

The monthly newsletter is a service to the community and our members. We welcome requests to research specific topics from the public and accept articles on local history. Please note that the Society reserves the right to accept or decline any article or material at its discretion. The Society is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any submitted material so please keep a copy for your records. Please include a note authorizing Anderson Historical Society to publish the material. We need two things from all members or those interested in local history: please be sure the Society has an updated email address and please spread the word to friends and neighbors about the Newsletter. Please contact us at:\_\_\_\_\_.

Note: Alta California December 1, 1852. The Following places contributed the following amounts to the Washington Monument: From Shasta Precinct \$86.50; Quartz Hill \$7.00; Oak Bottom \$4.50; Mule Town \$5.00; Lower Springs \$9.50; Horse Town \$26.50; French Gulch \$25.00; Whiskey Creek \$36.75; Eagle Creek \$7.50; Middletown \$6.60; Cottonwood \$7.80; One Dog Town \$7.00; Red Bluff \$20.00 Total \$248.65

Note: Sacramento Weekly Union March 31, 1853. Big Lump – A short time since Mr. Kelly took out of his claim at Lower Springs a lump of gold weighing 26 ozs., less two bits. The claim of Mr. K., we believe, lies immediately across the old stage road. (When found gold prices were about \$19.39/oz. so minus two bits the nugget was worth \$503.89. At current gold prices it is about \$58,500.00)

The September 2017 Newsletter contains three articles: 1) A Baby in Every Bottle, 2) Alonzo Hayward verses Alvinza Hayward, and 3) Annie Montague Alexander and Shastasaurus alexandrae.

### “A Baby in Every Bottle”

The Milsap family lived in Aiken’s Gulch and was known for running an early stage stop on the road from Ludwig’s Bridge to the Bald Hill and for having trouble having children. It was commented upon that they lost one baby a year for twelve years (other commenters use five or six), mostly stillborn. Andrew Milsap would build a small wooden coffin and bury each one on a knoll above the homestead where only the grave of Elsie Nora Milsap who died in 1887 remains. The story goes that one-day neighbors got Mrs. Alice Milsap to try Lydia Pinkham’s Golden Medical Discovery and after that they raised quite a family.

A hundred and twenty years later it is impossible to accurately diagnosis the cause for the stillbirths but the medicine provides a clue. The condition was probably iron deficiency anemia that effected many women due to hard work, poor diets, and the stress of repeated childbirths. In an age of quack medicines, many of which were toxic, Mrs. Milsap was lucky to be introduced to a medication, made by a woman, for women, that was also high in iron.

The inventor, Lydia Este was born in Lynn, Massachusetts on February 19, 1819. She was the 10<sup>th</sup> child of William and Rebecca Estes who were from old Quaker stock. Lydia was raised to become an active abolitionist and trained as a

teacher. In September of 1843 she married Isaac Pinkham who was at the time a 29 year old shoe manufacturer. Isaac was ruined in the financial Panic of 1873 and the family entered on hard times. Lydia like many women of the time brewed home remedies due to the unsafe state of the “medical profession.” Lydia had a strong base in western folk medicine and Native American folk medicine that she combined with information from her copy of John King’s American Dispensary. Prior to the Panic of 1873, Lydia had simply given away her remedies but afterwards Lydia’s son Daniel saw mass marketing as a means of recovering the family’s financial position. Starting slowly in 1873 Lydia skillfully marketed her remedies directly to women. She encouraged correspondence with those that purchased her products. Lydia became known as one place that women could receive factual information on the taboo subject of menstruation and other women’s health issues. When the common treatment by the medical profession for women’s problems was the removal of the ovaries with a corresponding 40% death rate it is no wonder that Lydia soon found a faithful audience.

Lydia’s product contained licorice, chamomile, pleurisy root, Jamaica dogwood, black cohosh, life plant, fenugreek seed, and dandelion root. It did contain 18% alcohol “but only as a solvent.” In a period when many “medications” held over 50% alcohol, her explanation seemed to satisfy the U.S. Government and the Women’s Christian Temperance League. In one year alone over 5,000,000 bottles were sold and Lydia Pinkham was a household name.

Lydia died in 1883 and the company was taken over by her children and grandchildren. The company was troubled by internal fights between the family members, but they continued to manufacture Lydia’s products into the 1930s when larger pharmaceutical companies bought the rights. Numark Laboratories produced Lydia Pinkham Herbal Compound that was carried by Walgreens, CVS and Rite Aid Drugstores and may still be on the shelf.

Lydia’s compound became associated with the motto “a baby in every bottle.” The motto was included in popular drinking songs of the period:

“There is a baby in every bottle –  
So the old quotation ran.  
But the Federal Trade Commission –  
Still insists you’ll need a man.”

There are English versions, Irish versions and many that cannot be repeated but the truth is that the product did no harm and was most often beneficial. Lydia became known and respected for her movement to help women and her product became part of our local history.

(Note: the Anderson Historical Society has acquired a few hundred bottles collected locally for a future display. The collection came with a database showing the manufacturer’s location, ingredients and other information. Anyone who has additional bottles they wish to donate please let the society know as we have a volunteer willing to do research.)

Alonzo Hayward verses Alvinza Hayward

There has been an on-going mystery as to the identity of the individual who extended the Dry Creek Tunnel & Fluming Company ditch from the mining operations around Piety Hill, through Cloverdale, and on to a reservoir near Anderson. Some sources cited Alonzo Hayward, others the Happy Valley Irrigation District, but most simply say nothing about the addition. Dottie Smith cited Alvinza Hayward and titled the ditch the Townsend Ditch. It was one of those subjects where everyone agreed to disagree. The answer was finally resolved through a deed for Taylor's Ditch and an 1881 article in the San Francisco Bulletin.

Only one early deed was found at the Recorder's Office for a Hayward and that was to Alvinza Hayward. The purchase was for the Taylor Ditch that supplied water to Townsend Flat and the Duffy and Andrew Ditches that supplied water to Horsetown and Flood's Flat. All three ditches ran eastward away from Cloverdale. Taylor's Ditch became Townsend Ditch. It showed that Townsend was not the name of the ditch at Cloverdale but it provided a correct name of a capitalist buying local water rights. In looking up additional citations the common use was A. Hayward, while a few used Alonzo, but in the deed it was given by himself as Alvinza. No biographical data was found on Alonzo but Alvinza hit proverbial pay dirt.

Alvinza was born in Vermont in 1822, studied law in New York, before pursuing lumbering and lead mining in Michigan. In 1845 in Wisconsin he married Charity Hathaway (born 1826 in New York and died in 1905 in New Jersey). 1850 saw Alvinza move to California where after initial success as a miner he purchased an interest in the Eureka Mine in Amador County. His experience in hard-rock mining in Michigan provided him with valuable knowledge on technology and geology that was absent in many of the early Gold Rush miners. Armed with a little capital he quickly purchased interests in other successful mines.

By the early 1860s, Alvinza was known as a "silver baron" for his interests in the Comstock Lode in Nevada. His investments widened to include all areas of mining support: water, timber, and railroads. He was the prime investor in the Crown Point Mine, Eureka Consolidated Mine, and Chiolar-Potosi Mine as well as an officer of the Virginia & Truckee Railroad and Virginia & Gold Hill Water Company.

Alvinza moved the center of his business operations to San Francisco although he maintained an 800 acre ranch and mansion in San Mateo as his personal home. In addition to obtaining vast holding in San Francisco real estate, Alvinza again invested heavily in the infrastructure of the surrounding area. He was a heavy investor in the City Gas Works, Clear Lake Water Company, San Mateo Water Works, and the Pacific Electric Power Company. Alvinza owned the Blue Lakes and Amador Ditch which he successfully sold to the City of San Francisco as the demand for water increased.

Alvinza was also active in the California Republican Party as well as social welfare groups. He was director of the California Immigrant Aid Association, president of the Masonic Board of Relief and trustee ex-officio of the California Labor Exchange. As Alvinza aged he became active in Spiritualism and comments were made about him becoming ever more eccentric. In 1878 he and his wife divorced only to be remarried later in the year. They later separated and lived apart for the rest of their lives. Only two of the couple's eight children survived to adulthood and there were rumors of Charity's involvement in the children's deaths.

In his later life Alvinza's empire grew into new areas such as the California Life Insurance Corporation and the Bellingham Bay & Mount Diablo Coal Mining Company. Other investments included the Pacific Stone Company, California Bank, Oregon Military Road, Phoenix Quicksilver Mining Corporation (including the Hayward Mine), and the Merchant's Exchange Bank of San Francisco.

One of Alvinza's more interesting investments was in the California Russian Fur Company that was incorporated in San Francisco in 1867. The company was organized for fur trading, lumber development and mining in Russian America. It was the actions of this company that provided the Czar of Russia the excuse to offer Russian America to the United States for purchase.

The connection of Alvinza Hayward to the ditch along Cloverdale Road to this point was indirect. The Hardscrabble Mine and Dry Creek Tunnel & Flume Company Ditch had been taken over by the Merchants' Exchange Bank of San Francisco. The prime investor and president of the Merchants' Exchange Bank was Alvinza Hayward. The break came in a May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1881 article in the San Francisco Bulletin concerning a stockholder's meeting to address problems within the Merchants' Exchange Bank. To shorten the lengthy article that addressed multiple lawsuits it came down to the fact that the bank owned the property but Alvinza ran them as his personal assets. Alvinza had been personally directing operations at the Hardscrabble Mine. Alvinza was facing an end to hydraulic gold mining and sought to continue profits by using the water rights for agricultural purposes. Alvinza had extended the ditch from the Old China Reservoir at Piety Hill to the Cloverdale Reservoir, then on to the Johnson Reservoir, Epworth Lake Reservoir and on to the Anderson Reservoir. Alvinza was expecting \$10,000 in profits from water rights in 188; money much needed to offset other legal encumbrances. Alvinza continued to direct the mining operation probably until 1884 when the Sawyer Decision on the Anti-Debris Act closed hydraulic operations. The mine remained open for a short period with attempts to drift mine but these proved unprofitable. A later article stated the Dry Creek Tunnel & Flume Company continued to sell water to other local mining operation but was increasingly dependent on agricultural sales.

The Merchants' Exchange Bank was the legal owner of the Dry Creek Tunnel & Flume Company but Alvinza Hayward had it built in the bank's name. Prior to 1909 it was not the Happy Valley Ditch nor was it the Townsend Ditch. The Taylor Ditch was sold to the Townsend Flat Water Ditch Company becoming the Townsend Ditch (now part of the McConnell Foundation). A 1903 article gave the answer by calling the extension of the Dry Creek Tunnel & Flume Company Ditch, the "Hayward Ditch." The name did not last long as the entire ditch system was sold to George Barber in July 1909. George immediately transferred the rights to a new company: the Happy Valley Land and Water Company and Hayward's Ditch became a part of the renamed Happy Valley Ditch.

### Annie Montague Alexander and *Shastasaurus alexandrae*

Few would associate Alexander Road in Anderson or the Alexander Ranch in Happy Valley with a famous paleontologist and benefactor of the University of California at Berkeley but the connection is there. Annie Montague Alexander was

the second daughter of Samuel Thomas Alexander and Martha E. Cooke. She was born on 29 December 1867 in the Kingdom of Hawaii where she was raised until 1882 when her parents moved to Oakland, California. Her father was the co-founder of what became the Alexander & Baldwin Company, one of the Hawaiian “big five” companies. Her mother was daughter of Amos Star Cooke co-founder of another “big five” company, Castle & Cooke. Samuel elected to move to California to offer his children more educational advantages while over-seeing company business in the United States. At the time most of the refineries for Hawaiian sugar were in California or on the east coast and Hawaii as an independent Kingdom was subject to politically based tariffs and other limitations. By investing heavily in California and opening new businesses in the United States the “big five” had some political influence concerning sugar tariffs. One of Samuel’s investments was in Shasta County where he also influenced many of his corporate friends to make similar investments.

Annie left Oakland in 1887 to attend Lasell Seminary for Young Women in Auburndale, Massachusetts. It was the same year that her father Samuel began purchasing land around Anderson to develop into farm lots. In 1889 Samuel purchased the 1740 acre Lowe Ranch upon which he built the “Alexander Mansion” as a summer home and began the development of a progressive olive and fruit operation. (The mansion still stands on Palm Avenue in Happy Valley.). Annie would inherit part of the family land holdings but more importantly Shasta County would provide her with discoveries that would direct her future.

After two years at Lasell Annie left to vacation in Europe and remained to study French and drawing at the Sorbonne in Paris. For a short period she studied German in Berlin but quickly returned to continue her art studies in Paris. Annie was forced to abandon her passion for art due to persistent eye-strain and migraines caused by close working conditions. Annie returned to Oakland without any real direction to replace art.

The expected social life of a wealthy daughter held no attraction for Annie and her father’s liberal views placed no demands for either marriage or for finding a direction for her life. Annie toured Europe, Asia and the South Pacific. In May 1899 Annie showed an interest in natural sciences and took a ten-week horseback trip through Northern California and Southern Oregon to collect plants. After the trip Annie started auditing the classes of Dr. John Campbell Merriam in the Department of Geology at the University Of California at Berkeley. Dr. Merriam held a doctorate in paleontology a field that quickly interested Annie.

Annie began funding fossil gathering expeditions for Dr. Merriam, who in turn trained her to organize her own expeditions. In 1901 the university provided field assistants and logistic support to Annie for an expedition to Fossil Lake, Oregon, while she paid all the expenses. The training experience left Annie with a desire to participate in other expeditions. Dr. Merriam was quick to comply by organizing an expedition to Shasta County in 1902. Merriam felt that the recently discovered large marine reptile, Shastasaurus, warranted study as a subfamily within the fossil Ichthyosaurs. The Shastasaurus was up to ten feet long without a distinct neck and four modified paddles for limbs. Annie sponsored and participated in the expedition,

but it was led by Vance Osmont who discovered the first Shastasaurus specimens in Shasta County.

The expedition centered on Bear Cove in the black limestone deposits that run twenty-five miles in a north-south direction roughly along the McCloud River. Annie's instincts led her to make three important finds of the expedition. Aside from two specimens of the previously discovered fossil, she discovered a new species of Ichthyosaurus that was named by Dr. Mirriam in her honor, *Shastasaurus alexandrae*.

Annie returned to Shasta County in 1903, this time centering on Black Oak Canyon in the same black limestone region. Annie discovered a new species named *Thalottosaurus alexandrae*. 1904 was a fateful year as Annie accompanied her father to collect in Africa. While at Victoria Falls, Samuel had his foot crushed by rocks falling from the construction site of the Zambezi River Bridge. On September 10, 1904, Samuel died following an amputation. Annie carried on with her collecting with the same dedication that had marked her father's business life.

1905 saw a paleontology expedition to the Humboldt Range of Nevada. 1906 was an expedition to the Kenai Peninsula to study the Alaskan grizzly bear. These were followed by expeditions to Vancouver Island, Hawaii, the Mojave Desert of California, Colorado, Arizona, Utah, Death Valley in California, New Mexico, Texas and Egypt. At the age of eighty Annie led an expedition to Baja California (1947-1948).

Annie had a zest for life that was directed at enhancing human knowledge of the natural science. She addressed practical agribusiness as had her father. In 1911 Annie purchased a 440 acre farm on Grizzly Island in Suisun Bay where she made improvements to the California dairy industry through her work with milking shorthorns. Later the farm was directed towards asparagus production.

Annie Montague Alexander died on September 10, 1950 following a stroke at age eighty-two. She was buried in Makowao Cemetery on the Island of Maui in Hawaii. She is remembered by twelve species named in her honor (two mammals, two birds, six fossils and two plants). Annie impacted education and scientific research in all of California by providing the predominant funding for the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at the University of California in 1908. In 1909 Annie shared the cost of founding a department of paleontology at the university. She established the Museum of Paleontology at the university in 1921 and helped fund the university Herbarium. Her various perpetual endowments contributed immeasurably to the teaching and research facilities of the University of California at Berkeley and continue to help finance the institution she loved.

Annie's ties to Shasta County faded after the death of her father in 1904. Her mother sold the summer mansion and olive operation and Annie concentrated on her academic work. In October of 1922 the Alexander heirs transferred their remaining land in Shasta County (mostly in the Hopkins Model Fruit Colony and Power's Addition in Anderson) into a new company, the Alexander Properties Company. The new management company, which also owned land in Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo Counties, slowly sold off all the Shasta County assets. All that remains locally is the name on Alexander Road in Anderson and a crumbling

mansion on Palm Avenue which seem sad for all the family contributed to the history of Shasta County.