



PORTFOLIO GUIDE

CONCLAVE OF THE 49ERS

LMCMUN'24

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Jean Baptiste Charbonneau



Charbonneau is the child of Sacajawea and Toussaint Charbonneau who were interpreters and guides for the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He was born in 1805 and would reside with William Clark since 1809 where he had learned much from the vast collection of paintings and antiques kept in Clark's Two storey house. As a young man, Jean was invited by Duke Friedrich Paul Wilhelm of Wurttemberg to return with him to Europe where he took residence at the duke's palace in Württemberg for nearly six years, travelling throughout Europe and Northern Africa with Wilhelm where he learned to read and write several languages including German, Spanish, English and French.

Upon returning to America he was a fur trapper in the Rocky Mountains. Jean was soon hired as a scout during the Mexican-American War of 1846-1848 due to his previous military experience with James William Abert - an American soldier, explorer, bird collector and topographical artist - in

military practices and also due to his fluency in multiple Native languages. He was directed to lead a Mormon Battalion to build from Santa Fe to San Diego and Los Angeles, a new road through the uncharted southwest. The success of this expedition demonstrated Jean's innate prowess for combat, strategy and leadership. The road would play an important role during the Gold Rush as it was utilised by pilgrims, diggers, stagecoaches of the Butterfield Stage line and cattlemen driving longhorns and other such essential supplies to take care of the gold camps.

Charbonneau disembarked in Placer County, California, September 1848, along the banks of the American River, in the vicinity of Auburn. Arriving ahead of schedule, he became one of the few prospectors to join what would come to be known as the California Gold Rush in its initial stages. He didn't pan during the severe Sierra Nevada's freezing winters or during the torrential spring rains, which is why in the month of June 1849, Jean went to a camp on buckner's bar accompanied by Jim Beckwourth, popularly called 'Bloody Arm'. "Quality over Quantity" is what best describes Jean and his companions for even if he has a small group with little to no wealth, the unique qualities and connections of his associates and himself make up for the lack of personnel or wealth, making him a worthy rival in the Gold mines.

Johann Heinrich Lienhard



Johann Heinrich Lienhard is a Swiss immigrant to the United States. Knowing that several of his cousins had emigrated to America, his childhood dream of following their example came true when he left Switzerland in 1843 and travelled to Helvetia in Illinois. In the spring of 1846 he met up with some old friends and together they prepared to go to California. The journey of the "Five German Boys", as Heinrich Lienhard and his four companions were called by other emigrants, lasted six months and ended in California. Before arriving at Sutter's Fort, Lienhard enlisted for three months' service in the US Army and then joined the war against Mexico. On the way to Monterey, however, he fell seriously ill but survived the ordeal. He entered the service of John August Sutter. He tended Sutter's fruit and vegetable garden on the Yuba River for the next six months, then served as his mayor-domo at the Fort for several

months. After gold was discovered, he did not join the miners until August and, like the others, in partnership with Sutter. In April 1849, Lienhard and Jacob Dürr went to the mines as partners to trade in sheep. Lienhard intends on bringing the rest of his family to settle in California. On receiving the news of the conclave, he postponed his plans in the interest of settling with his family in a protected California.

Joseph Goldsbrough Bruff



Joseph Goldsbrough Bruff, who customarily signs himself as J. Goldsbrough Bruff, is a topographical and strategic draughtsman. He is an innovative, imaginative, creative and decorative artist with talents that were clearly demonstrated by many of his topographical and strategic works in the Mexican-American war of 1846-1848.

J. Goldsbrough was inspired to set out on his own overland expedition by reports of California's abundant mining wealth. Trained

as a draughtsman and cartographer, Bruff's sketches, paintings, and written descriptions of his trip became an extremely useful guide as he ventured forth for Gold and adventures in California.

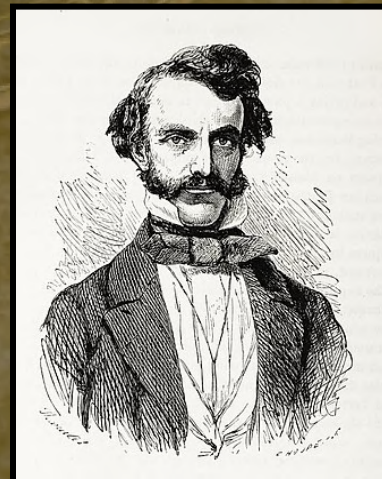
He founded the Washington City and California Mining Association in 1849, with a plan to go into California for gold mining and trade. There were a lot of investors in the association as a result of which Goldsborough was able to fund the expedition and ensure that it was well equipped with Bruff having been chosen to lead the expedition. Bruff is addressed as Captain not only by his expedition team members but also by other respected government officials, showcasing his status. He leads this expedition team in a military manner of command and has his men equipped with enough armaments to make claim to countless number of territories than any other miner or outlaw. His past military experience and prowess in strategic planning has truly made him worthy of the title of 'Captain'.

Joseph Libbey Folsom

Joseph Libbey Folsom is an U.S. Army officer, skilled land surveyor and real estate investor. At the age of eighteen, Joseph enrolled as a cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point in June 1836. He matriculated with honours in June 1840, just four years later. He earned the rank of Second Lieutenant in the United States Army's 5th Infantry on the 3rd of November 1840. In the state of Florida amid

the Second Seminole War, he was commanded by General William J. Worth after which he went back to the West Point Academy in the year 1844, where he worked for two years as an ace tactics instructor of infantry strategies. Folsom departed from West Point for California during the autumn of 1846, journeying with Colonel Jonathan D. Stevenson's First Regiment of New York Volunteers.

After six months at sea, they finally reached a harbour in Yerba Buena, in March 1847. He currently serves as a Staff-officer in the Quartermaster's department and has been promoted to the rank of Captain. In addition, since 1847, he is the first Collector of the Ports of San Francisco to serve as an American official. It was here that Folsom became acquainted with William Leidesdorff and his land holdings in California. In 1848, while serving as San Francisco's Customs Collector and Harbour Master, he had learned of Leidesdorff's commercial activities with the help of the U.S. Army.

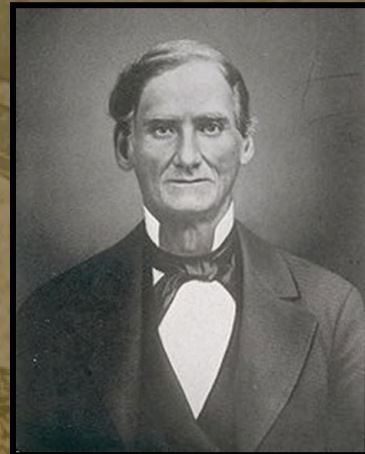


Following William's death in 1848 and after taking a leave of absence from the American Army in 1849, Folsom located Leidesdorff's mother and some of his siblings in the West Indies. Folsom executed a note to pay \$75,000 to Anna Spark for the title to her son's inheritance, which included the 35,000-acre Rancho Rio de los Americanos outside Sacramento along with all of Leidesdorff's real estate possessions in San Francisco. With his word of two additional instalment payments, he paid her the money as a deposit. Subsequently, gold was discovered at Rancho Rio de los Americanos and the increasing value of land in California during the Gold Rush currently makes Folsom one of the richest, most influential and powerful figures in San Francisco, standing on par with Samuel Brannan in terms of their assets. And given the details about his past military experience in terms of strategy, combat and planning, he is one of the most formidable persons in California when it comes to protecting his estates and wealth. Not to mention, he also has an array of political connections in the U.S government.

Juan Bandini

Juan Bandini is a Peruvian born California public figure, politician and ranchero. His father came to California in 1819 and in 1821 took part in the Mexican War of Independence. After the revolution, his father's family moved to San Diego, where they arrived on the brig Natalie on September 1, 1834. Bandini served

in various public capacities such as Deputy Commissioner of Revenue, and Alternate Congressman. Bandini was granted Rancho Tecate in 1836. However, he was soon forced to abandon it due to various ranch raiding groups near San Diego around 1836. In 1838, the Mexican government granted him Rancho Jurupa as compensation.



During the Mexican-American War, Bandini supported the Americans. With Santiago Arguello he issued a call not to oppose the Americans. After the war, Bandini was still critical of the American government, although the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo with Mexico guaranteed recognition of land grants. He was Juez de Paz (Justice of the Peace) of San Diego Pueblo from March 29 to September 27, 1848.

Juana Briones de Miranda

Juana Briones de Miranda is a California rancher, physician, and businesswoman. Briones and her husband, a soldier at the Presidio named Apolinario Miranda, have seven children. In 1833, Mr. Briones received a

plot of land 1,000 yards to the east, on a spring called El Ojo de Agua Figueroa. Briones and her family moved there, just outside the Presidio — becoming the first non-Indian San Franciscans to live outside the Presidio or Mission Dolores. Apolinario Miranda turned out to be drunk and rude, so Briones left him. This was no small step in the patriarchal, hierarchical world of 19th century colonial California. Briones was further handicapped by being illiterate.



However, she overcame these obstacles and soon opened a dairy ranch, selling milk to the crews of visiting ships and helping runaway sailors. Briones moved into the adobe farmhouse as early as 1826. This made her the first resident of the village of Yerba Buena – and deserves to be called the founder of San Francisco. Briones is also a successful businesswoman. She carefully maintains a clear claim to her lands at a time when many of her Spanish-speaking Californians are being cheated by the Americans. In 1844 she bought a large cattle ranch in the Santa Clara Valley and runs it successfully to this day.

Samuel Brannan



Early California is filled with colourful characters, few more encrusted with legend than Sam Brannan , the Mormon elder and newspaper publisher who brought a shipload of Mormons to the Mexican province in July 1846 and became the Golden State's first millionaire. The energetic Brannan had been a promoter of his church. In California he became an ambitious leader. He constructed flour mills, bought land, and printed the California Star, San Francisco's first newspaper. Brannan is also highly opposed against slavery of any form in accordance to his mormon values and has married twice, once with Harriet Hatch with whom he was expecting his first child and with his currently second wife, Ann Eliza Corwin whom he married without divorcing his previous partner, thereby suggesting a capricious nature .

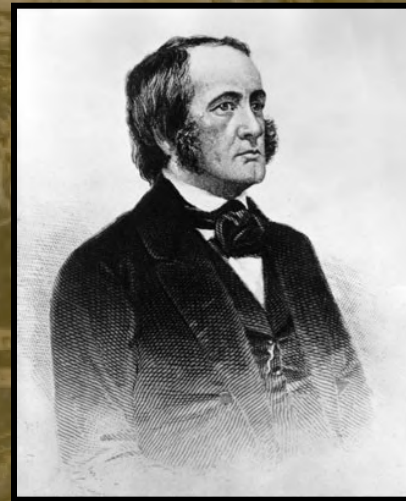
After successfully tripling the population of Mormons in San Francisco within a few months of his colonisation programme upon

arriving to Yerba Buena (San Francisco), Brannan awaited for Brigham Young, who was leading 15,000 Mormons west on the overland trail since Brannan had hopes that Young would come to California. But Young preferred a desolate spot to the east, near the Great Salt Lake (Present-day Utah). He reasoned that California's abundance might attract other settlers. Despite his efforts at convincing the Prophet, his words fell on deaf ears, making him angry and frustrated at the way the meeting had gone when he returned to Northern California. But Nevertheless, Brannan used this occasion to his advantage by being the only religious leader of the Mormons in the region due to which he continues to receive tithes from local church members which he then uses to further pursue his entrepreneurial goals. He established a store at John Sutter's Fort in the fall of 1847. Shortly after, there were whispers going about that gold had been discovered close by at Coloma. Brannan went to the mines early in May to investigate. He discovered that the region had an abundance of gold. Brannan planned to open a second store. He then drove the hundred miles back to San Francisco, packing some of the valuable metal into a quinine bottle.

Brannan would initially try his luck at panning for gold as well but soon realised that true value and wealth lied in mining the ones who ran after these minerals. Hence, the Gold Rush would be the key which indirectly made his ventures immensely profitable since by selling

as much as \$5,000 in items every day to miners, Brannan enabled his stores to turn a tidy profit. He started a third business. He now owns multiple properties in San Francisco and is poised to become the biggest landowner in the recently established town of Sacramento. He is a man who is capable of utilising whatever resources that are available to him to make monetary gains and if the necessary circumstances arise, Brannan will take the required steps to ensure that scenario turns to his favour even if it means undermining some of his values.

Thomas Oliver Larkin



After suffering numerous tragedies, including the early death of his father, a broken family, the death of his brother, and numerous scams, rumours, and unsuccessful business endeavours, Thomas Oliver Larkin decided to move to California after receiving a letter from his older half-brother, John Cooper who convinced him that there were many opportunities in Northern California. He

asked for his assistance with the operations of his business. Thomas, a dealer in hides and tallow, sailed from Boston in September 1831 on the ship Newcastle where it took seven months to navigate around the Cape Horn peninsula by sailing ship.

Mrs. Rachel Hobson Holmes, a 24-year-old traveller, was one of the few female passengers. She was travelling to Alta California to meet her spouse, Captain A. C. Holmes. The two of them developed a close relationship throughout the months-long excursion. Thomas engaged in such intimacy knowing fully well that the woman was married, thereby suggesting a paramour like nature. After marrying her, Larkin began an independent enterprise in Monterey with just a \$500 investment, supplemented by his wife's and Captain Holmes's existing finances while constructing the very first "double geared" flour mill on the West Coast during 1834 and explored multiple commercial and trading possibilities between Mexico as well as Hawaii. Larkin also established a saw mill in Santa Cruz in 1842 and soon gained notoriety for the achievements he achieved in real estate investing and money management.

Larkin is an eminent figure in the capital of an increasingly developing but distant province in a state which becomes extremely chaotic at times. He is a powerful man who dislikes working for another man, but at the same time represents a risk, given the fact that he may fall from his grace and prosperity if he were to side

with the wrong group or people. Larkin's political savvy and persistence serve as evidence that he is able to prosper and rise above the ranks despite the constantly moving regimes, despite the ever-changing political scene and now continues to face such challenges with an air of courage and bravery during the now Gold Rush.

There have been several instances that display Larkin's capabilities and acumen in diplomacy, naval warfare, instigation, administration and business. Larkin is currently settled permanently in San Francisco and continues to invest in land speculation and real estate while focusing all his business ventures in San Francisco and stands as one of principal beneficiaries of the Gold Rush.

William David Bradshaw



William Bradshaw is a prospector and western pioneer in the United States. As a young man, Bradshaw had been engaged by Captain Salvador Vallejo to supervise the construction of a picket fence for the Mexican Army station

in Alta California in 1846, while the area was still administered by Mexico. When Vallejo smacked Bradshaw using the flat of his sword over his dissatisfaction with his labour, Bradshaw retaliated by striking him with a picket, driving the captain to the ground and injuring him. Bradshaw subsequently retreated into the Sacramento Valley out of fear concerning the consequences that would follow otherwise.

Bradshaw went back to the Sonoma region in April 1846 and joined the California Bear Flag Rebellion, an organisation that aimed to topple Mexican sovereignty and create the independent California Republic. Captain Salvador Vallejo had been among those taken prisoner on June 14, 1846, after the Bear Flaggers stormed the Sonoma fortifications. Vallejo had initially been nervous about facing vindication for the prior picket fence incident, yet Bradshaw reassured him that, according to his opinion, all the scores were already resolved at the time of the incident and promised him friendship.

Despite possessing the strength to oust his enemies, he chose to be magnanimous, seeking reconciliation and tranquillity as opposed to conflict and bloodshed, thereby showcasing his capacity in terms of armed diplomacy. After the revolt, Bradshaw joined John C. Fremont's California Battalion on October 6, 1846, as a First Lieutenant in Captain Sear's Company D, Mounted Riflemen after which he was honourably dismissed on the 17th of April

1847. William would then loiter around Los Angeles until news of gold being found at Sutter's Mill made William turn to gold mining. William Bradshaw is a remarkable gentleman, a diplomatic warrior, polished in his manners and duties, a fine specimen of manhood accompanied with a brave and generous soul, yet with such eccentricities that would make him seem almost insane or mad. He possesses the martial equilibrium of maintaining authority and order while being chivalrous and honourable in handling various tasks and objectives. In the gold fields, Bradshaw has been active in attempting to formulate minor local mining laws and rules so as to maintain a certain degree of order and peace in the local goldfields of California.

William Edward Petty Hartnell



William Edward Petty Hartnell, also known by his Spanish name Don Guillermo Arnel, is a businessman, teacher and government official in California. A colleague, Hugh McCulloch, persuaded him to become a partner in a California leather trading venture, with the

support of their employer, John Begg. In 1822 they founded a new trading company called McCulloch and Hartnell. The pair arrived in Monterey in 1822, the first foreign traders to arrive since Mexico gained independence from Spanish rule. They had accumulated a large debt as the business was not working as intended. To repay his substantial share of this, Hartnell finally sold his stake to Begg and McCulloch in 1833. In 1830 he became a Mexican citizen, making him eligible to own land. On December 10, 1833, he announced that he was opening a school called "El Seminario del Patrocinio de San José", hoping to make a living as a teacher. Hartnell has held several municipal and government positions, including regidor, tax and customs collector, and tithe collector. In 1841, he and his family moved to Santa Barbara. In February 1845, Governor Pío Pico removed Hartnell from all government positions in retaliation for Hartnell dismissing him as administrator of Mission San Luis Rey after the American conquest of California. He finds merit in being one of the few prominent people fluent in both English and Spanish. In November 1848, when some 400 refugees from Baja California arrived at Monterey, he served as an agent in relation to their claim for compensation from the American government.

Ygnacio del Valle

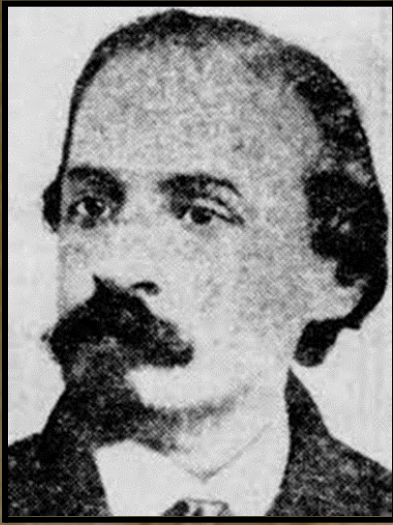
Ygnacio Ramón de Jesus del Valle is a California farmer and politician. He was born on July 1, 1808, in Jalisco, Mexico, to María

Josephadel Valle and Lieutenant Antonio Seferino del Valle. In March 1828, Ygnacio was promoted to second lieutenant in the Mexican Army and was head of the headquarters of the Presidio de Santiago.



In 1832, the two Del Valle soldiers faced each other in a fight. Ignacio won, and father and son never spoke again. As a widow and her eight children competed for the inheritance, Antonio sent a message to his first son, Ignacio, on his deathbed, giving him several properties, including a farm in San Francisco. Before Ignacio could respond, Antonio died without leaving a will. Antonio's second wife, Jacoba Feliz, who remarried after his death, claimed some of the land in California that was the site of the first California gold rush which occurred 5 years ago. Eventually the land was divided, and Ygnacio received 13,599 acres of the western portion. However, Ygnacio resides in Los Angeles and regularly engages in local politics.

Charles Snowden Fairfax



Charles S. Fairfax, the 10th Lord Fairfax of Cameron, is no stranger to challenges. Hailing from the esteemed Vacluse Plantation in Virginia, Fairfax was deeply ingrained in his family's rich legacy. His early life was marked by a series of ventures that showcased his adventurous spirit and sense of duty, setting the stage for his later endeavours.

In a bold move, Fairfax joined fellow gold-seekers aboard the ship Glenmore, departing from Richmond, Virginia, on a daunting journey westward. The arduous voyage, characterised by rugged terrain and turbulent seas, only served to highlight Fairfax's resilience in the face of adversity as they traversed the Panama isthmus. Upon reaching San Francisco, Fairfax has wasted no time immersing himself in the frenetic energy of the Gold Rush era. Embracing the challenges of mining with gusto, he seeks opportunities amidst the uncertainty of the frontier. However, Fairfax's ambitions transcend mere

gold-seeking; he hopes to diversify his investments into real estate and infrastructure development, contributing to California's economic expansion.

As the Gold Rush rages on, it is imperative for Charles S. Fairfax to continue charting his course with adaptability and foresight. He must stay sharp and adaptable, using his wits to seize opportunities and conquer the challenges of the untamed West.

Edward Fitzgerald Beale



Recognized as a naval officer, military general, explorer, frontiersman, Indian affairs superintendent, and California rancher, Edward Fitzgerald Beale stands as a multifaceted figure, valuable in the ongoing chaos of the gold rush.

He fought in the United States-Mexican War, emerging as a hero of the Battle of San Pasqual in 1846. Beale achieved national fame in 1848 by carrying to the East the first gold samples

from California, contributing significantly to the gold rush. Beale's journey westward is fraught with obstacles and uncertainties. Manoeuvring through perilous trails and rugged landscapes, he embarks on a quest that will push his resolve and fortitude to their limits. Amidst the frenzy of the Gold Rush, Beale's leadership shines brightly. Leveraging his military background and exploratory skills, he steers prospectors and settlers toward the promise of the frontier, providing a beacon of hope in turbulent times.

As Beale stands at the precipice of the unknown, his legacy remains unwritten. His expedition to the California goldfields marks a chapter in the grand narrative of the American frontier, a testament to the resilience of those who dared to pursue their dreams amid the tumult of a new era. He must keep leading amidst the California Gold Rush, drawing upon his naval expertise to navigate the challenges ahead.

John Charles Fremont



Originally from Savannah, Georgia, Frémont's early years were filled with a strong desire for

exploration and discovery. His experiences as a surveyor and mapmaker in the Western territories gave him a special understanding of America's vast and wild landscapes. Frémont, who hailed from Georgia and briefly attended the College of Charleston before being expelled due to irregular attendance, was known for his strong opposition to slavery. In the 1840s, he led five expeditions into the western states, showcasing his pioneering spirit and love for adventure. During the Mexican–American War, he served as a major in the U.S. Army.

As excitement over gold spreads across the world, Frémont's role as an explorer becomes even more important. Venturing boldly into the unexplored areas of the West, his expeditions provide valuable insights into the rich geological treasures waiting to be found. With a keen eye for opportunity, Frémont sees the potential for immense wealth in the rugged terrain of California's Sierra Nevada foothills.

Using his extensive experience in exploration and military leadership, Frémont takes on the task of guiding investors through the chaotic gold rush. Driven by a commitment to lead them towards paths of prosperity and progress, he uses his unmatched expertise in navigation and strategic planning. Frémont promotes diversified investment strategies including gold mining ventures, infrastructure development, and real estate speculation, showing the way to financial success in the midst of the Gold Rush frenzy. It is crucial for Frémont to continue his mission of guiding investors towards

opportunities for success amidst the challenges of the Gold Rush. By using his wealth of experience and clear insight, he can navigate the uncertainties of these times.

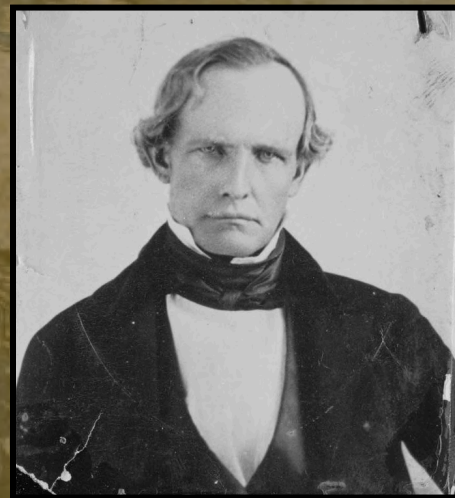
Juan Maria Marron



Juan María Marrón, born on 8th February 1808, is an early settler of San Diego, California. Marrón was a ship's captain before settling San Diego in the early 1820s. In 1834, Marrón married Felipa Osuna, the daughter of Juan María Osuna. Marrón served as the first Alcalde of the Pueblo de San Diego during 1835–1836. He also served as Regidor (Alderman) and Juez de Paz (Justice of the Peace). He has owned the Rancho Cueros de Venado. Like many of the local ranchos near San Diego, that rancho was attacked by the Kumeyaay during the hostilities between 1836 and 1840. Marrón was granted Rancho Agua Hedionda in 1842, which is in the southern coastal part of present-day Carlsbad. During the Mexican–American War, Marrón supported the Americans due to which he was captured by a band of Californians who

stripped his Agua Hedionda Rancho of horses and cattle. In 1845, he was appointed mayordomo of the Mission San Luis Rey lands, at an annual salary of \$300. He is literate and he had a talent for civic leadership. He also became a regidor, or member of San Diego's governing council, and was elected mayor of San Diego in 1848.

Peter Hardeman Burnett



Peter H. Burnett was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on November 15, 1807. In 1832 he migrated to Liberty, Missouri, where he practised law and served as prosecuting attorney from 1840 to 1842. Burnett moved to Oregon in 1843 and helped in the organisation of a territorial government. He was a justice on the Oregon Supreme Court in 1845. The discovery of gold lured him to California, but he continued his career of law and his path in politics. He served as the attorney and general agent to John A. Sutter Jr. He served as a justice on the Oregon Territorial Supreme Court and has recently announced his intentions to return to the limelight in politics,

setting him up to play a part in resolving the uncertain future of California. Though known to have enslaved individuals in the past, he has voiced his opinion of opposing the choice of making California a slave-state, and backing the total exclusion of African-Americans in California altogether.

Pío Pico



Don Pío de Jesús Pico IV, a Californio politician, ranchero, and entrepreneur, is the 10th Governor of California. He emerges as a symbol of strength and leadership during the turbulent times of Alta California. Born into a prominent family in Los Angeles, his upbringing instilled in him a profound understanding of commerce, politics, and governance. Pío's experiences as a merchant and explorer have shaped his understanding of diplomacy and power dynamics, influencing his leadership style. With recent events such as the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill and the subsequent influx of fortune seekers, Pío's role

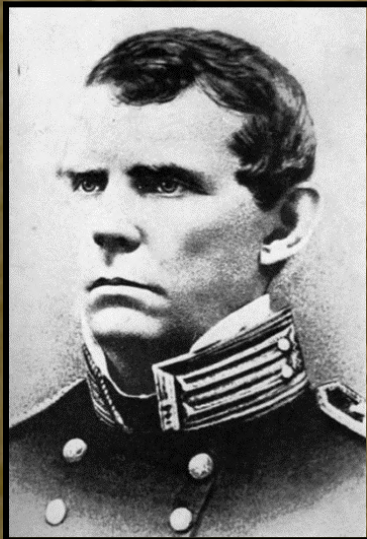
as Governor of California has become increasingly vital.

Despite the chaos and uncertainty, Pío remains steadfast in his commitment to preserving stability and prosperity in Alta California. Implementing policies to regulate trade, manage resources, and resolve disputes, he must maintain order while promoting economic growth and social welfare. Pío Pico's leadership is characterised by adaptability and strategic vision, earning him respect and admiration among his peers. His actions during this pivotal moment in history will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on the future of Alta California, solidifying his legacy as a statesman and visionary leader. It is vital for Pío Pico to continue guiding Alta California through these challenging times with a steady hand. By prioritising the region's interests, promoting stability, and fostering growth, he can ensure a prosperous future for all its inhabitants.

Richard Mason

Richard Barnes Mason emerges as a figure of remarkable leadership and resilience in the unfolding narrative of California's history. Commissioned into the United States Army in 1817, Mason's journey has taken him through significant chapters, from his upbringing in Virginia to his distinguished military career. His valour and strategic acumen were showcased in conflicts such as the Black Hawk War and the Mexican–American War, earning him respect and recognition. Appointed as the

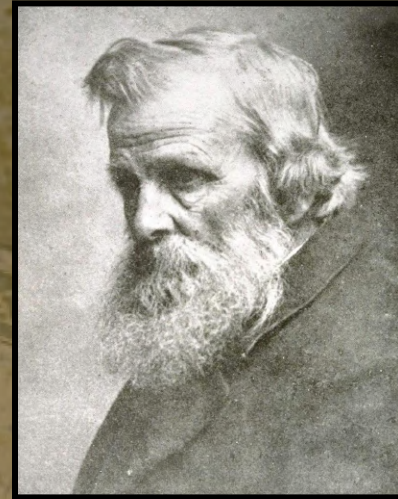
military governor of California, Mason assumed a pivotal role in shaping the destiny of this burgeoning territory. His tenure coincided with a momentous event—the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill. Mason's actions in response to the gold discovery are yet to be fully revealed. His report to President James K. Polk regarding the gold find is anticipated to have significant repercussions, potentially altering the course of California's future in unforeseen ways. The consequences of this historic event are poised to reverberate throughout the territory and beyond, shaping the destinies of countless individuals drawn to the promise of wealth and opportunity.



During this transformative period, Mason's steadfast leadership, pragmatism, and dedication to California's welfare will be crucial. His skill in navigating governance amid the Gold Rush frenzy is vital for maintaining order and stability. It's vital for Mason to chart California's course amidst uncertainty, ensuring stability and growth. His leadership

will shape the territory's destiny, securing his legacy as a visionary steward of its future.

Stephen Clark Foster



Stephen Clark Foster, born on December 17, 1820, was a politician. He was born in Machias, Maine in 1820, and then worked as a teacher in the American South before moving to California in 1845 . At age 25, he headed for California, like numerous other youthful single men, through El Paso and Santa Fe. In Santa Fe, Foster was contracted by Officer Wm. M.D. McKissack to be a translator for the Mormon Battalion of Volunteers which, at that point, was on its way to California to strengthen the Californian frontier in the Mexican-American war. Informally, he also acted as an additional guide.

Following the defeat of the Mexicans, when California found itself under US military rule, Representative Richard Barnes Bricklayer designated the 26-year-old Foster alcalde (leader) of Los Angeles in place of the broken

up ayuntamiento (government) of the Mexicans. He served as alcalde from January 1, 1848 to May 21, 1849, following which he now holds the post of 'prefect'.

William Brown Ide



William B. Ide emerges as a central figure amidst the whirlwind of the California Gold Rush, commanding the California Republic during its tumultuous inception. Born on March 28, 1796, in Rutland, Massachusetts, Ide's journey unfolds against the backdrop of a rapidly changing landscape. A skilled carpenter by trade, Ide's life took an unexpected turn when he joined a westward-bound wagon train headed for Oregon in 1845. Alongside fellow settlers, he ventured into Alta California, arriving at Sutter's Fort on October 25, 1845. With the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill triggering a frenzied influx of fortune seekers, Ide assumed leadership as the Commander of the California Republic during the Bear Flag Revolt of 1846. Seizing the pueblo of Sonoma on June 14, 1846, Ide boldly proclaimed the

establishment of the California Republic, championing the cause of self-governance and liberty.

Throughout the chaos and uncertainty of the Gold Rush era, Ide has exhibited remarkable courage and resolve, navigating the challenges of this historic period with unwavering commitment to the welfare of the settlers. His vision for a prosperous and equitable future for all inhabitants of California serves as a guiding beacon amidst the uncertainty of the times.

As California stands on the brink of a new chapter in its history, Ide's role as Commander of the California Republic during the Gold Rush will undoubtedly leave an indelible mark on the course of history, solidifying his legacy as a visionary leader and a staunch defender of the principles of freedom and self-determination.

Henry Wager Halleck



Henry Wager Halleck was born in Westernville, New York, USA, on January 16, 1815. He is a scholar, lawyer, and senior officer in the US Army. He is a well-known authority on

military studies and goes by the derogatory nickname "Old Brains." He played a significant role in California's admittance as a state and went on to become a prosperous land developer and attorney. Henry was reared mostly by his uncle David Wager of Utica after he ran away from home at a young age, discovering that he detested farm labour. He studied in the United States Military Academy after attending Hudson Academy and Union College in Schenectady, New York. Dennis Hart Mahan, a theorist, was a favourite student of Halleck's at West Point, where he graduated third in the class of 1839. Having written a report on seacoast defences for the US Senate, Report on the Means of National Defence, Halleck gained a reputation as an expert on coastal fortifications very fast. Major General Winfield Scott even dispatched Halleck to France to continue his studies. After his return from France, Halleck started a lecture tour, which resulted in the 1846 release of Elements of Military Art and Science, his best-known work. Following the outbreak of the Mexican War, Halleck sailed for California. Along the way, he added to his reputation as a distinguished military researcher by translating Jomini's *Vie Politique et Militaire de Napoleon* into English. After building defences for several months in California, Lt. Halleck was first involved in action on November 11, 1847, when William Shubrick captured the port of Mazatlán. At the time, he was serving as lieutenant governor of the city that was under occupation. A brevet promotion to captain was given to him in 1847 in recognition of his

"gallant and meritorious service" in Mexico and California. He is considered a prominent public figure in the district of Monterey and is an individual often trusted in public offices.

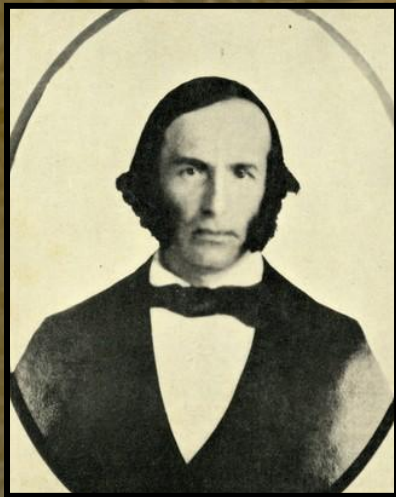
John McDougal



In 1818, John McDougal was born in Ohio's Ross County. In addition to serving in the Mexican War, he was a captain in the Black Hawk War. In 1849, McDougal arrived in California as a gold miner. He enlisted in the Indiana Volunteer Infantry in 1846 and fought in the Mexican-American War as a lieutenant in the 1st Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment. He was chosen as Company H's captain quite quickly. The 5th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment was where he later re-enlisted. At the age of fourteen, he witnessed military service during the Black Hawk War. He served as the state prison's administrator in 1846, close to Indianapolis. He was appointed first lieutenant of an Indiana volunteer company at the start of the Mexican War and eventually promoted to captain.

Alongside General Winfield Scott, his regiment participated in the Veracruz to Mexico City operations. When he returned to Indianapolis after the war, he discovered that his brother George had established himself as a prosperous trader in the Sacramento region and was keen to relocate his family to California. They sailed for Panama in 1848, arriving in New Orleans on the ship Falcon. The McDougals were able to board the renowned California, which was the first to arrive in San Francisco with eastern gold hunters. After experiencing little success in the gold fields, he decided to take care of his brother's store, but other merchants destroyed it. McDougal was one of the fourteen commissioners chosen in April 1849 to draft a code of laws for the Sacramento region. The group determined that an alcalde and a sheriff could oversee the Sacramento Valley and that no formal legislation was necessary.

Jose Maria Covarrubias



Covarrubias was born to a Spanish family from France that emigrated to Mexico in 1818. He came to California in 1834. He married

Domingo Carrillo's daughter María in the same year. They lived in Covarrubias Adobe in Santa Barbara, which, though built by the Carillo family, bore the Covarrubias name after Juan Maria married into the family. This was possible due to the land granted by governor Pio Pico to Carillo and Covarrubias in 1845. Covarrubias became Pío Pico's private secretary in 1845, who is the latest governor of Alta California. He is distinguished for the simplicity and ease of his manner and for great integrity of character.

Manuel Dominguez

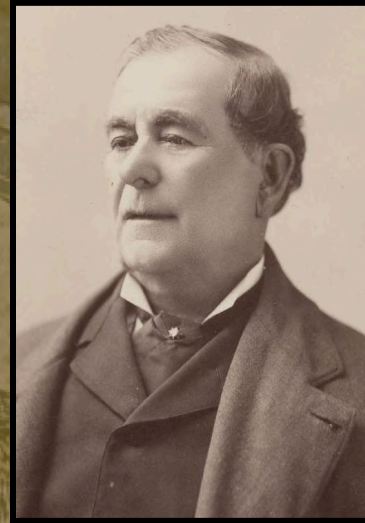


Don Manuel Domínguez e Ybáñez was a political figure and ranchero from California. Born on January 26, 1803, in the colonial province of Las Californias, Manuel Dominguez went by Don Manuel. He came from a well-known Alta California family from birth. The first Spanish land grant established in California is located in Rancho San Pedro. King Carlos III gave the territory to retired Spanish soldier Juan Jose Dominguez in 1784. Juan Jose never got married and passed away in

1809, leaving Manuel's father, Cristobal, as his heir. The rancho was inherited by Manuel and his living siblings after Cristobal passed away in 1825. By diversifying into sheep grazing and raising grain output, he was able to avoid bankruptcy; nonetheless, despite these financial difficulties, he persisted in refusing to sell any significant piece of his land. The 75,000-acre Rancho San Pedro owned by Manuel Dominguez was the site of the Mexican–American War's Battle of Dominguez Rancho, which took place on October 8–9, 1846. He learnt to speak English and was a master of the Spanish language. He developed into an effective public speaker who knew when to use tact and when to use profanity. In addition to his commercial pursuits, Dominguez started a protracted career in public service in 1828. He was a delegate to the first Mexican legislature in Alta California, at San Diego, from January 11 to February 19, 1829. At the age of 29, he was chosen to serve as the Pueblo de Los Angeles' Alcalde (Mayor) in 1832. He was made Capitán de Defensores of the local militia in 1844. His rancho was one among the American-occupied ones in 1846. The 75,000-acre Rancho San Pedro owned by Manuel Dominguez was the site of the Mexican–American War's Battle of Dominguez Rancho, which took place on October 8–9, 1846.

Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo

Don Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, born on 4th July 1807, is a Californio general, statesman, and public figure. Mariano Vallejo was born in Monterey, California, the eighth of thirteen children and third son of Ignacio Vicente Ferrer Vallejo and María Antonia Lugo.



As a teenager, Mariano, his nephew Juan Bautista Alvarado and José Castro received government documents and newspapers from Mexico city, as well as access to the government library, following which Vallejo worked as a clerk for English merchant William Hartnell, from whom he learnt English, French, and Latin. Vallejo was appointed as a cadet in the Presidio company in 1824. In 1829, Vallejo led a group of soldiers against the Miwoks, under chief Estanislao. After a three-day battle, Vallejo's troops forced the Miwok to flee to Mission San José, seeking refuge with the padres. In 1831 Vallejo participated in the "emergency installation" of Pío Pico as acting Governor of Alta California. Vallejo became the Commander of the Presidio of San

Francisco in 1833, oversaw the secularisation of Mission San Francisco Solano. Vallejo was granted Rancho Petaluma by Governor José Figueroa in 1834 and laid down the town of Sonoma in 1835. In September 1835, in an uprising headed by Juan Alverado against the unpopular governor Nicolás Gutiérrez, the governor was forced to surrender. Juan Alverado had claimed to be acting under Vallejo orders and Mariano came to Monterey as a hero and participated in the government. He was named the Comandante General of the "Free State of Alta California". Later, he ordered the deportation of 47 imprisoned English and American immigrants to their home countries by ship from San Blas. He granted passports to the immigrants detained in the Texas revolution. On June 14, 1846, Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo was taken prisoner by a ragtag band of Americans, led by William B. Ide in a revolt against the Mexican government of California. He favoured the American takeover of California and signed a treaty which ensured his safety. However, this treaty was later not accepted. Finally, after the American victory in the war against Mexico, Vallejo proved his allegiance to the United States by persuading wealthy Californians to accept American rule.

Miguel Telesforo Pedrorena

Born in Burgos, Spain in 1808, Miguel Telesforo Pedrorena, often known as Miguel de Pedorena, subsequently made his home in Peru. Don Miguel was originally from Spain

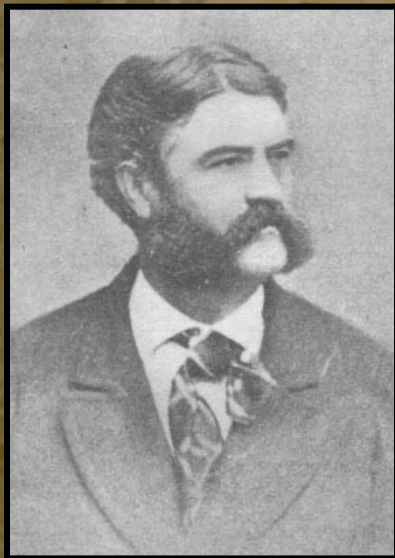
and came from one of Madrid's elite families. As a young man, Miguel spent several years living in London, where he picked up fluency in the language.



In 1837, he arrived in California aboard the Spanish vessel Delmira, which was represented by McCall & Co. of Lima, South America. Don Miguel de Pedorena, a Peruvian citizen, came to San Diego in 1838 and served as Delmira's supercargo and part-time owner. Serving as Juez de Paz (Justice of the Peace) and a Captain in Stockton's California Battalion of the U.S. Cavalry during the conflict with Mexico, he aided the American cause in California. He moved to San Diego in 1845 and worked as a customs collector there from 1847 to 1848. Pedorena fought for the United States during the Mexican-American War, providing help at Fort Stockton. Similar to other well-known California families, he discovered that conflict was unavoidable and hopeless. He served as a captain in the American cavalry during the conflict. Pedorena filled José Antonio Estudillo's

vacancy as San Diego's Juez de Paz in 1846. He was appointed the United States Customs Collector in 1847–1848. In 1845, Maria was the grantor of Rancho El Cajon, and in 1846, he was the grantor of Rancho San Jacinto. Governor Pio Pico granted María Antonia Estudillo de Pedorena a 48,800-acre Mexican land grant in 1845. The name, which translates as "the box" in Spanish, alludes to the valley between hills. Rancho San Jacinto Nuevo y Potrero was another Mexican property grant granted to Miguel Pedorena in 1846 by Governor Pío Pico.

Oliver Meredith Wozencraft



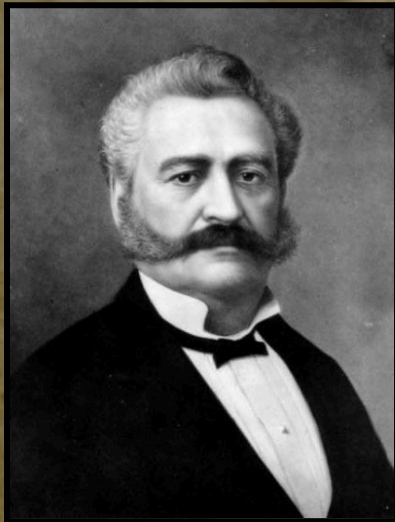
Wozencraft was born on June 26, 1814, in Clermont County, Ohio. After earning his medical degree at St. Joseph's College in Bardstown, Kentucky, he went on to work for the government as an Indian agent. As a doctor and surgeon, he resided in Maryland, Washington, D.C., Tennessee, Ohio, and New York before moving to New Orleans,

Louisiana, right in the middle of a serious cholera outbreak. He and his family went to Brownsville, Texas to recuperate once the illness was under control, but before he could get well again, cholera broke out there. Following the escape of the resident physician, Wozencraft spearheaded the battle against the scourge with the aid of a retired Army surgeon. Later, the surgeon saw Wozencraft in a position with a column of troops moving westward towards Fort Yuma, when word of the gold discovery in California reached Texas. Upon seeing a naturally occurring pond, Wozencraft conjectured that water could be extracted from the Colorado River to establish a sequence of oases, rendering the desert livable. After reaching California, he took the steamer Chagres north to San Francisco and from there to Stockton. In 1844, Wozencraft entered the world of politics, serving as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. His political career continued to flourish when he was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1848. During his time in the state legislature, he has focused on issues related to finance and public improvements.

Pablo de la Guerra

Pablo de la Guerra, born on 29th November 1819 in Santa Barbara, California, is a Californio politician and the son of José de la Guerra y Noriega, founder of the Guerra family of California. Pablo, a member of this family which is a prominent Californio family of southern California, was educated at the

Catholic mission school at Monterey and was a student of Prof. W. E. P. Hartnell. At the age of 19 he was appointed customs collector of Monterey, the second most important job in Mexican dominated California. He retained his prominence after the Americans invaded California. He, as the fifth commandant of the presidio, lived in the Casa de la Guerra, which was built between 1818 and 1828 with Indian labour.

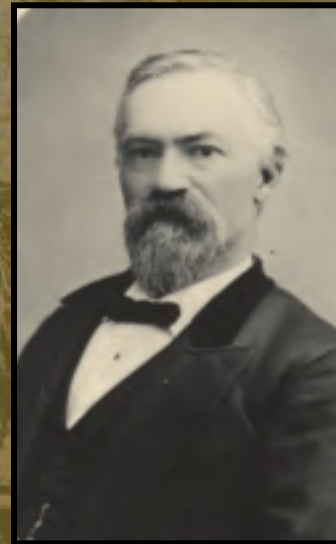


In 1838, Guerra became an Administrator, appointed the Administrator-General 'de la rentas. The Mexican government has given out large grants of land and Pablo de la Guerra and his family hold at least 15 of these grants comprising 445,533 acres. Additionally, he was also appointed as Tax Collector for Santa Barbara in 1838.

Pierre Sainsevain

Pierre Sainsevain popularly known as Don Pedro Sainsevain, is a French born Californian winemaker born on 20th November 1818. He was a carpenter in his early days and came from

Bordeaux, France to Santa Barbara, California on July 4, 1839 to seek out his uncle Jean Louis Vignes. On his uncle's land he settled and in 1840, sold wine and brandy to the California coast. In 1843, Sainsevain was granted the Canada del Rincon rancho, nearly 6000 acres of land, near Santa Cruz by Governor Manuel Micheltoarena. In order to fulfil the requirements to receive the grant, Pierre became a naturalised Mexican citizen and Governor Pio Pico confirmed the grant in 1846.



In 1843, he built both the first saw mill in association with Charles Roussillon and a flour mill with an allowed operation capacity of 75 fanegas daily. In 1845, he married Paula Suñol, daughter of Antonio Maria. In 1848, Sainsevain and Roussillon in association with Antonio Sunol and Amador, with help from twenty-five Indians, mined gold on the Tuolumne River in Coloma. Finally, in 1848, the two partners returned to Stockton and opened a store called the "California gold rush miners" to sell supplies to the California gold

rush miners, a move that has proved to be profitable for his purpose.

Rodman Price



On May 5, 1816, Rodman McCamley Price was born in Frankford Township, New Jersey. He completed his early schooling at New Jersey and New York's common schools. Later on, he enrolled at Princeton University but dropped out. He briefly studied law as well, but he dropped out of school in 1840 after becoming appointed as a purser in the U.S. Navy. In times of peace, he was assigned to serve on the USS Fulton and USS Missouri. The Missouri, one of the first steamships across the Atlantic, burnt at Gibraltar in 1841. After that, Price and Captain John T. Newton travelled throughout Europe for a few months. He studied Spanish, was greeted by Queen Victoria and Wellington, and assisted Washington Irving in duplicating the Columbus documents from the Spanish archives. Price travelled on the Missouri, one of the first steam warships to traverse the Atlantic, in July 1843.

He was sent to the USS Cyane early in 1846, which was a member of John D. Sloat's Pacific Squadron. It appears that Polk and Secretary of State Bancroft gave him this order in secret. At midnight on July 6, he paddled to the flagship and persuaded the commander, who was hesitant, to take over the port of Monterey before George Seymour's British squadron did. Price read the Monterey Customs House proclamation of annexation the next morning. Price and Surgeon Edward Gilchrist were named co-alcaldes of Monterey by Commodore Sloat. They succeeded Manuel Diaz and Joaquin Escamilla, who had served in that capacity since the year's beginning. Price is said to be the first American to hold judicial office in California. After hearing of the gold finds in the Sierra, Price was sent back to Washington, DC, with more fiscal authority to help transfer funds and stop gold from being exported to the British. Price was on San Francisco's first municipal council, and has made significant profits in real estate on the side while working as a naval agent.

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