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## Captain Hiram Ashley Messenger

Hiram Messenger, one of our pioneer fathers, exerted a strong influence over the communities of Campo Seco, Valley Springs, and Paloma, and on some of the neighboring communities as well, for better than half a century. Captain Messenger was what we would call a progressive and successful individual. His activities touched the lives of many persons, and in all probability made this part of Calaveras County a much better place in which to live than it might have been without him. Yet, curiously enough, his career has been very poorly documented. He has been forgotten by all except a very few, and he is essentially unknown to today's residents of those communities. Perhaps we can restore at least part of the significance of the life of Captain Messenger to us here in Calaveras by recording what we do know about his career.

There are three short published accounts of Messenger. One is the very brief description of his ranch, Casa Blanca, in Elliott's 1885 book, "Calaveras County, Illustrated" (This book was recently reprinted under the sponsorship of our Society). Another very brief biography was printed in "Representative Citizens of Northern California", published in 1901. The third, a somewhat more comprehensive write-up, was written by Judge J.A. Smith, with some material supplied by the Captain's grandson, Harold Messenger, and published in the Judge's column in the "Calaveras Prospect." We have found a few pertinent news items and some information was gleaned from County archives. Harold Messenger has also shared his memories of the Captain with us. Great-grandson Allan Dorroh brought the Captain's saber and a number of other interesting mementoes (including his writing desk) to the Society's November meeting, and has generously made some other material available to us. This issue's article is based on the presentation of W.P. Fuller, Jr. at that meeting.

Hiram Ashley Messenger was born in the little town of Peru, in Western Massachusetts, in July 1832, in a family descended from early English emigrants to New England. His grandfather, Cyrus Messenger, was a colonel in the Continental army. His father, also named Cyrus, was a farmer and a member of the state

militia. His mother, Hannah Case, of Canton, Connecticut, was a member of an early New England family too. In short, Hiram came of good New England stock.

One of nine children in the typically large families of those days, he was educated in Berkshire County schools, and by the time he was 20, stories of the gold discoveries in California stirred him to the decision to head west. Although we have no knowledge of this situation, we can readily imagine his family's reaction when he announced his plans to them.

So, in April, 1852, he started west, and in Missouri, joined a company of Oregon-bound settlers from Michigan, paying seventy-five dollars for his place. But at the Green River, in Wyoming, he switched to a party that was headed directly for California. A week later, however, he left them and took a job driving an ox team with freight from St. Joseph, Missouri, for Salt Lake City. From there, he made his way on to Lathrop and then Stockton, and on up to Latimer's (we now call this North Branch) and then



**CAPTAIN MESSENGER**

This picture was probably taken about the time of Captain Messenger's military activities.

Loaned by Doris Treat Daley



**HARRIET WILKINS MESSENGER**  
Courtesy of Doris Treat Daley

to Mokelumne Hill. Thus says the printed record. Harold Messenger, however, still has childhood memories of his grandmother telling him that Hiram actually went down the Mississippi River, took ship passage to Panama, walked across the Isthmus, and then by ship to San Francisco. At this late date, we will never know the true facts of the matter. But we are inclined to accept the printed record.

In any event, upon his arrival at Moke Hill, he worked for the local water company, which was called the Mokelumne Hill and Campo Seco Canal and Mining Company, and also did some placer mining during the winter. Then he re-entered the employ of the water company and one season tended ditch near Cape Horn. The following spring he drove team for Andrews & Cadwaller, who were supplying lumber for the flume then under construction near Mokelumne Hill. Then for two years he sold lumber in Mokelumne Hill at a lumber yard there. Following this, he worked on the Chili Hill ditch at Campo Seco, and then sold water for the water company at Chili Camp until 1857. In that year, he was also employed by Captain Hanford on the Calaveras ditch at Murphys.

After these five years of work on ditch projects, Messenger took up gold mining in earnest at Campo Seco, Oregon Gulch, and at Lancha Plana where he was successful enough to take out about forty dollars a week. From there, he mined at Jenny Lind, Whiskey Hill, and South Gulch, where he was with the Copeland

family. Then back to Campo Seco, where he got involved with the copper boom at that place. This was in early 1861. Our scanty information suggests that he was one of the discoverers of the copper veins and was prominent in their development during the next few years. In 1864 he sold out his copper mining interests to the Lancha Plana Copper Mining Company for a reported five thousand dollars.

In 1859, Hiram married Harriet L. Wilkins, who had come out from Nashua, New Hampshire, in 1854. It was at this time that he built their Campo Seco home, and here they lived for the next five years. All of their five children were born here. Nelson Cyrus was the eldest, then followed Mary, Maude, Hiram, Jr., and Harriet.

With his Yankee background, Hiram was anxious to do his part for the Union cause, so after selling out his mining interests, he took the leadership in forming a company of volunteers. He used his own funds for equipping the members of the company, which had men from Calaveras and the neighboring parts of Amador and San Joaquin counties. They trained briefly just west of Campo Seco, at "Drill Hill". In November, 1864, they were formally mustered in as Company "E" into the Seventh Regiment of Infantry, California Volunteers at the Presidio in San Francisco. Hiram was commissioned by the Governor as Captain, William H. Broad as First Lieutenant, and William L. Innes as Second Lieutenant. Originally 128 had joined up in the company. But when mustered in at the Presidio, it was found that nine were missing and were counted as deserters. In addition, the recruiting officer and the post surgeon rejected 35 more men, leaving 84 in the company.

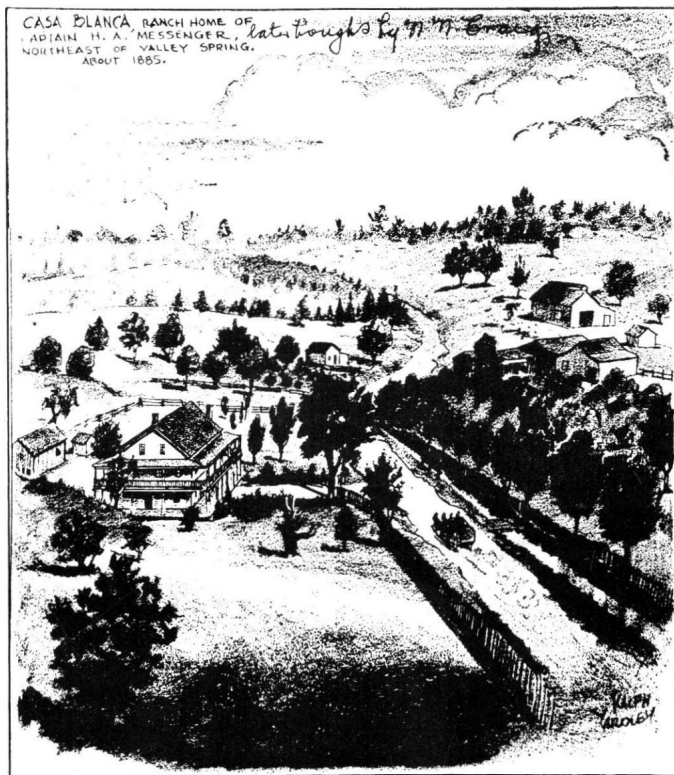
Upon completion of their training, they were sent to the Arizona Territory. At that time, Indian unrest, provoked by Confederate interests, required dispatch of all available army units to that area. Company "E" saw a year's service on this campaign, and upon its successful conclusion, was recalled to the Presidio and mustered out during June, 1866. The "greenbacks" with which Captain Messenger and his men were paid were found to be worth only about 40 cents on the dollar, on their return to Calaveras County. For the rest of his life, Hiram was known as Captain Messenger, in honor of his part in the Civil War and the Arizona campaign.

The Messenger family, who had joined the Captain briefly at the Presidio, moved back to Campo Seco when the company was mustered out. Shortly afterward, Captain Messenger, along with W.C. Whetstone, bought the thousand-acre Cosgrove Ranch, a short distance north of the present town of Valley Springs. We have little information of his activities from '66 to the late '70's, and believe that most of his time was spent on the ranch where he raised hay and grain as well as livestock. He probably did considerable prospecting and small scale mining in the area. It is said that he reactivated the old "49" shaft where Wade Johnston worked and lived right after the war (See Las Calaveras for October, 1972).

Captain Messenger was elected as a Democrat assemblyman to the California legislature for the terms of 1879-80. He was active there in promoting interest in the irrigation of farm land in the

western portion of Calaveras County and the surrounding region, and supplying water for this purpose, as well as for hydraulic mining, from the Sierran rivers such as the Mokelumne. After his term in the Assembly, he organized an ambitious project to rebuild the old "Murray Ditch" to bring Mokelumne River water from a few miles upstream from the present Pardee Dam to the lower country. This project was never completed, but the Captain kept some interest and action going on it for many years thereafter, even right up to the time of his death in 1910. Harold Messenger vividly remembers a trip when he and his brother Earl drove down with Grandpa in his fancy buggy and beautiful horse, to look at the ditch.

About 1880, Captain Messenger built a fine home at the ranch, at the head of the valley. A picture of this spread was published in the Elliott book in 1885. He named it "Casa Blanca" for an impressive house he remembered from his Arizona campaign, situated near Fort Buchanan. We don't know how long the Messenger family lived at Casa Blanca, but about 1887 he sold the house and part of the ranch to Newton Craig, who had moved from Cheyenne,



### CASA BLANCA

Ralph Yardley copied the engraving in Elliott's 1885 book for his "Do You Remember" column in the "Stockton Record". Mrs. Una Craig Walker, now living in Honolulu, was born in this house. Her father, Newton Craig, purchased Casa Blanca in the late 1880's.

Donated by Mrs. Una Craig Walker

Wyoming, to raise horses here for the local sporting events, particularly near Sacramento. In later years, Al Ross acquired the ranch from the Craigs, and the DeYoungs purchased it from the Rosses, and later sold to Mrs. Eunice Beal Van Winkle.

While the Captain had his headquarters at Casa Blanca, he held an annual picnic, the likes of which has never been seen since in these parts. Here is what the Calaveras Chronicle says about the picnic held there in 1881.

"For several years Mr. H.A. Messenger has given an annual picnic on his ranch, which is situated on the stage road between Mokelumne Hill and Campo Seco and about nine miles from the former place (This was written before Valley Springs came into being). These picnics from the first have been growing in favor and are looked for at each recurring season with no small degree of interest, and an event which is by no means to be missed. People will get there if they have to walk ten miles to do it. Everything is pressed into service that can be used as a conveyance to reach the grounds. The livery stables in the towns for miles and miles around do not begin to be able to supply the demand for conveyances, and in order to get such it is necessary to engage a team two months ahead at least.

"The picnic of the 28th of April did certainly surpass any of the ones previously given at that place. Picnic parties began to appear on the grounds the day before, so as to make sure of accommodations before the great crowd arrived. And from early dawn on the day of the picnic, during the entire day till nine or ten o'clock in the evening, people on horse back, and vehicles of every size, shape and description, loaded with pleasure-seekers, kept coming in from every point of the compass. Five hundred horses were taken care of by the hostlers, and a great many more were staked out.

"The grounds were very nicely arranged. An immense tent had been constructed for the occasion with seats throughout, and refreshment booths where all the luxuries with which to gratify the taste and appease the hunger could be obtained. A brass band was in attendance and discoursed fine music during the day, lending additional animation to the already animated scene. The great number of tents dotting the green grounds here and there and everywhere, the gaily dressed picnickers, the coming and going of vehicles, the manoeuvring of dashing horsemen on fiery steeds, presented a sight well worth witnessing. In the forepart of the afternoon there was foot racing, horse racing, and other amusements too numerous to mention, and about three o'clock dancing commenced in the grand pavillion arranged for the purpose, and was indulged in till 6 p.m. But the crowning feature of the occasion was the grand ball in the evening. Many who did not attend the picnic during the day attended the ball in the evening. The large pavillion was brilliantly illuminated and two hundred couples, dancing to the inspiring strains of music, were counted upon the floor at one time. The ball was kept up till 5 o'clock A.M. The Floor Managers in the discharge of their difficult task, owing to the great crowd, deserve praise for their promptness and attention, and the music was all that could be desired. Everything during the day and evening passed off very agreeably, and con-





#### THE GWIN MINE - NORTH SHAFT

The boarding house and postoffice, run by Captain Messenger, were up above this view, towards the old

North shaft. This picture was taken before the new steel headframe and hoist were installed. Society Files

sidering that nearly two thousand people visited the ground, and no disturbances occurred to mar the pleasure, is something remarkable. Every town in Calaveras was represented, and large delegations from San Joaquin and Amador counties were also in attendance. The whole affair was a grand success, financially as well as otherwise."

After selling Casa Blanca, the Captain built a new house half a mile down the road, near where the present Valley Springs - Paloma road joins the old Campo Seco - Mokelumne Hill stage road. The site is marked today by a scrawny palm tree, and a few knarled old olive, pomegranate, and orange trees. At one time, he had several acres of this flat ridge planted in these and other fruit and ornamental trees. After the Captain moved up to Gwinmine, one of his sons lived here and worked the ranch. Harold Messenger remembers this as his Calaveras home. The property is now owned by East Bay Water.

Returning again to the early 80's, we find the Captain very influential in encouraging the formation of the San Joaquin & Sierra Nevada Railroad Company. In 1883, he took the contract to build the roadbed from Wallace to Valley Springs. These two towns and

Burson owe their existence to the building of the railroad. Inexperienced in this sort of work, and with his other interests, Captain Messenger found his hands full. It took two years to complete his contract, and in April, 1885, the railroad reached the eastern terminous at Valley Springs.

Again we have a decade, from the middle 80's to the mid 90's when we seem to find little evidence of the Captain's activities. This was a slack period in the local economy, and the Penn mine represented about the only significant industrial activity. But in 1894, the energetic team of Thomas & McClure reopened the well-known Gwin mine. Although in his 62nd year, the Captain was still active and vigorous, and he moved up to the new mining operation to run the boarding house, the postoffice, and to help in keeping the camp at Gwinmine supplied with the necessities. The mining company purchased one of the new traction engines to use in hauling the heavy freight from the railroad at Valley Springs. Man and beast alike were greatly startled, to say the least, when this great traction engine came a'wheezing and a'snorting up Paloma Road, hauling up Oregon pine timbers for the mine. On the steep pitches it was necessary to winch the engine up, and the



trees soon became scarred from the winch cables. A rider was generally used to go ahead and clear the way for the monster.

Fred Thomas, son of the manager of the Gwin, recalled many years later, "Captain Messenger, the old campaigner of the Indian wars, his good wife and their attractive daughter, Hattie, were the team in charge of the boarding house and postoffice and going with some of the others on a trip Captain Messenger took in his mountain wagon." Hattie attended normal school, but died at the early age of 23, shortly after her marriage. Nelson also helped his father for awhile at Gwinmine.

In the early years of the century, the Captain withdrew to his Campo Seco home, where he kept busy working on the "Murray Ditch" project, and keeping up his interest in mining by trying to promote the operation of some dredging properties. He passed away at his Campo Seco home on October 16th, 1910, and was buried in the cemetery there, dressed in his Civil War uniform. Certainly we should not forget Hiram Messenger, one of our outstanding pioneers, and the part he played in more than a half-century of Calaveras history. Charles Smithenbank, the former pastor of the Valley Springs Methodist Church, wrote from his new post at Point Arena to the editor of the "Prospect" this letter



**THE GWIN MONSTER**

This traction engine hauled up the massive timbers for the Gwin mine from the railroad station at Valley Springs.

Society Files

of appreciation for the Captain: (Continued on page 24)

#### THE WAR OF THE REBELLION

Calaveras County, during the Civil War, was too busy mining copper and gold to be much concerned about the fighting so far away in the East. There were sympathizers for both sides, but the prevailing sentiment was for the North. Those who felt sufficiently strongly to do so, joined one of the several local units of the California Militia, such as those at Copperopolis, Angels, Murphys, and Mokelumne Hill. These were almost more a social activity than a serious military obligation. The recent colorful revival of "The Fifes & Drums of Old Calaveras" during the Bicentennial served to call our attention to these Civil War activities. But it wasn't until close to the end of the war that Calaveras residents became concerned enough to make a serious effort on behalf of their country, and this was primarily because of Hiram Messenger's interest in the matter.

The U.S. Army sent up Captain Coolidge and Lieutenant Thomas Hunter to assist Messenger in enlisting men for his company, which was to become Company "E" of the Seventh Infantry Regiment of the California Volunteers. These officers signed up men for the new company at Angels, Campo Seco, Copperopolis, Jackson, Mokelumne Hill, Murphys, and San Andreas. Company "E" thus became Calaveras's principal contribution to the Union's efforts during the war. Actually, the company was organized so late that the only active service was in garrison duty in Arizona, keeping Rebel sympathizers from stirring up the Indians. Nonetheless, this earnest attempt of Captain Hiram Messenger and his Calaveras and Amador volunteers to support their country was a widely cheered and respected action.

We list below the 128 persons who rallied to Messenger's call, enlisted in late October and early November, 1864, outfitted with the help of their generous Captain, and headed down to the Presidio in San Francisco. That is, all except James Hogan and Powell Bear, who decided that they had made a bad move, and vanished before the company had even left San Andreas. Sirilo Mejia, a native of Mexico, thought better of his hurried enlistment six days earlier in Mokelumne Hill, and took off for parts unknown when the company was passing through Stockton. Six more good men and true didn't like the looks of the Presidio, and disappeared just before the company was formally mustered in.

The rather green, and, no doubt, motley appearing company, composed of men and boys from 45 to only 15 years in age, natives of a dozen countries, and from many trades, were scrutinized most carefully by the recruiting officer, Lieutenant W.W. Tompkins, and by the Presidio's surgeon. Some 35 men were promptly discharged, for reasons of being under age, for having no knowledge of the English language, but mostly "for reasons obvious to the recruiting officer," or "reasons not obvious" to the same gentleman, but obvious, no doubt, to the surgeon. The remaining 84 were welcomed on November 29th, 1864, into the Seventh Regiment of Infantry, California Volunteers, and began their formal training at the Presidio, under their officers, newly commissioned by the Governor. The Seventh was subsequently sent to Southern Arizona for duty there. After a little more than a

year in the Territory, when the situation became quiet there, the Seventh returned to the Presidio, and Company "E" was mustered out in June of 1866.

Here are the names of the patriotic followers of Captain Messenger, along with some of their vital statistics, such as their birthplace, age and trade. It is a list well worth perusing for the

picture it gives of the men living in this area at the time. It is surprising that the average age is so high (33), but these were nearly all single men. Women were still greatly in the minority along the Mother Lode in the middle 1860's, and there was little to hold these men back from what promised to be a greater adventure than was to be found in their daily lives on the Lode.

Muster and Descriptive Roll of Company "E", Seventh  
Regiment of Infantry, California Volunteers organized at the  
Presidio, San Francisco, California, November 29th, 1864, and  
called into service by the President of the United States.

Hiram A. Messenger	Captain	Commissioned Nov. 24, 1864
William H. Broad	1st Lieut.	Commissioned Dec. 5, 1864
William L. Innes	2nd. Lieut.	Commissioned Dec. 5, 1864

PRIVATES

Arthur, Augustus	Smithtown, N.Y.	31	Miner	San Andreas
Avery, Joseph D.	Jefferson, Maine	30	Blacksmith	Murphys
Bradley, John H.	Baltimore, Md.	34	Miner	Jackson
Barber, Amos	New York, N.Y.	40	Blacksmith	Murphys
Brown, Gentis M.	Winnebago, Ill	23	Miner	San Andreas
Buck, Gardner C.	Warren Co. N.Y.	34	Farmer	Campo Seco
Brown, Daniel W.	Winnebago, Ill	26	Farmer	Campo Seco
Brady, John	Dublin, Ireland	35	Laborer	Mokelumne Hill
Ballard, John V.	Chicago, Ill	22	Miner	Campo Seco
Bender, Damiau	Baden, Germany	40	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Clyde, George W.	New York, N.Y.	36	Miner	Jackson
Chandler, Asa B.	Bridgewater, N.H.	43	Cabinet Maker	Jackson
Culver, Alexander S.	Utica, N.Y.	35	Rancher	Campo Seco
Cook, George F.	Newburyport, Mass.	18	Farmer	Mokelumne Hill
Carpenter, Stephen H.	Genessee, N.Y.	26	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Coggswell, Henry S.	Washington, Conn.	42	Farmer	Murphys
Donaldson, John	Jefferson, Ky.	32	Hostler	Campo Seco
Dorr, William A.	Columbia, Maine	21	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Drury, Wendell W.	Holden, Mass.	45	Machinist	Mokelumne Hill
Edmund, Richard	Carnavan, England	45	Carpenter	Murphys
Eggleston, David A.	Laurence, N.Y.	43	Miner	Murphys
Fields, Lewis A.	Cumberland, Maine	37	Teamster	San Andreas
Fuller, Benjamin	Warwick, R.I.	37	Mason	San Andreas
Good, Henry	Redding, Pa.	36	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Gemmil, John M.	Pittsburg, Pa.	35	Miner	Murphys
Harmon, Alva	Onodaga, N.Y.	32	Farmer	Jackson
Hasche, Herman	Oldenburg, Germany	22	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Hemings, Joseph B.	Hantsport, N.S.	37	Farmer	Angels
Henry, John	Derry Co. Ireland	39	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Harrington, Frederick J.	Brighton, Mass.	16	Miner	Campo Seco
Hicks, Jacob	Franklyn, Pa.	32	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Jenks, Andrew	Galena, Ill.	17	Farmer	Jackson
Jones, John	Granville, Ohio	45	Miner	San Andreas
Karcher, Gottlieb	Baden, Germany	30	Farmer	Jackson
Kroft, George W.	Delaware, N.Y.	41	Miner	Jackson

PRIVATES (Continued)

Kirkpatrick, John	St. John, N.B.	36	Hostler	Mokelumne Hill
Klinker, Fredrick	Elinshorn, Denmark	29	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Kelly, William D.	Lodi, N.Y.	32	Carpenter	Murphys
Light, Harvey W.	Chattauqua, N.Y.	39	Harness Maker	Jackson
Lord, John McHenry	Litchfield, Conn.	41	Printer	Murphys
Leman, Frederick W.	Milton, Mass.	40	Miner	Angels
Leman, William W.	Milton, Mass.	31	Miner	Angels
McCue, Martin	Galway, Ireland	31	Miner	Jackson
McMindes, Pra ?	Steuben Co, N.Y.	32	Farmer	Jackson
McGonegal, Robert	Derry Co., Ireland	36	Miner	Vallecito
McCoy, Alexander	Portrec, Scotland	38	Miner	Murphys
Maxwell, Thomas	Washington, Ark.	21	Miner	Copperopolis
Maxwell, Charles	Washington, Ark.	19	Miner	Campo Seco
Morton, Charles A.	Portland, Maine	35	Miner	Campo Seco
McMartin, John	Lancaster, Canada	38	Shoemaker	Murphys
McThomas, Robert	Williamsport, Pa.	23	Blacksmith	Angels
Mowry, David A.	Munville, R.I.	39	Miner	Murphys
Miner, Albert P.	Litchfield, Conn.	24	Miner	Campo Seco
McDonald, John	Little Rock, Ark.	19	Teamster	Murphys
Nelson, Ole	Wosenangen, Norway	30	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Ortega, Jose Santos	Aconcagua, Chile	32	Miner	Murphys
Payne, John W.	Belleville, Ill.	19	Farmer	Campo Seco
Runyon, David B.	Preble Co. Ohio	38	Miner	Jackson
Roe, Abel	Pike Co., Ill.	20	Miner	Jackson
Russell, Andrew H.	Fayette Co. Ill.	29	Teamster	Jackson
Rhoades, Jonathon K.	Carroll, Missouri	22	Drover	Campo Seco
Robjent (?), Frederick	Goyden, England	35	Miner	Mokelumne
Ross, Ichabod O.	Pennville, Missouri	23	Miner	Murphys
Rath, Johann H.W.	Altina, Holstein	37	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Ramiro, Navor	San Miguel, Sonora	29	Miner	Murphys
Sherman, George R.	Davis Co., Iowa	18	Farmer	Jackson
Smith, Henry P.	Cork, Ireland	44	Miner	Vallecito
Staton, James M.	Henry, Kentucky	41	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Swarms, William	Hamburg, Ill	30	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Smart, John	London, England	40	Painter	San Andreas
Smith, Charles	West Carlisle, Ohio	40	Miner	San Andreas
Stevenson, John	Glasgow, Scotland	42	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Thompson, Charles	Toronto, Canada	36	Clerk	Jackson
Tyrrell, William B.	Beecher, England	45	Laborer	Campo Seco
Vanlanff, Johann F.	Hamburg, Germany	44	Miner	Angels
Vondey, Thomas	Douglas, Isle of Man	38	Teamster	MokelumneHill
Wright, Gustavus A.	Baltimore, Md.	42	Sailor	Jackson
Worthington, Charles E.	Hemingsburg, Ky.	28	Laborer	Jackson
Will, William	St. Crist, France	31	Miner	San Andreas
Weston, John	Calais, Maine	37	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Webb, Chester	Wyoming, Pa.	30	Miner	Campo Seco
Warner, Robert B.	London, Ohio	38	Miner	San Andreas
Wenzel, William	Monterey, Mexico	16	Miner	Mokelumne Hill
Zinn, William	Springfield, Ohio	28	Farmer	Campo Seco

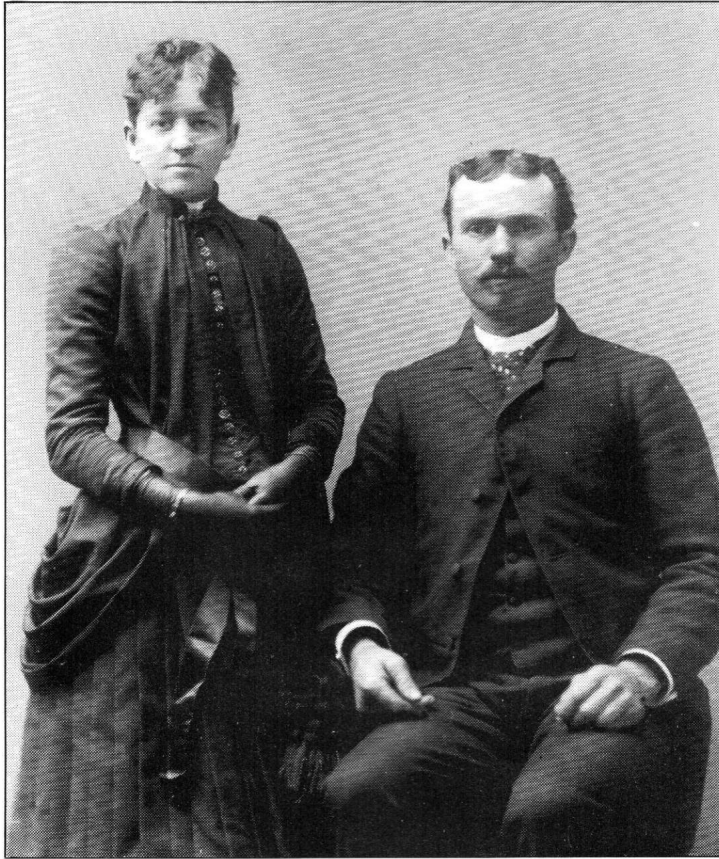


List of Deserters from Co. "E" 7th Regiment of Infantry, California Volunteers

Aranda, Marian	Valencia, N.M.	25	Deserted Nov. 21st	Presidio
Burton, Francis	Tecumseh, Mich.	21	Deserted Nov. 28th	Presidio
Harsky, Charles F.	Prussia	35	Deserted Nov. 20th	Presidio
Hogan, James	Ireland	40	Deserted Nov. 10th	San Andreas
DePue, John	Dutchess Co., N.Y.	18	Deserted Nov. 23rd	Presidio
Miller, William A.	Long Isl., N.Y.	43	Deserted Nov. 21st	Presidio
Mejia, Sirilo	Puebla, Mexico	30	Deserted Nov. 18th	Stockton
Greggs, Joseph	Stanhope, N.J.		Deserted Nov. 28th	Presidio
Bear, Powell	Sonora, Ca.	42	Deserted Nov. 16th	San Andreas

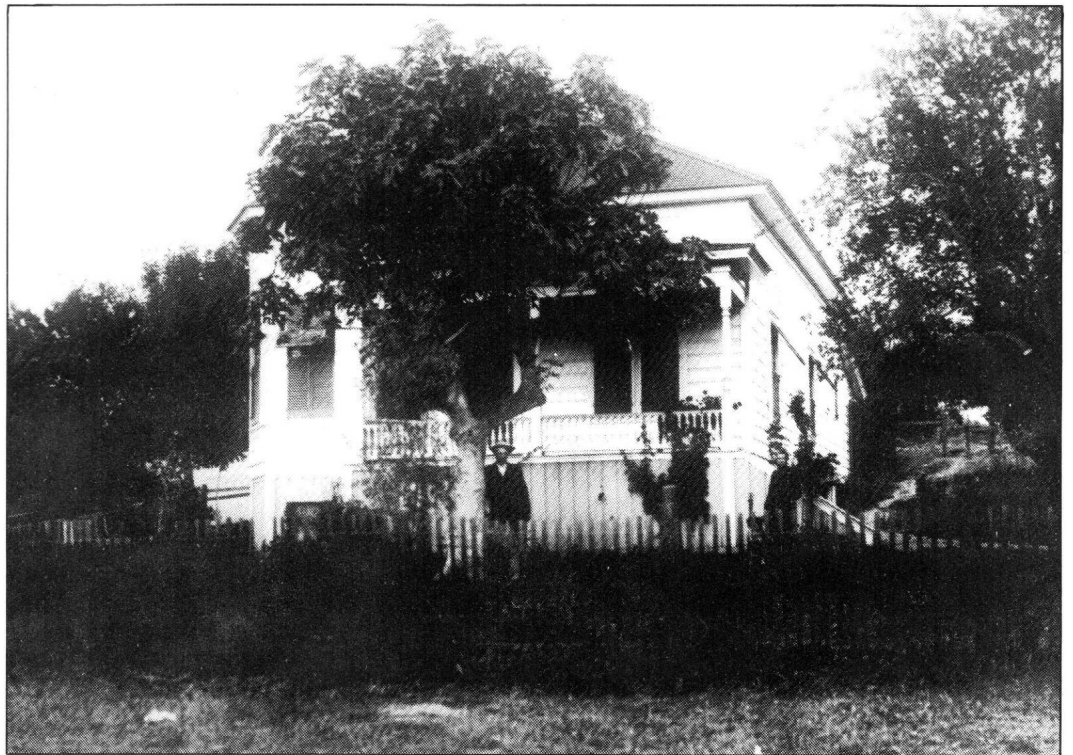
List of Enlisted Men of Co. "E" 7th Infty. C.V. Discharged by  
W.W. Tompkins, 1st Lieut. 3rd U.S. Infty - Mustering Officer

Hare, Jacob	Rhine, Prussia	26	Miner	Jackson	Nov. 21
Lee, Richard H.	Baltimore, Md.	43	Baker	Jackson	Nov. 21
Moon, Daniel	London, Virginia	26	Engineer	Jackson	Nov. 21
Rowland, Kemp A.	Macon, Missouri	24	Miner	Jackson	Nov. 21
Tarwater, Gilbert	Nashville, Tenn.	35	Miner	Sutter Creek	Nov. 21
Andrews, Thomas C.	Boston, Mass.	16	Miner	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th
Bartlett, Allen	Portsmouth, N.H.	32	Miner	San Andreas	Dec. 5th
Ballard, James	Batavia, Ill.	16	Farmer	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th
Blum, Charles	Stockholm, Sweden	43	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Cornwell, Alba J.	Willuci (?) Pa.	37	Miner	Murphys	Dec. 5th
Estrada, Dometrius	Sonora, Mexico	30	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Heywood, Abel	Mercer, Maine	37	Miner	Murphys	Dec. 5th
Hamlin, Mortimer J.	Connington (?) Mass.	44	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Hanson, Orlando L.F.	Lowell, Mass.	15	Butcher	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th
Harrington, Lyman W	Winchester, Mass.	15	Miner	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th
Iturios, Miguel	Sinaloa, Mexico	31	Miner	Murphys	Dec. 5th
Johnson, Anson A.	Hartford, N.Y.	25	Teamster	Murphys	Dec. 5th
Jacobs, Peter H.	Hingham, Mass.	41	Carpenter	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Loomis, James	New York, N.Y.	36	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Pritchard, John	Pickaway, Ohio	31	Farmer	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th
Page, Charles	Stoughton, Mass.	38	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Pearsoll, Samuel W.	New York, N.Y.	42	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Rider, Thomas	Amarica (?) Mass.	42	Miner	San Andreas	Dec. 5th
Reynolds, Augustus D.	Kingston, N.Y.	21	Teamster	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Russell, William	Andia, Scotland	38	Miner	San Andreas	Dec. 5th
Ramer, Elhannon W.M.	Manchester, Ky.	35	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Schafer, Christopher	Bisengen, Germany	30	Shoemaker	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Sisson, William F.	Dartmouth, Mass.	29	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Thompson, Daniel	Dover, N.H.	29	Carpenter	San Andreas	Dec. 5th
Taylor, Robert	Steubenville, Ohio	26	Blacksmith	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th
Thorp, John B.	Camden, Texas	18	Farmer	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th
Vinsk, Jacob	Rotterdam, Holland	38	Miner	Mokelumne Hill	Dec. 5th
Wentworth, S.W.	Pensacola, Florida	25	Miner	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th
Whitman, Charles	Bamber, Sweden	37	Rancher	San Andreas	Dec. 5th
Walker, Truman G.	Providence, R.I.	18	Teamster	Campo Seco	Dec. 5th



**THE EDWARD MAHERS**  
Mary Frances Messenger, the Captain's daughter, and Edward Maher, taken in San Francisco shortly after their wedding in 1885.

Loaned by Doris Treat Daley



**THE MAHER HOME**  
This home is still standing at Campo Seco, and is occupied. The Messenger home, however, is no longer in existence.

Loaned by Allan Dorroh



**THE MAHER FAMILY**

Mary Frances "Mamie" Messenger (1864-1943), one of the Captain's daughters, married Edward Maher (1855-1929) of Campo Seco in 1885. In this family portrait, Edward, Jr. (1892-1926) is at his father's right; Nelson (1887 - 1903) stands behind; and Dorothy (1889-1973)

stands on her mother's left. Edward, Jr., has descendants, as does Dorothy who married Herman Dorroh in 1915. Allan Dorroh, her grandson, and his family, live in the Dorroh home at Angels. The dates of the Mahers are from Dorothy's bible.                      Loaned by Allan Dorroh





**THE NELSON  
MESSENGER FAMILY**  
Nelson Cyrus Messenger, son of the Captain, married Annie Maud Sauve of Mokelumne Hill. They had seven children. The Messengers are pictured here at the house on the Campo Seco-Paloma Road about 1914. Doris is seated between her parents. Marion and Bernice are standing on the right. Earl and Harold are sitting in front. "Tip", the dog, is at Earl's feet. Ila and Clarence were absent when the picture was taken. There are numerous descendants, one of whom, James, lives with his family at San Andreas.  
Courtesy of Harold Messenger

**THE HIRAM HENRY  
MESSENGERS**

This son of Captain Messenger, and his wife, Ollie, pose with their son and two daughters. They moved from Calaveras to British Columbia. The daughters still live in the Seattle area.

Loaned by Allan Dorroh



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San Andreas, California 95249

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The Calaveras County Historical Society, a non-profit corporation, meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Grange Hall in San Andreas — except for dinner meetings which are held each quarter at different places in the county.

(Continued from page 17)

My Dear Sir:

I learn through the Calaveras Prospect of the passing of Capt. Hiram A. Messenger, and I wish to add my simple tribute to his memory, by saying I knew Capt. Messenger quite well and by his unassuming, kind yet dignified life he drew me to him and created in me a profound respect for himself. He was one I could look up to and learn from. I have sat at his table with him and heartily enjoyed the cordial hospitality of his splendid family at their home. He was one of those Grand Old Men who helped to make the right kind of history. One by one, our esteemed pioneers are passing on. We can ill afford to lose so good a man as Capt. H.A. Messenger, but we trust our loss is his eternal gain.

Chas. Smithenbank

**IN MEMORIAM**  
Cyril Monte Verda  
Helen Lewis Baker

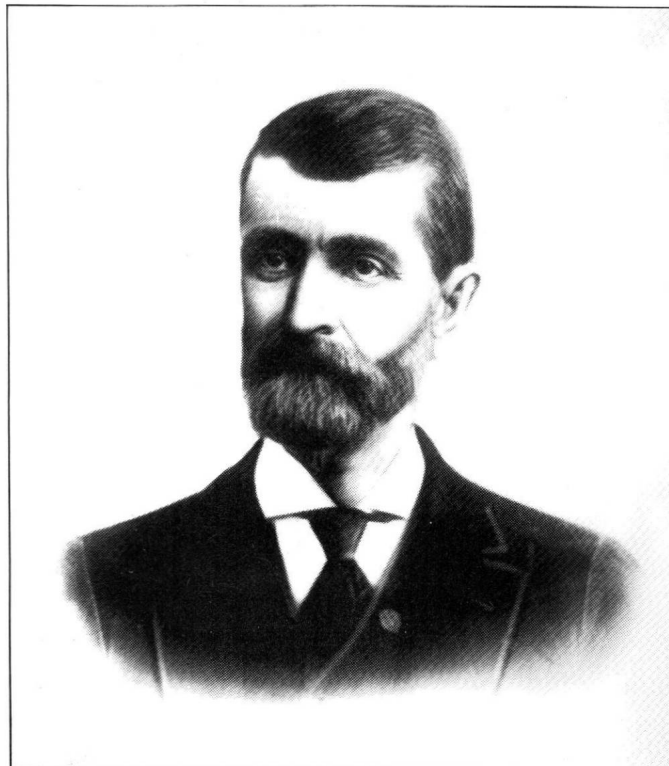
### HELEN LEWIS BAKER

Our long-time members will be sad to learn of the passing of Helen Baker on January 20. She and her husband, Paul, both charter members, were very active in the Society in the late fifties and early sixties, and Paul became our second president in 1964, upon the death of Judge J.A. Smith. The Society was incorporated during that year, with the help of the Lewis' son-in-law, Douglas Wilson, an attorney in Stockton.

Not only was Helen very active in our historical activities, but also in county school affairs for some sixteen years in various capacities, and she participated in a number of community organizations.

She contributed to "Las Calaveras" and will be remembered particularly for her excellent paper on the history of Copperopolis which she read at the Centennial Celebration there in 1960. This paper was published in our October, 1960, issue of "Las Calaveras".

Helen Lewis married Milo Baker in 1970 and moved from this community. However, she continued as a member of the Society and occasionally came back to the county to attend some of our meetings.



**HIRAM ASHLEY MESSENGER**

From a portrait taken about the time that the Captain was a member of the California State Assembly.

Gift of Harold Messenger