

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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Santa Cruz Pioneers

Mrs. C. A. Trumbly of Carmel has been the inspiration to us today to write a continuation of our last article. Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Scott, her grandparents, were early settlers in the city across Monterey Bay and Scott's Valley, north of Santa Cruz, was named in their honor.

Speaking with enthusiasm as she recalled her childhood in the Santa Cruz home, Mrs. Trumbly spoke of Mrs. Beatrice Boston, a delightful person who was often a visitor there. Mrs. Boston had been a resident of Monterey in the early 1850s. Her husband, Joseph Boston operated a store in Casa de Oro on Olivier street in Monterey. The building is now a state historical monument through the generosity of the Misses Lee, Margaret and Vida Jacks. Mrs. Boston and her family moved to Santa Cruz, where she eventually gave the land for the Episcopal church, and the two women, Mrs. Boston and Mrs. Scott, were the founders of that church, Mrs. Trumbly's father was the first child baptized there, with water brought by Mrs. Boston in a bottle from the River Jordan.

As Mrs. Trumbly talked of these old-timers, she had a feeling of nostalgia for those grand old people that she met in her grandmother's home. As she said they were well educated, high-minded, real ladies and Mrs. Boston's sister-in-law, Mrs. Danzell, was an inspiration to her. It was a joy and a compliment when, well in her 70s, Mrs. Danzell asked the young lady who became Mrs. Trumbly to accompany her to the circus. She learned from her and her contemporaries that it is not necessary to grow old in spirit, and she learned from her grandmother to stand tall, always to lift your head up. "I hope age will treat me as well as it did them or rather that I can treat age as they did", concluded Mrs. Trumbly.

There was another Charley that Mrs. Trumbly promised to tell us more about some day— "Mountain Charley of Santa Cruz mountain fame, and for whom Mt. Charley road was named. He was a partner of Mrs. Trumbly's grandfather at one time. He was a hunter of wild game and deer for meat to be sold in quantities to the San Francisco market. He also hunted grizzly bear. His head was crushed by a bear on one of his exploits and he ever after wore a silver plate on his skull. Mrs.

Trumbly's father and aunts used to go by stagecoach to his ranch high up in the Santa Cruz mountains.

From Santa Cruz history we returned again to Monterey when Mrs. Trumbly spoke of the Custom House, recalling the fact that each time she passed that historic building she thought of her grandmother's sister who lived there during the Lincoln administration and that her father's cousin was born there. Her uncle, John Porter, had been appointed by Lincoln as collector of customs during that period and Mrs. Trumbly has a duplicate of the picture of Fanny Cumming Porter which hangs on the wall in the Custom House.

It might be of interest to relate here a bit more of the history of the Boston family. They were in Monterey in the early 1850s. Joseph Boston was the son of Alice Cecelia Wells Boston, and his two sisters were, Alice Ann and Josephine Elizabeth. His aunt was Helen Mary Wells Williams. His sister, Alice married Aime Danzel at Monterey on January 12, 1853; and Josephine Elizabeth married Robert George in Santa Cruz in 1858. Joseph Boston married in 1852. His cousins, Edward and Charles, were well known in Monterey County. Edward L. Williams married Narcissa Watson and their daughter married Charles Pioda of Salinas. Their son, Paul Pioda, is a practicing attorney in Salinas and his daughter, Virginia, was La Favorita at Monterey's 181st birthday Merienda in 1951.

A few years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Boston's daughter, the late Agnes H. Burge of Santa Cruz, presented a marble top teak wood table to the Monterey History and Art Assn, for exhibit in the Old Custom House. The table had formerly occupied a place of honor in the Boston home in Monterey and had probably been traded for hides or tallow or some other California commodity in a deal between Boston and an early day sea captain arriving from the Orient and stopping for a time at Monterey.