

courage in starting out at that age to make his own way in the world, and though occasionally he met with rebuffs and discouragements, he persevered and is enjoying the results of his efforts, in the maintenance of one of the most successful industries in this section of Sonoma county. In setting out from Ohio he first went - to Illinois, where he found employment on a farm, but after he had been there a few years he again became dissatisfied with his surroundings and from there he went to Arizona and engaged in the cattle business. All was not smooth sailing there, for the Indians destroyed his cattle and made it impossible for him to continue there longer. Selling the cattle that remained, he continued still further west, reaching California in the summer of 1883, and during the same year he made his first attempt as a chicken raiser in Modoc county. The incubator which he there constructed and put in operation was the product of his own brain entirely, for up to that time he had not seen a device for hatching thickens. Though crude as compared with present-day incubators, he nevertheless realized that his idea was in the line of progress and he determined to locate where conditions were more conducive to carrying on the business on a larger and more successful scale. It was for this purpose that he came to Sonoma county in 1892 and set up the incubator which he brought with him from Modoc county. With renewed zest and interest he worked industriously in building up the poultry industry and was doing a thriving business in hatching chickens, when he became a victim to the gold fever that broke out in Alaska in 1897. Two years spent in that cold, northern country found him returning to California, in 1899, a poorer but a wiser man, and the same year he resumed the work which he had laid by, manufacturing incubators and raising chickens. Each year that has since elapsed has marked a steady growth -in volume of business, and today he has one of the largest hatcheries in the county. A large brick building has recently been erected to properly house his incubators, of which he has seventy-five, each of which has a capacity of thirteen hundred and twenty eggs. A departure in the chicken business that is probably practiced nowhere except in California, is the shipping of day-old chicks to purchasers within reasonable distance. Mr. Lasher has been especially successful in this branch of his business, and not only makes shipments to all parts of California, but also as far east as Salt Lake City. Notwithstanding the fact that the latter trip occupies three days, the chicks arrive alive and in good condition.

While a resident of Modoc county, in 1888, Mr. Lasher was united in marriage with Miss Nora Drew, a native of Iowa. Six children have been born of this marriage, Cora, Lela, Clara, Amil, Nora and Charles. The second daughter, Lela, is now Mrs. D. K. Hutchinson, of Madera, Cal.

---

#### BRAINERD JONES.

That congenial work means success is exemplified in the life accomplishments of Brainerd Jones, a well-known and highly certificated architect of Petaluma, with well equipped offices at No. 'Jo Washington street. He was born in Chicago, Ill., March 25, 1869, his father being Cyrus R. Jones, a prominent Chicago attorney, and his mother, before marriage, Helen L. Brainerd, of De Ruyter, N. Y. At an early age, shortly after the death of his father,

he accompanied his mother to California, locating at Petaluma, where his school days were spent, and his education obtained.

Deciding to follow architecture as a life work his technical studies were pursued in San Francisco, Cal., where as draftsman in the offices of some of the most prominent architects of that city he obtained the further experience and knowledge of the details of the profession necessary for the practice of architecture. Attracted by the business, progress, and evident future development of the North of Bay counties, he returned in 1898 to Petaluma, where his home town and the neighboring cities offered excellent opportunity for a practical young architect, and his selection of a locality for the exercise of his ability has proven a wise one.

During the twelve years of his practice here Mr. Jones has designed and supervised the erection of many of the finest structures in this and other cities, among which are, Carnegie library buildings, school buildings, banks, churches, fraternal halls, business blocks, summer resorts, residences, and the various other works that occur in the field of architecture. The character of his work demonstrates his ability in design and in practical building construction.

In 1900 Mr. Jones married Jeannette S. Gibson, a native of California, and a daughter of C. S. Gibson, one of the pioneer settlers of Petaluma. Fraternal Brainerd Jones' is a member of the Order of Elks, being identified with Petaluma Lodge No. 901, B. P. O. E.

---

#### D. B. HART\_

The records of the Hart family show that it has been represented in the United States since Revolutionary days, and that at least one of its members was an influential and leading factor in that history-making period is evidenced by the fact that John Hart was one of the signers of that famous document, the Declaration of Independence. Virginia was the home of the family for many generations, where its members were esteemed and respected and participated in all measures that tended toward the development of the locality in which they lived. It was while the parents were living in Randolph county, Va. (now West Virginia) that the birth of D. B. Hart occurred on the parental homestead near Beverly, in 1833. The times and the locality were not famous for the educational advantages which the youth of to-day enjoys, and perhaps for that very reason the youth of that day developed qualities sadly lacking in the present generation, to whom advantages and opportunities for an education seem unlimited. Mr. Hart made the most of the advantages offered by the country school near Beverly, which served as a foundation for the later knowledge which he gained by reading and observation.

Farming was the first occupation to which Mr. Hart turned his hand upon attaining mature years, an occupation which was congenial and remunerative, as was also the carpenter's trade which he later learned and carried on in addition to his farming enterprise. Many years' experience in this dual occupation had preceded his removal to California, in 1886, at which time he came to Sonoma county and settled in Santa Rosa. Nearly a quarter of a century has since passed. and Mr. Hart has nothing but praise for the garden spot to which Fate

brought him at that time, or at least, what it has since become. California in general, and Santa Rosa in particular, has no more enthusiastic admirer than he is, toward whose development he has labored industriously and may therefore be counted among the upbuilders of this flourishing commonwealth. Since coming to Santa Rosa Mr. Hart has confined his attention to contracting and building.

In 1854, when he was twenty-one years of age, Mr. Hart was united in marriage to Miss Anzina Wilmoth, a native of Virginia, in which state their marriage occurred. Five children were born of this marriage, but of the number only two are living, a daughter in West Virginia and a son now residing in Los Angeles. The mother of these children passed away in 1883, and five years later Mr. Hart married his present wife, who in maidenhood was Miss Sarah P. Forsyth, but at the time of her marriage with Mr. Hart was the widow of H. C. Mizer. She was the daughter of Barnett Forsyth, a native of North Carolina, from which state he migrated with his family to Tennessee, and it was there that the birth of the daughter, Mrs. Hart, occurred. When she was seven years of age the family immigrated to Benton county, Ark., and there she was reared and educated, and there too occurred her marriage to Mr. Mizer in 1850. Two years later Mr. and Mrs. Mizer set out for California, making the journey overland by ox-team. A pause in the wearisome journey was made on Bear river, but they soon took up the march again and finally reached their destination, Sonoma county, Cal. After the death of Barnett Forsyth, which occurred in Arkansas in 1862, Mrs. Forsyth came to California to pass the later years of her life with her children, and here her death occurred in 1878. Besides her daughter she left two sons, both residents of Santa Rosa. At the time Mr. and Mrs. Mizer came to Sonoma county there was little in the appearance of the locality in which they settled to tempt them to become permanent settlers, cattle and horses being the chief occupants of the plains and farming as yet being an untried art. The earliest venture in this line undertaken by Mr. Mizer was in raising potatoes, for which he paid \$10 per sack, and other necessities were correspondingly high, butter demanding \$1 a pound. Before his death Mr. Mizer witnessed a vast change in the appearance of the country that twenty-five years before had seemed such a vast stretch of waste land. His death occurred in 1877. Politically Mr. Hart is a Democrat, and with his wife he is a member and active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Santa Rosa. Mr. Hart is the only representative of his family in the west, his only sister being a resident of Elkins, W. Va.

---

#### PHILIP E. VARNER.

Though taking pride in the fact that he is a Native Son of California, Mr. Varner is equally proud of the fact that he is the son of one of the state's pioneer settlers, not one of the earliest perhaps, but at least one who has accomplished much for the good of his fellowmen since taking up his residence in this western commonwealth. His grandparents on the paternal side were of German and Scotch birth respectively and their son, Samuel Varner, has exemplified in his life all the sturdy qualities that these two stanch races are noted for. He was born in Ohio June 2, 1844, and was therefore little more than a lad when the

opening of the Civil war aroused him to action and witnessed his enlistment in the service of his country. His life on the battlefield of nearly four years tells a story of hardship and danger that few of his comrades were able to withstand, and the courage and bravery with which he performed all of the duties required of him on the field of battle have been no less conspicuous in the duties of private life as they have come to him. From Ohio, Samuel and Margaret (Stoffal) Varner removed westward to Kansas in 1867, and from there in 1875 again took up the westward march that was to bring them to their present home in California.

In the same year in which his parents came to California Philip E. Varner was born in Green valley, Sonoma. county, December 12, 1875. The first thirteen years of his life were associated with that immediate vicinity uninterruptedly, but at the end of that time he started out to make his own way in the world and has succeeded in accomplishing the purpose which he then determined upon. Going to Occidental, this county, he secured employment more congenial to his tastes than he had found farming, and after remaining there eight years, changed his location as well as his line of employment, working as a teamster in the navy yard at Vallejo for three years. It was after this varied experience that he came to Santa Rosa,, with which locality his interests have since been identified. The restaurant business engaged his attention for the first eight years, after which he sold out his business and for one and a-half years thereafter was engaged in the management of the St. Rose hotel, giving it up at the end of that time to establish the fuel and grain business of which he is now the proprietor. This is one of the live, enterprising business establishments of Santa Rosa, and the proprietor is enjoying a business commensurate with the labor and efforts which he exerts.

In 1900 Mr. Varner was married to Miss Jennie Smith, a daughter of Frank Smith, a native of Maine, who with his wife is now making his home in Santa Rosa, Cal. Politically Mr. Varner is a Republican, active in the ranks of his chosen party, as he is indeed to whatever he lends his name and influence. In 1908 he was appointed deputy sheriff of Sonoma county, a position which he has filled for the past two years, and he has also acted in the capacity of deputy county clerk. By right of his birth in California Mr. Varner is eligible to membership in the Native Sons of the Golden West, a privilege of which he has availed himself, and Santa Rosa Parlor No. 28; has no more enthusiastic member.

---

#### MISS FLORENCE M. BARNES.

No greater field of usefulness exists than that of educational activity and those who give their lives to the training of the young are, of all others, the most helpful factors in the development of the human race. California has gained a reputation for its thoroughness in educational work, and this high standing is due to its talented and energetic educators. In this list belongs the name of Miss Florence M. Barnes, formerly one of the efficient teachers of Healdsburg, and now superintendent of the schools of Sonoma county.

A native of the town in which she accomplished so much, Miss Barnes was born in Healdsburg March 1, 1880, the daughter of William H. and Sarah

Frances (Grinsted) Barnes, both natives of Missouri, but residents of California since 1870. With the other children of the parental family she received her early education in the public schools of Healdsburg, supplementing this training by a course in the University of California, from which institution she graduated in 1903. Immediately following her graduation she became a teacher on the staff of the Healdsburg grammar school, a position which she filled efficiently until she assumed the duties of principal of the same institution in 1905. That she keeps abreast of the times in her profession will be easily recognized in the statement that she is a staunch believer in the education of the hand as well as the brain, and in order to prepare herself to introduce and maintain manual training as a part of the curriculum of the grammar school, she has taken a special course in this line, a training which has deepened her conviction that manual training is a vital necessity to the proper training of the young.

As an indication of the regard in which Miss Barnes is held it may be said that in 1910 she was a candidate for and was elected on the Democratic ticket county superintendent of schools. Not only is she active in educational circles, but she is also an active worker in the order of Eastern Star, being matron of Sotoyome Chapter No. 82, of Healdsburg. Much credit is due Miss Barnes for what she has thus far accomplished in her professional career, and undoubtedly a brilliant future awaits her efforts, a success which her unusual talents deserve.

---

#### ARCANGELO SARTORI.

The experiences of maturity have identified Mr. Sartori with Sonoma county, where he is engaged in ranching pursuits in the vicinity of Petaluma and where he has worked his way forward from a very humble position to one of considerable prominence. As an agriculturist he is making specialties of dairying and the poultry business, in both of which he has made a commendable record. The Sartori ranch, owned and occupied by him, comprises five hundred acres, five miles east of Petaluma, the larger portion of which is utilized for pasturage purposes and the remainder furnishes the usual farm crops. Seventy-five milch cows and fourteen head of young cattle, together with twenty-one head of hogs, furnish stock from which a neat income is received, while two thousand hens add a goodly income to the annual revenue. The ranch is well improved with a large substantial residence and three barns. In addition to other stock he has seventy-six cows and twenty-two calves in another dairy, in Yuba City, Sutter county. The care of his ranch and of the stock leave him little leisure for participation in public activities and with the exception of attending the Roman Catholic Church and voting the Republican ticket, he takes no part in religious or political affairs.

From the age of sixteen years a resident of Sonoma county, Arcangelo Sartori was born in the village of Guimaglio, Canton Ticino, Switzerland, April 12, 1865, and was one of four children, the others being Victor, Maris and Maria. The second-named is married and has three children, Romeo, Gladys and Maria. The parents, Jowak and Maria (Pezzi) Sartori, were natives of Switzerland and possessed the frugal, thrifty and forceful qualities that have given the land of William Tell an enviable standing throughout the world. Mr.

Sartori was reared to habits of industry and self-denial and was thoroughly prepared for the task of earning a livelihood. From boyhood he has been familiar with dairying and throughout all of his active life he has devoted himself to ranching, chickens and cows furnishing him with his principal source of revenue.

The capable woman who for years has been the companion of Mr. Sartori bore the maiden name of Adalini Lafranchi and was born in the village of Someo, Switzerland, December 4, 1871. They are the parents of eleven children, namely : Simon, Ernest, Victor, Flora, Isabel, Elsie, Evaline, Edna, Josephine and Dorothy (twins) and Ellen. As the children reach the necessary age they are sent to the country school near the ranch and are given every opportunity for acquiring a good common-school education, it being the ambition of the father to prepare them for whatever responsibilities the world may hold in wait for their mature years. The parents of Mrs. Sartori were, Joseph and Jane (Righetti) Lafranchi, natives of Switzerland and members of a substantial farming community in their native canton. Early in life, when fourteen years of age, Mr. Lafranchi left Europe and sailed to Australia, where he entered the mines. Not meeting with the desired luck there he returned to his native land and was later married. Subsequently he came to the United States, and in Arizona, near Prescott, he located on government land. There he carried on agriculture successfully for a few years, when he sold out his holdings for \$7,000 and came to California, in 1882. Near Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, he located on a ranch and became a permanent resident and respected farmer of this part of the state. In his family there are five children, Edward, Marino, Adalini, Olympiia and Clara. Edward married Lucy Puezzi and has three children, Victor, Edward and Edna. Marino married Emily Peterson and has three children, Everett, Loretta and Violet. Olympiia is the wife of Peter Guglielmetti and the mother of four sons and four daughters, namely : Lillian, Columbus, Julius, Marino, Jennie, Emma, Esther and baby. Clara Lafranchi is the wife of Frederick Pedrotti and the mother of one son and three daughters, Mervin, Maria, Hazel, and Esther. For years the Sartori and Lafranchi families have been among the most highly respected residents of Sonoma county and they enjoy the esteem, not only of their countrymen living here, but also of all who hold in high regard the solid traits that form the foundation of their citizenship.

---

#### JOHN LESLIE.

Devotion to duty, the creed of ancestors in past generations, has been the keynote of the agricultural prosperity achieved by John Leslie, the prosperous farmer and influential resident of Russian River township, and the owner of an improved farm lying in the vicinity of Windsor, Sonoma county. The most noticeable attributes in the character of Mr. Leslie are his inheritance from Scotch progenitors and these he has supplemented with the American quality of ceaseless energy. When he came to this county in 1877 he was without means nor had he influential friends to aid him in securing land and making a start in the new location, but he possessed thrift, frugality and determination. In addition he has received the assistance of a capable wife who is both a wise counselor and an economical housekeeper. It has thus been

possible for him to accumulate a valuable farm and to rise to a place among the township's prominent citizens.

The family record includes the names of John W. and Margaret (Sine) Leslie, the former born in Perthshire, Scotland, in 1784, and by his marriage the father of four children, namely : John, whose name heads this article and who was born in Perthshire in 1849; William, a gunner in the English army; Margaret, Mrs. Duncan McCall, who has one child, a daughter; and Agnes, who is married and has six children, her home being in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. The son first-named came to the United States in 1873 and settled in Sacramento, Cal., whence he removed to Sonoma county in 1877. In establishing a home of his own he married Agnes Clark, a native of Perthshire, Scotland, and a daughter of John and May (Young) Clark, being one of four children. Her only brother, William Clark, married Jessie Robertson and has two sons, John and James. A sister, Gussie, married Alexander Stewart and has four sons and two daughters. The remaining member of the family was a daughter, May Clark. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie was blessed with five children, viz.: William, Thomas, Charles W., Margaret M. and Jeanette. The older daughter, Margaret M., Mrs. Robert Gibbons, has one child, Rosella E., who is the pet and pride of her grandparents.

The Leslie homestead comprises one-half section of land, a portion of which is in timber and a considerable amount in pasture, furnishing grass for the live-stock kept on the farm, including a drove of two hundred sheep. The annual- income from the sheep is large, as is also the income from the forty acres of fruit and the vineyard of twenty acres. It is the aim of the owner to cultivate a variety of crops, so that a failure in one might not seriously impair the annual revenue. During the season of 1909 he sold \$500 worth of fruit and had an income of \$600 from his sheep, besides which he had various other sources of income from the land, so that it brought him excellent interest on its value. Besides taking charge of his home place he has acted as sheep inspector under appointment by the county board of supervisors and this responsible position he has filled with credit to himself. Reared in the ,Presbyterian faith in his old Scotch home, he has never swerved in his allegiance to the doctrines of the denomination, but ever has stood ready to contribute to its maintenance and promote its welfare to the extent of his ability. Since becoming a citizen of our country he has identified himself with the Republican party and has given stanch support to its principles.

---

#### FRED WHITAKER.

The name of Whitaker is one well known in various sectionsbi-C4i-ornia, and covers a period which dates from the memorable year of 1849. The earliest member of the family of whom we have any definite knowledge was the Hon. John McCormick Whitaker, who was born February II, 18ot, in Clermont county, Ohio, and resided in his native state until 1827. In that year he went to Michigan and for nine years engaged in trading with the Indians. At the end of that time, in 1836, he became a pioneer settler in Iowa, where he cleared a home for himself and family from the wilderness, and for twenty-five years

was one of the most active and influential citizens of that commonwealth. For twenty years he served in the territorial legislature, and for seven years was locating agent, being appointed by the legislature to select and locate five hundred thousand acres of land donated to the state for internal improvements, but, by the constitution, devoted to the support of schools, the establishment of which he personally supervised. From Iowa he came to California in 1861, settling in San Luis Obispo county, where he made his home until his death in 1891, at which time he was ninety years of age. He was a man of exceptional executive and business ability, very successful from any standpoint from which his life might be viewed, and he was also a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity.

Among the children in the family of Hon. John McCormick Whitaker was James P. Whitaker, who was born in Clermont county, Ohio, October 13, 1824. He was therefore about three years old at the time his father removed with his family to Michigan, and there and in Laporte county, Ind., his early boyhood was passed. He was about twelve years old when, in 1836, removal was made to Van Buren county, Iowa, where they were among the very first settlers. The nearest neighbor was ten miles away, and game, which was abundant in the forest, formed the chief article of diet. Wild animals and Indians were a constant source of terror to the settlers, making it necessary to be on guard much of the time until conditions changed. It was on his wilderness farm in Iowa that the news of the finding of gold reached Mr. Whitaker in 1849, and during the same year he started on the overland journey with ox-teams for the Eldorado. Mining absorbed his attention for two years, after which, in the spring of 1853, he located in Marin county and invested the proceeds of his mining venture in land. There on six hundred acres of land he successfully carried on farming, dairying and stock-raising until 1881, when he leased his ranch and purchased two hundred acres in Russian River valley, Cloverdale township, and at once began the improvement of his estate, erecting a commodious residence and all the necessary barns and outbuildings usually seen upon an up-to-date, thriving ranch. This was known as the old Turner ranch, and here Mr. Whitaker engaged in grape-raising on an extensive scale. He himself superintended and managed the ranch until 1883, when he suffered an accident that prevented him from continuing his former active labors. Finally he sold his fine property to the Italian-Swiss Company for \$23,000, and with his family took up his abode in Cloverdale. It was there that he passed away March 26, 1891, his death closing a career that had been ennobling and uplifting. Observation had led him to the conviction that intemperance was the greatest evil with which we as a nation had to contend, and as long as his health permitted he worked indefatigably to stem the corrupting tide, both by lectures and personal work.

The marriage of James P. Whitaker, September 28, 1858, united him with Miss Jane Carroll, who was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, and came to the United States with her parents when an infant. She received exceptional educational advantages in the public schools of New York-City, and after coming to Sonoma county, Cal., in 1855, was engaged in teaching here until her marriage. Four children were born of this union, as follows : Gilbert, a resi-

dent of San Francisco ; Lottie, the wife of Augustus Martin, of San Francisco ; Fred and Wallace J., the latter also a resident of San Francisco.

While the parents were living in Marin county Fred Whitaker was born near Tomales, October 11, 1863. Although he was reared to a full knowledge of ranch life, his inclination tended in other directions, and in following the line of work for which nature intended him he is not only successful, but is happy and contented. While still a youth he showed a decided taste for things mechanical, and fitted himself for an engineer's position, and for the past fifteen years he had been the efficient engineer of the Cloverdale water works, and for a considerable time he has also been a member of the volunteer fire department. His thorough knowledge of the value of land has been put to good account of late years through the purchase and sale of numerous pieces of real-estate, among which was a tract which he purchased for \$500 and sold for \$5,000 twenty years later. Another was a tract of one hundred and thirty-two acres, for which he paid \$200, and which he sold for \$25 an acre. He has recently purchased a six-hundred acre tract of mountain and timber land, besides which he owns a like amount of land in Mendocino county. Fraternally he is a member and past grand of Cloverdale Lodge No. 193, I. O. O. F., and is also a member of Sotoyome Lodge, Foresters of America, of Healdsburg.

---

#### JOHN ANDERSON.

The entire period of his boyhood and early maturity was passed by Mr. Anderson in his native country, Denmark, where he was trained in the habits of industry, frugality and intelligent labor characteristic of his countrymen. Born in 1845, he was only a little less than thirty years of age when he bade farewell to the scenes and friends of youth and crossed the ocean to the new world, proceeding westward to California and taking up land in Sonoma county. Throughout the remainder of his busy and honorable career he remained a resident of this section of the state and identified himself closely with interests leading to the local upbuilding. Lying along the coast of the Pacific ocean stretch seven hundred acres of pasture and timber land, forming an estate known as Horse-shoe Bay farm, three miles below Stewart Point. Since his death, which occurred September 16, 1908, the family have remained on the old homestead and have engaged in the summer-resort business, their picturesque estate offering exceptional advantages for camping grounds and the successful entertainment of summer visitors.

In addition to engaging in agricultural pursuits Mr. Anderson for sixteen years served as a justice of the peace and thus gained the title of Judge by which he was known throughout Sonoma county. As a justice he proed-himself to be impartial, wise, tactful and the possessor of a broad knowledge of the law, such as is not often found in one untrained in the profession. When he came to the west he was a single man and -it was not until a few years afterward that he established domestic ties. In his' marriage he was unusually fortunate, for his wife proved to be a capable helpmate, devoted counselor and sagacious mother, ministering to his comfort until he passed away and ably superintending his estate subsequent to his demise. A native of Bodega, Sonoma county, she

bore the maiden name of Ella Samsel and was born in 1863, receiving a fair education in the schools of her home town and a thorough domestic training in a home where thrift and economy ruled.

Eight children comprised the family of Judge John and Ella Anderson, namely : Carl L.; Eugene T. ; John F. C.; Estelle, who married J. S. Wills, a native of Iowa; Freda C., who married Charles P. Branigan, a native of Texas ; Hilda H., whose husband, M. J. Pellascio, was born in Switzerland, their union being blessed with two children, John C. and Letha L.; Florence, deceased; and Margaret E., who resides with her mother at the old homestead. Mrs. Anderson descends from old southern ancestry. Her father, Hiram Samsel, was born in Maryland in the year 1805 and during youth learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed in the east as well as after his removal to the Pacific coast in the '50s, crossing the plains with ox-teams. Fraternally he was an active local lodge worker in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. When somewhat advanced in middle life he married Susan Goforth, who was born in Tennessee in 1838. Of that union there were three children, as follows: Charles E., who resides at Visalia ; Isaac L., a resident of Oakland; and Ella, who became the wife of Judge Anderson. Mrs. Anderson's second marriage united her with Karl M. Nilsen, who was born in Laurvick, Norway, the son of Christian Nilsen, a merchant in that town, where Karl was reared and educated in the public schools. Like most of the young men of that vicinity he went to sea, and for many years he sailed on the large merchant marine vessels, which entered nearly every port of the world. On coming to the United States he enlisted in the navy, serving one term, and after his honorable discharge he located in Sonoma county, Cal., where he is engaged in farming on Horseshoe Bay ranch. Beautifully located on the Pacific ocean, it affords a delightful view of the ocean and surrounding country, besides which it is heavily timbered with redwood, pine and oak. Mr. Nilsen is raising cattle and getting out railroad ties and tan bark. In his religious belief he is a Lutheran, while his wife is an Episcopalian.

---

#### NATHANIEL A. GRIFFITH.

With Nathaniel Griffith agriculture is a science to be carefully studied, continually improved and indefatigably pursued. No carelessness or laxity on his part is indulged in, thus preventing risks in the successful and complete utilization of the great forces of nature at his command. When he first located on his present ranch in Sonoma county he undertook the raising of grapes, with a few acres of mixed apples. The Gravenstein variety proving the best adapted to this soil, he gradually replaced the vines and other varieties of apples with Gravensteins, of which he is today the largest and most successful grower in this section of Sonoma county. All that is his today is the result of his individual effort after a careful and comprehensive study of the best method to pursue in the cultivation of the apple, and results are abundant evidence that he has made no mistake in singling out the Gravenstein variety as his specialty, in the cultivation of which he is an authority throughout this section.

The earliest recollections of Mr. Griffith are of a home in Iowa, where he was born in 1850, the son of Thomas and Lucy (Bell) Griffith, the former a

native of Kentucky, and the latter of Indiana. The father is now deceased, but the mother is still living, having attained the good old age of eighty years. The early married life of the parents was passed on a farm in Wapello county, Iowa, and it was in this community that Nathaniel A. was reared and educated, and it was there too that he gained his first knowledge of practical agriculture. By the time he was twenty-four years of age Iowa seemed limited in its opportunities and in removing further west he found larger scope for his ambition. After an experience of nine years in Nevada he came to California, in 1883. At that time he purchased seventy-eight acres of land near Santa Rosa, but in the meantime has disposed of a portion of his land, now owning fifty acres. At the time of purchase the land was uncultivated and altogether unpromising in appearance, but he undertook the task of cultivation with a will, and while not altogether successful at first, has persevered until he is now one of the most successful ranchers in the county. In addition to twenty-four acres in grapes, he planted several acres to mixed apples, but study and experience proved beyond question the superiority of the Gravenstein, and the greater part of his ranch, thirty-five acres, is now in this variety of apple, one of the largest bearing orchards of this variety in the county. For several years he picked and marketed the fruit himself, but since then he has sold his crops on the trees to the packers, Frank Simpson & Co., of Los Angeles. The average returns from his apple orchard for the past few years have been \$5,000, an excellent showing and one which is well deserved by this intelligent and thrifty rancher.

Mr. Griffith's marriage in 1882 united him with Miss Ida J. Fleming, a native of New Jersey. The eldest of the four children born of this marriage is Guy F., born in November, 1883, who is at home and assisting in the care of the home ranch ; Grace M., born in May, 1885, is the wife of Charles B. Allison, of Santa Rosa ; Alice F., born in July, 1886, is still at home, as is also Nellie B., born in 1890. Mrs. Griffith's parents were both natives of the east, the father born in New Jersey and the mother in New York state. Politically Mr. Griffith may be said to be independent, adhering to neither of the great political bodies, but voting for the man possessing the highest principles combined with his ability for the office in question.

---

#### CHARLES H. LEWIS.

As one of the successful ranchers in the vicinity of Petaluma, Sonoma county, C. H. Lewis is sustaining his part in the upbuilding of the community in which he has made his home for over thirteen years. As are many of the men who have come to this section of the country and made a name and place for themselves, at the same time assisted in building up the locality along substantial lines, Mr. Lewis is a native of the east, his birth having occurred in Van Rensselaer county, N. Y., in 1841. The westward trend of immigration in the early '50s witnessed the removal of the Lewis family to Wisconsin, and the town of Racine was the scene of a happy home life for many years thereafter. There it was that the son, C. H., grew to a stalwart young manhood, strengthening his muscles in working as a farm hand in the vicinity of his home when not attending school.

Striking out in the world on his own behalf, Mr. Lewis went to Dane county<sup>y</sup>, Wis., where he put his knowledge of farming to a practical test for two years, at the end of which time he removed to Mount Vernon, same county, and there started in the hotel business, a line of occupation for which he was so well fitted by a happy combination of personal qualities. Subsequently he removed to- Brodhead, Green county, and there, too, he opened a hotel, in the maintenance of which he was no less successful than in his former location. Each removal tended to bring him a little nearer to his final goal, and his stay in Chillicothe,-Mo., whither he went from Brodhead, Wis., proved his starting point for the far west, coming here in 1897, from which year also dates his residence in Petaluma, Sonoma county. Here in the years that have since intervened he has won a place in the hearts of the citizens among whom he settled, for in him they have recognized a man of genuine worth and unimpeachable character. Since coming to California Mr. Lewis has followed the business with which he first became familiar as a boy, tilling the soil. Here he is superintending the ranch of his son-in-law, Dr. Bennett, comprising one hundred and sixty acres near Petaluma, devoted to the raising of hay and grain.

While a resident of Dane county, Wis., in 1874, Mr. Lewis was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Wright, who was a native of that state, born in Waukesha county in 1855. One daughter, Grace, was born of this marriage, and she is now the wife of Dr. E. G. Bennett, of Petaluma. If Mr. Lewis may be said to possess a hobby, it is for the accumulation of Indian curios, and the visitor to his home is highly entertained in viewing the collection and listening to the owner's comments thereon. In the list may be counted sixty-five mortars and several hundred pestles of the old style, 'six matates, five flat and one on three legs ; twenty-four stone axes, of which two are double grooved, and as an evidence of the rarity of the latter, it may be said that when Mr. Morehead, the well-known writer, viewed the collection, he made the statement that in all his life he had seen but four others besides those in Mr. Lewis' possession. The collection also includes an obsidian knife ten inches long; a bow and arrow which is a relic of the Modoc war and is supposed to be one hundred and fifty years old; two thousand arrow heads made of flint, some of which are barbed some with serrated edges like a saw, and still others are beveled ; one hematite axe made by the Missouri Indians ; one hundred and eighty stone plumb-bobs or sinkers made in the shape of the Caucasian plumb-bob; many fine sea shells and rare specimens of coral ; twenty-four old hand-made candle-holders of brass and iron ; and fifteen Indian baskets, water-tight, which were made by the Indians in Modoc, Siskiyou and Del Norte counties. It was while living in Wisconsin that Mr. Lewis joined the Odd Fellows order, and he has been affiliated with the order ever since.

---

#### WILLIAM COMSTOCK.

The identification of the Comstock family with this country ante-dates the Revolutionary period, for the records show that the grandfather of William Comstock enlisted in the Continental army under Washington and was a gallant defender of the colonies rights. Fairfield county, Conn., has witnessed the

births and deaths of many generations of this family, and it was on a farm in that county that the grandfather was tilling the soil when called to the defense of his country. On this same farm his son, Watts Comstock, and his grand-son, William Comstock, were born, the birth of the latter occurring August 9, 1825.

William Comstock was reared on a farm and attended the district schools near his home. Following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather before him, he had settled down to farm life in the community in which he was reared, when the quiet routine of his daily life was disturbed by the news of the finding of gold in California. He was about twenty-three years old at the time, full of enthusiasm and hope that knows no such words as failure and disappointment. He was not long in making up his mind to embark on the venturesome voyage that was to bring him to this eldorado of the west, and the year 1849 found him leaving the home of his forefathers for the port of New York, where he set sail for the Isthmus. The entire voyage lasted six months, but as soon as he reached California he lost no time in making his way to the north fork of the American river, where he had heard the prospects were exceptionally good. Subsequently he also followed mining on the Yuba river. Altogether he continued mining for about two years, finally giving it up, in 1851, to take up ranching in Contra Costa county. From there he came to Sonoma county in 1856, and in 1871 came to Santa Rosa and purchased a ranch of two hundred and forty acres near town. Here he rounded out his long and useful life, and besides the wife and son who still mourn his loss, he left many friends who loved him for his many fine traits of character.

The marriage of Mr. Comstock united him with Miss Clara Stone in 1860; she was a native of Michigan, but has been a resident of California since 1856, coming to the state at that time with her father and locating in Contra Costa county. Two children blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Comstock, Hubert and Florence, the latter of whom died at the age of sixteen years. During his early voting days Mr. Comstock was a Whig, but after the formation of the Republican party he was an advocate of its principles. Mr. Comstock was a patriotic and loyal citizen, intent upon the general good of the community, the city and state which he had made his by adoption.

---

#### JOHN JACKSON COX.

Sixty years represents the period of Mr. Cox's residence in Sonoma county, few if any in his vicinity preceding him, and both by old and young he is affectionately known and addressed as "Uncle John." Generations of the Cox family had been born and reared in the south, among them the parents of our subject, William and Lucy (Blakely) Cox, both of whom were born and reared in Kentucky but removed to Davis county, Mo., where they were farmers, and resided there until their deaths. In Knox county, Ky., John Jackson Cox was born February 17, 1835. Besides himself the parental family included six sons and two daughters, as follows : William ; Levi, who died in Missouri ; James, who also died in Missouri ; Edward T., who died in the army at Little Rock, Ark., Benjamin, a resident of Hannibal, Mo.; Martin O., who died near Nettleton, Mo.; and Armina and Talitha J., both of whom died in Missouri. Edward chose for his wife Miss • Miranda Osborn and they had five children.

Benjamin married Miss Langford and they have five children, four daughters and one son. Martin, who chose as his wife Charity Hail, became father of three children, two daughters and a son. Armina became the mother of fifteen children by her marriage with David Thomas, the family making their home in Davis county, Mo. Talitha J. became the wife of David Graves, and the mother of five children.

John Jackson Cox was a youth of fifteen years when the news of the discovery of gold in California was heralded across the plains and it was natural that he should have responded to its call as did many another ambitious youth on the verge of assuming life's responsibilities. He left St. Joseph and crossed the plains in a wagon train of ox-teams in a company of nine men. August 14, 1850, marks the date of his arrival in Ringgold, Eldorado county, where he followed mining for twelve years. Following his mining experience, in 1864, he located in Sonoma county. He and Mr. Trosper owned the Maguire ranch, from Cazadero to Gualala, upon which they ran stock. Later they sold this off to improve their places. Mr. Cox's ranch comprises one hundred and sixty-two and a-half acres, of which eight acres are in vineyard, the yield from which is quite exceptional, averaging twenty-four tons per season. Besides the land devoted to vineyard he has two acres in the various fruits grown in this locality, the remainder of the land being pasture and timber land. Mr. Cox has every reason to be contented with his lot and satisfied that fate led him to take up his residence here, for he has been successful in his undertakings and has enjoyed life in the progressive west as he never could have done in the south where he was born. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, and though he is not identified by membership with any church organization, he is nevertheless a believer in the keynote of all religions, the Golden Rule, the practice of which he exemplifies in his dealings with his fellowmen, who respect and revere him as one whose life and deeds are unimpeachable.

---

#### H. H. ATWATER.

Though passed from the scenes of earth, the memory of H. H. Atwater is enshrined in the hearts of a host of friends, who were endeared to him as a result of many years of intimate and congenial association. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Providence, in 1837, the son of parents who passed the greater part of their lives in that eastern commonwealth. The father was well known in commercial circles in that part of the state, especially in Providence, where he was established in the dry-goods business under the name of Winton & Atwater.

H. H. Atwater was reared and educated in his native town of Providence, and when the time came for him to prepare for his future from a business standpoint he entered the dry-goods store of which his father was the junior partner and learned the business in all of its details. It was with a thorough understanding of this business that he came to California in 1875, the same year coming to Petaluma and accepting a position with the dry-goods firm of Hinman & Elder. He remained in the employ of this well-known firm for a number of years, or until a better business opportunity presented itself. This was with the

Wickersham Banking Company, of which he was the efficient cashier for many years. It was while the incumbent of this responsible position that failing health made it necessary for him to take a respite from business cares, and for this purpose he went to Skaggs Springs, Sonoma county. He passed away at this health resort August 14, 1897. During the twenty-two years of his residence in Petaluma he took an interested part in her activities, and was recognized as one of the substantial and dependable citizens and upbuilders of the community. In his political affiliation he was a Republican, and fraternally he was associated with the Odd Fellows order.

Five years before coming to the west Mr. Atwater had formed domestic ties by his marriage, in New York state, with Miss Addie A. Dailey, the marriage occurring May 3, 1870. The only child of this marriage is Frank Atwater, who is a prominent merchant in Petaluma. Mrs. Atwater is proud to claim descent from good old Revolutionary stock. Her grandfather, Jared Knapp, passed through the entire conflict in the capacity of body guard to Gen. George Washington, and subsequently, in the war of 1812, fought with equal zeal against the tyranny of the Mother Country. Other historical interest centers around this patriot of Revolutionary fame in the fact that he was one of the men who led Major Andre to his execution.

The spirit of protest against injustice so marked in the make-up of this patriotic ancestor is noticeable in modified form in Mrs. Atwater, and has been put to use in high and noble causes ever since she came to Petaluma. For many years she was president of the Humane Society, and is now president of the Ladies' Improvement Club of Petaluma, which was organized in 1898 through her indefatigable labors for the betterment of civic conditions in her home city. From the day of its organization she has been at its head as president, and during this time an active campaign has been carried on in the improvement of conditions. Among other things that have been accomplished has been the laying out of the city's two parks, Hill Plaza and Walnut Park, planting trees on many of the streets, placing a well in Walnut Park, besides building sidewalks and making other improvements that but for the united action and insistence of the club might never have been possible. Not the least of the activities for which the citizens have cause to thank the club is the fine condition of the grounds around the Carnegie Library, which they laid out in artistic style and which have since been a source of pride to all citizens. The lot on which the library stands was Mrs. Atwater's personal gift to the city, an act which gave substantial evidence of her deep interest in the cause for which she has labored for so many years, the betterment of humanity in general and particularly that portion in and around her home city, Petaluma. Under the new charter the responsibility of the park finance has been placed upon the park commission, and they are at present in charge, but the Ladies' Improvement Club have been requested to take the same interest in it as formerly.

---

#### HENRY ANDREW HARDIN.

Intimately associated with the stock-raising interests of Sonoma county is Henry A. Hardin, who is the owner of a fine stock ranch near Sonoma which he rents to a tenant, being himself retired from active business cares and with his wife is enjoying the comforts which their combined efforts for many years have

made possible. Since leaving the ranch they have made their home in Petaluma, at No. 220 Seventh street.

A native of the south, Mr. Hardin was born in Oldham county, Ky., February 13, 1833, but his recollections of his birthplace are dim at best, as when he was a small boy his parents removed with their family to Johnson county, Mo. There he gained a modest education in the country schools of the locality of his home, and when not in attendance during the short term, was employed on the home farm and also worked on a carding machine in preparing wool for market. He found this work rather uninteresting and monotonous after hearing of the larger prospects which the west had to offer, and when he was only nineteen years old he decided to take his future in his hands and come to the Pacific coast country. There were fifteen wagons in the ox-team train with which he set out from Missouri in 1852, and it was six months and twelve days before they arrived in California. The records do not state that they were molested by the Indians, but a foe of even greater danger attacked them in the form of cholera, from which a number of the party died. The journey finally completed, Mr. Hardin came direct to Sonoma county and near Sebastopol succeeded in securing work on a ranch. Later, in the same locality, he bought out a squatter and fenced in about four hundred acres, which he stocked with cattle and sheep, carrying on stock-raising and dairying there for about ten years, or until the land title was settled. He then went into another section and bought five hundred and forty acres, which he utilized as he had his former tract, cattle and sheep raising and dairying, remaining on the ranch altogether for fifteen years, during which time he added to the size of the ranch by the purchase of two hundred acres of adjoining land. Subsequently he disposed of a portion of this acreage. In 1872 he bought eight hundred head of cattle that his brother had brought from Texas, meeting them at the forks of the Platte river, and from there he drove them to Nevada and sold them the following year. Returning to California, he stopped on his home place and in 1876 disposed of it and bought two hundred acres of land near Lakeville, upon which he located and made his home for the following nineteen years, selling it at the end of this time and purchasing in its place the fine stock ranch of which he is now the owner near Sonoma. This is one of the largest tracts of land in the county owned by one person, comprising twelve hundred and forty acres. At one time, for about six years, he ran about six thousand sheep in Monterey county, on the Salinas river, making his home in Sonoma county during that time. For many years after purchasing his present property Mr. Hardin superintended it personally, but for sixteen years the active management of the property has been in the hands of a tenant, and since retiring from business he has made his home in Petaluma. He has a personal and kindly interest in his home town, the growth of which he has watched from a straggling village, and he has always favored the maintenance of churches and good schools, and has served on the boards of both as a trustee for many years. He has always supported the movements put forth that have been for the upbuilding of the county and advancement of the social and moral interests of the citizens.

The first marriage of Mr. Hardin, in 1856, united him with Miss Mary E. Leard, a native of Illinois. Five children were born to them, but three of the number are deceased, Josephine, Robert H. and Andrew. Those living are

Paschal H., a resident of Petaluma, and Rosetta, the wife of Judge N. J. Barry, of Reno, Nev. Mr. Hardin's second marriage occurred in 1869 and united him with Miss Martha M. Veale, also a native of Illinois. Five children were born of this marriage also, as follows: Dr. A. E. Hardin, who is practicing his profession in Washington; Ella Irene, the wife of Thomas Worth, of Sebastopol; Julia, the wife of Edwin Gregory, a rancher of Petaluma ; Sarah, the wife of J. Benson, the owner and manager of a ranch near Petaluma ; and Mrs. Ida Jane Corbin.

---

#### CHARLES RAMATICI.

There is much in the California environment to will and hold the affection of the people of Switzerland. Both charm the eye with scenic beauty ; both boast of fruitful valleys nestling among the snow-capped mountains ; both attract thousands of tourists each year to enjoy the climate and behold the scenery. Somewhat alike too are the two regions in their occupations, for in both countries agriculture is a leading industry and dairying has enlisted the efforts of many of the people. These resemblances were noted by Mr. Ramatici, when in 1877 he came to California from Switzerland, where he was born in 1857, and where up to the time of his arrival in the west he had lived and labored among his kindred. At the same time he noted many differences between the two countries, difference of language, in modes of thought, in habits and customs of the peoples, in methods of conducting agricultural operations and in the adoption in the newer country of modern machinery and devices as yet unknown or little used in the older country.

On both sides of the family Mr. Ramatici is descended from ancestors who were among the first families in Switzerland, which for many generations had benefited by their labors. His immediate ancestors were Peter and Mary (Liberada) Ramatici, who were content to pass their entire lives in the land which gave them birth. Their son Charles remained an inmate of the old Swiss home until he was twenty years of age, when he made up his mind to come to the United States and the year 1877 witnessed his landing upon these shores. Coming direct to California, he located in Marin county and immediately sought employment along the line with which he was most familiar, farming. While adjusting himself to his new surroundings and acquiring a knowledge of the language of his adopted homeland he found it exceedingly advantageous to remain in the employ of others before Undertaking responsibilities on his own account. - This however would not long satisfy his ambitious nature, and as soon as circumstances made it possible he leased a ranch and engaged in the dairy business. The ranch comprised five hundred and sixty-five acres of excellent land in Marin county, within easy access of Petaluma. This **dairying** country without a superior in the state, and like the majority of ranchers in the community Mr. Ramatici is especially interested in this branch of agriculture. On the ranch mentioned he kept a herd of over one hundred milch cows, besides considerable young stock. In addition to his dairy stock he has five head of horses, eighty head of hogs and one thousand chickens of the White Leghorn breed. Taken **in** its entirety the ranch which Mr. Ramatici is operating is one of the representative ones in this part of the county, and indicates what

a man with a definite purpose may accomplish. In May, 1911, he purchased sixty-nine acres of land one-half mile south of Petaluma, where he engages in the poultry business. It is a well improved ranch and convenient to markets, and it is the owner's intention to make this his permanent home.

In the choice of a wife Mr. Ramatici chose one of his countrywomen in Miss Martha Spaletta, who was born in Switzerland in 1860, and has been a resident of California since 1886. their marriage occurring, in San Francisco. Six children have come to bless their marriage, four sons and two daughters, namely : Peter, Adolf, Romeo, Charles, Jr., Linda and Lilly. Mrs. Ramatici is the daughter of Peter and Jennie Spaletta, and comes from an ancestry that ranks high in the annals of that country. Politically Mr. Ramatici is a Republican, fraternally is identified with the Beneficanza Svizzera, and religiously is affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church, being a communicant of the organization at Petaluma.

---

#### WILLIAM HOCKIN.

Few men have come to Sonoma county in young manhood and, with little to aid them save their own indomitable energy and fixity of purpose, succeeded so well in accomplishing their praiseworthy ambitions as William Hockin. No face is more familiar to the residents of Santa Rosa, nor does any name carry with it greater weight, whether from a business, agricultural or general standpoint. Prosperity, good judgment, optimism and good will are suggested by the personality of Mr. Hockin, and one is interested in the study of his rise from its incipiency to his present position as land owner, proprietor of the Fashion livery and feed stables in Santa Rosa, and as one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of Sonoma county.

Mr. Hockin's earliest recollections are of a quiet home in Cornwall county, England, where he was born in 1850, and where he continued to make his home with his parents until reaching his majority. Leaving parents, friends and all with which he was familiar behind him, he set out for America at the age of twenty-two years, and at the end of an uneventful voyage landed at Quebec, Canada. He then went to Bowmanville, where he worked at his trade of miller for two years. From there he went to Humboldt, Tenn., there as in Canada working at the miller's trade and continuing there about one year. It was at the end of this time that he came to California and located in Sonoma county, and for over thirty-five years he has done a noble part in the upbuilding of this section of the state. For a time after settling in Santa Rosa he worked at his trade of miller, subsequently engaging in the blacksmith business in Sebastopol for about two years, when he went to Stewart's Point and filled the position of clerk in the John Fisk hotel for the same period. A change of location at the end of this time took him to Duncan's Mill, where he leased what is known as the Sewell stock ranch, managing it successfully for four years, after which he leased the Sea View summer resort and maintained it with profit for six years. It was with this varied experience to his credit that he finally returned to Santa Rosa, and since November 4, 1888, he has been proprietor of the finest

and best appointed, livery and feed stable in the city, known as the Fashion stables.

Mr. Hockin's marriage occurred in 1878 and united him with Miss Amanda Elizabeth Totton, who was born in Canada in 1857 and in whose veins flowed the blood of Scotch ancestors. Seven children were born of this union, and all of the number are still living. The eldest of the children, Gertrude A., was born October 30, 1880; Grace M., who was born in February, 1882, is married and lives in Marin county; Maud A. was born in November, 1884; Anna Belle, born in December, 1886, is the wife of M. J. Forsythe, of Williams, Cal. William H , who was born in May, 1888, chose as his wife Miss Margaret Louise Lee, and they make their home in Santa Rosa; the two youngest children, Albert, born in 1893, and Margaret, born in 1894, are still at home with their parents. In the maintenance of the livery business Mr. Hockin has the assistance of his two sons, William H. and Albert, an association which is not only amicable, but one which is profitable to all concerned. In his stable Mr. Hockin has a number of fine horses which he raised himself, and throughout this section of Sonoma county there is probably no one more thoroughly versed in the training and care of horses than is he.

Politically Mr. Hockin is a Democrat; by appointment he filled the office of postmaster at Sea View during his residence in that place. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic order, belonging to Santa Rosa Lodge No. 57, F. & A. M., and he is also a member of Santa Rosa Lodge No. 53, I. O. O. F., in which he has filled all of the chairs. As a citizen he takes a deep interest in the welfare of the city, and has never shirked his duty toward the public when opportunity has presented itself to assist in the advancement of its highest interests.

---

#### JOSEPH C. JONES.

Early in the colonial settlement of New England a branch, of the Jones family became established along the shores of the Atlantic ocean, and from that pioneer ancestry descended the prosperous farmer whose name introduces this article and whose activities for many years have been associated with the material development of Sonoma county. New Hampshire is his native commonwealth, as it was likewise the birthplace of his parents, Eliphalet and Eliza (Woodward) Jones, the former of whom, a man of sterling character and irreproachable honor, died in 1856 at the age of forty-nine years, a useful life finding its earthly end all too soon. There were five sons and four daughters in the parental family, namely : Samuel, Joseph C., Henry, Samuel, George, Elizabeth, Elmira, Emeline and Abigail. Of the daughters Elizabeth;---Mrs--- G. W. Dunlap, had two children, Herman and Mrs. Alameda Willard, the latter being the mother of three daughters and two sons. Elmira, Mrs. Saltmarsh, had one daughter. Emeline, wife of George W. Moody, had four sons and one daughter, namely : Charles, Frank, Henry, Gill and Abbie, who is married and has three children. The sons in the parental family for the most part remained in New England ; Henry married Belle Benepay, but had no children.

The others established homes of their own and became citizens of influence in their several localities.

Little of especial importance occurred to mark the boyhood of Joseph C. Jones. His early recollections are associated with the village of Unity, N. H., where he was born in 1843 and where he attended the public schools, laying the foundation for a liberal education afterward extended by travel and close observation. Desiring to settle in the great undeveloped west he came to California in 1865, landing at San Francisco, where he secured employment and remained for a time. During the year 1876 he removed to Sonoma county, and now resides near Guerneville, where he owns a farm of two hundred acres. His attention is given to the care of the land, a part of which is in timber and pasture and the balance under cultivation. A vineyard of one acre has proved a source of considerable revenue. Perhaps the most valuable improvement is an orchard of twenty acres, containing four thousand fruit trees in thrifty condition. Much time is required for the care of the trees and the harvesting of the crops of fruit, but Mr. Jones feels abundantly repaid for the labor, as the prices received for the fruit are always such as to bring him a gratifying profit. His ranch, which is known as Mountain View ranch, is located on top of a mountain, overlooking the Russian river, and in clear weather it is possible to get a view of St. Helena and Santa Rosa, and also of Mount Tamalpais on the coast.

At the time of coming to California Mr. Jones was unmarried, and it was not until 1876 that he established domestic ties, his marriage in that year uniting him with Miss Mary Powers, a native of Springfield, Vt., and a woman of education and refinement. An only child came to bless their union, a daughter, Nellie M., who was given fair educational advantages and is now the wife of James George. Mrs. Mary Jones passed away in 1885, and on November 17, 1901, Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Mrs. Frances (Campbell) Lynch, a native of Wisconsin and a resident of California since 1876. She was the daughter of A. H. and Emiline B. Campbell, who at their deaths were living in Benicia. By her former marriage Mrs. Jones has two children, as follows: Mary, who is the wife of P. M. Autzen, of San Anselmo, and Frank H. Mr. Jones and his family stand high in the social circles of the community and are active members of the Episcopal Church, contributing generously to its maintenance, as well as to other worthy religious and philanthropic movements. Well posted concerning national issues, Mr. Jones has always favored Republican principles and has given the party his support in both local and general elections, but has not sought office for himself nor been solicitous for political preferment.

---

#### GRANVILLE THOMPSON AUSTIN.

To trace the lineage of the Austin family is to review a portion of the early history of Tennessee, when people of that name became identified with the struggling settlement in the midst of the forest primeval. The paternal grandfather of our subject, David Shelton Austin, was one of the first settlers of Tennessee, going there from Virginia, where he was born. He served all through

the seven years of the Revolutionary war. His son, David Austin, served in the war of 1812, the greater part of his life, however, being passed on a farm in Tennessee, where he died. Granville T. Austin is also a native of Tennessee, and was born in Sumner county in 1841, the-son of David and Polly A. (Lowry) Austin. Seven sons and three daughters constituted the parental family, as follows : John, William, David B., Albert, Thomas, Joner, Granville T., Louisa, Emily and Anna L. Albert chose as his wife Martha Wilson, and they, the parents of ten children, six sons and four daughters. Thomas and his wife, formerly Fannie Hern, have five children, two sons and three daughters. Joner is the father of four children. William married Lucy Davis, by whom he has six children, three sons and three daughters. John chose as his wife Missouri Jones, and they have three sons and one daughter. Anna L. is deceased. David B. married Mandona Jones and they have three children. Louisa is deceased. Emily, Mrs. Jones, is a resident of Los Angeles.

It was the year in which the Civil war opened that Granville T. Austin came to California, in 1861, crossing the plains with ox-teams from Bonham, Tex. Establishing himself as a rancher in Sonoma county, from a modest beginning in the vicinity 'of Guerneville he has constantly added to his acreage by the purchase of adjoining land until he now owns a fine ranch of three hundred and seventy acres, of which twenty-five acres are in vineyard. Fruit-raising is also a source of income to the owner, the returns from the vineyard and the two hundred fruit trees for the year 1909 amounting to \$950. Stock-raising is also carried on 'to some extent, and ample pasturage is provided from the land not otherwise used. Mr. Austin has always tried to do/right in all of his business transactions, and commands the highest esteem of those with whom he is associated. By training as well as from principle he is a Democrat.

Mr. Austin has been one of the upbuilders of Sonoma county and has proven what can be done by energy and close application in developing the land from the wild, tilling the soil, and setting out trees and vines. He was the first in this section to accomplish this, and now many are following in his footsteps.

In Fanning county, Tex., Mr. Austin was married to Miss Elizabeth Basham, a native of Louisiana. She died in 1884, having become the mother of four sons and two daughters. John O. married Clara Overfell and they have three sons. William G. married Lydia Wilsey and two sons and two daughters have been born to them. David Lee resides in Honolulu. Charles Harry is married and has a son and a daughter. Anna Lulu is the wife of George Nowlin and with her husband resides in Rionidi, Sonoma county. Jessie is the wife of John Archer, of Santa Rosa.

---

#### LAFAYETTE W. BACON.

Although Mr. Bacon came to California in the early '50s, his residence in the state has been of comparatively short duration, and between the date of his return to the east and his second appearance in this state, much of his most active life was passed, and now, at the age of seventy-six years, he is maintaining a ranch of twenty-two acres, near Healdsburg, which is a part of the ranch formerly owned by his sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. John Peck,

whom he assisted in locating upon this property at the time he first came west.

A native of Pennsylvania, Lafayette W. Bacon was born in Northeast, Erie county, in 1834, and when a child of two years was taken by his parents to Cleveland, Ohio. This proved but a temporary location, for the following year removal was made to Whiteside county, Ill., and there the family remained until 1846, a change of location in that year taking them to Wisconsin. Among the immigrants who crossed the plains in 1850 was Mr. Bacon's sister, Mrs. Nancy Peck, who with her husband was following the tide of immigration that gave such a different aspect to this whole western country. It was with a desire to visit his sister that Lafayette W. Bacon crossed the plains in 1853, at which time the Pecks were settling on a ranch of two hundred and forty acres near Healdsburg, Mr. Bacon assisting them and afterward making a visit of several months. Returning to Wisconsin during the following year, he resumed farming, and the same year, 1854, formed domestic ties by his marriage with Miss Jenette A. Swena, who like himself was a native of Pennsylvania. Nine children were born of this marriage, but of the number, only five are now living. Mrs. Jenette Bacon died in 1888, and two years later, in 1890, Mr. Bacon was united to his present wife, who prior to her marriage was Mrs. Martha E. (Bowers) Davis, and who was born in Indiana in 1855. No children were born of this marriage. Throughout the years of his residence in Wisconsin Mr. Bacon followed farming continuously and was a prominent and influential citizen in the community in which he lived, serving as justice of the peace in that state in 1855, and during 1860 and 1861 represented his district in the legislature of Colorado.

It was in the year 1902 that Mr. Bacon and his wife came to Sonoma county, Cal., and settled on a part of the large ranch which his brother-in-law and sister had purchased and settled upon nearly fifty years before. Here he has twenty-two acres of fine land, all under cultivation to grain and hay, in the care of which he takes a keen interest in spite of his advancing years.

In his earlier years Mr. Bacon was a believer in Republican principles, but of late he has become convinced that the Prohibition party more nearly represents his belief and has transferred his allegiance to the latter party. He has also been an active advocate of temperance through his membership in and work in behalf of the Good Templars. Since coming to California he has taken an active part in the work of the grange, and also in the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which both himself and wife are members.

Reference has already been made to Mr. Bacon's sister, Mrs. Nancy Peck. She was born in Erie county, Pa., February 6, 1819, and followed the various migrations of the family until her marriage to Mr. Peck. The year 1850 witnessed their removal to California across the plains with ox-teams, and in 1853 they located upon the ranch of which Mr. Bacon's property forms a part. This was their home uninterruptedly until 1898, when they removed into Healdsburg, and here the death of Mrs. Peck occurred December 5, 1909, at the age of ninety years and nine months, after a residence in Sonoma county of fifty-six years, and of fifty-nine years in the state. At her death she left valuable property on Lincoln street, Healdsburg, to her favorite niece, Mrs. Addie Stevens, the wife of Charles D. Stevens, and the daughter of Lafayette W. Bacon. Mrs. Peck

had made her home on this property for fourteen years, during which time she had endeared herself to all who were privileged to know her, all loving and respecting her for her genuine worth and fine traits of character. She was known by everyone in Healdsburg as Grandma Peck.

---

#### JAMES SINCLAIR.

A little over a quarter of a century marks the span of Mr. Sinclair's life in California, the greater part of which was spent in the mining regions, and although only four years mark the period of his accomplishments in Sonoma county, he is still remembered as one of her most helpful and progressive citizens. The work which he here began has been taken up and carried forward by his widow, and today no finer or more productive ranch may be seen in the vicinity of Sebastopol than the one of which she is the owner.

James Sinclair was born in Canada in 1836, the son of David Sinclair, a native of Scotland, who came to Canada in an early day and located on a farm which he took up from the government, this being a part of the land given to the Canadian government by the Queen of England. Young James grew up on this farm and remained in his Canadian home for a number of years after reaching his majority, apparently contented with his surroundings. However, in the spring of 1862 his removal to California proved that his contentment was only apparent and not real, for in coming to the west he had clear-cut plans as to his future and carried them out very successfully. Going to the mines in the vicinity of Marysville he found employment in the mining mills of that locality as an amalgamator, and while working in this capacity, was also interested in copper mining. Altogether he continued in the mining regions for about seven years, when, in 1869, he removed to Humboldt county and carried on a ranch near Arcata for the following fifteen years. It was at the end of this time, in 1884, that he came to Sonoma county and bought the property now the home of his widow. This consists of twenty acres of fine land near Sebastopol, although at the time of purchase it was rough and wild, and as unlike what it is today as it is possible for the mind to picture. Clearing the land of timber and underbrush, he set out apple trees of all the best known varieties, and although he did not live long thereafter to enjoy returns from his labor, he still had the satisfaction of knowing that his land had few if any equals, a conclusion which was strengthened during the four years he was permitted to remain upon it. Here his earth life came to a close in 1888, and the work of maintaining the ranch which he then laid down was taken up by his widow, and with what success she has discharged her duty, needs but a glance at the thrifty ranch to determine. The annual output of the ranch is seven hundred boxes of Gravenstein apples, three hundred boxes of Baldwins, and two hundred boxes of Newtown pippins, while one Belleflower tree bears a ton of fruit each year. In addition to the orchard Mrs. Sinclair has one acre in blackberries and three acres in vineyard, both berries and grapes adding considerably to the annual income from the ranch.

Before her marriage, which occurred in Marysville, Cal., June 12, 1866, Mrs. Sinclair was Miss Mary Drake, a native of Michigan and a descendant of Sir Francis Drake, the famous English navigator. As did her husband, Mrs. Sinclair came to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. One son, David, was born of their marriage, and he is now proprietor of a ranch of his own, not far from his mother's ranch, all of his fifteen acres being in orchard. Mr. Sinclair was a staunch Republican in his political views, and fraternally he was a Mason. The son is also a member of the Masonic order, being past master of Sebastopol Lodge, and a member of the Royal Arch Lodge of Santa Rosa.

---

#### RICHARD REDMOND PATTEN.

Were it possible to compile a complete record of the early experiences of Mr. Patten, an authentic account of pioneer times in Sonoma county would likewise be presented, for the man and the county have a history with much in common. It is said that Mr. Patten, in 1848, was the only white child in Sonoma city, and certain it is that he was one of the very first white children to live in this region. As memory recalls to his mind the scenes of early days he is impressed with the fact that no attempt had been made at the most vital improvements; the country was rough and covered with brush through which no paths had been made. Few roads had been opened and fewer schools had been started. Out of the chaos of primeval conditions there has gradually developed an environment of prosperity and progress, fully equal to the demands of the civilization of the twentieth century.

The first representative of the Patten family in California was John Patten, our subject's grandfather, and a pioneer of 1846 on the Pacific coast. Two years later, in 1848, the father, Joseph Patten, who was born in Missouri in 1822 and was a widower at the time mentioned, started across the plains with wagons and ox-teams, being accompanied by Richard R., born in Missouri in 1844 and scarcely four years of age at the time of the westward migration. Although so young at the time the journey made an indelible impression upon the mind of the child and the incident he most forcibly recalls is that of losing some oxen as a result of Indian depredations. He recalls the settlement in Sonoma county in 1848 and here he has since resided with the exception of two years. After coming to this state the father married Louise Chambers, who was born in Ohio and came to the west at the age of ten years. At this writing she resides near Cozzens, and here her husband died November 25, 1910, at the age of eighty-nine years.

It was not possible for Mr. Patten to secure the education that children of the present day enjoy, for Sonoma county had few schools and these were held at irregular intervals. His entire schooling consisted of an attendance of seven months during a period of three years and the last time he ever attended school the term was abruptly concluded by reason of the teacher, Mr. Graham, killing a Mr. Cooper at a horse race. That thrilling episode marked the year 1857 and terminated his educational advantages. However, through self-culture he has acquired a broad knowledge of men and things and is particularly well informed regarding the soil and agricultural possibilities of the region.

On settling in California the family secured all of their supplies from General Vallejo, who also presented them with thirty-two acres of raw land. This tract the father traded for cattle and removed to Dry creek, where he has since planted a vineyard and engaged in raising grapes. In sight of this same ranch Richard R. has made his home for fifty-two years and at this writing makes a special feature of raising grapes. He owns the old Davenport Cozzens place of thirty acres. As a citizen he favors movements for the general welfare and particularly fosters all enterprises for the horticultural development of the region.

Among the pioneers whom Mr. Patten remembers with especial pleasure is Davenport Cozzens, who came to California about 1856-57 and engaged at first in selling poultry. To that man belongs the distinction of being the first resident of the county to engage in the manufacture of wine and likewise the first pioneer to erect a store in Geyserville, before this he also operated a store in San Francisco. At this time his son, Davenport, Jr., is proprietor of a store at Cozzens, where he erected a building utilized as a postoffice. From early pioneer days that family has been prominent in the county and Mr. Patten recalls with interest many characteristics of the first of the name here. The bonds that united pioneers were closely knit and time has not lessened their feeling of affection for one another, but in the heart of every early settler there lingers a feeling of deepest regard for those who with him shared hardships, trials and countless vicissitudes in the effort to bring out the civilization and refinements of the present era.

---

#### CHARLES EDWARD FULLER

The encouraging degree of success that has crowned the arduous and long-continued efforts of Mr. Fuller did not come to him at a single bound nor indeed with any rapidity, but is the result of years of strenuous exertion and intensity of industrious application. Had he been less persevering he would have succumbed to adverse fate. More than once he lost his all and was forced to start anew. This, however, was not an uncommon experience among Californian pioneers and whenever he "went broke" there were not wanting sympathetic friends whose encouragement and words of cheer helped him to begin once more with renewed energy and dauntless determination. As he looks back over the busy past and reflects upon his present prosperous condition he has every reason to rejoice that pluck and perseverance never deserted him in days of adversity, but enabled him to achieve a final and gratifying success as one of the farmers of his county.

Descended from old eastern ancestry and the son of New England parents (Chase and Philena (Kneeland) Fuller), Charles E. Fuller was born at South Boston, Mass., in 1837, and received a fair education in local schools. From 1851 to 1853 he followed the sea and made two trips to the West-Indies. When still a mere lad news came to him concerning the discovery of gold in California and for the first time he began to be interested in the undeveloped west. Nor did that interest wane in the ensuing epoch of early youth. It was not the desire of his parents for him to go so far from them, but they reluctantly gave their consent to his departure and at the age of sixteen years he bade farewell to relatives and friends, embarking on a vessel bound for the Isthmus of Panama. After crossing the isthmus he came up the Pacific ocean

to San Francisco. Soon after his arrival he secured work by the month in Alameda county. After two years he invested his savings in a threshing machine and during the next two years he engaged in the threshing of grain. At the expiration of that time he bought a settlers' claim to one hundred and sixty acres in what is Fruitvale, but a year later he was obliged to relinquish the property because it proved to be a part of an old grant.

Removing to Marin county early in the '60s and taking up land, Mr. Fuller engaged in ranching there for two years, after which he sold the property and came to Sonoma county. about 1870 he embarked in the saw-mill business near Occidental, but two years later he bought land near Freestone, the one hundred and thirty acres then secured forming the nucleus of his present estate. At a subsequent period he worked in Mendocino county, but returned without means, to make a new start in Sonoma county. Here he erected a saw-mill for M. C. Meeker, and later in the year he built another mill for the same party. Then he started in the milling business for himself and from that time he has met with encouraging success. After he purchased his quarter-section of land in young manhood he married Elizabeth McKinly, who died in 1893, leaving no children. On March 5, 1895, he was united in marriage with Mrs. India M. (Overholser) Smith, who was born in Indiana. Her parents, Abraham Whitmore and Hester Ann (Cullum) Overholser, natives of Ohio, remained in Indiana for a considerable period, but when she was five years old they crossed the plains with oxen and mules, in 1862, and settled in Sonoma county. Mrs. Fuller is descended on the paternal and maternal sides respectively from German and English ancestors. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Fuller is Kneeland Lewis, who was born February 24, 1897, and is now a pupil in the Freestone schools.

In addition to the Walnut Hill ranch of one hundred and thirty acres, Mr. Fuller owns a fine ranch of three hundred and eighty-eight acres in the Colman valley, two and one-half miles from Occidental. Twenty acres of the home place have been planted to apple trees (Gravenstein, Spitzenberg, Wagner, Baldwin, Arkansas black, and Virginia greenings) and of this tract ten acres in full bearing bring an annual income of more than \$2,000. He also owns thirty acres of the old Fair grant, making his total holdings five hundred and forty-eight acres. Three years ago he started a walnut orchard that is now in fine condition. In order that he may give his entire attention to the fruit business he has sold his saw-mill property and is now in a position to profitably develop his orchards. Horticulture always has been a congenial occupation to him and he is at his best when planning for his fruit, caring for the trees and endeavoring to improve the quality of fruit produced. The soil and climate seem well adapted to apple-culture and in the opinion of experts this industry will claim an ever-increasing attention from the progressive land-owners of the locality.

---

#### WILLIAM JOHNSON.

Failing health was the direct cause of bringing Mr. Johnson to California, and it is a matter of no speculation to say that in finally taking up his residence here his life was prolonged many years. Not only was his life extended, but his health was so completely restored that he was enabled to take his place in the activities of life alongside of those of the most robust and sturdy

constitutions. His death at Pleasant Hill, Sonoma county, November 12, 1909, was the cause of general mourning throughout the community where for over a quarter of a century he had lived and labored, endearing himself to all by his generous and wholesome traits of character.

William Johnson was born in Sweden in 1842, and at the age of twelve years came to the United States with an uncle, who settled on a farm in Illinois, and for whom William worked until he was sixteen years of age. Subsequently he engaged in railroading and other work until he was twenty-four years old, an experience which proved to him the advisability of returning to farming as the most independent and satisfactory life. With the idea that a better chance for carrying out his agricultural plans was possible in Nebraska, he located there in 1866, then a wild and unsettled country, inhabited solely by Indians who gained sustenance by hunting buffalo and plundering and pillaging upon such white settlers as ventured on their territory. This condition of affairs made it necessary to build a fort at Grand Island, to which the settlers fled for safety whenever a raid was threatened by the redskins. Mr. Johnson helped to build the fort, and also hauled the logs for the erection of the first home built on the present site of Grand Island. While in Nebraska he was also employed by the Union Pacific Railroad Company in the construction of its road through that state, and after its completion he took up farming near Wood River on government land. The original purchase consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, which he increased by purchase until he laid claim to four hundred acres of fine land, his farm easily taking rank with the best in that locality.

Long years of unremitting labor under the most difficult of pioneer conditions finally made inroads upon Mr. Johnson's health, and in 1875 he came to California, in the hope that a period spent in the health-giving sunshine which Nature here dispenses with such lavish hand would restore his old-time strength and vigor. As he had anticipated, the change proved beneficial, and he returned to Nebraska and resumed his duties on the farm with a new interest. He continued on the farm near Wood River for three years thereafter, when his health again failing, he sold his farm and took up his residence in town, where he engaged in buying and selling produce, stock and grain, which he shipped to Chicago markets, building up a large business. Although the duties imposed by this latter business were less onerous than farming, the long, cold winters in Nebraska prevented any marked betterment in his physical condition, and for this reason he again tried a change of climate, going this time to Manton, Colo., and also to Colorado Springs, but after a short stay in that state he came to California and from that time until his death this was his home. With his family he arrived in Sonoma county May 28, 1883, and on June 6 of the same year he bought the ranch at Pleasant Hill where his life came to a close November 12, 1909, and where his widow still makes her home. In 1902 Mr. Johnson had retired from active business, at the same time placing the management of the ranch in the hands of his son-in-law, Ernest Sharp, who has continued its management ever since. Seventy-three acres are comprised in this ranch, the greater part of which is in apples, all the best varieties being grown, and some of the trees although fifty years old are still in bearing. In addition to the home ranch there are twenty-six

acres of hay land owned by the family, besides a fine ranch nearby in vineyard and apples. For the season of 1909 the vineyard produced forty tons of grapes, and the orchard about sixty tons of dried apples. In addition to the property enumerated Mrs. Johnson owns eighty-two acres of timber land in Green Valley.

Mr. Johnson's marriage was celebrated in Nebraska, September 29, 1870, and united him with Miss Melinda Hohman. Three children were born of this marriage: Mary Elizabeth, the wife of Robert Ritchie, of Santa Rosa; David Edward, also of Santa Rosa ; and Alice Melinda, the wife of Ernest Sharp, of Pleasant Hill. None of Sonoma county's residents took a more active part in her upbuilding than did Mr. Johnson, and his death was the cause of deep regret on the part of those who had been associated with him.

---

#### WILLIAM B. HASKELL.

The legal fraternity of California is well represented by William B. Haskell, one of the most prominent and prosperous attorneys in Sonoma county. Not only does he possess pronounced talent and ability in the line of his profession, but he is also a man of keen business intelligence, and is deeply interested in whatever tends toward the upbuilding and betterment of conditions in Petaluma and Sonoma county. A native of the east, he was born in New York City October 10, 1842, the only child born to his parents, Barnabas and Abigail (Goodwin) Haskell, both of whom were natives of Hartford, Conn. For more details of the parental history the reader is referred to the sketch of Barnabas Haskell, elsewhere in this volume.

William B. Haskell was fortunate in having parents who appreciated the value and importance of an education, and in this respect he was given every opportunity in their power to bestow. At the time his father came west in the early '50s, the family home was in Boston, Mass., and when his mother came west and joined the father two years later, he did not accompany her, but was allowed to remain in Boston until his graduation from the grammar school. He then joined his parents in Petaluma, and here continued his studies by entering the Collegiate Institute, from which institution he graduated two years later. At the age of eighteen years his school and college days were over and he was ready to take up the more serious side of life. His first work was as a hired hand on a dairy ranch, working for one employer by the month for two years. Being economical and judicious in the use of his earnings during this time he accumulated sufficient means to defray his expenses through a course in the Benicia Law school, and in 1866 he was admitted to the bar of California by the supreme court. Instead of establishing himself immediately in his profession, however, he entered his father's mercantile establishment in Petaluma and continued with him in the capacity of clerk for about six years, or until 1872. In that year he went to Winnemucca, Nev., and opened an office for the practice of his profession, and during two years of the time he was there served as deputy district attorney, and for the same length of time was internal revenue collector at that place. Returning to Petaluma in 1875, he became cashier in the Peta-

luma Savings Bank, a position which he retained until September, 1877, resigning it in order to establish himself in his profession. Immediately after giving up his position in the bank he opened a law office in Petaluma, and from that time to the present he has been favored with a goodly share of the legal business transacted in this part of the county. Aside from his profession he is connected with some of the important financial institutions of this section, being a director of the Petaluma Savings Bank and holding the same office in the Sonoma County Bank. Although he is not a member of the Episcopal Church, he has been connected with that religious society as secretary for twenty-five years.

Mr. Haskell's marriage in 1866 united him with Miss Kate D. Kelley, who, though a native of Vermont, passed the greater part of her life in California, whither she was brought by her parents in childhood. At her death in 1880 she left one child, Euna G. Haskell. In 1883 Mr. Haskell was married to Mrs. Emma A. Denney, who was also a native of Vermont, and one child was born of this marriage, Ruby E. Haskell. In his political belief Mr. Haskell is a Republican, being one of the leaders of that party in the county and state. His first presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln, and in 1879 he stumped the state for George C. Perkins. Fraternal matters also claim a share of Mr. Haskell's thought and interest, his membership in Petaluma Lodge No. 180, F. & A. M., dating from 1867; besides which he is a member of Petaluma Chapter No. 22, R. A. M.; Mount Olivet Commandery, K. T., which he joined in 1880; and Petaluma Lodge No. 30, I. O. O. F., of which he has been a member also since 1867. Mr. Haskell is a man of keen business intelligence, deeply interested in the welfare of town and county, and holds a place of importance in the community.

---

#### CLARENCE C. HALL.

Throughout the Alexander valley district it would be difficult to find a ranch more thrifty in appearance or remunerative in income than the one which Clarence C. Hall owns and occupies, not far from Healdsburg. Here fruits of the various kinds as well as hops vie with each other on the eighty acres under cultivation, of the six hundred and fifty-six acres which comprise the home ranch, besides which Mr. Hall owns thirty-eight hundred acres of mountain land upon which he grazes large flocks of sheep. Mr. Hall's wonderful success as a rancher and sheep raiser is not the result of chance, but is rather the outcome of a careful training under his pioneer father, L. J. Hall, who has been a resident of Sonoma county since 1854 and the occupant of his present ranch in Russian River township since that year also.

The son of a pioneer and also a native son of the state, Clarence C. Hall was born near Healdsburg, August 29, 1855, the son of L. J. and Elizabeth (McCool) Hall, both natives of Missouri. Born in Lafayette county, that state, October 30, 1825, the father early in life assumed the responsibilities of his own maintenance, his first work, at the age of fifteen, being as a farm hand in the vicinity of his home in Missouri. He followed this for a number of years, and when only twenty-two years old took upon himself the responsi-

bilities of married life by his union with Elizabeth McCool. Six years after their marriage, in 1854, the young people came to the west and located in Sonoma county, Cal., on the ranch in Russian River township which is still the home of Mr. Hall. Here the death of Mrs. Hall occurred April 29, 1903, when in her seventy-fifth year. Six children were born to this esteemed pioneer couple, four of whom are deceased, while those living are our subject and Rosella. Since the death of the mother the daughter has tenderly cared for her father in his declining years.

As he was the only son in the parental family Clarence C. Hall and his father became associated in the maintenance of the home ranch as soon as the school days were over for the younger man, and the association formed so many years ago has only recently been severed, the year 1908 marking the independent venture of the son on property which he purchased from his father. This purchase consisted of six hundred and fifty-six acres of choice land in the Alexander Valley district, in close proximity to Healdsburg, and the diversity of its soil, much of which is rich river bottom land, makes it unexcelled for productiveness. Here he has thirty acres in prunes, from which he receives an average crop of one hundred and eighty tons of green fruit per season ; for his crop of 1910 he received \$65 a ton for his Imperials, while the French prunes brought \$35 a ton. Besides his orchard he has twenty-five acres in hops, the crop from which during the last season amounted to one hundred and sixty bales ; twenty acres in tomatoes, and five acres in peaches and apples. As has been stated elsewhere, besides the home ranch he also has thirty-eight hundred acres of mountain land, which furnishes unsurpassed grazing for his sheep, which number twenty-five hundred head.

In 1888 Mr. Hall was united in marriage with Miss Lela Allen, a native of Nevada, and three children. have been born to them. The eldest child and only son, Conway Allen, born in 1890, is assisting his father on the ranch. Gladys, born in 1892, is attending the high school at Healdsburg. Gretchen, born in 1894, is a student in the state normal school at San Francisco. Politically Mr. Hall is a Democrat, and fraternally he belongs to the Masonic order, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World, and the Santa Rosa Lodge of Elks. Mr. Hall is one of the reliable and substantial men of Healdsburg, and one who wears modestly the dignity conferred by an upright, courageous and altogether worthy life.

---

#### BARNABAS HASKELL.

As far as the records of the Haskell family are obtainable, it is known that its members were residents of New England for many generations, and that the father of Barnabas Haskell was a seaman engaged in the merchant trade along the coast from Hartford, Conn., to New Orleans, La., throughout the active years of his life. It was in the first-mentioned city, Hartford, Conn., that Barnabas Haskell was born, and while a youth there prepared for his future by learning the hatter's trade, and in connection with this, also acquired a thorough knowledge of the furrier's trade. With this equipment he went to New York City to begin life in earnest on his own account, and for a number of years was in the employ of the leading hatter in the metropolis at that time. In 1847 he re-

moved to Boston, Mass., and was employed at his trade in that city for the following five years.

During his residence in Boston Mr. Haskell became interested in the far west and he determined to come here and see for himself whether or not the opportunities were as real as he was led to believe. He made the journey by way of Galveston, Tex., and from there came to California and settled in Sonoma county. Many of the immigrants of that period were drawn hither on account of the prospects of a sudden fortune in the mines, but while Mr. Haskell had no ambition in this direction, he saw an opportunity to benefit indirectly by the impetus which the mining enterprise had created, and it was with this idea in mind that he came to Petaluma in 1856 and opened a dry-goods and clothing establishment. This was the pioneer establishment of the kind in the country for miles around, and it is needless to say that the undertaking proved a success. He continued actively engaged in business for about twenty-two years, when, in 1878, he disposed of his business interests and lived retired thereafter until his death, which occurred in 1887. His long residence in this community had endeared him to a host of friends and acquaintances, for he possessed a kindly, lovable disposition, and his death was mourned as a public loss. In his political opinions he was independent, and at the polls supported those men and measures which, in his judgment, were best able to advance the prosperity of the community.

For all that he was able to accomplish in life Mr. Haskell gave much credit to the faithful and helpful co-operation of his wife. Before her marriage she was Miss Abigail Goodwin, a native of Hartford, Conn., the daughter of Joseph Goodwin and the descendant of a substantial colonial ancestry. Two years after her husband had come to the west she joined him in Petaluma, and at once threw the weight of her influence in channels that were uplifting and ennobling. She soon became identified with the educational progress of the town, and for ten years was principal of the schools of Petaluma. For two years she was a teacher also in Miss Atkins' Seminary, in Benicia, Cal., the pioneer seminary in the state for girls, this later becoming Mills' Seminary at Oakland, Cal. Not only was she interested in school and church matters, but she was as well a leader in the reform movements of the day and was one of the leading supporters of woman's suffrage in the state. In the best sense of the word she was a Christian, having devoted her life to the uplifting of humanity, and her death in 1884, when she was about sixty years of age, was the cause of universal sorrow among the many who had fallen under her influence. For many years she had been a member of and worker in the Swedenborgian Church. The only child born of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Haskell is William B. Haskell, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

---

#### WILLIAM HENRY GROVE.

Very few of the men now identified with the citizenship of Sonoma county have been connected with its material development for a period as long as may be claimed by Mr. Grove, whose proud boast it is that he has lived within the limits of the county since the year 1853. From his native commonwealth of