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SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS BULLETIN

VOL. XV, NO. 4

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95991

OCTOBER, 1976



HONORA BURNS
about 1874

IN THIS ISSUE — PETER BURNS/AND FAMILY BY BERNICE CHEIM

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. XV, No. 4

October, 1976

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The January issue will include an article on the MORMANS IN SUTTER COUNTY, by AMANDA KEYS.

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* The October 19, 1976 meeting of the Sutter County Historical *
* Society will be held on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Sutter County *
* Library. The program will be John Lewin on his trip to Northeast *
* Alaska. *
* * * * *

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our July Program was two films shown by Don Lapp of the Sacramento Area Parks and Recreation Department, "California Heritage" and "Hard Rock Mining." Both were most interesting.

A reminder about our meetings. Except for our April Dinner Meeting, they are held the third Tuesday of January, April, July and October at Sutter County Library Conference Room.

WANDA RANKIN

EDITORIAL COMMENT

We are pleased to note that many of our members are donating their time and labor at the Museum. We are taking the liberty of claiming some indirect credit for this civic deed, although our individual members might not have had the Society in mind when they volunteered their services. There are probably other services which our members could render to the general effort to promote the history of Sutter County.

The plaque on the Fremont marker ought to be replaced. If no other group is considering this project, our Society might undertake it.

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM
OF SUTTER COUNTY

ANNUAL REPORT

August 5, 1975 - July 31, 1976

Tourists from 20 cities in 16 foreign countries as far away as Turkey, South Africa, China, Argentina, Australia, and Spain; from 87 cities in 37 of the United States; and from 117 cities in California were among the 8074 people who visited the Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County in its first year of operation.

The museum which celebrated its first anniversary on August 5, gave a total of 143 on-hour group tours of the museum to 2888 people. Of these tours, 68 were to public and private school classes (1739 individuals) with an age range of pre-school through seniors in college. Special school groups served were five classes of educationally handicapped children and five classes of children from the Migrant Education summer school. Forty-nine youth groups (650 individuals) from Camp Fire Girls, Girl and Boy Scouts, 4-H, and church groups, and 17 adult groups (411 individuals) also toured the museum. Five groups from the Yuba-Sutter Mental Health Day Care Center, a group from Gateway Projects, and three groups from the Yuba City Recreation Department summer program were other local agencies that took advantage of museum tours.

Attendance at the museum had increased over the months of the first year of operation. Figures for 1975 show: August, 428; September, 375; October, 1060 (including 550 visitors at the October 19 dedication); November, 485; and December, 462. For 1976: January, 801; February, 653; March, 850; April, 798; May, 446; June, 907; and July, 827.

During the year two special programs were sponsored by the museum. One hundred and fifty-seven entries were received from children grades Kindergarden through six in the "Blessings of Liberty Secured in Sutter County" art contest. All art work was displayed in the museum in May. Entrants received a Certificate of Appreciation, and seven special awards were given. The "Performing Arts in 1776" series of free monthly Sunday afternoon concerts have drawn 465 people in the first six concerts. These programs, featuring local artists, under the direction of Mrs. Jane Roberts, will continue throughout the year in celebration of the Nation's Bi-Centennial.

Two local groups have participated in cooperation with the museum. The Sutter-Yuba Genealogical Society through the winter and spring months had members of its organization in the museum two Saturdays a month to aid visitors in research. This service is expected to be resumed in the fall. The Yuba-Sutter Gem and Mineral Society has had a continuing program of museum displays starting in January, 1976. Special exhibits have been "Rock Pictures," "Limb Casts," "Petrified Wood," "Gem Stones," and "Geodes."

In addition to development of permanent displays telling the "Sutter County Story," fifteen special temporary exhibits, loaned by local residents, were shown by the museum in its first year. October "Old Fire Department Equipment" loaned by Bill Allwardt, "Antique Duck Decoys" from Ray Frye, "Western Bronze Sculpture" by Keith Christie. November featured "Desert Glass" and December, "Iron Toys and Toy Horses and Wagons" loaned by Freida and Ted Howard. The museum Christmas tree was decorated with old-fashioned hand made ornaments made by children in the community. January featured "100 Years of Ironing" loaned by Ray Frye; February, "Model Airplanes" from Steve Kenyon and "First Day Covers" from Ken McFadden. A display of old Community Concert programs were shown in March. "Four Generations of Baby Clothes" from Phydellia Wagner were displayed in April and May, "Northern California Indian Artifacts" loaned by W. Bill Smith in June, and the July/August exhibit of "Coca-Cola Memorabilia" is loaned by Lottie and Bob Workman. Of special interest are the continuing exhibits of Franklin Pierce Mementos loaned by Walter Pierce and the "Fisher Body-Napoleon's Coach" loaned by Carl Bartlett.

A total of 1983 individual gift items from 123 donors were added in twelve months to the museum's collection. All items, from the smallest in size, an old postcard, to the largest, a 1911 Baldwin Player Piano, are accessioned and cataloged. With these new gift items, the museum's collection was more than doubled in one year.

The number of hours that the museum is open to the public has increased during the year from 24 hours per week in August of 1975 to the present 43 hours per week. The museum was also open three county holidays during the year and opened on ten evenings and two Sundays for special group tours.

Since the formation of the Community Memorial Museum Auxiliary in September of 1975, 3162 hours of time were given by auxiliary members, men and women museum volunteers. Through the scheduling of auxiliary chairman, Mrs. Caroline Ringler, volunteers act as docents, accession and catalog gift items, prepare items for display and work with Sutter County employee, curator Jean Gustin. In addition to individual auxiliary members, three community groups, the Live Oak Women's Club, the Rebekahs, and Delta Kappa Gamma Society staff the museum on their special days during the month.

The sixteen member Community Memorial Museum Commission was formed by the Sutter County Board of Supervisors in November, 1975. Chaired by its president, David Berg, members are drawn from each of the Supervisorial Districts, from the Sutter County Historical Society, and from the museum auxiliary. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Harter, and Mrs. Jean Gustin are also members of this advisory board.

The Community Memorial Museum Trust Fund was established October 1, 1973 when Howard and Norma Harter gave to the County of Sutter the equivalent of \$100,000 in stocks to build a museum to be dedicated to the pioneers and veterans of the area. To this sum has been added all the additional gifts from many in the community.

The museum was built as a result. It was formally dedicated and given to the county October 19, 1975. As of this date money still needs to be raised to meet the building costs which ran over the amount originally estimated.

* * * * *

LIST OF DONORS TO THE
COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Howard & Norma Harter	in memory of	Flora S. Barrett
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Carrothers	in memory of	Odell Gibson
Mr. & Mrs. Don Brookman	in memory of	Odell Gibson
Maude K. Roberts	in memory of	Flora Barrett
Mrs. Bernice Ware	in memory of	Peter & Louisa Trimble
Verna M. Sexton	in memory of	Flora Barrett
Kathy Doan	in memory of	Irene Slick
Claudine B. Rolufs	in memory of	Anna Peter
Maude K. Roberts	in memory of	Edward Carlin
Mr. Arch Mellar	outright gift	
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Nason, Peggy and Shelly	in memory of	Carter Ames
Mr. & Mrs. R. Fred Benzel	in memory of	Ada Bender
Mr. & Mrs. Frank W. Welter	in memory of	Edward V. Helm, Sr.
Howard & Norma Harter	in honor of	Gerald & Elda Frye on their 50th anniversary
Norman & Loadel H. Piner	in honor of	Gerald W. & Elda Frye on the occasion of their 50th anniversary
Mr. & Mrs. Frank W. Welter	in memory of	Josephine Pogue
Randolph & Shirley Schnabel	in memory of	Josephine Pogue
Sutter Orchard Supply	in memory of	Marti Melani
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Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Dawson	in memory of	Dr. Robert C. Hall
Laurence & Helen Harris	in memory of	Dr. Robert C. Hall

Verna M. Sexton	in memory of	Dr. Robert C. Hall
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Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Greene	in memory of	Dr. Robert C. Hall
Bud & Eunice Menth	in memory of	Joseph Gidegain
Mrs. Owen R. Powell	in memory of	Joseph Gidegain
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Howard & Norma Harter	in honor of	Leonard & Elsie Harter on their 50th anniversary
Mr. & Mrs. Ulys E. Frye	in memory of	Frieda Frye
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Helen Heenan	in memory of	Joe Gidegain
Helen Heenan	in memory of	Grant Overby
Helen Heenan	in memory of	Ernest Demmer
The Eugene H. Lonon Family	in memory of	Frieda Frye
Verna Sexton	in memory of	Claire H. Epperson
Bill & Wanda Rankin	in memory of	Mabel Kylling
Genevieve R. Wold	in memory of	Dr. Robert C. Hall
Gevevieve R. Wold	in memory of	Claire H. Epperson
Verna M. Sexton	in memory of	Elwood Robert Simmons
Donald & Leila Gillett	outright gift	
Jack & Helen Heenan	in memory of	Mabel Kylling
Helen L. McLaughlin	in memory of	Mabel Kylling
Helen L. McLaughlin	in memory of	Flora Barrett
Percy & Helen Davis	in memory of	Elwood Simmons
Gerald & Elda Frye	in memory of	Mabel Kylling
Joe & Kathleen Ruzich	in memory of	Mabel Kylling
Bud & Eunice Menth	in memory of	Elwood Simmons
Sutter Orchard Supply	in memory of	William Wick
Mrs. Verna Sexton	in memory of	Matilda W. Tresslar

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SUTTERANA

Marysville Appeal, May 13, 1864.

That Cannon. -- We stated the other day that a six-pounder formerly used by all parties at Yuba City had disappeared. We are informed that it was brought to Sutter County by the old pioneer, Captain Sutter, and has been used for several years on every occasion when a gun was needed. It is now claimed by somebody, a copperhead, we understand, and we write to know whether Captain Sutter has ever

given a bill of sale of the property to any constitutional democrat. If he has not, we think it incumbent upon him to see what has become of it. And it is well for the authorities to inquire where the gun is. In case of a constitutional democratic war for the rescue of some Weller by the 44,000 copperheads, this would be a formidable weapon.

NOTE: This item contains more than Sutterana. The references to constitutional democrats (small e and d) copperheads, Weller, etc. indicate that Sutter county was aware of the Civil War even though far removed.

* * * * *

Marysville Appeal, February 14, 1864

Graveling Fifth Street.

Fifth street east of the Yuba City bridge where it has previously been turn-piked, is now receiving a covering of about 12 or 15 inches of gravel which comes down over the northern California railroad. Two double ox teams are engaged hauling the gravel from the railroad depot. The street is being very greatly improved.

NOTE: Here is evidence that the new-fangled iron horse yet depended on the primitive ox to complete a job.

Daily Appeal, Marysville, California, November 20, 1902

For Sale -- Residence property ranging from \$1500 to \$5000 in the City of Marysville. Liberal terms of payment. Apply to A. C. Irwin.

The T. J. Kelly Co. -- This Week's Specials

Every item means a saving to you -- the cash system and right buying does it.

cabinet hairpins, regular price 24, now 3!

Paper of good pins, 1¢

Bone hairpins, 10¢ grade, 5¢ a dozen

Hairpins, wire, 1¢ a bunch

Comforters, full size and weight, good value at \$1.15,
special at 88¢

Ladies' hose, seamless, fast black, an excellent value
regular price 10¢, now 2 pairs 15¢

Ladies' shoe dressing, the very best, special 9¢ both

Children's toy games, regular 25¢ size, special at 18¢

Fur boas, black, grey and brown, \$2.50 quality, special
at \$1.90

Ladies's wool hose, black and grey, extra good value at
25¢ a pair.

THE FAIR (The T. J. Kelly Co.)
4th & D Streets
Marysville

Democrat, February 11, 1916

Promising Athletes

Among the prospects for the track season at the University of California selected by the veteran trainer, Walter Christie, is Leo Wadsworth of Sutter City, who is going to take part in the sprints this season at college and Orlin Harter, son of C. B. Harter and wife of Sutter County, who will take part in the pole vault and broadjump. Both young men are taking an active interest in the spring training. Harter is a graduate of the Marysville High School, while Wadsworth comes from the Sutter Union High School.

Wheatland Graphic, April 7, 1883 - In column of Lincoln News

"Chas. Kennedy talks of moving the old Wilson house down to the depot and opening a restaurant in same."

**This bulletin is
continued in Part 2.**

Sutter County
Historical Society
News Bulletin
Oct 1976
Part 2



Peter Bernard Burns,
a student at
Santa Clara
in middle 1880's

Mrs. Peter Burns,
Lenore Harneson
about 1900



OUR FEATURE ARTICLE

Our feature article is the result of a chain of items. The first was the excellent book, The Survivors, by Janet Sullivan and Mary Jane Zall in which they included a picture of the Lang house on East Butte Road. This picture and history of the house inspired Mrs. Nora M. Burns Hyman of San Francisco to write a nostalgic letter to the Editor of the Appeal Democrat. Mrs. Hyman is a granddaughter of Mrs. Honora Burns who purchased the house and ranch from the original owner Gilbert Smith. Mrs. Hyman spent her childhood living with her grandmother on the ranch.

This letter convinced us, the staff, that a history of the Burns family would be a valuable addition to the history of Sutter County. We first suggested to Mrs. Hyman that she write a history of the family, but she deferred to her sister Bernice Burns Cheim who was born in the historic house.

Mrs. Hyman has coined a unique phrase to characterize her generation born near the turn of the century. She calls them the "First of the Last Survivors", thereby identifying them with the pioneer houses which have survived.

Our Society is very much indebted to both Mrs. Hyman and Mrs. Cheim for this family history.

PETER BURNS AND THE BURNS FAMILY
HISTORY AND RECOLLECTIONS
by
BERNICE CHEIM

When the history of an Irish family is told, it is claimed, mainly by those who are not Irish, there are almost always two versions. There is the story of fact and the story of fantasy. It is not really fantasy. It is the word of mouth stories handed down from generation to generation. Changes can occur along the telling of the stories. The hearsay of one generation is the tradition of the next generation.

I will start with the historical and biographical fact taken from a book published in 1906 by Professor Guinn entitled, "History of the State of California and Biographical Record of the Sacramento Valley." The history of Peter Burns is on page 1148. It reads as

follows:

PETER BURNS: Among the energetic, ambitious and industrious young men who came to the state of California in search of fortune, and afterward became numbered among the successful pioneer agriculturists of the state, was the late Peter Burns, for many years a resident of Colusa County. Taking up land which was in its primitive condition, he improved it, and in the course of time became a large landholder and citizen of worth. A native of Ireland, he was born, about 1835 in Donegal, a seaport town.

At the age of ten years, Peter Burns came with his parents to the United States, and was brought up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he acquired a practical common school education, living at home until about 17 years of age. Coming by the overland route to the Pacific coast in 1852, and located in what is now Colusa county, where, in company with Robert Williams, he engaged in raising stock. Subsequently buying out his partner, Mr. Burns continued his operations alone, being quite successful. From time to time he invested in land, becoming owner of seventeen hundred and seventy-five acres on the Sacramento river. He continued as a general rancher and stockraiser, in the latter industry making a speciality of breeding and training horses, a business in which he took great pleasure. He was a self-made man, trustworthy citizen and his death, which occurred in 1877, at the early age of 42 years, was a cause of general regret. He was a loyal adherent of the Republican party, and a member of the Catholic Church. In 1863, Mr. Burns married Honora Glenn, who was born in 1849 in Roscommon county, Ireland, which was likewise the birthplace of her parents, Patrick and Mary Glenn. In 1862, Mrs. Glenn, with her four children, three sons and a daughter came overland to California, settling in Colusa County, where she lived until her death, at the age of 59 years. She was a bright, ambitious woman and a member of the Catholic Church. After the death of her husband Mrs. Burns operated the ranch for a number of years, but in 1888, she sold the property and, building a house in Colusa, lived retired for a few years. In 1898 she purchased her present farm of five hundred and thirty-two acres, in East Butte, in Sutter County, and has since made this her home, the farm being under the management of her two sons, Joseph and Peter. She has (1906) an almond orchard of sixty acres, and is carrying on general farming. True to the faith in which she was reared, Mrs. Burns is a Catholic, and, with her family, belongs to the Catholic Church in Marysville. Five children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Burns. Rosanna, born in 1864, is the wife of W. H. Lang, of Colusa County; Bernard died at the age of eighteen years while attending college; Peter B., born in 1867, assists in carrying on the home farm; Mary R., wife of J. M. Drach, died at the age of thirty-two years and Joseph Aloysius, born in 1872, also assists in the management of the home ranch. (End of biography by Professor Guinn, published in 1906.)

Joseph A. Burns died at the age of 34 years, May 19, 1906.

Honora Burns buried her mother, Mary Glenn, and her husband, Peter Burns, in the Catholic Cemetery in Marysville. There was no Catholic Church in Colusa until 1867. The church was dedicated on December 8 of that year. When a Catholic cemetery was developed, our grandmother had her husband moved to Colusa. The cemetery records show that he was the first person buried in that cemetery. Mary Margaret Glenn still lies in St. Joseph's cemetery in Marysville. All the Burns family are buried in the Colusa cemetery. There are only my sister and I left.

In the recorded history, it states that our great grandmother, Mary Glenn, was born in Roscommon. However, it has been handed down in the best Irish tradition from grandmother to grandchild, etc., etc., that she was not born in Roscommon but in Antrim in northern Ireland. She was born Mary Margaret Foley to Lord and Lady Foley, Irish-Anglo Protestants of Antrim Castle. It is a fact that she married Patrick Glenn of Roscommon. It would seem that her parents did not approve of her marriage. There is no indication of a continuing relationship with her family after her marriage, either at Roscommon or after she came to the United States. She could have easily been disinherited by her parents because she married a Catholic. It is a fact that under English law, at that time, a Catholic could not inherit. My cousin, Robert Coats, wrote the following recently in a biographical history of the Kirk-Coats-Burns-Lang family. He received the information from his mother, Assumption Lang Coats, who wrote a piece on the Burns-Lang family in 1943. She knows more about the family history than any person living today. Robert wrote of Mary Margaret Glenn:

"She was born protestant, married an Irish Catholic and was disowned by her family during the time of the potato famine. She was related to the people who lived in the Castle Antrim in Northern Ireland. I don't know whether she was a child of the lords, or whether she was merely a relative, but the story is, she was standing out in front with my great grandmother to receive food during the famine, and that great-great-grandmother told my great grandmother that her father was inside but that they could not go in because she had been disowned."

We do not know if our great grandmother whom Robert Coats refers to as great-great, since he is one generation younger than his mother and me was actually born in Antrim or Roscommon. The thing we do know for a fact is that there is a beautiful village in the north of Ireland called "Antrim." It is not an hour's ride from Belfast, and not far from the coast where the Giant Causeway is located. Almost everyone has heard of the "Glens of Antrim" the most beautiful being Glenariff. Fact number two is that there is an Antrim Castle. The entrance gate, where the gate keeper's cottage stands, is at the end of the main street, not far from the Catholic church and parish house. The castle remained pretty much intact until about 40 years ago, when the interior was destroyed by fire. The exterior of the newer part is in fair condition but the older part is in considerable ruin. It is owned by an English couple who have restored some of the rooms and use it as a residence when they are in Ireland.

With my husband, my niece, Betty Lenore (Hyman) Flatland, we visited Antrim Castle in 1950. It was a great disappointment to me to find the owners abroad. Nothing would have given me more pleasure than to have seen the inside of the castle and to have learned something about its past. Looking up records in the parishes is so time-consuming, it would have taken us months to find the information we

wanted. My niece and I tried locating records at Roscommon. The priests were delighted to visit with us. They were happy to show us their records. When we saw the rooms in which the records were kept, with each birth, death, baptism, etc., recorded in a fine spidery handwriting, yellowed with age, I knew we would have to abandon our search. My husband was patient, but only an Irishman, devoted to his pub can spend that much time in an Irish village.

Mary and Patrick Glenn lived in Roscommon, a lovely village situated in the rolling hills of central Ireland, and the one which we visited in 1950. The Glenns had owned their farm. This was highly unusual. During this period almost all landowners were either English absentee landowners, or Anglo-Irish Protestants. Some Scots had been brought over to farm the land. The Glenns had to be comfortably well off as the relatives in Illinois spoke of the servants they brought with them when they came to America. Some family records state that "Mary and Patrick Glenn owned their own farm." Perhaps they did, but in my opinion, it is more likely that they "leased" the land. When Cromwell finished his work in Ireland, Catholics owned less than five per cent of their own country. No Catholic was permitted to own land, vote, hold public office, work in civil service, own a weapon, own property over 5 pounds, be educated in or out of Ireland, permitted to practice law, doctor, or follow any profession. Training of priests was forbidden, and foreign-educated priests were outlawed. Masses were said in secret.

The 1840's and 50's were a dark and sad period in the long and tragic history of Ireland. Our great grandparents were motivated to migrate primarily because of religious persecution. The freedom of religion and education in the United States was reputed to be

great. The disadvantages of the immigrant were also great. Because of this, the parents decided to send their two eldest children, Michael and Mary, to visit relatives in Illinois to ascertain if the conditions were as promising and glowing as the relatives had led them to believe. The two young immigrants never reached America. Their ship was stricken with cholera. It is not known how many died, or if the entire ship was lost. It took 40 to 45 days for a good crossing and much longer for a poor one. Even without a disaster, news was long in coming. When there was an epidemic, it was next to impossible to get information regarding any individual. The crossings, at best, were an experience in extreme hardship. To survive, one had to be unusually healthy, and/or extremely lucky. They were not among the lucky ones. When Patrick and Mary Glenn learned of the disaster, they decided to come to the United States. Their search and concern for their children continued after they came to this country, but no trace of their two eldest was found. Patrick Glenn had a sister living in Illinois, married to a successful farmer, a Mr. Cunningham. In 1852 the Glens came to Illinois. There, great grandfather Glenn became successfully engaged in stock raising and farming.

In spite of the fact that they had exceeded their expectations in Illinois, Patrick Glenn and his family wanted to move farther west. They moved to Nebraska, took up land there, and again were successful in developing a farm that should have satisfied Patrick Glenn and his sons; again the desire to move westward finally overtook Patrick and Mary Glenn. Their eldest son chose to remain on the Nebraska farm. He remained there throughout his life. Eight



Peter Burns with his
first daughter, —
"Little Nora" 1902

Nora Marie and
Mildred Bernice Burns
1908



children had been born to the Glenns. Michael and Mary had been lost at sea. Patrick Jr., and his younger brother, John, elected to remain on the farm in Nebraska, the third son, Bernard, his three sisters Bridgett, her twin Kathleen, our grandmother, Honora, started with their parents on the long and difficult journey to California.

The record states that "In 1862 Mrs. Glenn, with her four children, three sons and a daughter, came overland to California, settling in Colusa County." This should have read: "three daughters and one son."

Almost immediately after the Glenn family left Nebraska, Patrick's health began to fail. Mary persuaded him to return to Council Bluffs, Iowa, until his health improved because once they left Council Bluffs there would be neither doctor nor priest. He died in a Papist Monastery at that city and was buried there.

Mary Glenn and her four children joined a wagon train and came to California by the Oregon Trail. We kept the feather beds for many many years. These they had used to line the interior of the covered wagon to deter Indian arrows. They finally arrived in Colusa where Mary Glenn's friend Jennie Reynolds lived. I know nothing about Jennie Reynolds, or why our great grandmother felt so compelled to make that many sacrifices she had made to join her. Apparently this was her goal, her destination. It was here her youngest daughter Honora met and fell in love with Peter Burns. They were married on the 2nd day of February 1863, in St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Marysville. Her sister Bridgett was her maid of honor, her brother Bernard "gave her in marriage." Father John

Griffin performed the wedding service. This is recorded in St. Joseph's Catholic church in Marysville.

Peter Burns (1835-1877) had come to Colusa in 1852. I don't know what motivated him to choose Colusa; he had no relatives there at that time. When they make the claim in his biography "taking up land in it's primitive state", they are not exaggerating. It was estimated that ten to fifteen thousand Indians occupied the valley and the coast range mountains. Colusa is built on the ruins of "Coru" the capital of the Indian nation. Its name was derived from the tribe of Indians who were called "Colus" by the early settlers. Colusa was spelled "Colusi." It does not appear in any records as "Colusa" until 1854. The Indians were the Diggers, the less industrious of the tribes. Their chief "Sioc" died in 1852, the year grandfather arrived in Colusa County. The males wore nothing, the females made an effort, although a transparent one, to clothe themselves in garlands of tule and beads. Into this Edenic paradise, our grandfather, a pious Catholic lad of seventeen years, put down his stakes. It could be said that he wrought a miracle when he brought under cultivation most of the seventeen hundred and seventy-five acres. He was young and without experience. In Donegal, where he lived as a boy, a man could look the length and breadth of the patch of ground he farmed.

The land was rich and fertile, water pentiful. They had one enemy that was all powerful and destructive. Year after year the Sacramento river flooded the land. Crops were lost, but the greater tragedy was the loss of thousands of domestic animals as well as the wild animals that abounded in the area. According to General John

Bidwell, when he arrived in California, "It was not uncommon to see thirty or forty grizzly bear in a day." The river could be a friend as well as an enemy. Steamers and barges were able to navigate as far as Princeton, possibly farther. Farmers could load their grain onto the barges and ship their yearly crop directly to Sacramento or San Francisco.

The living area on the ranch was made up of many buildings. The house was complete in itself, but according to our cousin, Assumption Lang Coats, another building was used for cooking purposes. During the harvest season, all the meals were taken there, otherwise they were served in the house.

I believe we Californians think the "cook house" a strictly western invention. Not so, according to Assumption. She cited, for example, that meals were prepared in a separate cooking area at Mt. Vernon. They were brought into the house in containers and the hot food served to the Washingtons at their dining table. In the West many people had Chinese cooks, gardeners, and stable boys. They were kind and devoted and often stayed with the same family a lifetime. We have photographs of the cooks that worked for both grandmother Honora Burns and her sister, Bridgett. When sitting for their photographs, they dressed in their finest silks and satins.

The stables on the Colusa ranch were as important as the living area. Grandfather Burns raised trotting horses. The horse was "king", particularly on his ranch. Horse racing was a common sport in Colusa, where they had racing regularly and where the Colusa "Jockey Club" in 1869 announced a purse free for "Anything with hair and legs in the way of trotters or pacers." Marysville had a fine race track and grandfather raced his trotters there as well as at

Sacramento.

Honora Burns was determined that her children would be properly educated. The three boys went to Christian Bros. in Sacramento. For college, Peter, my father was sent to Santa Clara, and Uncle Bernard to St. Mary's in Oakland. It was there in 1881 at the age of eighteen, Bernard died of a mastoid infection. Uncle Joseph went to Christian Bros. College in Kansas City. Aunt Rosanna went to Sacred Heart Academy at Sacramento and Aunt Mary Regina was a boarder at the convent in Woodland. In addition to their scholastic training, the girls received what was considered essential to complete a "young lady's education" of that day. Mary Regina was extremely gifted in making elegant needlework. Not long ago I had some of the choice pieces framed. After almost a hundred years, they are bright and beautiful and a marvel of stitchery.

Everyone on the ranch rode. Our mother spoke of the riding habits worn by Aunt Rosanna and Aunt Mary Regina. Riding habits were worn if one rode side-saddle. I doubt that mother rode side-saddle. I rather imagine her, slim as a reed, black hair flying, galloping over the land like a young Colus.

Our mother was born Llewellyn Harmeson, February 28, 1875 in Anderson, Indiana. By a strange set of circumstances she was raised on the Burns ranch in Colusa by our father's mother, grandmother Burns. Mother's father, Grandfather Miner Harmeson came to California from Indiana in the late 1800's. Unlike our Grandfather Burns, who loved the land and what it produced, our Grandfather Harmeson became absorbed in the breathless pursuit of gold. He could not understand the men who worked in the valleys with summer

heat and winter rain and floods. He staked a claim in Placer County. When he returned to Indiana to bring his family West, he found Grandmother Harmeson ill. When Mother was two years old, Grandmother Harmeson died. Five years later, when Mother was seven, he brought her and her older sister, Alice, to live with relatives in California. He placed Alice with his relatives, the Crouch family in Chico. The Crouch's were a prominent and prosperous family, well known in the Chico area at that time. He took Mother to live with an aunt, Mary Scoggins, of Colusa. Newton Scoggins was Marshal of Colusa County and the name of Scoggins appears very early in Colusa history. Mother had other relatives living in Colusa. She was very close to her cousin, Millie, who married a Mendenhal and lived out her life in Williams.

There was nothing that Mother spoke of during this period of her life that I can recall. It was as though the years she lived with the Scoggins slipped from her mind completely. Her life changed when Grandmother Honora Burns took her to live on the ranch with her and her five children. I don't know the circumstances that brought this change about. Our Grandmother Burns was a friend of the Scoggins family. Perhaps she saw Mother as an unhappy child, and decided to do something about it. However it happened, it was a happy change for Mother. She was violently independent. Life on the ranch suited her perfectly. Growing up on the big ranch on the banks of the Sacramento river was the happiest of times for Father, his two sisters, two brothers, and our Mother. Little did our parents know when they were growing up together as children that they would spend their lives together.

Grandmother tried very hard to see that Mother had the same kind of education maintained for her children. Mother fought her all the way. Her father, Grandfather Harmeson, left all decisions to Grandmother Burns. He was a miner from the day he arrived in California until the day he died. He never struck it rich, but he must have been a fantastic optimist because he kept at it until the end. He apparently felt his responsibilities ended when he supplied his two daughters with their material needs.

Mother's champion was Joseph McConnell, who was married to Bridgett, Honora's sister. When Grandmother thought she had Mother safely settled in the convent, Mother would write to Joseph McConnell and beg him to use his influence with Grandmother to let her return to the ranch and attend the rural school. He rarely failed her. As a result, she spent very little time in the convent, and no more than she had to at the rural school. She was too lively to be studious. Joseph McConnell took the place of the father whom Mother seldom saw. She was deeply attached to him. The McConnells had five children. Their ranch was close to the Burns ranch so that the families were, not only close in proximity, but the sisters, Honora and Bridgett, were devoted to one another and to their families. This sisterly devotion remained throughout their lives.

A tragedy occurred that changed the lives of all the members of both families. The record by Justus H. Rogers reads as follows:

"On January 24th, 1882, Joseph McConnell, one of the largest farmers in the county, was shot and killed by Fred Laux, and died on the following day. The difficulty occurred at a place McConnell **had** purchased some twelve miles above Colusa. He had sold a portion of it to Laux, and the trouble grew out of the location of this tract. After the shooting Laux went to Princeton and surrendered himself. McConnell had settled in Colusa

A HISTORICAL DEED

This reproduction of a portion of a deed is not only a relic of the Buttes and Sutter County, but also of the California and Oregon Railroad which was built northward from Marysville and into Sutter County in 1868. The usual gift or subsidy of public land – alternate sections on both sides of the railroad twenty miles back – was made to the railroad company by the federal government.

When the Central Pacific Company, owned by the "BIG FOUR", purchased the Oregon line, the public or gift land was a part of the property. We have the signatures of two members of the Big Four, H O P K I N S and S T A N F O R D, on this deed.

The Central Pacific Company issued and sold ten million dollars worth of bonds to raise funds with which to construct the new railroad. The company conveyed this gift land to C H A R L E S C R O C K E R and S I L A S S A N D E R S O N who were to serve as trustees. These trustees were authorized to sell the land and to hold the money received and unsold land as security for the redemption of the twenty-year bonds.

G I L B E R T S M I T H paid these trustees six dollars per acre for the land he purchased. The federal land office in Marysville was selling adjoining land for one dollar and a quarter per acre. Here we have an answer to the question "who paid for the railroad?" Of the six dollars which went into the bond fund the government donated land worth one dollar and a quarter, while Gilbert Smith donated four dollars and seventy-five cents.

This deed is evidence of a fact not often admitted. An appreciable part of the cost of early railroads was paid by settlers on the land through which the railroad ran.

Sutter and State of California to wit:
the South East Quarter of the North East Quarter
(SE 1/4 of NE 1/4)

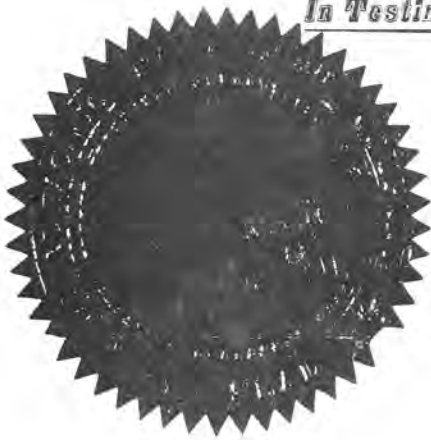
of Section No. Twenty Seven (27) in Township Sixteen (16) North of
Range Two (2) East, Mount Diablo base and meridian, containing
Forty (40) acres,
according to the United States surveys, together with all the privileges and appurtenances thereunto
appertaining and belonging. Reserving, however, all claim of the United States to the same as
mineral land.

To Have and to Hold, the aforesaid premises to the said _____

Gilbert N. Smith

his heirs and assigns, to his and their use and behoof forever.

In Testimony Whereof, The said Central Pacific Railroad Company has caused
these presents to be signed by its President and Secretary, and sealed
with its Corporate Seal; and the said Mark Hopkins and Silas W.
Sanderson, Trustees, have subscribed their names and affixed their
Seals this nineteenth (19) day of April A. D. 1871.



Leland Stanford
Pres't C. P. R. R. Co.

W. M. ...
Sec'y C. P. R. R. Co.

Mark Hopkins
S. W. Sanderson
Trustees.

THE UNITED STATES

To all to whom these presents

CERTIFICATE

No. 1004

Whereas, *Gilbert Nelson Smith*

has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the UNITED STATES, a CERTIFICATE of the Register, it appears that FULL PAYMENT has been made by the said *Gilbert Nelson Smith* to the provisions of the act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An act making further

South West quarter of Section Twenty six in Township
Diablo Base and Meridian in the district of land
containing Eighty Acres.

according to the OFFICIAL PLAT of the Survey of the said lands, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, by *Gilbert Nelson Smith*

Now know ye, That the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, in consequence of the provisions of the act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, and provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT, unto the said *Gilbert Nelson Smith* and to *his* heirs, the said Tract above described; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same unto the said *Gilbert Nelson Smith* thereunto belonging, unto the said *Gilbert Nelson Smith*

In testimony whereof, I, *Abraham*

have caused these Letters to be made Patent, and the same to be signed by me in presence of the said *Abraham*

Given under my hand, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, this

thousand eight hundred and

Sixty
BY THE REGISTER

Examined

STATES OF AMERICA,

Deputies shall come, greeting:

of Sutter County California

Register of the Land Office at Marysville

whereby

according

provision for the sale of the public lands," for the South half of the
Section Sixteen North of Range Two East Mount
is subject to sale at Marysville California

LAND OFFICE by the **Surveyor General**, which said tract has been purchased by the said,

consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several Acts of Congress in such case made

the said Gilbert Nelson Smith

same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatsoever nature,

and to his heirs and assigns forever.

Lincoln

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

the Seal of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

WASHINGTON, the Second day of January in the YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE

two and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty sixth

PRESIDENT:

Abraham Lincoln

By

W. Stoddard

Sec'y.

W. M. G. Recorder of the General Land Office.

County in 1858. Laux was found guilty of murder in the second degree and sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary."

Now Bridgett, like her sister, Honora, was a young widow, with a family and a large ranch to care for. Both women showed remarkable resourcefulness and fortitude. They farmed their lands and reared their children. Sometime later, Bridgett married William Graham. They had one son.

Grandmother Burns continued to operate the ranch after Grandfather's death in 1877. Father, the eldest boy, was 10 years old when his father died. It was Joseph McConnell who helped grandmother operate the ranch until his death in 1882. In 1888 she sold the ranch, built a house in Colusa, and planned to live in retirement there.

When Father finished college, he and Mother were married in Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Colusa. They, with Uncle Joe and Aunt Regina, lived with Grandmother in the house in Colusa. It was there their two sons were born. Joseph Miner was their first child. The second boy, Peter Bernard, died in infancy. When Mother married, she changed her name from Llewellyn to Lenora Ellen. This was not the only name change in the family history. There is evidence that the Glenns were McGlenn and the Burns family name in Ireland was O'Birn.

Grandmother, with great pride, took her two handsome unmarried children to visit relatives in the midwest. When she compared her journey to California as a child, with the comfort and conveniences of the late 1800's, she must have marveled at the change a few years had made. As a grand "finale" she planned a visit to the

World Fair in Chicago. There is little doubt the "finale" exceeded her expectations. It was while on a trip to Chicago that our Aunt Mary Regina met and married a handsome young violinist, Joseph Drach. Joseph Drach was many things but he was not practical. Perhaps the family was not ready for a genius. Unfortunately, theirs was not a happy marriage. One of them had made a poor choice. My mother always said it was Aunt Mary Regina.

Grandmother was a matriarch. Most Irish mothers are. They let their daughters go when they are grown, but the sons "belong to Mama." If father had been give a choice, I don't think he would have been a farmer. He could not cope with situations that challenge the farmer. He was not suited for it physically. He would read most of the night, and be up at 5:30 to start the day's activities. Grandmother knew farming so her sons would farm! In 1889 she bought the Gilbert Nelson Smith ranch at East Butte, which I believe he had obtained through land grants. (We have grants signed by both President Lincoln and President U. S. Grant.) Grandmother, Uncle Joe, our parents and their son Joseph Miner, moved into the house at the foot of the Buttes in Sutter County. Our brother attended the little one-room school house, "The Union School," down the road.

John Ainsley had been living on the ranch when Grandmother bought it. She hired him as foreman. He taught Father and Uncle Joe the care and cultivation of almonds and fruit trees. It was with pleasure that Father turned to fruit farming. He loved the trees. It was far more to his liking than the grain farming he

had known in Colusa County.

The orchard, with almond and fruit trees, lay nestled in a little valley. This was the spot, where, before the orchard was planted, Camp Bethel had been located. On a spring day you could drive down the road, turn right, pass the little schoolhouse, the Howard home, and going up a little rise, look down on the orchard. The mass of blooming trees looked like a huge bouquet. Father checked the apricots every day. The season began with them. When he found them ripening, he sent out a call for "cutters" and "pickers". I don't know what method he used to gather the "crew," but the next day the cutting shed would be filled with young ladies from the neighborhood ready to go to work. The young men picked the fruit and brought it to the shed. Each piece was cut by hand and laid on the trays which were placed in the sun to dry. It was hot, tiring, and monotonous, but the workers did not complain. The young ladies with their long dresses and fancy hair styles gossiped and flirted with the young men when they came to the shed. Meals were augmented by Old Barry, a family fixture, who did the cooking in a "leanto" by the shed. Father became expert in processing the fruit. He took pleasure in having the finished product look as attractive as it tasted. After the fruit, the sheds were made ready for the "almond hullers." The "hullers" were usually the same young ladies that had cut the fruit.

Keeping an adequate supply of materials on hand for the ranch was no small matter. Grandmother did the shopping in Marysville. Mr. W. T. Ellis told me that he remembered our grandmother coming into his father's store, at First and "D" streets, to place an

order for her supplies. Being a Victorian gentleman himself, she reminded him of a "proper Victorian lady." Some of the supplies ordered at the Ellis store would last a year. A wagon was sent into town a few days later to pick up the order. "Going to Town" was not a casual affair to be taken lightly. It was 12 miles from the ranch to Marysville. Vehicles sank deep into the mud on "D" street in winter and in summer flies annoyed the horses. Their constant motion agitated the dust, sending pungent puffs to greet you as you walked along the wooden sidewalks. The sights and sounds of the towns of that period were as familiar as the carbon monoxide streets are to us today. Grandmother had seen these towns evolve from nothing. She was accustomed to the conditions and odors. However, if one were not "conditioned" it could be an unpleasant experience.

I remember my mother-in-law, Rosa Cheim, telling me how shocked she was when she arrived in Marysville. She could not believe that this was the place where she would spend most of her life. She wept when she thought of the tree-lined boulevards, the parks and the beauty of her home in Possen, Germany. Fortunately Heiman Cheim had made arrangements with the Tharsing family, before he left for Germany to claim his bride, to care for them when he brought Rosa back to Marysville. Nellie Tharsing was a kind and sympathetic woman. She made the adjustment for this young and beautiful woman less painful. Hearing so many interesting stories from her about the Tharsings, and also from W. T. Ellis, who knew Nellie Tharsing very well, I have always had the feeling that I knew Carlotta Monterey (Mrs. Tharsing's daughter) from childhood.



Mrs. Peter Burns with Nora Marie at the cutting shed. The orchard was in the Buttes, former site of Camp Bethel. Taken about 1903-4.

I have never met her, but I knew the legend of Carlotta firsthand. When I would see a Eugene O'Neil play in New York, it had a very special meaning for me. Because I had known someone that had touched the life of Carlotta Monterey, who had touched the life of Eugene O'Neil (since he married her), there was an aura of glory that would not have been there otherwise.

My sister, Nora Marie Hyman was the first Burns girl to live in the old house at East Butte. The family probably had spent two or three Christmases there, but she does not remember those. The first one she recalls is when "Papa carried me into the front parlor, and there in front of the bay window was a huge tree ablaze with lights. It was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen. I cannot remember everyone there that Christmas. I do remember the look of joy on my grandmother's face. Mama, Brother, Uncle Joe and Papa all looked so happy. Somehow I knew this was because of me, and I was delighted." Electric globes have never replaced the little candles, or the ritual of lighting them. They more clearly symbolize the festival of Christmas, like candles on the birthday cake. They burn brightly to show that it is the birthday of Christ. Mother was as nervous as a cat during the lighting of the tree. She didn't relax until every little candle was snuffed out. She never got over this fear. It was a time of wonderment, the element of danger making it more exciting.

Nora Marie tells another story that is as full of sadness as the Christmas one was filled with joy. It was our Uncle Joe's funeral. She had slipped away from the housekeeper, Mrs. Mildey, and hiding behind the fence, protected by the shrubbery, she watched as they carried the casket out of the house. In front of

the house stood the hearse with its patient black horses. Behind it, a line of carriages awaiting the long drive to Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Colusa. The yard was filled with relatives and friends, a part of this solemn ritual. Grandmother had lost her husband when he was 42, her son Bernard at 18, Mary Regina at 31, and now Joseph, 34 years old. She had only Rosanna and Peter left.

Funerals in our family followed a ritual that was probably a mixture of Irish tradition and the exigencies of the environment. Our family maintained this tradition, laid down by our great-grandmother and carried on by her daughters throughout their lives. It was a great act of love, really. Relatives came from wherever they were, and left whatever they were doing. Anything but total commitment was never considered. The casket was placed in the parlor with lighted candles, and a bouquet of flowers. The vigil started. Meals were served during the day and throughout the night because the vigil went on through the days and nights. There was always a group at the table visiting, talking quietly, comfortable in their duties and devotion. There was no need to discuss what should be done. Everyone knew what had to be done. The rosary was recited often. Everyone stopped what they were doing, and coming into the parlor, dropped down like a flock of birds. Prayers were sent up with such fervent devotion that one could not help but wonder if the one being prayed for was not received more kindly having been recommended so highly by those that had known and loved him.

My sister thinks our grandparents accepted life, their religion, their joys and their sorrows, with less emotional conflict than we do today. They had rigid rules in their religion that do

not exist today. Their tradition was so strong they did not question it.

I was an infant when Uncle Joe died. It was after this that Mother made her declaration of independence. She had lived with Grandmother most of her life. She wanted a home of her own. This would be the first time in her life she would be mistress of the house in which she lived. Although this would change Grandmother's life greatly, she seemed to understand. She bought 20 acres at Nuestro. The necessary buildings were built. The house was small but by the time I was old enough to be aware of my surroundings, our parents had made a rose garden of it. Roses surrounded the house and climbed over it in a profusion of color. I do not remember that we ever had a vegetable garden. Our parents, never practical, planted flowers instead. It was here that Father started his "love affair" with the Thompson seedless grape. The Thompson seedless grape swept Sutter County as did the peach tree 20 years later. Our parents worked hard to turn the 20 acres into the kind of place they dreamed of. They almost succeeded. Nothing lasts forever. Times and demands change, and with the change, efforts and dreams disappear. Father probably could have been successful and happy with only 20 acres. When he inherited more land with more decisions and responsibilities, the world had changed. We had entered a period of time where the individual's thrust for control of his own destiny was destroyed by world events, stronger than he. When Grandfather Burns had come to California, his limitations were regulated by his ability. His son, years later, did not have this freedom.

Remembering Grandmother, and looking at her photograph, I have often thought that she, consciously or unconsciously, imitated Queen Victoria. They were similar in stature, both widowed young, always wore black, and carried a life-long devotion to their dead husbands. Grandmother was a gentle woman. She spent many hours in meditation and prayer. When my sister and I came in from school, she would ask us to sit with her. She would say to us, "Pray while you are young and well; when you are old and sick, you do not feel like praying." It was in July of 1913 that she asked Father to take her to Richardson Springs. No one realized how ill she was. It was there, with him, that she died.

In 1915 Father took us to San Francisco to the Panama Pacific Exposition. Father loved the "city." He had taken us there as long as I could remember. The Fair had a special attraction for our family. One of the charcoals my sister had done at the convent in Marysville had been chosen for display and had won an award. The Fair was fantastic. There has never been another one like it, so I thought, because I was only ten. The year started as a great one; we took an apartment in the city. It was a lovely time for all of us. Suddenly Father would become very tired and weak. We would find a spot for him to sit and rest. He would sit, hat in hand, puzzled by this sudden change. Mother knew he was not well; we returned home and she placed him in the Rideout Hospital. The hospital, at the time, was the old Rideout home at the corner of Fifth and "E" streets where the Marysville Hotel stands today. His doctor, Everett Grey, decided that he should go to a hospital in San Francisco. Dr. Grey, Fanny Southern, who managed the

the hospital, Mother and I went down to San Francisco. His illness was diagnosed as a severe case of diabetes. From that time until his death in 1925, our life was never the same. It was a series of hospitals and doctors.

In 1916 our brother, Joe, became engaged to Alma Gardemeyer. It was the first year for the new school at Nuestro, and her first year of teaching. She had been born and raised in Livermore, but there is an interesting connection with her and a member of the Gardemeyer family that figures prominently and interestingly in the history of Sutter City. I think the story of Peter Gardemeyer and the founding of Sutter City is one of the highlights of Sutter County's past. Jessica Bird wrote an excellent article on it for the Appeal Democrat's Centennial issue. Stephen Hust had an amusing chapter on this topic in his book "I Love You California."

In April 1917 war was declared. Our brother knew he should not go. Father's illness made it difficult for him to carry on the work of the three ranches. Brother wanted to go; he was caught up in the excitement and glamour of war and enlisted. By Thanksgiving he was on his way to France. He served, survived severe action, and after the armistice, was sent to Germany with the Army of Occupation. He was not wounded although he was in the thick of it. On his way home, he was lost off the transport. Somewhere between Marseilles and New York, something happened. We were never able to get a positive explanation. He boarded the ship in excellent health and spirits. Raymond Flannery, awaiting his transport, gave Brother a message to give to his mother when he got back to Marysville. The message was never delivered. Raymond told our Mother, "I walked onto the ship with my arm on

Joe's shoulder and bade him goodbye." Father never accepted our brother's death.

Alma's father, Peter Gardemeyer had died. She and Mrs. Gardemeyer were living in San Francisco. When my sister Nora Marie finished school, Mother sent her to San Francisco where she lived with the Gardemeyers for the next seven years. She studied art at the Hopkins School of Art, in the old Hopkins mansion where the Mark Hopkins Hotel stands today. She was not happy at the school. The transition from the convent to a sophisticated, anatomical type of art study, was too abrupt. Before she could make the necessary adjustments, Mother's patience had run out and she enrolled her in Munson's School of Business. Instead of becoming an artist, as Mother had expected, she became a business woman. She was happy and successful with her work until she retired four years ago.

When grandmother died, Aunt Rosanna (Burns) Lang and Father divided the land and houses. Aunt Rose and her family had been living in the house at East Butte from the time our parents moved to Nuestro. She and her family remained in that house and we stayed on at Nuestro. Along with two other pieces of land, Father had inherited one hundred and sixty acres north of the old home place. This had always been farmed as grain land. He decided to try something new. He planted peach trees and grape vines. It was a gamble because the soil was not particularly suitable for fruit. He went into debt to change grain fields into orchards. He built a house and the other buildings necessary to operate a new farm. The trees, to everyone's surprise, flourished beyond

died on the 2nd day of December, five days before Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941.

Nora Marie Burns and Leon Hyman were married in 1927 in Old St. Marys Catholic Church in San Francisco. They had one daughter, Betty Lenore. Upon her graduation from Stanford in June 1950, my husband and I took her to Europe for five months as a graduation present. Upon our return to New York, she was married in St. Patricks Cathedral to Richmond Flatland of Hillsborough. The family flew back for the wedding. Before their first son, Richard Martin (Rich) was six months old, Dick (the father) had been called up for the Korean War. He was a captain in the Marine Reserve. After a year's training as a jet pilot, he was sent to Korea. My husband and I bought the Walton house on Second street in Yuba City. Betty Lenore, with Rich and Kathleen Anne, six months old, came to live with us for the duration of the Korean War.

When Dick returned, the young couple bought a home in Hillsborough. Three more children were born to them. When the youngest girl was a year old, their mother died. A year and half later, Dick married Joan Snyder Delanoy of Piedmont. She had two children, Deborah and Frederick. They were the same age as Rich and Kath Flatland. Dick and Joan bought a large home in Atherton. It was there the six children grew up. Today the youngest, Ann Marie is the only one at home. Rich is a second year law student at Santa Clara. Kathleen Anne (Kathy) will start post graduate work at the University of San Francisco this fall. Marianne is a second year student at the University of Berkeley, studying journalism. Anne Marie, the youngest, will be in her first year of high school at Castellaja. Marc Stephen died in 1960.

My sister, Nora Marie and her husband Leon Hyman spent the first year of their retirement with Alma (Gardemeyer) Read at her home in Pebble Beach. After a year, they returned to their own home in San Francisco. They missed their friends, grandchildren and the City. They make frequent visits to Alma's and reminisce with her and other members of the Gardemeyer family. Until this past year I had not read the story of Peter Gardemeyer. From the time I was ten years old, I had heard it from the family.

* * * * *

Arthur Cheim and I were married July 3, 1931. Except for two years I spent in San Francisco after business school, and the first years of my marriage, I have spent my 71 years in Sutter County.

When I returned home from San Francisco in the late 20's, I was secretary for W. T. Ellis and he wrote his book, "Memories, My Seventy-Two Years in the Romantic County of Yuba, California," I thought of him as being old. Now, writing memories, at 71, I look back and wonder where almost half a century went in such a short time. It is true that youth is wasted on the young. Mr. Ellis dictated his books, his stories, his marvelous experiences and memories. I listened but I did not hear. I lost an amazing amount of Marysville memorabilia.

I suppose if there is anyone thing for which we can be grateful to our great-grandmother, Mary Margaret Glenn, would have to be her determination to bring her family to California. The marriage of her daughter, Honora to Peter Burns enabled us, their descendants, to enjoy living our lives in this beautiful State.

We **can** only hope and pray that the generations to come will be able to carry on with the same courage and tenacity as Peter Burns, of whom it was said "Taking up land which was in it's primitive condition, he improved it, built a home, established a family, and became a citizen of worth."

* * * * *

SOURCES

PETER BURNS, page 1148

Professor James Miller Guinn 1834-1918, "History of State of California and Biographical Record of the Sacramento Valley." Chapman publishing Co., Chicago, 1906.

JOSEPH McCONNELL

Justus H. Rogers, "Colusa County. Its History", Including Biographical Sketches of Pioneers and Prominent Residents.

I wish to express my thanks to my sister, Nora Marie Burns Hyman, and to my cousin, Assumption Lang Coats, for their assistance and support.

* * * * *

GLEANINGS

Wheatland Free Press, January 22, 1876

A gravel train and a large force of Chinamen have of late been graveling the road bed between town (Wheatland) and Dry Creek.

Marysville Democrat, February 18, 1915

Many of the papers read at literary clubs owe their excellence to the fact that the encyclopedia is reasonably well written.

* TO: Sutter County Historical Society *
 * P. O. Box 1004 *
 * Yuba City, California 95991 *
 * *
 * _____ Please renew my/our membership *
 * *
 * _____ Please enroll me as a member *
 * *
 * _____ Enclosed is my/our check for *
 * *
 * _____ \$50 for a life membership *
 * _____ \$10 for our firm/lodge/club membership *
 * _____ \$ 5 for our family membership *
 * _____ \$ 3 for my single membership/library/school *
 * _____ No charge if 90 years of age and born in *
 * Sutter County *
 * *
 * Signed _____ *
 * Firm/lodge/club/school _____ *
 * Address _____ *
 * City _____ *
 * State _____ Zip _____ *
 * *
 * *****