stock, he keeps only enough for his own use.

To Isaac Henderson and Bobbie (Willis) Warren have been born six children: Willis, Oscar, Leasel, David, and Ira and Ima, twins. Willis is a salesman in a store at Collis; Oscar is employed in a packing house; the others are attending school. Mr. Warren is a member of the Baptist church. Politically he is an independent Democrat, and fraternally he affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. He is in every sense of the word a good citizen, solicitous for the general welfare and helpful to all public interests.

JOSHUA E. WEST

Of the enterprising handlers of subdivisions at Visalia, Tulare county, none has been more successful in recent years than Joshua E. West, of the firm of West & Wing. A native of the Blue Grass State, Mr. West was born in Graves county, Ky., a son of Joseph West. The father came to California first in 1850, subsequently returning to Kentucky, and again came to the Pacific coast in 1874. Joshua E. West, who was then quite young, grew to manhood in

Fresno county and was educated in the public school near his home. From an early age he was a valuable assistant to his father in the latter's farming and stock-raising operations and in 1895 he engaged in business on his own account by leasing four hundred acres of land near Fresno and devoting it to the production of grapes and fruit. There he operated until 1903, when he came to Tulare county as manager for the Robla-Lomas Cattle Company, which had a range of ten thousand acres about twenty-two miles north of Visalia. There he had in charge nearly two thousand cattle, the number having been kept up to eighteen hundred and fifty for quite a long time. Later he engaged in fattening cattle at the Visalia sugar factory, feeding them on the pulp of beets. It should be added that his business here comprised the buying, fattening and selling of cattle, and that he transacted it successfully wholly on his own account. In May, 1911, he organized the real estate firm of West & Wing.

In this last-mentioned business Mr. West's partner is William A. Wing, and they make a specialty of handling large tracts of land for subdivision. A plat of twelve hundred acres east of Orosi they bought at an average price of \$41.50 an acre, and after subdividing it they sold it at \$125 to \$200 an acre. They also handled profitably a tract of eighteen hundred acres north of Orosi, nine hundred acres of which they platted in subdivision and planted to oranges. In the last ten years Mr. West has seen orange land in Tulare county advance in market value from \$10 to \$200 an acre, and he has witnessed a similar advance in property of other classes.

Fraternally Mr. West affiliates with the Woodmen of the World. As a citizen he is very helpfully progressive and public spirited. In November, 1901, he married Miss Eliza Freeman, a native of Fresno, whose father came to California with the pioneers. Mr. and Mrs. West have a son and daughter, Herbert and Marcella.



