

Footsteps on the Sands of Time

The County's Pioneer Legion

By AUNT MATHILDA

ROBINSON, William D.

Born Oct. 26 '25 in NY City; to Calif. in March '47 with Co. D of the NY vols. Engaged in mining from '48 to '52, then invested in Mont. '48 to '52, then serving this county as school commissioner, watchman, inspector of customs, town marshal and for a time acting mayor. In '63 interested in the attempts to develop the mineral possibilities of the Bonny Doon region.

ROSSILLON, Carlos

A French sailor, b '14, said in some accounts to have arrived '33, tho' his name does not appear on any known record before '43 when he was a trader in LA. From '44 prop. sawmill on Rancho Rincon with Pedro Sansavain, frequently in trouble over the claim of himself and S. Joseph Majors, William Boele and Isaac Graham claiming they never heard of the grant. It was, however, confirmed by the land commission and today represents the principal part of the Cowell holdings here. On this rancho Roussillon and Sansavain with Samuel Hensley were burning lime and making lumber from '54. I find no record of him after this date.

ROBERTS, William

'48, American sailor in the mines; candidate for Pajaro constable '60.

ROBERTSON, John

To Calif. from Chili aboard the Confederation; Eng. baker and saloon keeper at Mont. who went to the mines briefly in '49, but was shortly in Mont. taking part in the Roache affair. Res. of Mont. until '54 when he purchased a part of the Castro estate and moved to the Pajaro valley to be near his friend, William Roache (q. v.). Prob. a 'Sydney Duck,' he was on the Sta Cruz militia roll '62. Died in Salinas '70, aged 55 years.

ROBERTSON, Stanley L.

To Calif. in '50, or earlier. Native of Va., b '10, medical practitioner who 'roughed it' for years near Knights' Ferry, but resident of Soquel for years prior to his death there Aug. 25 '84. He left a widow of an advanced age who had shared his fortunes.

ROACHE, William

'47, to Calif. as a sergt. of Co. D, NY vols, county sheriff at Mont. from '50 to '55, but from this time resident of his 159 acre farm out of Rancho Corralitos. His wife was Sarah Margarette McMahon in about '52 when he was a resident of Carmel valley. Here the eldest child, Alexander P., was born Dec. 10 '53. Roache became adm. of the estate of Jose Marie Sanchez, who before '50 was undoubtedly the wealthiest man in the state. S— lost his life over his gold when on the eve of Christmas his 'mule train' from the mines, laden with the precious metal carried him into the quicksands of San Benito creek when he was within calling distance of his home. The fight that swirled around the administration of this estate and the care of the grandee's large family led to no less than a dozen violent deaths, including the friends and enemies of the sheriff. Tiburcio Vasquez commenced his career in crime as a bodyguard of one of the Roache enemies. The murder of the ex-sheriff, gladdened and stuffed down the well of a Whisky Hill (Freedom) farm Sept. 2 '66 was the last traceable to the Sanchez gold (see George Crane and James F. Foote). In addition to the widow and a son, Roache left a daughter, Mary J., born the year before her father's murder. Descendants of this family live in the valley.

ROBERTS, Joseph

Born in Falkirk, Scotland, '29, of a seafaring family being himself an adventurous sailor almost from birth until at age 14 he was a second mate. In '44 left on a six year cruise; in the south seas '48 lost his captain and being five companions to cannibals, being himself beached on another island when his shipmates thought he'd suffered the same fate. Here Roberts for eight months lived the life of a white 'ditty' of a dusky tribe until rescued by an American vessel. From this he disembarked at SF Aug. 10 '50. A few months later he was located in Santa Cruz as a carpenter, builder and house mover. In '57 in Miss Annie McKee, a native of county Antrim, Ire., whom he had met in Boston. He was naturalized '62, owner of property on Beach Hill where his home was located '66 who had been a member of the Sons of Temperance from its inauguration. Died in Sta Cruz March 5 '95, survived by two daughters and three sons, the eldest of whom, Frank Kettredge R—, still lives here at the age of 86 years. There are several descendants.

ROBERTS, Samuel

Doubtful reference to a Santa Cruzan of '49. Sam Roberts was a member of Co. E, NY vols, '47; chief of the SF Hounds sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary '49, but not required to serve the term because there was no penitentiary.

ROACH, Philip

Born Nov. 1 '20 in Cork, Ire., to NY City '22; attached to the US consulate at both LaHarve and Liverpool before '44 when on a visit to a brother, James, mayor of Vicksburg, Miss., he became editor of the Sentinel of that city to replace a man who had been shot in a duel. Appt. consul at Lisbon '45 by Pres. Polk, resigned '47 on receipt of a letter from his brother, Thomas, who had reached Calif. as an officer under Stevenson. Last alcalde '49 and first mayor '50 of Monterey; representing this dist. in the state senate '51-3 and SF '73-6; founder, editor and publisher of the SF Examiner '54. His death occurred in SF April 27 '89. Roach street, SF, takes its name from him. Dr. A. T. Leonard, of Villa Fontenay, Vine Hill, is a grandson of one of Roach's cousins.

ROADHOUSE, Joseph A.

Native of Yorkshire, Eng., veterinary surgeon by profession, overland from Mineral Point, Wis., '49 with a family; not to the mines, but prop. of the Six Mile House between Stockton and Sonora until '52 when he moved to Watsonville, eventually settling on a farm between Castroville and the former town. Here he died '71. The widow, aged 73 years, was still living in Wat. '92. Several of his shild, and grandchild, were prominent in affairs in that region later.

RIDLEY, Robert

'40, Eng. sailor and clerk from Jan. of this year, poss. with Thomas Allen (see Jane A—) operating Sutter's launch on the Sacto river. For a time in charge of Fort Ross and as a clerk for Nathan Spear at SF, naturalized, owner of a Mission Dolores lot, corporal of militia with a wife at age 25 in '44. Grantee of Sonoma rancho, 2nd alcalde, greatest braggart in town, arrested by the Bears and confined in Sutter's fort, keeper of a saloon and hotel with John Henry Brown (q. v.), mission Alcalde, claiming ownership of a Lake county ranch, and in '49 one of the men who invested in the development of Stevenson's city of Sta Cruz. Died '51.

RICHARDSON, Henry

'50, an attorney in Sta Cruz; successor to Abram DeLong as d. '51-53; member of the legal firm of Richardson, Hackett & Judah '52.

RICHARDSON, John A.

'50, in Sta Cruz. Aged 34 on the Sta Cruz poll list '68.

RUNHARDT, G. H.

In Sta Cruz '51, testifying on a matter of earlier times.

RUSSELL, Thomas

Native of No. Ireland, employed for a time in Sing Sing as an overseer of sorts in the foundry of that institution, a "skillful and industrious worker" who Eliza Farnham (q. v.) persuaded to accompany her and a load of females aboard the Angelique out of NY harbor May 19 '49. There is some hint that Russell found occasion to be sorry that he had not been beached at Valparaiso instead of Mrs. Farnham. R— was not a farmer, nor was he a miller, tho' he tried his hands at this and two or three other endeavors on Rancho Libertad. He did, however, understand the working of an alembic and by the mid-'50s was turning out liquid corn in sufficient quantities to care for the custom with enough left over adequately to supply the household.

R. C. Kirby (q. v.) says he was murdered near his alembic in '56. But probably papers of his estate given March 19 '62 as that date. A long search for the perpetrator was without result. His family, consisting of the widow, Esther, Alexander, Margaret June and Robert, reached Sta Cruz March 9 '59; soon became among the community's leading farmers, the tract being what is known today as the Barrett farm in the potero. None married. All were dead shortly after the turn of the century. These people, early members of Calvary Episcopal church, switched to the Congregational church across the street when the Episcopal minister asked them to follow "high church" ritual.

RYAN, Thomas

'47, purchaser of a tract near the mission church. Here in '52 he was prop. of a blacksmith shop. The prop. later became the home of James L. Prewitt.

RYDER, D. F.

'50, an attorney in Sta Cruz.

RYDER, David N.

'50, settler on a farm adjoining Mary Ann Dye in Villa Branciforte March 9. Perhaps D. F., and N. D. R— ment, this year. There were several of the name, frequently spelled 'Rider' (tho' there were two separate families spelling their names differently), whom I cannot possibly identify. George W. Ryder is on the Calif. pioneer roll as an arrival of Oct. '47; died in SF '68, aged 49 years. Possibly one of the Hopper party.

ROAN, Francis

Called Francisco by his Spanish friends. To Calif. '47 with Sherman's command, 3rd US art. One of the builders of Bennett's sawmill '49; dist. court juror '50.

SANTA CRUZ

HOTEL

a GOOD Place to Eat

ITALIAN DINNERS

Lunch - Dinner

Dinner Served Daily 5 to 10

REED, Joseph

Accredited to the NY vols of '47, tho' his name does not appear on the rolls. In Sta Cruz '55. At St. Helena '75.

RICHARDS, John D.

'50, interested in mining possibilities in Sta Cruz. Member of the Sta Cruz lodge Sons of Temperance '55, owner with Thomas W. Wright and others in the El Dorado mining company on Hoy creek.

REDMAN, Kendall F.

Born in Nelson co., Ky. in '28, to Calif. '47, poss. with the Hopper party, trying his hand at mining for two years, but hearing of a plan afoot to dam the American river (which, by the way, hasn't yet been accomplished), concluded he would be unable to work here and returned to Mo. Possessed of a feeling for horticulture (in this he claimed to have been the first person to plant peaches in that part of Mo. he, as a lad, called "home"), invested his earnings in land, went into debt for more and soon was a prosperous rancher. Unable to stand the Mo. winters, he sold out and returned to Calif. '64, settling for one year in Sonoma county before purchasing the Isaac Williams ranch near Watsonville. Within a short while he had 200 acres in orchards and within another short while was able to retire. He and Mrs. Redman (nee Matilda Ferrerell of Monroe co., Mo., were the parents of seven children.

SANSEVAIN, Pedro

Born in Bordeaux (?) '19, ship's carpenter by trade who reached Sta Bar. '39 aboard the Ayacucho; poss. with Jean Baptiste Dabadie (q. v.); nephew of Louis Vignes, whom he joined for a time in LA as a vintner but working a sawmill on Rancho Rincon from '42, according to his own testimony; in partnership with Roussillon (q. v.) from '44; one of the builders of the first vessel constructed on the Sta Cruz beach '45. To the mines '48, his name being perpetuated in Sansevain's Bar; in '49 memb. of the constitutional convent. from S Jose. His wife, from '45, was Antonia Sunol. S— was sometimes a pathetic little man who would not fight his own battles, oftentimes complaining against his American neighbors that they were not above taking advantage of the fact that he could

but little speak or understand their language. In later years he was one of the most prominent vineyardists in the state.

HALSTEAD, James L.

Because Sue (Grover, q. v.) Bias has her nose close to the grindstone in accomplishing an extraordinarily good job of converting her mother's carriage shed into a beautiful home, we have been unable to secure info on this pioneer, her grandfather, among the leading men of his day. Halstead was a native of NY who reached Calif. '49 at the age of 18 years. He settled at Volcano, there met the daughter of Isiah Brown who consented to become his bride. About '53 the families settled in the Pajaro Valley, Brown Valley taking its name from Halstead's father-in-law; associated in the lumber business with Ford, Sanborn, Williams, and others, assemblyman in the years preceding the civil war; Corralitos jp in later years, giving up the lumber business about '70 in order to practice law. About '86 moved to SF to practice. A leading business figure there until his death, his last years being devoted to school trusteeship.

GROVER, -Whit

Real name Elijah Whitney G—, brother of James Lyman G— and Stephen Frealon G—, b in Bethel, Me., '28, arriving by sea in Calif. '48; participant in the gold excitement for some years but eventually to Sta Cruz to take an inconspicuous role as a partner of his bro. in the lumber business in this state. While James and Freal Grover were making names for themselves, Whit was content to drive teams and handle the livestock.

I have a long statement relative to the experiences of these men in Calif. none of which can be crowded in here. Their father came west, too, bringing blooded American roasters with him. The Grover standardbreds were noted horses in this country in the days when the buggy was the principal conveyance.

Descendants of the families are legion, tho' the only direct one living in Sta Cruz is Mrs. Lillie A. Bibbins, dau. of S. F. G., to who alone boasts 35 children, etc., the third generation.

RIPTIDE ADVERTISING PAYS

Bank of America NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

Condensed Statement of Condition, December 30, 1950

RESOURCES	
Cash and Due from Banks	\$1,133,555,989.28
United States Government Obligations	1,552,106,669.42
State, County, and Municipal Bonds	415,105,438.22
Other Bonds and Securities	276,202,909.55
Loans and Discounts	3,256,953,558.26
Bank Premises, Fixtures, etc.	49,390,639.62
Customers' Liability on Letters of Credit, etc.	151,939,807.56
Accrued Interest and Other Resources	28,103,201.63
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$6,863,358,213.54
LIABILITIES	
Capital	\$ 150,000,000.00
Surplus	166,000,000.00
Undivided Profits and Reserves	83,911,276.54
TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDS	\$ 399,911,276.54
Reserve for Possible Loan Losses	47,012,581.21
Deposits { Demand \$3,498,624,892.73	6,191,705,871.15
{ Savings and Time 2,693,080,978.42	