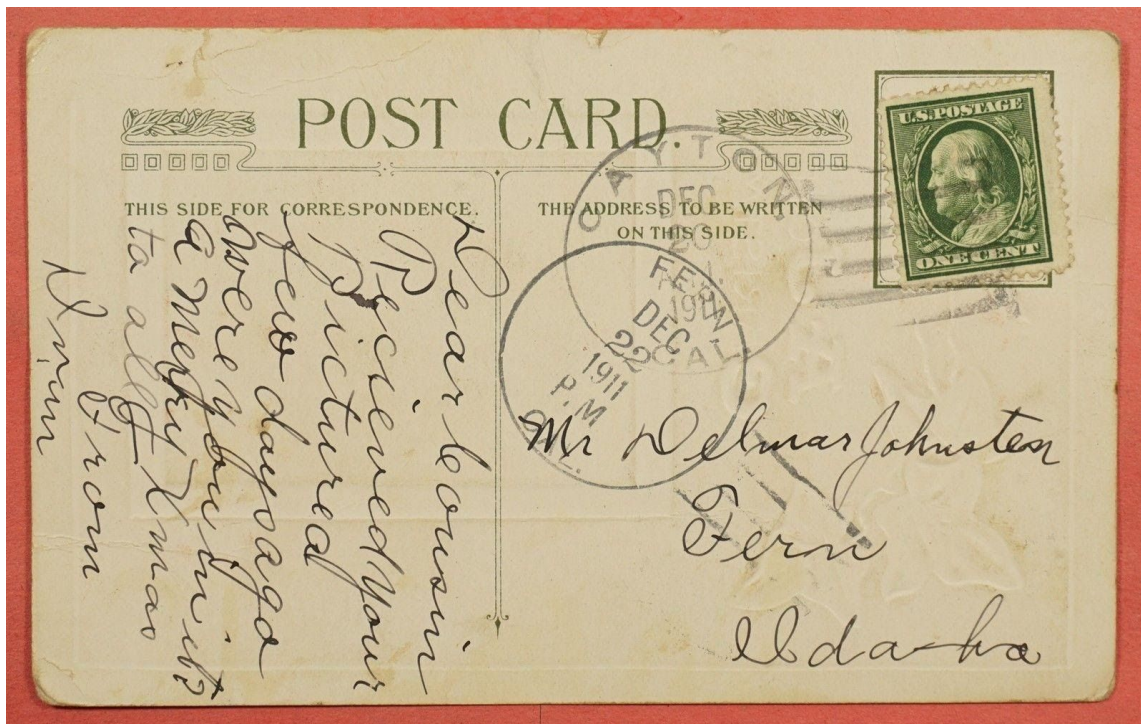


The monthly newsletter is a service to the community and our members. We welcome requests to research specific topics from the public and accept articles on local history. Please note that the Society reserves the right to accept or decline any article or material at its discretion. The Society is not 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.

Cayton and Fern Post Office



The post card above is a postal OOPS. The card was mailed from the Cayton Post Office on December 20, 1911, and arrived at the Fern, California Post Office on December 22, 1911. The only problem is that it is addressed to Fern, Idaho. The person who was to receive the card was Delmar S. Johnston (1886-1978) who lived in Ada County, Idaho in 1910. OOPS.

The Cayton Post Office was established fourteen miles northeast of Burney Valley and sixteen miles northwest of Fall River Mills. The post office operated until 1951 when operations were moved to Burney. The post office was named for William Cayton who settled in the Fall River Mill Valley in 1855.

Fern was established in 1898 eight miles northwest of Whitmore and named for the multitude of sword and bracken ferns that grew to five feet tall in the area.

In 1906 the post office was moved one mile east. In 1945 the post office was closed and operations moved to Whitmore.

Project City Post Office



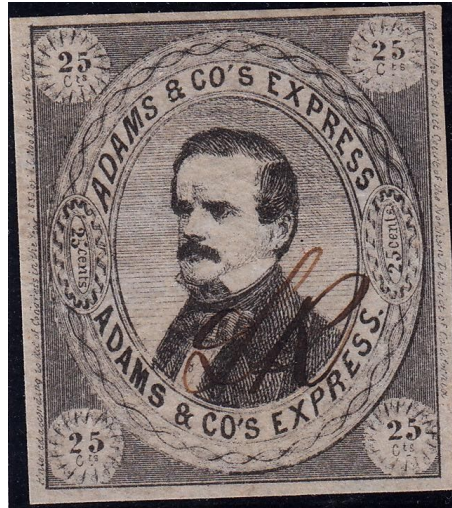
The letter shown above was mailed at the Project City Post Office in April 1940 by Lyle Elwood Fisher. The Post Office was located one mile east of Central Valley and eight miles north of Redding. The town was first named Midway in 1938 but the name was changed to Project City in 1939. The town and post office were named after the Central Valley Project that included building Shasta Dam. In response to steady and well-paying work, thousands of workers flocked to the area and many like Lyle followed from construction site to construction site.

Lyle Elwood Fisher was born in 1921 in South Dakota. In 1930 he lived in San Joaquin County and was living with his sister Leona E. Clay (1906-1981) and her husband James H. Clay (1902-1970). In 1930 Clay was a pipe wrapper and Leona was working as a hairdresser. In 1940 the group were still together and Lyle and James were both tractor operators. In 1941 Lyle married Sadie Habib (1917-1999) at Carson City, Nevada. By 1942 the group had moved to Oakland to work in the war industries. Lyle died in 1985 in Alameda County.

In 1975 the post office became a branch of Central Valley.

The articles for October 2020 are: 1) Adams Express Company, 2) Carl Munter, General Merchandise, Anderson, and 3) Beecher & Champlin, Anderson

Adams Express Company



We recently added a stamp for Adams & Company Express to our collection. In researching the stamp it was noted that the Dictionary of Early Shasta County History stated that Adams & Company was a national express company that failed in 1855. The description has two errors: first, the California company was associated with the national company but remained a distinct separate company and two, only the California operation failed.

In 1839 Alvin Adams, a produce merchant, was ruined by the financial panic of 1837, and was looking for a new business venture. He and a partner named Burke began carrying letters, packages and valuables between Boston and Worcester in Massachusetts. Burke soon withdrew but Adams persisted and quickly expanded to cover Boston, New York and Philadelphia. By 1847 Adams & Company covered the northeast and most of the south and by 1850 they shipped to Saint Louis, Missouri. With the advent of the Gold Rush a new market opened up not only to California but also to South America, Australia, Hawaii, and China. In 1850 a subsidiary, Adams & Company of California was organized. The subsidiary was under the direction of Daniel Hall Haskell who became a partner with Alvin Adams. The two companies had separate directorships with only the eastern company being under Adams' direct control. When the eastern branch incorporated in July 1854, the California operation was not included.

In September 1849, Samuel Haskell announced his residence in San Francisco and the establishment of operations to Valparaiso (Chile), Callao (Peru), Oregon and the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii). The service became immediately profitable and expanded through association with other agencies to include Panama, Australia and China. The operation focused on forwarding gold dust from San

Francisco to New York using steamers via Panama. In order to secure a supply of gold dust the company extended lines to the Major gold mining areas such as Shasta. The local company opened over fifty offices in California often working in conjunction with existing operations rather than closing or absorbing them.

The company also worked as a bank, purchasing gold directly from miners and issuing drafts that would be honored in the east. The California Company was closely associated with the banking firm of Page, Bacon & Company. In February 1855 Page, Bacon & Company failed which in turn caused the California operation of Adams & Company to fail. In 1854 Adams and Company was doing more than twice the business of Wells, Fargo & Company but after the failure the latter quickly acquired the formers company's assets. Many of the former Adam's & Company employees quickly set up a joint stock company, the Pacific Express Company, to fill the immediate void but in the long run they were absorbed by Wells, Fargo & Company.

Alvin Adams as a director of both companies personally covered the California operation's deficits before officially closing the California operation in February 1855. Adams suffered severe personal losses but kept the losses off of the parent companies' books. The eastern company grew stronger through its monopoly of service between New York and Boston. The company concentrated on expanding throughout the central and southern states, leaving California to be dominated by Wells, Fargo & Company. The company survived the Civil War and is today one of the oldest companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange and only one of five companies to continue as a closed-end fund since 1929. The company has far from failed as it has paid dividends continuously since 1935.

In 1853 Adams & Company filed in the District Court of the Northern District of California to institute postage stamps to facilitate their business operation. In 1854 they issued a twenty-five cent stamp (see attached example). The stamps could be used as proof of postage or as cash in any Adams & Company office (small change was unavailable in California forcing later businessmen to create local coins valued as twenty-five cents, fifty cents or a dollar). The stamps were issued with an initial to assure validity and stop forgery. The stamps were issued in sheets of 40 stamps and the rate was twenty-five cents per half ounce. After the failure of the California operations the remainder had no value but there are stories of the stamps being used as poker chips due to the printed value on the stamps. Wells, Fargo and Company quickly followed with similar stamps for letters and newspapers over its west coast operations.

For those who held on to their Adams & Company stamps they would now have a profitable return on their investment. The stamp we acquired is valued at over \$100.00 and other examples are more valuable.



Carl Munter, General Merchandise, Anderson

CARL MUNTER
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

ANDERSON, CALIF. May 22nd 1909

5/23/09
Mr A F Sanga Jr
Redding
Dear Mr Sanga.

If you can spare me 10 more sacks at
same price, please ship Monday sure,
otherwise advise if possible not later than
Monday A. M.

With kind personal regards I am
Yours truly
Carl Munter



Carl Munter Store in Cottonwood. Courtesy of Anderson Historical Society.



Inside of the Carl Munter store in Cottonwood. Courtesy of Shasta Historical Society.

Carl Munter was born in 1869 in West Prussia, an area that was part of Imperial Germany between 1817 and 1920 and is now in Poland. Carl's mother's maiden name was Wallenberg and his language listed as German so his ancestry could be German. Carl immigrated to the United States in 1892 and in 1895 his younger brother Arthur, born in 1871 immigrated. In 1898 Carl and Arthur registered to vote in Cottonwood: Carl as a merchant and Arthur as a clerk. As Carl is not on the naturalization list for Shasta County the presumption is that he spent his first few years elsewhere. In 1900 both Carl and Arthur are listed as lodgers in Cottonwood. Carl must have married shortly after the 1900 census as in the 1910 U. S. Census he was listed as married for ten years. His wife was listed as Jennie, maiden name unknown, who was born in Germany in 1873 and immigrated in 1895 (naturalized in 1901). Jennie may have been from the same area as Carl as after World War I she lists her parents as being born in Poland. In 1910 Carl was still a dry goods merchant in Cottonwood but the family had grown by two: Edgar 1901 and Bernice 1903. In 1910 Arthur was still living with the family and listed as a salesman. In 1907 the whole family returned to Germany for a visit. By 1914 Carl had moved the family to San Francisco where he started Carl Munter & Company dealing in cotton goods. Carl continued to manage the company at least until 1940, By 1930 Edgar was a physician and Bernice a social worker (both living at home). Carl died in San Francisco in 1956 and Jennie survived until 1964.

Beecher & Champlin, Anderson

The story of Lester Champlin and James H. Beecher's store in Anderson really begins with George Champlin 1827-1903. George was born in 1827 in Rhode Island and was the son of Jabez Champlin 1801-1880 and Sarah Ann Cole 1805-1893. George's father was an engineer and was an associate of Robert Fulton. Jabez and Sarah had eleven children five of whom came to California. Aside from George, John operated a boot and shoe company in Oakland, Hester kept house for George in Sutter County before teaching and marrying Charles Waldeyer of Butte County, Horace came after serving in the Civil War but quickly returned east, and Lester, who came for his health after serving in the Civil War.

George and twenty others formed a joint stock company and purchased a fishing smack and sailed from Connecticut in February 1849. The company made one stop at Port Famine in Chile before reaching San Francisco in July 1849. In San Francisco the ship took on passengers before pushing on to Sacramento. At Sacramento the company set up a frame and canvas headquarters and half the company went to the mines while the other half hauled freight and passengers to and from San Francisco. George was in the mining section on the Yuba River with minimal success. After the company dissolved, George next mined on the American River where he purchased a rudimentary store-boarding house at Rock Springs and developed malaria. In the summer of 1850 George sold the store and returned to Sacramento where he entered a commission house with James Barnett. The partnership dissolved the following year and George moved to Grand Island to set

up a hay business. After two years of "fever and ague," George returned to the mountains to mine at various locations, again with limited success. George next established a cattle business in Sutter County with John Miller. In 1858 George was joined by his sister Hester as a house-keeper for a short period at Sutter County. The partnership was dissolved in 1860 and George moved to Tehama County by November 1860. George started a sheep ranch in partnership with his brother-in-law William Woodard purchasing 500 sheep. George and William purchased nine parcels from the Government Land Office for a total of 932 acres. In 1865 the partnership sold the ranch to Joseph Spencer Cone and in 1866 George went to Oregon to purchase a large herd of wethers (castrated rams) used for wool production. George sold the herd and purchased 3,300 acres, 2,000 sheep and 1600 lambs. In November 1867 George married Nellie Beecher 1835-1908. The ranch and sheep were sold to Brown & Curtis in 1869. In the same year George was joined by his younger brother Lester.

Nellie E. Beecher was born in 1835 in Pennsylvania and moved in her early years to Ohio then Indiana. Nellie was the daughter of Isaac Beecher 1806-1873 and Mary Amanda Shaw 1810-1894. Nellie came to California in 1859 married to Dr. John S. Wilson born in 1816. John was a resident of Tehama in 1860 and died in Marysville in 1866. Nellie was the older sister of James Harvey Beecher born in 1847 in Ohio. Lester Champlin was the younger brother of Nellie's husband, George Champlin.

In 1869 George sold the ranch to Brown & Curtis. In 1876 George returned to ranching in Tehama County and later was in partnership with Governor Leland Stanford. George died in 1903 and Nellie survived until 1908.

Lester who was born in 1848 was too young to join the army at the beginning of the Civil War but enlisted in January 1864 in Company I, 50th New York Engineers. The unit was assigned to field defenses but primarily was a bridge unit. Lester was assigned to the unit for the Battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House and Cold Harbor before participating in the Siege of Petersburg. The regiment was part of the Appomattox Campaign and from February 1865 to May 1865 Company I was assigned to General Sheridan's 6th Army Corp on the Danville Expedition to prevent the linking of General Lee and General Johnston's forces. Lester was mustered out of service in June 1865 and by family history was "broken in health." In 1869 Lester joined his older brother George in Tehama County where he was known to have taken three large sheep herds across the mountains to Montana and Colorado.

The 1870 U. S. Census for Tehama County included George and Nellie Champlin, along with Gustavus Winfield Beecher (a son of Isaac and Mary Amanda Beecher born about 1849; died 1915) with his wife Jennie and Lester Champlin. In 1870 both "Gus" as he was commonly called and Lester were listed as laborers. In 1873 Lester was known to be in Lassen County establishing a sheep ranch that sold in 1879 to Jane Lathrop Stanford.

In the 1880 U. S. Census Lester was listed as a stockman in Tehama County and it was Gustavus who was a merchant in Adin probably with his brother James H. Beecher. About 1885 the Anderson store was operational and the advertisement clearly cites L. Champlin and J. H. Beecher as proprietors.

James Harvey Beecher was born in 1847 in Ohio. James was the son of Isaac Beecher and Mary Amanda Shaw. At the outbreak of the Civil War James was too young to enlist but in December of 1863 joined the 129th Indiana Infantry Regiment. The regiment served in the Atlanta Campaign, pursuit of General Hood, and the Carolina Campaign including the Battles of Kennesaw Mountain, Lovejoy's Station, Franklin and Nashville. The regiment was mustered out of service in August 1865. In 1870 James was a store clerk in Indiana and living with his parents. In 1873 James married Mary Church who was born in Missouri in 1847. James probably came to California about that time as in 1870 Mary was in San Joaquin County. James was probably associated with the store in Adin as his son Gustave C. was born there in May 1877. James' second son James Alexander was also born in Adin in December 1877. In 1885 James was associated with the Beecher & Champlin in Anderson where his last two children were born: Edna about 1885 and George Leroy about 1889. From 1889 to 1894 and again from 1907 to 1910 James was the postmaster at Anderson. In the 1900 U. S. Census James is listed as the Wells, Fargo & Company agent in Anderson. James appears to have closed the store by 1910 as he and Mary moved to Alameda County. In 1910 James was listed as an express company agent. James died in 1917 and it was not found when Mary died.



George Champlin. Courtesy Ancestry.com

"The Talking Well" is the subject of the present Album Card—the tenth of our series. According to a prevalent European legend, Wells, when in the mood, would answer lovers' questions. In our picture, the maiden having addressed her queries at a propitious moment, is being favored, as she thinks, by an answer from the Well, but really from the lover, whom she supposes far away.

WHEN ANY GROWN PERSON is troubled with low spirits, restlessness, soar stomach, sick-headache, a variable appetite, rising of food after eating, oppression of the stomach, low fever, languor, and irregularity of the bowels, rest assured it is a form of Dyspepsia—a complaint tending to break down the general stamina, and open the way for many serious evils. The remedy is DR. JAYNE'S TONIC VERMIFUGE. Two teaspoonfuls, mixed with a little water, taken after each meal, keeping the bowels gently open when necessary with DR. JAYNE'S SANATIVE PILLS, will usually soon remove this distressing disease.

IF YOUR CHILDREN'S CONDITION causes anxiety, owing to such symptoms as a variable appetite, with strange cravings, picking the nose, thirst, low fever, bad breath, pale complexion, flushed cheeks, a wasting away, great nervousness, fitful sleep, grinding of the teeth, with weakness of the bowels,—they indicate that the child is troubled with those dreadful pests, **WORMS**, which worry the delicate system, producing such irritation and debility as will surely break down the constitution, and, if the cause is not removed, may bring on St. Vitus' Dance or Convulsions, and render its after-life a burden. To save your child, use DR. JAYNE'S TONIC VERMIFUGE, according to the directions, and you will not only destroy the Worms, but its tonic properties will rebuild the general health—no other worm medicine possessing such qualities. When Worms are not indicated, and a gentle tonic is required, the Vermifuge may be given with excellent results after each meal, in much smaller doses than for Worms.

WHEN TROUBLED WITH A SORE THROAT, Pains in the Lungs, Asthma, or any Cough or Cold, everybody should know that in DR. JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT they will find a speedy curative and a safe and useful family medicine.

PRESENTED BY

BEECHER & CHAMPLIN,

Anderson, Shasta Co.,

California.

A NEW FIRM,

— WITH A —

Mammoth Stock of New Goods.

L. CHAMPLIN.

J. H. BEECHER.

BEECHER & CHAMPLIN,

— AT —

ANDERSON, - - - SHASTA COUNTY,

— DEALERS IN —

Groceries, Provisions, Clothing,

DRY GOODS, DRESS GOODS,

DOMESTICS, TRIMMINGS, DRUGS, TINWARE,

Underwear, Stationery, Crockery,

WINES AND LIQUORS, TOBACCO AND CIGARS, BOOTS AND SHOES,

Hats and Caps, Flour and Meal,

GLASSWARE, WILLOWWARE, AND HARDWARE.

ALSO A FULL LINE OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

GOODS WAY UP !

PRICES WAY DOWN !

We have recently erected a large Warehouse adjoining the railroad, and are prepared to transact a general forwarding, storage and commission business. Liberal cash advances made on hay, grain, wool and all kinds of country produce.

Goods Exchanged for Country Produce, and Highest Prices Paid for WOOL.



Beecher House in Anderson



Listed as Beecher & Champlin Store at Adin, Modoc County.