

DUTTON, James Marshall

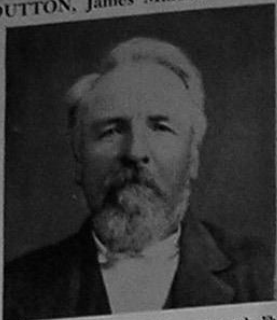


Photo from Rose Bostrom col., courtesy pub. lib.
B in Me., March 23 '30, reached Calif. Sept. 7 '49, according to his pioneer society record, perhaps as a sailor before the mast. There is a blank in this man's life which his family cannot fill. I have a statement of his adventures furnished at the height of the civil war, kindly furnished by a daughter, Mrs. Seth Ryder of this city, but it does not supply a link to his adventures of earlier times.

In '52 he was wandering around the Mississippi valley, maybe employed on river boats; in Pittfield, Ill., Oct. 28, Miss Ann married in Pittfield, Ill., Oct. 28, Miss Ann Elizabeth Sargent. With six child, the couple crossed the plains '64, the trip being impeded part of the way by a vast movement of troops on the Missouri river, perhaps as a protection against possible Indian raids; being often visited, ~~last never~~ ~~undisturbed~~ by the tribes. At one time a member of the party was injured by an arrow, supposedly discharged by whites pretending to be Indians. One train in the front and one to the rear of them was lost to these raiders.

To Portland, Ore.; but found schools inadequate, moving first to Sonoma, then to Yolo and finally to Soquel in '83, settling the farm now occupied by Harold Nelson at the edge of Porter's Gulch. Of seven child., William Marshall Dutton, who made that trip as a three months old babe with a twin brother, James, and Mary Ludusa (Mrs. Seth Ryder of 927 Cayuga street) are still living, the former in Fresno.

James M. died in 1900; but his wife survived until 1933, dying in Feb. of this year at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Fred Hitchings, at the corner of Soquel and Ocean View avenues. Many a Santa Cruzian will remember the cheerful little lady who watched her world at work and play from a bed drawn up to a large living room window during the last decade of her life.

BLACKBURN, Jacob All



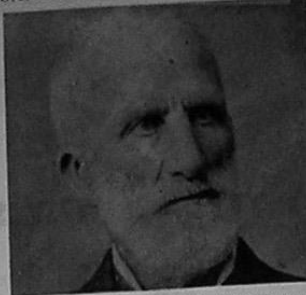
Copy of family portrait by Bill Bockennoogen.

Bro. of the judge, grandson of a vet of Valley Forge and son of one of the 'Boys of '12,' b in Springfield, O., June 12 '23 d at Wat. Jan. 23 '92. ~~he was~~ the operator of a Mississippi flatboat when he heard of the gold strike and came overland with Win. Finley (q. v.) and two brothers, working for a time in the Yuba region before coming to Sta Cruz to winter. Jacob ran his brother's sawmill for a time before setting up a general merchant partnership in Watsonville with Lazzarre Godehaus '52. Profits the first year amounted to \$20,000. The next year every one in the Pajaro valley planted potatoes, the market broke and B—, who had loaned money on the crop, lost all but his pants and vest. Sold his interest in the bus. to bro. James '55 and returned to Sta Cruz to farm, his being the first such venture in Blackburn gulch, which takes its name from him. The school warrants he laid on the land proved profitable. By '58 he was back in the money, able to purchase one-third of the Rodriguez estate, Rancho Balsa del Pajaro, on which Watsonville was built. To this he moved '62; one of the pioneer orchardists of the valley, merchant and nurseryman with a capacity for making money. He was a member of the county board of super. the last six years of his life and Wat. school trustee 15 years previous to that. His large estate, represented mainly in a share of Sta Rita rancho, Sta Bar., disappeared after his death. His daughter, Mary, died in late years virtually a pauper, claiming never to have seen so much as a cloud of dust from the Santa Rita ranch. A son, Frank, b '69 is still living in Nevada. Mrs. Blackburn was Arminda Short, m here Dec. 1 '54. Although the name has died out, several descendants residing in this neighborhood.

SHEALL, John

'49, land speculator in Sta Cruz.

SANBORN, Lucius



Copy of family portrait by Bill Bockennoogen.

B in Mathiasport, Me., '24, obtaining but a limited education in the common schools; to Calif. on the brig Azalts that left NY harbor April 10 '49, without success in the mines and persuaded by Elmer Anthony to come to Sta Cruz to set up his smithy at what is now the postoffice lot. By '52 he had transferred the shop to Second st. Watsonville, and the following year in business with Dr. Charles Ford (q. v.) as a general merchant shortly branched out with Isaiah Brown, J. L. Halstead (q. v.), William Williamson (q. v.) and one or more of his brothers in the operation of two sawmills and three shingle mills in the Corralitos area. This company eventually became the Loma Prieta mill and lumber co. Associated with his partners and a score or more of the leading businessmen in construction of the first railroad in the county: from Watsonville to Sta Cruz. By '68 he had branched into business in Salinas and King City with Ford and William Vanderhurst, a leading banker of the Monterey bay, owning stock in several such institutions, assisting in bringing electricity to the area, owner of a prosperous farm and a home in SF, but preferring to devote most of his time to commercial interests from Salinas. He died Sept. 10 '99, leaving a widow, nee Caroline Z. Scott, sister of Hiram (q. v.); a son, L. W. Sanborn, in business in Salinas, and a daughter, Mrs. Nellie G. Backus of SF.

After settling here Sanborn brought most of his family to Calif.; father and brother, both named William; brothers, Newman Day, Edwin Forrest and Alvin and the family of a deceased sister, Priscilla, who came after '69 from Springfield, Mo. Several descendants of these families live in the Pajaro valley.

HARDY, Isaac

Involved somehow in the lumber trade '50. Perhaps Harding (q. v.)

FRANCIS, Joseph

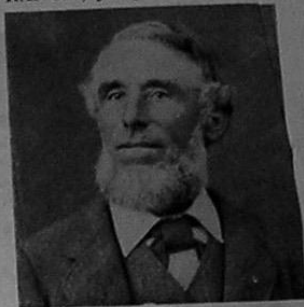


Photo from Rose Bostrom col., courtesy pub. lib.

Native of the Azores, b probably in '25, tho' his headstone in the Catholic cemetery says '22. Before the mast for several years, he and his companions were shipwrecked in the Strait of Magellan. Unable to land at Patagonia because of trouble with headhunters, after three days in the rough seas they boarded a German schooner; granted passage only upon showing fight when the mr. tried to put them ashore.

Charter member of the county pioneer society, signing the roll as an arrival of Aug. 15 '49, to Sta Cruz '50, according to sub. testimony, being a resident of the Pajaro valley at the time of his naturalization '59. Here in '64 he was married to a lady who bore him eight child. before her death in '79. His second wife was, I believe, Margaret Curn, an Irish lady who owned property in the Pajaro valley and enjoyed a good, clean scrap with the railroad. A ninth child was born shortly before he died at his residence at the corner of Sumner and Railroad (Seabright) avenues May 10 '93. The Francis farm, patented to him by President Andrew Johnson May 1 '67 today is a thickly populated residential area.

Four of his child, still live: James R. of Sta Cruz, and his twin sister, Belle, of SF, being the youngest at age 81 years. The latter is the mother-in-law of a brother of Pat Brown of SF, who seems doomed to become the next attorney general of Calif.

ELDEN, Andrew Jackson


Perhaps a brother of John B. and Charles D. E— of Portsmouth, O., in Mont. June 22 '54 Elden married Rafaela, daughter of Rafael Castro of Aptos Rancho. He was a member of the county board of supervisors '55, but I have no later record of him. Legend says he got away with a piece of his father-in-law's fortune.

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