

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](http://www.andersonhistorical.com).

#### Elena Post Office



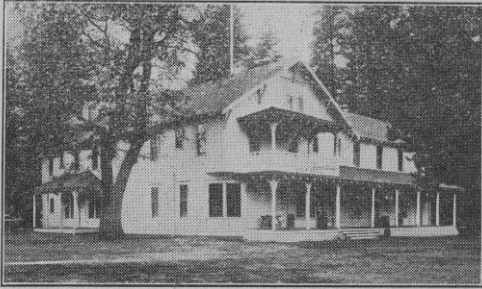
Letter mailed from the Elena Post Office in 1899 to the Shasta County Superintendent of Schools. Courtesy Ralph Hollibaugh.

Elena was the original post office to serve the area of Big Bend. The post office was eighteen miles north of Montgomery Creek inland from the Big Bend Hot Springs. The post office was established in 1890 and there are two theories as to the reason for the name. The first is that it is named for Elena Hagan the wife of William R. Hagan (much of the literature gives the name of Haggen but that is not used on the 1880 U.S. Census). The second theory is that Ellen E. Hinterlang (often given as Hinderlong) who submitted the application for the post office submitted Elena as a corruption of her name. The second theory was proposed by Ellen's father George English. The post office served the area until 1906 when services were moved to Wengler. The cause for the closure may have been the death of the only postmistress, Ellen Hinterlang. Six months later the Henderson Post Office was opened at the hot springs (it became the Big Springs Post Office in 1922).



Benton Mill in Flatwoods-Big Bend. Courtesy of Shasta Historical Society.

### Hotel Viola Advertisement Card



**HOTEL VIOLA**  
Has The Modern Conveniences

---

GATEWAY TO  
LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK  
SEASON:--MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> TO OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup>

---

GROCERIES, LUNCH-GOODS AND  
SERVICE STATION  
VIOLA, SHASTA CO., CALIFORNIA  
B. F. LOOMIS, Prop.

RATES	
ROOMS 1 TO 6 with bath	ROOMS 12 TO 15 without bath
1 Person .....\$2.00	1 Person .....\$2.00
2 Persons .....\$3.00	2 Persons .....\$2.50
	3 Persons two beds...\$3.50
	4 Persons two beds...\$4.00
ROOMS 7 TO 11 without bath	BEDS ON THIRD FLOOR without bath
1 Person .....\$1.50	1 Person .....\$ .50
2 Persons .....\$2.00	2 Persons .....\$ .75
DINING ROOM:—A La Carte <i>75¢ meals</i>	



The Viola Hotel. Courtesy Ralph Holibaugh.

Benjamin Franklin Loomis was born in Illinois in 1857 and came to California with his parents. Benjamin grew up in Colusa and Tehama County before moving to Manzanita Lake in 1874 to make shakes. Benjamin spent the summers at his cabin and wintered by working on farms in the valley. Benjamin's cabin became known for having a library. From 1886 to 1887 Benjamin studied phrenology in New York City. After Benjamin's return to the Shingletown area Benjamin became interested in photography as a hobby. There were other changes: in 1891 Benjamin homesteaded in Viola and in 1896 built the Viola store. Benjamin also purchased the lumber mill but still had time for his hobby. Benjamin visited the studio of Arthur

Loomis in Redding and met and married Arthur's sister Estella Loomis (1870-1953) in 1897. Estella was the daughter of Leander Vaness Loomis of Ono and although they shared the last name there was no known relationship between the two families. The family built a home and studio in Anderson for the winters and in 1898 Estella became the first postmistress of the new Viola Post Office. After the eruption of Mount Lassen in 1914 both Estella and Benjamin worked to have the small federal holding in the area expanded into a national park. Both Benjamin's photographs and Estella's paintings of the eruption were exhibited at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition. In 1916 Lassen Volcanic National Park was created. In 1920 Benjamin and Estella only daughter Louisa Mae Loomis died suddenly, and the family created the Mae Loomis Memorial Museum at Manzanita Lake in her honor. Benjamin also built a small studio near the museum. In 1923 Benjamin purchased the Shingletown Hotel and had it moved to Viola. When Benjamin retired in 1929, he donated the museum and forty acres around Manzanita Lake to the National Park Service. Benjamin died in 1936.



The Viola Store taken by B. F. Loomis. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

Help Needed: Jacobson Grocery Store in Redding 1915

LARGE  
SWIMMING  
POOL

FISHING  
AND  
HUNTING

Wildwood



AUTO  
STAGE

4 HOURS FROM  
RED BLUFF

RATES:  
\$10 TO \$12  
PER WEEK

Knob, P. O.

July 10<sup>th</sup> 1915

Freshen Grocery Co.

Redding California

Gentlemen

Rec'd the good news  
and must complain of high prices  
of the oranges and lemons - as  
I bought these goods to sell  
again - here as far as will  
be cut in them as <sup>the</sup> purchase  
prices is greater than any one  
else is selling them for -  
Am sure you can give  
me better rates in them

Very truly

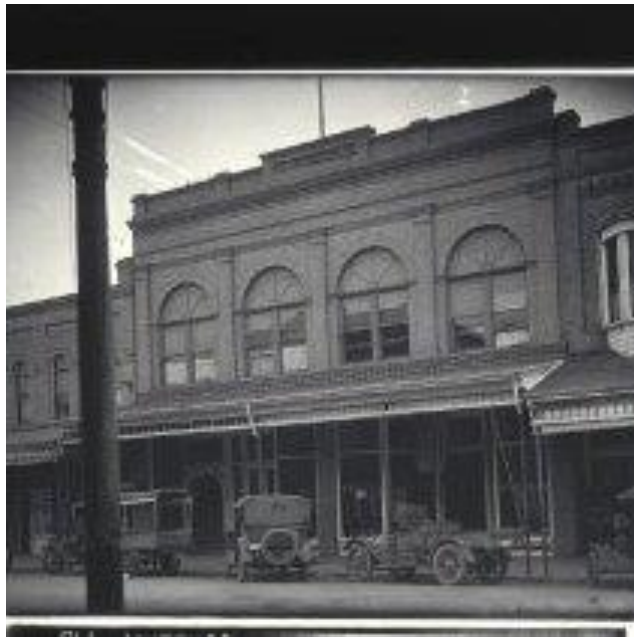
Mrs. Ernest L. Lueders



The bill above indicates that the Jacobson Grocery Company of Redding was shipping produce to as far west as Knob and other bills reflect shipments to the copper mining towns in the Sacramento and Pitt River Valleys but in the census and voter records all traces end a little after 1900. I'll write what I have found and hope a reader can fill in the rest of the story.

There was a Jacobson & Company Dry Goods in Shasta in 1852 (built one of the first brick buildings in 1853) but they were closed by the time Charles Jacobson opened a store on Market Street in Redding about 1896. Charles was born on September 20, 1860, in Westphalia. Westphalia and much of the upper Rhine Valley was given to the Prussians after the Napoleonic War but they were allowed to keep much of their own internal affairs. Charles immigrated to the United States in 1879 and appears to have settled in Los Angeles County where he was naturalized in 1887. In 1888 Charles was a clerk in Santa Ana and was there until at least 1892. In 1896 Charles registered to vote as a merchant in Redding. In the 1900 U. S. Census Charles was a single grocery merchant in Redding. In 1900 Charles applied for a passport to return to Germany for a visit. Charles must have returned as he is on the 1904 voter registration in Redding and in the 1904 Business Directory as Jacobson Grocery Store, Charles Jacobson proprietor, 506-508 Market Street.

Does anyone know what happened to Charles Jacobson or the Jacobson Grocery Company after 1904 (billing statements have been found dated in 1920)?



Jacobson building "built in 1901 on the east side of Market Street between Butte and Yuba Streets; torn down in 1960s." Another citation states the Moose Hall was over Jacobson's Grocery. Courtesy of Shasta Historical Society.

#175-  
The following are a list of the  
Enrolled voters. at the American  
Ranch Precinct. who will be entitled  
to vote at the judicial Election  
October 16<sup>th</sup> 1867.

1	E. Anderson	Enrolled	Sept 5 <sup>th</sup> 67
2	N. Edwards	"	" "
3	Wm M Johnston	"	" "
4	Wm P Lewis	"	" "
5	D. Robinson	"	" "
6	J. W. Spann	"	" "
7	J. B. Sheldon	"	" "
8	J. W. Gandle	"	" "

E. Anderson  
Clerk of Election

The list for the judicial election of 1867 was comprised of eight voters at American Ranch:

1. Elias Anderson was born in 1817 in Kentucky. Elias was the son of George Anderson 1779-1832 and Sarah Disbrow 1781-1858. Elias' father George was born in New Jersey during the Revolutionary War. George's father Ely (1745-1815) was from Bucks County, Pennsylvania and served in a Pennsylvania infantry regiment. After George had left home, his father Ely moved the rest of the family to Mason County, Kentucky. Immediately after George married Sarah Disbrow in 1804 the couple joined his father in Kentucky. Sarah was born in 1781 in New Jersey and was the daughter of Elias Disbrow 1750-1832 and Susanna Green 1752-1796.

Elias's father George died in 1832 having had ten children: Elizabeth 1805, Horace 1809, Achsah 1811, Joseph 1813, George 1814, Elias 1817, Green 1819, Isabel 1819, Charity 1822, and Henry 1823. After George's death Sarah took seven children to Clay County, Missouri. At the time of the move Sarah's daughter Elizabeth had married and George and Charity had died in 1830. In Missouri in 1839 Elias married Elizabeth M. Summers who was born about 1820 in Kentucky. By the 1850 U. S. Census Elias was listed as a farmer at Liberty in Clay County, Missouri, living with Elizabeth and four children all born in Missouri: Amelia Francis 1840, Axy (a female) 1842, Ann (Annie) 1845 and George Henry 1848. Also living with Elias's family was his mother Sarah who would die in Missouri in 1858. After the 1850 U. S. Census entry for Axy nothing was found about her history.

From the time of the 1850 U. S. Census there are differences in the family history. Edward Peterson in his history of Anderson states that Elias came to California in 1850, operated a hotel in Marysville in 1854, and sent for his family in 1855. There are two problems with the timeline: 1) Elias' son William was born in California in December 1854, and 2) Amelia Francis married Lewis S. Story in Butte County in 1855. It would seem, that Elias' sent for Elizabeth in 1853 or 1854 and the five children were: Amelia Francis, Axy, Ann, George Henry and Elias Fleming born in 1850 in Missouri after the census. The difference may never be resolved but by the end of 1855 the family was reunited in California where two more children would quickly be born: Edwin (Edward) in 1856 and Mary in 1859 (died 1861).

It was known that Elias was operating the Prairie House which was on the road from Red Bluffs (later Red Bluff) to Cottonwood in 1855. Some citations state Elias built the Prairie House which was south of Cottonwood Creek and at the time was in Shasta County. The political jurisdiction changed with the formation of Tehama County in 1856 from parts of Shasta, Colusi and Butte Counties. Many local historians cite that Elias purchased land from Thomas A. Freeman and built the American Ranch Hotel in 1856 but the facts present a different story. Freeman did purchase 160 acres from Pierson B. Reading in 1854 and had built a hotel by 1855 as the Post Office Department established the American Ranch Post Office in July 1855, with Thomas Freeman as Postmaster until January 15, 1857. Elias appears to have first worked for Freeman, then leased the hotel before finally purchasing the property. Elias did expand the hotel into a two-story, first class hotel. Elias was postmaster from January 16, 1857, to July 25, 1857, when he was replaced by Thomas Freeman who served until January 15, 1859. After January 16, 1859 Elias remained postmaster until the post office was closed in April 1878 and moved to Anderson (Elias was postmaster at Anderson from 1878 to 1880 then his son George from 1880 to 1883).



In the 1860 U. S. Census Elias was listed as a farmer and the hotel had become a local social center and popular stopping spot on the road to Shasta and the Trinity Mines. The hotel played host to Governors William Irving and Leland Stanford as well as notables such as Mark Hopkins and John Bidwell. By family tradition the hotel would often have seventy to eighty guests. In 1863 Elias and Elizabeth's last child was born: Lester who died in 1867. In 1865 Elias purchased 210 acres from Pierson B. Redding (three years before Reading's untimely death).

Life at American Ranch would be changed by the death of Pierson B. Reading in 1868 and the beginning of railroad construction north from Marysville in 1869. After Reading's death the widow of his friend Samuel Hensley brought a lawsuit on an 1866 mortgage to recover \$34,125.00. In the absence of any proof of payment the Court ordered the sale of roughly 20,000 acres of Reading's land. An associate of the "Big Four" (Huntington, Hopkins, Stanford and Crocker) by the name of James Ben Ali Haggin purchased the land in 1871 for \$34,438.32. When the California and Oregon Railroad started north from Marysville it was a holding of the Southern Pacific Railroad owned primarily by the "Big Four." It is not hard to imagine that Haggin from his friendship knew of the path of the C&O Railroad when he purchased the land in Shasta county. The railroad had been granted the right-of-way over land still in the hands of the U.S. Land Office but not to land under legal occupation such as that owned by John Foster at Cottonwood, Elias Anderson at American Ranch or J. J. Bell on Clear Creek. Benjamin Bernard Redding 1824-1882, the former member of the State Assembly (1853-1854), former mayor of Sacramento (1856-1857) and former California Secretary of State (1863-1867) was the railroad's land agent in 1872. It was B. B. Redding's job to negotiate or purchase the right-of-way from each of the private land holders. Foster to benefit his hotel specified an adjacent depot and Bell specified a siding (Girvan) to promote future development. Elias saw that local commerce from Shingletown to the east and Igo, Ono and Gas Point to the west would gravitate to the area of American Ranch rather than the future town of Redding and granted a right-of-way specifying a fence to protect livestock. It is not known if Elias believed a depot would be established at American Ranch but when the railroad arrived in 1872, they passed through Elias' land and built a new depot on the land of James Ben Ali Haggin. Haggin had donated the land to the C&O Railroad for the depot named for Elias Anderson and the Redding depot and laid out town plots on his land with the aid of his agent Edward Frisbie (who later purchased Haggin's unsold land).

The depot named for Elias Anderson was completed in 1872 (two of his sons became depot agents) but the town itself had a slow start. The Post Office Department left the Post Office at American Ranch under Elias' care until April 1878. It wasn't until 1873 that Elias built a house on East Street on one of the original twelve lots. In 1876 Elias decided to move his hotel to the corner of Main and Ferry Streets and the post office followed in 1878. Elias sold the American Ranch Hotel in Anderson to his son George around 1880 and concentrated on farming. Elizabeth died in 1895. In 1900 Elias was listed as a capitalist and the town that bore his name had grown to a population of about nine hundred with three churches, five general merchandise stores, a flour mill, and a paper mill. Elizabeth M. Anderson died in 1895 and Elias followed in 1907.



Portrait of Elias Anderson. Courtesy of Shasta Historical Society.

2. N. Edwards was born about 1832 in Wales. In 1860 he was farming 160 acres of improved land a Cottonwood. N. Edwards was listed with a wife Wineford born about 1830 in Wales. In 1860 he was growing wheat and had one horse, four milk cows, four other cattle, six oxen, and 80 pigs. After 1860 no record was found.
3. William McHendree Johnston was born about 1818 in Ohio. William married Lois (last name unknown) about 1849 in Michigan. In the 1850 U. S. Census William was a carpenter with Lois born in 1827 in New York. The couple came to California by 1855 as their first child, William M. was born in the state. The couple had a second child, Lois Frances in 1858. In 1866 William was registered to vote as a farmer at American Ranch. In 1870 and 1880 William was listed as a farmer in Township 7, American Ranch. In 1880 Frances was listed as a dress maker. Lois died in 1895 and William followed in 1897.
4. William Taggart Lewis born about 1831 in Iowa. In 1867 William registered to vote as a farmer at American Ranch. In the 1870 U.S. Census William was listed as a farm laborer at American Ranch. The census entry for 1870 begins with Fannie Reading and includes Samuel B. Sheldon as a farmer. It appears both William and Samuel were working on the Reading ranch.
5. Daniel Webster Robinson was born in 1834 in Ohio. Daniel was the son of Anthony Wayne Robinson 1796-1867 and Catherine Sweitzer 1802-1862. In the 1860 U. S. Census Daniel was listed as a farmer at Cottonwood Post Office married to Elizabeth Ann Stephenson (married in 1856) born in England about 1843. Daniel and Elizabeth had two children born in Shasta County: George Anthony 1860-1918, and Thomas Henry 1861-1937. In 1866 Daniel married Missouri Foster and the couple had six additional children: William Grant 1867-1891, Mary Ellen 1870-1902, Eve Lillie 1874-1960 (married Daniel Robert Hawes), Ida Alice 1876-1885, Minnie May 1879-1882, and Winona Desmond 1885-1968 (married Benjamin Klukkert). In 1870 Daniel

was listed as a farmer at American Ranch and in 1880 a farmer in Township 7. Daniel died in 1897.



Daniel Webster Robinson. Courtesy Christine Klukkert.

6. John Wesley Spann was born in 1833 in either Tennessee or South Carolina as both are given in census reports. John married Sarah Elizabeth Freeman in 1866 in Shasta County. Sarah was born in 1836 in Illinois and was the daughter of John Tucker Freeman 1804-1871 and Mary Haney 1802-1869. Sarah had previously married John Wilson in 1855 and came to her marriage with John Spann with four children: James Chesterfield Wilson 1857-1945, Mary Alice Wilson 1858, George A. Wilson about 1860, and Ella Augusta Wilson 1863-1883. In 1870 John was listed as a farmer at American Ranch living with Sarah and the four Wilson Children and two new daughters: Elizabeth E. Spann 1866 (given as Lulu in 1880), and Anna Jessie 1869. In the 1880 U. S. Census John was listed as a farmer in Township 7 with Sarah, "Chester," George, "Augusta," "Lulu," "Jessie," and two additional children Charles H. 1871-1948 and John Richard 1875-1915. John was listed in 1881 as a farmer and justice of the peace in Anderson. John was believed to be the first Justice of the Peace at Anderson and served until his death in 1886. In 1900 Sarah was listed as a farmer at Anderson with son John Richard but in 1910 she was living with her son Charles on a fruit farm in Anderson. Sarah continued to live with her son Charles until her death in 1930.
7. Samuel Bosworth Sheldon was a long-time friend, neighbor, and ranch foreman of Pierson B. Reading. Samuel was born about 1812 in Massachusetts. Samuel was the son of Paul Warner Sheldon 1784-1820 and Deborah Root 1787-1866. Samuel was usually known as Major for an unknown reason, possibly relating to a wagon train. Samuel was listed as a gold miner in the 1850 U. S. Census. In 1850 Samuel is listed in the same entry as Pierson B. Reading. Samuel settled on the east side of the Sacramento River on the disputed Rancho de Briesgau Mexican land-grant. The claim was opposite the Washington Section on P. B. Reading's grant. Samuel filed for squatter rights

prior to 1852 and after the land court disallowed much of the requested Mexican grant, he purchased his property. Many sources cite Samuel purchased 80 acres but in 1866 there is a patent for 157.64 acres (Section 3 Township 29 North Range 3 West, MDM). Samuel was a signer of the 1851 Treaty of Reading's Ranch to provide for an Indian reservation in Shasta County (the treaty was not ratified by the U. S. Congress and sealed to hide it from the public). Reportedly Samuel operated a ferry across the Sacramento River 2.5 miles above Wells Ferry. In the 1860 U. S. Census Samuel was still listed in the Pierson B. Reading entry but listed as a farmer (Hiram Wilcox was listed as a laborer). In 1866 Samuel registered to vote as a farmer at American Ranch. Samuel reportedly sold the ranch to Hall and William Sample Wilcox after P. B. Reading's death in 1868 and moved to San Francisco but he was listed in the 1870 U. S. Census with Fannie Reading. Samuel died in Alameda County in 1883.

8. J. W. Yandle was registered to vote as a farmer in 1867 at American Ranch as James Walker Yandle. James was born about 1838 in Tennessee.

The articles for the month of February 2022 are: 1) Legal Document Bedford and Wright verses Paul De Pray, 2) "Madam" Emily Preston, 3) John H. Brown, and 4) Father Ralph Rainaldi Related Deeds.

Legal Document: Bedford and Wright verses Paul De Pray

In the District Court of the Ninth Judicial District  
of the  
State of California,

in and for the

COUNTY OF Shasta

John F. Bedford and  
J. P. Wright, doing business  
under the firm name and style  
of Bedford & Wright  
Plaintiffs

against

Paul De Bray  
Defendant.

Undertaking an Attachment.

WHEREAS, the above named plaintiff have commenced, or are about to  
commence an action in the District Court of the Ninth Judicial District of  
the State of California, in and for the County of Shasta  
against the above named defendant upon a contract for  
the direct payment of money, claiming that there is due to the said plaintiff from the  
said defendant the sum of Three Hundred and forty  
One and 5/100 dollars, in U. S. Gold coin  
of the United States, besides interest, and is

about to apply for an attachment against the property of the said defendant as  
security for the satisfaction of any judgment that may be recovered therein.

NOW THEREFORE, we the undersigned, residents of the County of Shasta  
in consideration of the premises,  
and of the issuing of said attachment, do jointly and severally undertake in the sum of  
Two Hundred dollars,  
and promise to the effect, that if the said defendant  
recover judgment in said action, the said  
plaintiffs will pay all costs that may be awarded to the said defendant  
and all damages which he may sustain by reason of the said  
attachment, not exceeding the sum of Two Hundred  
dollars.

Dated this 7th day of April A. D. 1878

J. G. Chambers  
SEAL.

The case began with an Undertaking on Attachment to recover money due on a promissory note. The document cited that John F. Bedford and J. P. Wright, doing



business under the firm name of Bedford & Wright filed the undertaking to attach property valued at \$341.55 in U.S. gold coin from Paul De Pray. As required by this type of action Bedford and Wright had to file a bond of \$200.00. On April 9<sup>th</sup> 1878 J. C. Chambers and J. J. Kern signed to provide surety. The document was notarized by Clay W. Taylor and filed with F. C. Tiffin as County Clerk.

The complaint cited that on 24 September 1877 in the County of Shasta Paul De Pray initiated a promissory note that stated *"\$969.84 Centerville September 24, 1877. One day after date without grace I promise to pay to Bedford and Wright on order the sum of nine hundred and sixty-nine 84/100 dollars, payable only in gold coin of the Government of the United States for value received with interest thereon in like gold coin at the rate of one per cent per month from date until paid. Signed P. de Pray."*

This was followed by acknowledgement that on October 15, 1877 \$205.25 was paid, that on December 6, 1877 \$64.60 was paid, that on February 23, 1878 \$200.00 was paid and on March 17, 1878 \$200.00 was paid. After March 17, 1878 nothing was paid on the account and the amount due and prayed for was \$341.55 in U. S. gold coin. The complaint was signed by Clay W. Taylor as attorney for Bedford & Wright and filed with F. C. Tiffin as County Clerk.

A Summons and Writ of Attachment were issued on April 9, 1878. The same day Sheriff S. Hull cited he went to the store commonly known as "Paul De Prays Store" in Centerville and issued the documents and placed a levy upon the goods, wares and merchandise in the store. The Writ is further annotated by Sheriff Hull that on April 10, 1878 the levy was released to Mr. De Pray upon the written instructions from Clay W. Taylor attorney for the plaintiffs.

Had Mr. De Pray not settled with the defendants the matter would have gone a trial, increasing legal fees and if found guilty the Sheriff could have held a public auctioned of the levied items to recover the amount due.

#### Historical notes:

John F. Bedford: is John Franklin Bedford a merchant in Anderson in 1886. He was born about 1847 in Ohio. He was a partner in the Bedford & Wright Store in Anderson. In 1881 John was listed separately at the old stand of Bedford & Wright as a dealer in hardware, dry goods, liquors, boots etc. He also purchased wool, hides and grain. In 1866 John was listed as a merchant in Texas Springs.

J. C. Chambers: is John C. Chambers a lumberman in Middle Fork in 1898. He was born about 1829 in Missouri. In 1885 he is listed as having a sawmill in Anderson. In 1886 he is listed as being a lumberman in Montgomery Creek.

Paul De Pray: born about 1819 in Louisiana with both parents being born in France. He was married to a Louise a Native American born about 1858 in California (her father was born in Quebec and mother in California). He was miner in Centerville in 1886 and known to have operated a general merchandise store in Centerville. Paul had operated a store at American Ranch in the 1870 U.S. Census. In 1872 Paul was shot by Philip Hiller over a disputed mining claim at Red Hill.

- S. Hull, Sheriff: was born in 1831 in Ohio. Sylvester was County Sheriff for six terms, 1872 to 1874, 1874 to 1876, 1876 to 1878, 1878 to 1880, 1880 to 1881 and 1881 to 1882. In 1885 and 1898 he was Registrar at the Government Land Office. In 1866 he was listed as a merchant in Buckeye. From 1863 to 1866 he was Postmaster of Churntown. In 1862 he married Martha Whiting and the couple had two children: Evaline "Eva" 1865 and Samuel 1867. After Martha's death Sylvester married Celina Zorn in 1881 and the couple had one child: Milton 1887. Sylvester died in 1899.
- J. J. Kern: the only J. J. Kern found was farming 160 acres in the area of the Shasta Post Office in 1860. He was born about 1806 in Virginia and married to Mary Kern born about 1810 in Virginia. The couple had a son James born about 1850 in Iowa and a daughter Ann born about 1852 in Iowa. Other than that entry nothing was found on J. J. Kern.
- Clay Webster Taylor was a Democratic Senator at the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Sessions (1883-1886) of the California legislature. He was Democratic Delegate to the National Convention at St. Louis in 1876. He was born in 1844 in Michigan and was the son of Enos Taylor who bought a half interest in the Townsend Dam and Ditch. Enos died in 1865 leaving his mining interests to his wife and two sons, Clay W. and Fred A. Taylor. The Taylor group through settlements obtained the entire dam and ditch (renamed Taylor Dam), ten acres around the dam and 120 acres below the dam. Clay developed another ditch above the Horsetown Bridge. In 1875 the property was sold to Alvinza Hayward. Clay studied law and opened up a practice in Shasta in 1865. From 1870 to 1882 Clay was the District Attorney. After serving in the State Legislature he returned to private practice in Redding. In 1868 Clay married Viola Wilcox born in 1847 in Michigan (her mother's maiden name was Townsend). In 1880 Clay was listed as an attorney and the couple had two children Abbie born in 1876 and Bayard (given as Baird in 1900) 1878. Clay died in 1897. In 1900 Viola was living in San Francisco with her daughter Abbie Dare and her son Baird. Viola died in 1942.
- TIFFIN, Franklin Clark: miner in Redding in 1885. He was born about 1839 in Ohio. He served three terms as County Recorder, 1878 to 1880, 1880 to 1881 and 1881 to 1882. County Supervisor in 1885. In 1866 he was listed as a miner at Chicago. In 1875 he was listed as a merchant in Redding. In 1879 he married Elizabeth (last name unknown) and the couple had one child Milton 1879. (Note Franklin may be the brother of John Edward Tiffin: both are from Ohio and in 1866 both were working in Chicago on the South Fork of Clear Creek.)
- J. P. Wright: is John Presley Wright: miner in Igo in 1886. He was born in 1832 in Kentucky. In 1852 he left Kentucky and worked driving a herd of cattle across the plains to Marysville. In the winter of 1852-1853 he mined at Bucks Ranch in Plumas County. He next mined in Trinity County for several years. He is listed in the 1860 US Census at East Weaver in Trinity County. Before and after the Civil War John worked at the Washington Mine in French Gulch. During the Civil War he served as Orderly Sergeant of the Trueman Head Rifles in 1863. The unit was organized in French Gulch in June 1863 and was part of the California Militia. In November 1864 he enlisted in Company I, 7<sup>th</sup>

Regiment of California Infantry Volunteers that was taken into federal service. The Company first served at the Persidio of San Francisco, than in May 1865 it was assigned to Fort Whipple, Arizona Territory. Company I mustered out of service in March 1866. In 1868 he married Hannah Bentley Stoddard (born 1848 in Oregon). In 1870 his small family (John, Hannah and son Thomas) were living with the Stoddards (Thomas Stoddard 1803 Massachusetts) on the South Fork of Clear Creek. In 1880 John was listed on Andrews Creek as a lumberman. John was known to have operated a lumber mill on the South Fork of Clear Creek. The couple had twelve children all born in Shasta County: Thomas Stevenson 1869, Kate Ellen 1871 (married Charles Eaton), William Harris 1872 (drowned in Clear Creek in a rescue attempt for Jennie Harvey), Edwin Presley 1874 (killed in a logging accident in Tehama County), Ida Irma 1876 (married Edward Dennis Jones), Frances (Francie) Carroll 1877, Archie Crescent 1881, Ella Elizabeth 1882 (married Charles Cooley then Robert Ernest Richter), Harvey Milton "Tude," 1884, Gracie Isabel 1886 (married James Tolbert Williams), Retta Alma 1889 (married James Harvey Rust), and Mary Agnes 1892. In 1900 the couple sold the South Fork ranch and moved just West of Igo on Archer Road on the Ludwig Ranch. In 1914 Hannah donated the land for the South Fork School that was moved from the Hubbard Ranch on Zogg Mine Road. John died in 1907 and Hannah in 1924; both are buried in the Igo Cemetery. John was a member of the E. F. Winslow Post of the Grand Army of the Republic in Redding. In 1902 John registered a brand at Igo (a bar over a W).

#### "Madam" Emily Preston

In reviewing some of the collection material the name "Madam" Emily Preston, Doctor Emily Preston, and Mrs. Emily Preston came up on a bill from the Burney Valley Post and letters from Anderson, Cassel and Inwood. All were addressed to Sonoma County between 1891 and 1905, so how did Emily Preston relate to Shasta County?

As it turns out Emily Preston was never known to have set foot in Shasta County but her "medications" were sold throughout the state. It is not surprising that Emily's sales flourished within the unregulated conditions of late nineteenth century medicine. What was surprising and made more research necessary, was Emily's belief that she was able to diagnose illness by mail without any formal medical training or license.

Emily's early life is left out of most sources and misrepresented in others but most of it can be pieced together. Emily was born about 1827 (the dates vary widely) in New York and she was the daughter Elijah Lathrap (Lathrop) 1782-1850 and Rebecca Reynolds 1799-1865. Prior to 1850, Elijah had moved to Michigan. In the 1850 U. S. Census Emily Lathrap was listed as Emily Appleton and her father Elijah had died just prior to the census. Listed with Emily in 1850 was Andrew Parker Lathrap 1815-1885 who was farming, Emily's mother Rebecca, and Emily's four younger brothers and sisters: Montgomery 1831-1898, Louisa F. 1833-1893, Emma A., Carnett 1840-1906 (there was another sister Rhonda Roxanne 1828-

1884). The problem with the census entry rests with Emma A. as she is not listed as a child of Elijah and Rebecca and her age of three coincides with the birth of Emma E. Appleton born in 1847 in Michigan to Emily Lathrap and Henry Appleton (born about 1812 in England). In the 1850 U. S. Census Henry was boarding in Detroit and working as a clerk. Henry Appleton died in 1853 leaving Emily a widow with two children: Emma and Wellington born in 1851. In the 1860 U.S. Census Emily was living in a boarding house in Detroit with Emma then age 13 and Wellington then age 9. It appears the family came to California after the 1860 census as Emma reportedly married S. N. Burke in Excelsior Hill, Nevada County in 1861 and her daughter Emma married Alexander L. Barnes at Excelsior, Sierra County in 1863. There was an Excelsior in both counties between 1861 and 1863. Alexander Barnes died in 1865. Although there was little supporting information on the two marriages the 1870 U. S. Census confirms both as it lists Emily Burke age 45 Michigan in San Francisco with daughter Emma Barnes (Barnes), and Wellington Appleton. Emma died in 1875 and in the same year Emily Burke married Hartwell Lytton Preston in Alameda County.

There is no indication of how Emily supported herself before her marriage to Hartwell Preston. Emily may have been involved in spiritualism, but two facts profoundly changed her life: a spiritual epiphany in 1871 and in 1875 a new level of wealth through her marriage to Hartwell Preston. Hartwell Lytton Preston or "H.L." as he was commonly called was born in Virginia in 1821. He was the son of anti-slavery Quakers who moved to Ohio when he was four years old. Hartwell was believed to have graduated from Harvard University before returning to Ohio to teach. Hartwell joined the anti-slavery movement and the Underground Railroad. In the 1850 U. S. Census Hartwell was listed as a "Free Soil lecturer" advocating that no new states be admitted to the Union that advocated slavery. In Hartwell's travels he visited California in 1853 and by 1854 had established a law practice in Crescent City. In 1855 Hartwell's brother Lindley Murray Preston joined the law firm. In 1866 Preston moved to Idaho and practiced law with J. B. Rosborough at Silver City. Hartwell became the first lawyer admitted to practice before the Idaho Supreme Court in 1866. In 1872 Hartwell established a law practice in San Francisco and he and his brother purchased a vineyard near Cloverdale in Sonoma County. In San Francisco Hartwell met Emily Burke who was "a well-known spiritual leader and healer who prescribed her own homebrewed remedies and concoctions." Hartwell retired from law in 1876 and the couple moved to the Cloverdale property in 1877 or 1878. Hartwell fully endorsed his wife's beliefs and in the divine inspiration for her talents. Hartwell died in 1889.

After the epiphany in 1871 Emily claimed she was able to literally perceive the word of God written on walls of light in front of her, and also to receive photographs of Heaven and Hell. Through the medium of these photographs Emily was able perceive the true nature of things and diagnose cases at a distance. After Emily and Hartwell moved to the Sonoma property in 1877 or 1878 many of the clients she had assisted in San Francisco continued to seek her intervention in person and by mail. It is said the Prestons together decided that Emily could not refuse to use her divine gift to help alleviate suffering and soon a small community grew up around the Preston property. Hartwell built a twenty-room hospital for

those whose illnesses required special care and boarding was available at the nearby Pine Grove resort. Before long, a commercial community was established along the Northwest Pacific Railroad tracks (and Preston depot). The businesses included a general store, livery stable, lumber yard, planning mill, and a water and soda bottling works. As the town developed it had its own post office named Preston. Along with the commercial development there developed a residential district that included a church, school, and residences for Emily's followers. Next to Emily and Hartwell's house, lived Emily's son Wellington Appleton until his death in 1902.

The tenants of Emily Preston's practice developed into a health-oriented religion. From the late 1870s through 1885 Emily and Hartwell held religious services in their home stressing that all faiths can go to Heaven "if their heads are right." They emphasized the importance of cultivating a direct personal relationship with God without the need for ministers and priests (reminiscent of Hartwell's Quaker childhood). Members were invited to join in a living religion (called the Religion of Inspiration) and joined in a personal covenant with Emily (they became known as Covenanters or Volunteers of Heaven). After 1886 a wealthy client donated a formal church known as the Free Pilgrims Covenant Church and each week Emily stood before the congregation and read divine messages she had seen printed on the walls of light.

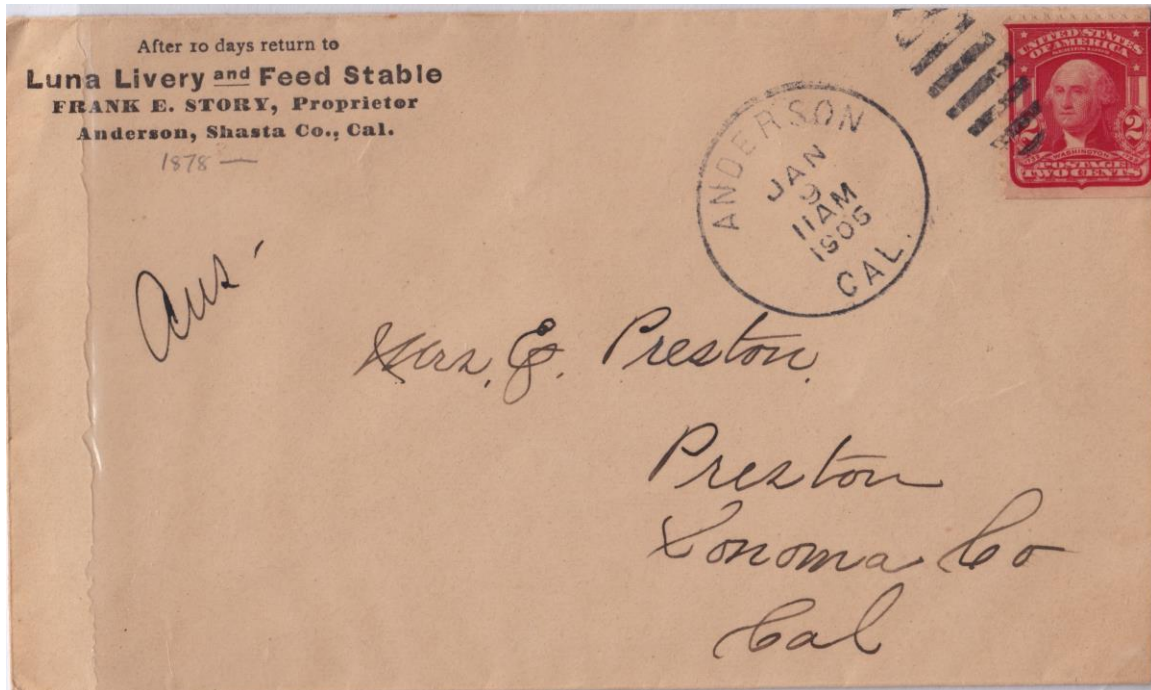
Emily's "ability" to diagnosis illness by mail and the ill effects caused by some of her treatments brought opposition from numerous sources but at the same time her overall treatment of disease included exercise, fresh air, mineral water, and herbal tonics to build up strength, did provide a degree of palliative care.

A fair amount is known about Emily's treatment methods as she published a pamphlet in 1903 titled a *Price List of Medicines and How to Use Them*. Her core belief was that people became ill because some of their blood circulation had stopped or that there was inflammation deep within the body. Emily's cure was to create running sores (blisters) over the affected area to drain the disease from the inside by keeping the sores oozing for two to four weeks. Blistering was caused by rubbing her iodine-based liniment twice a day to the affected area until blisters form and rupture. Chronic cases took many sores before relief was attained. The wounds were to be covered with an oil silk bandage (also sold by Emily's business). While using the liniment Emily recommended a wine cordial, or blood medicine, she sold for \$3.50 per gallon. "Medicine" was acceptable at the Preston Colony, but other alcohol was prohibited. Many of Emily's medicines had a high alcohol content especially her cough medicine and "gin and garlic." Emily believed the blistering liniment could be mixed with olive oil and swallowed to cure stomach aches and rubbed all over once or twice a week as a preventative. Other medicines on Emily's list included fever paste, pile remedy, assafoetida pills, vagina balls, vagina wash, eye sponge, fasting paste, and catarrh snuff. Blistering was recommended for ailments of the heart, stomach, bladder, kidney, liver, or lungs, as well as rheumatism and diphtheria. Chronic treatment left scarring and caused other long-term problems and Emily was taken to court, but it was not until the passage of the first Pure Food and Drug Act in 1906 that legal grounds for prosecution were

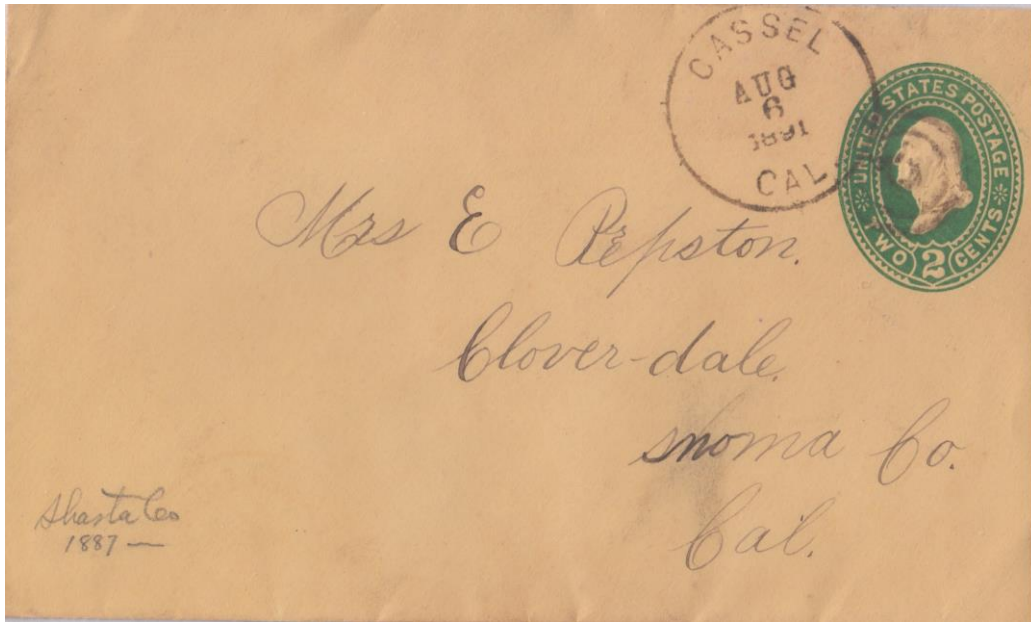


codified. In 1912 the law was amended to include fraudulent labeling but by then the company was closed.

Emily died at Preston in 1909 of a heart-condition and the community she held together quickly fell apart. Family contested Emily's will leaving money to the church. Emily was the largest employer and many who lived in rural Preston moved to find work elsewhere. By the 1930s the post office and depot were closed and only the church held out until the early 1940s.



Letter mailed at Anderson in 1906 from Frank E. Story who operated the Luna Livery Stable in Anderson by 1896. Frank came to Anderson with his parents Louis S. and Amelia Story and his six brothers and sisters about 1875. In 1920 Frank was superintendent of the County Farm (jail farm). Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.



1891 letter mailed from the Cassel Post Office to Mrs. Emily Preston. Courtesy of Ralph Hollibaugh.



Letter mailed from the Inwood Post Office in 1898 to Mrs. Dr. Preston in Cloverdale in Sonoma County. The letter was forwarded to the Preston Post Office in Sonoma County and has a receiving postmark on the back. Dr. Preston (no degree) was Madam Emily Preston for whom the Preston Post Office was named. The letter was mailed by Mrs. Silas Stockwell who had been a near invalid for about eight years. Courtesy Ralph Holibaugh.



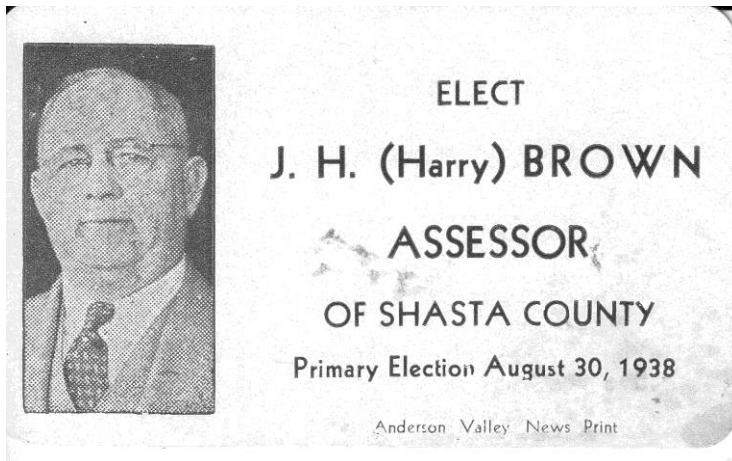
Emily Preston



Photograph of the depot at the Preston Colony in Sonoma County.

John H. Brown





John Harry Brown was born in Illinois in 1876 and nothing was found about his early life. In 1899 in Illinois John married Myrtle L. Williams who was born about 1878 in Illinois. In 1900 John was lodging alone at Prescott, Arizona where he was a clerk for the railroad. By 1910 the couple were united in Los Angeles County where John was a manager for the railroad. In 1910 in addition to John's wife Myrtle the family consisted of Myrtle's mother (Agnes T. Mitchell born about 1848 in Illinois) and her two sisters (one a teacher and the other a druggist). On the First World War draft registration John was listed as ranch manager for the Ehmann Olive Company in Olinda. The Ehmann Olive Company purchased the large Alexander Ranch and in 1912 began to subdivide much of the ranch into small parcels, keeping 400 acres for olive production. Olive production continued into the mid 1920s when the property was sold to West Coast Orchards. In 1920 John was listed as the manager of a fruit farm living with Myrtle and his mother-in-law. In 1926 John registered to vote as a manager in Olinda and in 1928 John registered to vote as an agriculturist in Olinda. In the 1930 U.S. Census John was listed as a manager of a land & water company in Olinda. In 1918 the Happy Valley Irrigation District purchased the assets of the Happy Valley Land & Water Company but they were closed by court action in 1925 and reorganized as two companies: Olinda Irrigated Lands Company and the Happy Valley Water Company. The later company was to recover debts on sold land so it is likely that John worked for the water company. In 1934 John was registered to vote as a farmer in Olinda and in 1938 ran for County Assessor. John ran against the incumbent John L. Klukkert (held the office from 1934 to 1952) and was unseccesful. In 1940 John was listed in Anderson as an appraiser with Myrtle. John died in 1954 but no records were found about Myrtle's death.

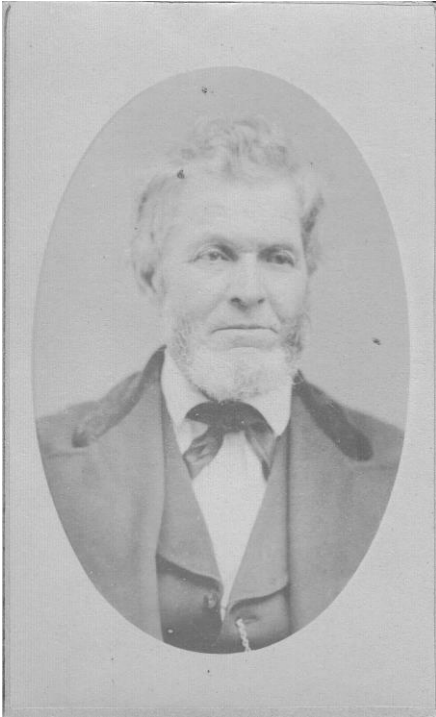
#### Father Ralph Rainaldi Related Deeds

After the January 2022 article on Father Rainaldi was published, there was an opportunity to do some research at the Shasta County Recorder's office. Eleven deeds were found concerning Father Rainaldi, his sister Margaret, Archbishop Alemany, and Father Patrick O'Reilly. It was hoped that the deeds dated between 1856 and 1860 would answer some historical questions.

Father Ralph Rainaldi arrived in the town of Shasta in March 1855 to take over the small church Father Florian Schwenniger had established on Cemetery Hill just west of Shasta near the Weaverville Road. Father Rainaldi also conducted mass at French Gulch and Horsetown. Father Rainaldi and his sister Margaret either rented or lived at the small accommodations at the church on Cemetery Hill until May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1856, when John Taft (actually, John Christie Toft) and his wife Maria sold R. Rainaldi a lot for \$225.00 (Deed Book E, Page 427). The lot was described as beginning at an oak post on the southwest side of the road to Weaverville on the hill west of Shasta and about thirty feet from the fence enclosing the Catholic Church, then running southwest along the west side of said road 198 feet to a stake which is in the northeast corner of J. Danler's claim. Thence southwest along the southeast line of said Danler's claim 891 feet to a black oak tree, thence south in line with A. L. Downer's claim nearly east 264 feet to a black oak tree. Thence northeast 730 feet to the place of beginning.

John Christie Toft was born in England in September 1805 and married Maria Bond (born in 1822 in England) in 1845 in Manchester, England. In January 1846 the couple had a daughter Annie or Ann in England. John appears to have immigrated to California before the family as Maria and Ann are listed in the ship Adeline arriving in New Orleans from Liverpool in December 1849. In October 1856 John was naturalized as the Shasta District Court before moving to Humboldt County. In 1866 John was registered to vote as a farmer in Rohnerville, in Humboldt County. John died in 1883 and Maria survived until 1897.

No information was found in Ancestry or the Government Land Office records that established the identity of J. Danler.



Portrait of Almer Lawrence Downer from the Litsch album. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.



Almer Lawrence Downer was born about 1807 in New York. In 1850 he was a coal merchant in Utica, New York married to Cynthia (Cynthyanna in 1860) born about 1813 in New York and list with them were five children: James W. born about 1833 in Pennsylvania, Celinda born about 1836 in New Jersey, John A. born about 1839 in New Jersey, Eugene R. born about 1846 in New Jersey, and George C. born about 1848 in New Jersey. Also listed with the family was Sophia Wellington who was Cynthia's sister born about 1801 in New York. Between the time of the U.S. Census of 1850 and 1852, Almer moved his family to Shasta where he advertised as Downer & Company wholesale and retail. In the 1860 U. S. Census Almer was listed as a farmer in Shasta. There were some changes in the family. Sophia Wellington had remained in New York and was living with a family named Curtiss. These were presumed to be relatives as Almer's son was named George Curtiss Downer. Celinda Downer married Joseph Isaacs (1824-1873) of the Shasta firm of Hollub & Isaacs (in 1870 Joseph's brother David would be living with the Downers). John A. Downer was a clerk in Shasta and was twice postmaster (December 1863 to March 1865 and from August 1865 to November 1865). James W. who was a clerk in Shasta in 1860 died in 1861. Almer appears to have followed a gold rush in 1861 to the Washington Territory and set up a business in Lewiston. In 1862 he was appointed postmaster at Lewiston, Washington Territory. In 1863 the Idaho Territory was formed from parts of the Washington Territory and Dakota Territory and the capital was established at Lewiston where Almer did some work for the Territorial Supreme Court. Almer appears to have returned to Shasta in 1864 as he was on the Civil War tax roll. Almer may have joined the Lyon Light Infantry that was formed in Shasta as part of the California State Militia (disbanded in 1868). In 1870 Almer was listed as a Justice of the Peace in Shasta and was known to have served at least until 1871. In 1869 Cynthia had died at Shasta and her sister Sophia Wellington had rejoined the family and was listed as keeping house. George was listed as a clerk in a dry goods store along with his son John Joseph born about 1865. Also living with the family was David Isaac listed as a retired dry goods merchant (born about 1814 in England). In the 1880 U. S. Census Almer was listed as a retired merchant at Shasta with Sophia Wellington as housekeeper. Living in the home was George C. now 32, a dry goods clerk and his son John Joseph now 15. After 1881 Almer is no longer found. Neither he nor Sophia Wellington were listed as being buried in Shasta County. George was known to have married Alice Street in 1892 and moved to Tehama County where he died in 1924. John Joseph was known to have married Lizzie J. Heer and later divorced. John was last found in 1910 living in Redding and working as a porter.

On 9 November 1858 Ralph Rainaldi deeded the property to his sister Margaret for one dollar (Deed Book G, page 196). The description varies a little as it starts thirty feet from the fence of the Catholic Church, thence running southwest along the west line of the Weaverville Road 298 feet (first deed read 198 feet) to a stake being the northeast corner of Mr. Freeman's claim, thence southwest along the southeast line of Mr. Freeman's claim 892 feet (first deed read 891 feet) to a black oak tree, thence with a line of Mr. Downer's claim nearly east 264 feet to a black oak tree, and thence northeast 730 feet to the place of beginning.

There is no definite identification of Mr. Freeman but there was a John Freeman born about 1826 in Kentucky listed as a miner in Weaverville in the 1850 U. S. Census. In the 1852 California Census John Freeman was listed as a merchant in Shasta.

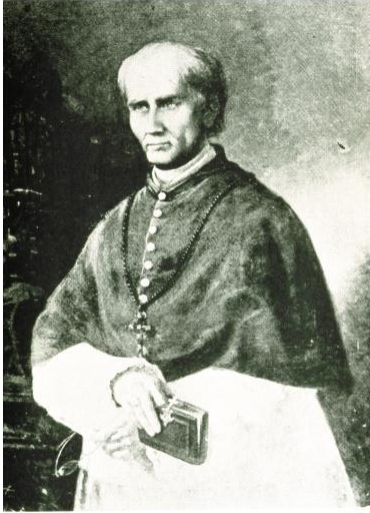
A third deed was issued on the property on 31 August 1860 when Margaret Rainaldi deeded the property to Patrick O. Riley (Father Patrick O'Reilly for \$400.00 (Deed Book G, page 632). The description of the lot was identical to the deed issued by John and Maria Toft in May 1856 and correcting the errors in the deed of November 1858 to Margaret.

Father Patrick O'Reilly was born in Ireland about 1829 and educated at All Hollows College in Dublin, Ireland. Father O'Reilly sailed for San Francisco in April 1858 and arrived in June 1858 to join Archbishop Joseph Sadoc Alemany's missionary efforts. In 1859 Father O'Reilly was assigned to Weaverville in Trinity County. During a period when the church was burned and being repaired Archbishop Alemany tasked him with a tour of Humboldt County. Father O'Reilly accomplished his mission and was very sympathetic to the plight of the Native Americans. In May of 1859 Father O'Reilly also became pastor at French Gulch. On 3 May 1860, Father O'Reilly was assigned Shasta and Horsetown when Father Rainaldi was released. Father O'Reilly's assignment now included all of Tehama County, Shasta County, and Trinity County. Father Reilly made his rounds of missions from Weaverville in the west to Burney Valley in the east, and from Buckeye in the north to Stony Creek in the south on his trusted mule. In 1861 Father O'Reilly's territory was transferred to the Marysville Vicarate and Father O'Reilly could have returned to San Francisco but elected to remain with his flock under Bishop Eugene O'Connell. For a period in 1864 Father O'Reilly was assigned to Gold Hill in the high desert of Nevada to repair his declining health. Father O'Reilly was assigned to Eureka in 1866 and was believed to have spent his later years in Modoc and Lassen Counties.

At some point the church built by Father Schwenniger was moved from the top of Cemetery Hill to the base of the hill and in December 1856 there is an article that ground was broken in the south end of town near the soda factory for a new church. The move seems to be supported by the deed of 9 October 1856 on the east side of Shasta and the transfer to Archbishop Alemany in December 1856.

On 9 October 1856 Ralph Rainaldi purchased a lot in the town of Shasta from John Harrington and his wife Mary for \$500 (Deed Book E, page 498). The lot is described as beginning at the southwest corner of a lot owned by I. N. Briceland and occupied by the Shasta Steam Mill on the east side of High Street, then running from there in an easterly direction on the south line of said Shasta Steam Mill's lot to Main Street to the southeast corner of Briceland's lot. From thence along Main Street in a southerly direction to a point where Main and High Street connect and from there on a line of High Street to the point of beginning.

There was a John Harrington born in Ireland and naturalized on 20 September 1856 in the Shasta County District Court. Nothing else was found concerning John Harrington or his wife Mary.



MT. REV. J. S. ALEMANY, O. S. D.,  
FIRST ARCH-BISHOP OF S. F.

Joseph Sadoc Alemany was born in Spain in 1814 and entered the Dominican Order in 1821. After taking his vows in 1831 he was sent to Rome for further studies at the College of St. Thomas Aquinas where he became a Lector in Theology in 1840. In 1841 Father Alemany was assigned missionary work first in Tennessee, then Ohio, and finally Missouri. Father Alemany became a citizen of the United States during this period. In 1850 Father Alemany was sent to Rome and informed of his appointment as Bishop of the Diocese of Monterey in California. When the Archdiocese of San Francisco was established in July 1853, Alemany was appointed its first archbishop. Archbishop Alemany was active in establishing the Catholic Church throughout northern California and his jurisdiction ran from Monterey to the Oregon border and east into what became Nevada and Utah. Archbishop Alemany resigned in 1884. Archbishop Alemany left San Francisco in May 1885 and returned to Spain where he intended to devote the remainder of his life to the rehabilitation of the Dominican Order. Archbishop Alemany died in April 1888.

I. N. Briceland is Isaac N. Briceland who was born about 1819 and joined the U.S. Navy as a midshipman in 1837 and served during the Mexican War. Isaac resigned his commission and is variously listed as Lieutenant and Captain (Acting Master). Isaac was the half-brother of Dr. John Milton Briceland Democratic Senator to the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Sessions (1887-1890) and Democratic Assemblyman at the 21<sup>st</sup> Session (1875-1876) and 25<sup>th</sup> Session (1883-1884). In 1888 John was the County Physician. John married the widow of Brig. General and state senator Samuel H. Dosh. Isaac was born in Virginia and educated at West Point. During the Mexican War Isaac was a Lieutenant commanding a steam transport (hence the title captain). In 1849 Isaac resigned his commission and moved to San Francisco. By 1852 Isaac was the agent for the Adams & Company Express in Shasta. He returned to the east coast in 1856 and married Emily Montoya Walker of Washington, D. C. Emily died at the house of P. B. Reading in 1858 and Isaac followed in April 1859.

On 12 November 1856 another deed cites that Ralph Rainaldi purchased a lot from D. D. Harrill for one dollar (Deed Book E, page 515). The lot is described as

beginning at the southwest corner of a lot owned by I. N. Briceland and occupied by the Shasta Steam Mill and continues on exactly as the deed from John Harrington (Deed Book E, page 498). The second deed seems to indicate that both Harrington and Harrill had an interest in the land and Harrill was left off the initial deed.

Drury Dobbins Harrill was the County Public Administrator from 1854 to 1856. Born

1809 in North Carolina. Harrill reportedly settled on Rancho de Briesgau before the Supreme Court decided on the Mexican land grant. Harrill established Emigrant Ferry (Immigrant Ferry) across the Sacramento River at the mouth of Cow Creek in 1852 with Samuel Francis and Charles Smith. In 1853 he partnered with A. S. Wells and operated as Wells' Ferry. Harrill operated the Shasta & Pittsburgh Express Company in 1853 and was Postmaster in Shasta 1853 to 1854. Harrill built the Buncombe Mill on Cow Creek in 1856 (also call Harrill's Mill) with George Furman. He purchased the Westcott & Bartlett Soda Factory in Shasta. In 1870 was listed as a carpenter. In 1828 Drury married Nancy J. Hawkins and the couple had three children: Henry L. 1840, James Wesley 1847 and Drury McDaniel 1852. Drury died in 1878.

There was a third deed issued for Harrington/Hammill's lot on 8 December 1856, when Ralph Rainaldi deeded the property to Joseph S. Alemany, Archbishop of San Francisco in trust for the Catholics of Shasta for one dollar (Deed Book E, page 546). The description of the lot is identical to Harrington's deed of 9 October 1856 except it add three distances in the directions: the east side of Main Street to the southeast corner of Briceland's has 130 feet added, Main to High Street had 45 feet added, then 45 feet back to the point of beginning. The description also substituted E. W. Briceland for I.N. Briceland indicating that Isaac's new wife Emily Walker Briceland had an interest in the Shasta Steam Mill. The recital leaves out the section where Main and High Street connect so this deed may be for a subdivided section of the Harrington/Harrill lot. In either case the lot appears to be where the stone and brick 104 foot by 36 foot church was started in December 1856 (where the foundation and Father Rainaldi plaque are today).

Support for the idea that Ralph Rainaldi subdivided the lot he purchased from Harrington/Harrill was a deed issued on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1857. In the deed Ralph Rainaldi sold to Joseph Sadoc Alemany, Archbishop of San Francisco in trust for the Catholic congregation of Shasta a lot in the town of Shasta for one dollar (Deed Book E, page 642). The lot is described as beginning at the east of a lot owned by said Joseph S. Alemany and running through Main Street to the post on the corner of Towns (capitalized as a name not town's) 18 feet from thence to another post on High Street 18 feet from the corner of Towns thence running through High Street to the SW corner of a lot owned by said J. S. Alemany.

A second deed that supports the idea that the initial purchase for Harrington/Harrill was subdivided was issued on June 6, 1857, from Ralph Rainaldi to his sister Margaret Rainaldi for one dollar (Deed Book E, page 660). The lot is described as beginning at the Catholic Church then through Main Street to the point where such street meets High Street and from thence to the lot of the Catholic Church. A second deed was recorder in Deed Book E, page 673, on June 6, 1857, reciting the identical data. No deed was found showing that Margaret transferred

this lot. The lot seems undeveloped and unlisted in the July 18, 1860, *Shasta Courier* notice cited that Father Rainaldi had two properties for sale. One was listed as being within a three-minute walk from town and contained a dwelling house with a brick milk house and kitchen situated on seven acres with grape vines, apple, peach, pear, plum, and fig trees. This appears to be the property sold by Margaret Rainaldi to Father Patrick O'Reilly on 31 August 1860 on Cemetery Hill (Deed Book G, page 632).

The next deed in the series was issued on May 13<sup>th</sup> 1857 by Timothy Riorden grant to J. S. Alemany of San Francisco a lot in the Jackass District near Horsetown a lot for one dollar (Deed Book E, page 641). The lot is described as commencing at the north corner at an oak stump, running south 130 feet to a stump, then west 100 feet, then north 130 feet, then back to the point of beginning. The area is a 13,000 square foot lot which with 43,560 square feet to an acre makes the lot about one quarter acre. Henry Walsh in *Hollowed Were the Gold Dust Trails* cited, the church at Horsetown as being established by Father Schwenniger prior to Father Rainaldi's arrival in Shasta. The deed does not indicate that a church was located nearby so it appears that the deed is for a cemetery. Catholic church records indicate there was a cemetery but indicates it was not consecrated or utilized but the *Shasta Courier* cites there were Catholic burials at the site. In May 1857 Archbishop consecrated the Horsetown chapel and probably the newly donated cemetery. The area around Jackass Flats was dredge mined about 1900 and there is no trace of the church or cemetery.

There was a Timothy Riorden naturalized in the Shasta County District Court in July 1859 and listed as being born in Great Britain & Ireland. Other than this fact nothing was found to establish an exact individual as the name was common among Irish immigrants.

The *Shasta Courier* notice of July 18, 1860, cited Father Rainaldi had a second property for sale on Spring Creek described as fifteen acres on Spring Creek, two and a half miles from town, with a dwelling house, 4500 grape vines, 250 apple trees, and twenty peach trees. The property was not held in Ralph Rainaldi's name as it was purchased by Margaret Rainaldi on 17 October 1859 (Deed Book G, page 444). The property was deeded by E. F. Crocker and his wife Nancy to Margaret for \$300.00 and contained ten acres (Charles Gleeson in *Outpost on Poverty Flats* cites fifteen acres). The property is as ten acres, two and a half miles from the mouth of Spring Creek, and two and a half miles from Shasta and containing two dwelling houses, a garden, and an orchard together with lumber and utensils. The property also had water rights (dam, flume, and water privileges) to a ditch on the north side of Spring Creek beginning at a point about one quarter mile above the property (the number of miner's inches of water authorized were not mentioned in the deed). Charles Gleeson in *Outpost on Poverty Flats* cites the property was sold to Father O'Reilly although no deed was found.





Portrait of Everett and Nancy Crocker on right taken by William S. Valentine who worked in Shasta County between 1896 and 1929. On the right is Mattie Lamus (daughter of Eunice Crocker) and her son Clair. Courtesy of Ralph Holibaugh.

Everett French Crocker was born in Maine in 1823 (prior to 1820 Maine was part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts). Everett was the son of Ebenezer Crocker born about 1798 in Massachusetts and Ruth Avery Rich born about 1799 in Massachusetts. On April 22, 1847, Averit F. Crocker of Buxport, Maine married Nancy Hawthorne of Milford, Maine in a civil ceremony in Connecticut. Nancy was born Nancy Harthon in 1828. Nancy's parents were Eli Harthon born about 1785 in Maine and Hannah W. Dudley 1794-1841. Hannah descended from two colonial governors of Massachusetts: Thomas Dudley and Joseph Dudley.

Everett may have been in the merchant marines as in 1839 he applied for a citizenship affidavit in the port of New York. By family history Everett and Nancy were in Shasta County by 1853. In October 1853 the couple's first child Eunice was born in Shasta County. In the 1860 U. S. Census Everett was listed as a miner with two additional children: Joel W. 1856 and Adaline 1858. In 1860 living with the family was Adaline Harthorn, age twenty-six, born in Maine. In July 1866 Everett was registered to vote in Copper City as a mill owner with three additions to the family: Laura 1860, Mary (Molly) 1862, and George Louis 1864. In 1867 Everett was registered to vote as a mill owner on Brandy Creek in Whiskeytown. In 1871 Everett sold the Whiskeytown mill to John Fleming who was also a mill operator on Brandy Creek. On the 1880 U.S. Census Everett was listed as a miner at Shasta with the last of their eight children: Howard H. 1868 and Katherine 1870. In 1885 Everett was listed as French E. Crocker, a miner at Shasta. In 1896 and 1898 Everett was listed as a "politician" but no political office was found. Nancy died in 1901 and Everett followed in 1909.

The stone and brick church Father Rainaldi envisioned never rose above the foundation. It appears that the old church on Cemetery Hill was used until September of 1858 when a larger structure was built at the base of the hill, possibly on Father Rainaldi's property. In 1861 church records state that Shasta was being serviced from Weaverville. It was reported that the church at the foot of Cemetery Hill was utilized until the roof collapsed under heavy snow in February 1862. The congregation moved to Desmond's California House before purchasing the Shasta Union Seminary, a private school, in 1863. Over the years the new church fell into decay and it wasn't until 1905 that the Litsch family raises \$1,100 for a chapel on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (St. Mary's) near Father Rainaldi's foundation. This last church was torn down in 1946.

Each new discover of records adds to what we have been able to find so if any reader knows of additional sources material, please let us know.