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San Diego
shipbldg

Illustr. Hist. of So. Calif., Lewis Publ Co 1890:

"Joseph R. Supple, one of the leading ship builders of San Diego, was born at Lyons, New York, Feb 26, 1854. His mother was a native of New York, and the father, who was a shoemaker, was of Irish descent. At the early age of eleven years Joseph went to Buffalo, New York, and was apprenticed to a ship-carpenter, R. J. I. Cooper, for whom he worked four years, and at the age of 17 years he started his own yard in boat-building at Buffalo. He built mainly pleasure steamboats, from 50 to 150 feet deck measurement; also many small boats and yachts. Owing to failing health he came to San Diego in 1887 to opened a ship-yard at the foot of D street, and built the steamer ROSEVILLE, which was the first steamer ever built in this city, a boat 67 feet long, 18 feet beam, 6 feet hold, registering 37 tons, and now running between San Diego and Roseville on the bay. He also built the sloop yacht CLIMATE, 28 feet long, 10 feet beam, cabin yacht; also rebuilt the steam tug ROVER, and has constructed many small boats. Mr. Supple conceived the idea of and built the schooner garbage scow, which has proved a great success in economically disposing of the city garbage by taking it far out to sea, and by utilizing the wind, instead of steam, the old method, thus saving the city about \$300 per month."