

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: www.andersonhistorical.com.

Elderton Post Office

The Elderton Post Office was established in October 1860 and is listed in many sources as a “ghost” meaning there are no examples of mail having been processed. The location of the Elderton Post Office is listed as four miles west of Cottonwood. The period the post office was established was one of change for the Cottonwood area. The Cottonwood Post Office was moved in March 1860 to the south side of Cottonwood Creek into Tehama County. The Foster’s Hotel at Cottonwood would not be completed until 1861 and much of the road traffic used Ludwig’s Toll Bridge further to the west of Cottonwood. The 1860 U.S. Census was completed in July 1860 and the postmaster for Elderton, John C. Divine, was listed as a merchant. The next entries included a hotel-keeper H. S. Chandler and a physician which would indicate there was a small settlement possible centered on a fordable part of Cottonwood Creek. The Elderton Post Office closed in September 1862, possibly due to competition from Foster’s Hotel and developments at the town of Cottonwood.



Wilhelm Ludwig's at Ludwig's Bridge.

Goering Post Office

The Goering Post Office was established on April 28, 1879 and was closed by June 30, 1879. The location was about three miles southeast of the Stillwater Post Office and named for the first and only postmaster John Goering. There is nothing in the literature that provides a reason for the short period of operation, but John Goering born about 1830 in Saxony was committed to San Quentin Prison on April 8, 1880 from Shasta County. John was sentenced to a term of one year for grand larceny. John Goering was discharged February 8, 1881.

Halcyon Post Office

Prior to 1880 Stenten (often given as Stanton) Smithson was operating a hotel at "Baird & Sacramento Bridge" (six miles south of Bayles) and one mile north of the future post office at Gregory. In 1881 Stenten Smithson granted the Central Pacific Company a right-of-way at the site. In 1882 the Halcyon Post Office was established at the hotel whose motto was halcyon. Halcyon is an adjective from Greek meaning tranquil, happy, or idyllic. In 1883 the railroad started moving north from Redding and the post office was moved three hundred yards to the south and renamed Smithson as was the new railroad siding. The Smithson Post office operated until 1892 when operations were moved to Bayles.

MUTUM IN PARVO

WHAT TO TAKE
 APPROXIMATE TIME FROM SAN FRANCISCO
 DISTANCE FROM SAN FRANCISCO
 STATIONS. over a portion of the SCENIC LINE to PORTLAND.
 ALTITUDE


REMARKS.

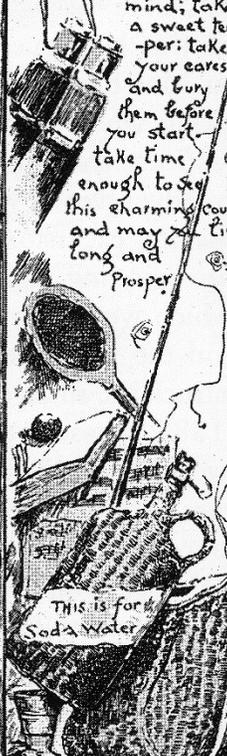
	9 HOURS	234	REDDING.	557	Head of the Sacramento Valley.	
<div style="text-align: center;"> ON A TRIP TO SHASTA </div> <p>Take your wife and the children: Take a clear conscience and a contented mind; take a sweet temper; take your ears and bury them before you start; take time enough to see this charming country and may you live long and prosper.</p> 		237	MIDDLE CREEK	526	Fine River scenery now.	
			244	COPLEY	600	The Indians spear salmon here.
	10 HOURS	251	KENNET.	670	The Pit River leaves the	
		256	MORLEY	721	Sacramento between K.M.	
		259	ELMORE	804	There are 18 river crossings	
		267	SMITHSON	974	12 tunnels in 80 miles of RR-	
	11 HOURS	272	DELTA	1138	Splendid trout fishing here.	
		280	GIBSON	1387	Gigantic pine forests.	
		283	CHROMITE	1509	Old placer mines near here.	
		285	SIMS	1679	The cañon walls grow higher.	
	12 HOURS	291	CASTLE CREEK	1942	Magnificent view of Castle Rocks.	
		294	LOWER SODA SPRINGS	2084	A delightful summer resort.	
		296	CHESTNUT	2195	Look out for the first glimpse of Shasta	
		298	DUNSMUIR	2285	The scenery grows grander.	
	13 HOURS	299	UPPER SODA SPRINGS	2360	The romantic Mossbrae Falls here and the imposing views of the BIG BEND, High Trestles etc.	
		309	McCLOUD	3349		
14 HOURS	312	SISSON.	3555	GRAND full face view of SHASTA		
	320	ACME	3902	Fine views of the five peaked		
	321	IGERNA	3730	Volcanic cone of Muir's Peak		
15 HOURS	329	EDGEWOOD	2955	GRAND profile view of SHASTA.		
	336	GAZELLE	2760	In the beautiful Shasta Valley		
16 HOURS	350	MONTAGUE	2542	The Siskiyou Mts. in sight.		

Chart from Shasta, the Keystone of California Scenery published in 1887 showing the relative location of Smithson (Halcyon) between Elmore (Mabel) and Delta (Bayles).

Janesville Post Office

Note: this is not the Janesville located west of Anderson that would eventually become Gas Point.

Janesville was established in 1857 when Malcolm Bankhead built a hotel on the trail to the Honey Lake Valley. Isaac Roop had established a trading post in the Honey Lake Valley on the new Noble's Trail in 1854. About 1856 gold was discovered near Roptown (later Susanville) and settlers began to move into the area. Roop and others believed the area was outside of the jurisdiction (and taxes) of California thus creating a boundary dispute. After a minor conflict known as the Sagebrush War the area was surveyed border dispute settled in favor of California. The resolution of the dispute led to the formation of Lassen County in April 1864 from parts of Shasta and Plumas Counties. Janesville had been part of Shasta County and suddenly became one of the largest settlements in Lassen County.

The Janesville Post Office was established in December 1861 in Shasta County. The post office was located thirteen miles southeast of what would become Susanville. The town, and by extension the post office was named for Malcolm Bankhead's wife Jane. There is a second and less likely theory put forward concerning the name: it reports that L. N. Breed and early settler named the town site in honor of Jane Agnes Hill who was born there. The post office was discontinued in January 1864. When Lassen County was organized the post office was moved and into Lassen County and reestablished in June 1864. In 1914 the name of the post office was changed to Lassen, but the name was restored to Janesville by petition in 1923.



The Janesville Hotel about 1880. The original hotel was built of logs by Malcolm Bankhead in 1857 and served as the first post office. In 1872 Dennis Tanner rebuilt the hotel using wood frame construction.

The articles for December 2022 are: 1) Elizabeth Hampton, 2) Guy Elmer Hansen, 3) Mervin Bernard Kindleberger, 4) William McKeag, 5) William Raymond Reed, 6) Philip and Peter Scherer, 7) James Franklin Bedford, 8) The Sixty Year Search for “Ramona”, and 9) Matilda Maranda Part IV.

Elizabeth Hampton

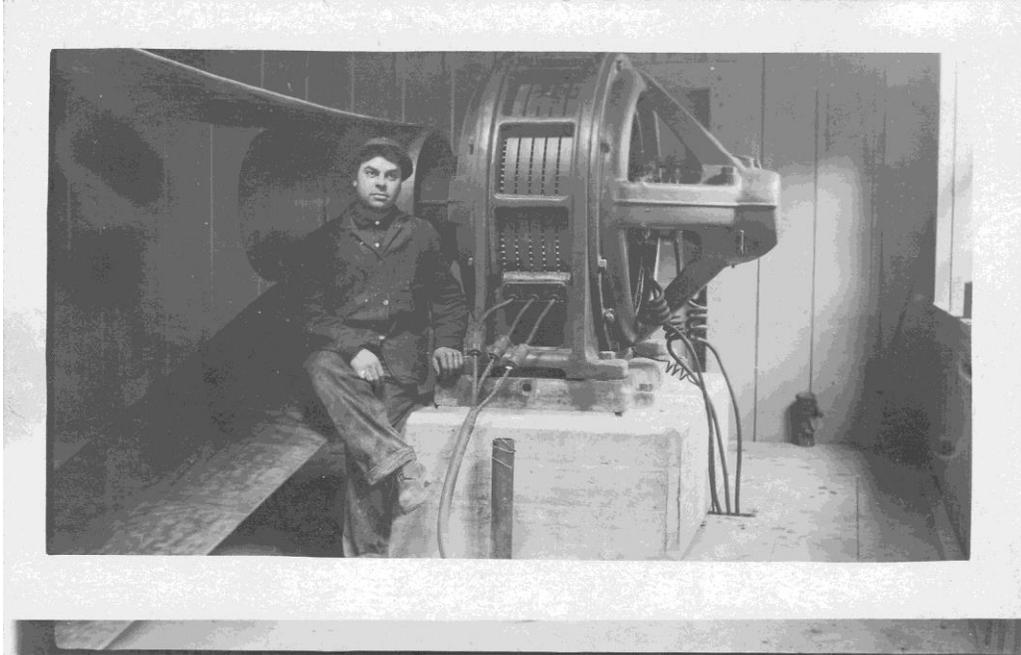


The notation on the portrait is Lizzie Hampton, Fort Crook. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

Elizabeth Hampton's maiden name was Young, and she was born about 1838 in Tennessee. In 1858 "Lizzie" as she was known married Delancy Washington Hampton born about 1839 in Tennessee. On numerous records Delancy's name is spelled in various ways including Delano. Delancy was a farmer up until the Civil War when he joined Company D, 59th Tennessee Infantry Regiment organized by the confederate States of America. The Regiment which was organized in 1862 fought at Vicksburg where a large part of the regiment was captured. The portion that escaped the siege was reorganized as the 59th Tennessee Mounted Infantry and served until 1865. It was not found if Delancy was a prisoner of war or escaped. In 1870 the family was farming in Missouri. In 1876 Delancy moved the family to Sutter County in California. In 1879 Delancy registered as a farmer at Pacheco in Shasta County and in 1880 was clearing a farm in Township 6. In 1885 Delancy received a homestead patent for 156 acres in Section 30, Township 31 North Range 4 West, Mount Diablo Meridian under the name of Delana Washington Hampton. In 1900 Delancy and Elizabeth were farming at Buckeye with their son, James Madison. In 1910 Delancy and Elizabeth were still at Buckeye but without any children. Elizabeth died in 1912 and Delancy moved to Alameda County where he died in 1921.

Delancy and Elizabeth had nine children: James Madison 1859 in Tennessee, Mary 1861 in Tennessee, Calvin 1862 in Tennessee, William W. 1866 in Tennessee, Sarah 1868 in Illinois, Henry 1870 in Missouri, Charles Lafayette 1875 in Tennessee, Eldaah 1876 in Tennessee, and Floyd 1878 in California.

Guy Elmer Hansen



Guy Elmer Hansen at the hoist in the Gladstone Mine at French Gulch. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

Guy Elmer Hansen was born in 1882 in Michigan. Guy's parents were Ole Christian Andrus Hansen (1854-1934) who married Lillie Jane Griggs (1863-1944) in Michigan in 1877. In 1900 Guy was living with his mother in San Jose where he was listed as a harness maker. In 1910 Guy was a machinist at the Gladstone Mine in French Gulch. Guy married his wife Charlotte (1880-1965; last name unknown) while working at the mine and named their only child: Jack Gladstone Hansen 1910-1999. By 1920 Guy was working at Shingletown for Pacific Gas & Electric Company. On the 1930 U. S. Census Guy was an electrical foreman at Chico in Butte County. In the 1940 U. S. Census Guy was working for PG&E at Red Bluff in Tehama County. Guy died at Red Bluff in 1958 and Charlotte followed him in 1965.

Mervin Bernard Kindleberger



Portrait of Mervin Bernard Kindleberger. Courtesy of Ralph Hollibaugh.

Mervin was the son of Clementina Zorn and Frank Kindleberger. Clementina "Tina" Zorn was born in Shasta in 1860 and was believed to be the daughter of Henry Zorn. Henry was born in Germany in 1831 and was believed to have married Angelica Laux who was born in the Grand Duchy of Hesse in 1825. Angelica had three daughters: Celina 1855, Clara Augusta 1856 and Clementina 1860. In 1867 Angelica was listed as an oil, paint and glass merchant in Shasta. Angelica was possibly divorced as Henry Zorn died in January 1868 while Angelica married Charles Boell in 1867. Charles was a saloon owner and Angelica and the three daughters were listed with him in the 1870 and 1880 U. S. Census. Clara Augusta married John Clements in 1878 and Celina became the second wife of Sheriff Sylvester Hull in 1881. Charles Boell died in 1880 and Angelica in 1889. In 1890 Clementina married Frank Kindleberger born about 1860 in California. In 1900 Frank was an electrician at Red Bluff and in 1910 a foreman of a lime kiln in Delta. After 1920 the family was living in San Francisco where Frank was an engine mechanic and later a clerk in a dry goods store. Frank and Clementina had three children: Mervin Bernard 1892-1980, Ester M. 1894-1976, and Helen Jean 1897-1978. After 1930 no records were found on Frank or Clementina.

Mervin Bernard Kindleberger was born at Antelope in Tehama County in 1892. When Mervin was seventeen, he was living with his parents at Delta and working as a laborer in a smelter. On the World War I draft registration Mervin was listed as a chemist/assayer for the

Mammoth Copper Mining Company at Kennett. In November 1917 Mervin entered the U. S. Army and was assigned to the aviation section which was then part of the Signal Corps. By March of 1918 Mervin was assigned to the 165th Aero Squadron of the American Expedition Force in France. The 165th was a service support unit assigned to Air Service Production Center # 2 at the Romorantin Aerodrome and was responsible for assembling aircraft for the front. Mervin returned to Camp Mills on Long Island in June 1919 as a sergeant first class. On the 1920 U. S. Census Mervin was working as a machinist at an aeroplane plant in Oakland, Alameda County. In 1920 Mervin married Beatrice Harden born in 1899. Beatrice was the daughter of A. Harden and Charlotte Melton. In the 1930 U. S. Census Mervin was listed as an electrician at an electrical shop in Oakland and in 1940 he was working for the County of Alameda. Mervin worked through World War II as an electrician and died in Alameda County in 1980.



The airfield at Romorantin Aerodrome in World War I. Courtesy Wikipedia.



Assembly crew with V-12 Liberty Engines at the Romorantin Aerodrome during World War I.
Courtesy Wikipedia.

William McKeag



Portrait of William McKeag. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

William McKeag was born in Ohio in 1830 and was listed in the Civil War draft registration as a merchant at Shasta. In 1867 William registered to vote as a miner at Shasta. In the 1870 U. S. Census William was listed as an agent for a toll road at Shasta. In 1880 William reported himself as a capitalist (generally used for an investor). In 1880 William was listed as single but he was known to have married Cora V. Smith 1853-19, the daughter of Dr. James Oscar Smith 1822-1899 who had settled in Shasta county in 1855. Cora' mother was Cynthia Stooer. William and Cora adopted a daughter Helen D. 1884-1921. In 1894 William and William Stauburn received a mineral patent in Section 2, Township 32 North Range 7 west, Mount Diablo Meridian. William died in Cottonwood in 1898 and Cora survived until 1901.

William Raymond Reed



William Raymond Reed at the Baird Store about 1940. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

William Raymond Reed was born in 1890 in Shasta County of mixed parentage (Wintu and Caucasian). In 1917 William registered for the World War I draft and was working at the Noble Electric Steel Company in Herault. William appears to have been drafted as he has a veteran's headstone marked U. S. Army World War I, but no history of his unit was found. In 1920 William was listed as a partner of Eli Popejoy at the Sacramento River Township. Both were probably mining as well as working outside of the partnership as Eli was listed as a copper miner and William as an iron miner. About 1920 William married Elsie Silverthorn (Silverthorne) born in Shasta County in 1897. Elsie was the daughter of William Silverthorn born in 1864 and

Sallie Charles. In 1910 Elsie was living with an uncle at the Silverthorn Ferry most likely to attend the Silverthorn School. In the 1930 U. S. Census William and Elsie were living in Township 4 where William was working as a laborer. On the World War II draft registration William was working as a guide at the Bollibokka Club and living in Pollock. The club was a seven-mile private fly-fishing reserve on the upper McCloud River established by the Hills family (Hills Brother Coffee Company). Shortly afterwards Elsie died in 1943 and was buried in the Silverthorn Indian Cemetery (later moved to Central Valley due to the filling of Shasta Lake). William followed Elsie in 1961.

Philip and Peter Scherer



Notations on the photograph state, "Philip and Peter Scherer of Redding" and the date 1893. The portrait was taken by John C. Franklin who operated in Redding from 1890 to 1893. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

Peter J. Scherer was born in the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg about 1838 and immigrated in 1866. Peter was naturalized in 1874 in Wisconsin. In the 1880 U. S. Census Peter was listed as a blacksmith in Wisconsin with a wife Mary P. Scherer born in Oldenburg about 1834. Peter was also listed with three children all born in Wisconsin: Peter about 1867, Philip about 1871 and William about 1873. In 1886 Peter registered to vote in Redding and operated a blacksmith shop until 1895. Peter J. Scherer was listed in 1900 in Alameda County as widowed.

Peter's son Philip who was born about 1871 in Wisconsin appears to have come to California with his father. From 1889 to 1890 he was a member of the California National Guard in Redding and in 1893 married Annie Belle Richards 1874-1911. In the 1900 U. S. Census for Redding Annie is listed under her married name as a widow and living with her mother Sarah B. Richards.

James Franklin Bedford

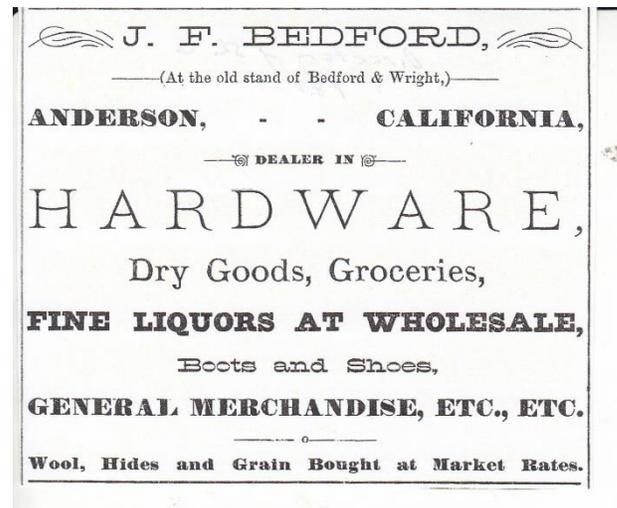
The article started as a request for information concerning the original owners of a house on North Street in Anderson. Research often requires a trip to the County Recorder's Office and the majority of times provides little of historical value. This case was an exception as the house was built by one of the first residents of the town of Anderson: James Franklin Bedford.

James Franklin Bedford was born at Texas Springs on December 29, 1859. James was the son of John Franklin Bedford born in 1834 in South Carolina who came to Shasta County in 1858 settling as a merchant at Texas Springs. John's father had married Ella V. Wright in 1857 while in Georgia. Ella was the daughter of Uel Lampkin Wright (1808-1877) and Mary Pearson Lawshe (1820-1904), and the brother of Jeremiah Wright (1844-1916) with whom John Franklin Bedford was a partner in the general merchandise store at Texas Springs. The partnership moved to Anderson about 1872 on land purchased from Elmas Nicholas. As the California & Oregon Railroad moved north from Marysville, they were acquired by the "Big Four" of the Central Pacific Railroad. About the same time an associate, James Ben Ali Haggin acquired the remains of the Pierson B. Reading Mexican land grant needed for most of the right-of-way in Shasta County. Once in Shasta County Elias Anderson granted a right-of-way through his property and the C&O Railroad bypassed his establishment at American Ranch and Haggin and his agent Edward Frisbie laid out new towns at "Anderson" and Redding (named for the railroad's land agent). The new town was laid out as twelve lots bounded by North, East, South, and Silver Streets and centered on the railroad depot donated by Haggin. In 1872 the town consisted of the depot (Haggin had yet to put up lots for sale), the Bedford & Wright store, and a blacksmith shop (the latter two just across from Haggin's town site). The town grew slowly but was greatly advanced by David Honn's participation in the Shasta County Immigration Association in 1880. By 1881 Anderson consisted of two hotels, two stores, three blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, one harness shop, three saloons, and a flour mill. Elias Anderson moved his home to the town named for him in 1876 and it wasn't until 1878 when his American Ranch Hotel followed that the Post Office moved to Anderson.

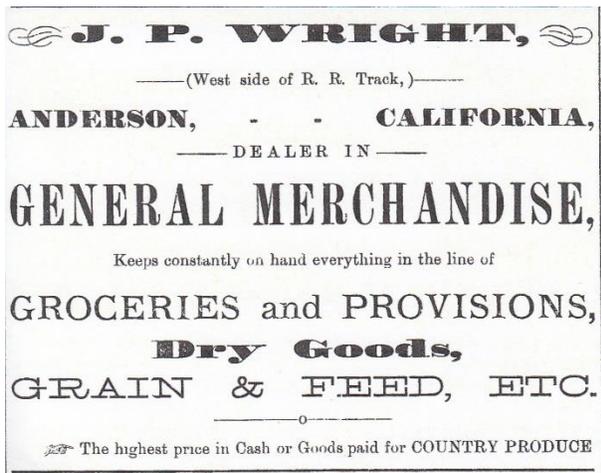
The Bedford & Wright store was fully operational by June 13, 1874, as shown by an advertisement stated they were "dealing in groceries, dry goods, boots & shoes" and were the

sole agents for “Buckeye Mower & Reaper, Haines Header, Burdick’s Hay Cutters, Taylor Wheel Horse, and Chuttler Wagons (probably should be Shuttler Wagons that were made in Chicago).” After the store moved to Anderson James F. Bedford entered the business. In the 1880 U.S. Census James was listed as a clerk in the store. At that time the John F. Bedford family consisted of Ella and eight children: James (1859-1935), Mary E. (1863-?), Charles (1866-1925), Homer (1868-?), John (1870-1896), William (1873-1958), Olive V. (1876-1916), and Grace or Georgia Grace (1879-after 1910). In the 1870 U.S. Census two other children were listed: Walter born in 1857 in Georgia who had moved to Modoc County by 1879 then disappears and Marion who from all indications was an alternative name for Homer. James was related to another merchant family as his father’s sister Olive Ann had married John William McCarley. John McCarley had also been a merchant at Texas Springs and joined with Albert F. Smith to open a store at Shingletown in 1871 and lived near James Madison Bedford. In 1917 McCarley & Smith opened a store in Anderson. At some point prior to 1881 the Bedford & Wright partnership dissolved with each advertising independently. The dissolution was described as acrimonious, and the bitterness continued for decades.

1881 advertisement for the J. F. Bedford store. Note “at the old stand of Bedford and Wright.” From the History & Business Directory, Shasta County 1881.



J. F. BEDFORD,
 —(At the old stand of Bedford & Wright.)—
 ANDERSON, - - CALIFORNIA,
 — DEALER IN —
 HARDWARE,
 Dry Goods, Groceries,
FINE LIQUORS AT WHOLESALE,
 Boots and Shoes,
GENERAL MERCHANDISE, ETC., ETC.
 — o —
Wool, Hides and Grain Bought at Market Rates.



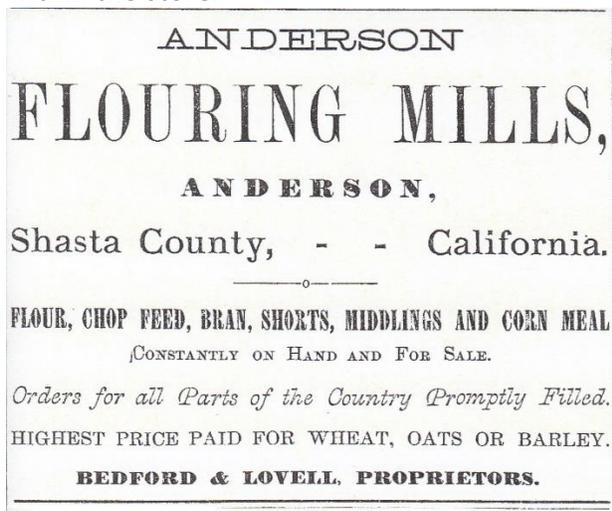
J. P. WRIGHT,
 —(West side of R. R. Track.)—
 ANDERSON, - - CALIFORNIA,
 — DEALER IN —
GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
 Keeps constantly on hand everything in the line of
 GROCERIES and PROVISIONS,
Dry Goods,
 GRAIN & FEED, ETC.
 — o —
 The highest price in Cash or Goods paid for COUNTRY PRODUCE

1881 advertisement for the J. P. Wright store. Note the store was moved from east of the railroad track to the west side of the railroad track. From the History & Business Directory, Shasta County 1881.

James’ new home on North Street was built either just before or after his marriage to Susan Lily Jones in Igo in 1882. In 1885 James was listed as the bookkeeper and salesman in the

store. In 1900 James was listed as clerk and it was around the time of his father John's death in 1910 that he was listed as an employer. James and his family reportedly lived in the North Street house for fifty-three years until his death in 1935. James' obituary in the Redding Record Searchlight edition of January 25, 1935, cites James' nickname as "Pop" and that he worked at the store until just two days prior to his death. "He was a benefactor to many, and his unheralded philanthropy extended to all parts of the county. He was a citizen first and a merchant afterward. No civic matter, no matter how small or large, ever lacked for success because of his time and efforts, in the community or county." James was a past master of the Mount Shasta Blue Lodge of Anderson (Masonic lodge), a member of the Knights Templar of Red Bluff and later Redding, a member of the Islam Temple Shrine of San Francisco (AAONMS), and a charter member of Native Sons of the Golden West. In business James was a charter member of the Anderson Chamber of Commerce and fruit association while in politics he was a life-long Democrat having served on the National Democratic Committee for twenty-five years.

The families' use of J.F. Bedford for both James and his father John left a few questions. J.F. Bedford was the Anderson School District Clerk in 1881, Postmaster at Anderson for at least four years, and a partner with John George Lovell in the Anderson Flour Mill from about 1881 to 1902. I believe they are referring to John Franklin Bedford but in either case James would have been associated with the flour mill and the post office which was for a period was located within the store.



James' wife Susan Lily Jones was the daughter of Thaddeus Alonzo Jones (1832-1912) and Mary Clarissa Lansdale (1839-1930). Thaddeus had come to Shasta County prior to 1860 and was initially a miner at Horsetown. By 1866 Thaddeus was a ditch tender at Watson Gulch and in 1870 a sawmill owner. After 1880 Thaddeus was known as the ditch tender for the Dry Creek Tunnel & Fluming Company as well as a farmer in Igo. Mary Clarissa Lansdale was the daughter of Robert K. Lansdale an early hotel keeper at Piety Hill and his wife Susan Smith (born in 1797 and the oldest individual buried in the Piety Hill/Igo Cemetery). Susan Lily Jones was not the only member to marry into the Bedford family: Georgia Jones (1869-1907) married Homer J. Bedford (1868-1946) in 1896.

In 1900 the household of James and Susan Lily on North Street consisted of themselves, and their only child Mary Ella "Maida" Bedford born in 1884. After high school Mary attended normal school at Chico to obtain her teaching certificate. At Chico she met and married William

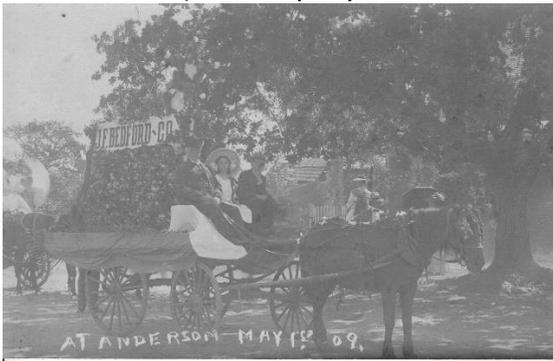
Patrick Donnelly (1878-1942). In 1910 the residents of the household consisted of James and Susan Lily along with William Patrick Donnelly, Mary E. Donnelly, and a grandson James B. Donnelly age 1. Also living in the house was a housekeeper Martha Lun age 37 from Norway. In 1920 there are two entries on the census, but both appear to be on the same property: James and Susan Lily in one entry and William P. Donnelly, Mary E. Donnelly, James B. Donnelly, Sarah J. O'Connell age 66 an aunt, and Theresa Aldrich age 17 a boarder. In 1930 the families appear to be living separately but working together as William P. Donnelly was listed as store manager and James B. Donnelly a clerk in the store. After James Franklin Bedford died in 1935 the living arrangements changed: in 1940 Susan Lily was living with William Donnelly and her daughter. James Bedford Donnelly attended Santa Clara University and was working in Los Angeles as a teacher. Beginning in 1942 James Bedford Donnelly served in the navy and was discharged as a Lt. Commander in 1946. In 1942 William P. Donnelly died and in 1950 Susan Lily Bedford was living with Mary Ella Donnelly who was operating her own insurance agency in Anderson. Susan Lily died in 1954 and Mary Ella survived until 1970.



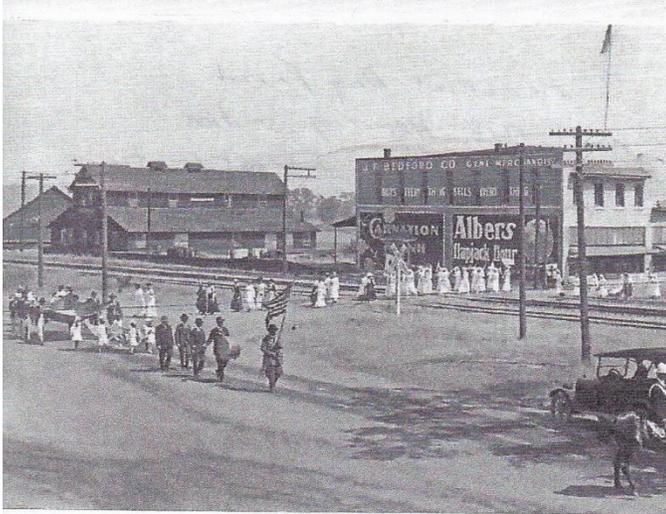
Early view of the Bedford Store with a Best Tractor. Daniel Best founded the Best Manufacturing Company in 1871. The company was taken over by Holt Manufacturing Company in 1908 after a legal battle. Daniel's son Clarence Leo Best then founded the C. L. Best Gas Tractor Company in 1910 in competition with Holt. C.L. Best was merged with Holt Manufacturing in 1925 to form Caterpillar Tractor. Courtesy of Calisphere.



J. F. Bedford & Company store with the name on both halves of the building. Note the sign for Studebaker wagons and buggies: the company was founded in 1852 at South Bend, Indiana and manufactured wagons up to 1919. Studebaker added an electric car in 1902 and a gasoline powered car in 1904 (the company closed in 1966). AHS



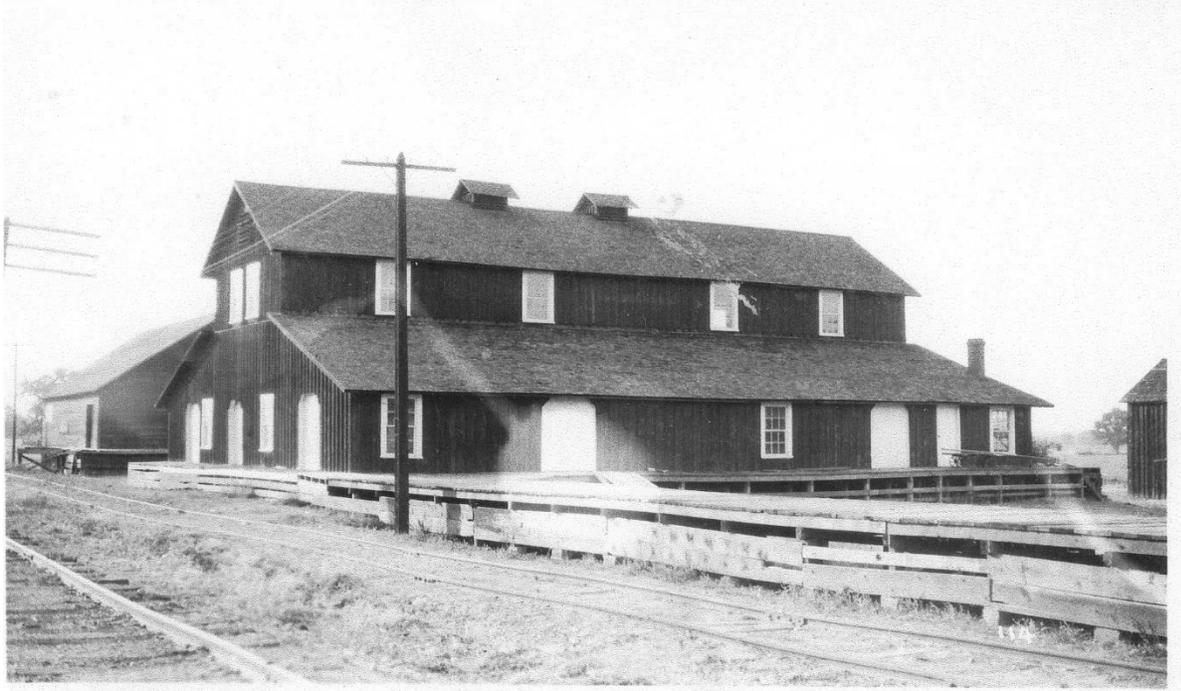
J. F. Bedford float at May Day festival 1909. Courtesy of Ralph Hollibaugh.



Bedford Store at North and West Center Streets in 1918. The parade is honoring soldiers from Anderson. Just to the left of the railroad tracks are families of soldiers and just crossing the railroad tracks are Red Cross volunteers. AHS



The remodeled Bedford Store in the 1920s. Courtesy of Ralph Hollibaugh.



The Bedford packing house that sat along the railroad tracks at the rear of the Bedford Store.
AHS

The Sixty Year Search for “Ramona”

(The staff has been working on this research request for over a year. A rough history was worked out to distribute to other groups with the hope of them joining in the search. We know that the majority of the history does not relate to Shasta County but in the interest of finding new leads we decided to publish the article. If anyone knows anything or has time to research the family would appreciate the assistance.)

My great, great grandmother was known to us only as “Ramona,” but she is tied to us by a haunting oral history passed down through her daughter Jane Medora Cathey, then through her daughter Florence Francis “Queenie” Ratliff. We gathered information in fits and starts, often doubting the accuracy of the history and not knowing how to separate the wheat from the chaff. What was clear was that the stories began with a relationship to John R. Cathey from the Mattole Valley of Humboldt County during the period just before and after the Two-Year War (1863-1864). The discoveries led to what appears to be four branches of one family tree. The first branch is the history of early settler, John R. Cathey and his white daughter who inherited his property. The second branch, a Native American family of Mattole descended through Susan Cathey, legally distanced from the white family at John Cathey’s death. The third branch, known only through oral history, cites that Susan had a sister named Ann Armstrong, born about 1846, who was living with John Cathey’s neighbor, Gursham Armstrong. While our fourth branch was for decades of unknown ethnic origin and seemingly separated from the others during the Two-Year War. One thing the decades have taught me is that the early paper

trail is often limited or stored in esoteric locations, but these can be supported by the oral histories if you can find them. Through the years individuals have stepped forward to reveal untapped information and oral histories that have extend the search, but I again face a daunting lost trail. I will present the stories and facts we have gathered with the hope that by casting a wider net others might provide the connections needed to leave my children and grandchildren the legacy of a family history.

The point of connection is John R. Cathey who was born in 1823 in Cooper County, Missouri. John had married Matilda Smith who disappears from the record at the time of their child Mary Constance "Caroline" Cathey's birth in 1847. By family history John drove a herd of horses to California probably in 1850 and shows up on the U.S. Census in October 1850 in Shasta as a trader, before settling in Humboldt County by 1852. The 1860 U.S. Census has John R. Cathey living as a farmer in Upper Mattole with two full blooded Mattole: Susan born about 1847 and Stephen born about 1842. Neither Susan nor Stephen carried the last name Cathey so the relationship may have been nonconsensual as allowed under the 1850 California Act for Government of Indians. In another section of the 1860 U.S. Census for Humboldt County was John' daughter Caroline who was living at Eel River with Wallace and Lucinda Olmstead. By 1864 Caroline had married Walter Brown Bohall, the co-editor of the *Humboldt Times*.

John R. Cathey was involved in raising volunteers in response to two deaths at the home of John Briceland in December 1860. John Briceland, who was living with a Native American named Lucy was reportedly involved "in an experiment in trying to civilize two Native American children," Billy age fourteen and Frank age seven. The children were enticed into an attempt to kill John Briceland that killed two other white settlers instead. As the children fled, John R. Cathey led settlers in the search for the murderers. A few days later John sighted the children creeping from under a haystack on his farm and shot Billy after he failed to stop. Seven-year-old Frank "confessed" his involvement and was then hung. By 1863 problems in Humboldt County only worsened and in the absence of federal troops the government decided to form the 1st Battalion of California Mountaineers from local settlers solely for service in Humboldt and the surrounding counties. John joined Company A in April 1863 and served throughout the troubled period until April 1865, never very far from his farm in Upper Mattole. After John's discharge, he returned to his farm where he lived with three children by Susan: Robert Lee "Edward" Cathey born in 1862 (married Alta Mae Mullen), Emmaline "Emma" Cathey born in 1864, and Iramintie (Aranentia) born in 1868 (2nd marriage to Charles E. Wilkinson). It is not known what happened to the children during the warfare but from Emmaline's birth in December 1864 in Upper Mattole it appears they were not sent to a reservation. Native American families identifying with whites were subject to attack from bands of Native Americans resisting the white settlers, actions by vigilantes who often reacted without any regard to guilt, or bands of profiteers who simply stole women and children for sale. Wherever the children were, it was a perilous time. The 1870 U. S. Census lists John as a widower and Susan was believed to have died just after the birth of Iramintie. After the Civil War John convinced his brothers George Ariel Cathey, born in 1822 in Missouri, and Thomas Hart Cathey, born in 1838 in Missouri to settle in Humboldt County. (Some data cites John as married to a Susan Minerva Weaver who was born in North Carolina in 1831. Susan was a relative, but she married John Wesley McAbee and lived in Mendocino County.)

John drowned in the Mattole River in 1871 under suspicious circumstances and the probate proceeding appear to have cast Susan's Native American branch adrift. John's daughter Caroline Bohall testified in court that she was the sole heir. This was easily accomplished as Native Americans could not testify against a white in court and/or because there was no formal acknowledgement from John recognizing Susan's children as his heirs. It would appear legal machinations thus negated a decade long relationship and three children. Caroline then petitioned the court to have her husband Walter Bohall appointed as administrator of the estate. Caroline and Walter fostered an extensive family in Humboldt County while Robert, Emmaline, and Iramintie lived parallel lives in the same county. Robert became a respected blacksmith and established a family as did Iramintie. Emmaline was believed to have committed suicide in 1888 after being adopted by Oscar Horner (born in 1838 in Vermont) and his wife (in 1880 there were three other Native Americans also living in the household).

This brings us to the Ramona's branch of the family where various sources cite that her daughter Jane Medora Cathey was either the daughter or niece of John R. Cathey born in 1861. The branch developed separately and without knowledge of the other three branches until decades later when it is tenuously tied by breadcrumbs. There was the oral history linked to the name Cathey, as well as Ramona's daughter coming to live with John Cathey's cousin, but the real connection remained hidden until an inheritance was offered decades later.

The 1860 U.S. Census may have provided some of the answers by what is absent from the data. Ramona is not listed as living in the Cathey household; so where was she? The clue is that no Mattole village or other Native American communities were listed until decades later. Only Native Americans living in white households were listed! John Cathey could have had serial relationships with other Mattole women, but they appear to have continued to live under the protective umbrella of their village. John could have been the father especially as Jane Medora Cathey listed her father in 1900 as being born in Missouri, as John R. Cathey was, but this is countered in the 1880 U.S. Census where Jane is listed as Indian and her daughter Angeline ½ Indian. If Jane was full blooded Mattole, the search turned to Ramona being the niece of John R. Cathey. As John's brothers did not arrive in Humboldt County until after Jane Medora's birth, the relationship would seem to be through the maternal line. The clues indicate that Ramona might have been Susan's sister (and by extension Ann Armstrong's sister), therefore John R. Cathey's niece. Ramona appears, like Susan to be a full-blooded Mattole. The 1880 U.S. Census would suggest Jane's father was presumably full-blooded Mattole as Jane's daughter was listed a half Indian. (Note: decades later a DNA test was accomplished and sent to a geneticist with the results that Ramona, through Jane Medora, was B2b which is listed as Wailaki. The Mattole are today part of the Bear River Band along with the Wailaki and the sample size is too small to distinguish Mattole separately, but it shows the oral history and the DNA connect Ramona and Jane Medora to the Mattole River area of Humboldt County. Ramona was definitely 100% Native American as was Jane, although with a slightly lower probability.)

The connection is even stronger when the history of Upper Mattole is added to the clues. While war had waged around the Mattole Valley from about 1858, the area, as a whole, was not a seat of major fighting until 1861. By August 1861 a division of the Humboldt Home Guard was stationed in the Mattole Valley in response to cattle thefts and isolated killings. By December of 1861 there was a general meeting of whites demanding that all Indians "pet and tame as well as wild" be removed and placed on reservations. In January 1862 Camp Olney was

established on the Upper Mattole River, but it lasted only a few months as the troops were quickly transferred to Fort Ruby, Nevada. The Two-Year War of 1863-1864 next settled into the area surrounding the Mattole Valley. By the time Camp Mattole was founded in early 1864, most Mattole were dispersed either as prisoners of war, refugees at various reservations including Hoopa or Smith River, in hiding, or had joined the bands of resistance fighters. It is at this point about 1864 that one of the earliest family remembrances comes into play. Jane's daughter Queenie stated that Grandma (Ramona) was fleeing with three children, Jane about three, a younger brother Will, and a baby Eunice possibly to the safety of a fort when they were found by either soldiers or Native Americans. Ramona hid Jane and her brother Will in a cave telling them not to come out, while she ran with baby Eunice. Ramona was caught and killed but the baby disappeared. Jane and Will were found by a Native American woman who took them home until transferred to white control. Years later Jane was informed that Eunice had survived and been sent to live with Uncle Romualdo Pacheco. Later maternal DNA studies confirmed there was no Mexican connection, so how does one connect the two remembrances?

General history provided a clue but not a complete answer. In August 1864 Company A of the 1st Battalion of Native Cavalry was assigned to Camp Curtis in Humboldt County. The unit was not raised from Native Americans but from the old Mexican families of California. Company A was commanded not by Romualdo Pacheco but by Reymundo Pico who by December of 1864 was at Fort Wright in Round Valley escorting prisoners of war into 1865. Pico had an extensive family in Santa Clara and Los Angeles with a long connection to appropriating Native American labor. At this point Eunice disappears from documented history and was possibly moved south to live within the extensive Pico family. The presence of Reymundo Pico at Fort Wright could be written off as happenstance except that Jane Medora next appears in the same area but in the absence of Will or William whose location or disposition remains unknown.

In 1860 living at Weitchpec in then Klamath County was Thomas Jefferson Moore. John R. Cathey's grandfather George had a daughter Elizabeth Anne who married Major William Hamilton Moore and both families were in Cooper County, Missouri prior to coming to California. Thomas Jefferson Moore appears to be a cousin of John R. Cathey and there must have been some communication as the family history relates that Jane Medora Cathey refused to be returned to John R. Cathey's farm sometime between 1865 and 1871. (Note: there was a John Moore on the 1860 U.S. Census for Mattole, but no relationship has been established.) In 1868 Thomas Jefferson Moore married Mary Ann Morgan who appears to be full blood Yurok (Klamath River) who had a long association with the Klamath Reservation in Oregon, while one of her daughters was affiliated with the Hoopa (Hupa) Reservation in 1892. Mary's birth year and location are variously listed, and her name may be Bal Ock (Bal Lock) who was the sister of John Morgan (Wah Lal yes) and niece of Axman or Slack-O-che. Both Mary and Thomas Jefferson Moore were near the Hoopa (Hupa) Reservation about the time it was founded in 1864 (after which, a number of Yurok were placed on the Hoopa Reservation). In 1870 Thomas Jefferson Moore and Mary were living at Martin's Ferry on the Klamath River with a son William born about 1868, but without Jane Medora. Shortly after 1870 Thomas Jefferson Moore moves his family to Linkville, Oregon near the Klamath Agency. In 1875 Jane Medora Cathey Moore is married at the farm of Thomas Jefferson and Mary Moore in Oregon.

A conjectural history could be: Ramona and her family were in the Mattole Valley at the time of the Two-Year War living in an ancestral village. The family flees for safety, be it to a fort or a place of hiding and are found. Ramona was killed and Eunice taken. Jane Medora and William are found by friendly Native Americans before being taken into white custody and possibly placed on a reservation. Around 1870 Jane Medora associates with Thomas Jefferson Moore and Mary Ann Morgan and moves to Linkville, Oregon with their family. The conjecture fits the history of Humboldt County but there must be clues that remain hidden or overlooked somewhere.

Jane Medora Cathey who was about nine years old at the time of the 1870 U.S. Census was not listed with the Moore family. If Jane Medora were living on the Yurok, Hoopa (Hupa), or Round Valley Reservation that would not be surprising as the Native American census for those not living in the general white population was still more than a decade away. Jane begins to leave a paper trail in 1875 at the home of Thomas Jefferson Moore in Linkville, Oregon, but how the association with the Moore family began and when it began is still unknown. There may be reservation rolls, but these have not been discovered. What is known is that marriage records show Jane Medora Cathey listed using the last name of Moore as marrying Miles Corkel Ratliff at the ranch of Thomas Jefferson Moore in December 1875 at Linkville, Oregon. No records have been found indicating a formal adoption of Jane Medora by Thomas Jefferson Moore so the change of name may have been informal based on living arrangements or extended family ties.

We know the Moore family moved to Linkville, Oregon after the 1870 U.S. Census and were established by 1875. The family history tells of stress during the period known as the Modoc War which would indicate settlement prior to the winter of 1872. If the timing is correct, the period could not have been worse: in the winter of 1872 less than half the Modoc living on the Klamath Reservation just north of Linkville, chose to return to their traditional homes in the Lost River area of Oregon. The reason for leaving was based on traditional animosity with the larger Klamath population and a lack of governmental diligence in addressing complaints. In November 1872 the U.S. Army and a militia unit raised at Linkville attempted to force the Modoc to return to the reservation. The Army was stung by an unexpected defeat and the Modoc retreated to the Lava Beds for defense. Linkville (now Klamath Falls) as the nearest town to the conflict was in a state of tension until the spring of 1873 when the last of the Modoc who had fled the reservation surrendered.

The Linkville Militia who had followed the troopers of Company B, 1st Cavalry Regiment south, attacked a smaller Modoc village on the bank of the Lost River different from the engagement involving the federal troops. At the smaller village a member of the militia shotgunned a six-year-old child before turning the weapon upon a mother and child. The mother survived but the child was torn in half. The action was an unforgivable violation of the Modoc rules of engagement and set about a small revenge raid that further caused local panic.

The family history often confuses episodes that occurred in the period of the Two-Year War with history from the Modoc War which seems not to be supported by historical facts. Thomas Jefferson Moore or Jane Medora's future husband may have been involved in the Linkville Militia, but there is no confirmation or exclusion for either. The period was stressful but there is no evidence of Ramona or Eunice having been present at Linkville. The period caused disruption and tension but the murder of Ramona, kidnapping of Eunice, and separation

of Jane Medora and Willie appear best linked to the warfare in Humboldt County in 1863 to 1864. The disappearance of Willie caused another confusing coincidence: the family sometime believed that the William living with Thomas Jefferson Moore and Mary Ann Morgan in 1870 may have been Jane's missing brother. The association is doubtful as Ramona was believed to full blooded Mattole and if Jane was full blooded Mattole, it is likely to assume Willie and Eunice were also. Willie Moore was born in 1867 or 1868 which is too young to be involved in the Two-Year of 1863 to 1864 and was always listed a half Indian. (Note: there are some doubts that creeps in with an entry for William "Billy" Moore born in "1856" and died at the Klamath Reservation in 1949, whose father is given as Thomas Jefferson Moore. Was the William "Billy" Moore who married Lucinda Hendricks (1870-1943), the adopted brother of Jane Medora? More work needs to be done on Mary Ann Moore nee Morgan.)

Every time it seems there is a clear path to providing a definitive history it slips away and a new puzzle emerges. Miles C. Ratliff appears to be a cousin of John R. Cathey through his father's marriage to Hannah Miller. John R. Cathey, Thomas Jefferson Moore, and Miles C. Ratliff all stem from the area around Cooper County, Missouri in the 1840s and all appear to have some contact later in California. All married or had relationships with Native American women and fathered half Native American children. Miles Ratliff, who is generally outside of the current inquiry, had a complicated history. As it may have an unknown connection, I have included a short history of Miles Corkel Ratliff.

Miles died in 1923 in Idaho reportedly due to paralysis caused by being shot while serving in the military. Miles was known to be a storyteller so rather than reciting his oral history, I will present the known facts hoping that others might have more verifiable information. Miles Corkel Ratliff was born in 1832 in Missouri and his father John C. Ratliff died about 1835. Miles' mother Mary Elizabeth Miller would remarry William S. Denning in 1839 and later Gottlieb Bekamper. Miles reportedly traveled to New Mexico where his brother was serving in the 1st Regiment of Dragoons, then later reportedly worked with his uncle Hiram Owen Miller in Utah. Miles was first known in California at Jenny Lind in the 1860 U.S. Census. In June 1862 Miles joined Company H, 3rd California Volunteer Infantry at Fort Halleck in Stockton. According to official records Miles deserted eighteen days into the march to Utah to establish Fort Douglas. In December 1864 Miles enlisted in the 1st Oregon Cavalry Regiment reportedly serving at Jacksonville to quell southern sentiment. One note cites Miles enlisted in the Oregon Cavalry in November 1861, but the three-year enlistment period would make service in the 3rd California Infantry difficult. In December 1864 the enlistment was still for three years (with a \$100 enlistment bonus and a land warrant for 160 acres), but this was cut short when the unit was discharged from federal service in July 1865 at the end of the Civil War. Oral history has Miles applying for a medical discharge at Jacksonville, Oregon shortly after the unit was disbanded. From 1865 to 1875 nothing was found for Miles Corkel Ratliff other than he had some association with Thomas Jefferson Moore and married Jane Medora Cathey Moore.

In March of 1877 Miles and Jane Medora had their first child: Angeline Mae Ratliff in Polk County, Oregon. On the 1880 U.S. Census the family was again living at Linkville, Klamath County, Oregon, but by oral history Miles took the family to Shasta County, California shortly afterwards. Along with the family was a William who was initial believed to be Jane's long-lost brother but also could have been Thomas Jefferson Moore's son William. Miles did register to vote in Shasta County as a farmer in Anderson in 1882, but he appears not to have owned the

land. By oral history he was a “Segundo” working for Edward Frisbee who had initially been the agent for James Ben Ali Haggin’s who purchased Pierson B. Reading’s holding after his death and a court ordered sale. Frisbee later purchased Haggin’s remaining holdings and in 1885 still had 2,742 acres around Anderson. The mystery begins with Miles finding William dead from an apparent suicide that devastates Jane Medora. The event occurred while Edward Frisbee was living in Anderson with his first wife Phebe A. Klink and Miles moved the family to the mountains reportedly leaving behind a library of records in the care of Edward Frisbee. In 1896 Miles was at Fort Jones in Siskiyou County, and by 1900 in Josephine County, Oregon, before settling in Idaho by 1901. A search of the Shasta County Probate records and Coroner’s records showed no one by the name of William Ratliff, or Moore, or anything similar, but a later story that dates after Jane Medora’s death in 1907 might give it some validity. The story cites that after Jane Medora’s death, Miles rode from Idaho to Shasta County to recover the lost library and upon inquiry found out that Edward Frisbee had died in 1908 and Phebe A. Klink had died in 1885. Edward who later cofounded the Bank of Northern California had moved to Redding and remarried Laura A. Walden. Edwards second wife had no knowledge of the missing library. So, the questions remain: what happened to the library and what is the identity of the suicide victim?

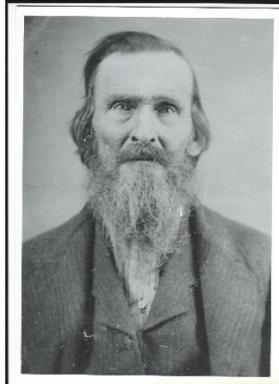
Miles returned to Idaho where his first daughter would marry John W. Bramlett and where his second daughter Florence Frances “Queenie” Ratliff was born in July of 1901. Queenie would marry first Clayborn Owen Swearingen, then Larry Walters. Jane Medora and Miles had a third child Eunice Medora born just prior to Jane’s death (Eunice would die in 1908). The children of Jane Medora and Miles Ratliff grew up far from their beginnings in Humboldt County and far from the short period in Shasta County and there were family discussions trying to piece together their history and the reason for their physical appearance. There was an incident after the family had settled in Idaho where they were contacted about an inheritance. The offer was rejected and believed to have come from the estate of John R. Cathey’s daughter “Caroline,” but it did serve later to refocus attention on Humboldt County. There were doubts about the stories told by Queenie even denials of Native American ancestry from some lines of the extended family, but it turns out that she was amazingly close to real history.

I will stop at this point as I’m trying to make the article small enough to be digestible while interesting enough to engender support. Any information that will help find the next area of discovery will be greatly appreciated. My plea is to find the correct path and that includes pointing out errors as well as new details or relationships. Anyone willing to help can contact me at plinckt@gmail.com or Ron Jolliff from the Anderson Historical Society at rajolliff@gmail.com. Thank you for helping me provide a legacy for my children and grandchildren.

John R. Cathey. Courtesy
of Ancestry.com.

George Ariel Cathey.
Courtesy of Ancestry.com.

Renee Furukawa
Thomas Hart Cathey.
Courtesy of Ancestry.com.



Mary Constance "Caroline" Cathey.
Courtesy of Ancestry.com.



Robert Lee Cathey.
Courtesy of Ancestry.com.

Emmaline "Emma" Cathey.
Courtesy of Ancestry.com.

Iramintie Cathey. Courtesy of
descendent Katrina Branson.



Florence Francis "Queenie" Ratliff with
nieces Fronie Francis and Flora Isabelle Bramlet. Author's file.



Matilda Maranda Part IV

Continued from September, October, & November 2022

Matilda Maranda } This Indenture made the twenty ninth day of
To } Deed }
Fanny Clark }
Witnesseth: that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of thirty five hundred dollar lawful money of the United States to her duly paid before the delivery hereof hath bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant and convey to the party of the second part her heirs and assigns for ever, all that property in the town of Shasta County of Shasta and State of California and which is known and described as follows to-wit: The property is known as the Trinity Home property and particularly described as follows commencing at a stake at the north East corner of a house formerly occupied as a Saddle Shop and now occupied by a lady as a Saloon in the upper part of the town of Shasta and being on the South side of said Trinity Home lot. thence northerly parallel with the southerly line of main street eighty feet thence back to the front of said Trinity Home, thence back along the westerly line of said lot one hundred and thirty feet to a stake, thence southerly parallel with main street the full width of said lot, ~~and~~ to a stake thence northeasterly one hundred and sixty feet to the place of beginning with all and singular the tenements hereditaments and appurtenances and all the estate, title and interest of the said party of the first part therein. And the said party of the first part doth hereby covenant and agree with the party of the second part that at the time of the

...in party, of the second part, that at the time of the
 delivery hereof the said party of the first part is the lawful owner
 of the premises above granted and that she will warrant and defend
 the above granted premises in the quiet and peaceable possession of
 the said party of the second part his heirs and assigns forever
 In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the twenty ninth day of
 October One thousand eight hundred fifty five
 In presence of

Matilda Maranda (Read)

State of California } On this 24th day of October A.D. 1855 personally
 County of Shasta } appeared before me the above named Matilda Maranda
 who is personally known to me and who acknowledged that she signed
 and valid the foregoing instrument of writing for the use & purposes
 therein expressed of her own free will and accord

Seal

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and
 affixed the seal of the County Court at Shasta
 this the day and year last aforesaid

W. S. Jenkins Clk. C. C.
 by H. Sturtevant Dy.

Filed Oct. 29, 1855. & Recorded Nov. 1st 1855
 W. S. Jenkins Recorder by H. Sturtevant Dy.

Fanny Clark } This Indenture made the twenty ninth day of October
 D^y } Mortgage } in the year of our Lord One thousand eight
 Charles Leitoch } hundred and fifty five between Fanny Clark
 of the Town of Shasta County of Shasta and State
 of California of the first part and Charles Leitoch
 of the same place of the second part, Witnesseth

that the said party of the first part in consideration of the sum
 of sixteen hundred Dollars lawful money of the United States to her
 in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged hath
 granted bargained sold aliened remised released conveyed

Deed #3: On the 29th of October 1855 Matilda Maranda entered into a deed with Fanny Clark of Shasta selling the Trinity House for \$3500.00. The property description commenced at a stake at the northeast corner of a house formerly occupied as a saddler's shop and now occupied as a saloon in the upper part of town of Shasta and being on the southeasterly line of said Trinity House lot, thence northerly parallel with the southerly line of Main Street 80 feet, thence back to the front of said Trinity House, thence back along the westerly line of said lot 130 feet to a stake, thence southerly parallel with Main Street the full width of said lot to a stake, thence northeasterly 160 feet to the place of beginning. Unlike the deed of 24 January 1853, which also contained the Trinity House Corral, that portion was left off the current deed as the corral was sold to Andrew and James Hunter on 7 July 1854. The deed was signed by "her X Matilda Maranda." The deed was processed by W. S. Jenkins, Clerk C.C. by H. J. Van Horn deputy.

The very next document was a mortgage entered into by Fanny Clark on the same day as the Matilda's deed with Charles Litsch for \$1600, using the Trinity House as collateral.

Deed#4: 12 March 1857 between Matilda Maranda and Richard Bentley of the County of Shasta party of the first part and Charles Litsch party of the second part for consideration of \$250 property known as the Trinity House lot commencing at a stake at the northeast corner of the house formerly occupied by **Madam Gavand** as a saloon and now occupied by **J. C. Hinckley**, thence northerly along the westerly line of Main Street eighty feet, thence at right angle in a westerly direction back to the front of the Trinity House, thence along the northerly side of said house to the northwesterly corner thereof, thence back along the northerly line of said lot 130 feet to a stake thence southerly parallel with the Main Street the full width of said lot to a stake, thence northeasterly 160 feet to the place of beginning including furnishings and as due under the sale of the Sheriff of the County of Shasta.

H. I. Van Horned witnessed for Matilda Maranda Signed H. A. Bentley
X for Matilda Maranda

Recorded by W. S. Jenkins, Recorder by H.I. Van Horn

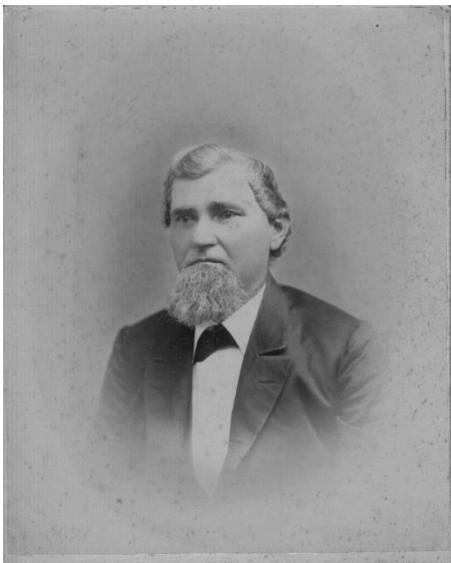
Fanny Clark: On 12 March 1857, the Trinity House was deeded by Matilda Maranda and H. A. Bentley to Charles Litsch. The deed indicates that property was probably subject to foreclosure at some point during the previous sixteen months. It also indicates that the property was worth more than what was left of the \$1600 mortgage and that Matilda probably was also owed money. How H.A. Bentley gained an interest is unexplained. No identifying data was found on Fanny Clark.

William S. Jenkins served as County Recorder from 1855 to 1856. Note the offices of County Clerk, County Recorder and County Auditor were combined during these years. William was a partner of John J. Tomlinson in suppling miners and packers until he sold out in May 1852. In the 1850 U.S. Census William was listed as age 32 (1818), a miner, born in Massachusetts.

Charles Litsch:



Portrait of Charles Litsch. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.



Portrait of Charles Litsch. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

Charles Litsch was born Kilian Karl Litsch in July 1825 in Renchen, Grand Duchy of Baden. Charles was the son of Joseph Litsch and Maria Antonia Meder. It is not known why Charles left Baden but much of Germany was in a state of social upheaval following the revolutions of 1848. Baden had its own revolution in 1849 and was the only state to become a short-lived republic before being suppressed by Prussian forces. Following the revolution many Germans opted for emigration rather than face higher taxes and compulsory military conscription. It is not known if Charles came directly to Shasta, but he was a resident by September 1851 and had declared his intention to become a citizen. Five years later in 1856 Charles was naturalized in the Shasta County District Court. Charles had completed his apprenticeship as a baker in Baden and put his skills to immediate use serving the needs of the miners: bread and beer. By 1855 Charles was partner with John H. Spatz, a carpenter from Hesse-Darnstadt, in the Spatz & Litch Bakery and

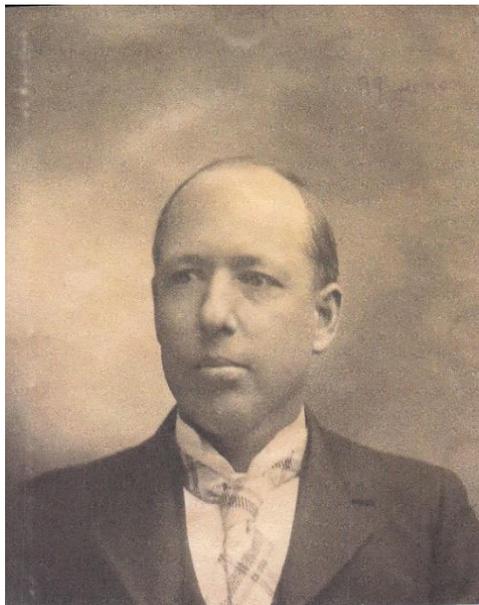
Saloon. The partners built a one-story brick building on Main Street. The new building was “fireproof,” built of brick with iron doors to avoid a repeat of the fire of 1853 that destroyed almost the entire business district. At about the same time Charles joined with Louis (Ludwig) Behrle in opening the Behrle & Litsch Washington Brewery. Another early brewer and possible partner was Simon Maltzer born about 1829 in Baden. In 1870 both Maltzer and Louis Behrle’s son were living and working with the family. In the 1860 U. S. Census Charles was listed as a grocer and in 1870 as a saloonkeeper. In the 1880 U. S. Census Charles was listed as a brewer and in 1884 Charles died after a fall at the brewery. Charles was buried in the Shasta Masonic Cemetery. In 1857 Charles Litsch married Julia Behrle born in 1841 in his hometown of Renchen, Grand Duchy of Baden. Julia was the daughter of Louis (Ludwig) Behrle and Frances (Maria Franziska) Behrle. Her father was at the time of the marriage a partner with Charles in the Washington Brewery. In the 1850 U. S. Census Louis was a clerk in New York City along with Frances, four daughters and Frederick Behrle born about 1828. Both Louis and Frances signed citizenship declarations in New York in September 1850 before moving west. Julia and Charles had five children: Josephine C. Litsch 1858-1918, Frances “Fannie” Litsch 1860-1898, Louise “Louisa” Litsch 1865-1959, Charles “Carl” Litsch 1868-1938, and May Agnes 1871-1948. At Charles untimely death in 1884, Julia took over control of the business. In 1895 Julia along with Charles Joseph purchased the merchandise store from Frank and Caroline Litsch. Julia operated the store as Charles J. Litsch & Company until her death in 1928 when Charles Joseph Litsch took over management. Julia is buried in the Shasta Masonic Cemetery.



Julia Litsch. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

H.J. Van Horn: Harvey J. Van Horn born 1825 in Pennsylvania. He was the son of William Bennet (1800-1830) and Mary Van Horn and by 1829 the family was living in Ohio where his brother Theodore was born in 1829. In 1850 Harvey was still in Licking County, Ohio. In September 1854

Harvey married Anna Elizabeth Horn (1836-1904) in Sacramento. By November 1855 Harvey was serving as deputy County Recorder. In September 1855 the couple had their first child Carrie Stella (Stella in the 1860 census) at Shasta. Harvey was elected to two terms as County Recorder, 1856 to 1858 and 1858 to 1860. In April 1857 their second child Ida Hart (Ada in the 1860 census) was born at Shasta. At some point Harvey's brother joined the family as he is buried in the Anderson Pioneer Cemetery with a date of death as November 16, 1858. Harvey and Anna were divorced, and she married John A. Ruff in February 1861. Tragedy struck in October 1862 when first Carrie Stella then five days later Ida Hart died at Cottonwood (both are buried at the Anderson Pioneer Cemetery). Harvey Van Horn died in June 1865 according to the Shasta Courier. In 1861 Anna married Dr. John Augustus Ruff (1812-1870) with whom she had one child Samuel Francis Ruff (1861-1947). In 1871 Anna married Elmus Nickolas (1822-1902). Anna Elizabeth died in Anderson in 1904.



Samuel Francis Ruff 1861-1947, the son of Anna Elizabeth Horn.

Jacob Carr Hinckley was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1860 at Chicago. He was a lawyer by trade and was a cofounder of the Shasta Courier newspaper along with Archibald Skillman and Samuel H. Dosh. He was also editor of the Shasta Republican newspaper for a short period. He was County Judge from 1854 to 1858. In 1856 he married Margaret Elizabeth Dunn (born 1838 in Ireland) daughter of Dennis Hayden and Catherine Dunn. Jacob died in 1869 in Solano County.

(Note on the Shasta Courier "started on March 12, 1852 by Samuel H. Dosh, Jacob Carr Hinckley, and Archibald Skillman, the *Shasta Courier* was the first paper to appear in the northern mines. Its building burned twice in the following months, first in November and then again in June of 1853, causing brief cessations in publication. In 1858 Hinckley left the paper. The title changed in 1872 to the *Weekly Shasta*

Courier, with William Lloyd Carter now its editor. By 1905, the paper had moved to Redding and again became the *Shasta Courier*.”)

An anonymous reader’s note concerning Madam Gavand: there was a lady who operated a hotel in Centerville, was French, was married to a miner, and was in Shasta County in the early 1850s, but her name was Marie Brincard. Maria was married to Adolphe Brincard born in France about 1822. Adolph appears to have married Maria Omberline Parizot (also given as Prisot; born in France about 1830/ died in Redding in 1891) in Paris in 1848. The couple had a daughter Marie Adelaide (given as May in 1860) born in Paris who married Adolphe Dobrowsky in 1867 and died the same year. Adolph reported discovered gold in the Centerville Area and in 1860 was a hotel keeper within the area of the Shasta Post Office. In 1860 the couple had May, Jule (James) born about 1854 in California, Acteo (Arthur) born about 1856 in California and Julia born about 1862 in California. Adolphe appears to have died in 1864 and Marie married Arnaud Tapie born in France about 1826. Arnaud was a miner at French Gulch in 1860. Marie and Arnaud had two children: Eugene born about 1863 and Emile born about 1866. Arnaud appears to have died in 1870 leaving Marie to operate the Hotel Francais. There are similarities to Madam Gavand, but Marie Brincard does not seem to be a tight fit.

The anonymous reader’s note put us off the chase for Madam Gavand until Marilyn Rountree searching the *Shasta Courier* found what appears to be a reinvented couple. Between November 3, 1849, and June 17, 1850, thirty-five French ships docked at San Francisco with 2,100 passengers. By May of 1851 ninety-one French ships had landed at San Francisco. Marilyn checked the *Daily Alta California* and, in an advertisement posted on November 30, 1850, there was a hint. “Mrs. Gavand, a very lucid somnambulist, magnetized by Dr. D’Heirry, MD of the faculty of Paris, ex-professor of chemistry, member of several scientific societies: observations of the phenomenons of magnetism, **consultations for illness, thefts, losses, advice in difficult situations, news from friends and relations living in foreign countries**, etc. every evening from 6 to 8 o’clock, Sundays excepted, at Dr. D’HEIRRY’s office, Portsmouth Square, next door to the Louisiana, up-stairs. **Only one person admitted at a time to the somnambulist; and any one can agree for extra-ordinary consultations.** English, French and German spoken.” The advertisements cease in December 1850. In 1852 Rose Gavand was operating a hotel in Shasta and was married to a Harry Gavand who was a miner (it was pointed out the similarity of D’Heirry and Harry in pronunciation). In a notice in the *Shasta Courier* dated June 18, 1853, concerning a fire the following businesses are listed in order as destroyed: Madam Gavand’s Restaurant, Sheriff’s office, Trinity House. In a follow-up article on June 25, 1853, the damage for D. Corsaut was listed as \$2,400. No mention was made of Mister Gavand, Madam Gavand, or the Trinity House. (Note: in February 1852 Bridget Jackey sold the Trinity House to Elizabeth Williams. The transfer included David Corsaut as sheriff indicating it was a repossession for a sheriff’s sale, but it could also indicate that David Corsaut was the initial owner who regained possession. On November 20, 1852, David Corsaut advertised in the *Shasta Courier* to let one large storeroom “immediately adjoining the Sheriff’s Office, at the upper end of town.” The sheriff also listed, “several small and conveniently situated rooms, comfortably fitted up, and suitable either for offices or bed-rooms.” In January 1853 Elizabeth Williams sold the Trinity House to Matilda Maranda and on April 29, 1853, David Corsaut posted the following notice: “I

David Corsaut, Sheriff within and for the County of Shasta, State of California, do hereby notify my friends and the public at large, that having sold my house where I kept my office, I have this day removed my office into the house of Mr. Gavand in this town, opposite James Loag's Horse Market, where I will hold myself in readiness to attend to any business that belongs to my official capacity at any time." The move to Mr. Gavand's was just after the shooting of Alex Murdoch in the Trinity House on April 13, 1853.) The fire notice indicates that Madam Gavand's Restaurant, the Sheriff's Office, and the Trinity House were three separate entities but the deeds and David's notice of April 29, 1853, indicate only two structures Madam Gavand's and the Trinity House with the sheriff first living in one then another. The loss notice of June 25, 1853, lists only D. Corsaut raising the question if he had a financial interest in both buildings? Captain Corsaut later took a room in the Hughes & Curtiss' building for a sheriff's office. The *Shasta Courier* notes that the Gavand's building was immediately put under reconstruction and on October 7, 1854, Mons. (Monsieur) and Madam Gavand announced a new billiard saloon in the French Hotel at the head of Main Street. On May 19, 1855, the Hotel Francaise (instead of French) was put up for sale. The description described it as, "at the head of Main Street, in the most pleasant portion of the town, is a two-story wooden structure, substantially built, 26 feet front by 80 feet in length, with portico in front, and the upper story dived off into comfortable bedrooms. There is also a good kitchen attached." In the same paper H. Gavand had been arrested for assault and was scheduled for trial in February 1856 at the Court of Sessions. A notice appeared in the *Shasta Courier* on January 19, 1856, that Madam Gavand was selling the two billiard tables from the Hotel Francaise. On March 1, 1856, the Court of Sessions was held with the Hon. J. C. Hinckley as judge and E. K. Shed and A. Cadwell as associates and Harry (now given as Henry) was found guilty. No prison record was found for Mr. Gavand. On the March 1857 deed from Matilda Maranda to Charles Litsch it describes the adjacent property as formerly owned by Madam Gavand and now occupied by J.C. Hinckley. This raises the question of what happened to Monsieur and Madam Gavand? There was a connection between Madam Gavand and the anonymous information as a notice for March 17, 1860, cites the French Hotel owned by A. Brincard in Shasta and valued at \$3,000 burned. Did the property pass from Madam Gavand to Adolphe Brincard or from Madam Gavand to Hinckley to Brincard? There were two other notes on the Brincard family: Adolph Brincarde of France was naturalized in June 1861 at the District Court in Shasta and that infant Brincard who was the daughter of Marie and Adolphe Brincard died according to the *Shasta Courier* on June 14, 1859. It would appear that Harry and Rose Gavand sold the French Hotel to Adolphe Brincard or J.C. Hinckley before dropping from local history. At this point it seems that Harry and Rose Gavand did not make another change of identity to Marie and Adolphe Brincard.

Historical note: Somnambulism using current usage is a sleepwalker but the way it was being utilized in the 1850 advertisement indicates hypnosis and goes back to Franz Mesmer a German physician who related it to the balance of magnetic power in the body. Mesmer claimed the process could induce trances and cause subjects to report contact with supernatural beings. There was a great deal of professional showmanship inherent to demonstrations and the practitioners who lectured in mid-19th-century North America sought to entertain their audiences as well as to demonstrate methods for personal contact with the divine. The 1850s saw the flowering of spiritualists who believed that spirits could communicate with the living, providing guidance for today and the future. Vestiges of the movement are still practiced. In discussing Madam Gavand's

somnambulism there was a good deal of speculation that she and her husband were cons as nothing could be found about Dr. D'Heiry in Paris and the belief appears to be dropped once in Shasta. It would be interesting to pursue D'Heiry or if Madam Gavand practiced somnambulism in Shasta.

Notes on David Corsaut: An anonymous reader provided a hint on David Corsaut from Find-a-Grave. David was listed as being born 12 December 1824 in London, Middlesex County, Ontario, Canada. He died on 22 March 1913 at age 88 at Hotchkiss, Delta County, Colorado. The family had four children that provided a timeline of residences after 1855: Cora Inez born 1855 Iowa, died 1863 Kansas, Lina May born 1857 Iowa, died 1861 Kansas, Mollie Ella 1860 Missouri, died 1864 Kansas, and George Henry born 1862 Kansas, died 1941 Colorado. Elizabeth Palmer was born in Maryland in 1824 and died in Colorado in 1903. The question was could the David Corsaut in Shasta be the same husband? Elizabeth Palmer and David Corsaut were married in Ogle County, Illinois on December 25, 1848, making it possible he married then departed for California in time to make the 1850 U.S. Census. The 1850 U.S. Census for Lafayette, Ogle County, Illinois confirmed David's absence; listed are Susan Parmer 51 born Maryland, Benjamin Parmer 23 born Maryland and farming, Rachael Parmer 19 born Maryland and Elizabeth Corsaut 26 born Maryland. The California census does not cite marriage status, so the focus shifted to when did David leave Shasta? Depending on the reference his time as sheriff runs between 1850 and 1854 without a definite date. The mud-slinging material processed for the November newsletter showed that in September 1853 Shasta was preparing for an election. In the November election David was defeated by W. A. Nunnally for sheriff. No definitive information was found on when elected officials were seated – some used December but most used January. Either would have allowed our David sufficient time to return to Illinois and resume his married life. There were some difficulties in the date of birth between 1824 on one and about 1829 at Shasta in 1850 but some individuals list multiple birthdays as they were not sure, and records were not exact. The hint needs further proof, but it seems for now that this is the David Corsaut of Shasta.

Marilyn Rountree also provided some more information on David: first in various records and the newspaper the name was given as Couzant, Corsaut, Corsant, even Constant but the notice posted in the *Shasta Courier* on April 29, 1853, shows the correct name a David Corsaut. The notice was written by David so it should be the correct spelling or at least the way he spelled the name. Secondly in the mud-slinging articles it did not mention David's political party, but he was a Democrat as evidenced by the May 14, 1853, notice published by the Democratic Central Committee of Shasta County that included P. F. Terbush, David Corsaut, and William J. Potter. At the county convention 6 delegates were to be sent to State Democratic Convention to be held at Benicia which between February 1853 to February 1854 was the California State capitol. Six delegates were authorized but seven were named (one was presumable an alternate). The delegates were: R.T. Sprague, E. Garter, D. Corsaut, James L. Hart, Thomas J. Flynn, H.A. Curtiss, and S.H. Dosh.

MAGNETISM.—**MRS. GAVAND**, a very lucid somnambulist, magnetised by Dr. D'HEIRRY, M.D. of the faculty of Paris, ex-professor of chemistry, member of several scientific societies: observations of the phenomena of magnetism, consultations for illnesses, thefts, losses, advices in difficult situations, news from friends and relations living in foreign countries, &c. every evening from 6 to 8 o'clock, Sundays excepted, at Dr. D'HEIRRY'S office, Portsmouth Square, next door to the Louisiana, up-stairs. Only one person admitted at a time to the somnambulist; and any one can agree for extraordinary consultations. English, French and German spoken.
nov24-1m*

NOTICE.

I **DAVID CORSAUT**, SHERIFF WITHIN and for the County of Shasta, State of California, do hereby notify my friends and the public at large, that having sold my house where I kept my office, I have this day removed my office into the house of Mr. Gavand in this town, opposite James Loag's Horse Market, where I will hold myself in readiness to attend to any business that belongs to my official capacity at any time.
DAVID CORSAUT.
Shasta, April 29, 1853. an30'f

FOR SALE!

THE HOTEL FRANCAISE!

 **MADAME GAVANDE**, being desirous of withdrawing from the business in which she has so long been engaged in this place, will sell on reasonable terms, the house known as the

HOTEL FRANCAISE, together with the House Furniture, Bar Fixtures, and two excellent

BILLIARD TABLES.

The Hotel Francaise, situated at the head of Main street, in the most pleasant portion of the town, is a two story wooden structure, substantially built, 26 feet front by 80 feet in length, with portico in front, and the upper story divided off into comfortable bedrooms. There is also a good kitchen attached. By making speedy application a good bargain may be had.

Shasta, May 19, 1855. my19-1f

BILLIARD SALOON,

MONS. AND MADAM GAVAND

 **WOULD ANNOUNCE TO THE** public that they have just finished their new Billiard Saloon in the French Hotel at the head of Main street. The room is fitted up with a degree of elegance not surpassed by any similar establishment out of the large cities. The billiard tables are of the most costly description. The bar is always supplied with the choicest liquors and finest cigars that can be purchased in the State. Indeed it is the determination of the proprietors that nothing on their part to make this saloon the favorite place of resort in the town, shall be left undone.

Shasta, Oct. 7, 1854. oct7-1f

ATTENTION DEMOCRATS!

The Democrats of Shasta County are requested to hold primary meetings in the various election precincts of the county, and elect delegates to a County Convention, to be holden in the town of Shasta, on the 4th of June next, for the purpose of choosing six delegates to attend the Democratic State Convention, to be held in the city of Benicia on the 21st day of said month, (June.) The various precincts are entitled to the number of delegates as follows, being one for each precinct, one for each 50 Democratic votes cast therein at the Presidential election, and one for each precinct above fifty:

Shasta City 264, 7; Whisky Creek 60, 3; French Gulch 111, 4; Oak Bottom 12, 2; North Cottonwood 22, 2; Eagle Creek 45, 2; One Horsetown 122, 4; One Dog Town 22, 2; Lower Springs 37, 2; Red Bluffs 23, 2; Cottonwood 26, 2; One Mule Town 32, 2; Middletown 72, 3; Free Bridge 37, 2; Oak Valley 48, 2; Cow Creek 17, 2; Mouth Clear Creek 22, 2; Mount Washington 2; Pitt River 4; Watson's Saw Mill 2.

The Convention will convene at the hour of 1 o'clock P. M. of the day above named.

P. F. TERBUSH,
DAVID CORSAUT,
WM. J. POTTER,
Dem. Central Com. Shasta Co.
Shasta, May 14, 1853. May 14 4t

Voting precincts were authorized one delegate for each precinct, one for each 50 Democratic votes cast in the 1852 presidential election, and one for each precinct above fifty. There were twenty precincts most readily identifiable except for four: Free Bridge near French Gulch that later became the Tower House District, Oak Valley established in Oak Run in 1853, Mount Washington near French Gulch and site of the Washington Mine, and One Dog Town. My guess for One Dog Town would be the area around Dog Creek/Delta but the town was not established until 1855 (if anyone knows of the location of One Dog Town please let me know). The 1852 presidential election was won by Democrat Franklin Pierce who ran against Whig and Free Soil candidates. Some may notice that Red Bluffs is on the list of precincts as Shasta County ran southward to Red Bank Creek just south of Red Bluffs (in 1856 the area went to Tehama County when it was formed, and the name became Red Bluff).

To be continued.

Thanks again to those that accepted the research challenge both on and off the record.