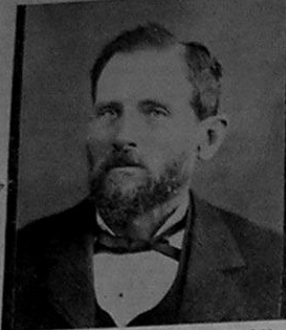


PORTER, Edward



B in Northfield, Vt., April 24 '26 of New England stock descended from John and Priscilla Alden, oldest son of a country doctor. To Calif. in a light brig that left Boston in '48 but couldn't get through the straits of Magellan and wintered in Patagonia, reaching SF Aug. 28 '49. He spent some time in the mines, but about '51 appears to have settled at Soquel as a general merchant; perhaps in company with George K. Porter and L. W. Moore. He was for many years among the prominent men of this region, merchant, tanner, lumberman, an equivalent of the community bank; who never married but who was called upon from time to time to take over the affairs of an orphan among his neighbors. In later years a stock raiser at Bradley. A bro., Ben. K. Porter came in '53.

DABADIE, Jean Baptiste

B in Bordeaux, France, '15; learned the trade of a ship's carpenter, shipped at sea and eventually became capt. of his own ship. In Sta Cruz '45, with William Hardy (q. v.) constructing a vessel on the Sta Cruz beach. This, the Sta Cruz, was not completed for nearly a year. Three years later he helped construct the Creole. There seems to be a blank of three years, for possibilities of which see Jean Baptiste.

Dabadie is said to have been capt. of the first vessel that ever sailed into the port of Sta Cruz. I assume this means the first to pass to and draw from Elhan Anthony's "wharf." The first record I can find of him is in '56, tho' he was certainly here long before this; indeed, his first child, must have been born before '50. Mrs. Dabadie was Margarita, daughter of Juan and Alta Gracia Rodriguez de Gonzales, who could trace their lineage to the earliest and most prominent settlers. To this union eight child. were born. He died here '89. The widow was still living in 1902. The name survives.

COOK, Dennis

Native of Ind., b '20, to Calif. from Ill., '49. Farmer in the Laguna Creek section from '62 who died there March 19 '97, leaving a grown family. The late O. J. Cook, Sta Cruz blacksmith, was one.

COURTRIGHT, William Henry



B in NY June 6 '24, reaching Calif. Oct. 2 '49, perhaps by sea. From '67 or earlier he was farming and teaming in Watsonville. At least two sons, Edward and Charles, were living here in '88. There seems to have been a man of this name with W. F. Cooper, etc., from Pittsburgh '49.

BLACKBURN, James H.

'49 overland with bros. and Col. Finley (q. v.). To Sta Cruz from the Yuba river mines early lessee of the sawmill of his bro. William, at the upper end of Blackburn gulch, being undoubtedly the Blackburn who was a partner of Ira Allen this year. Purchaser of the James Blackburn interest in the Lazzarini Godchaux gen. store in Wat. '54; still in Wat. '59; part owner of Rancho Pajaro as late as '61; but from this time resident of San Luis Ob. co.

HAYDEN, George W.

'47, of Co. D NY vols. in Mont. co. '53-5, at Watsonville '62; partner of Jacob Swain and others in the gold gulch excitement '63, still here the following year but no longer in Wat. by '65.

BOAN, A. D.

'50 in Sta Cruz. Perhaps Bowen; or Roan.

BOUCHER, James

'50, dealing in lumber with Gordon and Graham. Joseph Boucher, secty of the town council.

HENDERSON, H. L.

In Sta Cruz '50.

ALANDZO, G.

In Sta Cruz '50.

SIME, John

'48, to Calif.; one of the SF guards '49 and of the 1st vig. com. '51 serving in the state legis. '55; builder and financier whose investment in the old Sta Cruz paper mill about '60 helped lay the foundation for the Calif. Powder Works co. Still interested here '68.

BESSE, John Nelson



'Nelson' to his friends was b in Wayne, Kennebec co., Me., Sept. 5 '30, around the Horn as a steward aboard a vessel that brought three brothers. Tried mining for a year, then steward on a Sacto river steamer and finally on a vessel running between SF and the isthmus; within a short time a prominent businessman at Pescadero, husband of Martha Emmeline Moore, daughter of Eli.

Moving to Sta Cruz about '65, he became a partner of J. D. Chace in the butcher business, prominent as a banker of sorts in the years before banks, mayor of the community '71-2. After his wife died in '83, he took his family of five to Watsonville; interested as banker and commission merchant in promotion of King City from '89 and an associate of George W. Sill in a number of farming enterprises.

A daughter, Flora E. b '63 (Mrs. Van Schuckman now living at the corner of Walnut and Chestnut avenues) and a son, John C. b '75 reside here. There are other descendants.

CALLIHAN, William

Native of Harrisburg, Pa., b '29, shortly after leaving school employed in the smelters of Galena, Ill., from which he migrated '50 to the El Dorado co. mines. To the Pajaro valley as a share-cropper for Hill in Dec. '52, broke by the potato flood of the following year. Back to the mines '54 without success, he returned to Wat. '55 raising potatoes, beans and small grains, elevated to an excellent competency in the commission business. One of the organizers and president of the Watsonville gas company '71, still living there 1902.

CONOVER, Simpson

At Mont. '50; apparently a stage driver out of Sta Cruz who spent most of his time between this city and Mont. '54; somewhat prominent, selected by John T. Porter to take over the latter's duties as collector of the port of Mont. while P—, named to the post by Pres. Lincoln, was settling his affairs here. Conover disappeared about '68. At about the same time Mrs. Conover died, survived by three daughters and a son living in Watsonville. A bro., Sidney Conover, b about '45 also resided there.

BLACKBURN, William



Born at Harper's Ferry, Va., Feb. 14 '14, cabinet maker by trade, to N Orleans '44 to become a partner of Sawin for a while but overland '45 with Snyder, McDougal, Spede and others who named Truckee river enroute; broke that autumn when they appeared at Zayante to obtain jobs, food, shelter and money making shingles for Capt. Graham. Mercantile store and hostelry (Eagle hotel on the mission plaza, said never to have accepted money for his accommodations in this endeavor) and a leader among the local 'Bear' element. To S Jose with Fallon '46 raising the flag over the juggado, with Fauntleroy's dragoons for a time before joining the Calif. bat. as 2nd Lt. Co. A, art. To Sta Cruz '47, owner also of an SF lot worth a small fortune by the time he died, B— became the prop. of a general merchandise store, dispenser of largess to the weary traveler from his adobe hostelry on the upper plaza.

A hale fellow, well met, popular with his associates, serving as alcalde by appt. of Gov. Riley at various times '47-9. His administration of the law, tho' not always in accordance with the directives of the mil. govt., was direct and prompt. Tho' in trouble with Riley for this characteristic, his decisions were popular. B. Became the first county judge, resigned within a few months as the result of an altercation with Ira Allen for which he paid a fine of \$25; but he never lost his title of 'Judge' even among his creditors in SF where this form is used rather than his given name.

His vessel, *Zachary Taylor*, built here '48, was the pride of the community until it went aground. B— mined for a time with indifferent success, returned to Sta Cruz to base a large fortune on the potato business for which he won a world's premium '54, soon in the apple business, and by the time of his death March 25 '67 was the wealthiest man of the community: owner of a large estate in SF, San Diego and Sta Cruz counties. He had been married '61 to Miss Harriet Mead, sister-in-law of Dr. Francis Kittridge. On July 7 '62 a son, Freddie, was born. The child died Oct. 19 '64. Mrs. Blackburn survived until Oct. 11, 1920, dying at the age of 89 years, investing her large estate in an almost equally large number of relatives, friends and charities.

Greetings from the County Court House

SIDNEY CARTER
County Treasurer
and
Tax Collector

JUNE BORINA
District Attorney

RONALD MELLON
Assessor

GEORGE KRIZ
County Auditor

J. ROBERT DEVITT
Sheriff

LELA SWASEY
Recorder