

M. A. Anderson, of Salinas, is a native son of the "Golden State," having been born at Santa Cruz, June 30, 1852.

His father, William J. Anderson, was an important figure in the early history of California. He came to the coast as early as 1837, as an English sailor on a whaling vessel. In Larkin's notes he is referred to as one of Graham's self-made men, and in 1840 one of the exiles to San Bias. He returned, however, to California and successfully prosecuted a claim for damages. He was granted a *car carta*, and in 1842 married a Miss Espinosa. He then ran a soap manufactory and flourmill on the Salinas plains, but sold both establishments in 1842. He then removed to Santa Cruz and there held the office of alcalde in 1849. In 1854 he removed to Monterey and followed his trade of mechanic there, and is said to have laid the first roof upon the old Monterey customhouse. He has four sons and two daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch is the oldest. Mr. W. A. Anderson was a man of intelligence and skill in his trade and enjoyed the respect and esteem of all who knew him.

Our subject remained in Monterey until July 1862, following his trade of contracting carpenter and builder, when he removed to Salinas Valley, and in 1868 located in Castroville, until 1890, when he removed to Salinas. He was elected in the campaign of 1890, Assessor of Monterey county, and therefore removed to Salinas to assume the duties of his office, which at this writing, 1892, he still retains.

In 1871, he married Miss Inez, a daughter of the late José Boronda, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, four girls and four boys.

Mr. Anderson is an estimable gentleman and has proved a faithful official.

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