

Special Centennial Edition for October 19

**MATTISON, John Stead**



Photo from Ross Houston coll., courtesy pub. lib.  
 Native of Hudswell, Eng., b Jan. 18 '23, brought to this country at the age of 16 years by his parents who settled on a farm in Yates Co., NY. By '46 in the boot and shoe business in Michigan City, Ind., from this point March '49 starting for Calif. by stage to Chicago and by ox team the remainder of the way. From an unfortunate selection of route, came through Greenhorn cutoff, taking until Oct. to reach Sacto. At Auburn cast vote for the first state convention and state officers, shortly afterward removing to SF. Here engaged to come to Sta Cruz and go into the shoe business, the trip by sea requiring two weeks, arrived here on Christmas day.

A trip to the northern mines in the spring of '50 resulted in acquisition of some interests, worked by others. He was back in the fall, proprietor of a saddle-maker's shop, probably sold to John Werner and Charles Bern in '52 when he concluded to go east for a visit.

Mattison did not get back to Sta Cruz until '59. Meanwhile much of his property acquired from the Rodriguez estate, had been disposed of by a brother, Robert William (q. v.), whom he had left in charge.

John proved his claim of 92 acres, Madison lane in the Live Oak district being the west boundary of the tract. His return was in company with a wife to whom he had been married in Indiana the year before.

A prominent county figure both before leaving for the east and after return, he was judge of the court of sessions, road-supervisor, leader in the Sons of Temperance and a charter member of the pioneer society. Died at his home Jan. 27 '90, survived by two sons:

Frank, b in Soquel '60, grand president of the Native Sons, county assessor for many years and later a memb. state board of equalization. His wife was Carrie, daughter of E. J. Peck (q. v.). A daughter and grandchild were living in Oakland a few years since. Frank died in '20.

Ralph J., ('68-'19) for many years county supervisor and chairman of the board, later county treasurer. His wife was Amey Dorr Chamber. The child, all living here, are Velde Burgess, Ralph Mattison and Amey Weiser.

**AULD, Ossian Gregory**

Native of NY to the Calaveras mines '49, aged 19 years, thence to Stockton and finally to Sta Cruz as a painter and paper hanger. His wife, m in SF '60, was Mary Ellen, widow of Henry Owner of a prominent Washington, D. C., family. By this wedding he became the stepfather of four child, and in the succeeding years the father of three of his own. To Sacto by '73 but back again before May '76 to die.

Of the child, Mary Lavina Owner became Mrs. C. O. Hennan, Harriett Mrs. John Quinn, William d in March '71, aged 13 years, Henry Edward in Sacto '79 was the ward of William Wynny; Gertrude Auld, b '74 was adopted by a Sacto woman who sent her to Paris to study voice. This girl was back in Sta Cruz on a concert tour of Calif. in the '90s.

**BACON, Joseph**

An American miller, aged 29 years, serving with Gen. Fremont in Co. B, art., Calif. bat. '46 with John Joyal, perhaps, also with H. Angus with whom '49 he became the owner of a considerable amount of Sta Cruz business prop. between what is now Soquel ave. and Cooper st. and on 18 acre farm, where his stone mill was located, in the county hospital region. Died '52 leaving a widow, Maria Teresa Boele de Bacon, and a daughter, Maria Dominguez Bacon. Close friend, apparently, of Capt. Isaac Graham; perhaps one of his riflemen in earlier times.

**BAKER, J.**

'50, on 1st poll list; poss. Isaac Baker (q. v.)

**ADELL, Richard**

'50, 1st



**FREMONT -**

*His dress was a blue woolen shirt of somewhat novel style open at the neck, trimmed with white and with a star on each point of the collar (a man-of-war's shirt); over this, a deer-skin hunting shirt, trimmed and fringed, which evidently had seen hard times or service; his head uncinched with hat or cap, but had a light handkerchief bound around it. Deer skin moccasins completed this suit, which, if not fashionable for Broadway or for a presentation dress at court, struck me as being an excellent rig to scud under or fight in.*

The true historical facts you have just read about Fremont cause us to wonder how much he would enjoy the comfortable "Woolrich Shirts" shown exclusively by HARRIS BROS. "Just across from Woolworth's"

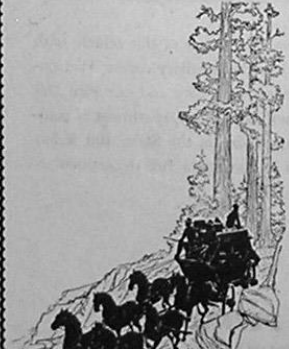
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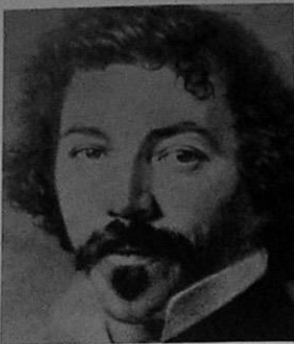
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**FALLON, Thomas**



Old print copied by Bill Bockemoegen.

B in New Brunswick about 1810 of Irish immigrants from whom he acquired "a brogue so thick it could be cut with a knife," leading his companions to suppose him to have been born on the old sod. Saddler by trade and adventurer by nature he was in Texas in time to serve Sam Houston during the revolt, making his home in this nation for the next seven years. Overland for Calif. '43 meeting Fremont enroute, serving him as a scout and claiming in this capacity to be the first white man to see Lake Tahoe. To Sutter's fort this year, resident perhaps for a while in Butte county but shortly afterward of Sta Cruz, associated with other foreigners in the filibuster movement and leader of the Bear Flaggers from this community who raised the flag at San Jose in June '46. Enlisted with Fremont's Cal. Bat. this year, overland to LA to participate in the capitulation of Andres Pico.

Married after returning to Sta Cruz about Xmas '47 Maria del Carmen, 16-year-old daughter of Martina Castro and her Irish sailor husband, Michael Lodge. Here Fallon practiced his trade until the gold excitement. Elbar Anthony brought the news, going directly to his forge to flatten out 85 ship bolts into as many picks which Fallon raced to Georgetown where they were sold for three ounces of gold apiece. Back to Sta Cruz he followed his trade, obtained a nine year lease on the mission orchard from Fr. Antonio Anzar, became a partner of William Blackburn in a sawmill venture in Blackburn Gulch, purchaser of Judge Blackburn's Eagle hotel, part of which he rented to the county as a court-house, owning homes in Soquel, Sta Cruz and San Jose to which latter place he repaired about July '51, being mayor of that metropolis later this year and again in '59. His home there is one of the modern landmarks of that community.

East on a visit with his wife and family '52 he lost his children in an epidemic in N Orleans and his first wife shortly afterward as the result of some of his amours.

Fallon was married twice, as many times divorced, in '84 being defendant in a breach of promise suit in which an adventuress, Mrs. Elmira Dunbar, was given a \$10,000 judgment. Possessed of a natural instinct for making money, he was a leading Mason, highly regarded by the pioneers who died in '85 leaving a \$300,000 estate to be divided among the five survivors of his ten child. Of these Arthur Fallon still lives in SF. One daughter became Mrs. John T. Malone, a Shakespearian actor and the wife of one, Mrs. Geraldine Moore of New Brighton park is an issue of this marriage.

Maria Carmen, tho' illiterate so far as the English language was concerned when she married Tom (afterward, I believe, proficient in several languages) certainly had the savvy of how to make a dollar and hang onto it; a lesson learned in the mines where as a bride she kept a store. She died not so many years ago, leaving a vast fortune which, by the time it had been distributed, represented little more than debts to the heirs. Lawyers, bane of the Castro family, had pulled another of their sleight of hand tricks.

**DYER, George**

B in Plymouth, Mass., April 23 '30, reaching Calif. Sept. 14 '49, probably by sea. From '57 or earlier a land pre-emptor, truck gardener, merchant, carpenter at various times, his truck farm during the first years being in the Bonny Doon region. At Sta Cruz, May 21 '68 he married Sarah A. (Pollard) Stevens, widow of Barton H. Stevens and the mother of two sons. Three daughters were born to this marriage, one of whom became Mrs. L. L. Trumbly. A granddaughter by this marriage and her family are living in LA. Dyer and his family moved to the Peachtree country of what is now San Benito county. The marriage didn't last. Dyer and his wife separated, returned to Sta Cruz where they were divorced a d where May 3, '84 he signed the pioneer roll. Death

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