

Footsteps on the Sands of Time

The County's Pioneer Legion

By AUNT MATHILDA

WILLIAMS, Edward L.



Cousin of Joseph Boston b in Phila., Pa., July '26; working in a NY office when Boston's appeal to him to come to Mont. caused him to decide on Calif. as his future home. Reached Mont. Xmas day '49 by way of the isthmus, being engaged in mercantile affairs and, as a penman, employed to keep the records of that country. To Calif. in the fall of '52 to open and operate a general store as a branch of Boston, (Edmund) Jones & Co. This building is now occupied by Don's stationery store. Sold his int. in the business '54 to become county clerk and deputy for five years; took up the study of law at Watsonville under R. F. Peckham '59; admitted to the bar April '60 to practice in Wat., returning to Sta Cruz '62 as a deputy sheriff; later deputy county clerk, deputy assessor and collector of internal revenue until the election of Cleveland; then in the abstract and title business, insurance agent, notary public and realtor. Vestryman and senior warden of the Calvary Episcopal church for 30 years.

His wife, to whom he was joined by the Rev. Fr. Dionisio Ambriz Saturday, July 7 '55, was Senorita Narcisca Watson of San Bernabe rancho, daughter of one of the state's first industrialists who reached Sta Cruz county in '22. Eleven child. were born to the couple.

WILLIAMS, James

Head of a family of four bros., the others being John S., Isabel and Esquilla, the latter names being the Spanish rendition of Isaac and Squire.

John S., was somewhat prominent as a ranchero in Colusa, one of the Bears '46 and a miner '48 who died in Butte co. '49, leaving a widow and an infant son.

Squire died in the Yuba mines in Aug. '48, leaving an estate in Sta Cruz.

Isaac was for many years the partner of his brother, James, in the lumber and lime trade at Rancho Laguna where 'Williams Landing' (now Davenport) was built came to Santa Cruz for a time to make his home before migrating to the Pajaro valley. Here, on what afterward was the Reddin farm, he shipped the first apples from the Pajaro valley, selling out about '68, he moved to LA where he died about '70. His wife was Lydia —. There was, I believe, a family; but I know nothing of it.

James b in Mo. March 6 '14 apparently was a foster parent to his bros. A blacksmith by trade, he settled in Sta Cruz as a lumberman, laying claim before the Mex. govt. '45 to the lands where Dennis and Jackson Bennett later built their sawmill. Apparently he had been brought here by Graham, who was also responsible for the presence of the Bennett bros. Hard feelings growing

out of this resulted in the murder of Henry Naile by James Williams at the farmhouse of Guillermo Boele '46. Tho' a plain case of murder, W— was exonerated. Within a few months, he was Rancho Campo Frances helping Charles Weber to take possession of what is today the town of Stockton; commissioned by Sutter to track down and destroy 'the wild Inds.' that had murdered the other occupant of that place while W— was at the fort to obtain supplies.

One of the Micheltorena forces to LA '45, in sympathy with the Bear movement tho' I find no evidence that he participated in the Mex. war poss. because of being detained in Sta Cruz.

His wife, married at the home of US Consul Thomas O. Larkin in Mont. Aug. 24 '45 was Miss Mary Patterson of Jackson co., Mo. b Dec. 24 '29 to Isabella Patterson (q. v.). To this couple were born four child., the last of whom, twin sons b at Laguna, died there Jan. 4 '52 at the age of 9 months. The mother survived three months to the day.

James, once extremely wealthy in lands in this and Butte co., was heavily obligated by the time of his death here Oct. 9 '58. All of his lands were permitted to go to his creditors, except for the farm located between what today is Lincoln and Elm sts., Pacific and Chestnut aves. By the time his oldest son, Jonathan P., became a small fortune. The other son, b '48, was Isaac B. Both were wards of their uncle, Isaac; prob. moved to LA with him.

He had been married a second time April 12 '55 to Pauline Rickmer. He appears to have feared that she would poison him, willing his body to Dr. Asa W. Rawson for post mortem examination. She removed to Nevada county after his death.

WILLIAMSON, Joseph N.

B in Penn., July 2 '18. Reached Calif. Aug. 18 '50; squatter at Wat. '55, eventually acquiring an int. in prop. there. Joined the co. pioneers '91. A house-mover.

WILKIN, Stehen

Overland to Calif. '49, settling at Carlisle, Nevada co., where a daughter, Mae B. Wilkin was born about '61. Shortly afterward he moved to Sta Cruz to live. I have no record of this family, except a brief statement of his daughter, Mae, who is still living in SF. She has been a prominent native daughter all her adult life.

WILKINSON, Peter

Native of Auburn Co., NY, b '03; to Calif. '50 with his wife, Amplias White, a sister of 'Mother' Case. Late this year he settled in Sta Cruz as a wheelwright and the prop. of a wagon making shop on Front street. Here he died Jan. 1 '76.

'Aunt Wilkinson' (her given name was so difficult no one addressed her by it) died in Westport, Calif., May 10 '92. She had been b in VT., April 20 '11.

WILLETTS, Joseph D.

In Sta Cruz '50, head, I believe, of a family that became prominent in the Pajaro valley in later years. Initials also given as J. L.

WHITING, B. C.

'50, an attorney in Sta Cruz from NY, living near the mission but owning a house lot at the beach; law partner of D. S. Gregory to '54; his wife about to become a mother '53. State senator from this dist. '54-5 and resident of Sacto from about '56 when his Sta Cruz home was vacant. In later years US da for south. Calif. Died in LA.

PILKINGTON, Thomas



B in Eng. '16, migrated to NY 19 years later. Within a short time the entire family was in this country. Moved to Philadelphia in '40, soon enroute to Mex. to establish the first calico mills in that land. Interpreter in the army of Gen. Scott during the Mex. war and to Angels Camp '49 to enter the mercantile bus. A gulch there still bears his name.

To Sta Cruz '53, retaining an interest in the mines, and pre-emptor of the lands between the San Lorenzo river and Twin Lakes as far back as Pine street, Mrs. Pilkington, m here April 1 '55, was Mary Caroline Galbraith, whom he had known in Phila. 20 years before and who had come overland with W. F. Cooper. They were the parents of three child. A granddaughter, Mrs. R. R. Lukins, who has been of help in this work, spends considerable time here. Mrs. Pilkington died '75 and he in '88.

WOODS, David C.

'50, owner of the brig *Emily Bowen* out of Sta Cruz with bro. Isaiah (q. v.). Still resident here '51.

WOOLEY, William

With Co. A NY vols. '47; a Pajaro ip '61; at Campo Seco '71-82.

WOOSTELL, M. G.

'49, speculating in Sta Cruz lands.

WHEELER, Charles

Agent for the banking firm of Palmer, Cook & Co., at Sta Cruz '49; in bus. with Albert E. Field '54.

WHINERY, Henry

B in Mass. June 18 '30. Entered Calif. June 6 '50, who seems to have spent his early years in the state as

ATTEMPT TO CLEAR MISUNDERSTANDING ON BENEFITS ACTS

Charles I. Scotland, director, state department of social welfare, announced today that there had been a misunderstanding about the increased old age and survivors' insurance payments not being deductible from the public assistance payments made to individuals who are receiving both OASI and old age aid. According to this source, the bureau of old age and survivors' insurance had recently sent out a notice saying that the social security benefit checks to be received early in October would be in larger amounts. The notice also pointed out that persons under 75 years of age may have as much as \$50 a month income and receive old age and survivors' insurance; also a person 75 years of age may now earn any amount and continue to receive old age and survivor's insurance benefits.

Scotland said this was true for those receiving payments from the federal old age and survivors' insurance.

However in those instances where the individual also receives aid under any of the California laws it is necessary that they report such income to the county welfare departments.

It should be kept in mind that the amount paid for old age security or aid to needy children is paid upon the need of the individual and the amount of income he receives, therefore it follows that if any person has increased income from any source he must notify his county welfare department immediately, he observed.

a stage driver, following it when he reached Sta Cruz in the mid-70s. Later janitor of Mission Hill school.

WIGGINS, William

Native of NY, b '16, overland from Mo. to Ore. '39, to Calif. by sea '40 and to Graham's rancho '42-4, serving with the latter in support of Micheltorena '44; bachelor at Branciforte '45; back east '47 to return at the head of a party '47, but lost his way and was forced, after great danger, to turn into Oregon. Again to Calif. by sea '48; owner of a Sta Clara co. rancho; at San Juan Bautista from '53; in Sta Cruz '64; to Mont. '68. Died in S Jose '80. He was called 'doctor.' A man of eccentricities. Doesn't appear to have married.

WHISMAN, J. Washington

Native of Va., b '07; overland with a wife and son '47 perhaps with the Moore family; settling in Sta Clara county. There were several of the name, at least two of whom lived in the Pajaro valley in the mid-60s.

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