

THE YOSEMITE COMMISSIONERS – 1864 - 1906

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PART THREE: Makeup of the board by year

Dates of service are approximate, often based upon bi-annual reports which give current board membership but don't always specify the month or day of resignations or appointments. Generally, for the end of a commissioner's term the year given below is the year preceding his absence from the board.

PART ONE

List of the commissioners by year of appointment

The following were considered as potential commissioners in 1864 but were not appointed:

The Collector of the Port of San Francisco [In 1864 was Charles James]
The Mayor of the City of San Francisco [In 1864 was Henry Perrin Coon]
John F. Morse

THE COMMISSIONERS

Gov. 1863-1867: Frederick Low

Frederick Law Olmstead	(1864-1865)
J. D. Whitney	(1864-1878)
William Ashburner	(1864-1879)
I. W. Raymond	(1864-1886)
E. S. Holden	(1864-1879)
Alexander Deering	(1864-1872)
George W. Coulter	(1864-1874)
Galen Clark	(1864-1866 – appointed Guardian in 1866; see below)

H. W. Cleaveland (1866-1879) (replaces Olmstead who resigned)

GUARDIAN: Galen Clark (May 22, 1866 – 1879; first term)

Gov. 1867-1871: Henry Haight

Gov. 1871-1875: Newton Booth

Edgar Mills (1873-1879) (replaces Deering who resigned)

Gov. 1875-1875: Romualdo Pacheco
(for about 10 months ending Dec. 9)

Gov. 1875-1880: William Irwin

P. D. Wigginton	(1875) (replaces Coulter resigned)
Thomas P. Madden	(1875-1892) (replaces Wigginton when elected to Congress)
William C. Priest	(1879-1882) (replaces Whitney)

Gov. 1880-1883: George Perkins

M. C. Briggs	(1880-1884)
J. P. Jackson	(1880-1882)
William H. Mills	(1880-1888)
George S. Ladd	(1880-1882)
J. L. Sperry	(1880-1882)

A. J. Meany (1880-1882)

GUARDIAN: J. M. Hutchings (1880-1883)

Gov. 1883-1887: George Stoneman

J. M. Griffith (1883-1886), Term expires April 19, 1886

John H. O'Brien (1883-1894), Term expires April 19, 1886

Jonathan Mentzer (1883-1886), Term expires April 19, 1888

E. W. Chapman (1883-1890), Term expires April 19, 1888

C. L. Weller (1883-1884), Term expires April 19, 1888

GUARDIAN: Walter E. Dennison (1884-1886)

William B. May (1885-1888), Term expires April 19, 1890 (replaces Weller as sec.)

Gov. 1887-1891: R. W. Waterman

I. W. Taber (1887-1890), Term expires April 19, 1892

Ben. C. Truman (1887-1888), Term expires April 19, 1892.

G. G. Goucher (1887-1888), Term expires April 19, 1892

GUARDIAN: Mark L. McCord (1887-1888)

Joseph G. Eastland (1889-1890), Term expires April 19, 1892

M. H. Hecht (1889-1890), Term expires April 19, 1892

F. M. Pixley (1889-1890), Term expires April 19, 1894.

John P. Irish (1889-1892), Term expires April 19, 1894.

GUARDIAN: Galen Clark (1889 – 1897; second term)

Gov. 1891-1895: H. H. Markham

T. S. C. Lowe (1891-1892), Term expires April 19, 1894.

Charles G. Clinch (1891-1901), Term expires April 19, 1896

John F. Kidder (1891-1894), Term expires April 19, 1896.

Henry K. Field (1891-1896), Term expires April 19, 1896

George B. Sperry (1891-1894), Term expires April 19, 1896

Max Goldberg (1893-1897), Term expires April 19, 1896.

E. P. Johnson (1893-1896), Term expires April 19, 1898

H. J. Ostrander (1893-1896), Term expires April 19, 1898

Gov. 1895-1899: James Budd

Charles S Givens (1895-), Term expires April 19, 1898

John Boggs (1895), Term expired

Miles Wallace (1895-1901), Term expires April 19, 1898

GUARDIAN: Miles Wallace (October 1897 – 1899 Guardian)

Abbot Kinney (1897-1901), term expires May 24, 1901.
Wm. G. Kerckhoff (1897-), term expires May 23, 1902.
Wm. H. Metson (1897-), term expires May 23, 1902.
W. W. Foote (1897-1904), term expires June 10, 1901.

Gov. 1899-1903: Henry Gage

GUARDIAN: John F. Stevens (October 1899-June 1904)

W. Henshaw (1899-), appointed January, 1899
Thomas A. Hender (1902-), appointed March, 1902
John G. Wilson (1902-), appointed March, 1902
Frank H. Short (1902-), appointed January, 1902
Terms of last three end January 3, 1903

Gov. 1903-1907: George C. Pardee

George T. Harlow (1904-), Guardian (replaces McCord?)

Warren M. Watson (1905-)

J. J. Lermen (1897-) Not a commissioner; Secretary and Treasurer*

* Note: Lermen was not a Board appointee, but a paid "Officer" functioning as Secretary-Treasurer. Previous to 1897, the Secretary-Treasurer doubled as a Commissioner.

[Note on the Guardians' residence]:

Cosmopolitan Bathhouse and Saloon

After the Cosmopolitan ceased to operate in the 1880s, the premises served various purposes. The front of the building became the office and living quarters of the Guardian of the valley, occupied in turn by Walter E. Dennison, Mark L. McCord, Galen Clark, and Miles Wallace. The final two Guardians under the state—John F. Stevens and George T. Harlow, from 1899 to 1906, lived in a new building slightly east of the Old Village general store.

During Clark's second administration as Guardian, 1889 to 1897, his office in the Cosmopolitan's front room functioned as a club or lounge for the men of the village and occasional visitors. There, gathered around a large table and huge stove, they passed the time catching up on valley affairs. Occasionally assemblies, such as school programs and community parties, took place in another large room near the center of the building. (Even in Smith's time, his saloon had frequently been the site of local gatherings.) The excess space in the Cosmopolitan building not needed by the Guardian provided extra sleeping quarters in connection with the Sentinel Hotel and also served as the hotel barroom and barber shop. A section in the rear of the building became a small bunkhouse for workmen. The bunkhouse, barroom, and barber shop were collectively referred to as the "Collar and Elbow." After the Guardian's office and living quarters moved to the new headquarters building, the front part of the Cosmopolitan functioned variously as a post office and express office, and served whatever other needs arose.¹⁸ [18. Degnan to McHenry, 17 November 1954.]ⁱ

PART TWO: Commissioners' biographical information, listed by year of appointment

PART TWO, SECTION 1: 1864 – 1870

Charles James

In 1864, I. W. Raymondⁱⁱ recommended "The Collector of the Port of San Francisco" – Charles James at the time – be given a position on the Yosemite Commission, but he was not appointed. The following excerptⁱⁱⁱ, discusses Samuel Clemens' news coverage of an incident regarding James:

[Start of quote]:

Clemens' fourth column for the *Californian* attacked boorish ostentation and sentimental notions of children. It continued his response to the Dutch Flat poetry hoax, begun in no. 106, and it ridiculed the practice of making accusations of disloyalty to the Union on scant grounds: Clemens' former editor, Charles Henry Webb, had recently suffered from such a charge at the hands of the press, and Clemens, as a son of Missouri, was always in danger of experiencing it in person.

Clemens worked his way around to this touchy subject by referring, in "True Son of the Union," to a political wrangle that had been resolved six weeks earlier, but had been alluded to by the *San Francisco Morning Call* just one week before his column appeared.^{iv} Briefly, the appointment of the San Francisco collector of customs from August 1863 until November 1865, Charles James, had been widely regarded as political patronage and attributed to the influence of Senator John Conness. Sometime in early 1865, James became involved in a controversy over his discharge of Samuel Pillsbury, a customs employee. Pillsbury had alleged, in protesting his dismissal to the secretary of the treasury, that he was fired when he voted for a slate of unpledged delegates to the Union State Convention rather than support the delegates pledged to Senator Conness. Because the delegates to this convention nominated candidates for the state legislature, which in turn selected senatorial candidates, James was open to the charge of "Senator-making." This accusation was supported by the fact that the secretary of the treasury had reinstated Pillsbury in early May 1865.^v

[p. 198]

Clemens began his piece by quoting the letter from "A New England Mechanic" to the *Call*, which criticized the "worthy Collector." He then dismissed it with bemused contempt, noting "how quibbling and fault-finding breed in a land of newspapers," and went on to print an obviously fictional complaint that he had "intercepted" on its way to the office of another local paper, the "*Flaming Loyalist*." This document explicitly transforms failure to observe the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill into an act of treason—an absurdity that Clemens finally answers with a rhetorical question: "If the oriental artisan and the sentinel agriculturalist held the offices of these men, would they *ever attend to anything else* but the flag-flying and gin-soaking outward forms of patriotism and official industry?"

[End of quote]

Henry Perrin Coon

In 1864 Senator James Conness' handwritten notes on a letter from I. W. Raymond^{vi} suggest he was considering appointing "The Mayor of the City of San Francisco" – Henry Perrin Coon at the time – and John F. Morse to the Yosemite Commission, but they were not appointed.

[Start quote from Wikipedia 3/4/2012]:

Henry Perrin Coon	
	
11th Mayor of San Francisco	
In office	July 1, 1863 – December 1, 1867
Preceded by	Henry F. Teschemacher
Succeeded by	Frank McCoppin
Personal details	
Born	September 30, 1822 Columbia County, New York
Died	December 4, 1884 (aged 62) San Francisco, California
Political party	People's Party
Profession	teacher, doctor, lawyer, druggist, businessman

Henry Perrin Coon (September 30, 1822 – December 4, 1884) was the 11th Mayor of San Francisco who served from July 1, 1863 to December 1, 1867. He was one of the most versatile men ever to hold the office, having previously worked as a teacher, doctor, lawyer, druggist and businessman. Coon was born on September 30, 1822 in Columbia County, New York, the youngest of 13 children, and was raised in the Presbyterian church. His parents sent him to Claverack Academy, near Hudson, New York, where he spent two or three years. He then attended Williams College where he graduated with the class of 1844. After college, he was the superintendent of Claverack Academy for a short time before

beginning studies for the ministry. After about a year, his biography records that a severe cold settled into his throat that spoiled his voice for public speaking, which he ultimately regained in California's milder climate. At that point, he selected medicine as his profession. After receiving his medical degree from the Philadelphia College of Medicine in 1848, he returned to Hudson, New York where he married Ruthetta Folger on September 18, 1849. He then established a medical practice in Syracuse, New York. In 1853, he left for California, leaving his wife and infant daughter behind for the time being, although they joined him the following year. He and Ruthetta ultimately had four children: three sons and a daughter.

After arriving in San Francisco in 1853, he established a new medical practice, complete with an apothecary shop and a chemical-importing company. Coon also participated in organizing manufacturing and wholesale vinegar businesses. He was an active member of San Francisco's Vigilance Committee of 1856. When the Vigilance Committee transformed itself into a political party called the Peoples' Party later that year, he was the party's nominee for police judge. He was elected to the judgeship on November 4, 1856, receiving 8,706 votes out of 11,038 cast. Coon established a reputation for being tough on criminals (compared to the previous attitude of leniency toward them). Coon also gained notoriety for refusing to stop a duel between California Supreme Court Justice David S. Terry and U.S. Senator David C. Broderick, in which Broderick was killed. At the end of his second term in 1860, Coon stepped down from the post to return to his medical practice. In early 1861, he and his family traveled to the East Coast but returned to San Francisco late that year when he again resumed the practice of medicine.

Coon reluctantly ran for mayor in 1863 after being approached by the People's Party, winning by nearly a thousand votes in the election of May 16, 1863. While he spent his first two years in office with ceremonial duties, including participating in the opening of the Bank of California, and leading a procession through the streets after President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, his second two-year term would be quite traumatic.



Pacific Railroad Bond, City and County of San Francisco, signed by Mayor Henry P. Coon 1865

In the same election in which Coon was first elected, there had been a bond measure known as the Railroad Subscription Act. The measure -- which easily passed -- called for the city government to issue \$650,000 in bonds for an equal amount of stock in the Central Pacific Railroad Company. Coon, at first, refused to issue the bonds. After the railroad company obtained an injunction ordering him to do so, he acquiesced.

He also opposed William Ralston's plan to extend Montgomery Street past Howard Street in the South of Market area, even though he helped Ralston open the Bank of California. Ralston had bought land south of the intersection and had obtained approval from the Board of Supervisors. However, after Coon's veto, Ralston had to content himself with building the Palace Hotel.

Coon also turned his energies to adorning the city. He hired a crew to survey a very sandy area in the western part of the city. This sandy area would be the site of Golden Gate Park.

On April 3, 1865, by order of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Mayor Coon became ex-officio President of the city's Board of Health.

After leaving office in 1867, he did not resume the practice of medicine but engaged in the insurance business as well as dealing in real estate. He amassed enough wealth to purchase two large ranches, one of them became part of the campus of Stanford University. In 1868, he was appointed by the Governor to the office of Tide Lands Commissioner. In 1870-71, he and his family visited Great Britain and many parts of continental Europe.

His wife, Ruthetta, died in 1877 and he remarried the next year to the widow of a Navy doctor.

Coon died of heart failure on December 4, 1884 at Ralston's Palace Hotel.

He is interred at the Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, California.

[edit] Sources

Heintz, William F., *San Francisco's Mayors: 1850-1880. From the Gold Rush to the Silver Bonanza.*

Woodside, CA: Gilbert Roberts Publications, 1975. (Library of Congress Card No. 75-17094)

Coon, H.I., *Life of Henry P. Coon*, unpublished manuscript c.1885, in the California State Library, California History Room, Sacramento, California

[edit] External links

The Political Graveyard

San Francisco's Alcades and Mayors

[End quote from Wikipedia]

John F. Morse

In 1864 Senator James Conness' handwritten notes on a letter from I. W. Raymond^{vii} suggest he was considering appointing "The Mayor of the City of San Francisco" – Henry Perrin Coon at the time – and John F. Morse to the Yosemite Commission, but they were not appointed.

When Morse died on 30 Dec. 1874 (see obit in Daily Alta California, Volume 26, Number 9039, 31 December 1874^{viii}) he was described as a noted physician, founder of a hospital in Sacramento, California, and a onetime Grand Master of the Odd Fellows in California.

Gov. 1863-1867: Frederick Low

[Start quote^{ix}]:

Frederick Low

1863 - 1867

Significant Facts

Born: June 30, 1828 in Frankfort, Maine (now Winterport, Maine)

Died: July 21, 1894 in San Francisco, California

Married: Mary Mollie Creed on December 22, 1857

Political Party: Unionist

Biography

Frederick Low was born on his father's farm near Frankfort, Maine. At age 15, he became apprenticed to a mercantile company in Boston called Russell, Sturgis and Company. While in Boston, Low attended many of the lectures given at the Lowell Institute and Faneuil Hall. He heard many noted scholars including Frederick Douglass, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Ralph Waldo Emerson.

In 1849, Low headed to California in search of gold. In a few short months, he earned over \$1,500 in gold. Low returned to San Francisco where he and Henry Lambert opened a general store. In 1850, he dissolved his partnership with Lambert and moved to Marysville. A year later, he and his two brothers

began a mercantile and shipping business. In 1854, along with five partners, Low organized the California Steam Navigation Company, a large river navigation company.

Low's career in politics began when he was considered for the Republican candidate for state controller in 1861, but was not selected. Later that same year, Low was one of three congressmen-at-large for California who won a seat in the U.S. Congress. In 1863, President Lincoln appointed Low as the Collector of the Port of San Francisco. That same year, Low was elected Governor. Some of Low's greatest achievements during his term in office were in education. During his tenure, public school attendance increased. Low encouraged the development of a state university system and the use of land grants to promote higher education. Looking back on his term of office, Low said, "There's not much chance to display one's ability in the governor's office of this state, even if you be brilliant."

After leaving the governor's office, Low was appointed the Minister to China by President Grant. He served as the Minister to China from the end of 1869 until spring of 1874 when he resigned his post. Later in 1874 Low served as the Manager of Anglo-California Bank, a position he held until 1884, when he became president of the San Francisco Clearing House Association.

Family

Father: Daniel Low

Mother: Mercy Wardell

Wife: Mary Mollie Creed

Children: Flora

Did You Know?

Low was California's first 4-year governor.

Even though Low won his congressional seat in 1861, the act that granted a third representative for California had not been passed. It was not until June 1862, by a special act of Congress, that Low was finally admitted.

Bibliography

Books and Articles

Biographical Directory of the U.S. Congress, 1774 – 2005

Low, Frederick F. *Some Reflections of an Early California Governor Contained in a Short Dictated Memoir*. Sacramento Book Collectors Club 1959.

Melendy and Gilbert. *The Governors of California: From Peter H. Burnett to Edmund G. Brown*, Talisman Press, 1965.

Schaechtele. *The Governors of California and their Portraits*, California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association, 1995.

Websites

National Governors Association

[end quote]

Frederick Law Olmstead (1864-1865)

Head of Commission Sept. 28, 1864 – May 21, 1866 (before the establishment of a Guardian): "In the year 1864 . . . I had the honor to be made chairman of the first Yosemite Commission."^x

[start excerpt from Wikipedia 3/4/2012]:

Frederick Law Olmsted

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Jump to: [navigation](#), [search](#)

Frederick Law Olmsted Sr.



Born	April 26, 1822 ^[1] <u>Hartford, Connecticut</u>
Died	August 28, 1903 (aged 81) <u>Belmont, Massachusetts</u>
Occupation	landscape architect, journalist
Spouse	Mary Olmsted
Children	A daughter and <u>Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.</u>
Parents	John and Charlotte Olmsted
Signature	<i>Fred^l Law Olmsted</i>

Frederick Law Olmsted (April 26, 1822 – August 28, 1903) was an American journalist, social critic, public administrator, and landscape designer. He is popularly considered to be the father of American landscape architecture, although many scholars have bestowed that title upon Andrew Jackson Downing. Olmsted was famous for co-designing many well-known urban parks with his senior partner Calvert Vaux, including Central Park and Prospect Park in New York City.^[2]

Other projects that Olmsted has been involved in include the country's first and oldest coordinated system of public parks and parkways in Buffalo, New York; the country's oldest state park, the Niagara Reservation in Niagara Falls, New York; one of the first planned communities in the United States, Riverside, Illinois; Mount Royal Park in Montreal, Quebec; the Emerald Necklace in Boston, Massachusetts; also the Emerald Necklace of parks in Rochester, New York; Deering Oaks Park in Portland, Maine; the Belle Isle Park, in the Detroit River for Detroit, Michigan; the Presque Isle Park in Marquette, Michigan; the Grand Necklace of Parks in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; the Cherokee Park and entire parks and parkway system in Louisville, Kentucky; Springfield, Massachusetts' 735-acre Forest Park, featuring America's first public "wading pool";^[3] the George Washington Vanderbilt II Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina; the master plans for the University of California, Berkeley and Stanford University near Palo Alto, California; and the Montebello Park in St. Catharines, Ontario. In Chicago his projects include: Marquette Park; Jackson Park; Washington Park; the Midway Plaisance for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition; the south portion of Chicago's "'emerald necklace'" boulevard ring; Cadwalader Park in Trenton, New Jersey; and the University of Chicago campus. In Washington, D.C. he worked on the landscape surrounding the United States Capitol building. One of his lesser known

works is Point Chautauqua. Olmsted was hired by the Baptist Church to develop a residential community that blended in seamlessly with the natural world around it.
[end excerpt]

J. D. Whitney (1864-1878)

[start excerpt from Wikipedia 3/4/2012]:
Josiah Whitney
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Jump to: [navigation](#), [search](#)

Josiah Whitney



Portrait of Josiah Whitney by Silas Selleck, 1863

Born	November 23, 1819 <u>Northampton, Massachusetts</u>
Died	August 15, 1896
Nationality	<u>United States</u>
Fields	<u>geology</u>
Institutions	<u>Harvard University</u> <u>California Geological Survey</u>

Josiah Dwight Whitney (1819–1896) was an American geologist, professor of geology at Harvard University (from 1865), and chief of the California Geological Survey (1860–1874). Mount Whitney, the highest point in the continental United States, and the Whitney Glacier, the first confirmed glacier in the United States, on Mount Shasta, were both named after him by members of the Survey.

William Ashburner (1864-1879)



Photo of William Ashburner^{xii}

[begin quote]

William Ashburner was born in Stockbridge, Massachusetts and grew up there. He was educated in Europe as a mining engineer. He did most of his work in California during the Gold Rush.

He was a member of the California Geological Survey in the 1860s.

In 1863, Frederick Law Olmsted took up the post as manager of the Mariposa gold mine. He employed Ashburner at the mine on the recommendation of Josiah Dwight Whitney, the California state geologist. Olmsted became a close friend.

Ashburner lived in San Francisco and became a professor of mining and regent of the University of California and a trustee of Stanford University.

The Mariposa mine was played out, and Olmsted was looking for a new project. Ashburner helped to bring the park designer to San Francisco. Along with Frederick Billings, another business acquaintance from the Mariposa Mine, Ashburner circulated a pro-park petition in 1865. In these ways, Ashburner played a role in the creation of San Francisco's park system.

Ashburner was the uncle of Harvard Professor Charles Eliot Norton.

[end quote]^{xiii}

From findagrave.com^{xiii}:

Birth: Mar. 28, 1831
Stockbridge
Berkshire County
Massachusetts, USA
Death: Apr. 20, 1887
San Francisco
San Francisco County
California, USA

He married Emilia Brewer Field on 4 October 1856. They had moved to California by the 1870 census. He graduated from a School of Mines in France and was a mining engineer. He taught at the University of California at Berkeley and was a Regent for that school. He was also one of the first twelve Trustees of Stanford University.

Family links:

Spouse:

Emilia Brewer *Field* Ashburner (1836 - 1930)*

Children:

Burnet Ashburner (1858 - 1862)*

*Calculated relationship

Inscription:

To the Memory
of

William Ashburner

Born at Stockbridge

March 28, 1831

Died at San Francisco

April 20, 1887

Burial:

Stockbridge Cemetery

Stockbridge

Berkshire County

Massachusetts, USA

Created by: Diane Gravlee

Record added: Jul 18, 2009

Find A Grave Memorial# 39590264



Added by: Diane Gravlee



Cemetery Photo

Added by: Jan Franco

I. W. Raymond (1864-1886)

I. W. Raymond was born April 28, 1811 in New York, NY and died January 14, 1887 in San Francisco, CA, and is buried at Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, NY^{xiv}

According to Farquhar, Raymond “came to California first in 1850 and again, permanently, in 1862,”^{xv} but a ship Passenger list dated April 30, 1852 notes the arrival of “Mrs. I. W. Raymond, 3 children & servant,” also noting “On April 23, 1852, Nathaniel Kendrick Raymond, son of I. W. Raymond, Esq, of San Francisco, died during the passage. Deceased was aged 4 years and 5 months.”^{xvi} Also, the Daily Alta California notes “I. W. Raymond and family, San Francisco” among the arrivals at the Occidental Hotel on February 7, 1863.^{xvii}

He is listed in 1864 as Agent, “Office of the C. A. Transit Company” (Central American Transit Co., corner of Pine and Battery Streets, San Francisco)^{xviii} and in 1866 his name appears as agent on a ticket for the C.A.Transit Co. steamship *America* (the same ship that carried Samuel Clemens to New York in December of that year).

1864 Feb. & March – Letters to Conness:

From “Yosemite: The Story of an Idea” (1948) by Hans Huth reprinted at:
http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/yosemite_story_of_an_idea.html

Letter-source attribution in book:

⁶⁹The papers quoted are filed in the U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C., under: General Land Office—Letters Sent Concerning Private Land Claims, Vol. 25 (1862-65), and Miscellaneous Letters Received 033572.

Hon. John Conness
Washington
Dear Sir:

88 Wall Street
New York, 20th February 1864.

I send by Express some views of the Yosemite Valley to give you some idea of its character. No. 1 is taken from a point on the Mariposa trail and gives a view of about seven miles of the Valley, and the principal part of it. You can see that its sides are abrupt precipices ranging from 2500 feet to 5000 feet high. Indeed there is no access to it but by trails over the debris deposited by the crumbling of the walls. The summits are mostly bare Granite Rocks in some parts the surface is covered only by pine trees and can never be of much value.

It will be many years before it is worth while for the government to survey these mountains. But I think it important to obtain the proprietorship soon, to prevent occupation and especially to preserve the trees in the valley from destruction and that it may be accepted by the legislation at its present session and laws passed to give the Commissioners power to take control and begin to consider and lay out their plans for the gradual improvement of the properties.

May not this be a sufficient description:

“That cleft or Gorge in the granite peak of the Sierra Nevada Mountains situated in the County of Mariposa, State of California, on the head waters of the Merced River and known as the Yosemite Valley with its branches or spurs in length fifteen miles and in width one mile back from the main edge

of the precipice on each side of the valley the lines to be defined on Sectional lines when surveyed, by the Surveyor General of the United States and in the spirit of this act.”

I take this length and width to secure the approaches from any annoyance. The south end is narrow and filled by the Merced River. The North end leads to Mono, is narrow and filled with rocks, and impassable to a mule.

“Also all those quarter sections in Mariposa County on which stands the grove of Gigantic trees known as the ‘Mariposa Big Trees’ not exceeding in all Four Sections of one mile square each, the lines to be defined in the spirit of this act by the Surveyor General of the United States when surveying the said County of Mariposa.”

I say “quarter” section because the trees are too scattered to be covered by four square miles in compact.

If thought best to have a compact tract it should require six or eight sections.

“The above are granted for public use, resort and recreation and are inalienable forever but leases may be granted for portions not to exceed ten years. All income derived from leases or privileges are to be expended in the preservation and improvement of the prospectus or the roads leading thereto.”

The properties shall be managed by (5.7.9) commissioners who shall not receive any payment for said services. Vacancies for death, removal, or resignation shall be filled by the others subject to confirmation by the State Senate. The first Coms. to be:

The Governor of the State of California, Ex. off.

The Collector of the Port of San Francisco.

Prof. Whitney—State Geologist.

Fred Law Olmsted of Mariposa.

George W. Coulter of Coultersville.

[Added by Conness in space left by writer:]

The Mayor of the City of San Francisco.

Prof. John F. Morse do.

I. W. Raymond do.

Full reports to be made annually to the Senate of the State.

If we can obtain this grant, I believe we can get Subscriptions in California to make improvements.

Submitting the above,

I am very truly yours,

(Sgd.) I. W. RAYMOND.

Conness sent this letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, accompanying it by the following letter of transmittal:

Hon. J. W. Edmonds

Dear Sir:

Herewith you will find a letter with a description of the land of the Mariposa Big Trees and Yosemite. Will you have the kindness to prepare a bill and send it to the committee of the Senate or to myself. You might insert in this the springs in a separate section. Leave blanks for the names as commissioners or insert as you find them or insert as I have Prof. John F. Morse, I. W. Raymond, Stephen J. Field. This will make nine commissioners. Let the grant be inalienable, and in regard to the mineral springs take care to insert a provision which shall not confirm any state land warrant or state location made in pursuance of any land of the State of California.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) JOHN CONNESS.

The General Land Office furnished the requested data promptly so that Conness was able to introduce the bill on March 28, 1864. There was some discussion on the floor of the Senate in which Conness

Washington
March 6, 1864

stated that the bill had come to him from various gentlemen in California “of fortune, of taste and of refinement,” that the General Land Office also took great interest in the bill, and that there was “no other condition of things like this one on earth.” Finally he referred to the sorry incident of the killing of the Calaveras tree in 1853. The bill was passed, and on June 29, 1864, it was signed by President Lincoln [sic – Lincoln’s signed approval on the document is accompanied by the date June 30, apparently in Lincoln’s own hand – tb.]. [--Hans Huth]

In September, 1864, Mark Twain covered the suicide of Raymond’s brother, Dr. Raymond who was Resident Physician at the County Hospital; I. W. Raymond testified at the Coroner’s inquiry.^{xix}

In 1873 Raymond is mentioned as being connected with “Garratt’s Foundry” as a reference for George A. Raymond who advertised himself as “having established a general commission and purchasing business” at “No. 306 California St., San Francisco.”^{xx}

In 1886 Raymond (apparently successfully) sued one John McMullen “to obtain judgment declaring void certain street assessments upon specified lands for grading of Fourth and Kentucky streets between Channel and Nevada streets.”^{xxi}

On January 17, 1887 the Sacramento Daily Record Union reported “I. W. Raymond, a prominent citizen of San Francisco, who has been more or less identified with the interests of the State since 1850, died at the residence of his son-in-law, Colonel Smedberg, Friday afternoon.”^{xxii}

A more complete obituary was printed in Raymond’s one time residence of Brooklyn, New York:

A BROOKLYNITE’S CALIFORNIAN CAREER. Tribute to Him From a Citizen of San Francisco.

Recent San Francisco papers give accounts of the Californian career of the late I. Ward Raymond, which will interest many Brooklynites by reason of Mr. Raymond’s long residence here, where most of his family yet remain. Mr Raymond was the father of Dr. Joseph H. Raymond, formerly Health Commissioner, and brother to the late President John H. Raymond, of the Brooklyn Polytechnic and Vassar College; to Professor Robert R. Raymond, long connected with the Polytechnic and well known as a Shakspearean (sic) reader, and to Mrs John Tasker Howard. He was one of the founders and original members of the Hamilton Literary Association, now become the Hamilton Club, and one of the early members of the First Baptist Church of which his father was one of the founders.

The following letter to the San Francisco Evening Bulletin summarizes Mr. Raymond’s life and services in California:

The death of I. W. Raymond at the ripe age of 76 recalls to old Californians his connection with the early history of this State. His name is known throughout the Pacific coast as an ex-president of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, as one of the incorporators of the Panama Railroad Company and as agent of the various steamship companies in the California trade prior to the days of overland railroads. He was the most competent steamship manager the writer has ever known. Every detail of steamship management was familiar to him. He could advise intelligently with the ship builder who launched the steamer, with the engineer who ran her, with the steward who took care of her passengers and crew and with the captain who navigated her. He was able to critically approve or condemn on every point in connection with steamship management, and to his honor, be it stated, no employee ever sailed under him but regarded him as a friend. Justice to his fellow man in low as well as in high places was the basis

of his character. The writer sailed for years in command of ships under his control and was associated with him as agent at foreign ports for the same steamship companies. During these years his ripe judgment, his thorough integrity and his desire to do justice to the corporations he represented and the employees under his control made him respected and beloved by all. His associates have been men of national reputation—Collins, Aspinwall, Webb, Roach, McLane and other names illustrious in the annals of American shipping interests—and Mr. Raymond was the peer of them all. In his private life Mr. Raymond was singularly unobtrusive and modest—in every relation of life a good citizen—a good father and a good husband and an honest man, without a personal enemy in the world. To the later residents of California he was possibly best known for his public services as one of the Yosemite Valley Commissioners and his interest in the duties he had assumed in that connection never flagged. Mr. Raymond was an exceptionable man, and to have been associated with him was an honor. Contact with such a man cannot but improve and elevate. Full of years our old friend has gone to his reward, leaving a legacy of honor to his children, and with an unblemished record of usefulness to his fellow men. Mankind, his country and the world need more such men as I. W. Raymond. —William L. Merry.^{xxiii}

Raymond's wife died August 14, 1905; "She was in her 88th year and had for many years made her home with [the] Smedbergs. She had been in failing health a long time but as long as Helen [her granddaughter] was in the Philippines she refused to give up. She was determined to see Helen and her children once more before she died. When this wish had been gratified, the end soon came and she passed out of life calmly and peacefully."^{xxiv}

E. S. Holden (1864-1879)

Erastus Saurin (Sawin) HOLDEN (1812-1885); Stockton, CA wholesale druggist, mayor of Stockton, moved to SF 1879, appointed by President to Pacific Slope Railroad Congress^{xxv}

In an account of California railroad history, Holden is mentioned in conjunction with J. P. Jackson (see his bio information under his name, below):

"The 14th of December, 1870, was hailed as the "dawn of a new era," for on that day the first locomotive was run to the waterfront. It was a great day in Stockton ...cheers were heartily given, followed by three cheers for Dr. Holden, the father of the Stockton & Copperopolis Railroad. Dr. Holden, called upon for a speech, spoke a few words, and then introduced Col. J. P. Jackson, president of the California Pacific Railroad and secretary of the Stockton & Copperopolis."^{xxvi}

Alexander Deering (1864-1872)

(Born 6/15/1832 in Maine; died 12/19/1875 in Merced, CA)
(Excerpts – first paragraph unattributed newspaper obituary):

Died in Merced, CA, on Sunday morning Dec. 19, 1875, aged 43. Came to Mariposa in July, 1855, where he ever after considered home. From 1856 to 1864 he was associated with Samuel A. Merritt in the practice of law. In 1859 he was elected District Attorney, and at the expiration of the term he was re-elected. In 1862 he made a visit to his native state and while there he was married to Miss Lizzie M. Fabyan, of Boston, Massachusetts. In November, 1865 Governor Low appointed him District Judge, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Bondurant, which station he filled until Jan 1st, 1868. In

Oct. 1873 he was elected by the voters of the district to continue in that office, which he did to the time of his death. His wife died on the 9th of December 1874, preceding him one year and ten days.

Jan 1, 1876 issue of the Mariposa Gazette: He was born June 15th, 1832, at Demark, Oxford County, Maine; received his early education at the excellent common schools and high schools of that commonwealth, and having prepared for college entered Bowdoin. Being caste physically in a fragile frame the severity of the college course tested his constitution, and compelled him to relinquish his college life at the end of the sophomore year, from which he entered the eminent law office of Shipley & Dann, in the city of Portland, and after reading law with that firm he went to the law school of Harvard University, where he took high rank and finished the course. Here the delicacy of his condition once more gave him admonition that the rigors of a New England climate would be a perpetual menace from the Great Destroyer, so he came to California in 1854, and after a brief sojourn in San Francisco, settled in Mariposa, being first associated with Judge R.H. Daily, and soon after becoming a partner with the Hou. Samuel A. Merritt. It did not take people long to learn his genuine character and professional ability. Business flocked in upon the firm, and young Deering became District Attorney - retiring therefrom because outside professional business would not justify his longer filling the position. After being for a long time the counsel of the Mariposa Company, in the palmy days when Park and Olmstead and Dodge gave life to that vast estate by the superior vigor of their management, a vacancy occurring in the District Judgeship by the demise of Judge Bindurant, Gov. Low tendered him the appointment. Serving out the term of his appointment with great credit to himself and acceptability to the people, he again retired to the practice of his profession. But in 1873 the people elected him over a popular Democrat in this Democratic District. His funeral in San Francisco was very largely attended by leading citizens. All of the Courts adjourned out of respect to his memory, and feeling obituary remarks were made on the occasion. His pall bearers were Hon. Edmund Burke, Hon. Samuel H. Dwindlle, Hon. M.C. Blake, Hon. W.D. Sawyer, Lewis Shaw, Daniel J. Murphy, H.H. Hewlett, Hugh Diamond, H. Edwards, A.W. Jee, and C.D.O. Sullivan. He lies buried in Lone Mountain, just below the burials of Baker and Broderick-interred besides his wife, in one grave in the burial pot of his brother. When shall we find so trustworthy and admirable a man to take his place? We share in the general condolance extended to his brother and family. ^{xxvii}

George Wilson Coulter (1864-1874)

“Mr. Coulter is a native of Pennsylvania, [born] in Westmoreland County on the 12th of July, 1818. His parents, Joseph and Mary (Wilson) Coulter, were both natives of the Keystone state ... The father died in the forty-sixth year of his age and the mother passed away at the age of eighty-seven, having long survived her husband.

“George Wilson Coulter, the eldest of their six children, was educated in the common schools ... [fought] ...in war with Mexico ... with his command proceeded to Santa Fe, where he was stationed until hostilities had ceased. He then received an honorable discharge and returned to the east to his family, for in the meantime he had married in Pennsylvania Miss Margaret Backhouse, a descendant of an old Philadelphia family. They resided in St. Louis, Missouri, from 1843 until 1846, when Mr. Coulter served in the Mexican War a year. Next he removed with his wife and two little sons to Santa Fe where another son, George, was born. There he engaged in conducting a hotel until the discovery of gold in California, when...he crossed the plains from Santa Fe to Mariposa, where he engaged in mining until the 5th of November, 1849. He then went to San Jose and after passing the winter in that place he returned in the following spring to Mariposa, where he resumed his mining operations. In connection with a partner he took out a nugget valued at four hundred and seventy dollars, and on another occasion took out one

worth three hundred and fifteen dollars. Two months' labor resulted in bringing to him twenty-four hundred dollars, and with the capital he had thus acquired he opened a store on Merced River, at the mouth of Solomon's Gulch. Subsequently he founded the town which has since born his name, Coulterville, and there erected a number of buildings and was its leading citizen for a long period, continuing to make it his principal place of abode until 1897. In the meantime he conducted a hotel at the Yosemite for two years, and in 1897 he erected his hotel at Chinese Station. The Sierra Railroad had just been completed to Jamestown. He built a near and substantial hotel building, conveniently arranged for the purpose, and has since been identified with the business and public interests of Chinese Station.

"In 1851 Mr. Coulter was joined by his wife and three children, Joseph S., Angney and George. After their arrival in California the family was increased by the birth of a son and a daughter, Alexander Stair and Anna M. The last named and George are now the only surviving children of the family. The daughter is the wife of George W. Kenney, who resides at the Yosemite during the summer months, and has a winter home in Madera. Mrs. Coulter departed this life in 1890, having traveled happily by the side of her husband on the journey of life for fifty-one and one-half years. She had been to him a most faithful companion and helpmate, and her venerable husband feels her loss keenly. His son George is now associated with him in the hotel business and relieves him of the care and responsibility connected with its conduct.

"In his political affiliations he has been a life-long Democrat. His career has been one of uprightness in which he has shaped his life by manly principles, and those who know him render him the veneration and respect which should ever be accorded those who have advanced far on life's journey, Mr. Coulter now having passed the eighty-second milestone.^{xxviii}

Galen Clark (Commissioner: 1864 – 1866; Guardian 1866-1879, 1889-1897)

On April 2, 1866, the California State Legislature formally accepted the grant made by Congress in an act passed on the date mentioned . This act provided that none of the Commissioners should receive any compensation for the services as such and also gave them power to appoint a Guardian "either of their number or not . . . to perform such duties as they may prescribe, and to receive such compensation as they may fix, not to exceed five hundred dollars per annum ." The Commissioners met and organized on May 21, 1866, and presumably, although no record of this act and its exact date seems to be available, appointed Galen Clark as Guardian for he was acting in that capacity shortly thereafter.^{xxix}

Clark resigned as Guardian in June, 1897.^{xxx}

Henry William Cleaveland (1866-1879)

(1827 – 1919)

Replaced Olmstead as commissioner upon his resignation.

Architect.

Family: Parents: Nehemiah Cleaveland, his father, was an academic at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME. For a time in the 1850s, Henry W. Cleaveland operated an architectural partnership with his brothers, William and Samuel Backus Cleaveland in New York.

Relocation: Born in MA, Cleaveland moved to New York, NY, for his architectural education during the

1840s and then migrated to San Francisco, CA, in 1859. During the late 19th century, Cleaveland worked in CA and OR. He left CA to retire in Poughkeepsie, NY, where he died in 1919.

Work History: Apprentice, Richard Upjohn, Architect, New York, NY, c. 1843; Partner, Cleaveland and [Edward H.] Swain, Architects, San Francisco, CA, 1882-1885;

Post College: Partner, Cleaveland and [Stephen Hedders] Williams, Architects, San Francisco, CA, c. 1860s; Principal, Henry William Cleaveland, Architect, Portland, OR^{xxxi}

Gov. 1867-1871: Henry Haight

Born: May 20, 1825 in Rochester, NY

Died: September 2, 1878 in San Francisco, CA

Married: Anna E. Bissell on January 24, 1855

Political Party: Democrat

Biography

At age 13, Henry Haight enrolled in the Rochester Collegiate Institute. He graduated from Yale University with high honors in 1844. After graduating, he went to work for his father, Fletcher Haight, who was an attorney in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1847, Haight was admitted to the Missouri bar and went into partnership with his father.

Haight was among the early pioneers who traveled to California after the discovery of gold. He arrived in San Francisco in 1850 where he set up a law firm that became well regarded throughout the state.

Haight became active in politics in 1853 when he ran as a candidate for the State Legislature, which he lost to former Governor John Bigler. In 1859, Haight served as the chairman of the Republican State Committee at the Republican State Convention. He strongly supported the Republican Party; however, by the early 1860s, Haight switched party allegiances.

In 1867, Haight was elected Governor of California on the Democratic ticket. The state debt was reduced under Haight's administration. He also stopped paying government subsidies to silk and woolen manufacturers, payments that had happened throughout the state for many years. He is credited with establishing the State Board of Health and the University of California, which had only been in the planning stages until his term of office. After leaving the office of Governor, Haight returned to practicing law. In June 1878, Haight was elected as a delegate to the Second Constitutional Convention. Before the convention could convene Haight collapsed and died around noon on September 2, 1878 at his doctor's bathhouse.

Family

Father: Fletcher M. Haight

Mother: Elizabeth Stuart MacLachlan

Wife: Anna E. Bissell

Children: Janette, Mary, Dugald, Henry H., Jr., Louis

Did You Know?

Henry Haight was a descendent of Sir Ewen Cameron, a well-known Scottish Chieftain.

In 1869, Haight foresaw that tourists would visit California, "attracted to the most sublime scenery on the Continent and thousands will come to repair physical constitutions racked by the extremes of climate, the inclement air, and the miasma of the State east of the mountains."

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ⁱ Yosemite: the Park and its Resources (1987) by Linda W. Greene; CHAPTER III. ADMINISTRATION OF THE YOSEMITE GRANT AND YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, 1890-1905

ⁱⁱ Letters, I. W. Raymond [and see below] to John Conness 2/20/1864 and Conness to J. W. Edmonds, Commissioner of the General Land Office 3/6/1864, reprinted in "Yosemite: the Story of an Idea" (1948) by Hans Huth: http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/yosemite_story_of_an_idea.html attributed by Huth thus: ⁶⁹The papers quoted are filed in the U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C., under: General Land Office—Letters Sent Concerning Private Land Claims, Vol. 25 (1862-65), and Miscellaneous Letters Received 033572.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Early Tales & Sketches: 1864-1865* (Google eBook) Mark Twain, by Edgar Marquess Branch (University of California Press, Jul 27, 1981), p. 197; # 108. *Answers to Correspondents 24 June 1865*

^{iv} "Battle of Bunker Hill," *San Francisco Morning Call*, 18 June 1865, p. 1.

^v "No Yoke in the Custom House," *San Francisco Evening Bulletin*, 8 May 1865, p. 2; "Candidates for United States Senator," *ibid.*, 17 June 1865, p. 2.

^{vi} Letters, I. W. Raymond [and see below] to John Conness 2/20/1864 and Conness to J. W. Edmonds, Commissioner of the General Land Office 3/6/1864, reprinted in "Yosemite: the Story of an Idea" (1948) by Hans Huth: http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/yosemite_story_of_an_idea.html attributed by Huth thus: ⁶⁹The papers quoted are filed in the U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C., under: General Land Office—Letters Sent Concerning Private Land Claims, Vol. 25 (1862-65), and Miscellaneous Letters Received 033572.

^{vii} Letters, I. W. Raymond [and see below] to John Conness 2/20/1864 and Conness to J. W. Edmonds, Commissioner of the General Land Office 3/6/1864, reprinted in "Yosemite: the Story of an Idea" (1948) by Hans Huth: http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/yosemite_story_of_an_idea.html attributed by Huth thus: ⁶⁹The papers quoted are filed in the U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C., under: General Land Office—Letters Sent Concerning Private Land Claims, Vol. 25 (1862-65), and Miscellaneous Letters Received 033572.

^{viii} <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cdnc/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&cl=search&d=DAC18741231.2.34&srpos=1&e=29-12-1874-29-01-1875--en-logical-20--1---IN-John+F%2e+Morse+----#>

^{ix} <http://governors.library.ca.gov/09-Low.html>

^x *Yosemite Nature Notes* Vol. XXIII, June 1944 No. 6, *Administrative Officers of Yosemite* by C. Frank Brockman

^{xi} http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/up_and_down_california/images/1-2-4.jpg

^{xii} Biography:

<http://dssmhi1.fas.harvard.edu/emuseumdev/code/emuseum.asp?action=advsearch&newsearch=1&profile=people&rawsearch=constituentid/./is/./7169/./false/./true&style=single&searchdesc=William%20Ashburner>

^{xiii} <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&Grid=39590264>

^{xiv} <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=raymondhow&id=I7974>

^{xv} *History of the Sierra Nevada* by Francis P. Farquhar (p. 128 – footnote):

<http://books.google.com/books?id=NYNkTjLYeYAC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false>

^{xvi} *San Francisco Ship Passenger Lists: November 7, 1851 to June 17, 1852* By Louis J. Rasmussen (p. 175):

http://books.google.com/books?id=PfVE3hhzl1oC&pg=PA175&lpg=PA175&dq=%22i+w+raymond%22+died&source=bl&ots=bhJpvpPFOc&sig=zY5f9rub1ntRBCnTuoWo_SafwaA&hl=en&sa=X&ei=fjs4T4SxK4OLiAKI7ajRCg&sqi=2&ved=OCCEQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=%22i%20w%20raymond%22%20died&f=false

^{xvii} *Daily Alta California*, Sunday, February 8, 1863 quoted at

<http://www.maritimeheritage.org/PassLists/cn020763.htm>; copy in Bopp files: see Commissioner_IW Raymond

^{xviii} see San Francisco Directory for the year 1864, pdf-.95 (p. xci) at

http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sanfranciscodirectory/1864/1864_95.pdf copy in Bopp files: see Commissioner_IW Raymond

^{xix} The San Francisco *Daily Morning Call*, September 17, 1864; see

<http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:hvg09GudnMsJ:www.twainquotes.com/18640917b.htmI+&cd=2&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us> copy in Bopp files: see Commissioner_IW Raymond

^{xx} *Salt Lake Daily Tribune*, 8/21/1873; copy in Bopp files: 1873_08_21_Salt Lake Daily Trib_IW Raymond

^{xxi} "San Francisco municipal reports Fiscal Year 1888-89, Ending June 30, 1889"

http://www.archive.org/stream/sanfranciscomuni39sanfrich/sanfranciscomuni39sanfrich_djvu.txt

^{xxii} *Sacramento Daily Record Union*, 1/17/1887 copy in Bopp files

^{xxiii} Copy in Bopp files: 1887_02_01_Brooklyn NY Daily Eagle_IW Raymond obit

^{xxiv} A life of duty: the autobiography of George Willcox McIver, 1858-1948

By George Willcox McIver, Jonathan Dembo (p. 142)

http://books.google.com/books?id=2LtHqmFOINgC&pg=PA142&lpg=PA142&dq=%22i+w+raymond%22+died+san+francisco&source=bl&ots=Cmi-4Dkze9&sig=0b6n-gtWN4Gs8rX2t42MdXGddbQ&hl=en&sa=X&ei=mD04T_jSN4auiQK6wJ2yCg&sqi=2&ved=0CEoQ6AEwBQ#v=onepage&q=%22i%20w%20raymond%22%20died%20san%20francisco&f=false

^{xxv} see <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=a26070&id=I045>

^{xxvi} <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cagha/history/sanjoaquin/sanjoa-1923-244.txt> : History of San Joaquin County, California with Biographical Sketches - Historic Record Company, Los Angeles, CA - 1923

^{xxvii} Obit from <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/ObitsC-D.html>

^{xxviii} Transcribed by Gerald Iaquina: Source: "A Volume of Memoirs and Genealogy of Representative Citizens of Northern California", Pages 608-610. Chicago Standard Genealogical Publishing Co. 1901.

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^{xxix} *Yosemite Nature Notes* Vol. XXIII, June 1944 No. 6, *Administrative Officers of Yosemite* by C. Frank Brockman

^{xxx} http://books.google.com/books?id=G-pGAQAAIAAJ&dq=%22Max+Goldberg%22+yosemite&source=gbs_navlinks_s Congressional edition (1911) Volume 5975 Pp 457- see Bopp file 1897_06_05 Yos Commission_Galen Clark

^{xxxi} See Pacific Coast Architecture Database (internet), ID # 5199

^{xxxii} <http://governors.library.ca.gov/10-Haight.html>

PART TWO, SECTION 2: 1870 – 1879

Gov. 1871-1875: Newton Booth

Born: December 30, 1825 in Salem, IN

Died: July 14, 1892 in Sacramento, CA

Married: Octavine C. Glover on February 9, 1892

Political Party: Republican ("Dolly Vardens")

Biography

Newton Booth was raised in Indiana. He graduated from Asbury College in 1846 and then studied law. Booth moved to California in 1850 where he enjoyed success as a merchant and wholesale grocer before beginning his political career. Described as "above average in height, the slender and angular Booth had dark brown hair, blue eyes and wore a full beard. He dressed faultlessly and possessed agreeable and winning manners."

In 1863, Booth served one year as State Senator. He was sworn into office as Governor on December 8, 1871. Construction of the state capitol completed and the state debt decreased during his term as Governor. In 1873, Booth helped organize a new independent republican political party, the "Dolly Vardens." The name, Dolly Vardens, came from a calico pattern of the time that was composed of many different colors and figures. Since this new political party was made up of a mix of "sore heads from any party or by any name," the name seemed appropriate. With the support of the Dolly Vardens, Booth was elected to the U.S. Senate. He controversially remained in office as Governor until his swearing-in ceremony as Senator 18 months later. This questionable move prompted an attempt to amend the state constitution to prevent similar situations from occurring in the future.

A bachelor while in office, Booth married the widow of his former business partner in 1892. He died only five months later. Booth, considered one of the great public speakers of his day, died of cancer of the tongue.

Family

Father: Beebe Booth

Mother: Hannah Pitts

Wife: Octavine C. Glover

Children: None

Did You Know?

Governor Booth was the uncle of Booth Tarkington

Governor Booth had proclaimed Berkeley the "Athens of the West"

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FLASHES FROM THE WIRES. Los Angeles Times; Feb 10, 1892ⁱ

Edgar Mills

(1873-1879)

Replaced Deering as commissioner upon his resignation.

Edgar Mills was the Master of Ceremonies for the “Last Spike” ceremony at Promontory Point, Utah, 5/10/1869 according to a transcript from the Salt Lake Telegram, 5/11/1869ⁱⁱ

Edgar Mills was born in North Salem, New York, in 1828 and trained as a civil engineer. After surveying a railroad along the Hudson River, he arrived in California in 1849 and made the first surveys of the Feather and Sacramento Rivers for Samuel Brannan and John A. Sutter. Subsequently he entered the banking business with his brother D.O. (Darius Ogden) Mills, of Sacramento. In 1852, with brother James Mills, he established a branch of the Sacramento Bank in Columbia, Tuolumne County.

When James died in 1856 the Tuolumne County bank was sold, and Edgar temporarily retired. He later returned to the Sacramento Bank and took charge of it while D.O. Mills was associated with the Bank of California. After D.O. Mills relocated to New York in 1873, Edgar remained in California, overseeing the family businesses. In addition to banking, Edgar's business dealings involved commercial land development and several railroad ventures. He spent the latter part of his life in San Francisco, where he died on January 10, 1893. He was survived by a son, Edgar Mills, Jr., and two daughters, Adeline and Florence.ⁱⁱⁱ

Gov. 1875-1875: Romualdo Pacheco

Born: October 31, 1831 in Santa Barbara, CA

Died: January 23, 1899 in Oakland, CA

Married: Mary McIntyre on October 31, 1863

Political Party: Republican

Biography

The first California-born governor, Romualdo Pacheco was born in Santa Barbara before California was admitted to the Union as a state. Pacheco was the first governor of Mexican ancestry. At age seven, Pacheco was sent to school in Honolulu, Hawaii for five years. He attended Oahu Charity School, which was run by Andrew Johnson and his wife, friends of Pacheco's stepfather.

At 15, Pacheco worked as an officer on his stepfather's merchant ships. During the Mexican War Pacheco's ship, which flew the Mexican flag, was captured by the U.S.S. Cyane. He was permitted to sail into San Francisco, where his vessel was captured again. He was allowed to leave after he pledged his allegiance to the United States. In 1848, Pacheco began working on his parents' large estates. He was skilled at raising animal stock.

Pacheco started his career in politics in 1854, when he was elected as San Luis Obispo County judge—a post he held for four years. In 1857, he was elected to the California Senate and was re-elected in 1861. Pacheco also served as California's state treasurer from 1863 to 1866. Pacheco returned to the State Senate in 1869 in a contested election. His opponent, Patrick Murphy, asserted that Pacheco was not a qualified elector for the district. The Senate Committee on Elections investigated and found Murphy's allegations to be without merit.

In 1871, Pacheco was elected to the office of Lieutenant Governor. He assumed the office of the governor when Governor Newton Booth resigned in 1875. He served as governor for approximately ten months and left office on December 9, 1875, without accomplishing anything of real substance.

In his first run for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1877, Pacheco won by one vote. His opponent, Peter D. Wigginton, contested the results. Pacheco was unseated and his seat was restored to his opponent. Pacheco had a successful run for the House of Representatives in 1879 and served in Congress until 1883.

In 1890, President Harrison appointed Pacheco as U.S. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Central America, a position he held from 1891 until 1893. Afterwards, Pacheco moved to San

Francisco where he worked in the brokerage business. Pacheco then retired and lived the remainder of his life in Oakland, CA. He died from Bright's disease on January 23, 1899.

Family

Father: Romualdo Pacheco

Mother: Maria Ramona Carrillo

Wife: [Mary McIntyre](#)

Children: Maybella Ramona and Romualdo, Jr.

Did You Know?

A true outdoorsman, he is the only governor who claimed to have lassoed a grizzly bear.

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Pacheco Laid to Rest, *Los Angeles Times*, January 27, 1899

Schaechtele. *The Governors of California and their Portraits*, California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association, 1995.^{iv}

Gov. 1875-1880: William Irwin

Born: around 1827 in Butler County, OH

Died: March 15, 1886 in San Francisco, CA

Married: [Amelia Cassidy](#) on December 21, 1865 in Yreka, CA

Political Party: Democrat

Biography

William Irwin attended Marietta College in 1848. After college, he worked as an assistant teacher at Port Gibson Academy in Port Gibson, Mississippi for one year. He returned to Marietta College and taught there for two years. In autumn of 1851, Irwin booked passage to California, passing up an opportunity to study law in Chicago. After arriving in San Francisco he headed to Oregon where he joined his uncle's lumber business. In 1854, he returned to San Francisco and opened a lumber yard. Virtually a jack-of-all-trades, Irwin owned a slaughterhouse, a livery stable and stage coach line before entering politics.

In 1862, Irwin was elected to the State Assembly representing Siskiyou County and was re-elected for the 1863 session. In 1865, he ran for the office of Siskiyou County Tax Collector, but was defeated.

In January 1866, Irwin purchased the *Yreka Union* and worked as an editor on the weekly paper. By 1871 he was both the publisher and editor of the *Union*. In 1869, Irwin was elected to the state Senate for a two-year term. He was re-elected in 1873. That year Irwin served as the President pro Tempore and assumed the role of acting Lt. Governor when Pacheco became Governor.

During Irwin's term as Governor, paper money was widely introduced. Irwin fought to keep California a "hard money" state, preferring gold and silver instead. He also believed that the power to issue pardons should be taken away from the Governor. Former Governor Low said that Irwin "made his reputation by looking wise and keeping his mouth shut."

Family

Father: David Irwin

Mother: Nancy Moore

Wife: [Amelia Cassidy](#)

Children: Emma

Did You Know?

Irwin's basic salary as Governor was \$7,000 annually with an additional \$1,000 for ex-officio duties.

As part of his duties as Lieutenant Governor, Irwin was the warden and resident director of San Quentin Prison.

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P. D. Wigginton (1875)

(1839 – 1890)

Replaced Coulter as commissioner upon his resignation.

Wigginton and C. L. Weller (another Yosemite Commissioner) both favored the secession of California from the Union during the Civil War (see Weller, below).

“...a Representative from California; born in Springfield, Sangamon County, Ill., September 6, 1839; moved to Wisconsin with his parents in 1843; completed preparatory studies and attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison; studied law; was admitted to the bar in 1859 and practiced; editor of the Dodgeville (Wis.) Advocate; moved to Snelling, Merced County, Calif., in 1862, and continued the practice of law; district attorney of Merced County 1864-1868; elected as a Democrat to the Forty-fourth Congress (March 4, 1875-March 3, 1877); successfully contested the election of Romualdo Pacheco to the Forty-fifth Congress (February 7, 1878-March 3, 1879); settled in San Francisco in 1880 and resumed the practice of law; nominated by the American Party as candidate for Vice President in 1888 in place of James R. Geer; died in Oakland, Calif., July 7, 1890; interment in Mountain View Cemetery.”^{vi}

“Another hotbed of secession was Snelling [11], Visalia and Merced. In Merced county Union men were very much in the minority and in every campaign P. D. Wiginton (sic) stumped the county speaking for the secession candidates. He was accompanied by Jim Wilson, who sang songs with violin accompaniment. Two of his favorite songs were "We'll Hang Abe Lincoln to a Tree" and "We'll Drive the Bloody Tyrant Lincoln From Our Dear Native Soil." the Merced Banner said (April 24, 1862) "the United States officers will go to any length to sustain their master, Abe Lincoln, whose cringing slaves they are." Soldiers were also stationed at Visalia, the Visalia Delta declared (August 22, 1861) "treason against the government constitution is preached from the pulpit, printed in the newspapers and openly advocated in the streets and public places of Visalia." The Expositor printed an abusive rhyme regarding Lincoln. Two days later the soldiers mobbed the office, completely destroying it.”^{vii}

Thomas P. Madden (1875-1880, 1884-1892)

“In Yosemite National Park is the grave of A. W. Madden, brother of Thomas P. Madden of San Francisco. Marker on grave is for A. W. Madden who died on May 22, 1897, A. W. Madden was a 44 year old native of England, who died while a guest at the Sentinel Hotel in Yosemite Valley. His brother, Thomas, was a Commissioner...”^{viii}

Replaced Wigginton upon his election to Congress. Was a member of the Pacific Union Club; died February 2, 1897. With a fellow member of the Pacific Union Club (Richard S. Floyd who died October

17, 1890^{ix}) according to a recent article: “The Struggle for Rattlesnake Island,” the island was essentially stolen in 1877, when then-California Governor William Irwin issued a land patent for the island to a pair of wealthy San Francisco-based entrepreneurs, Richard S. Floyd and Thomas P. Madden, who had a burgeoning interest in real estate around Lake County at the time. Floyd and Madden represented the island as being “uninhabited,” thus giving the illegal land patent a fig leaf of legal propriety. The federal government’s 1834 Indian Non-Intercourse Act proclaims that aboriginal land title can be extinguished only by an act of Congress – thus rendering the State of California’s land patent illegal.”^x

William C. Priest (1879-1882)

Replaced Whitney as commissioner.

Born December 1, 1823 in Kentucky; died June 27, 1900 aged 76; buried at Divide Cemetery Plot 3:252, Big Oak Flat, CA ("Freemason" Shares stone with Margaret (Dick) Priest). He married Margaret Dick (b. 3 Jul 1835, d. 9 Jul 1905), daughter of John Dick and Marion Alexander, in 1871 in California.^{xi}

ⁱ <http://governors.library.ca.gov/11-booth.html>

ⁱⁱ [http://cpr.org/Museum/Ephemera/Salt Lake Tel Ads 1869.html#Done](http://cpr.org/Museum/Ephemera/Salt_Lake_Tel_Ads_1869.html#Done)

ⁱⁱⁱ Online Archive of California (CA State Library):

<http://www.oac.cdlib.org/search?style=oac4;Institution=California%20State%20Library;idT=AEQ-5919>

Edgar Mills papers, 1852-1888; Unrestricted. Please credit California State Library.

^{iv} <http://governors.library.ca.gov/12-Pacheco.html>

^v <http://governors.library.ca.gov/13-Irwin.html>

^{vi} <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=W000449>; *History of Political Conventions in California, 1849-1892* by Winfield J. Davis (1893); Source: "Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774-Present" (U.S. Library of Congress) [<http://bioguide.congress.gov/>]

^{vii} *California During the Civil War* By George H. Tinkham Extracted from Panama-Pacific Exposition Edition (1915) of *California Men and Events, 1769-1890* <http://www.militarymuseum.org/CAandCW2.html>

^{viii} <http://genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-bin/print.cgi?madden::380.html>

^{ix} from “in memoriam” listings of Pacific Union Club (internet)

^x http://theava.com/archives/12178_A_Day_Of_Infamy_In_Lakeport by Will Parrish on Sep 21st, 2011

^{xi} <http://stchsgenealogy.com/p14.htm#i588> Copy in Bopp files; see Priest

PART TWO, SECTION 3: 1880 – 1884

Gov. 1880-1883: George Perkins

Born: August 23, 1839 in Kennebunkport, Maine

Died: February 26, 1923 in Oakland, California

Married: [Ruth \(Amelia\) Parker](#) on May 3, 1864 in Marysville, CA

Political Party: Republican

Biography

George Perkins early years were spent working on the family farm, which he did not enjoy. His dream was to become a captain of a ship. At age 13, he applied for a position as a cabin-boy, but he was considered too young. Not to be deterred, George hid on the ship and was not discovered until the ship set sail. He was set to work as one of the cabin-boys. He arrived in San Francisco when he was 16. Perkins tried his luck at mining for several months, but was unsuccessful. He moved to a mining camp in Ophir where he drove a mule train and worked as a porter in a store. Perkins eventually became a clerk at the store and earned a salary of \$60 a month. When business had slowed, Perkins bought the store. By the age of 20, Perkins grossed about \$500, 000 annually through his trade in merchandise, produce and provisions.

Perkins was elected to serve as a term as a state Senator in 1869 and was re-elected in 1871. This was the turning point in Perkins' political career as well as in his business career. While Perkins was in the Senate he met Captain Manor Goodall. In 1872, Perkins and Goodall formed the Goodall, Nelson and Perkins Steamship Company, which was renamed the Pacific Coast Steam Navigation Company. It was a very successful company. In 1873, Perkins was elected to fill the unexpired term of Senator Boucher, who passed away in late 1872.

In 1875, Perkins moved to San Francisco, leaving his brother to run the store. In addition to his store, Perkins also owned sheep and cattle ranches, was involved in mining and lumber interests. He was also a member of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company, president of Arctic Oil Works as well as president of Starr and Company. He helped establish Bank of Butte County, and was a director for the California State Bank in Sacramento and First National Bank of San Francisco.

At the Republican State Convention of 1879, Perkins was selected as his party's nomination for governor. His campaign for governor was successful garnering him 20,000 votes over the next closest candidate. Perkins was the first governor to work under the new state constitution. During his tenure, the State Normal School opened (which later became UCLA), and the University of Southern California was established. Perkins also pardoned numerous prisoners, personally interviewing each prisoner.

After his term as governor, Perkins returned to his business interests. However, in 1888, he was appointed as one of the directors of the deaf, dumb and blind asylum at Berkeley and was reappointed in 1891. In 1889, Perkins was appointed a trustee of the state mining bureau.

In 1893, Governor Markham appointed Perkins to fill out the unexpired term of U.S. Senator Leland Stanford, who had passed away. Perkins was re-elected to the U.S. Senate three more times. He retired from the Senate in 1915 and returned to Oakland.

Family

Father: Clement Perkins

Mother: Lucinda Fairfield

Wife: [Ruth \(Amelia\) Parker](#)

Children: Fannie, George, Susan, Fred, Milton, Ruth May and Grace Pansy

Did You Know?

The theme song for Perkins campaign was the "The Good Ship George C. Perkins."

In 1902, Perkins donated a building to Oroville for library purposes.

Governor Perkins was the first governor to call the legislature into a special session.

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M. C. Briggs

(1880-1884)

Briggs' regard for his fellow commissioners may be evidenced by the following quote from his book, *The Sabbath: what--why--how--day--reasons—mode*:

"A party of municipal and State officials in Yosemite Valley were planning to go out *via* Glacier Point on Sabbath. When remonstrated with they said they knew it was not entirely right, but they could worship so amid the grand scenery! Men of the world laugh at such puerility, and well they may. These men were under obligation, as civil officers, to treat with respect the Sabbath sentiment of the American people if they had no personal regard for the divine institute. Square-shouldered sinning, law or no law, would have been less nauseating and less a mockery of common sense."ⁱⁱ

"The Reverend M. C. Briggs, a Methodist minister of Alameda, California, a friend of Galen Clark and J. M. Hutchings, was early connected with the chapel's history. Mr. Briggs was appointed to the Board of Commissioners of the Yosemite Grant in 1880 by Governor George C. Perkins. He served as Secretary and Treasurer of the Board and undoubtedly had a part in the appointment of J. M. Hutchings as Guardian of the area in that same year. As a fervent Methodist preacher we may assume that the absence of a place of worship in this magnificent setting with its colony of settlers and hundreds of visitors would arouse a determination on his part to forward the building of a church..."ⁱⁱⁱ

"M. C. BRIGGS, D.D. *California Christian Advocate*, Editor; Bio-Pen Pictures

M. C. Briggs, D. D., is a native of Rome, Oneida County, New York. His parents were both teachers in their youth, and his father was a soldier in the War of 1812. After the war was over his attention was turned to farming, and he lived to the ripe old age of ninety-two years. A year after the birth of M. C. Briggs his parents removed to Martinsburg, Lewis County, New York, where they remained until he was eight years of age, when they emigrated to Ohio and settled at Concord, in what is now Lake County. There he worked as a farmer's boy, and attended the district school in the winter. At that time he was bashful, awkward, sensitive to a fault, read such books as children rarely read nowadays (because he had access to no others), studied during odd half-hours, and often at night till one o'clock, until the door of a high school providentially was opened to him. Owing to his father's misfortunes, he was dependent on his own resources throughout his course of education, both classical and theological.

During a stay of a year and a half in Tennessee, license was given him to preach. The kindness received everywhere in the South greatly endeared its people to him, although he abhorred the institution of slavery in all its forms. Returning North, he preached for a time in the Erie Conference, then went to the

Biblical Institute (now the Biblical School of the Boston University) at Concord, New Hampshire. Graduating in June, 1850, he was appointed by Bishop Morris, as a missionary to California, and sailed from New York September 9, on the steamer which brought the news of the admission of California as a free State. October 17, 1850, with Rev. S. D. and Mrs. Simonds and others, he landed on Long Wharf, in San Francisco. On October 10, in the following year, the *California Christian Advocate* issued its first number, M. C. Briggs and S. D. Simonds, editors. Months previous to sustaining this relation, a circular came into his hands from some unknown source, the exposure of which, by the *Advocate*, brought on a protracted and angry controversy. As he was forced into a very active and long-continued participation in this controversy, it may not be amiss to give a brief outline of the history of events.

Previous to the calling of a convention to form a constitution, an opinion prevailed that California was a country in which to get gold to spend elsewhere. Few had learned to regard it as a land of vast resources, and eminently desirable as a place of residence. Hence the slavery question was not brought to the front, and some wise men inserted an anti-slavery clause into the fundamental law. Before the admission of the State, which occurred, after a long and excited debate, September 7, 1850, the general view had greatly changed, and the "chivalry" element in our society was much chagrined at its oversight, and Southern Members of Congress interposed every obstacle to the admission of the State. In 1851 a meeting of pro-slavery politicians convened at Wilmington, North Carolina, to devise means of repairing the fancied loss and restoring the balance between the free and the slave States. Three expedients were agreed upon to be tried in succession. The papers outlining the scheme were so carefully distributed that Mr. Briggs knew but one besides himself, other than the known friends of the undertaking, who received a copy. This paper Mr. Briggs held quietly for a considerable time, closely observing the movements of the parties, to satisfy himself whether an attempt at carrying the scheme into effect would really be made. Being convinced that it would, he exposed the plan in an editorial, January 21, 1852. Many old Californians will remember the surprise and rage resulting. Forced into a prominence he would have gladly resigned, and impelled by a conviction of duty which he dared not disregard, he joined with a few brave men, lectured in many parts of the State, had his life threatened many times, and sincerely thanked the Lord when a changed condition of popular sentiment left him free to retire from an arena for which he had neither taste nor ambition.

Dr. Briggs is an earnest worker in the temperance cause."^{iv}

J. P. Jackson (1880-1882)

In an account of California railroad history, Jackson is mentioned in conjunction with E. S. Holden (see his bio information under his name, above):

"The 14th of December, 1870, was hailed as the "dawn of a new era," for on that day the first locomotive was run to the waterfront. It was a great day in Stockton ...cheers were heartily given, followed by three cheers for Dr. Holden, the father of the Stockton & Copperopolis Railroad. Dr. Holden, called upon for a speech, spoke a few words, and then introduced Col. J. P. Jackson, president of the California Pacific Railroad and secretary of the Stockton & Copperopolis."^v

Jackson is also mentioned in 1871 as President of a railroad line running "daily (Sundays excepted) between San Francisco and Vallejo, connecting at Vallejo with cars of the California Pacific Railroad and Napa Valley Railroad."

William H. Mills (1880-1888)

Advocated burning in Yosemite & Big Trees. Resigned in 1889. Had “ties to the Southern Pacific Railroad and the California press.”^{vi}

George Samuel Ladd

(1880-1882)

[not to be confused with George Solon Ladd – telephone innovator –tb.]

“For a period covering only a little less than fifty years George Samuel Ladd was actively identified with the interests of Stockton, where he arrived January 14, 1853, and was from that time associated with educational, real estate and commercial enterprises until his death, April 25, 1902. Not only does this era cover almost the entire period of the American occupancy of California, but in addition it represents the epoch of progress and development of the Pacific coast resources, which prior to the discovery of gold had been unknown to the world. Shortly after the discovery of gold, he started for this region, full of courage and ambitious to make his own way in the world, unmindful of hardships and perils by the way. He never regretted his decision to leave New England for the more fruitful regions of the West, but rather rejoiced in the privilege of aiding in the upbuilding of this great state.

“Descended from an old New England family, George Samuel Ladd was born in Danville, Vt., May 28, 1832, being a son of Seneca and Pamela (Estabrook) Ladd, and a brother of John S. and Ira W. Ladd, also pioneers of California. His earliest education was obtained in the seminary at Sanbornton Bridge and there he was fitting for college when he heard of the discovery of gold in California. At once all of his plans for the future were changed and he began to prepare for the long journey to the new gold fields. With his father he took passage in 1851 on a vessel which made the trip by way of Cape Horn to San Francisco, where they landed after an uneventful voyage. They at once set out for the mines in Tuolumne County, where they met with fair success, but finally returned to Danville, Vt., arriving in July of 1852.

“A few months later George S. Ladd, accompanied by his youngest brother, Ira W., came to California by the Panama route, and reached Stockton on January 14, 1853. In addition to mining interests he became interested in the freighting and commission business with his brother, John S.; later he became a partner of George West and Sidney Newell in the manufacture and sale of products from the West Vineyard. From time to time he had bought and sold farms in various counties of California, as well as in Oregon, and his ventures had proved of financial benefit to him and had enabled him to accumulate a considerable property. At the time of his death he left, in addition to his business property in Stockton, land in Fresno and San Joaquin counties, and property in Oregon, all of which has greatly increased in value. Fraternally he was a member of the Odd Fellows, which he joined in 1856, and belonged to Stockton Lodge No. 11 and was also a member of the Pioneer Society of San Joaquin County. He was a staunch Republican. For three years he was a member of the city council of Stockton and also officiated as state commissioner of the Yosemite Valley. For more than twenty years he was a member of the choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Stockton.

“A record of the career of George Samuel Ladd would be incomplete were no mention made of his association with the educational development of his county and state. From early manhood he held a life certificate as a teacher and during his residence in Tuolumne County served as school trustee. In 1867 he was appointed superintendent of the schools of Stockton, and this position he held by appointment until the first election under the new charter, when he was duly elected to the office, holding same until 1880. Under his administration the local schools were brought to a high standard of

excellence and the building of modern structures begun. Perhaps no work he accomplished in the position was more important than that of recommending a revision of the school law and manual outlining the duties of pupils, teachers and superintendents, which recommendation was adopted. The marriage of Mr. Ladd took place in Stockton May 28, 1856, and united him with Miss Abigail Bourland, a native of Arkansas, born January 30, 1840. Her parents, Alne and Rebecca (Cook) Bourland, were born, reared and married in Alabama, but shortly after their marriage removed to Arkansas and settled at Fort Smith, where they remained for a number of years. During 1854 they started for California across the plains and proceeded as far as Surprise Valley without misfortune, but while camping there the mother died of heart disease. The survivors arrived in Stockton September 22, 1854. A brother, Lafayette Bourland, now of Woodland, Yolo County, aged ninety years, had come in 1853, and met the family and conducted them to Stockton. The maternal grandmother, Mrs. Abigail Bourland, lived to be ninety-six years old. Mr. and Mrs. Ladd were the parents of four sons. The eldest, George Edwin, was born May 11, 1857, and married in Stockton November 26, 1884, Miss Mary Evaline Van Vlear, who was born in Stockton in 1860. They were the parents of two children, Jeanette and Edwin Hubbard. George Edwin is now deceased. The second son, Walter Eugene Ladd, born May 27, 1859, and his marriage, which occurred February 5, 1885, united him with Miss Lucy Estella Ayers, who was born in San Joaquin County, December 9, 1862. They were the parents of six children, four of whom grew to mature years; George Allen, Walter E., Elmer A. and Juliette. Walter Eugene is now deceased. The two youngest sons of the Ladd family are Joseph Marshall and Dr. Ira Bourland. Joseph M. was born December 31, 1864; he is a resident of Stockton, where, August 17, 1905, he married Louise Poppelwell, a native of England, but a resident of Stockton since she was five years of age. Ira B. Ladd was born May 28, 1868; after his graduation from Cooper Medical College he practiced his profession in Stockton and held the position of county health officer. He married, first, Mrs. Mollie E. (Grattan) Cross. His second marriage united him with Miss Mabel Elliott and they had two sons, Ira M. and Bourland E. Ira B. Ladd is now deceased.

"In the passing of George S. Ladd the city lost a citizen who had been ever alert to promote her educational, civic and commercial interests, and whose name will long be remembered as that of an honored pioneer. Mrs. Ladd resides in Stockton and is an active worker in the First Presbyterian Church; and is a member of the Kings Daughters, Red Cross and other kindred societies; she is a member of the Philomathean Club of Stockton. Like her respected and esteemed husband, she too is generous and kind and leaves no opportunity unheeded to assist those less fortunate than herself or to help promote the best interests for Stockton and her citizens. Mrs. Ladd owns the property in California accumulated by Mr. Ladd.^{vii}

James L. Sperry (1880-1882)

Sperry owned the Calaveras Grove of Big Trees until he sold it ca. 1900.^{viii} "Mr. James L. Sperry, a pioneer of California, owned the Calaveras grove of Big Trees from about 1853 to 1901, when he sold it to Mr. Robert Whitehead on condition that the sequoias should not be cut down."^{ix}

"**SPERRY**--At Murphy's, Calaveras county, Sept 23d, to the wife of James L. **SPERRY**, a son."^x

From: <http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=32742> :

Old Sperry Hotel

Inscription. This hostelry originally built in 1855 by J. L. Sperry of Sperry Flour fame and his partner John Perry. Among early guests whose names appear on old register are Mark Twain, Horatio Alger, Thomas H. Lipton, Henry Ward Beecher, the Rothchilds General U.S. Grant, and C. E. Bolton (Black Bart). The quaint old hotel, according to tradition, is one referred to in Bret Harte's "A Night in Wingdam". Murphy's Camp founded in early '49 by John and Daniel Murphy, brothers. Millions of gold taken from Camp and vicinity.



By Syd Whittle, July 6, 2010

1. Old Sperry Hotel Marker

Regarding Old Sperry Hotel. This site was designated as California Registered Historical Landmark No. 267 on September 3, 1937 as **The Mitchler Hotel Statement of Significance:**

This is one of the oldest hotels still operating in California. First called the Sperry and Perry Hotel, it was opened by James L. Sperry and John Perry on August 20, 1856. Henry Atwood was its proprietor in 1881 - later, ownership passed to Harvey Blood. Renamed the Mitchler Hotel in 1882, and the Murphys Hotel in 1945 by the McKimins family, it was bought by a College of the Pacific group in 1963.^{xi}

Anthony J. Meany (1880-1882)

Anthony J. "A.J." Meany

"A.J. Meany was a prominent citizen of the San Joaquin Valley and was born in Ireland on March 1, 1842, was taken to Canada when a babe in arms and there grew to boyhood. At about the age of eleven he left home and went to Pennsylvania, where he served an apprenticeship, under an older brother, to learn the trade of carpenter and cabinet-maker. In early manhood he worked on an Ohio River steamboat for a time, then drifted to St. Louis, where he remained and made his start for California via Panama about 1863. Upon arriving in California he at once located in Mariposa County and followed his trade and became a very well-known and successful contractor and builder. In time he located at Snelling, Merced County and worked at his trade and while living there was elected sheriff of the county in 1872, serving in at office for twelve years. When the county seat was removed to Merced he located in that city and ever afterwards made it his home. After his term in office expired he resumed the building business and continued active until his death, passing away in November, 1891, at the family home in Merced. He was twice married. His first wife was Emma Ruddle, niece of the late John Ruddle,

and one daughter is now living, Daisy Meany the wife of J.F. King, an Oakland Dentist. His second marriage, in 1881, united him with Miss May Tackett, who was born in Tuolumne County in 1858. Her parents crossed the plains in 1856 and settled near Sonora, where her father was engaged in the building business. By his second marriage a son, Anthony Warfield Meany, was born. A.J. Meany had served two terms in the California State Senate.^{xii}

MEANY, Hon. A. J.

November 28, 1891 Mariposa Gazette

(submitted by W. Disbro)

Death of Hon. A. J. MEANY.

Many of our readers, not having heard of the illness of Hon. Anthony J. MEANY, will be painfully surprised to hear of his death, which occurred at his home in Merced, November 25th, 1891. Mr. MEANY was born in Canada, and came to Mariposa County in 1862, where he remained three years after which he went to Snelling, where he followed his trade, that of Carpentering. In 1875, he was elected Sheriff of Merced County which office he filled eleven years. In 1886 he was elected to the State Senate, representing Merced and Mariposa counties, and held that position four years. He was a genial, generous man, and his friends far outnumber his enemies. He led a very busy life, and has built many public buildings in various parts of California. A widow and two children survive him. He was a Mason, a Knight Templar, and a member of the A.O.U.W., and his funeral yesterday, was under the auspices of the Masonic order.^{xiii}

Guardian: J. M. Hutchings (1880-1882)

Gov. 1883-1887: George Stoneman

Born: August 8, 1822 in Busti, Chautauqua County, New York

Died: September 5, 1894 in Buffalo, New York

Married: [Mary Hardisty](#) on November 22, 1871 in Baltimore, MD

Political Party: Democrat

Biography

A military man, George Stoneman was born in New York in 1822. He attended Jamestown Academy in Jamestown, NY. Stoneman was appointed to West Point Military Academy in 1842. He graduated from West Point in 1846 with high honors. Soon after graduating from West Point, Stoneman served in the Mexican War.

Stoneman was in command of the San Francisco Presidio in 1848 and 1849. After arriving in California, Stoneman was appointed to be in command of the San Francisco Presidio. Later, he served in the Civil War and rose to the rank of colonel. In 1870, President Grant sent Stoneman to command the Department of Arizona, a post he held until 1871. Stoneman moved to California where he was a rancher for the next several years. In 1876, Stoneman was appointed to the California Transportation Commission. He served on the Federal Indian Commission in 1878. His first elected position was as a commissioner of the Railroad Commission in 1879.

Stoneman was inaugurated as Governor on January 10, 1883. He advocated controlling rates and limiting the power of the Southern Pacific Railroad; however, he failed his efforts against the railroad-controlled legislature. Stoneman supported prison reform and staunchly believed in rehabilitating prisoners through parole - so much so that in the last few weeks of his term, Stoneman granted 260 pardons and commuted 146 prison sentences.

In 1887 Stoneman returned to his San Gabriel ranch for a few years. In 1891, he moved to Buffalo, NY to live with his sister. He suffered a stroke in April 1894 and died in September 1894.

Family

Father: George Stoneman

Mother: Catharine Cheney Aldrich

Wife: [Mary Hardisty](#)

Children: Cornelius, George, Jr., Katherine and Adele

Did You Know?

Stoneman's sister, Kate, was the first woman lawyer in New York State

In 1885, Stoneman's ranch house in San Gabriel was burned to the ground. Arson was evident and local Mexicans were purported to be involved. Although they obviously intended to harm the governor, he was not at home at the time and escaped injury.

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John M. Griffith (1883-1886), Term expires April 19, 1886

From <http://file.lacounty.gov/lac/jgriffith.pdf> :

County of Los Angeles - Board of Supervisors - SUPERVISOR JOHN M. GRIFFITH

Term: 1874; District: 1

Date of Birth: Not Available; Date of Death: Oct. 16, 1907

John M. Griffith came to Los Angeles in 1861. Following his arrival he formed a business partnership with his brother-in-law, John J. Tomlinson, which dealt with passenger and freight carriage. He later purchased the Institute and Orphan Asylum located on Alameda and Macy streets and used the site for a lumber yard. Some time later, the site was sold to the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. For a number of years, Griffith was a leading transportation agent and lumber merchant.

Griffith was considered a very generous man. During the 1896 Christmas season, he generously filled the stocking of Los Angeles with the immensely important gift of Griffith Park. Both Griffith Avenue and Griffith Park are named after him. Griffith was one of the participants that met at the office of the Daily Herald on Aug. 2, 1897 to consider an organization of an "Old Settlers Society." On Aug. 10 the committee members, who consisted of several other prominent citizens, selected the societal name of "Los Angeles County Pioneers of Southern California" and decided that eligibility should be limited to those who had resided in Los Angeles County for 25 years.^{xv}

"...John McKim ("J.M.") Griffith (1829-1906) was one of Los Angeles' pioneer residents, and was regarded as one of its most enterprising and energetic merchants. At the time of his death, J.M. Griffith was described as one of Los Angeles' "most public-spirited men, a citizen who has been foremost for nearly half a century in almost every undertaking for the upbuilding of the city's interests."

Born in Baltimore, J.M. Griffith gave in to the urge to "Go West" during the Gold Rush, later "trading with the Indians at Vancouver." He then settled in Sacramento and was engaged in freighting on the Sacramento River. In Sacramento, he met and married Miss Sarah Ann Tomlinson in 1857, and it was there that they had a daughter, Alice.

The Griffiths moved to Los Angeles in 1862, when it was no more than a “little pueblo.” After settling into an adobe home, Griffith went into the transportation business with his brother-in-law John Tomlinson, conducting a stagecoach line between the harbor at San Pedro and Los Angeles, their main competitor being Phineas Banning. Griffith soon became involved in the young city, and it was said that he was a “powerful factor, not only in the material affairs of the city, but also in every movement made for the betterment of education facilities and for the moral improvement of the community through church organizations.” The Griffiths had three more children after arriving in Los Angeles, sons Howard, Fred and John Tomlinson Griffith.



***John M. Griffith, and the first modern house
in Los Angeles***

In addition to his thriving transportation and freight company, in 1868 Griffith established a lumber business, later partnering with J. Lynch in the lumber firm Griffith Lynch & Co. That partnership lasted for several years.

Perhaps Los Angeles’ first “modernist,” when he built a large house for his family in 1869 (“the first two-story residence ever put up in the city”), it was considered at the time “the first modern house erected in Los Angeles.” [xiv]

Griffith was a Master Mason, an Odd Fellow, a member of the California Club, Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles Board of Trade. He helped create the California Red Cross Association. He also served one term as City Park Commissioner, was elected to the Los Angeles County Supervisors and was appointed commissioner of Yosemite Valley by Governor George Stoneman. Proud of his status as one of Los Angeles pioneers, in 1897 he created - and was President of - the “Pioneers of Los Angeles County.” He died in 1906 [xv] “Useful Life Ends in Rest,” Los Angeles Times, Oct 17, 1906, p. 117^{xvi}

John H. O'Brien (1883-1894), Term expires April 19, 1886

(1831-1896) Of the liquor wholesale firm Watson & O'Brien^{xvii} (not the lumber mill^{xviii})

"< Monday, 2 Oct 1871> VISIT to HIS OLD HOME -- John H. O'BRIEN, of the firm of EVANS & O'BRIEN, leaves at noon today on a trip, by railroad, to his former home in New Jersey, where his mother and other relatives reside. Mr. O'BRIEN is one of the pioneers of California, having arrived in this State on the 5th of August, 1849. He came by way of Cape Horn, and, on his first arrival, settled in El Dorado county, and subsequently became largely interested in ditch property in El Dorado, Amador and Sacramento counties. He came to Stockton in June, 1868, and has been engaged in business in this city constantly since that time, and has proved himself to be an active, upright and enterprising business man, and as such occupies an excellent position in the front rank of our merchants. During a residence of 22 years in California he has not set foot beyond the limits of the State. His many friends wish him a pleasant journey and a speedy return to his family and position in business circles. He proposes to be absent a month.^{xix}

O'Brien's commissionership and partnership with Warren Watson (in the wine trade) was acknowledged in a 1905 article about Watson's appointment as commissioner (see bio for Watson, below).^{xx}

[Obituary]:

THE LAST CALL. John H. O'Brien Suddenly Summoned, After Two Days' Illness.

OAKLAND, Cal., Sept. 9.—John H. O'Brien, Yosemite Valley Commissioner and senior member of the firm of Watson & O'Brien of this city, died at his home, 813 Hyde street, San Francisco, last night at 9:30 o'clock, after an illness of only two days. He was in the store Sunday, but was taken sick and went home to die. Neuralgia of the heart was the cause of death.

Deceased was a native of New Brunswick, N. S., 65 years of age, and came to the coast in 1849, settling in El Dorado County. In 1865 he went to Stockton, where he remained more than twenty years. In 1886 he came to San Francisco and in 1890 to this city. He was appointed a member of the Yosemite Valley Commission by Governor Perkins on April 19, 1882. He was reappointed by Governors Stoneman, Waterman and Markham. His term would have expired April 19, 1898.

The deceased leaves a widow and one daughter, Mrs. Myra Evans, who resides in the southern portion of this State. He was a member of Stockton Commandery No. 8, Knights Templar, and also of Stockton Lodge of Odd Fellows. The funeral will take place under the auspices of the Stockton Knights Templar and the remains will be taken to that place on a special train, which will leave the mole at 9 o'clock Friday morning. The train will arrive at Stockton at 11:45 o'clock, when the remains will be escorted to Rural Cemetery, where the services will be held. The special train will return Friday afternoon, leaving Stockton at 3:30 and arriving at Sixteenth-street station at 6:45 o'clock.^{xxi}

Jonathan Mentzer (1883-1886), Term expires April 19, 1888

Born ca. 1831 in Pennsylvania.^{xxii} Member of Mariposa County Board of Supervisors in 1879 and served on the Grand Jury, Mentzer's home was destroyed in two major fires in Coulterville in July, 1879, and July, 1899.^{xxiii}

Emory W. "Wash" Chapman (1883-1890), Term expires April 19, 1888

First reference in Mariposa Gazette 1871 10/27 Chapman in partnership with Friedlander to sell property to immigrant farmers at mouth of Fresno River – led to ditch connecting Big Creek & Fresno River near Fish Camp. Chapman invested with A. H. Washburn to purchase Clark & Moore's (now Wawona) – Mariposa Gazette 1874 11/07; partnership ended per Mariposa Gazette 3/17/1877.^{xxiv}

Charles Locke Weller

(1883-1884), Term expires April 19, 1888

(1821-1885) [Note: apparently son of John B. Weller, CA governor – tb.]

Died February 19, 1885 Age 63 years 5 months^{xxv}

“CHARLES L. WELLER was born in the town of Montgomery, Hamilton County, September 4, 1821, from whence his parents moved to Oxford, Butler County, Ohio, about the year 1826. Both parents died there. **Charles** was appointed a cadet at West Point in 1841, but his health failing under the rigorous discipline of that institution, he resigned after about nine months' service. He was schooled at Miami University, though not to graduation. In 1844, after the decease of his father, he took up his residence at Hamilton, where he served about a year as deputy sheriff under **William J. Elliott**. Then he went to Washington City as a clerk in the general post-office under **Cave Johnson**. In 1849 he resigned to take the position of disbursing officer in the boundary commission under his brother **John B.**, who had been appointed to run the boundary line between the United States and Mexico. On the way to the field of survey he was sent back from Panama with dispatches to the government at Washington. He had there a long controversy with the Secretary of the Interior, over an attempt to remove him from the commission, in consequence of which he was detained there some six months, during which time he was employed by the secretary of the United States Senate in compiling a book of claims. At the session of Congress in 1849 and 1850 he was the Democratic candidate for sergeant-at-arms, and was within one vote of an election. In 1850 he returned to his former home, Hamilton, bought out the newspaper organ of the Democratic party, the *Telegraph*, which he edited for two years or more, during which time he was sent by his party as representative to the Ohio Legislature. After serving one session he resigned, and in December, 1852, he started with his wife (**Miranda Martindell**), whom he married in 1846, for California, where he arrived January 6, 1853, and located at San Francisco, where he still resides. He was appointed under President Pierce assistant United States appraiser of merchandise; also pension agent, both of which positions he resigned, upon his being appointed postmaster of San Francisco in August, 1854. This latter office he held until April, 1861, since which time he has been engaged in the real estate and stock-broker's business, arid in mining operations, being president of the *Ophir*, the *Mexican*, the *Crown Point*, and the *Exchequer* mining companies, and also president of the Pacific Stock Exchange Board, of San Francisco.”^{xxvi}

“16. William Hall, of the *Merced Democrat*, July 24, 1864, was arrested by a squad of United States Cavalry for uttering treasonable language and confined at Fort Alcatraz. The following day C. L. Weller, ex-postmaster and president of the Democratic state central committee, was arrested in San Francisco for uttering treasonable language in a public speech. He also was imprisoned. The Democrats held an indignation meeting in Hays Park and violently denounced the Federal government. After three weeks' confinement Weller took the oath of allegiance and was released.”^{xxvii}

In September, 1864, Mark Twain wrote of the above incident: “C. L. Weller, Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, called the Convention to order yesterday noon, at Turn-Verein Hall. He observed, in the opening speech, that it was the most important Democratic Convention which had met

since the adoption of the Federal Constitution, inasmuch as upon it would devolve to decide whether our liberties were to be preserved or destroyed.”^{xxviii}

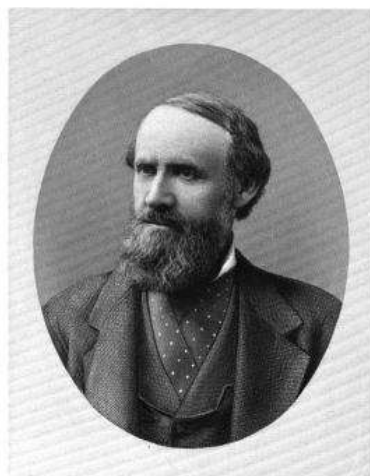
The following biography seems to exonerate Weller:

CHARLES LOCKE WELLER.

IN the great stock mart of San Francisco, with its surging thousands and its flowing and ebbing tides of hope and despair, Colonel C. L. Weller stands a central figure. The generation of the present knows him as a prominent mining operator and executive head of many most important mining organizations; but the generations of the past remember him as one who has been identified with the interests of San Francisco through all the years of her development, from the little Mexican hamlet to her present exalted and metropolitan proportions.

The family from which he springs is among the oldest of the State of New York, where his father, Lodovick Weller, was born on November 17, 1779, and where, at Newburg, Orange county, he was married, on April 10, 1809, to Lydia Miller. Soon after this marriage he removed to Montgomery, Ohio, and thence to Oxford, about 1826. He served as a captain under General Lewis Cass, during the war of 1812, having selected his wife from among the daughters of the old New York families. She was born on April 19, 1788, and gave birth to a family of six sons and two daughters. The seventh child, Charles L. Weller, alone remains of all that family, his brothers and sisters having all followed to the tomb to which the father had preceded in 1844, and the mother in 1838. A son born of a second marriage contracted in December, 1838, served in the federal army during the war of the rebellion, and there contracted a disease from which he died at the age of twenty-two years. Charles L. was born in the village of Montgomery, Hamilton county, Ohio, on September 4, 1821. He was educated at the schools of Oxford, in that State, and at the Miami university; but his desire to begin the battle of life caused him, at the age of nineteen, to exchange the scholar's for the teacher's desk, and he taught during one session at a country school, near Oxford, to the great satisfaction of his pupils' parents. But he received an appointment as cadet at the West Point military academy, and entered there in 1841. His feeble constitution gave way under the rigorous camp-training of an excessively hot summer, and he left that institution by resignation in the latter portion of the same year. Returning home, he became an apprentice to the trade of silversmith, served his term of two years, and then engaged in clerical duties in various branches of trade, and in the office of a justice of the peace, until the death of his father, in 1844, nerved him to renewed effort, and repairing to Hamilton, the county seat, he took a position as deputy sheriff, under the advice that the horseback exercise attending such duties would prove beneficial to his weak constitution. He retained this office until the inauguration of President Polk, in 1845, when he became a clerk in the general post-office at Washington, under Postmaster-general Cave Johnson, who soon recognized his close attention and rewarded it by suitable promotion. He continued in the post-office department until January, 1849, and then resigned to take the position of disbursing officer of the boundary commission. His brother, John B. Weller, had been appointed commissioner to run the boundary line between the United States and Mexico, according to the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, by which California and Nevada had become a part of the United States territory. The commission reached Panama in March, 1849, and there Mr. Weller first met the swarm of gold-seekers hastening to California. In May he was sent from Panama to Washington to bear dispatches to the government and to file in the proper department the vouchers sent by the commissioner so that these might properly appear against advances made for the use of the commission. This precautionary measure proved very wise, for the commissioner's political enemies were even then preparing a violent attack upon him, which the political change of federal administration made on the preceding fourth of March rendered yet more serious. The bursting of the storm determined Mr. Weller to remain in Washington and defend his absent brother from the false charges made against him. He had a lengthy

and very caustic correspondence with the new secretary of the interior, who was his brother's avowed enemy; he maintained and defended his brother's faithfulness, and when the settlement of the commissioner's accounts took place, and a considerable balance due to him by the government was paid over, the event proved how baseless had been the charges and how valiant and determined had been his defense of the absent. During this period of residence in Washington he had accepted a position offered



L. S. Meller

him by Asbury Dickens, secretary of the United States senate, and was engaged in preparing a book of analytical tables of claims as had been ordered by the senate.

In the spring of the following year he joined his brother, whom political intrigue had relieved of the commissionership and who had begun the practice of law in San Francisco. His residence on the Pacific coast was but of short duration; his strong attachments for home were increased and the scenes of his youth were now doubly sacred to him by the presence of his wife. On April 18, 1846, he had married Miss Miranda Martindell, of Butler county, Ohio, and had carried her to his home in Washington. Life in San Francisco seemed too much of the frontier form of existence, and returning to the east, in September, 1850, he, with his wife, settled at Hamilton, Ohio, engaged in farming near the suburbs, and varied his bucolic delights with journalistic pleasures. He purchased and edited The Telegraph, the

democratic party organ of that county, and his trenchant pen put forth many a caustic editorial upon political opponents seeking office. A bitter feud thus sprang up between him and a gentleman subsequently a member of congress from that district, and for many months a personal encounter between them seemed imminent. Though no such collision took place, the old wounds continued to rankle until 1865, when Mr. Weller, visiting his old home from San Francisco, found his former opponent thoroughly converted in political faith and the democratic nominee for State senatorship. Forgetting all the past, he took the stump and aided in the election, thus disarming his former foe and making him his warm friend.

In 1851 he was forced to accept a nomination as representative for Butler county in the State legislature. Though opposed by the regular whig and the independent democratic candidates, and in spite of dissensions then existing in the democratic party, he was elected by a handsome majority and took his seat in the legislature in December of that year, at once ranking as one of the party leaders of the house. This was during the visit of the great Hungarian, Louis Kossuth, to the United States, and as the legislature of Ohio appointed a joint committee of the two branches to receive him, tender him an official reception, and escort him to the capital, Mr. Weller became chairman of the house committee, and accompanied Kossuth from Cleveland to Cincinnati, stopping at Columbus, where the official reception was given and the distinguished foreigner addressed the legislature in joint session. Mr. Weller's health failed under close application to committee service, California asserted over his mind her proverbial influence and powers of attraction, and in December, 1852, he resigned his seat in the legislature and started for California, taking with him his wife and the two young children of his brother, John B. Weller, of whom he had taken charge when their mother died, about three years previously. He arrived by the steamer *California* from Panama, in January, 1853, and in the following May was appointed examiner of merchandise in the United States appraiser's office; he discharged these duties so thoroughly that in five months the secretary of the treasury promoted him to the office of assistant United States appraiser at San Francisco, while the commissioner of pensions also appointed him United States pension agent in the same city. The duties of this double office were laborious, but were discharged with closest fidelity, and in August, 1854, President Pierce issued his commission as postmaster of San Francisco. His appointment was renewed by President Buchanan, and he retained the office until removed by President Lincoln, in 1861. During his term as postmaster a dead-letter office was established at San Francisco, and for some years the dead letters of the entire Pacific coast, including Oregon, were returned to his office, were there opened and disposed of under the system followed at Washington. As postmaster he was required to make collections of all balances due from all other postmasters on the Pacific coast, pay the mail contractors, and discharge many other duties which rendered the office very laborious.

For some time after leaving the post-office he was engaged in real estate brokerage, and in 1862 he took charge of the *Daily Examiner*, a Democratic paper of San Francisco. As proprietor he was associated with Hon. Philip A. Roach and Captain Wm. S. Moss. But his health suffered from the close confinement of this business; in 1864 he sold his interest in the journal and devoted his entire efforts to regaining his health. In 1867 he was selected by Judge Delos Lake as one of the three laguna commissioners, under an act of the California legislature, to lay out streets, etc., through the laguna survey; but he resigned this position to accept the appointment as secretary of the board of health, which office he held until he entered the business of stock brokerage, in 1871. In January, 1872, the increasing business between buyers and sellers seemed to create a necessity for the establishment of another board of brokers, and Mr. Weller became an originator and charter member of the California stock board, and contributed very largely in establishing that institution in the favor and confidence of the public. His again failing health determined him to seek the retirement of country life, but as his active habits would not allow him to remain unoccupied, he repaired to a sheep ranch in Stanislaus county, and continued in that business from November, 1873, until January, 1875, when, having regained his health, he returned to

San Francisco, and joining the Pacific stock and exchange board became actively engaged in the stock business. In the second year of its existence he became president of this institution, and he has been honored by constant re-election at each recurring annual election since his first accession to the office. He also holds the office of president of the Pacific exchange, incorporated for the purpose of holding and managing the property of the Pacific stock exchange. He was an active member of the building and finance committee, and under his energetic and intelligent management the present commodious building and board room were constructed, and great improvements made in the Montgomery and Pine street properties of the Pacific exchange.

On February 11, 1875, he was elected president of the Mexican silver mining company, and entered upon the duties which he has discharged so well and for which his executive abilities specially fitted him. In September of the same year he was elected president of the Ophir silver mining company, in merited acknowledgment of the reformation he effected in the management of the company's affairs. He has been annually re-elected to these offices ever since, and in June, 1877, became president of the Crown Point gold and silver mining company. The position as president of these three leading corporations, together with a similar office in numerous less noted companies, furnishes full occupation to his large energy, and full evidence of his practical business ability and fidelity to the interests of stockholders. In politics Mr. Weller was attached to the Democratic party, casting his first vote for president for James K. Polk. His father was a Jeffersonian Democrat, and during his life was an active partisan, though never an office-holder or seeker, and Charles became actively engaged in party politics while yet a boy. His faith was so deeply and enduringly grounded in him, that when the great rebellion of 1861 broke out, though not indorsing or approving the course of the South, he could not break off his attachment to the Democratic party, but adhered to its organization throughout. In a speech made at San Francisco in 1861, he said; "I am not a rebel, I am not a sympathizer with rebels; I believe the Republicans have forced the South into rebellion, I believe bloodshed could have been averted, I believe our troubles could yet be settled honorably to all by wise statesmanship in a peaceful way; I believe southern representatives should have remained in Congress and fought a bloodless fight for their rights, until a Republican administration outraged those rights by an overt act, and now, notwithstanding the old Democratic party seems forced into the false position of opposition to the war and sympathy with the southern imprudent and hot-headed leaders, yet I know what purity there is in the principles of that party; that they accord entirely with the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of our country, and will come out of this trying crucible brighter than ever. I shall ever cast my lot with the party of my original faith, which I have yet seen no good reason to change."

In the presidential campaign of 1864, General McClellan being the candidate of the Democratic party, Mr. Weller was honored by his party by being placed in the position of chairman of the State Central Committee. He at once proceeded with great energy and industry to systematically organize his party, and his efforts attracted the attention of the Republican leaders, who, with a purpose of defeating his success, instigated his arrest by military authority for disloyalty.

This took place, by order of Major-General Irwin McDowell, on the twenty-fifth of July, 1864. He was not informed of the cause of his arrest, and therefore he immediately set to work to ascertain that. He addressed a letter to General McDowell, asking "to be informed of the cause of his arrest," and also that, "at the general's earliest convenience, he might be confronted with the charges and witnesses or accusers." To which General McDowell first replied (July 28) that "he would be duly made acquainted with the cause of his arrest," and subsequently (July 30), that "the cause of his arrest was his *conduct* on the evening of July 21, at a public meeting in this city." General McDowell, nor any one else in authority, ever explained what the alleged *conduct* consisted of, or what was its character. Mr. Weller, in a published statement at the time, admitted that upon the occasion alluded to he had made a speech, in which "he denounced the armed organizations of 'Union Leagues,' expressing the belief that their object was to interfere by force of arms against free and fair elections; and that it was a right of free

citizens, guaranteed by the federal Constitution, to protect and defend the ballot box, and at all hazards, exercise their legal right to vote." This, he insisted, was the head and front of his offending, and if this was called "disloyalty," he would like to know to whom or to what it was disloyal.

Mr. Weller's friends also sought to learn the cause of arrest, and proposed to General McDowell, that if the proceeding had been based upon words spoken, they would lay before him Mr. Weller's statement of what he did say, and evidence of numerous reputable citizens who had heard the whole speech, to establish the fact that no disloyal sentiments had been uttered.

General McDowell declined this proposition, saying: "In the ordinary course, the next further action in his case would be with the Secretary of War. Whether the general commanding can find it consistent with his duty to interfere with a view to a more speedy solution than this involves, will depend on the course Mr. Weller shall take, and to a certain extent on that of his friends and followers, and those in fellowship with them, both here and elsewhere." This was supposed to be an allusion to the entire Democratic party of the whole country.

Mr. Weller replied by saying: "As I am at a loss to understand what 'course' I can take, confined and deprived of communication with my friends (even an attorney), which could influence the General commanding, one way or the other, I would be pleased to have him indicate the 'course' on my part that would tend to bring about the speediest 'solution' possible. Of course, I can take no 'course' not comporting with the character of a gentleman and an American citizen. I may be allowed to express the hope that the General commanding will not fail to recognize the injustice of detaining me as an hostage for the conduct of those *he* may suppose my 'friends,' with whom I am effectually deprived of communication, and therefore over whom I can exercise no influence whatever." General McDowell's response to this contained the following:

"It is a question with the General whether the public safety will admit of Mr. Weller's release to join his friends, or will require that, so far as it is possible and expedient, his friends shall be sent to join him. It is not what Mr. Weller may do with his friends and sympathizers, but what he has done, etc. The General feels called upon to require that he shall be satisfied by those acting in concert with Mr. Weller as well as by Mr. Weller himself, that the public peace and the authority of the United States are not to be interfered with by him or his before the General can take any other further measures in the premises."

Mr. Weller closed the correspondence by a long letter, from which we extract the following:

"The principal object of my letter of the first instant was, to ascertain what 'course' I could take to influence the Major-General commanding to 'interfere' with a view to my speedy release; and my application for that information was predicated upon the expression in the letter of the Major-General commanding of thirtieth July, as follows: 'Whether the General commanding can find it consistent with his duty to interfere, with a view to a more speedy solution,' etc., 'will depend on the course Mr. Weller shall take,' etc. My object, I much regret to say, fails in a change of premises, for I am now informed by the Major-General commanding, in his letter of the ninth instant, that 'it is not what Mr. Weller may do,' etc., 'but what he has done, that the General will take into account in determining whether he can interfere to release him [me] from arrest.' I should be glad if the Major-General commanding would be pleased to give me an intimation of the probable length of time it may take to solve the question in his mind, and thus forestall the otherwise possible, and unpleasant, impression that the basis is laid for my detention until after the Presidential election. I find in the letter of the Major-General commanding of July 30, that, 'whenever charges or an indictment, as the case may be, are formally drawn up, he [I] will of course be furnished with a copy,' and I estimated this as justifying the conclusion that in a reasonable time I would be placed upon trial before some competent authority, for which I have now patiently waited eighteen days. The length of the charges preferred against me, and the time required to draw them up 'formally', I of course, know nothing about; but with all due deference, it would seem to me that eighteen days should be sufficient for procuring an indictment, where so much cause exists, as expressed by the Major-General commanding, and where there are courts open at all times.

"The belief of my guilt seems so well fixed in the mind of the major-general commanding, that he certainly can entertain no doubt of my conviction by a jury of the country, and therefore (hoping he will not be influenced by any kind consideration for me) I now request to be placed on my trial before some tribunal known to our constitution and the laws of our country. It is also stated in his letter of the ninth inst., 'The general feels called upon to require that *he* shall be satisfied,' etc.; 'that the public peace and the authority of the United States will not be interfered with by him or his' (me or mine) 'before the general can take any other further measures in the premises.' This language would seem to convey the impression that the major-general commanding is the sole judge in my case, and if so, then I now appeal to him for a trial, notwithstanding the inference might be drawn, from his already strongly expressed belief of my guilt, that my case may be already adjudged. But thus far his information regarding me and my conduct, as I have reason to believe, is entirely *ex parte*, and I have to ask to be allowed to lay before him rebutting testimony, trusting his belief is not so firmly fixed as to close his mind against the reception of truth. Referring to the language of the letter of the ninth inst., which gives me an inkling of the allegations against me, I now assert, and here ask of the major-general commanding the opportunity to prove, that it is false that I 'urged publicly an armed organization on the part of his (my) political friends to resist the United States military authorities by brute force.' And if my solemn oath would be regarded by the major-general commanding, I can give it, that I never did belong to, and am not a member of, any 'armed organization to resist the measures being taken by the United States government to carry on the war.' I use the exact language of the major-general commanding, that my denial may be the more explicit and cover the whole case as far as I am allowed to know it. The negative proposition I can only sustain by my oath, being in its nature not susceptible of other proof.

"As to the matter of satisfying the major-general commanding, 'that the public peace and the authority of the United States are not to be interfered with' by me, I know of no means in my power to that end, unless giving a bond would be deemed sufficient. In a community of which I have been an orderly, law-abiding member for nearly twelve years, during which I have had no controversies with any one, and never (until now) had my patriotism questioned (all of which I stand ready to verify by proof), I Matter myself I may be able to command good bondsmen for any reasonable amount. Were it not in direct opposition to the seeming settled belief of the major-general commanding, I would here solemnly assure him that no man more sincerely than I, desires the peace and quietude of California. I appeal to Him that knoweth all hearts that this is true. Any one acquainted with me and my circumstances, it will at once and forcibly strike, that I have all to lose and nothing to gain by disturbing the peace of my State, where I have, and show every disposition to retain, my family and all the property I possess in the world; and yet it would seem all this must go for naught with the major-general commanding, who has not such acquaintance.

- "In conclusion, it is with much pain and solicitude, I am compelled to note the expression 'him or his' in the major-general's letter of the ninth inst., and anxiously inquire whether the pronoun 'his' is really intended to refer to my family. This is the only grammatical and natural construction I can give it, and particularly as the letter was also addressed to my wife. If the major-general commanding believes that the continuance in California of my unoffending wife and innocent children endangers the public peace, I will have them removed, in preference to their confinement in a military prison; and I trust this alternative will be allowed me."

To this General McDowell made no response, as a few days after he released Mr. Weller upon his taking an oath to support the constitution of the United States and filing a bond to preserve the peace.

We have given these particulars because we deemed it just to Mr. Weller in writing his biography, that the facts should be noted down, so that posterity who might stand affected may have a true record to refer to. There may have been a difference of opinion as to whether this arbitrary arrest was justifiable, but not as to the peaceable disposition, good citizenship, and law-abiding character of Mr. Weller amongst those who knew him, and it would seem, from the terms of his release, that General McDowell

became satisfied he had made a mistake. Mr. Weller was subsequently intrusted with many positions of honor and trust, where much responsibility attached, and he never abused them.^{xxix}

Guardian: Walter Emerson Dennison (1883-1886)

Walter Emerson **Dennison** was born on 17 August 1856 at Kankakee Co., IL. He was the son of Walter Horace **Dennison** and Nancy Jane **Ransom**.² Walter Emerson Dennison married Isabella Baxter **Richardson**, daughter of Israel J. **Richardson** and Estelle T. **Pettibone**, circa 1882. Walter Emerson Dennison died in 1929.

Census & Residence

9 June 1900	San Mateo,	"W. E." age 43, b. IL, with a terricotta company, with wife Isabella, children Isabelle, Leonidas, Margaret and Walter, and mother-in-law Estella Richardson
26 April 1910	Alameda,	"Walter E." age 53, b. IL, Harbour Commissioner for State of California, with wife Isabella, children Leonidas, Margaret, and Walter, and mother-in-law Estelle Richardson ^{xxx}

Place Names of the High Sierra (1926)

by Francis P. Farquhar

HAPPY ISLES

[Yosemite]

"There are three islets just above the bridge which have never been given a place in Yosemite geography, so far as I am able to learn, and, commemorative of the emotions which I enjoyed when exploring them, I have named them the *Happy Isles*, for no one can visit them without for the while forgetting the grinding strife of his world and being happy." (Letter from W. E. Dennison, Guardian of Yosemite Valley, to William B. May, secretary of the Yosemite Commissioners, October 25, 1885, in Superintendent's files, Yosemite.)^{xxxi}

Alameda County Biography

Walter Emerson Dennison

During a residence of thirty-four years in California Walter Emerson Dennison has closely identified himself with many representative business interests in different sections of the state and his successful career has had an important effect upon the later advancement of the commonwealth. The projects with which his name has been associated have all been progressive and useful ones, varied in kind and in purpose but all alike in this, that their successful completion has constituted an element in the general growth and development. As president and managing director of the Steiger Terra Cotta & Pottery Works he today holds an enviable position in business circles of San Francisco, where his name has come to be regarded as a synonym for business integrity and enterprise and for progressive citizenship.

Mr. Dennison was born near Kankakee, Illinois, August 17, 1856, and is a son of Walter Horace and Nancy Jane (Ransom) Dennison, both natives of Indiana. The family is of old New England origin, the paternal grandfather, Timothy Dennison, having been born in Freeport, Maine, and having in 1818 emigrated to Indiana, where he settled in Ripley county. Mr. Dennison's mother is a daughter of Stillman and Eleanor Cole (Parsons) Ransom, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Maryland.

In the acquirement of an education Walter E. Dennison attended public school in his native community and later entered the Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio, graduating from that institution in 1877 after completing the full classical course. Almost immediately afterward he turned his attention to

teaching in the high school of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, and after one year was made superintendent of schools in that city. He resigned this office at the end of twelve months in order to enter the Cincinnati Law School, but he did not pursue the study of this profession, abandoning it in 1880, when he came to California, settling in Los Angeles, where he opened an agency for the Continental Oil & Transportation Company. After one year he was transferred to Stockton and in recognition of his former able and competent work was given charge of the Stockton and Sacramento agencies, winning advancement in 1882 to the position of general superintendent of all agencies, with headquarters at San Francisco. Being a man of initiative, enterprise and constructive ability, he proved eminently well qualified for this difficult and responsible position which he held until 1884, when he resigned, accepting the appointment of guardian of the Yosemite valley for the state of California. This position he resigned in 1887 to take charge of the Southern California agency for the Electric Development Company at Los Angeles, but in 1888 he severed this connection, turning his attention to mining, in which he engaged successfully until 1891. In that year he came again to San Francisco and aided in the organization of the City Street Improvement Company, occupying the position of secretary until 1902, when he resigned this office, but remained as a director of the concern until the fall of 1912. While actively connected with the management of the City Street Improvement Company he took personal charge of the construction of the Humboldt Bay Jetty system, for which the national government appropriated one million, seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars. This work covered the period between 1894 and 1899 and was very successful both from a financial and an engineering standpoint. In 1898 the Steiger Terra Cotta & Pottery Works were founded in San Francisco, and Mr. Dennison was made president and managing director. These positions he is now capably filling, evidencing in his discharge of the innumerable duties which fall to his lot as president of a great corporation an initiative spirit, a reorganizing power and a well-timed aggressiveness which have enabled him to make the business expand and grow until it is today one of the largest and best managed of its kind in the city.

Mr. Dennison married Miss Isabella Baxter Richardson, a daughter of Israel J. and Estelle T. (Pettibone) Richardson, natives of Delaware, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Dennison have become the parents of four children: Isabel, aged thirty-one; Leonidas, twenty-nine; Margaret, twenty-one; and Walter Emerson, Jr., eighteen.

Mr. Dennison is well and prominently known in club circles of San Francisco, holding membership in the Pacific Union, the Bohemian and the Commercial clubs, in Beta Theta Pi and in the Sons of the American Revolution. He is in addition a member of the Merchants Exchange Club and the Commonwealth Club, and in the spring of 1907 was appointed a member of the board of state harbor commissioners, winning his reappointment in 1909. Along lines of his business he is second vice president of the National Terra Cotta Society. No progressive public movement, no project instituted for the benefit or welfare of the city lacks his cooperation and hearty support, his influence being always on the side of right, reform and progress. He uses the wealth which he has acquired by his own efforts in a capable and conscientious manner, not only supporting public institutions, but also giving a great deal to private charity, his hand being always outstretched to help the needy and afflicted. His friends in San Francisco are numerous and come from all ranks of life, the poor and lowly, who know his charity, esteeming him even more highly than his business associates, who respect his integrity and honor. ^{xxxii}

ⁱ <http://governors.library.ca.gov/14-Perkins.html>

ⁱⁱ The Sabbath: what--why--how--day--reasons--mode By M. C. Briggs CHAPTER XI Prevalent Abuses Of The Sabbath.

<http://books.google.com/books?id=nDIAAAIAAJ&pg=PA170&lpg=PA170&dq=%22m+c+briggs%22+yosemite&so>

urce=bl&ots=mcnDXhhPE&sig=6r26GTuPDzLzvwOyZq6h3RYjcoY&hl=en&sa=X&ei=m31GT7rLoaSciALY2rjbDQ&ved=OCDAQ6AEwAw#v=onepage&q&f=false

iii http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/yosemite_nature_notes/24/24-12.pdf :

Yosemite Nature Notes, Dec. 1945 vol. XXIV No. 12 "Brief History of the Village Chapel" by Rev. Alfred Glass

iv <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/santaclararesearch/SCBIOS/mcbriggs.html> :

Pen Pictures From The Garden of the World or Santa Clara County, California, Illustrated. - Edited by H. S. Foote.- Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1888. Pg. 286-287 Transcribed by Kathy Sedler Proofread by Betty Vickroy

v <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cagha/history/sanjoaquin/sanjoa-1923-244.txt> : History of San Joaquin County, California with Biographical Sketches - Historic Record Company, Los Angeles, CA - 1923

vi See http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/rusticarch/chap5.htm Yosemite – The Embattled Wilderness Ch. 5; copy in Bopp files under Mills and Runte.

vii <http://www.cagenweb.com/archives/Biography/SanJoaquinCounty/LaddGeorgeSamuel.htm> San Joaquin County Biographies Ref: Page 503 Transcribed by: Linda Diane Jackson 2/28/2010; *History of SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY CALIFORNIA With A Biographical Review of The Leading Men and Women of the County Who Have Been Identified with Its Growth and Development from the Early Days to the Present HISTORY BY George H. Tinkham* HISTORIC RECORD COMPANY LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 1923

viii See <http://content.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/tf3290083g/> :

Title: Mammoth Grove Hotel Lessee: J.M. Hutchings (of Yosemite) Successor to Mr. James L. Sperry Big Trees, Calaveras Co., Cal... -- New York: Moss Eng. Co. -- Wood engraving; 10 x 17 cm. Contributing Institution: UC Berkeley, Bancroft Library

ix John of the mountains: the unpublished journals of John Muir By John Muir, Linnie Marsh Wolfe

x *San Francisco Daily Examiner*, 6 Oct 1865. <http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sf/vitals/sfbirms.htm>

xi <http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=32742>

xii http://mercedgenealogy.com/Bio_Anthony_AJ_Meany.htm, 1925 History of Merced County by John Outcalt, page 586 Contributed by: Carol Lackey

xiii <http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:cOu3ONdkELYJ:www.mariposaresearch.net/ObitsL-M.html+%22Anthony+J.+Meany%22+yosemite&cd=4&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us>

xiv <http://governors.library.ca.gov/15-Stoneman.html>

xv Newmark, Harris, Sixty Years in Southern California, 1853-1913; <http://file.lacounty.gov/lac/jgriffith.pdf>

xvi <http://baldwinhillsvillageandthevillagegreen.blogspot.com/2011/07/garden-cities-at-risk-chapter-four.html> :

THE VISIONARY - JOHN S. GRIFFITH (1901-1979)

xvii see http://www.westernwhiskeytooltopgazette.com/2010_10_01_archive.html

xviii <http://www.mifamilyhistory.org/bay/sawmills.htm>

xix <http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/CASANJOA/2005-05/1115833629> :

Stockton Daily Independent; Stockton, San Joaquin Co., CA; 2-7 October 1871

xx http://www.leighlarson.com/warren_mortimer_watson.htm; *Oakland Tribune*, Oakland, CA, Saturday Evening, September 23, 1905

xxi S.F. Call 9/10/1896; see Bopp file: 1896_09_10_SF Call_CommishOBrien_obit

xxii <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=troygoss&id=I13356>

xxiii <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/fires.html>; *Mariposa Gazette* 7/12/1879 and *Merced Express*, 7/14/1899

xxiv Source references from Bopp files: "Hartwig" database/index

xxv <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nmpmelton/lonecem.htm>: Lone Mountain VII *Inscriptions Copied from Headstones*

xxvi *BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO BIOGRAPHIES (Source: A History & Biographical Cyclopaedia of Butler County, Ohio - Evansville, Ind. 1882)* http://www.ohiogenealogyexpress.com/butler/butlerco_bios_w.htm

xxvii *California During the Civil War* By George H. Tinkham Extracted from Panama-Pacific Exposition Edition (1915) of *California Men and Events, 1769-1890* <http://www.militarymuseum.org/CAandCW2.html>

^{xxviii} <http://www.twainquotes.com/18640908d.html>: The San Francisco *Daily Morning Call*, September 8, 1864
(Mark Twain)

^{xxix}

http://books.google.com/books?id=M9FOAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA423&lpg=PA423&dq=Colonel+%22C.+L.+Weller%22+san+francisco&source=bl&ots=RGxrevYxo6&sig=V_Jd4F1CScSfnP-qZNXqv38vzUQ&hl=en&sa=X&ei=SopGT9HpDM_YiQKixNjZDQ&ved=0CDsQ6AEwBQ#v=onepage&q=Colonel%20%22C.%20L.%20Weller%22%20san%20francisco&f=false

Contemporary biography of California's representative men: with contributions from distinguished scholars and scientists (Google eBook) Alonzo Phelps, Hubert Howe Bancroft, George Davidson, Oscar Penn Fitzgerald (Bishop), Joseph LeConte A. L. Bancroft and company, 1881 - History - 443 pages [p.423]

^{xxx} <http://www.newenglandballproject.com/g3/p3083.htm#i77064>

^{xxxi} http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/place_names_of_the_high_sierra/h.html

^{xxxii} <http://www.cagenweb.com/archives/Biography/AlamedaCounty/DennisonWalterEmerson.htm> *Past and Present of Alameda County California, Vol. II* Published in Chicago by The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company 1914
Transcribed by Linda Jackson 7/01/2008, Pages 378-380

PART TWO, SECTION 4: 1885 – 1889

William B. May (1885-1888), Term expires April 19, 1890 (replaces Weller as sec.)

May, William B. — of California. Republican. Member of California state assembly, 1877-83, 1885-87 (10th District 1877-83, 33rd District 1885-87); alternate delegate to Republican National Convention from California, 1884. Burial location unknown.ⁱ

San Francisco Call, Volume 81, Number 73, 11 February 1897 — Page 8

COMMISSIONERS WOULD NOT SIGN

A Railroad Petition Favoring the Anti-Scalping Act.

Rolla V. Watt Says Restrictions Have Been Put On Endeavorer Tickets.

Railroad Commission Declines to Take Sides Against Ticket Brokers.

Watt's Letter.

Commissioners Stanton and Larue comprised the "working majority" and the only members of the State Railroad Commission present at a meeting of the commission yesterday afternoon. William B. May, an ex-Assemblyman, now district passenger agent of the Southern Pacific Railroad, with headquarters at Fresno, appeared before the commission and was allowed to present a petition and made an address in support of it. He wanted the signatures of the Commissioners. The petition is the same one that is said to have been signed by many members of the present Legislature. It is addressed to the California delegation in Congress and asks their support for the amendment to the interstate commerce act, now pending in Congress, prohibiting the "scalping" of railroad tickets. In the way of both State and local interest District Passenger Agent May read the following copy of a telegram which he said had been forwarded to Washington by Rolla V. Watt: San Francisco, Feb. 2, 1897.ⁱⁱ

Gov. 1887-1891: R. W. Watermanⁱⁱⁱ

"Vandalism in the Yosemite.

Governor Waterman had returned from the Yosemite. He did not accept the Stoneman House for the reason that the hotel is not yet completed, and will not be for fifteen days. The governor says that during the administration of Guardian Dennison 400 or 500 of the finest trees in the Valley were cut down and he states that the destruction is outrageous."^{iv}

I. W. Taber (1887-1890), Term expires April 19, 1892

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Isaiah West Taber (August 17, 1830 – February 22, 1912^[1]) was an American daguerreotypist, ambrotypist, and photographer who took many pictures of noted Californians, which he donated to the California State Library "that the state may preserve the names and faces, and keep alive the memory of those who made it what it is."^[2] He was also a sketch artist and dentist.^[3]

Taber was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts^[4]^[5] and between 1845 and 1849 he worked at sea on a whaler.^[6] He first moved to California in 1850. He returned East in 1854 and opened up his first photography studio in Syracuse, New York. In 1864, he returned to California, where he worked in the studio of Bradley and Rulofson until 1873.

In 1871, Taber opened his own studio, where he gained fame for reproducing the photos of Carleton Watkins after Watkins went bankrupt,^[7] although the reproductions were published without credit to Watkins.^[8]

In 1880, Taber made a six-week photographic trip to the Hawaiian Islands where, among other subjects, he photographed the Hawaiian King Kalākaua, completing a commission for three full-length portraits. The following year Kalākaua visited Taber's studio in San Francisco.^[9] At this time the Japanese photographer Suzuki Shin'ichi (1855–1912) was studying photographic techniques with Taber; Suzuki also photographed King Kalākaua (in 1881) and may have been the source of some views of Japan included in Taber's stock.^[10]

By the 1890s, Taber had expanded his operations to include studios in London, England and in elsewhere Europe. However, the 1906 San Francisco earthquake destroyed his San Francisco studio, gallery, and negative collection, ending his photographic career.^[1]

[edit] References

[^] a b Hathaway, Pat (April 1, 2007). "I. W. Taber, California photographer (1830–1912)". California Views. <http://www.caviews.com/Taber.html>. Retrieved 2007-05-21.

[^] "Washington Bartlett". California Faces: Selections from the Bancroft Library Portrait Collection. University of California.

<http://content.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/tf4d5nb3hv?layout=metadata&brand=calisphere>. Retrieved 2007-05-21.

- ^ Palmquist, Peter E.; Thomas R. Kailbourn (2000). *Pioneer Photographers of the Far West: A Biographical Dictionary, 1840–1865*. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press. p. 538. ISBN 0804738831.
- ^ "I.W. Taber". *Luminous Lint*. http://www.luminous-lint.com/__sw.php?action=ACT_SING_PH&p1=Isaiah_West__Taber&p2=ABCDEFGHIJKLN. Retrieved 2007-05-21.
- ^ Palmquist and Kailbourn give either New Bedford or Fairhaven, Massachusetts as his birthplace. 538.
- ^ Mautz, Carl (1997). *Biographies of Western Photographers: A Reference Guide to Photographers Working in the 19th Century American West*. Nevada City, Calif.: Carl Mautz. p. 147. ISBN 0962194077.
- ^ "Taber, Isaiah West (ID: 500002696)". *Union List of Artist Names Online*. Getty Research Institute. http://www.getty.edu/vow/ULANFullDisplay?find=taber&role=&nation=&prev_page=1&subjectid=500002696. Retrieved 2007-05-21.
- ^ "Carleton E. Watkins". *Carletonwatkins.org*. http://www.carletonwatkins.org/about_watkins.htm. Retrieved 2007-05-21.
- ^ Palmquist and Kailbourn, 539.
- ^ Bennett, Terry (2006). *Old Japanese Photographs: Collector's Data Guide*. London: Quaritch. p. 173. ISBN 0955085241.v

Benjamin Cummings Truman

(1887-1888), Term expires April 19, 1892.

For NY Times obituary see file: 1916_07_30_NY Times_Ben Truman obit -tb.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Benjamin Cummings Truman (October 25, 1835 - July 18, 1916), was an American journalist and author; in particular, he was a distinguished war correspondent during the American Civil War, and an authority on duels.

He was born in Providence, Rhode Island and attended public school in Providence, followed by a Shaker school in Canterbury, New Hampshire. After a year administering a district school in Merrimack County, New Hampshire, he returned to Providence and learned typesetting. He was a compositor and a proofreader for the New York Times from 1855 to 1859, and later worked for John W. Forney in Philadelphia at the Press, and in Washington, D.C. for the Sunday Morning Chronicle.

When the Civil War began, he became a war correspondent, then declined a commission in 1862 to become a staff aide to Andrew Johnson, military governor of Tennessee, and Generals James S. Negley, John H. King and Kenner Garrard.

From *Duelling in America* 1992:

After the Civil War, Truman had a variety of jobs, serving for a time as a special agent of the Post Office Department on the West Coast, before going back into newspaper work. He shifted into public relations in the 1880's, promoting the state of California both in this country and abroad. After the turn of the century, he toured the Near East as a correspondent.

Besides his journalistic endeavors, Truman wrote numerous books, including several on California history, and even produced two plays. He is best known, however, for his work as a Civil War correspondent. Through energy, resourcefulness, and not a little luck, he was often able to beat his rivals to press with important stories. During his extensive travels in the South, he sent many insightful letters to the *New York Times*, documents that are considered some of the most important resources of the Reconstruction Era.

For his book *The Field of Honor* (1884), Truman collected accounts of significant European and American duels that illustrated the many variations of the *code duello*, as it was then known. The American portion of the book was reprinted as *Duelling in America*.^[1]

Truman owned five newspapers, including the San Diego Bulletin, where he lived for a time. He died on July 18, 1916 in Los Angeles, California.

[edit] References

Dumas Malone, ed. *Dictionary of American Biography*. vol. X, part 1. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, NY. 1964.

Major Ben C. Truman, Steven Randolph Wood, Editor *Duelling in America*. Joseph Tabler Books, San Diego, 1992.

[^] American Heritage article

George Gelette Goucher

(1887-1888), Term expires April 19, 1892

See file 1892_04_17_Letter GG Goucher from Letter from George Gelette Goucher
<http://www.maderacountylibrary.org/wkharchive.html>

GOUCHER, G. G. January 21, 1911 Mariposa Gazette

DEATH OF G. G. GOUCHER.

Once Prominent Attorney and Politician Passes Away.

The death of Senator George Gelette GOUCHER, which occurred at Madera at 11 p.m. of the 16th inst., marks the passing of a man who at one time ranked high among California's citizens of political prominence.

Born in West Virginia on the 12th day of February, 1855, he was as to age, when death's summons was answered, but in the prime of life. While yet in his early youth his family came to California and settled in Napa, where he was reared to manhood and educated as a school teacher.

Senator GOUCHER'S entry into official life was made in 1877, when as a teacher in Bear Valley public school, having prepared himself in the law, he was elected to the office of District Attorney of this county, in which capacity he served until 1885.

As District Attorney, he was called upon to prosecute a number of noted criminal cases, which duty he performed in a manner to establish for himself a name as a fearless and able prosecutor.

Since then, except for the four recent years in which he filled the office of District Attorney of Madera county, his law practice had been chiefly devoted to the defense in criminal actions, and as a criminal lawyer his reputation was state wide.

He was a member of the Assembly, representing Mariposa and Merced counties, in the years 1885-6, and a Yosemite Valley Commissioner in 1887-8. In 1886, while a resident of Fresno, he was chosen to represent the people of Alpine, Mariposa, Mono and Fresno counties in the State Senate and re-elected to the same official position in the year 1890. Endowed with unusual natural ability, a fluent, forceful and eloquent speaker, he at once became a leading spirit in the legislative halls of his adopted state, and wielded an influence among our lawmakers that few could boast of, and many of the laws on our statute books to-day are the direct result of his genius and energy.

He was a man of strong personal character, and a generous nature and unfaltering loyalty to his friends were among his noted characteristics. On the 10th day of July, 1880, and while serving as District Attorney, he was married to Miss Marion S. JONES, daughter of the late Judge L. F. and Mrs. JONES, who survive him, and as a result of this union four children, Allan, Merle, George and Wayne, are living to

mourn with their mother the loss of a husband and father.

The internment was in the Madera cemetery and the last sad funeral rites were said at 2 o'clock p. m. of Wednesday the 18th inst.^{vi}

Hon. GEORGE G. GOUCHER was born in Parkersburg, Virginia, February 12, 1855. His father, James Goucher, came to California in 1850, and three years later returned to Virginia, settled up his business, and in 1855 brought his family to this State, coming via the Isthmus of Panama, and arriving in San Francisco by that celebrated old steamer, Golden Gate, on April 12, 1855. After farming in different localities, he located in Oakland, where he now resides, engaged in the museum department of the State Mining Bureau.

George G. was educated in the public schools of Napa valley, after which, by his own labors in teaching, beginning at the age of sixteen, he was enabled to gain a higher education at the Napa Collegiate Institute at Napa City.

In November, 1875, he went to Mariposa County, and for two years taught the Bear Valley School, in the meantime studying law. He was admitted to practice in 1877, and in the fall of that year, at the age of twenty-two years, he was elected on the Democratic ticket as District Attorney of Mariposa County, and re-elected in 1879 and 1882. At the expiration of his term in 1884, he was elected Assembly-man from the Sixty-seventh associate district, composing the counties of Mariposa and Merced. To make this canvass he declined the nomination of Democratic elector in the Cleveland campaign of that year. When his term expired in 1886, he was elected State Senator from the Thirty-second district, comprising the counties of Alpine, Mono, Mariposa and Fresno, and was re-elected from the same district in 1890. In 1887 Mr. Goucher was appointed by governor Bartlett to fill an unexpired term of the Yo Semite Commission, and was reappointed in 1888 by Governor Waterman for term of four years. After serving one year under the latter appointment, Mr. Goucher resigned in June, 1889. He was a champion of the irrigation bills in both Assembly and Senate, and an earnest worker for the interest of his constituents. He also took a prominent part in the bills pertaining to the mining interests; served as Chairman of the committee on Corporations, on Mines and mining, and on State Prisons; in the Senate he was a member of the Committee on Judiciary.

In speaking of Mr. Goucher's political career, it should be further stated that he has been a delegate to every Democratic State convention since he was twenty-one years of age. In fraternal circles he is also prominent, being associated with the following lodges: Mariposa Lodge, No. 24, F. & A. M., of Oso Lodge No. 110, I. O. O. F., at Bear Valley, and of Mono Tribe No. 68, I. O. R. M., at Fresno.

Mr. Goucher was married in Mariposa, July 10, 1880, to Miss Marion Jones, daughter of Judge L. F. Jones, a prominent lawyer and a member of the last constitutional convention. Mr. and Mrs. Goucher have two children, Allen H. born November 22, 1881, and Merle M., born October 18, 1889.^{vii}

Guardian: Mark L. McCord (1887-1903)

b. ca. 1852; living in San Francisco per 1930 census^{viii}

"W. E. Dennison, Guardian of the Valley, submitted his resignation. The names of two candidates to succeed him were submitted. They were Mark L. McCord and J. M. Hutchings. The balloting resulted in six vote cast for McCord and one for Hutchings, and the former was declared elected. The lucky

candidate was then introduced by Mr. Goucher, who testified to Mr. McCord's integrity and value as estimated from an acquaintance since boyhood.”^{ix}

Was guardian when a tramway to Glacier Point considered and surveyed.^x

From various newspaper references^{xi}:

1890 member of Siebe Republican Club, Odd Fellows, Native Sons of the Golden West; organized building of a large meeting building for the latter in San Francisco.

1896 publically supports journeymen’s union; is member of Master Painters’ Association.

1897 deserts his wife & children, elopes to Australia with Mrs. Lillie Strippel, wife of a fellow lodge member of a fraternal organization. Mrs. McCord sails to Australia and retrieves her husband (& Mrs. Strippel) and apparently their newborn child, and has them both arrested. McCord claims he was never married, but in 1898 Mrs. McCord is granted a divorce on grounds of desertion. McCord marries Strippel in Reno December 20, 1898.

1902 McCord grants property in San Francisco to his 2nd wife, Lillie.

1903 McCord is charged with felony embezzlement and acquitted; counter-sues for malicious prosecution, \$15,000 damages (don’t know outcome).

1905 McCord elected by Native Daughters of the Golden West as secretary of the Holly Park Improvement Club

1911 McCord grants property in S.F. to Lottie and Mildred Strippel (relation unknown)

1931 Marriage of Miss Mary Alline McCord “daughter of Mr. and Mrs Mark L. McCord and was formerly of Australia.”

Joseph G. Eastland (1889-1890), Term expires April 19, 1892

Joseph G. Eastland (b TN) m Alice Lander (b KY) lived CA. In the 1870 Census family living in San Francisco. Joseph was Secty Gas Co. At the time his mother, Josephine, and brother and sister, Andrew and Josephine were living with the couple. Believe Joseph and Alice had two children Thomas and Joseph. Any information appreciated.

Joseph Green Eastland and Alice Lander had four children.

One was born and died in NY in 1872. Ethel died about age 7. Joseph Lander Eastland and Thomas Butler Eastland were the 2 who lived. Joseph Lander died at age 39 as a retired Capt in the US Army. Thomas has descendants living in CA.^{xii}

DEATH OF J. G. EASTLAND. The Millionaire Banker Expires at His Home in Mill Valley. PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY. An Active Life Replete With Wise Benevolence and Marked by Business Success. MILL VALLEY.Cal., Nov.23—Joseph G. Eastland, the well-known millionaire banker, died at his home in Mill Valley to-day after an illness extending over a number of months. Mr. Eastland leaves a widow and two children. While on a trip to the capital of the State last September Mr.Eastland caught what he then supposed was a slight cold, but which afterward proved to be quite serious. He immediately left Sacramento and took up his quarters at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, where he was struck with

paralysis, which affected his entire right side and made his speech difficult and thick. At times it was impossible to distinguish his words and he lay on the bed suffering agonies. After he had been at the hotel for over a month his physician considered him sufficiently recovered to be able to be moved to his home in Mill Valley. He was taken across the bay in an ambulance and arrived here in an utterly helpless condition. It was then thought by his doctor and family that he could not live over a week. During his illness his wife was at his bedside continuously, and where it was possible did everything for the dying man that could be expected of a loving wife. She would give him his medicine and read to him, and in every way try to make his last moments as easy as possible. He passed away to-day as quietly as a child going to sleep, and did not recognize the people at his bedside. Mr. Eastland is a director in the San Francisco Gaslight Company, and was president of the Oakland Gas Company. He was also interested in numerous electric-light and land companies. His passion for seeing every form of electricity impelled him to take the trip to Sacramento when the Native Sons of the Golden West held their grand celebration in honor of the admission of California. Dr. C. F. Buckley has been in constant attendance on him.

Mr. Eastland came to California in the early days, and has been successful in every venture. He was the president of the Tamalpais Land and Water Company, which owns the greater part of southern Marin County. His home in Mill Valley is considered the finest in the county, and in it he has always welcomed his friends with a degree of hospitality seldom shown. He has been connected with many movements for moral advancement and is on the membership-roll of a great many humane societies. Mill Valley will keenly feel his loss, as he was instrumental in securing for it many advantages that it would otherwise never have obtained. He was a leading member of the Mill Valley Country Club, and that organization owes much to his generosity. Mr. Eastland has a wide circle of friends. Yesterday morning it was noticed that he was fast failing, and Dr. Buckley, who had spent the night with him, did not take the early train to the City, as was his custom. He stayed by the millionaire's bedside and watched the dying man as he slowly succumbed to the illness that for months has made him helpless.^{xiii}



SAN FRANCISCO CALL 4/17/1899

[Obit for Mrs. Eastland]

HER DEATH UNEXPECTED.

Mrs. Joseph G. Eastland Dies Suddenly While on a Visit to Los Gatos.

Mrs. Joseph G. Eastland, widow of the well-known capitalist, passed quietly away at Lob Gatos yesterday. The news of her demise will be a sad blow to her numerous friends, as she was beloved by them all. The deceased leaves two sons to mourn her loss. Mrs. Eastland was one of two daughters of Colonel C. C. Landers. Her sister married Dr. Urquhart, who was a surgeon in the United States navy. The deceased was married to Joseph G. Eastland and the union resulted in three children being born to them. A daughter died from Injuries received in a railroad accident, but the sons survive their parents. Her husband was the first secretary of the San Francisco Gaslight Company, and at the time of his death, not many years ago, he was largely interested in the gas works at Oakland. Mrs. Eastland was a distinguished member of society. Her charming and brilliant conversational powers made her a leader in her set. While unostentatious in dress and equipage, she was a lavish entertainer. She was also famed for her charity, and many a poor family to-day will read with regret that their kind benefactress has passed away.^{xiv}

2011 – Nov. 4 [see website for pictures]:

Mill Valley founder Joseph G. Eastland's gracious Tudor-style home was designed by the highly regarded California architect Willis Polk. Polk was a versatile architect, with particular skill in combining classical styles with environmental harmony. He was regarded for his elegant residential work, mainly in mansions and estates, in the Revival style for wealthy and prominent bay area residents. Rumored to be

inspired by Shakespeare's home in Stratford-Upon-Avon in England, Burlwood was constructed between 1889-1893 using local old growth redwood framing and immense, ancient redwood burls to create unique paneling for the walls and doors. Eastland became wealthy through introduction of gas stoves to California in the 1860s and '70s as owner of the Oakland Gas Light Company and Stockton Gas Company. Eastland became director of the San Francisco Savings Union that held a note on the financially beleaguered old Spanish Rancho Sausalito owned by the Throckmorton family. A deal was made, and from the first sale of parcels breaking up Rancho Sausalito in 1890, through 1900 when the town of Mill Valley incorporated, the area was known as Eastland. Local historian Barry Spitz states that Eastland himself coined the name Mill Valley that was finally adopted. It appears that Eastland, in his role at the bank that presided over the sale of the lots known as Eastland, was able to select the best location for himself prior to the auction of the rest. This home, purchased in 1965 by Vasilios and Laura Choulos and now owned by a trust in their children's names and offering the quintessential Mill Valley lifestyle, hasn't been on the market for over 45 years. Located on what is now .81± acres in Cascade Canyon, the home's close proximity to downtown Mill Valley allows for pleasant walks into town for dinner and theater. Mill Valley hosts the annual Mill Valley Film Festival featuring Hollywood stars and directors at the screening of films. The 7 bedroom, 3 bath, 6257 sq. ft., 2 story home has spacious rooms with high ceilings on both levels. Large foyer with amazing redwood staircase with window seats, formal living and dining rooms with redwood paneling, and lounge with access to a large deck along the south side of the home. The grounds contain a sparkling pool, tall redwoods, a level lawn area, and detached garage. Seven bedrooms, three baths, and an opportunity to become part of Mill Valley history.^{xv}

Marcus H. Hecht
(1844 – 1909)

(1889-1890), Term expires April 19, 1892

See Bopp files: 1890_07_28_NY Times_Hecht to MacKenzie ; 1890_08_01_NY Times_RU Johnson to Hecht

Note: listed on wikipedia as Bohemian Club member – tb.

Colonel Hecht:

“NATIONAL GUARD OF CALIFORNIA

Staff.---Lieutenant-Colonel M. H. Hecht, Paymaster...”^{xvi}

Hecht the shoe merchant:

Boston 1875 directory^{xvii}:

53174	Hecht	A. E.	(Hecht Bros. & Co.),	75 Pearl,	house at San Francisco
53175	Hecht Brothers & Co.	(I., J. H., A. E., L. jr., and M. H. Hecht),	boots and shoes,	75 Pearl	
53176	Hecht	Isaac	(Hecht Bros. & Co.),	75 Pearl,	house at San Francisco
53177	Hecht	Jacob H.	(Hecht Bros. & Co.),	75 Pearl,	h. 614 Tremont

MARCUS H. HECHT

MARCUS H. HECHT was born in 1844 in Hainstadt. Grand Duchy of Baden. Germany. He with his father, mother, sisters and brothers emigrated to New York City by way of the Rhine. Rotterdam and

London, the voyage on the Atlantic in a sailing vessel taking thirty-five days. From New York they went to Baltimore, and it was here that Marcus Hecht obtained the rudiments of an education. Through the assistance of his eldest brother, Isaac, who worked hard in order that the younger boys could go to school, he was enabled to advance rapidly in his studies. He was a great reader and had the faculty of retaining what he read. But he, too, put his shoulder to the wheel and helped in the support of the family.

Mr. Hecht first went into the shoe business for himself in Baltimore, and later he moved to Boston where he continued in the same line. His brothers had by this time settled in San Francisco, and at their urgent request he joined them in the sixties and became identified with the firm of Hecht Bros. & Co. For three years he worked for them, but at the expiration of that time he became a member of the firm, consisting of Isaac, Abraham, Jacob, Louis, Jr. and himself. These five brothers soon developed a splendid business and enjoyed prosperity. They established the firm of Buckingham & Hecht, manufacturers of boots and shoes, which continues to the present time as one of the oldest business organizations in California.

Mr. Hecht was married January 19, 1871, to Miss Alice Arnold, who survives him. She was the daughter of Dr. Abraham B. Arnold of Baltimore, a man of great prominence. The following children were born to them: Mrs. Mark Gerstle, Mrs. William Gerstle, Mrs. John Rothschild and Mrs. Julian S. Stein of Baltimore.

Marcus H. Hecht was president of The Emporium Company of San Francisco for several years, and at one time director of the Mercantile Trust Company. He took a great interest in politics, but was dissuaded by his mother from taking up a political career, as she feared he would be required to leave his domestic hearth too frequently. He was a presidential elector when James G. Blaine ran for President, and was a candidate for Congress on the Republican ticket.

Marcus Hecht was a popular man. He made friends readily by his jovial disposition. He was colonel on the staff of General Dimond of the California National Guards for some time, and was generally known as Colonel Hecht. He was widely known as a great extemporaneous speaker. He was a charitable man, and associated with many Jewish organizations. He died June 14, 1909.^{xviii}

Sara Hecht was the daughter of M. H. Hecht, a shoe merchant of German descent, and his wife Alice. In October 1896 she married William Lewis Gerstle (1868-1947), the son of Lewis Gerstle (1824-1892), the Vice President of the Alaska Commercial Company. The Gerstle family was very affluent, having a house on Washington Street in San Francisco, and a summer home in San Rafael. In the late 1920s, William L. Gerstle was the president of the San Francisco Art commission.^{xix}

F. M. Pixley

(1889-1890), Term expires April 19, 1894.



Born in Westmoreland, New York on January 31, 1825. Pixley arrived in California on muleback, and spent two winters at the north fork of the Yuba working the mines. A miner, writer, lawyer, politician and journalist, it was said by some that in his day, he "probably exerted a more commanding influence upon the public mind of California than any other man." After losing his reelection bid for Attorney General, he ventured east to catch a taste of the Civil War. He posed as a California Senator so he could ride side by side with General Grant at the Battle of Cold Harbor. Pixley retired from politics in 1877 to pursue his lifelong dream - newspaper publishing -

creating the weekly publication, the *Argonaut*. He died in San Francisco in 1895 at the age of 70.^{xx}

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:



Frank M. Pixley, founder of *The Argonaut*

Frank Morrison Pixley (January 31, 1825 – August 13, 1895) was an American journalist and politician who served briefly as the [Attorney General of California](#).

Pixley was born in Westmoreland, [Oneida, New York](#). He graduated from [Hamilton College](#) and studied law in [Rochester, New York](#). In 1847, he was admitted to the [Supreme Court of Michigan](#). Two years later he travelled to California during the [Gold Rush](#), and spent two winters working mines on the [Yuba River](#). He met and, in 1853, married Amelia Van Reynegom; the Pixleys lived in the [North Beach](#) area of [San Francisco](#).

Pixley served as the 8th Attorney General of California, from 1860 to 1861. He fought in the [Civil War](#) alongside Union General [Ulysses S. Grant](#) at the [Battle of Cold Harbor](#). In 1868 he was the [Republican](#) candidate for [Congress](#) in California's First District, losing to incumbent [Samuel Beach Axtell](#) by more than 3500 votes.

Pixley and Frank Somers founded [The Argonaut](#) in April, 1877. *The Argonaut* was considered one of the most important publications in California and it had a great deal of political influence. He was friends with former Governor of California [John G. Downey](#), and after the death of Downey's wife introduced him to a much younger woman who wrote for *The Argonaut*, resulting in a minor scandal.

The town of [Pixley](#), in [Tulare County, California](#), is named after Frank Pixley.^{xxi}

John P. Irish

(1889-1892), Term expires April 19, 1894.

[1896]: "The Sentinel Hotel, which is leased by Mr. Glasscock, was found to need repairing two years ago. The Commissioners instructed the Executive Committee which at that time composed of John F. Kidder of Grass Valley, John P. Irish of Oakland, and H. K. Field of San Francisco, to proceed with the work. The Executive Committee was given full power to act, and let all contracts and paid all bills. When they made their report the Commissioners were astounded at the magnitude of the sum expended. The

amount was over \$12,000, nearly treble what the Commissioners expected would be paid. There was some friction in the commission at that time, but it was carefully suppressed, and the only thing that resulted from the little difficulty was the failure of John P. Irish to be re-appointed to succeed himself. It was at the close of the Markham Administration, and John P. Irish was Secretary of the Commission. He wanted to succeed himself, but Governor Markham made a little investigation into the cost of the repairs of the Sentinel Hotel. It did not go very far, and Max Goldberg of San Francisco was appointed to succeed Irish.^{xxii}

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



John P. Irish, tieless

John Powell Irish, known as **John P. Irish**, (1843–1923) was a leader of the Democratic Party in Iowa, a landowner in the [Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta](#) region of California, a fiery and influential public speaker, and an opponent of [prejudice against Japanese](#), the [Chinese Exclusion Act](#) of 1882, [women's suffrage](#) and [labor unions](#). He was, according to U.S. [Interior](#) Secretary [Franklin K. Lane](#), "a fiery orator of the denunciatory type."^[1] He was reckoned as "a leader among editorial writers" of his generation.^[2]

[edit] **Personal life**

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Irish was born to Frederick Macy Irish and Elizabeth Ann Robinson^[3] on January 1, 1843, in [Iowa City, Iowa](#), where he received a "[common school](#)" education. He was married to Annie Fletcher in 1872, and

in 1880 they moved to California.^{[4][5][6]} One headline writer noted in 1899 that Irish at that time was "averse to wearing a necktie."^[7]

Irish was mentioned in three poems in [Ambrose Bierce's](#) book of poetry, *Black Beetles in Amber* (1892). In one poem, the narrator dies and goes to Hell, only to be surprised that the landscape is pleasant and attractive.

"Ah, no, this is not Hell," I cried;

"The preachers ne'er so greatly lied.

"This is Earth's spirit glorified!

"Good souls do not in Hades dwell,

"And, look, there's John P. Irish!" "Well,

The Voice said, "that's what makes it Hell."^[8]

Irish died at the age of eighty on October 6, 1923, from a fall while attempting to board a moving streetcar in [Oakland, California](#). Honorary pallbearers at his funeral on October 9 in the Unitarian church in that city included former California governor [George C. Pardee](#),^[9] [George Shima](#) (known as the Japanese "potato king") and [Ng Poon Chew](#), Chinese editor. The officiating minister was [Charles William Wendte](#).^{[4][5][10]}

[edit] Professional life


[edit] In Iowa

Irish's first job as a seventeen-year-old was that of teacher. At age twenty-one he became editor of the [Iowa City Press](#), where he remained for twenty years. He "developed such ability both as a writer and public speaker that he was soon recognized as one of the leaders of the Democratic party of the state." He was elected three times to represent [Johnson County, Iowa](#), in the state's [General Assembly](#), from 1869 to 1872.^{[4][5]}

He had, as a teacher, seen the harm of electing members of school boards on a partisan ticket, and was the author of the law changing the time of electing school officers from the general to a special election, thus taking their election out of partisan politics.^[4]

He was an elected regent of the [State University of Iowa](#), and in 1871 was instrumental in securing the return of the corpse of a woman [whose body had been stolen](#) from a town cemetery and which resulting "resurrection affair" had been trumpeted by newspapers that attacked the "medical hyenas attending the University." But before the affair died down, two medical students, a janitor and Irish himself were arrested. A [grand jury](#) "declined to find any of them at fault."^[11]



 1884 monument at the Orphans' Home

In 1868, he was the unsuccessful Democratic candidate for Congress in the Fourth District. In 1877 he was the losing Democratic candidate for governor against Governor [John H. Gear](#). He was also a trustee of the [Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home](#).^[4]

About Irish's time in Iowa, ex-journalist [H.C. Parkhurst](#), who had known Irish since boyhood, recalled in an essay titled "Western Newspaper Men," written for the [Nebraska State Historical Society](#):

As a newspaper publisher, fine public speaker, politician and leading citizen of unblemished name, he won attention and respect. With high qualifications for a brilliant political career, he never seemed to "hit things right." There was always something the matter. For various reasons, he "pulled up" and went to California. There he . . . had everything he wanted but political success. That always evaded him."^[12]

[edit] In California

On moving to California in 1880, Irish immediately became editor of the [Alta California](#) newspaper and, after that paper's demise,^[13] became editor and "principal owner" of the [Oakland Times](#).^{[5][14]}



Lassen's Butte in the Sacramento Valley. Etching accompanied Irish's chapter in *Picturesque California*. After 1888, Irish was a contributor to "the most comprehensive visual coverage of the Far West" then available — a printed work called *Picturesque California and the Region West of the Rocky Mountains from Alaska to Mexico*. In the chapter about the [Sacramento Valley](#), for which he was responsible, "John P. Irish implicitly chides those who might denigrate the West by pointing out a wheat field in the irrigated Sacramento Valley nearly twice the size of Rhode Island and worth more than sixteen million dollars, the same amount the federal government paid Mexico in 1848 for California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and parts of Colorado and New Mexico."^[15] He was the Democratic candidate for Congress in the 3rd Congressional District in 1890, losing to [Joseph McKenna](#).

In 1893 Irish was a featured speaker at a Los Angeles meeting of the influential [National Irrigation Congress](#), where he warned the delegates that "we should not look to a paternal government to irrigate our lands for us, but should encourage individual effort."^[16]

Irish, in [Omaha, Nebraska](#), to speak at a meeting of the Jackson Club in January 1894, told a reporter that he and the "California people" were opposed to annexing the [Kingdom of Hawaii](#) because "We know the revolution there was simply a job, largely by those who robbed themselves rich in this country [the United States], and are trying to do the same thing" in Hawaii.^[17]

In 1894 he was appointed Naval Officer of Customs in San Francisco and was thereafter known as "Colonel."^{[4][5]} He was also on the board of the [Yosemite Park](#) commissioners, resigning in 1894.^[18]

Irish helped found the [State Home for the Adult Blind](#),^[19] where he was president of the governing board and for twenty-five years was a director.^[5] In 1912 the institution was investigated upon a charge that Irish had used one of the residents as a "sort of servant at the Irish home," but the claimant apologized to investigators appointed by Governor [Hiram Johnson](#) and shook hands with Irish. "Mr. Irish said the home stood as a model for such institutions, not only in the United States, but in European countries" the Associated Press reported.^[20]

[edit] Gold standard

Irish was one of the Democratic leaders who broke away from [William Jennings Bryan](#) over the latter's stand on [a monetary system based on silver](#), and instead lobbied for a [gold standard](#) for U.S. currency.^[4] He was a member of the executive committee of the [Monetary Congress](#) organized in 1897 in [Indianapolis, Indiana](#), to promote the gold standard.^{[4][21]} He opened a similar meeting in the same city in 1900.^[22]

In September and October 1895 Irish and [Thomas V. Cator](#), who argued in favor of free silver, toured California with a series of debates on the question.^[23] The next year Irish attended the [Democratic National Convention in Chicago](#) but repudiated the national ticket headed by Bryan, whom he called a "raw man, who has achieved nothing in public or private life to fit him for the Presidency — a man who

has won his reputation delivering orations at county fairs and Populist picnics." He called the Democratic platform "a league with larceny and a covenant with murder."^[24]

[edit] Opposed to unions

In October 1882, Irish, by then the "principal owner" of the *Oakland Times*, was attacked by a union printer who attempted to stab him while he was addressing a meeting. The man's anger was said to "have been caused by Mr. Irish employing in his newspaper office 'rats' and non-union printers."^[14]

In a 1906 address to the [Starr King Fraternity of the First Unitarian Church of Oakland](#), Irish assailed "arrogant labor unions" for a rise in [juvenile crime](#) because they were "opposed to the [apprenticeship](#) of the American boy." "I now take the opportunity to say publicly that I never employ any one but a "[scab](#)," he added, "and in that way enter my protest against a system that is driving our young men into lives of idleness."^[25]

In reacting to the [1910 bombing](#) of the *Los Angeles Times*, which killed 21 *Times* employees and where union activists were suspected, Irish wrote to *Times* publisher [Harrison Gray Otis](#):

Organized labor has come to be a synonym for organized crime. Its principles are at war with American institutions and its practices are at war with the rights of man. You have suffered, and your men have fallen, as much in the cause of liberty as if you had been leading them on the battlefield. All honor to your high courage and to their memory.^[26]

In 1913 Irish publicly protested a proposal to exempt unions from the [Clayton Antitrust Act](#) then being debated in the Senate.^[27]

[edit] Against votes for women

Irish gave many speeches in the early 'teens opposed to allowing women to vote. Typical was this 1911 speech reported in the *San Francisco Chronicle*:

The burden of the argument of Irish was that there could not be power without responsibility. Man was the voter because law primarily rested on the power to enforce the law. Woman could not serve on a [posse comitatus](#) or in the army. He did not think any one would want women to be locked up as jurors. There could not be power without responsibility. . . . Irish took [the four suffrage states of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Idaho](#) as horrible examples of what suffrage could bring about. Colorado had more juvenile delinquents in proportion to population than any other state because the women neglected their home duties to do politics, he said.^[28]

During the 1916 campaign for women's suffrage in Iowa, Irish came to Iowa from California to speak against a referendum that would adopt it, but suffragists uncovered favorable comments he had written about votes for women in his early years and circulated them widely. They also "reprinted his editorials written during the [Civil War](#), in which his disloyalty to Lincoln and to the Union was shown. He was much disturbed by this publicity and soon left the State."^[29]

[edit] Favored Japanese and Chinese immigration

As an editor and agriculturalist, "Irish became concerned with the treatment of [people of Japanese descent](#) living in the United States and he wrote, spoke and acted on the behalf of these people for many years. He founded and organized the [American Committee on Justice](#) to further this cause."^[5]

Irish had no regard for Congressman [Thomas J. Geary](#) of San Francisco, who wrote the [Geary Act](#) of 1892, which extended the [Chinese Exclusion Act](#) of 1882 and added onerous new requirements for Chinese residents in the United States.^[13] In December 1907, Irish opened a campaign for repeal of the Exclusion Act with a speech at a gathering of California fruit growers in [Marysville](#). He attacked "San Francisco and unionism" for the "vast injury of fruit interests and other industries in the interior."^[30]



Front cover of his pamphlet

In 1919 Irish published a pamphlet, *Japanese Farmers in California*, in which he repeated the remarks he had made to the 52nd convention of the California Fruit Growers and Farmers that year, saying that When we treated [our treaty with China](#) as a scrap of paper and by the Geary Act excluded thirty thousand Chinese who were legally domiciled here, and by murdering and destroying the property of other Chinese, drove them out, there was created a shortage in farm labor, and this economic vacuum drew in the Japanese, who came protected by a solemn treaty between their government and ours. . . . Against this minute element many of our people are being lashed into a fury of apprehension, hatred and rage. ^{[31][32]}

In 1920 he took on Senator [James D. Phelan](#), who had been prominent in fostering anti-Japanese feeling in California. In a column in the *Los Angeles Times*, Irish wrote that the present anti-Japanese agitation, like the anti-Chinese movement of years ago, has the same psychology as the Russian anti-Jewish pogrom, which always starts with the lie that Jews have murdered Christian children to use their blood in the rites of the synagogue. . . . Senator Phelan . . . has made no record of any benefit to the State in the Senate; so he must divert attention from his uselessness as a Senator by attacking the Japanese and trying to stampede the State by lying about them. ^[33]

[edit] See also

[Florin, California](#), for a statement by Irish about Japanese farmers

[edit] References

[^] [Anne Wintermute Lane and Louise Herrick Wall, editors, *The Letters of Franklin K. Lane*, page 9](#)

[^] ["Joseph Eugene Baker," *Past and Present of Alameda County, California*, volume 2](#)

[^] ["John P. Irish," *Keb/Irish Gazette*, volume 2, issue 2, April 1, 1999](#)

[^] [a b c d e f g h Benjamin F. Gue, *History of Iowa From the Earliest Times to the Beginning of the Twentieth Century*](#)

[^] [a b c d e f g John Powell Irish Papers, Biography, Stanford University](#)

[^] The *Keb/Irish Gazette*, a genealogy site, says of Irish: "On November 8, 1875 he married Anna McClellan and had two sons, Frances on November 11, 1876 and John Peck on October 28, 1881." The site also says, "John later resumed the study and took up the practice of International Law. He was distinguished in appearance and of pleasing address, with a well-rounded figure of more than medium height, light hair, blue eyes and fair complexion." ["John P. Irish," *Keb/Irish Gazette*, volume 2, issue 2, April 1, 1999](#) Another genealogy site gives similar information and adds that Irish "was Ambassador to Port of San Salvador." [Linc & Teri Haymaker](#)

[^] ["Idaho's Governor Is Coming to This City," *San Francisco Chronicle*, August 19, 1899, page 14](#) Access to this link may be restricted.

[^] [OnlineLiterature.com](#)

[^] Misnamed as "Charles C. Pardee" in the source.

^ ["Funeral for Col. J.P. Irish Takes Place," *Los Angeles Times*, October 10, 1923, page 11](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ ["Grave Robbers" at the University of Iowa Medical Museum site](#)

^ [H.C. Parkhurst, "Western Newspaper Men," *Nebraska History*, pages 91 and 92](#)

^ ^a ^b ["Col. Irish Talks," *Los Angeles Times*, October 13, 1893, page 2](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ ^a ^b ["A Journalist Assaulted," *Los Angeles Times*, November 1, 1882, page 1](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ [Sue Rainey, "Picturesque California," *Common-Place.org*, volume 7, number 3, April 2007](#)

^ ["Irrigation," *Los Angeles Times*, October 11, 1893, page 7](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ ["John P. Irish," *Los Angeles Times*, January 8, 1894, page 3](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ [Minutes, June 16, 1894](#)

^ Or the California Blind Directory Home, as one source named it. [John Powell Irish Papers, Biography, Stanford University](#)

^ ["Blind Asylum a Model," *Los Angeles Times*, December 19, 1912 page II-5](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ ["The Monetary Convention, *New York Times*, January 12, 1897](#) Access to this link may require a subscription to the newspaper or its website.

^ ["Gold Democrats in Indiana," *New York Times*, September 28, 1900](#) Access to this link may require a subscription to the newspaper or its website.

^ ["Joint Debate on Money," *San Francisco Call*, September 25, 1895, page 7](#)

^ ["John P. Irish Not a Dynamiter," *New York Times*, July 16, 1896](#) Access to this link may require a subscription to the newspaper or its website.

^ ["The Door of Opportunity," *Los Angeles Times*, February 4, 1906, page VII-4](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ ["Cannot Doubt the Agency," *Los Angeles Times*, October 5, 1910, page 13](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ ["Scores Union Exemption Law," *Los Angeles Times*, July 14, 1914, page 13](#) Access to this link requires the use of a library card.

^ ["Suffragists Hiss John P. Irish," *San Francisco Chronicle*, August 30, 1911, page 2](#) Access to this link may be restricted.

^ [Ida Husted Harper, editor, *The History of Woman Suffrage*, volume 6](#)

^ ["Fruit Growers Score Unions," *Los Angeles Times*, December 5, 1907, page 13](#) Access to this site requires the use of a library card.

^ [OpenLibrary.org](#)

^ [Text of the pamphlet from USArchive.org](#)

^ ["Col Irish on the Japs," *Los Angeles Times*, August 30, 1920, page 15.](#) Access to this site requires the use of a library card.

[edit] External links

[John P. Irish's papers at Stanford University Libraries, Department. of Special Collections and University Archives](#)

ⁱ <http://politicalgraveyard.com/bio/may.html#765.69.02>

ⁱⁱ <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cdnc/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=SFC18970211.1.8&cl=CL2.1897.02&srpos=0&ddiv=none&st=1&e=-en-logical-20--1-----all--->

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://governors.library.ca.gov/17-Waterman.html>

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- ^{iv} Mariposa Gazette, October 15, 1887 transcribed at <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/stonemanhouse1.html>
- ^v http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/L._W._Taber
- ^{vi} <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/DISVIT13.html> :
- ^{vii} <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/gggoucher.html> *HISTORY of CENTRAL CALIFORNIA-----page 550 Lewis Publishing, Chicago, Ill (1892) transcribed by Carolyn Feroben*
- ^{viii} http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?gl=ROOT_CATEGORY&rank=1&new=1&so=3&MSAV=0&msT=1&gss=ms_f-2&gsfn=Mark&gsln=McCord
- ^{ix} Mariposa Gazette, June 14, 1887 transcribed at <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/stonemanhouse1.html>
- ^x http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:23Q7l3r4Dt8J:www.yosemite.ca.us/library/one_hundred_years_in_yosemite/chronology.html+%22Mark+L+McCord%22+death&cd=5&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us: *One Hundred Years in Yosemite (1947) by Carl P. Russell; CHRONOLOGY 1887*
- ^{xi} <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cdnc/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=q&hs=1&r=1&results=1&txq=%22Mark+L+McCord%22&txf=IN&ssnip=&o=20&dafdq=&dafmq=&dafyg=&datdq=&datmq=&datyq=&puq=&e=-----en--20--1---IN-%22Mark+L+McCord----> ; also <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cdnc/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=SDU18970815.2.72&cl=search&srpos=25&dliv=none&st=1&e=-----en-Logical-20--21-byPU---boggs-all---1897> ; <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85066387/1897-08-15/ed-1/seq-10.pdf> ; <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85066387/1902-06-02/ed-1/seq-9/;words=AUSTRALIA+I+MARK+McCord+Mark+L>
- ^{xii} <http://genforum.genealogy.com/eastland/messages/59.html>
- ^{xiii} Obit in Bopp files from <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85066387/1895-11-24/ed-1/seq-7.pdf>
- ^{xiv} <http://genforum.genealogy.com/eastland/messages/50.html>
- ^{xv} <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85066387/1899-04-17/ed-1/seq-7/;words=Joseph+Eastland+g+G+Yosemite>
- ^{xvi} <http://oldhousedreams.com/2011/11/04/1900-tudor-mill-valley-ca-3-495m/>
- ^{xvii} http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sanfranciscodirectory/1892/1892_107.pdf
- ^{xviii} http://www.damrellsfire.com/cgi-bin/directory_search.pl?ds=7&ln=53170
- ^{xix} <http://www.ebooksread.com/authors-eng/martin-a-martin-abraham-meyer/western-jewry-an-account-of-the-achievements-of-the-jews-and-judaism-in-califor-eye/page-11-western-jewry-an-account-of-the-achievements-of-the-jews-and-judaism-in-califor-eye.shtml> : Western Jewry - An Account of the Achievements of the Jews and Judaism in California Including Eulogies and Biographies - The Jews in California By MARTIN A. MEYER, Ph. D. PUBLISHED BY EMANU-EL, SAN FRANCISCO JUNE, 1916 (see Bopp files; Hecht_MH for more)
- ^{xx} http://desturmobed.blogspot.com/2011_08_01_archive.html
- ^{xxi} <http://ag.ca.gov/ag/history/8pixley.php>
- ^{xxii} http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank_M._Pixley
- ^{xxiii} Mariposa Gazette, May 30th, 1896 Transcribed by Tom Phillips for <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/stonemanhouse4.html>

PART TWO, SECTION 5: 1890 – 1895

Gov. 1891-1895: H. H. Markham

Born: November 16, 1840 in Wilmington, New York

Died: October 9, 1923 in Pasadena, California

Married: [Mary Dana](#) on May 17, 1876 in Waukesha, Wisconsin

Political Party: Republican

Biography

Henry Markham was born and raised in a small farming community in upstate New York. He attended public school in Farmington, then Wheeler's Academy in Vermont. Shortly after his graduation from the Academy in 1862, Markham and his brothers moved to Manitowoc, Wisconsin. According to his service records, he worked as a teacher until he enlisted in the army in 1863.

In 1864, Markham participated in [General Sherman's march](#) to the sea. He was severely wounded at the battle of Whippy in 1865. He was discharged from the army in June that year. After the war, Markham returned to Wisconsin to study law and was admitted to the bar in 1867.

In response to an ad in the newspaper, Markham purchased a 23 acre ranch in Pasadena. In 1879, he, his wife and young daughter moved to Pasadena where Markham continued to practice law. Markham served on the school board and helped found the local public library. In addition, Markham was involved in a number of business ventures including part ownership in the Calico Union Mining Company.

Markham was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1885 to 1887. He declined to be a candidate for re-nomination in 1886. During his campaign for Governor, Markham was referred to as "the dashing colonel from Pasadena." California suffered a depression during Markham's term. As a means to attract visitors and new residents to the state, he pressed for a Mid-Winter Exposition in 1894. The event, held in San Francisco, was a huge success.

Family

Father: Nathan B. Markham

Mother: Susan McLeod

Wife: [Mary Dana](#)

Children: Marie, Alice, Gertrude, Genevieve, and Hildreth

Did You Know?

Governor Markham once came upon a woman and her son on the street who had just been evicted from their home for not paying rent. He went up to the door and then walked with the boy to the corner, where he told him that he had seen a key in the lock of the door. When the boy went back to his mother they mounted the steps and found a \$100 bill tucked in the keyhole. Meanwhile, Markham had slipped quietly away.

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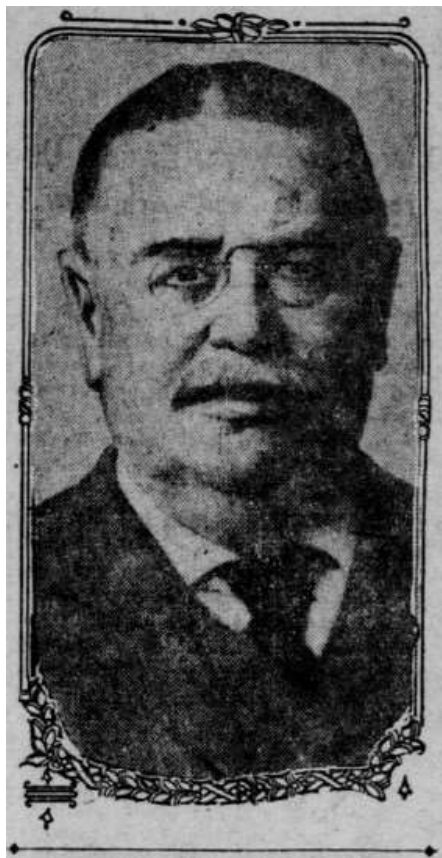
T. S. C. Lowe

(1891-1892), Term expires April 19, 1894.

Thaddeus Sobieski Coulincourt Lowe (August 20, 1832 - January 16, 1913), also known as **Professor T. S. C. Lowe**, was an [American Civil War](#) aeronaut, scientist and inventor, mostly self-educated in the fields of [chemistry](#), [meteorology](#), and [aeronautics](#), and the father of military [aerial reconnaissance](#) in the [United States](#).ⁱ By the late 1850s he was well known for his advanced theories in the meteorological sciences as well as his balloon building. Among his aspirations were plans for a transatlantic flight. Lowe's scientific endeavors were cut short by the onset of the [American Civil War](#). He recognized his patriotic duty in offering his services as an aeronaut for the purposes of performing aerial reconnaissance on the Confederate troops on behalf of the [Union Army](#). In July 1861 Lowe was appointed Chief Aeronaut of the [Union Army Balloon Corps](#) by President [Abraham Lincoln](#). Though his work was generally successful, it was not fully appreciated by all members of the military, and disputes over his operations and pay scale forced him to resign in 1863. Lowe returned to the private sector and continued his scientific exploration of hydrogen gas manufacturing. He invented the [water gas](#) process by which large amounts of hydrogen gas could be produced from steam and charcoal. His inventions and patents on this process and ice making machines made him a millionaire. In 1887 he moved to [Los Angeles, California](#), and eventually built a 24,000 sq. ft. (2,230 m²) home in [Pasadena](#). He opened several ice making plants and founded Citizen's Bank of Los Angeles. Lowe was introduced to [David J. Macpherson](#), a civil engineer, who had drawn up plans for a scenic mountain railroad. In 1891 they incorporated the Pasadena & Mount Wilson Railroad Co. and began the construction of what would become the Mount Lowe Railway into the hills above [Altadena](#). The railway opened on July 4, 1893 and was met with quick interest and success. Lowe continued construction toward Oak Mountain, renamed [Mount Lowe](#), at an exhaustive rate, both physically and financially. By 1899 Lowe had gone into receivership and eventually lost the railway to Jared S. Torrance. Lowe's fortunes had been all but lost, and he lived out his remaining days at his daughter's home in Pasadena where he died at age 80.ⁱⁱ

Charles G. Clinch
(1845-1910)

(1891-1901), Term expires April 19, 1896



BUSINESSMAN IS CALLED BY DEATH

Well Known Paint and Oil Merchant Passes Away After Lingered Illness

Charles G. Clinch, head of the wholesale paint and oil firm of C. G. Clinch & Co., and a prominent businessman of San Francisco for the last 40 years, died at his home at 2310 Buchanan street at 11:30 o'clock Saturday night after a long illness. The funeral will be held from the family residence at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Clinch, who was 65 years old, has been in failing health for several months, but his condition did not become critical until within the last few weeks. He was a very active businessman and did not give in until the very last. He was a Mason and a prominent member of the Bohemian club.

Clinch was born in New York and came to San Francisco about 40 years ago. Here he built up a successful business and amassed a large fortune. He was appointed a member of the Yosemite park commission by Governor Markham and served on this commission for nine years under Governor Markham and Governor Budd.

A widow and two sons survive the deceased. Mrs. Clinch is a sister of Mrs. George R. Wells, and first met her husband while visiting Mrs. Wells in San Francisco 28 years ago. Their wedding occurred at the Wells home and was a notable social event. William Clinch, the eldest son, has been actively engaged in business with his father for some time, while Charles, the younger son, is still in school.ⁱⁱⁱ

C. G. Clinch & Co., Manufacturers and Dealers in paints, Varnishes, Lubricating Oils, Brushes, etc., 144 Davis Street, **San Francisco**

John Flint Kidder (1891-1894), Term expires April 19, 1896.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

John Flint Kidder	
Born	1830 New York City, New York
Died	April 10, 1901 Grass Valley, California
Nationality	U.S.
Spouse	Sarah Kidder
Children	Daughter, Beatrice
Work	
Engineering discipline	Civil engineer
Institution memberships	Officer of the Nevada Territorial Legislature; Debris Commissioner of the California State Mining Bureau
Significant projects	Oregon and California Railroad , Monterey and Salinas Valley Railroad , Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad

John Flint Kidder (1830 - April 10, 1901) was a politician, [civil engineer](#) and [railroad](#) executive who built and later owned [Northern California's Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad](#) (NCNGRR) which, during its operation, never experienced an attempted robbery.^[1]

[edit] Early years

Kidder's ancestors came to America before the [American Revolution](#). He was born in [New York City, New York](#) in 1830, and moved in 1840 to [Syracuse, New York](#) with his parents.

Kidder attended [Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute](#) in 1846-47, but did not graduate.^[2]

[edit] Career

Kidder began his engineering career in 1849.^[3] For several years, until 1860, he was a city engineer in Syracuse.^[4]

In 1861, he headed west for Government service, becoming an officer of the [Nevada Territorial Legislature](#)^[5] in which he surveyed the boundary from Lake Bigler to [Honey Lake](#), followed by a survey south of Lake Bigler the following year.^[6] On July 8, 1862, the Governor appointed Kidder as Surveyor of [Esmeralda County, Nevada](#).^[7]

In 1863, the Houghton-Ives Commission hired Kidder to survey the California/Nevada state line with Kidder representing the interests of California.^[8] The following year, on April 4, he was appointed County Surveyor of [Nye County, Nevada](#), a position he held until September when an elected official took over the position.^[9]

He moved to [El Dorado County, California](#) in 1864, remaining for four years. While there, he served as a Member of [California's 15th State Assembly district](#) during the period of 1865-1867.^{[10][11]} After El Dorado County, he lived jointly in Sacramento and Nevada until 1868 when he moved to Oregon, and in 1871, he moved to [Washington Territory](#). From 1873-1875, he lived in [Solano County, California](#) and [Monterey County, California](#), and in 1875, moved to [Grass Valley, California](#).^[3] Kidder took over as building engineer of the [Oregon and California Railroad](#), completing it on Christmas Eve, 1869.^[12] He also supervised the building of a portion of the [Central Pacific Railway](#),^[1] and served as the Central Pacific's location engineer.^[13] In 1874, he was the building engineer on the [Monterey and Salinas Valley Rail Road](#), the first [narrow gauge railway](#) in California.^{[1][14]} Later in the same year, he became chief engineer to construct the NCNGRR from [Nevada City, California](#), through Grass Valley, to [Colfax, California](#) where it connected with the Central Pacific Railway.^[1] Construction was completed in 1876 and Kidder became the railroad's General Superintendent by 1877.^[15] He went on to become the railroad's President in 1884,^[16] along with Secretary, Treasurer, and made his family the Board of Directors.^[17] He owned four mines, and was a multi-millionaire.^[18]

[edit] Later years

Kidder, a Republican, was involved in [State](#) and County Central Committees. He was a delegate to the [1892 Republican National Convention](#), where he cast the only vote for Ohio's [William McKinley](#),^[3] the Permanent Chair of the convention.

Governor [Robert Waterman](#) appointed Kidder to the position of [Yosemite Valley](#) Commissioner.^[3] In 1893, Kidder was appointed State Debris Commissioner by the California State Mining Bureau, a position he held until his death.^{[3][19]}

Though Kidder became the first Exalted Ruler of the Grass Valley [Elks Club](#) in 1900,^[20] he continued his membership in Syracuse's [Masonic Lodge](#) even after leaving 40 years earlier.^[3]

In April 1901, suffering from [diabetes](#), Kidder died at his home in Grass Valley.^[3] His wife [Sarah Kidder](#) succeeded him as President of the NNGRR, becoming the first female railroad president in the world.^[1]

[edit] Family

Kidder married Sarah A. Clark of Ohio in 1874.^[3] From 1875, they lived on Bennett Street in Grass Valley^[16] where he collected paintings and a large collection of books. He had a family orchard across from the Grass Valley train depot where he grew a variety of produce.^[21]

Kidder and his wife had one adopted daughter, Beatrice, who married Howard Ridgely Ward in Grass Valley in 1905.^[22] The Wards had two children both daughters, Elizabeth K. Ward born in about 1907 and Beatrice H. Ward born in about 1908 but died sometime between 1910^[23] and 1917.^[24]

[edit] Historic recognition

Honoring Kidder, who built Grass Valley's first modern house and first concrete sidewalk,^[19] the [Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus](#) planted three trees for the Kidder family in Grass Valley's Clamper Square.^{[16] iv}

Nevada County

Biographies

JOHN F. KIDDER

The era of progress and development in the various sections of this great western republic of ours has been almost invariably ushered in by railroad construction, and the vast network of glistening rails that trace their parallel course over mountains and plains and through the fertile valleys represent more than corporate enterprise and accomplishment, since the railroad has proved the avant-courier of civilization and of that substantial and permanent improvement which has placed our national commonwealth upon a stable foundation. Railroad operations in the United States represent one of the most complex and yet one of the most perfect systems which it is possible to imagine, and in the

various details are demanded men who are alive to the responsibilities placed upon them, and possessed of that mentality and technical knowledge which will enable them to discharge their duties effectively. The great railroading industry is one which retains many men of marked ability, and among those who have contributed in no small measure to the success of operations in these lines is the subject of this review, who has been active in connection with railroad building in the west and is now the general manager of the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad, his home being in Grass Valley.

Mr. Kidder is a native of New York City, born July 2, 1830, and his father, Levi Kidder, was born in Massachusetts and was an educator of considerable note in his early life. Later he engaged in business as a shipping merchant and during the year 1836, while visiting Charleston, South Carolina, with a cargo of goods, he suffered sunstroke which caused his death. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elvira Parker, was also a native of Massachusetts and a descendant of one of the old and influential families of New England, tracing their ancestry back in direct line to Theodore Parker. Her death occurred in 1893. John Flint Kidder, the elder of her two children, was reared in the city of his birth. He acquired his preliminary education there, which was completed by a collegiate course in Rensselaer University, in which he was graduated in 1847, having completed the civil-engineering course. He afterward held the position of city engineer of Syracuse, New York, and was also the superintendent of streets for some years.

In 1860 Mr. Kidder came to the west, locating at Carson City, Nevada, whence he afterward removed to Portland, Oregon, where he engineered and built a portion of the Northern Pacific Railroad, making the survey and superintending the construction of the line from Kalama, Washington, for a distance of sixty miles. He also located the Nevada County Narrow Gauge from Colfax, California, to Grass Valley, doing the work under contract, and in 1876 was appointed superintendent of the road, which was built and equipped at a cost of six hundred and forty-one thousand dollars. The road is twenty-three miles in length and was incorporated April 4, 1874. At the time the new charter went into effect the line was sold, Mr. Kidder becoming the purchaser, and at the present time he owns the greater part of the stock.

In his political views Mr. Kidder is a Republican and is very active and earnest in the support of the principles of the party. His labors have been effective in promoting the growth of the organization, and on the Republican ticket he was elected and served as a representative from El Dorado County in the state legislature in 1866. He has also held a number of important state offices by appointment of the governor, and in all these positions has discharged his duty in a most able and creditable manner. Socially he is connected with the Masonic Lodge of Syracuse, New York, and has taken the Royal Arch degree. He also belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Grass Valley.

In May, 1873, Mr. Kidder was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Clark, a lady of culture and refinement who presides most graciously over her hospitable home. She is a native of Iowa and a daughter of Joshua Clark, an Oregon pioneer. Mr. and Mrs. Kidder now have one child, Beatrice. Their residence, which is conveniently located near the depot, is one of the finest in northern California. It was erected thirteen years ago at a cost of many thousand dollars. It is built in a pleasing style of architecture, is finished throughout in hard wood and supplied with all modern conveniences. It is both richly and tastefully furnished and contains many handsome pieces of old furniture, some of which have been in existence for one hundred and fifteen years. The large library is composed of rare and valuable works, as well as the more modern volumes, and indicates the literary taste of the owner who therein spends many of his most pleasant hours. The grounds are beautifully adorned with shrubs and flowering plants and the home is one of the most attractive in this section of the state. Mr. Kidder is a man of the highest business integrity, of the utmost loyalty in matters of citizenship, and of a genial and social nature, manifesting in his relations with his fellow men those sterling characteristics which in every land and in every clime command respect.^v

Henry K. Field (1891-1896), Term expires April 19, 1896

Henry K Field, president Royal Manufacturing Co.^{vi} Also (later) insurance executive for New England Financial: "A major earthquake and fire in San Francisco killed one of the three sons of Henry K. Field, company General Agent, and destroyed the Mills Building which housed the agency. The home office and his fellow general agents helped Field restore and recreate his office records and his supply of sales promotion materials. The company granted California policyholders a temporary extension of 90 days on all quarterly notes and interest payments and 60 days additional grace on all premiums due or to become due within the three months after April 23, 1906...Russell Field survived the earthquake in San Francisco and helped his father Henry K. Field restore the general agency to active business, 1906."^{vii}

George B. Sperry (1891-1894), Term expires April 19, 1896
Superintendent of Sperry Flour Co.^{viii}

Max Goldberg (1893-1897), Term expires April 19, 1896.

[1896]: "The Sentinel Hotel, which is leased by Mr. Glasscock, was found to need repairing two years ago. The Commissioners instructed the Executive Committee which at that time composed of John F. Kidder of Grass Valley, John P. Irish of Oakland, and H. K. Field of San Francisco, to proceed with the work. The Executive Committee was given full power to act, and let all contracts and paid all bills. When they made their report the Commissioners were astounded at the magnitude of the sum expended. The amount was over \$12,000, nearly treble what the Commissioners expected would be paid. There was some friction in the commission at that time, but it was carefully suppressed, and the only thing that resulted from the little difficulty was the failure of John P. Irish to be re-appointed to succeed himself. It was at the close of the Markham Administration, and John P. Irish was Secretary of the Commission. He wanted to succeed himself, but Governor Markham made a little investigation into the cost of the repairs of the Sentinel Hotel. It did not go very far, and Max Goldberg of San Francisco was appointed to succeed Irish."^{ix}

E. P. Johnson (1893-1896), Term expires April 19, 1898

Harry James Ostrander (1893-1896), Term expires April 19, 1898

(1825-1913) H.J. (Harry James) Ostrander was born in Smithfield, Madison County, New York on October 7th, 1825. In the winter of 1848 Mr. Ostrander left New York for San Francisco, by way of Mexico. He arrived in California around June 10th, 1849 and reached the mines of the Tuolumne River by July. He and his partner found and named Indian Bar mining camp. They also established a store and helped organize damming and canal companies. In 1850 Mr. Ostrander left mining in pursuit of farming and raising stock on the South bank of the Merced River. His was the first irrigated farm in the San Joaquin Valley. In 1872 Mr. Ostrander was chosen the first president of the Farmers' Canal Company. He also served as the President of the Merced County Agricultural Society, and Yosemite Park Commissioner.^x

Gov. 1895-1899: James Budd

Born: May 18, 1851 in Janesville, Wisconsin

Died: July 30, 1908 in Stockton, CA

Married: [Inez Merrill](#) on October 29, 1873

Political Party: Democrat

Biography

In 1858, the Budd family moved from Wisconsin and resided first in Old Liberty, then Woodbridge. They finally settled in Stockton in 1861. Budd graduated with the first four-year class from the University of California at Berkeley in 1873, the same year he married Inez A. Merrill. After graduating from college, he studied law in his father's office and was admitted to the bar in 1874.

Budd always had a strong interest in politics. In 1882, Budd accepted his party's nomination as congressman for his district. It was believed that Budd had little chance of winning the seat, but he conducted a whirlwind campaign by buckboard, a type of carriage, from house to house. He defeated his opponent by a vote of 20,229 to 19,246.

In 1894, Budd was selected as the democratic gubernatorial candidate. In protest of the Southern Pacific Railroad, Budd campaigned for Governor by again using a buckboard carriage. Though touted as a hero during his campaign (when he put out a fire at a meeting and later saved a girl from a kicking horse), his efforts were slightly marred by the rehashing of an old scandal. Budd survived the scandal and was the only Democrat to win state office that year.

Budd died at the age of 57. At Budd's funeral, Governor James Gillett stated that, "...he was one of California's best Governors and was always fearless and independent in the discharge of his duties."

Family

Father: J.H. Budd

Mother: Lucinda Budd

Wife: [Inez Merrill](#)

Children: None

Did You Know?

When he was in his office, Budd would hang a sign on the door that read, "Jim's in."

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[Note: the following from the Mariposa Gazette gives insight regarding partisanship influencing the makeup of the Board].

[5/30/1896]: The annual meeting of the Yosemite Valley Commissioners, which will be held in the Valley on June 2d, will be enlivened by Governor Budd's remarks on the amount of money the Commissioners expended in repairing the Sentinel Hotel. In addition the Governor will express forcible views as to how the valley should be run, the way in which hotel and stage line concessions are granted, the amount of money expended and the poor results obtained therefrom in the general management of the valley, the way in which the commissioners have been accepting pass favors from the one stage line into the valley for their friends, and other matters of like import.

The Sentinel Hotel, which is leased by Mr. Glasscock, was found to need repairing two years ago. The Commissioners instructed the Executive Committee which at that time composed of John F. Kidder of Grass Valley, John P. Irish of Oakland, and H. K. Field of San Francisco, to proceed with the work. The Executive Committee was given full power to act, and let all contracts and paid all bills. When they made their report the Commissioners were astounded at the magnitude of the sum expended. The amount was over \$12,000, nearly treble what the Commissioners expected would be paid.

There was some friction in the commission at that time, but it was carefully suppressed, and the only thing that resulted from the little difficulty was the failure of John P. Irish to be re-appointed to succeed himself. It was at the close of the Markham Administration, and John P. Irish was Secretary of the Commission. He wanted to succeed himself, but Governor Markham made a little investigation into the cost of the repairs of the Sentinel Hotel. It did not go very far, and Max Goldberg of San Francisco was appointed to succeed Irish.

Governor Budd has taken hold of this old matter and will make it the text of a lecture. The terms of four Commissioners—George R. Sperry^{xii} of Stockton, H. K. Field of San Francisco, C. G. Clinch of San Francisco, and John Boggs of Colusa—expire at the meeting in the valley and Governor Budd will have an opportunity to appoint four Democrats all of the retiring commissioners except Boggs being Republicans. Governor Budd has announced that he will make the board half and half and as the four hold-overs are Republicans he will be privileged to appoint four Democrats. If this is done the Board will then be Democratic for the Governor holds the controlling vote. This may mean the retirement of John F. Sheehan, the Secretary.

Governor Budd will hint that to be Yosemite Valley Commissioner does not mean that the place shall be used as a vehicle for extending to friend courtesies obtained at the expense of the Commissioners. The lack of competition in the valley, the way in hotel proprietors have closed their hotels and forced travel into one hotel, the general expense attached to the average trip, caused by the lack of competition and the monopolistic way in which the valley is run will be commented upon by Governor Budd, who thinks that the Yosemite Valley should be operated for the benefit of the people. Most of the Commissioners are bracing themselves for the shock they are sure will come. John P. Irish says that he knows nothing about a Gubernatorial investigation into the affairs of the valley, in which he had been directly interested.

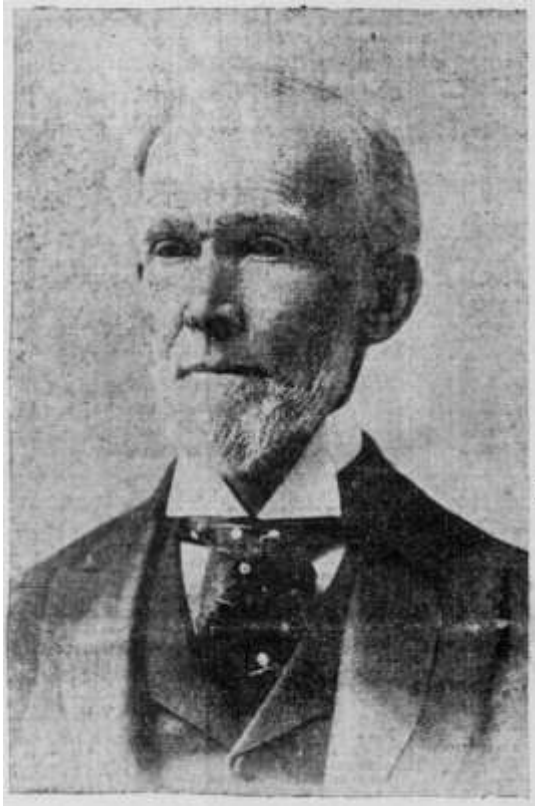
"The construction of the Sentinel Hotel," said John P. Irish last night, "was accomplished by the rebuilding of a ramshackled structure." The Commissioners said that it was a desirable location. The improvements consisted of roofing lathing and plastering, the construction of a permanent foundation—and in brief they made a new building. The hotel was needed. The Eastern and foreign tourists who visited the valley were accustomed to living on the European plan, and they had no such conveniences at the other hotel. The Stoneman House is a large, four-story affair built on the seashore resort plan, and altogether not adapted for service where there is no gas and no fire apparatus and no insurance. "It was built at a cost of \$40,000. A little joker in the Act of the Legislature providing for it makes it impossible to derive more than 3 per cent income from it. The rental to the State is only \$1,200 a year. The Sentinel House cost for rebuilding \$12,000. The rental was \$800 a year, or nearly 7 percent on the investment. This speaks for itself. I do not know what Governor Budd can find to investigate. — Examiner."^{xiii}

Charles S Givens (1895-), Term expires April 19, 1898

John Boggs (1895), Term expired

Senator John Boggs (1829–1899), born in Missouri, came to Colusa County in 1854 and bought 6,000 acres (24 km²) of Rancho Larkin's Children [old Mexican land grant]. In 1866 he was elected to the [California State Senate](#) and died in office. -- [Charles Davis McComish](#), 1918, History Of Colusa County, Historic Record Company, Los Angeles, CA^{xiv}

Obit:



John Boggs. one of the foremost of that band of hardy pioneers by whose efforts California was wrested from the wilderness and added to the galaxy of States, was summoned by the grim destroyer yesterday morning, and the summons found him ready, though it came without a second's warning. Senator Boggs, for the decedent represented the Eighth Senatorial District in the State Legislature, had been ill for some days. The severe- weather at Sacramento during the first fortnight of the session left him with a bad cold, and two weeks ago, accompanied by his wife and daughter, Senator Boggs came to San Francisco expecting to find the climatic conditions more beneficial than at his Colusa County home. The family took apartments at the Palace Hotel and there death came upon him. What was at first merely a cold developed into an attack of the grip, with accompanying complications, which to a man of his advanced years proved most trying.

Senator Boggs partially recovered, however and all day last Sunday he seemed to be greatly improved—so much so that he contemplated returning to Sacramento at an early day. Yesterday morning, though not quite so well, he arose about 8 o'clock and dressing himself sat down by the fireplace in his apartments. An hour later something in his attitude attracted the attention of Mrs. Boggs who upon going to her husband's side found him in an unconscious condition. Supposing he had fainted, she summoned Dr. Philip K. Brown, who had attended Senator Boggs during his illness. The doc answered the call in a few minutes and found that life was extinct. Without a sign he had passed away in the presence of his wife and daughter, Miss Alice, so peacefully that when they went to him before the physician came and gave his fateful verdict they did not suspect the truth. Just before his wife went to him he had a paroxysm of coughing and it is the doctor's opinion that a slight hemorrhage ensued, causing a clot to form on the heart, which instantly stopped its pulsations. Besides his widow and

daughter, Senator Boggs leaves two sons, Frank, who is connected with the Union Trust Co. of Stockton, and Frederick, who supervises his father's great agricultural interests in Colusa County. Both were summoned by telegraph and arrived in this city last evening.

During the day a large number of friends called upon the stricken wife and daughter to offer their condolences, among them being General and Mrs. Chipman and Senator Williams.

About a year ago Senator Boggs purchased a lot in Cypress Lawn Cemetery, and there the remains will be interred Wednesday morning. Services will be held at 9 o'clock in the apartments at the Palace, conducted by Rev. R. C. Foute of Grace Church. At the conclusion of the services the body will be taken to the funeral train and borne to the cemetery. It is Mrs. Boggs' wish that the services be conducted without ostentation and her wishes will be respected. Friends are invited to be present and it is probable that a committee of both houses of the Legislature will be in attendance.

John Boggs had seen all the changes that have come to California pass before him, like a procession. He was of good farm-bred stock, and of a family noted in the public history of Missouri from the frontier period of that State. It gave to Missouri a Governor, who survived the attempt of a Mormon assassin to kill him; a rugged and brave man after the traits of the family.

John Boggs, with an early set of that energy that was with him to the last, secured a good education, and then followed the frontier that followed the sun, and arrived in California in the high and mighty mining days of 1849, and since then until his death has been a vital part of the State's best force of enterprising men. All of his business tact and skill was put into farming. Of a race of planters, he turned in the way of his forbears to the soil. At Princeton, in the Sacramento Valley, he owned a principality, and farmed it as carefully as if it were ten acres. The value of his example will appear in his method as a farmer. On his vast holding he produced everything that land can yield for the market and is needed to support those who till it. His great force of workmen was always fed on the best of bacons, hams, fresh meats and cured, raised on the ranch. Every domestic fowl that can flourish and yield food was produced there. All that the garden, orchard, vineyard and dairy have to give was there. This is worthy of mention because variety farming is not the practice in California and the State suffers because it is not. Its fruits in his case were impressive, for year after year the profits of his ranch reached a hundred thousand dollars.

He was a working farmer. Although always of slight physique his hand knew the plow handle, snath and sickle. He loved to do a day's work on the land, and knowing a day's stint, exacted no more from any man that ever toiled in his fields. With all his skill and industry and success as a farmer, John Boggs had his family's talent for public life, and kept a current interest in it, without abandoning himself from his calling.

Long and usefully, connected with the State Agricultural Society as director and president, he served as Regent of the State University and later of Stanford University, and there applied the academic training of his early life. Twice elected to the State Senate, he died in that official harness.

Senator Boggs was first elected to the State Senate in 1870, serving four years, and was returned again to the upper house in 1875. From 1876 to 1880 he was a director of the Napa State Insane Asylum, and from the latter year until 1892 he was a member of the State Board of Agriculture, in which capacity he rendered invaluable aid to the State. He was appointed Penology Commissioner in 1885, and State Prison Director during 1885-87. He also served on the Board of Yosemite Valley Commissioners.

He never got through helping other men to help themselves. Always a busy man, he turned the most willingly from his own affairs to help others in need and trouble, but only he and they knew it, for he was utterly without ostentation in his charities and in all things. Always approachable, genial, thoughtful of others, he had the natural dignity of a gentleman and never lost it.

He bore his years so well that the news of his death painfully impresses the entire State. Not many of our men of affairs could go and be as sincerely mourned.^{xv}

HON. JOHN BOGGS.

There are few men in this State who seem to have been so specially fitted into their surroundings and to have so justified their position therein as the Hon. John Boggs. Whether as pioneer or miner; as a stock-raiser, introducing new and blooded varieties of horses, cattle, and sheep; or as a farmer, on an extensive scale pursuing this branch of industry, with a system all his own; or in his public service to his county and State, his example, skill, prescience, and devotion to public duty, might well be termed special providences for Colusa County, for, apart from what they have already accomplished in the development of this region, they have served not a little to assist, stimulate and encourage his fellow-citizens, and will linger years hence both as incentives and an inspiration. The sympathetic and forceful impact of his career is a part of the history of this county's first steps in progress.

John Boggs is the son of Robert W. and Abbie Carr, and was born in July, 1829, at Potosi, Missouri. His father was one of the owners and incorporators of the Iron Mountain, near his native place, so justly celebrated for its extensive deposits of iron ore. At the age of ten years, young Boggs moved with his parents to Howard County, Missouri, where he attended the public school for several years. Later on he followed a course of studies in Fayette College, in the town of Fayette. Here he might have continued till thoroughly equipped for graduation, had not the alluring news of the wonderful discoveries of gold in California aroused within him an insatiable desire to participate in the stirring adventures of the gold hunters and at the same time amass wealth. So, dropping his books and closing his desk, he bade farewell to collegiate honors not very remote, if he had seen fit to wait for them.

On April 9, 1849, in company with some young men of his own age and of the same college, young Boggs set out for California. Among his companions were General John B. Clark, afterwards a member of Congress from Missouri, and Hon. John Morrison, subsequently a prominent man in the public affairs of the same State. This party crossed the Missouri River at Fort Kearny, and while camped at this point united with another company hailing from Clay County, Missouri, and bound for the same destination. Among their new-found companions were men who, in after years, made their mark in the new State towards which their steps were tending. Some of these were: Hon. Laban Searce, of Orland; Hon. J. Woodson James, of Paso Robles Springs; and James A. Douglas, formerly sheriff of Yolo County. The route across the plains of these adventurers was the old Carson road by Sublett's cut-off. After several months of exposure and fatigue, which only served to impart added enjoyment to the daring young spirits, they arrived, on August 18, 1849, at Weber Creek, in Placer County, near old Hangtown, which name, as everybody is aware, has long since been transformed into something less somber, with less of picturesque depravity in it, by calling the place Placerville.

Boggs and Clark being very warm friends, they concluded, now that their journey was practically at an end, to stick together and go on ahead of the rest of the company. The world was now all before them. A wilderness of mountain range and broad, inhospitable plains stretched between them and home. Here was the first parley before the first battle of life. What to do in this strange country, so new that it was almost unblemished with civilization? What to do with only about five dollars as the joint capital stock of these two sturdy, raw young men? Why, do the first thing that turns up, and this is precisely what these sensible pilgrims immediately proceeded to do.

They started for Sacramento and arrived there with just "six bits" in their wallet. Tired and weary on the night of their coming, they lay down and rested under the dense foliage of trees where Fifth and K Streets are now designated. The next day they found employment in assisting in the surveying and laying out of the principal part of the city, in streets, blocks and lots. It was hard work measuring the land and driving corner stakes on what was to be great thoroughfares in the future capital city of this new El Dorado. The heat was intense. The land was a thick jungle and Mr. Boggs will always vividly recall August 25, when he was engaged in cutting brush between J and K Streets so as to take observations. The brush and vines grew so thickly that a breath of air could scarcely penetrate. The task became almost suffocating, but the pay was sixteen dollars per day, and young men, full of lusty vigor, and with a purpose in life, could afford to sweat for this.

The two friends worked here a month, and, having now earned a stake, they turned longingly to the mines. They worked in these at Coloma and on Weber Creek, with fair success, for a short time. Winter coming on, they built a cabin at Hangtown and mined in that vicinity till March, 1850, and then went to Sacramento again. Here the two companions parted, Clark going to the Redding diggings, now in Shasta County, while Boggs joined a party, consisting of J.L. Morrison, J. Criglar, and others, bent on mining. They procured a camping and mining outfit and provisions, and with two pack-mules to carry their stores, they set out for Deer Creek, where Nevada City now stands. Boggs was one of a party who gave the name to this prosperous mining town. Here he mined betimes but was chiefly occupied in packing provisions and supplies between Nevada City and a little camp on the South Fork of the Yuba. The distance between those places was twenty miles, and one dollar per pound was the tribute paid to mule-power in those days. He continued in this lucrative employment till July 1, 1850.

It was now, at this point in Mr. Boggs' career, that, with some capital to operate with, he first displayed that business foresight and judgment which have proved since to be among his most prominent characteristics. He had learned from experience how jaded and broken down are the animals that have made the long march from the Missouri River, though most of this stock was usually selected for both blood and endurance. He had heard that an army of immigrants was hastening pell-mell from the Atlantic States, and that consequently their stock would arrive in a sorry plight and almost exhausted condition. They would, of course, be sold for a trifle; nay, their owners would look upon any offer as a bargain, since they would abandon them altogether on arriving, rather than be encumbered with them on their hurried, tumultuous, and sometimes disorderly rush for the mines. These animals could be turned out and pastured on the rich wild grasses, rested and recruited and in a few months be restored to their wonted strength and usefulness. Herein Mr. Boggs saw the opportunity of his life, one which became the basis of his present comfortable fortune. What he sought now was a place on which to herd and feed these animals after they were purchased.

For this purpose he went, in July, 1850, to Cache Creek, just above where the town of Yolo has since sprung up. It was then a wilderness, uninhabited, save by two men, Wm. Gordon and Mat. Harbin, the latter then living near where is now located the town of Woodland. Here Boggs settled down, erected a cabin, and, after seeing to other preliminaries, he returned to Hangtown to intercept the immigrants now swarming in. He bought their poor, tired, distressed stock at very low figures. He drove them very slowly, pasturing them as they moved along, to his place in Yolo County. He herded them all winter, saw them recover and even grow fat, and when spring came he had four hundred head of horses and mules, which he disposed of at Sacramento, at one thousand per cent profit. Mr. Boggs continued in the stock business till the summer of 1854, when he came to Colusa County and purchased six thousand acres of the Larkin's Children's Grant, his present home, than which there is no finer in the county.

From this period up to 1871 Mr. Boggs was largely engaged in the buying and selling and raising of stock, and as a breeder of Jersey cattle and trotting horses hee has been foremost. He is regarded as one of the best judges of thoroughbred stock in the United States. In 1868 he began wool-growing on an extensive scale, importing the finest breeds at great expense to mix with his vast flocks. His attention,

however, has been, since 1871, almost entirely devoted to grain-farming and the securing of large tracts of land to plant thereon. Believing, as he does, that horticulture is the coming industry or source of wealth in this county, he is preparing to occupy himself therewith, at the same time still continuing to conduct grain-farming and stock-raising. Mr. Boggs' home place, on the Sacramento River, ten miles north of Colusa, consists of one thousand acres of land, as fair and fertile as sun ever ripened. It could hardly be expected that one who had achieved success so early in an active life, who had manifested so much good sense and sagacity in the conduct of his private affairs, and against whose good name no finger had ever reflected a shadow, should be permitted to hide his talents in the seclusion of a great wheat or stock ranch. Peculiarly necessary and profitable to the community would be the services of such a gentleman to Colusa County in her early immature and formative period. John Boggs has never been termed a selfish man; far from it; he is generous and obliging to a fault, and so whenever he has felt that he could spare time from his own manifold affairs, his friends and neighbors and fellow-citizens generally have been found waiting and only too willing to employ his services in public positions.

Mr. Boggs' public career began in 1859, when he was elected Supervisor of Colusa County, being a member of the first Board of which there is any official record. He served in this capacity continuously till 1866. It was during these years that form and shape were given to this county's affairs, that its machinery was adjusted and put in motion, and in which the counsels, tact and patient intelligence of Mr. Boggs are matters of public appreciation as well as of record. It was during his term of service that the present court-house was built. Mr. Boggs retired from this position at his own instance only to be called higher a brief period later to serve his county and State in the State Senate. He was twice chosen to this office, first in 1870 and afterward in 1866. He has, besides, held other offices of great responsibility at the hands of various Chief Executives of the State. Governor Irwin appointed him one of the trustees of the Napa Insane Asylum, Governor Stoneman made him a member of the Board of State Prison Directors, of which commission he was president, and it is a matter of congratulation for the entire State that during Mr. Boggs' incumbency of this position there were no scandals attached to the proceedings of this Board. Mr. Boggs has been, for a number of years, an active member of the State Board of Agriculture, and is also a member of the State Board of Trade, representing Colusa County, and is a trustee of the Leland Stanford, Jr., University.

While he is a staunch friend of irrigation, and favors the progress and completion of the works of the Central Irrigation District he opposed being included in the Colusa District, because he possessed a system of irrigation of his own, and his neighbors similarly situated likewise made opposition, and for the same reason. In speaking of the irrigation system which at present obtains, Mr. Boggs said: "I deem the present Wright law very defective and the system an expensive one. To be successful the law much be amended, to be almost anew."

In everything pertaining to the welfare of his locality, county and State, Mr. Boggs knows neither flinching nor fatigue. To each subject he brings his active sympathies, a strong will-power, courtesy and diplomatic tact, a combination almost invincible. At his home he was among the first and ablest advocates in hastening the extension of railroad facilities into his own county, and was also one of the incorporators, and a member of the first Board of Directors of the Colusa County Bank, a position which he yet occupies. He is likewise a large stockholder in the Bank of Willows. In politics he is a pronounced Democrat, fighting vigorously for his friends, giving and taking blows in that courteous, amicable, yet firm way which distinguishes the gentleman seeking the public good from the blatant political mercenary seeking self. After a political campaign there is nothing of rancor left over for John Boggs to brood over or satisfy. He is as forgiving to his personal opponents as he was earnest in antagonizing them. In private life Mr. Boggs is generous and hospitable. He has a warm spot in his heart especially for the "old-timers," which does not preclude, however, the later arrivals from sharing in its genial warmth,

much less from receiving that judicious counsel and ever neighborly and material assistance he is willing at all times to extend the deserving.

Mr. Boggs was married, in Sacramento, in November, 1870, to Miss Louisa E. Shackleford, of Georgia, by whom he had three children: Frank S., aged eighteen, who was graduated from Trinity College, San Francisco, and who will complete a course at the State University; Alice J., aged sixteen, now in attendance at Mills Seminary; and Fred H., aged fourteen years.^{xvi}

Guardian - Miles Wallace (1895-1899), Term expires April 19, 1898

1893 Wallace chairs meeting to discuss creation of Madera County.^{xvii}

1896 Madera County District Attorney investigating stage holdup near Raymond, CA^{xviii}

October 1897 – 1899 Wallace served as Guardian.^{xix}



Miles Wallace succeeded Galen Clark as guardian in 1897. Wallace, pictured here in front of the Grizzly Giant, had served as a district **attorney** in nearby Madera County. Wallace's two years in office, which ended in 1899, were fairly productive and positive. (Courtesy of YNPRL.)

Photograph in YRL^{xx}

ⁱ Gov 1891-1895 <http://governors.library.ca.gov/18-Markham.html>; see also http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Markham

ⁱⁱ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thaddeus_S._C._Lowe (entire entry in Bopp files: Lowe_TSC)

ⁱⁱⁱ S.F. Call: Obit May 10 1910: (Bopp files - see pdf – includes photo)

^{iv} http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Flint_Kidder

^v <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~npmelton/nevkid.htm> Transcribed by Gerald Iaquina.

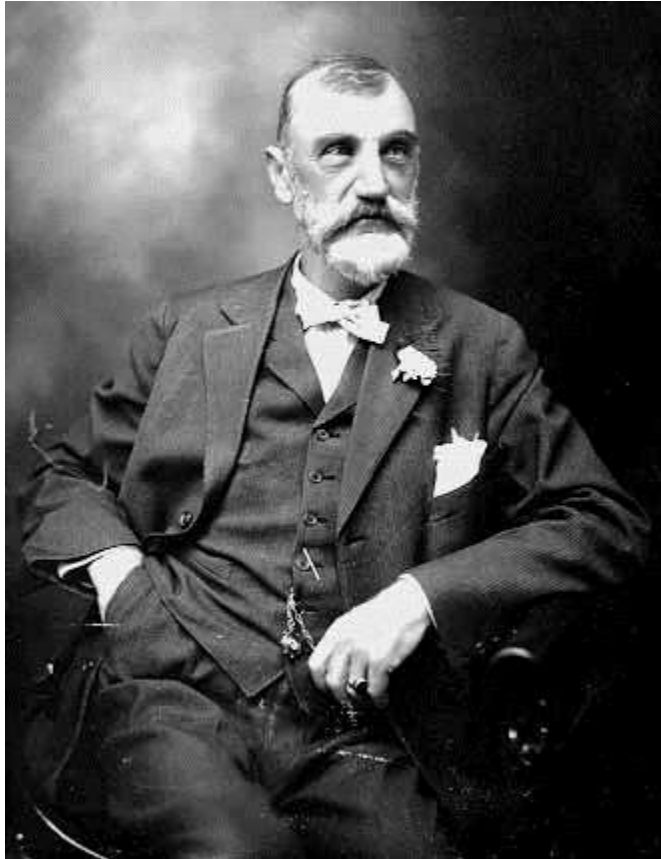
Source: "A Volume of Memoirs and Genealogy of Representative Citizens of Northern California", Pages 320-321. Chicago Standard Genealogical Publishing Co. 1901.

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- ^{vi} http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sanfranciscodirectory/1890/1890_1159.pdf
- ^{vii} <http://www.nefapps.nefn.com/portal/irc/timeline/1900.htm> :
- ^{viii} http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sanfranciscodirectory/1894/1894_1301.pdf
- ^{ix} Mariposa Gazette, May 30th, 1896 Transcribed by Tom Phillips for <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/stonemanhouse4.html>
- ^x Harry James Ostrander (1825) Yos Commissioner from 1894-1898 (see <http://content.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/kt4h4nc7qb/?order=1&brand=calisphere> : Autobiography and Reminiscence of H.J. Ostrander, Merced, Cal., 1901); was a farmer by trade
- ^{xi} Gov 1895-1899 <http://governors.library.ca.gov/19-Budd.html> ; see also http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Budd
- ^{xii} SPELLING NOTE: should be George B. Sperry. Of Sperry Flour Company
- ^{xiii} Mariposa Gazette, May 30th, 1896 Transcribed by Tom Phillips for <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/stonemanhouse4.html>; copy in Bopp files.
- ^{xiv} http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rancho_Larkin's_Children#cite_ref-8 :
- ^{xv} <http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cdnc/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=d&d=SFC18990131.2.2&cl=search&srpos=3&dliv=none&e=-----en-Logical-20--1---boggs-ARTICLE-1001--1899> in Bopp files: 1899_01_31_SF Call_Boggs Obit
- ^{xvi} <http://www.cagenweb.com/archives/Biography/ColusaCounty/BoggsHonJohn.html> :
- From COLUSA COUNTY ITS HISTORY TRACED FROM A STATE OF NATURE THROUGH THE EARLY PERIOD OF SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, TO THE PRESENT DAY WITH A DESCRIPTION OF ITS RESOURCES, STATISTICAL TABLES, ETC. ALSO BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PIONEERS AND PROMINENT RESIDENTS by Justus H. Rogers Orland, California 1891 Page 343-465 Transcribed by: Linda Diane Jackson 6/26/2009; Colusa Biographical Sketches.CHAPTER XII.
- ^{xvii} <http://www.cagenweb.com/madera/MadHistory.html>
- ^{xviii} San Francisco Call, 6/20/1896; <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85066387/1896-06-20/ed-1/seq-5.pdf> See1896_06_20_SF Call_Stage Holdup_Miles Wallace copy in Bopp files
- ^{xix} Yosemite Nature Notes Vol. XXIII, June 1944 No. 6, *Administrative Officers of Yosemite* by C. Frank Brockman
- ^{xx} <http://books.google.com/books?id=d977gLraTTIC&pg=PA20&lpg=PA20&dq=%22Miles+Wallace%22+attorney&source=bl&ots=yAXRaeRitY&sig=Jo5mOhvPALfHvADZHGV6FqMJE&hl=en&sa=X&ei=rlprT9aCC8vUiAL5naG6BQ&ved=0CGcQ6AEwBA#v=onepage&q=%22Miles%20Wallace%22%20attorney&f=false>

PART TWO, SECTION 6: 1896 - 1906

Abbot Kinney (1897-1901), term expires May 24, 1901.

[Abbot Kinney Blvd. in Venice, CA is named after him – tb.]



Abbot Kinney (1850 - 1920)

Venice California's founder was born on a farm near New Brunswick, New Jersey on November 16, 1850 to middle class parents, Franklin Sherwood and Mary Cogswell Kinney. He was the youngest of five brothers and a frail boy who suffered from frequent asthma attacks.

His father soon moved his family to Washington, D.C. where as a lawyer, worked as federal government bureaucrat. Abbot's favorite aunt, who he spent much time with at their nearby home, was married to Senator James Dixon of Connecticut.

Abbot matured quickly and was quite tall for his age. He was nearly his adult 6 foot 2 inches height when he was 16 and sent to Europe to round out his education. He studied for a year at the University of Heidelberg, then in Paris and Zurich. His ease at learning languages, especially in the countries he lived and studied, enabled him to speak fluently in six tongues. During his final months of his three year European stay, he traveled extensively on a walking tour of the continent where he visited Venice, Italy and the Italian Riviera.

After returning to Washington, D.C. in 1869, he joined the Maryland National Guard. His family's political contacts enabled him in 1873 to join a United States Geological Survey team headed by Professor Marsh of Yale College (the famous paleontologist) to map the Sioux Indian Reservation in the Dakota Territory. Afterwards he traveled alone to Salt Lake City to view nearby scenic wonders before heading to scenic Oregon. He traveled south through Northern California and rejoined the survey team in Yosemite Valley.

In 1874, Abbot was made a junior partner in his older brothers' tobacco business. The Kinney Brothers tobacco business was located in New York City with warehouses in Virginia and North Carolina. Their most popular brand of hand rolled cigarettes was "Sweet Caporal." Abbot became a buyer who spent much of his time in the south. When the brothers decided foreign tobacco would be a novelty to increase sales, Abbot traveled to Egypt and later to Turkish Macedonia during the winter of 1876. He was in the port of Salonika (modern day Thessaloniki) when thousands of Christians were massacred by Turkish Moslem mobs. Kinney barely escaped with his life.

Apparently the experience was traumatic, for instead of returning home, Kinney began a three year vacation as a wealthy man of leisure. He visited numerous European historic cities and absorbed Europe's old world culture. His travels took him to India, Ceylon, New Guinea and Australia where he was thinking of settling. However, Australia didn't suit him so he sailed for Hawaii where he stayed a few months before heading home. By the time he reached San Francisco in January 1880, heavy snows in the Sierras blocked train travel east.

While waiting for the tracks to clear, he learned of a health resort at Sierra Madre in Southern California. Since he was always willing to try a cure for his asthma and insomnia, he took a train south. Being impatient, he drove out to the Sierra Madre Villa Hotel without a reservation. Although they were full, the owner agreed to put him up in the parlor for three days. Abbot was so exhausted from his incessant insomnia that he promptly fell asleep on top of the billiards table. When he awoke, he was completely refreshed and his asthma symptoms disappeared. He had found the place where he wished to live. He bought a 550 acre piece of property in the nearby foothills and called it "Kinneola." He built a two story home there and intent upon becoming a citrus farmer, planted 6000 citrus trees and 20,000 seedless Sultana grape vines.

He traveled widely through California after meeting author Helen Hunt Jackson. She was documenting the Indian's deplorable conditions at various northern California missions. He became her co-agent and interpreter in 1882. Later he was appointed to a three year position as Chairman of the State Board of Forestry.

It was on his travels to the state legislature in Sacramento that he met the daughter of California Supreme Court Justice, James Dabney Thornton. He married Margaret after a seven month courtship on November 18, 1884. Their first child Lucy was born nine months later.

Kinney invested his money wisely, first in a Los Angeles hotel and later in a large tract of land on Washington Street and Main Street which he sub-divided and sold for a handsome profit. By 1886, to escape the Los Angeles summer heat, he built a summer home in Santa Monica. He soon became interested in land development along the coast. His first attempt in nearby Pacific Palisades was a failure. The real estate market crashed in 1888, just before he was ready to place the tract on the market.

Meanwhile his family continued to grow. His son Thornton was born in 1886, and he was followed by Franklin, Kent and Sherwood in that order. Unfortunately tragedy struck during the 1891 rheumatic fever epidemic when Lucy and Franklin died, and Sherwood's and Kent's hearts were damaged. Kent eventually died from heart problems when he was a teenager. Kinney was determined to rebuild his family and had two more sons, Innes and Carleton.

In 1891 Kinney and his partner bought controlling interest in the Ocean Park Casino and that same year purchased the surrounding tract of land, a 1 1/2 mile long and 1000 feet deep that faced the ocean south of Santa Monica. There they built a beach resort called Ocean Park. After Ryan died in 1898, his widow remarried and Kinney had a new partner. When Dudley decided to sell his half in 1902 to Fraser, Gage and Jones, Abbot Kinney had three new partners that he didn't get along with. They dissolved the company and divided their property on a coin toss. Kinney, who won the toss, chose the marshy, undeveloped southern half to build his Venice of America, a recreation of Venice, Italy on the shores of the Pacific.

Venice of America opened on July 4th 1905 and was an instant success. Electric trolley cars with frequent service from downtown Los Angeles and nearby Santa Monica made access easy. Visitors marveled at his canal network, ornate Venetian style business district and his wonderful pier with its immense Auditorium and Ship Cafe. They could tour the resort by miniature steam railroad or by gondolas, swim in the ocean or at his salt water plunge, and listen to band concerts by the swimming lagoon.



Abbot Kinney and his family at their home on Park Avenue. From left to right - Abbot, his wife Margaret, his sons Innes and Thornton, Carleton in front. - 1907

Kinney eventually expanded his resort facilities by enlarging his pier to become a full fledged amusement pier. He also gained control of the city's politics and changed its name from Ocean Park to Venice in 1911. Kinney was the Doge of Venice.

His wife Margaret died on June 30, 1911. She was only 46 years old. Abbot didn't have a close relationship with his wife in later years. It was an open secret that he actually lived in nearby Santa Monica with his mistress Winifred Harwell and had two illegitimate children, Clan (born 1904) and Helen (born 1906). He eventually married her in 1914 and officially adopted both children.

Kinney built a new home along the canals next to the lagoon and lived there until he contracted lung cancer from smoking cigarettes). He died on November 4, 1920 after collapsing and becoming bedridden in late October. He was buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Santa Monica beside his wife Margaret. His eldest son Thornton took over the family business.ⁱ

Wikipedia excerpt:

Kinney was appointed to a three-year position as chairman of the California Board of Forestry. There he developed an agency to protect the forests of the [San Gabriel Mountains](#), where ranchers typically set fires to clear land for livestock grazing, but then, as a result, subsequent rainfalls led to flooding in the valleys.

On his own property, he developed land management techniques for raising livestock alongside cultivated forests. Aided by his friend naturalist [John Muir](#), Kinney established the [San Gabriel Timberland Reserve](#) in December 1892, forerunner to the [Angeles National Forest](#).

In 1883, Kinney and [Helen Hunt Jackson](#) co-wrote a report for the [U.S. Department of the Interior](#) on the condition of [California Mission Indians](#).^[3] This report and others led to the Mission Indian Act of 1891, which created a commission to seek to establish or confirm reservations in Southern California.^{[4][5]} In 1887, Kinney established the nation's first forestry station in [Rustic Canyon](#) on 6 acres (24,000 m²) of land donated by Santa Monica co-founder [John P. Jones](#) (also a U.S. Senator from Nevada), and [Arcadia Bandini de Stearns Baker](#). One of the station's projects was a study of the newly introduced [eucalyptus](#) trees.ⁱⁱ

"...Abbot Kinney, a conservationist and Pasadena landowner, saw from his ranch the destruction by the unrestrained use of the San Gabriel Mountains for logging and grazing.

In 1886, Kinney, as chairman of the state Board of Forestry, wrote to the governor of California, George Stoneman, "The necessity of the hour is an intelligent supervision of the forest land and brush lands of California,,," In 1890, The Board petitioned the US Congress to properly administer (through the General Land Office) the state's timberlands instead of ignoring them."ⁱⁱⁱ

J. J. Lermen (1897-) Not a commissioner; only Secretary and Treasurer

Lermen is not listed as a Commissioner in the report in the following endnote reference, but as an "Officer." The report also states: "The Commissioners are appointed for four years. They are paid no salary. The Secretary's salary is fixed at \$125 per month." Previous to 1897, the Secretary-Treasurer doubled as a Commissioner.^{iv}

William G. Kerckhoff (1897-), term expires May 23, 1902.
(ca 1857 – ca 1929)

Organizer and chief owner of the Kerckhoff-Cuzner Lumber and Mill Company in Los Angeles (& Pomona) in 1889.^v

"...owner of the 50 acre Meserve homestead on Cucamonga avenue [Pomona, CA]...is interested in the lumber business in Pomona and is also vice president of the Pacific Electric railway system."^{vi}

William Henry Metson (1897-), term expires May 23, 1902.

METSON, WILLIAM HENRY, Lawyer, San Francisco, Cal., was born in that city, March 18, 1863, the son of John E. Metson and Elizabeth Wigglesworth (Fanning) Metson. His paternal American ancestors were Quakers, while on the maternal side he is of combined Irish and German descent. In April 1893, he was married, in San Francisco to Miss Josephine Kercheval, and is the father of Wilfred Graham Metson.

For a while he attended the public schools of San Francisco, but when very young moved to Virginia City, Nevada, where he entered the Gold Hill High School. In 1879, at the age of sixteen, he went to Bodie and began the study of the law in the office of the Hon. Patrick Reddy. When the latter opened offices in San Francisco Mr. Metson accompanied him, and while continuing his studies under Mr. Reddy's direction he also became a student in the Hastings College of the Law, from which he was graduated in 1886. Immediately thereafter he began the practice of his profession in Mr. Reddy's offices.

In November 1889, Mr. Metson became a member of the firm of Reddy, Campbell & Metson, and until 1900 was an active partner of this successful combination. During these years, although he sought no political preferment, he was honored by appointments under both Democratic and Republican Governors. He was Yosemite Park Commissioner under Governors Budd, Gage and Pardee. Subsequently he was President of the San Francisco Park Commission, through the administrations of

various mayors, and still holds this position. During these years also he was a lieutenant in the National Guard.

His reputation as a successful mining lawyer created a demand for his services in the extensive litigation that followed the opening of the Nome gold fields, and in the spring of 1900 he went to Alaska. There he not only acquired valuable mining interests, but also helped to make history as the leading counsel for the Pioneer Mining Company in the famous cases that grew out of the attempt of some politicians, headed by Alexander McKenzie, to defraud the holders of certain claims of their property. His decision and firmness, especially in rejecting all overtures for a compromise, had much to do with the ultimate triumph of his clients.

Since this experience in Alaska Mr. Metson has considerably enlarged his field of operations and established a reputation not only as an able lawyer but also as a successful financier. His mining interests include valuable holdings in California, Nevada, Washington and Alaska. Beyond this he has branched into farming and agriculture, and as principal owner of the Goetjen-Metson Company he is possessor of rich farmlands on the Sacramento River, supplying asparagus, beans and other vegetables to the markets of the world.

Through the various changes of the firm's title he has retained his partnership, until today he is senior member of the present firm of Metson, Drew & McKenzie. Conspicuous among his celebrated cases was his defense of ex-Mayor Schmitz, during the so-called "graft prosecution," and it was largely through his efforts that the indictments against Schmitz were declared invalid.

His extensive financial, as well as legal connections, have led to directorships in a number of important corporations in and out of the State, among the latter of which may be mentioned the Scandinavian Bank of Seattle. Like other active men, he has his hobbies and recreations. Horses, riding, fishing and hunting are chief among these, and in the pursuit of the last mentioned he is a member of a number of gun clubs. His other clubs are the Pacific-Union, Bohemian and Union League of San Francisco. He is also a past president, as well as a past grand trustee, of the Native Sons of the Golden West.^{vii}

W. W. Foote (1897-1904), term expires June 10, 1901.

1873 Listed: William W. Foote and John W. Carter of Foote & Carter, attorneys at law, office 6 Montgomery Block; also as residing in Oakland.^{viii}

Hanford Journal, Hanford, Kings Co., California; Tuesday, 5 JUNE 1894-Lawyer W.W. FOOTE (Billy FOOTE) was dangerously ill last week, but is now recovering at a hospital in Alameda. He broke one of his legs several weeks ago, and then caught cold in the injured limb last week.^{ix}

Foote was portrayed as a corrupt attorney in *An appeal to the people* (1899) By Horace Wiley Philbrook http://books.google.com/books?id=pk5DAAAAIAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false



DEATH ENDS THE EVENTFUL CAREER OF W. W. FOOTE
Weil-Known Attorney, Orator and Politician Succumbs
After Brief Illness and Friends Mourn
Loss of One of the City's Most Popular Men

William W. Foote, soldier, orator, politician and attorney, died yesterday afternoon at the residence of J. V. Coleman, 611 Van Ness avenue. Mr. Foote's illness was of brief duration, but from its start there was little hope of his recovery. For some time past his health has been poor and last week he caught a severe cold, which caused an abscess to form in the ear, and the poison gradually spread through his system. For the last three days Mr. Foote was unconscious and the efforts of the attending physicians to rally him proved futile. He passed away shortly after 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

DISTINGUISHED CAREER.

William W. Foote was one of the best known lawyers and politicians in the State of California. He was born at Jackson, Miss., January 16, 1846. He was the son of Hon. Henry S. Foote, United States Senator from that State, and subsequently Governor, having defeated Hon. Jefferson Davis in the year 1850.

Before he had completed his sixteenth year he entered the military service of the Confederate States at Columbus, Ky., in December, 1861, as a private in the Shelby Grays, a company belonging to the First Tennessee Infantry, and was subsequently made sergeant major of the Tennessee Corps of Artillery, on duty at that place with the forces assembled under General Leonidas Polk. In the subsequent disposition of the troops following the advance of the Federal army under General Grant he and his command were assigned to Fort Donelson, the objective of the movement of the Union army.

The artillery force at this important point on January 15, 1862, according to the report of Colonel Milton A. Haynes, who was put in charge at that time, was composed of two companies of volunteer and

untrained infantry and Maney's battery of light artillery, which Haynes organized into a battalion of 300 and gave daily drill with the heavy guns.

By the most vigorous efforts the fort was prepared for the expected onslaught, which was begun with a bombardment from the gunboats under Admiral A. H. Foote. February 13. "At the close of the day," says Colonel Haynes in his statement of the battle contained in the Rebellion Records, published by order of Congress, "the contest by land and water closed, and our batteries were visited by Generals Floyd and Pillow and our artillerists complimented by them."

HONORABLY MENTIONED.

In the same report he gave honorable mention to the subject of this sketch, saying: "During my service at Fort Doneleon, both before and during the engagements, I was under obligations to Acting Adjutant William W. Foote of the corps of artillery, a boy only 16 years old, and to Lieutenant H. S. Bedford, adjutant of the artillery battalion, for the prompt and faithful discharge of the arduous and dangerous duties which they had to perform."

Notwithstanding the victory won by the water batteries over the Federal fleet, the land operations compelled surrender and Adjutant Foote became a prisoner of war. Being sent North, he experienced captivity a month at Camp Chase, Ohio, and afterward at Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, until exchanged in August, 1862.

On regaining his liberty inside the Confederate lines Mr. Foote went to Clinton, Miss., and was honored with election as second lieutenant of company C, Tenth Regiment, Tennessee Infantry. With this command he had active military duty during the repulse of Sherman's attack at Chickasaw bayou, near Vicksburg, December 27, 1862, and in garrison at Port Hudson in the early part of 1863. He was with the troops sent into Mississippi to resist Grant's advance in the spring of 1863, and fought under General Gregg against the Federal advance at Raymond, Miss., May 12, where he was wounded and fell into the hands of the unionists. A second time a prisoner of war, he was sent to Johnsons Island, Lake Erie, and held for sixteen months.

On being exchanged again and returned to the Confederate lines he again sought duty in the field, and was made adjutant of the Fifteenth Arkansas Regiment, with which he served west of the Mississippi River until the surrender at Shreveport, June 8, 1865.

RESUMES CIVIL LIFE.

In his twentieth year, then a veteran with an adventurous and worthy record, Mr. Foote resumed the duties and ambitions of civil life and began preparations for entering the profession of law. Completing his professional studies at the University of Virginia soon afterward, he went west, locating at Omaha, Nebr., and in 1869 sought the city of San Francisco, where he has been for a third of a century active and influential in professional and civil life. He rendered the State faithful and valuable service as Railroad Commissioner from 1883 to 1887; was honored with appointment as one of the commissioners of the State of California to the Paris Exposition of 1900, and at the time of his death was one of the State Commissioners to manage the Yosemite Valley, and. Mariposa Big Tree Grove.

Mr. Foote leaves five children— Mrs. Stanley H. Jackson, Chauncey T., Henry S., W. W. Jr. and Enid Foote.^x

Gov. 1899-1903: Henry Gage

Born: December 25, 1852 in Geneva, NY

Died: August 28, 1924 in Los Angeles, CA

Married: [Francisca V. Rains](#) on July 15, 1880

Political Party: Republican

Biography

When Henry was a young man, his family moved from New York to Michigan where his father was an attorney and later a judge. Henry followed in his father's footsteps and was admitted to the Michigan bar when he was 21. Around 1874, Henry moved to California. He worked as a sheep dealer before he returned to the practice of law. He had a very successful law practice. Henry represented several large corporations including the Southern Pacific Railroad. In 1881, Henry was elected to serve as Los Angeles City Attorney.

Gage's term as Governor was rocky. When bubonic plague broke out in San Francisco, he publicly denied the existence of the plague, only to be proven wrong. Later, he negotiated a major labor strike by threatening to impose martial law if both sides did not compromise. Still later, Gage would go down to the waterfront dressed in a disguise and mingle with the stevedores in order to assure himself that no violence was brewing. When a newspaper printed a cartoon of railroad king C.P. Huntington leading Gage around on a leash, Gage retaliated by signing two pieces of legislation, the "anti-cartoon bill" and the "signature bill," that required all articles that questioned the integrity or reputation of a politician to be signed. Gage was not nominated for a second term and left office on January 6, 1903.

On December 21, 1909 President Taft appointed Gage the U.S. Minister to Portugal, a post he held until November 19, 1910. Governor Henry Gage died on August 28, 1924, and is buried in a mausoleum at the New Calvary Cemetery.

Family

Father: Dewitt C. Gage

Mother: Catherine A. Glover

Wife: [Francisca V. Rains](#)

Children: Fanita, Lucilla, Francis, Volney, Arthur, Henry

Did You Know?

Gage traced his family history in American back to 1625 on his paternal side and to 1618 on his maternal side.

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Schaechtele. *The Governors of California and their Portraits*, California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association, 1995.^{xi}

GUARDIAN: John F. Stevens (October 1899-June 1904)^{xii}

John F. Stevens of Fresno, CA (not to be confused with the Stevens of Panama Canal fame) was a stage driver for the Yosemite Stage & Turnpike Company when he was appointed Guardian;^{xiii} an article in 1912 quoting Stevens identifies him as a former stage driver living in St. Helena, CA.^{xiv}

1901 Stevens was accused by W. F. Lyons of Elevenmile Station (on the Wawona road to Yosemite Valley) of "improper advances toward his wife" accompanied by threat of "loss of employment if he

made trouble.” Lyons, prepared to read a public accusation at a commissioners meeting was successfully silenced by members of the commission.^{xv}

Though there was reported “much opposition,” Stevens was reelected Guardian in 1903, beating out two other candidates, Charles Schlageter and C. H. Warfield.^{xvi} Stevens was Guardian during Theodore Roosevelt’s visit in 1903.

William Griffith Henshaw (Sr.) (1899-), appointed January, 1899
(1860-1924)

William Henshaw was commissioner, not to be confused with his brother, Judge Frederick William Henshaw (1858-1929)^{xvii} of the California State Supreme Court: “About two miles below town he [President Theodore Roosevelt] was met by a party consisting of Governor Pardee, Judge Henshaw and Yosemite Commissioners Givens and Henshaw. It was a purely informal and unexpected meeting and much enjoyed by all.”^{xviii}

“[Ed] Fletcher's many partnerships proved lucrative. With William and Ferdinand Thum, brothers who had become millionaires through the manufacture of ball bearings, Fletcher financed many San Diego building projects. In 1911 he interested William E. Hodges, Vice-President of the Santa Fe Railroad and President of the Santa Fe Land and Improvement Company, in projects such as Rancho Santa Fe, Hodges dam, the San Dieguito water system, and residential developments in Solana Beach and Escondido. Along with William G. Henshaw and William G. Kerckhoff, Fletcher developed Warner Ranch, obtained financing for creation of the Volcan Land and Water Company, and helped to build Warner Dam, which became Lake Henshaw.”^{xix}

“William Griffith Henshaw, American banker, business executive, realtor and public utilities organizer, was born in Ottawa, Illinois, March 28, 1860, and died in San Francisco, California, March 2, 1924, the son of Edward Henshaw and of Sarah Edwards (Tyler) Henshaw. Edward Carrington Henshaw served in the Union Army throughout the Civil war, dying in service at its close; his widow, left with four children, remained in the east until 1873, when, with her three younger children, she removed to California, rejoining the eldest son, who had gone there some time earlier. The family home was then established at Oakland, California.

This branch of the Henshaw family was established in America by Joshua Henshaw, who died in 1719; while on his mother’s side the family of William Griffith Henshaw descends from Jonathan Edwards and Daniel Tyler. Daniel Tyler was married to a daughter of General Isaac Putnam and served on his staff, being his adjutant at the battle of Bunker Hill. On both sides of the family Mr. Henshaw’s forbears carry the tradition of military service, participating in the various wars in which the country engaged, and establishing as a birthright a high conception of patriotic and civic duty.

William Griffith Henshaw as a young boy attended the schools of his native state, and at the age of thirteen years accompanied his family to the new home in California. He was thereafter a student in the schools of Oakland, and was graduated from the high school there.

Mr. Henshaw began his business career soon after finishing high school, and for several years devoted himself to the real estate field. He early evidenced exceptional business ability, achieving from the outset a success that foreshadowed the remarkable career he was to follow. As his increasing means warranted he gradually extended his operations beyond the limits of the realty business, engaging in various enterprises closely associated with the growth and development of California. In addition to his activity in the erection of improved business blocks and the handling of important sales of land, he founded a company for the manufacture of a superior quality of illuminating gas and also was instrumental in the establishment of an additional ferry system between Oakland and San Francisco. He

likewise was an organizer and for many years was president of the Union Savings Bank building he inaugurated the reign of skyscraper buildings in Oakland. Another of his business ventures was the financing, building and operating of a cement plant at Napa, California, this being followed by the construction and operation of the Riverside Portland Cement plant; while he was as well one of the organizers of the San Juan Cement Company. Among his other undertakings may be mentioned oil, salt and mining.

The crowning achievement of his career was perhaps his accomplishment in the fields of irrigation and water supply. He purchased in 1911 Warner's Ranch, a famous tract of land in southern California. There he proceeded to build one of the most important irrigation systems in California, designed for the supply of a large and semi-arid area in San Diego county. The principal unit of this system is a reservoir fed by mountain water, which was constructed at Warner's Ranch and which is known as Lake Henshaw, a beautiful and fitting memorial to the man whose creative imagination brought it into being.

Mr. Henshaw's career was particularly notable because of its unbroken series of successes. In the record of his life there stands no business failure, giving him a reputation of both rare and enviable. This happy outcome of his various ventures, however, may be ascribed to his exceptional business sagacity, his brilliancy of mind and a judgment that was both practical and imaginative, as well as to favoring fortune. To his business projects in general he brought a fine enthusiasm founded upon a well reasoned decision, invariably backing his undertakings to the limit of his strength, and, in general consensus of opinion, fully earning the great success that came to him. And in no particular was it more gratifying to him than in its relation to the development of the state of his adoption and the upbuilding of the great commonwealth that is one of the wonder spots of the world. His public service was ever in line with the high ideal of devotion to the country that was his heritage.

He was married at Oakland, California, to Hetty Tubbs, daughter of Hiram Tubbs. Of this union there were born three children, a son and two daughters, whose names follow: Alla Henshaw; Florence Henshaw; and William Griffith Henshaw, Jr. The family residence is at Piedmont, California." ^{xx}

"1907 - The Abe Ruef/Mayor Schmidt bribery scandals begin." "Over 240 companies, including PG&E, Pacific Telephone & Southern Pacific are indicted in the scandal. Ruef claimed that PG&E gave him \$20,000 in fees to bribe the S.F. board of supervisors over gas rates." " J. Tobin, owner of the S.F. Chronicle quickly resigns from the PG&E board. The Chronicle supports PG&E and other officials throughout the scandal" "Only 2 convictions ensue due to the immense power of Southern Pacific empire, with Ruef and Schmidt convicted. The state supreme court overturns Schmidt conviction. Subsequently the brother of one of the supreme court justices (Henshaw) is elected to PG&E's board." ^{xxi}

Born Mar 28 1860, Ottawa, LaSalle County, Illinois. ^{170,a,b,c,d,e} (Mar - 1861). ^f He married Mehitabel Stuart Tubbs, May 20 1886. ^g (Hetty Stuart Tubbs) ¹⁷³ (Hettie Stuart Tubbs) ^e (Betty Stuart Tubbs) ¹⁷⁰ Mehitabel was born Aug 12 1870, Oakland, Alameda County, California. ^a (Aug - 1863). ^f (Hetty was very inconsistent in the way she reported her birthdate). ^a

William was a banker. ¹⁷⁰ He also was founder of the Riverside Cement Company and the San Diego Water Company, which built water projects in southern California. He built Lake Henshaw and was the main force behind Lake Hodges. The San Diego Water Company purchased the Warner Land Grant from Henry Huntington for the purpose of water rights for Lake Henshaw. ¹⁷⁰

Federal land grant records show that Griffith Henshaw acquired a parcel of land in Mendocino County, California on Jun 2 1919. Also shown is a William G. Henshaw who acquired two parcels of land, also in

Mendocino County, on Aug 4 1919.^h These appear to refer to this William Griffith Henshaw, but they could also refer to his son, [William Griffith Henshaw, Jr.](#), who was sometimes called "Griff".

Federal land grant records also show that William G. Henshaw acquired a parcel of land in San Diego County, California on Oct 6 1919.^h

William's home was "Mira Vista", a grand house with huge gardens in Montecito, California (near Santa Barbara).ⁱ The estate was used as a set for the unreleased 1940's movie "Brazil".ⁱ

William and family were shown in the 1900 census (Jun 9 1900), 1155 Jackson Street, Oakland, Alameda County, California:^f

Henshaw, William G., head-of-household, age 39, born Mar 1861 in Illinois; parents birthplaces unknown; married 15 years; occupation: president, [..unclear..]; owned home (free).

Henshaw, Hettie T., wife, age 36, born Aug 1863 in California; parents birthplaces unknown; married 15 years; 3 children, 3 living.

[Henshaw, Alla S.](#), daughter, age 13, born June [unclear] 1887 in California; father born in Illinois; mother born in California; student.

[Henshaw, Florence A.](#), daughter, age 10, born Nov 1889 in California; father born in Illinois; mother born in California; attended school.

[Henshaw, Griffith](#), son, age 6, born Oct 1893 in California; father born in Illinois; mother born in California.

[... four servants - names unclear ..]

William and family were shown in the 1920 census (Jan 2 1920), 901 California St., San Francisco, California:^j

Henshaw, William G., head-of-household, age 55, born in Illinois; parents born in Illinois; rented home; occupation: president, cement works.

Henshaw, Hetty S., wife, age 50, born in California; parents born in U.S..

[Chickering, Alta H.](#), daughter, age 30, born in California; father born in Illinois; mother born in California; divorced.

Grimes, Alice, boarder, age 45, born in California; parents born in U.S.; single.

[Chickering, Sally](#), granddaughter, age 8, born in California; parents born in California; attended school.

Carter, Coline, governess, age 47, born in Alabama; parents born in Alabama; widow; occupation: governess, children.

Kanetara, Yokayama, servant, age 33, born in Japan; parents born in Japan; divorced; occupation: butler, house.

Gunn, Woon, servant, age 45, born in California; parents born in China; married; occupation: servant, private family.

On Jul 30 1912, Hettie & family arrived in New York City on the ship S.S. Kronprinzessin Cecelie, having departed from Cherbourg, France on Jul 21 1912:^a

[Chickering, Harry](#), age 32, born 1880 in Oakland, Cal.; current address: "Mills Bldg: S.Francisco, Cal."..

[Chickering, Alla H.](#), age 23, born Jun 14 1889 in Oakland, Cal; current address: "Mills Bldg: S.Francisco, Cal."..

Henshaw, Mrs W. G., age 45, born Aug 12 1867 in Oakland, Cal.; current address: "Mills Bldg: S.Francisco, Cal."..

[Henshaw, Florence](#), age 21, born Nov 12 1891 in Oakland, Cal.; current address: "Mills Bldg: S.Francisco, Cal."..

On Jul 13 1921, William & Hetty arrived in New York City on the ship S.S. Olympic, having departed from Southampton, England on Jul 6 1921:^a

Henshaw, William G., age 61, born Mar 28 1860 in Ottawa, Ills. U.S.A.; current address: "Stanford Ct. Apts. San Francisco, Calif."

Henshaw, Hetty T., age 50, born 1871 in Oakland, Cal.; current address: "do."

On Sep 12 1922, Hettie arrived in New York City (apparently alone) on the ship S.S. Majestic, having departed from Cherbourg, France on Sep 6 1922:^a

Henshaw, Hettie Tubbs, age 50, born Aug 12 1870 in Oakland, Calif.; married; current address: "Anata Barbara, Calif."

On Jun 27 1923, Hettie arrived in New York City (apparently alone) on the ship S.S. Olympic, having departed from Southampton, England on Jun 20 1923:^a

Henshaw, Hettie T., age 50, born Aug 12 1872 in San Francisco, Calif.; married; current address: "c/o Mills Bldg: San Francisco, Calif."

William Griffith Henshaw died Mar 2 1924.¹⁷⁰ William's death was reported in the San Francisco "Chronicle" on Mar 4 1924 (page 11/1).^k His will provision were reported in the Chronicle on Mar 7 1924 (page 7/8), and his probate was reported in the same newspaper on Mar 21 1924 (page 4/5).^k

Mehitable died Oct 23 1943, New York.^{k,170,173} Hetty's death was reported in the "Argonaut" newspaper on Oct 29 1943.^k

A biographical sketch of William Griffith Henshaw appears in "The History of San Francisco" (Byington, Lewis Francis; 1931).^k

Photo: [Newspaper article about William Griffith Henshaw](#) "Oakland Tribune" (Oakland, California), May 3 1917^l

SOURCES

170. "Our Family: A Little Account of it for my Descendents", by [Sarah Edwards Henshaw](#), Oakland, California, 1894, contributed by [Donald Craig Henshaw](#). USIGS scan:

<http://www.usigs.org/library/books/families/Henshaw1894>

173. Henshaw genealogical chart, author unknown; Contributed by [Donald Craig Henshaw](#).

(a) Ellis Island Foundation manifest database: <http://www.ellisland.org>.

(b) 1860 census, Ottawa, LaSalle County, Illinois; roll M653-196, page 464, line #10, dwelling #4183, family #4159.

(c) 1870 census, Ottawa, LaSalle County, Illinois; roll M593-244, page 559, line #1, dwelling #815, family #768.

(d) 1880 census, Ward 4, Oakland, Alameda County, California; roll T9-0061, ED 11, page 209A-B, line #50, dwelling #84, family #90.

(e) "Timothy and Rhoda Ogden Edwards of Stockbridge, Mass., and Their Descendents: A Genealogy", by William H. Edwards (1903, Cincinnati: The Robert Clarke Company);

<http://books.google.com/books?id=dcSUAAYAAJ>.

(f) 1900 census, 5th Ward, Oakland, Alameda County, California; roll T623-82, ED 369, page 9B, line #92, dwelling #160, family #173.

(g) Contribution from Alla Henshaw Ponty (T1sgp@aol.com).

(h) USGenWeb archives: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/ca/ca-land.htm>.

(i) Contribution from [Anne Lee Henshaw](#).

(j) 1920 census, San Francisco, San Francisco County, California; roll T625-140, ED 259, page 8A, line #11, dwelling #2, family #5.

(k) "California Information File", California State Library.

(l) "Oakland Tribune" (Oakland, California), May 3 1917; <http://www.ancestry.com>.

Thomas A. Hender

(1902-), appointed March, 1902

“...of Sonora, Tuolumne County.”^{xxii}
Reappointed January, 1903^{xxiii}

Served 16 years as Supervisor, Tuolumne County...“he is a hotelman by profession and was engaged in the real estate and insurance business. He served for six years as Yosemite park commissioner...”
Appointed Chief Wharfinger in San Francisco in May, 1907 by state board of harbor commissioners.^{xxiv}

HENDER, Thomas A. December 16, 1922 Mariposa Gazette
FUNERAL OF T. A. HENDER HELD AT SONORA

The funeral of the late Thomas A. HENDER, whose death occurred on Thursday of last week at the family home in Sonora, was held Monday afternoon and was very largely attended despite the inclemency of the weather. The funeral took place from the Masonic temple, where the beautiful and impressive burial services of that order was performed in the presence of almost 200 sorrowing friends of the once prominent and was made in the Masonic cemetery.- Stockton Record.^{xxv}

John G. Wilson (1902-), appointed March, 1902

“The Governor yesterday appointed two Yosemite Valley Commissioners—John C. Wilson of San Francisco and Thomas A. Hender of Tuolumne. Mr. Wilson is a leading coal merchant of this city and is well known in commercial clubs and society circles...”^{xxvi}

Frank H. Short (1902-), appointed January, 1902 - Terms of last three end January 3, 1903

Gov. 1903-1907: George C. Pardee

Born: July 25, 1857 in San Francisco, California

Died: September 1, 1941 in Oakland, California

Married: [Helen Penniman](#) on January 25, 1887

Political Party: Republican

Biography

The son of a prominent physician and politician (who served as Mayor of Oakland, State Senator and State Assemblyman), George Pardee was destined to follow in his father's footsteps. He was born in San Francisco in 1857 and raised in the family home in Oakland.

Pardee attended the University of California where he received a Bachelor of Philosophy in 1879 and a Master of Arts in 1881. He attended the Cooper Medical College for two years and he received his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Leipzig, Germany in 1885. Pardee joined his father's medical practice, which specialized in diseases of the eye and ear.

Pardee's political career began when he was appointed to serve on Oakland's Board of Health in 1889. In 1891, he was elected to Oakland's City Council and in 1893 was elected Mayor for a two-year term. His exposure to innovative environmental conservation efforts in Germany heavily influenced his political decisions; as Governor, he was a strong supporter of conservation measures. After leaving office he was president of the East Bay Municipal Utilities district. The Pardee Dam, near Jackson, is named after him.

Family

Father: Enoch Pardee

Mother: Mary Elizabeth Pardee

Wife: [Helen Penniman](#)

Children: Florence, Carol, Madeline and Helen

Did You Know?

Pardee was known as the “earthquake” governor.

He was also known as “Oakland’s First Citizen”

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Schaechtele. *The Governors of California and their Portraits*, California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association, 1995.^{xxvii}

GUARDIAN George T. Harlow (July 1904-August 1906)^{xxviii}

1896: “Harlow, George T., policeman, r. 6 Turk”^{xxix}

1898: Real estate transaction involving Harlow in East Oakland^{xxx}

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ronnadumas/i1220.html> :

George T. HARLOW

Sex: **M**

Individual Information

Birth: **Jan 1859 - Iowa** ⁵

Christening:

Death:

Burial:

Notes

- He resided at 1716 Bay Street on 11 Jun 1900 in Alameda, Alameda, California, USA. ⁵

Occupation: Miner

- He resided at 206 Washington Street on 26 Apr 1910 in Petaluma, Sonoma, California, USA. ⁶

Occupation: Runs a rooming house.

- He resided at Mile 26 on 18 Jan 1920 in Kenai, Third Judicial District, Alaska Territory. ⁷

Occupation: Miner

Parents

Father:

Mother: [Poe](#) ⁶

Spouses and Children

1. [*Estella May PARK](#) ⁸ ⁹

Marriage: **Abt 1888** ⁵

Status:

SOURCE:

1900 U.S. census, Alameda, California population schedule, Alameda City, enumeration district (ED) 319, sheet 15A, dwelling 334, family 350, George Harlow; digital images, *Ancestry.com*

(http://search.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=View&r=an&dbid=7602&iid=004118415_00288&fn=Amanda&ln=Park&st=r&ssrc=gr_t7636459_p-163646633_g32796&pid=14972115 : accessed 21 Sep 2009); citing National Archives and Records Administration microfilm T623, roll T623_81.

Warren M. Watson (1905-)

“WARREN WATSON IS HONORED - APPOINTED ONE OF YOSEMITE COMMISSIONERS BY GOVERNOR PARDEE.

Warren W. Watson, who was, for so many years, in the wine trade in this city but who has retired from business, and who now spends his winters in San Francisco and his summers at his country home near Pleasanton, in this county, received his commission today from Governor Pardee as a member of the Board of Commissioners to manage the Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Big Tree Grove. The appointment has been made to fill the vacancy occasioned on the Board by the death of the late Hon. W. W. Foote, of this city. It is a coincidence that John H. O'Brien, formerly Mr. Watson's partner in business, held the position to which the latter has been appointed, for fourteen years. Mr. Watson is pleased with his official position, more especially because his preferment takes place on the eve of his departure with his wife on his fourth trip around the world. ^{xxxi}

ⁱ <http://www.westland.net/venicehistory/articles/kinney.htm>

ⁱⁱ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abbot_Kinney

ⁱⁱⁱ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Gabriel_Timberland_Reserve#cite_note-9

^{iv} *Report of the Committee appointed by the Senate at the thirty-second session of the Legislature, 1897 to make an examination of state institutions, 1897* p. 178 (Google books); copy in Bopp files

^v <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~npmelton/lakerck.htm> Transcribed 7-15-08 Marilyn R.

Pankey. Source: Press Reference Library, Western Edition Notables of the West, Vol. I, Page 94, International News Service, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston, Atlanta. 1913.

^{vi} <http://cdnc.ucr.edu> - Los Angeles Herald, Volume 35, Number 139, 18 February 1908

^{vii} <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~npmelton/sfbmet.htm> : Transcribed by Gloria (Wiegner)

Lane. Source: Press Reference Library, Western Edition Notables of the West, Vol. I, Page 341, International News Service, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston, Atlanta. 1913.

^{viii} http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sanfranciscodirectory/1873/1873_357.pdf

^{ix} <http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/CAKINGS/2009-08/1250269300>

^x *San Francisco Call*, 2/14/1904; see Bopp files:1904_02_14_SF Call_Foote obit

^{xi} <http://governors.library.ca.gov/20-gage.html>

^{xii} *Yosemite Nature Notes* Vol. XXIII, June 1944 No. 6, *Administrative Officers of Yosemite* by C. Frank Brockman

^{xiii} *Mariposa Gazette* 3/25/1899 (copy in Bopp files)

^{xiv} *San Francisco Call* 9/15/1912 (copy in Bopp files)

^{xv} *San Francisco Call* 6/6/1901 (copy in Bopp files)

^{xvi} *San Francisco Call* 6/2/1903 (copy in Bopp files)

^{xvii} <http://www.rawbw.com/~hinshaw/cgi-bin/id?6021> and <http://www.rawbw.com/~hinshaw/cgi-bin/id?6016>

^{xviii} *San Francisco Call* 5/18/1903 (copy in Bopp files)

^{xix} <http://libraries.ucsd.edu/speccoll/testing/html/mss0081a.html> : The Register of Ed Fletcher Papers, 1870-1955 MSS 81 Mandeville Special Collections Library University of California, San Diego

^{xx} Transcribed by: Jeanne Sturgis Taylor. Source: Byington, Lewis Francis, “History of San Francisco 3 Vols”, S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago, 1931. Vol. 2 Pages 243-245.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~npmelton/sfbhens.htm>

^{xxi} <http://www.energy-net.org/1OWO/NWO-PGE.HTM>

^{xxii} *San Francisco Call* 3/16/1902; see Bopp files: 1902_03_16_SF Call_Hender_Wilson appointments

^{xxiii} *San Francisco Call* 1/4/1903; see Bopp files: 1903_01_04_SF Call_Hender reappointment

^{xxiv} *San Francisco Call* 6/2/1907; see Bopp files: 1907_06_02_SF Call_Hender

^{xxv} <http://www.mariposaresearch.net/DISVIT17.html>

^{xxvi} *San Francisco Call* 3/16/1902; see Bopp files: 1902_03_16_SF Call_Hender_Wilson appointments

^{xxvii} <http://governors.library.ca.gov/21-Pardee.html>

^{xxviii} *Yosemite Nature Notes* Vol. XXIII, June 1944 No. 6, *Administrative Officers of Yosemite* by C. Frank Brockman; see also *San Francisco Call* 8/9/1904; (Bopp files: 1904_08_09_SF Call_Guardian appt)

^{xxix} http://www.sfgenealogy.com/sanfranciscodirectory/1896/1896_748.pdf copy in Bopp files

^{xxx} *San Francisco Call*, Volume 83, Number 123, 2 April 1898 - <http://www.cdnc.ucr.edu/>

^{xxxi} http://www.leighlarsen.com/warren_mortimer_watson.htm; *Oakland Tribune*, Oakland, CA, Saturday Evening, September 23, 1905

PART THREE

Yosemite Commissioners Board by Year

The following were considered as potential commissioners in 1864 but were not appointedⁱ:

Suggested by I. W. Raymond:

The Collector of the Port of San Francisco [In 1864 was Charles James]

Suggested by Senator Conness:

The Mayor of the City of San Francisco [In 1864 was Henry Perrin Coon]

John F. Morse

1864ⁱⁱ

Gov. 1863-1867: Frederick Low

Frederick Law Olmstead

J. D. Whitney

William Ashburner

I. W. Raymond

E. S. Holden

Alexander Deering

George W. Coulter

Guardian: position not created until 1866

1866

Gov. 1867-1871: Henry Haight (replaces Low)

H. W. Cleaveland (replaces Olmstead who resigned)ⁱⁱⁱ

J. D. Whitney

William Ashburner

I. W. Raymond

E. S. Holden

Alexander Deering

George W. Coulter

Guardian: Galen Clark

1873

Gov. 1871-1875: Newton Booth (replaces Haight)

Edgar Mills (replaces Deering who resigned)^{iv}

H. W. Cleaveland

J. D. Whitney

William Ashburner

I. W. Raymond

E. S. Holden

George W. Coulter

Guardian: Galen Clark

1875

Gov. 1875-1875: Romualdo Pacheco (replaces Booth; Pacheco was governor for about 10 months ending Dec. 9)

Gov. 1875-1880: William Irwin (replaces Pacheco)

P. D. Wigginton (replaces Coulter who resigned), then Thomas P. Madden (replaces Wigginton when he was elected to Congress)^v

Edgar Mills (replaces Deering who resigned)^{vi}

H. W. Cleaveland

J. D. Whitney

William Ashburner

I. W. Raymond

E. S. Holden

Guardian: Galen Clark

1879

Gov. 1875-1880: William Irwin

William C. Priest (replaces Whitney)^{vii}

Thomas P. Madden

Edgar Mills

H. W. Cleaveland

William Ashburner

I. W. Raymond

E. S. Holden

Guardian: Galen Clark

1880

Gov. 1880-1883: George Perkins (replaces Irwin)

M. C. Briggs

J. P. Jackson

William H. Mills

George S. Ladd
J. L. Sperry
A. J. Meany
Thomas P. Madden
W. C. Priest
I. W. Raymond

Guardian: J. M. Hutchings (replaces Clark)

[Note- unseated this year on February 17 were Edgar Mills, Cleaveland, Ashburner, Holden, and guardian Galen Clark. Madden remained on the board (see 1884) increasing the board from 8 to 10 members (including the Govenor)]^{viii}

1883

Gov. 1883-1887: George Stoneman

W. H. Mills, Term expires April 19, 1886.
J. M. Griffith, Term expires April 19, 1886
John H. O'Brien, Term expires April 19, 1886
M. C. Briggs, Term expires April 19, 1886
I. W. Raymond, Term expires April 19, 1888.
Jonathan Mentzer, Term expires April 19, 1888
E. W. Chapman, Term expires April 19, 1888
C. L. Weller, Term expires April 19, 1888
Thomas P. Madden, Term expires April 19, 1890.

[Note- unseated by 1884: Jackson, Ladd, Sperry, Meany, and Priest]^{ix}

1884

Guardian: Walter E. Dennison (replaces Hutchings)

1885

Gov. 1883-1887: George Stoneman

William B. May, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1890 (replaces Weller as sec'ty)
I. W. Raymond, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1888.
Jonathan Mentzer, Coulterville, Term expires April 19, 1888
E. W. Chapman, Madera, Term expires April 19, 1888
J. M. Griffith, Los Angeles, Term expires April 19, 1888
W. H. Mills, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1890.
Thomas P. Madden, Term expires April 19, 1890.
John H. O'Brien, Stockton, Term expires April 19, 1890.

Guardian: Walter E. Dennison

[Note- board reduced back from 10 to 9 members (including the Governor); unseated are Weller, Briggs, and guardian Dennison]^x

1887

R. W. Waterman (Gov. 1887-1891)

I. W. Taber, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1892
Ben. C. Truman, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1892.
G. G. Goucher, Fresno, Term expires April 19, 1892
W. H. Mills, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1890.
Thomas P. Madden, Term expires April 19, 1890.
John H. O'Brien, Stockton, Term expires April 19, 1890.
William B. May, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1890.
E. W. Chapman, Madera, Term expires April 19, 1892

Guardian: Mark L. McCord (replaces Dennison)

[Note- added Taber, Truman and Goucher; unseated are Mentzer, Griffith, Raymond, and guardian Dennison]^{xi}

1889

R. W. Waterman (Gov. 1887-1891)

Joseph G. Eastland, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1892
M. H. Hecht, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1892
F. M. Pixley, Term expires April 19, 1894.
John P. Irish, Oakland, Term expires April 19, 1894.
I. W. Taber, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1892
Thomas P. Madden, Term expires April 19, 1890.
John H. O'Brien, Stockton, Term expires April 19, 1890.
E. W. Chapman, Madera, Term expires April 19, 1892

Guardian: Galen Clark (2nd term; replaces McCord)

[Note- added Eastland, Hecht, Pixley and Irish; unseated are Goucher, May, Mills, Truman & McCord]^{xii}

1891

H. H. Markham (Gov. 1891-1895)

T. S. C. Lowe, Pasadena, Term expires April 19, 1894.
Charles G. Clinch, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1896
John F. Kidder, Grass Valley, Term expires April 19, 1896.
Henry K. Field, Alameda, Term expires April 19, 1896

George B. Sperry, Stockton, Term expires April 19, 1896
John P. Irish, Oakland, Term expires April 19, 1894.
Thomas P. Madden, Term expires April 19, 1890.
John H. O'Brien, Stockton, Term expires April 19, 1890.

Guardian: Galen Clark

[Note- added Lowe, Clinch, Kidder, Sperry and Field; unseated Eastland, Hecht, Pixley, Chapman and Taber]^{xiii}

1893

H. H. Markham (Gov. 1891-1895)

Max Goldberg, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1896.
E. P. Johnson, Los Angeles, Term expires April 19, 1898
H. J. Ostrander, Merced, Term expires April 19, 1898
Charles G. Clinch, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1896
John F. Kidder, Grass Valley, Term expires April 19, 1896.
Henry K. Field, Alameda, Term expires April 19, 1896
John H. O'Brien, Stockton, Term expires April 19, 1890.
George B. Sperry, Stockton, Term expires April 19, 1896

Guardian: Galen Clark

[Note- added Goldberg, Johnson and Ostrander; unseated Lowe, Irish, and Madden]^{xiv}

1895

Governor James Budd (Gov 1895-1899)

Charles S Givens, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1898
John Boggs, Princeton, Term expired
Miles Wallace, Madera, Term expires April 19, 1898
Max Goldberg, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1896.
E. P. Johnson, Los Angeles, Term expires April 19, 1898
H. J. Ostrander, Merced, Term expires April 19, 1898
Charles G. Clinch, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1896
Henry K. Field, Alameda, Term expires April 19, 1896

Guardian: Galen Clark

[Note- added Boggs, Givens, Wallace; unseated Kidder, Sperry, and O'Brien]^{xv}

[Note-up to this time, the Secretary and Treasurer position (recently held by Sperry) was held by a Board member; starting in 1897 the position becomes a paid position, separate from the Board].

1897

Governor James Budd (Gov 1895-1899)

Abbot Kinney, of Los Angeles; term expires May 24, 1901.
Wm. G. Kerckhoff, of Los Angeles; term expires May 23, 1902.
Wm. H. Metson, of San Francisco; term expires May 23, 1902.
W. W. Foote, of Oakland; term expires June 10, 1901.
Charles S Givens, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1898
Miles Wallace, Madera, Term expires April 19, 1898
Max Goldberg, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1896.
Charles G. Clinch, San Francisco, Term expires April 19, 1896

Guardian: Miles Wallace (replaces Clark; apparently serves both as board member and guardian)
J. J. Lermen, Secretary and Treasurer. Office, Claus Spreckels Building, San Francisco.

[Note: Lermen is not listed as a Commissioner in the report in the following endnote reference, but as an "Officer." The report also states: "The Commissioners are appointed for four years. They are paid no salary. The Secretary's salary is fixed at \$125 per month."]

[Note- added Kinney, Kerckhoff, Metson and Foote; unseated Field, Boggs, Ostrander, Johnson & Clark]^{xvi}

1898

Governor James Budd (Gov 1895-1899)

Abbot Kinney, Los Angeles, Term expires May 24, 1901
Charles G. Clinch, San Francisco, Term expires May 24, 1901
W. W. Foote, Oakland, Term expires June 10, 1901
Charles S Givens, San Francisco, Term expires May 23, 1902
Max Goldberg, San Francisco, Term expired.
William G. Kerckhoff, Los Angeles, Term expires May 23, 1902
William H. Metson, San Francisco, Term expires May 23, 1902
Miles Wallace, Madera, Term expires November, 1900

Guardian: Miles Wallace
J. J. Lermen, Secretary and Treasurer. Office, Claus Spreckels Building, San Francisco.

[Note- no changes from 1897. Note Goldberg's "term expired."]^{xvii}

1899

Governor Henry Gage (Gov 1899-1903)

W. Henshaw, appointed January, 1899^{xviii}
Abbot Kinney, Los Angeles, Term expires May 24, 1901
Charles G. Clinch, San Francisco, Term expires May 24, 1901
W. W. Foote, Oakland, Term expires June 10, 1901
Charles S Givens, San Francisco, Term expires May 23, 1902
Max Goldberg, San Francisco, Term expired.
William G. Kerckhoff, Los Angeles, Term expires May 23, 1902
William H. Metson, San Francisco, Term expires May 23, 1902

Guardian: John F. Stevens (replaces Miles Wallace)^{xix}

[Note-added Henshaw, guardian Stevens; unseated Goldberg, Wallace]

1902

Governor Henry Gage (Gov. 1899-1903)

Thomas A. Hender, appointed March, 1902
John G. Wilson, appointed March, 1902
Frank H. Short, appointed January, 1902
(Terms of previous three end January 3, 1903)
W. Henshaw, appointed January, 1899
W. H. Metson, appointed May, 1898
W. G. Kerckhoff, appointed May, 1898
Charles S. Givens, appointed May, 1898
W. W. Foote, appointed January 1901

Guardian: John F. Stevens
J. J. Lermen, Secretary and Treasurer.

[Note- added Hender, Wilson, Short; unseated Kinney, Clinch ??]^{xx}

1903

Governor George C. Pardee (1903-1907)

Thomas A. Hender, appointed March, 1902
John G. Wilson, appointed March, 1902
Frank H. Short, appointed January, 1902
W. Henshaw, appointed January, 1899
W. H. Metson, appointed May, 1898
W. G. Kerckhoff, appointed May, 1898
Charles S. Givens, appointed May, 1898
W. W. Foote, appointed January 1901

Guardian: John F. Stevens
J. J. Lermen, Secretary and Treasurer. Office, Hayward Building Building, San Francisco.

[Note- no changes from 1902 except for Governor]

1904

Governor George C. Pardee (1903-1907)

Thomas A Hender,
J. G. Wilson.

Frank H. Short,
William G. Henshaw,
William H. Metson,
William G. Kerckhoff,
Charles S. Givens, Vice-President.

George T. Harlow, Guardian (replaces Stevens)
J. J. Lermen, Secretary and Treasurer. Office, Hayward Building Building, San Francisco.

[Note- added guardian Harlow; unseated Foote (died in February, replaced in 1905) & Stevens]^{xxi}

1905

Governor George C. Pardee (1903-1907)

Warren M. Watson appointed Commissioner to replace Foote, who died Feb. 1904.^{xxii}
Thomas A Hender,
J. G. Wilson.
Frank H. Short,
William G. Henshaw,
William H. Metson,
William G. Kerckhoff,
Charles S. Givens, Vice-President.

George T. Harlow, Guardian
J. J. Lermen, Secretary and Treasurer. Office, Hayward Building Building, San Francisco.

ⁱ Letters, I. W. Raymond [and see below] to John Conness 2/20/1864 and Conness to J. W. Edmonds, Commissioner of the General Land Office 3/6/1864, reprinted in "Yosemite: the Story of an Idea" (1948) by Hans Huth: http://www.yosemite.ca.us/library/yosemite_story_of_an_idea.html attributed by Huth thus: ⁶⁹The papers quoted are filed in the U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C., under: General Land Office—Letters Sent Concerning Private Land Claims, Vol. 25 (1862-65), and Miscellaneous Letters Received 033572.

ⁱⁱ Source: 28 March 1864 Senate Bill S.203 38th Congress, 1st Session introduced by Senator Conness establishing Board of Commissioners; Library of Congress; current online location: <http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llsb&fileName=038/llsb038.db&recNum=1047>

ⁱⁱⁱ *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1877 p.7: "These are the only changes that have taken place in the constitution of the Board since 1864... William Ashburner, Secretary"

^{iv} Ibid.

^v Ibid.

^{vi} Ibid.

^{vii} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1879: "The only change that has taken place in the Board during the past two years is the appointment of William C. Priest...in place of Prof. J. D. Whitney... William Ashburner, Secretary"

^{viii} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1880

^{ix} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1883-1884

^x *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1885-1886

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- ^{xi} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1887-1888
- ^{xii} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1889-1890
- ^{xiii} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1891-1892
- ^{xiv} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1893-1894
- ^{xv} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1895-1896
- ^{xvi} *Report of the Committee appointed by the Senate at the thirty-second session of the Legislature, 1897 to make an examination of state institutions*, 1897 p. 178 (Google books); copy in Bopp files
- ^{xvii} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1897-1898
- ^{xviii} *The American almanac, year-book, cyclopaedia and atlas, Volume 1* New York American and Journal, Hearst's Chicago American and San Francisco Examiner, 1902, p. 819 (Google eBook)
- ^{xix} Mariposa Gazette 3/25/1899 (copy in Bopp files)
- ^{xx} *The American almanac, year-book, cyclopaedia and atlas, Volume 1* New York American and Journal, Hearst's Chicago American and San Francisco Examiner, 1902, p. 819 (Google eBook)
- ^{xxi} *Biennial Report of the Commissioners to Manage The Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove*, 1903-1904
- ^{xxii} http://www.leighlarson.com/warren_mortimer_watson.htm; *Oakland Tribune*, Oakland, CA, Saturday Evening, September 23, 1905