



Mr and Mrs Joseph A. Lee

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Pomona, doing everything in that line of work, including window lettering, store signs and banner illustrations.

The marriage of Mr. Beck united him with Miss Naomi Witfield, a native of England, and they reside in the home which Mr. Beck erected on North Gordon Avenue, where he also owns five building lots. Fraternaly, Mr. Beck is a member of the Foresters and of the Pomona Lodge, No. 789, B. P. O. Elks. A man of substantial aims and sound business judgment, he has matured two series of shares in the Mutual Building and Loan Association, considering this system of investment both safe and profitable and worthy of support. Mr. Beck is one of Pomona's most loyal citizens, and in his estimation the Valley is unsurpassed as a place of residence, providing as it does both an ideal climate and home surroundings, and with progressive and enterprising business establishments to form a nucleus for the fertile Valley. He is public spirited and takes pride in furthering the upbuilding of this section of his native state.

JOHN HENRY LEE

In nothing more perhaps, and with swifter strides, has California come to the front than in the science of horticulture, for which rapid advancement and definite accomplishment it must thank, among others, John Henry Lee, the well-known fruit grower of San Dimas, who takes pride in the fact that he is a native son of the Golden State and who has always proved his loyalty to the land of his birth. He was born in Blucher Valley, Sonoma County, on November 20, 1852, the son of William G. and Alethea A. (Ross) Lee, both natives of Ohio and early settlers of Oskaloosa, Iowa. They came across the plains in 1849, the glorious year of the Argonauts, traveling slowly by ox teams, and once in the Promised Land, settled at Placerville. Later they went to Sonoma County, and for a while they underwent all the gripping experiences, hard times, privations and suffering of the '49ers.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee were the parents of ten children, among whom John Henry was the eighth in order of birth. The lad attended the public school in Bloomfield for a while, but having to go to work early he learned the printer's trade on the *Salinas Standard*, beginning at the early age of fifteen, and he assisted in getting out the first edition of the first paper published at Salinas. He also worked at Bakersfield in 1871 on the *Southern Californian*, now the *Californian*, and wherever he followed his trade he won a reputation for thorough and superior work. He next started the *Kern County Record* at Bakersfield, which he edited and published until 1883, when he sold out to the *Bakersfield Gazette*. When he came to Pomona Valley in 1883 he established the *Pomona Courier*, a live newspaper of its time.

Later it was merged with the *Times* and published as the *Pomona Times-Courier* and Mr. Lee was connected with its publication for thirteen years. He was then engaged in the real estate business for a period of five years and for twelve years was city recorder of Pomona. He has always been a tireless and uncompromising worker for the cause of temperance and as city recorder or police judge he had some of the most bitter trials in connection with the illicit sale of liquor, in all of which he was true to his oath of office and the decisions he rendered were the means of ousting those engaged in the illegal traffic. His record was that of a far-seeing, painstaking and strictly reliable official who believed that "public office is a public trust" and allowed nothing to interfere with his discharge of his duty as he saw it.

As the years went by Mr. Lee acquired valuable acreage in the heart of the city of San Dimas, and in the intervening period of nearly twenty years he has developed a fine orange grove. Although well known among the old-timers of Pomona, and enjoying many ties such as would naturally bind him to the city, these San Dimas interests led him, about 1911, to remove to that growing city; and with its affairs he bids fair to be more and more associated in an important way.

In 1874, at Bakersfield, Mr. Lee was married to Miss Belle Gage, a native of Stockton and the daughter of Orris Charles and Ann Eliza (Farner) Gage, born in Kentucky, who were pioneers of Stockton, where the mother died. The father afterwards removed to Kern County and passed away at Kernville. The youngest of a family of four children, Mrs. Lee was educated at Stockton and Modesto, and when seventeen years of age she came to Bakersfield, where she met and married Mr. Lee. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are the parents of four daughters: Mrs. Ora Mills of Lawndale, Mrs. Winnie Johnson, Mrs. Hazel Williams, and Mrs. Gretta Foresman of Los Angeles. One of the agreeable rewards of so many years of strenuous activity is the high esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. Lee and their family are held.

CAPT. FRANKLIN COGSWELL

It is true that when an individual is endowed by nature with the valuable traits of determination and perseverance their success in life is usually a foregone conclusion. These characteristics were dominant in the character of the late Franklin Cogswell, veteran of the Civil War and pioneer of Pomona Valley. He was born in Connecticut, November 14, 1838, and brought up in his native state. He served with the Thirteenth Connecticut Regiment throughout the Civil War with distinction and was advanced to the rank of captain. After the war closed he saved up \$3000, with which he went South, bought mules and hired eight negroes, intending to raise cotton. The negroes died

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