June 15, 1950

About the Anthony Family

Mrs. J.C. Anthony has presented a pair of saddle bags and picture of Clarence King to the museum in Colton Hall. The saddle bags had once been the proud possession of Frank G. Anthony, the father of the late J.C. Anthony, who was a member of the California Geological Survey of which King was the leader from 1862 until 1866.

The saddle bags were used by Mr. Anthony, who had charge of all the animals for the surveying party, when Mt. Whitney and Mt. Tyndall, the highest group of peaks in California, were discovered and later, when with King and J.T. Gardiner, the first survey of Yosemite Valley was made.

Mr. Frank G. Anthony first came to California around the Horn, when fourteen years of age. He was born December 17, 1836 and died in Monterey on February 16, 1906. Following his first visit here he returned to New Haven, then returned with King, and came again at the time of the war. In 1873 he returned to Iowa, married and three children were born to them before he returned, because of ill health, in June of 1884. He purchased land in New Monterey when that part of the Peninsula was first offered for sale as home sites. He built the family home on David avenue. Part of the property is still owned by his daughter, Miss Edith Anthony, who lives in an attractive rock house there.

For the sentimental reason that Mr. J.C. Anthony, who was named for Clarence King, the geologist; and his sister, Miss Anthony, attended school in Colton Hall, Mrs. Anthony felt that the saddle bags belonged there. Miss Anthony remembers with pleasure her school days in Colton Hall. Miss Lord was her teacher and the room was at the lower left hand corner.

Later Miss Anthony attended Stanford University and graduated as a Phi Beta Kappa in 1905. Her major was mathematics. She taught in the first school in New Monterey which was next to the present Rudolph Furniture store building. That; was 1898 before her college course began. She had the first fifth grades and her pupils were of all ages some 16 years old and 17 year old.

The late J.C. Anthony was one of Monterey’s most prominent citizens. He was always interested in building and in the old adobes. It was Mr. Anthony who tore down brick by brick the adobe walls of the Sherman Rose adobe and rebuilt it for Artist Percy Grey on the Mesa. He also tore down and rebuilt the old French Consulate when it was threatened with destruction a number of years ago. He was also the builder of the present Herald building. He was the father of Mrs. Harold McClean of Monterey and J.C. Anthony Jr. of San Jose.

Miss Anthony has her father’s diary a tiny black leather book dated 1868, in which he writes quite briefly, a bit of each day’s happenings while a member of the surveying party. “Leave Haystack at 6 o’clock, arrived at camp 29, at 2 o’clock, tired out, self and mules.” “Still at Woodwards Creek. Sent Clark’s mule 16 miles to be shod.” “Evans Ranch, Long Valley, no show to get out. Snowing like the devil, water all around, plenty to eat and drink, that is good, you bet, a good turkey dinner after which a ride through the rain to a ball at Warm Springs house. Found eight or ten men and 5 women, danced four sets and returned home. The gayest old Ball.”

Clarence King, head of the surveying party for which Frank Anthony provided the riding and pack animals, was an author and a great geologist. To lovers of literature who are also lovers of mountains there is one book that is more interesting than any other in the same field. That book is Clarence King’s “Mountaineering in the Sierra Nevada,” according to Dr. Rockwell Hunt of the College of the Pacific. This book, published in 1871, is a classic.

The California Geological Survey was under the direction of Professor J.D. Whitney, after whom Mt. Whitney was named. King, really the leader of the surveying party, discovered Mt. Whitney and Mt. Tyndall. In 1866 Clarence King originated a plan for a survey of the western cordilleran, or mountain range, region at its widest point. His plan was sanctioned by the government and under King’s direction the “survey was thorough and careful; it has been characterized as “a signal contribution to the material of science.”

“Systematic Geology, the first of six volumes that constituted the report of the survey, was written by King.

Clarence King was the originator and first director of that important scientific department, the United States Geological Survey. He established the survey upon
efficient lines and much of its success is due to his carefully planned organization.