

"On the 20th of January, 1854, in company with John H. Clark, I settled where I now reside. This valley received its name from a bear that was killed just below my house, at the old crossing, by a party from Colusa, in 1852, two of whom were Dr. Spaulding and Horace Pike. At the time I came into the valley there were no settlers, nor for six months after. John Royce and A. T. Noyes came next, and settled in the lower end of the valley. J. M. Blanchard, old man Beers, and Hull—the man that was killed on Hull's mountain by a grizzly, and after whom it takes its name—were the next. Stephen Reese Stewart Harris, Fielding and Waller Calmes next came in. William Robertson came about the same time. Reese, the Robertson family, and myself, are all that remain of the old settlers in the valley."

DISCOVERY OF COPPER, OIL, QUICKSILVER, ETC.

Mr. Ingram says:—

"In the fall of 1863, copper was discovered by J. B. Turner and the Rices, west of Little Stony. A little town called Ashton sprung up quite suddenly. Some parties put up works to reduce the ore, but did not succeed, and the mines were deserted, and the town went down as suddenly as it sprung up. All that is left of Ashton is one house. The mines are still there if there ever were any. There is one claim that has been worked lately. Two years after, in the spring of 1865, there was some oil discovered in this vicinity that caused some excitement. There were some three or four wells bored; one in Fresh Water cañon, about seven hundred feet; one on the ranch of T. A. Botts, in Antelope valley, about six hundred feet; one near Sulphur creek, about one hundred feet; one on Bear creek, below Bear valley, about seventy feet; but none of these found oil to pay. Two of the wells are flowing wells. After the oil, sulphur was discovered near Sulphur Spring. Works were put up to manufacture sulphur; but it did not pay, and work was stopped. Next comes quicksilver, and there seems to be more of that article than anything else yet discovered in this neighborhood. Four miles from Bear valley are what is called Wilbur's Springs; but the right name for them is Cantrall Springs, for Joshua Cantrall was the man who took those springs up, and lived there until he died. Gill Roberts then bought them. They passed into the hands of Simmons, and went by his name until he died. Then Wilbur came into possession, and the springs took his name and retained it."

Going a little further north, we find Major Van Bibber and John Sites in Antelope valley, near the cañon of Stone Corral creek. Their settlement was made, we think, in 1853. Gus and Ben. Spear, with their mother, settled at the Stone Corral, in 1853, and sold out shortly to Steele and McCord, and located in Antelope valley, where Peter Peterson now resides. T. J. and James Tolbert, in 1854 or 1855, located on Funk slough, near the plains. They sold out shortly to Samuel Horine and

John Funk, and went to the present farm of the latter, they entered a large body of land. Dr. D. D. Hunter pioneer of the foot-hills. The A. D. Logan place was early, but who the party was has escaped our memory. Logan went there about 1856. On the next creek north had, in 1855, James and S. D. Young, Oscar Stiles, Robt. F. ton, and on the creek north of that, at the present U. S. place, was Abe Musick. A little further north was Schooling, Charley Brooks, James C. and S. P. Willson, Marshall, a man by the name of Hayes; and a year or so Pat O'Brien, J. A. Long, William Musick, J. B. Tibbets French.

EARLY SETTLERS OF STONY CREEK.

The Stony creek country did not begin to settle up until 1856; and the pioneers of those years were: J. M. Ker J. B. James, Joseph James, Noah Simpson, James Kilgore iel Johnson, L. L. Felkner, Watt Brisco, Jack and Dave The Letts may have gone there somewhat sooner. Greene, Sr., and his sons, W. W. Greene, now of Lakeport, ville Greene, Alfred Greene, are also pioneers of the upper creek country.

It is impossible for us to remember over so wide a country, and when each one settled; but in our capacity as surveyor, we traveled at an early day over almost the territory named.

EARLY SETTLERS ON THE PLAINS.

The settlers of the plains came at a much later date. In Dr. R. Semple and W. S. Green took up what is now the Winkle place, on Freshwater creek. Joseph and Abe (Gilbert Dodge, and Isaac Laverty settled on Freshwater in and sowed wheat. Warren and H. F. Hyde put in a large tract of wheat near the town of Williams, the same year. (Denmark, William Chapman, and — Dunn settled there the year in that neighborhood. In the neighborhood of Ar there was a German settlement about 1855; but a dry year two came, and they all left. In that neighborhood, Isaac came in 1853. Andrew Pierce, who by will endowed the Christian College at College City, came in 1851 or Philander Grinnell, who still resides there, came about 1854. Joseph Sherer settled at his present place, we think in 1856, and his father, William Sherer, came soon after. and Gus Weyand settled in that neighborhood as early as Charles Elsey made the first large entry of land on the about 1857.

North of a due west line from Colusa there were no settlements on the plains, for agricultural purposes, until about 1856. A different mode of farming began to come in vogue, and made the plains land desirable, and when it started the settlement was rapid, and it would be useless for us to attempt to keep track of it.

ANTELOPE VALLEY RESIDENTS.

Autobiographical—I was born in Hesse, Germany, 1832. I have no remembrance of my mother, was two years old. My father Henry Sites emigrated to America in 1834, and located in St. Charles county, Missouri.

The school system then was not like it is now, hence my early teaching was limited, I assisted my father on his farm, and also hired out. The knowledge I may now possess, I gathered all the while of my life.

April 1850, I left St. Charles county, with my father previously agreed for him to bring me with him to California that I work for him nine months after we arrived in California. On the 1st of May we came to St. Charles county, fitted out, for the long journey across the

prairie on the 4th of May. Our company consisted of five persons with six wagons. I have often thought of the hardships in crossing the plains; either we must have had good luck or I had not been accustomed to the prairie, I found nothing particularly hard or unpleasant, but it took us time to perform the journey, and on the 1st of June we landed in Hangtown, since called Geopline, in Colorado county.

Mr. Fisher nine months as agreed, and only had a very poor success. On June the 1st, 1857, I commenced operations on my own account. I worked for Mr. Fisher, at Downieville, for a few months, when I contracted typhoid fever and laid up until April, 1852, Cache creek, Yolo county, and took up one hundred acres of farming land, adjoining my old farm, which had already located a farm there. My sickly condition cost me my money and Mr. Fisher gave me work and me to carry on my farm. In 1853 I sold the remaining cattle and kept them on Cache creek till the next year when I sold them. This enabled me to go in with Mr. Fisher and buy cattle on a larger scale. We located in the Antelope valley, Colusa county. I continued my business, and in 1858 I located our present home. I bought cattle and sheep, and also began to buy land, then we have added a little more land to the

farm, I was married to Miss Laura E. Aycoke, where her mother, Mrs. Martha Aycoke lived. My business was managed by Major Cooper, a Justice of the Peace, but my days were not so plentiful. We have been blessed with children, John Henry Sites was born October 1859, Sites, born May 9, 1879.

We now own five thousand eight hundred and eighty

acres and is located in Antelope valley, on the county road west of Stony creek cañons, twenty-three miles a little north of west from Colusa, the county-seat. This is also our nearest point to the river, ten miles west from Maxwell, our nearest railroad station. The school-house, where religious services are held, is located on land belonging to the farm.

About one-third of the land is valley and very fertile, the rest hilly and best adapted for sheep pasture. We have three thousand sheep, six head of cattle, thirteen horses and colts, about one hundred hogs, beside poultry of all kinds for home use. We have a comfortable home, good neighbors and many friends, and feel satisfied that our country is progressing in many ways.

JOHN D. ROSENBERGER, who lives in Antelope valley, about nine miles from Maxwell, has a large farm of fourteen hundred and seventy-four acres, with eight hundred acres of farming land, the remainder grazing, on which he keeps twenty-three hundred sheep, forty-five horses and a number of cattle and hogs.

Mr. Rosenberger was born in Augusta county, Virginia, 17th of March, 1834, his parents being Paul and Eliza Rosenberger.

He went to Missouri in 1857, returning home the same year, and in 1859 went the second time to Missouri, and bought a farm one mile from Montgomery City. On the 2d of April, 1865, he left Montgomery City for California, crossing the plains by way of Fort Kearney, Halleck, Bridger and Grand Round valley, arriving at Foster's gap, foot of the Cascade mountains, September 2.

He has lived one year three miles west of Corvallis, Oregon, and another on Long farm, Benton county, Oregon, coming to present home on the 1st of October, 1867.

On the 4th of September, 1860, he was married to Miss Tabitha Devine, who was a native of Missouri. They have six children—Cora L., Frank D., Emma M., John A., Lena B., and Guy M.

MAURICE DOOLING, a view of whose fine farm can be seen among our views, was born near Listowell, county Kerry, Ireland, in 1847. He emigrated with his parents, Patrick and Hannora Dooling, to Litchfield county, Connecticut, leaving there for California in November, 1858, by way of New York and the Isthmus of Panama, arriving in San Francisco.

Followed the business of sheep and cattle drover about ten years, driving them from Solano, Lake, Yolo, Yuba and Colusa counties to Nevada county, disposing of them to butchers and dealers.

He came to his present home in 1869. It is situated in Antelope valley, about twelve miles from railroad and twenty miles from Colusa. His farm consists of twelve hundred acres, of which he farms five hundred acres of excellent land, raising on an average about thirty bushels of wheat and barley to the acre, the balance being grazing and timber land, white oaks