

DREHER, John

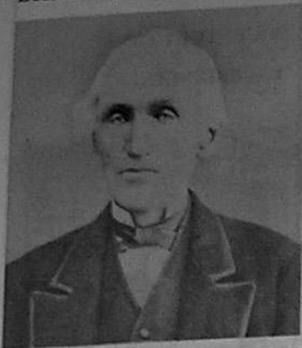


Photo from Rose Rostron col., courtesy pub. lib.

Var. spelled Deber, Drear, Drecher (ident. as Dyer by Bancroft) while he seems to have preferred Draber. Born Bonn (?), Ger., Feb. 15 '14, but resident of the US, perhaps in the Baltimore region, before '40. Enlisted in Co. B, NY Vols, to Calif. '47 (he says he reached Mont. Jan. 15 '48). He gave a power of attorney to J. L. Stevenson of Baltimore, Md., to collect "three months extra pay" in "bounty, land warrant or script" from Santa Cruz '50, but about this time had himself left for the east to marry, tho' his name appears frequently in the record this and succeeding years while he was settling a farm in that portion of Sandy Flat adjacent to the present location of Laurel school.

His wife was Catherine, who served mothers of early days as mid-wife and nurse; possessed of considerable business acumen and a mind of her own.

The couple had a son, August, an upholsterer with his brother-in-law, and a daughter, who became Mrs. Louis Wessendorf, Lester Wessendorf, carrying on a business established here 100 years ago by Granville Shelby, and Mrs. J. E. Schebler, now living in Memphis, Tenn., are second generation descendants. There are several of the third and fourth generations.

CUSTER, John

'46, one of Fauntleroy's dragoons trans. to Co. G, Calif. bat. At Napa '48, with William Reed, purchased Chas. Hopper's int. in Rancho Laguna. Speculating in lands here later.



Hy Parsons crossed the plains in '49 with photographic equipment, finally discarded because it was impossible to keep it together. It required a lot of time, know-how and intricate detail in those days to produce a picture something like the above.



Almost anyone (with his eyes closed) can produce a picture similar to this with modern equipment from

WICKLUND'S STUDIO
& Camera Shop

BRADLEY, Otho Igo



Born in Fort Des Moines, Iowa, before a town grew up there but where, probably, two older sisters were buried he was four months less than four years of age when his parents reached Shasta county with him in their arms in April of '50. His father in company with several others went on a prospecting tour, but were never again heard from . . . presumably victims of Indians. The mother "largely for my own protection on this wild frontier" (though there were four children born to the union, so there must have been some love involved) married J. S. P. Bass, in after years a prominent figure in state politics from the Shasta region.

O. I. learned the blacksmith trade on the frontier, but moved to SF to follow it. Here he was married and here his eldest child, Herbert and Etha, were born. The youngest child, Ralph, was born in Sta Cruz after the father reached here to enter business with Edward Foster. He lost an eye at the forge here. Going north, he lost the other in an identical accident.

Back in Sta Cruz, he joined the pioneer society April 27 '86, giving his occupation as that of confectioner. But he devoted most of his life to his garden, stringing wires around the premises to guide him in his work, depending on no one else to do the orchard pruning. He was a man with an inexhaustible supply of fun-provoking ideas, extremely popular with all with whom he came in contact.

The daughter, Mrs. Etha Rostron, a leader in Rebekah circles for many years, still lives on Ocean street; and there are several descendants in SF to carry on the name.

GREENE, William Henry

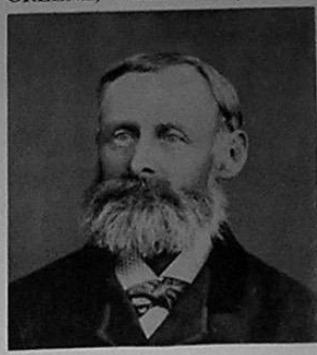


Photo from Rose Rostron col., courtesy pub. lib.

Born in Falmouth, Mass., June 18 '29, he left that community in August '49, one of a company of 14 who owned and made up the crew of the schooner *Two Brothers*. Capt. Baldwin, for SF and the gold fields. The voyage, tho' uneventful, required seven months to complete. Arrived in SF March 2 '50, the crew sold their vessel and departed for the mines, Greene going with two others of the crew. By mid-'51 he was thoroughly fed up with the mines and settled in the Soquel region. For 14 years he was a stage driver in various sections of the state; but from '65 making his permanent home in Soquel. Here he followed the mason's trade until his death Feb. 8 '91. Mrs. Marie Greene of Soquel, native of Ill., became an honorary member of the society Sept. 9 '80.

DRUSSELL, Daniel

Native of Germany, to Calif. from Baltimore '49 via the Horn, landing in Oakland. Here he remained a few months before settling at Columbia as a butcher. Wandered extensively over the Mother Lode, accumulating some moss as he rolled; following the excitement into Idaho, Montana and Nevada acquiring some Indian experiences, not all pleasant, before settling in Watsonville with a lucrative business and a comfortable fortune. Mrs. Drussell, nee Julia Bonnett, was a native of France whose father, Andrew, perhaps in company with George Liddell (q. v.) introduced French-made iron houses to SF in '49. There were three sons and a daughter. Drussell died in Wat., Oct. 13 '82.

CADISH, D.

Name appearing on the first county poll list of 1850. Phonetic of *Cadiz*?

In '45 a Frenchman, whose name is recorded as Nertran Cadichi, appeared in Santa Cruz; quite possibly the above.

From time to time the name Cadiz is all so on the rolls. I find no tangible evidence supporting a supposition that this is a native family. Apparently one of the name married into the Rodriguez-Gonzales family of Mission Hill and *Rancho Pescadero*, but there is no concise evidence to support this.

After the mid-'50s Maria Eugenia Olayguive de Cadiz, related perhaps but in an event somehow associated with Don Juan Temple, the Los Angeles financier who once held a mortgage on the treasury of the Mexican government, was a large owner of *Rancho Refugio*, holder of most of the property with in that portion of the rancho between Baldwin and Laguna creeks in spite of numerous assaults against her title.

There is drama behind this seemingly innocuous activity. About 1855 a team of squatter lawyers endeavored to perpetuate their frauds in this community, using *Rancho Refugio* as the jumping off point.

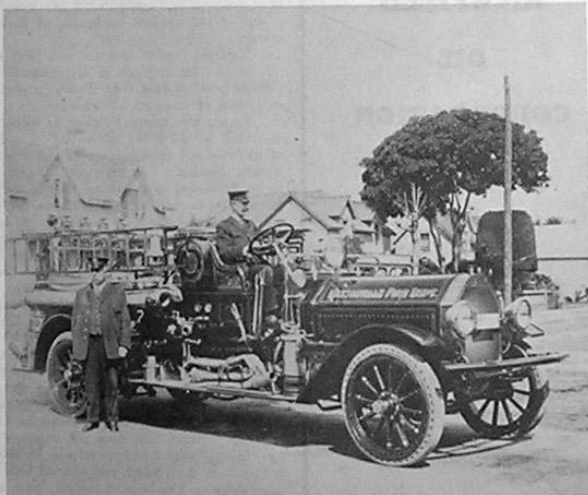
The serious-faced corn-fed bumpkins of the region, however, were willing to play only according to their own rules which involved the construction of a gibbet complete with well-stretched rope, properly rolled and knotted. With this, a stout redwood rail, a trifling amount of *brea* and a handful of duck-down after a public meeting the fraternity of con stables, thieves, clerks and lawyers were encouraged to persuade themselves that from a health standpoint almost any climate was preferable to that of Santa Cruz.

None of which clears up the Cadiz family, who seems to have been resident of San Francisco after '53.

CUSHING, Simeon Miller

An American sailor back from the mines '51, aged 18 years. Divided his allegiance between the mines, the sea and the Pajaro valley until '58 when he took up a farm and a wife within a few weeks of each other. The lady Catherine A., an ex-serving girl with a temper, tho' otherwise generous and considerate was the subject of much controversy in Cushing's life. Eventually he exported her to a Watsonville hotel and sought divorce which the judge refused to grant on the testimony Simeon complied with the order to restore his wife to her place in the home, but appears to have *ransomed the rancho*. There were no children.

WHEN MODERN WATSONVILLE GIRDED FOR FIRE



It was about 1915. Art Trimble was the driver of the vehicle with John Kippen (standing in the picture) as the auxiliary driver. Watsonville has advanced a long way since then. Our City and our Fire Department have kept faith with the times. Our Fire Department is comparable to any other community of equal size in the State. But it has always been evident that, in event of a disaster, a fire department is not, of itself, enough.



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