

**Stephen Castro**, of Castroville, is a member of a family whose historic name, in the annals of California, is legion.

He is the son of Don José Francisco and Narcisa (Soto) De Castro, honored citizens of Monterey. Our subject was born in Monterey county, on the Pilarcitos ranch, January 12, 1860, and was reared in his native county. Mr. Castro is a fine type of the Spanish Californian, both in physique and in his uniform kindness of heart and genial manner.

Our subject took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Marie Mardoeco, a daughter of Don Pedro Mardoeco, an honored citizen of Watsonville, and the ceremony was performed on the 4th of September, 1889, in Castroville. Mr. and Mrs. Castro have two daughters, one named for her grandmother, Teresa Narcisa, and the other Anna. Since 1886 Mr. Castro has been the trusted agent for the Wells, Fargo Express Company, and United States mail carrier at Castroville, in which latter position He is universally popular, and in both positions He continues to give entire satisfaction.

The father of our subject, José Francisco, was a son of Simeon Castro, a prominent figure in the early days of California, and grantee of the Bolso Nuevo and Moro Cojo ranchos. He held numerous responsible public positions, and reared a large family, of whom Don Juan B. Castro; uncle to the subject of this sketch, is one member. A more complete account of this illustrious family may be found elsewhere in this work.

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