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ISLAM TEMPLE

SOUVENIR REDDING CEREMONIAL

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SOUVENIR

Redding Ceremonial

ISLAM TEMPLE

A. A. O. N. M. S.

Redding : : California

April 22-23, 1922

REDDING SHRINERS' CEREMONIAL COMMITTEE

WALTER H. FINK, Publicity
General Chairman

DUDLEY V. SAELTZER	*Housing*
HARRY E. THOMPSON	*Memberships*
H. O. CUMMINS	*Parade*
A. M. DEAN OLLIE A. ROSE	*Roads*
G. R. MILFORD	*Banquet*
R. A. SAELTZER	*Transportation*
F. A. GIBSON JAMES D. WRIGHT	*'49 Program*
A. F. SOUZA	*Decorations*
EARL LEE KELLY	*Secretary*



HIS little souvenir of The Old Town of Shasta is presented you as something tangible by which you may remember your visit to Redding and especially the '49 party at Shasta, Sunday. Don't miss the Sunday program.

If you get as much real pleasure out of your two-day visit as we have taken delight in trying to entertain you we shall feel that our efforts have been a success.

Redding Shriners' Committee.
By Walter H. Fink, Chairman.

Earl Lee Kelly
Dudley V. Saeltzer
Rolph Saeltzer
G. R. Milford
Harry E. Thompson
Frank A. Gibson
H. O. Cummins
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The Old Town of Shasta

BY WALTER H. FINK

To tell the whole story of Shasta would take volumes instead of pages and this little souvenir is not to be understood to be a serious effort to write anything but a cursory synopsis of the founding and earlier history of the community.

In fact the primary purpose of this little booklet is to give to the present generation, for the first time, a few pictures of the old town which should not only be of great interest to those who see the town today but a valuable contribution to the history of early California. at the same time serving to perpetuate the tragedy of a bustling, prosperous community of 10,000 population which time has reduced to less than one hundred.

Persons who visit Shasta today and see its tumble-down buildings and few inhabitants will probably find it hard to realize that here was once one of the big mining camps of California, that along the now deserted streets once thronged thousands who for years took millions out of the diggings that dotted the entire surrounding country. The old Empire hotel building still standing, is hard to picture as long being one of the finest hostelries between Sacramento and Portland, and Shasta not only boasted the Empire, but across the street was the Charter Oak which was almost equally famed for its cuisine and its accommodations in the days of the Argonauts.

Perhaps few towns in California are as rich in early day romance as the old town of Shasta. Practically none of it has been preserved and the buildings of the Argonauts, instead of being preserved for posterity, are being carted away for the brick that are in them. Few of the old-timers who can recount the story of old Shasta live to tell that story. If it is to be saved for posterity someone must write it soon. Only a few of the historic buildings of this town, once the thriving center of Northern California, remain. If they are to be preserved, some lodge or other organization, having the preservation of early California at heart, must act at once or there will be nothing to preserve.

Practically the only printed material on Shasta that is available today is contained in a "History and Business Directory

of Shasta County", published in 1881, which was "carefully compiled by B. F. Frank and H. W. Chappell." As far as is known there is just one copy of this book in existence, that owned by C. N. Kingsbury of Igo. Contributors to this book were: Hon. A. R. Andrews, Shasta; Judge C. C. Bush, Redding; C. H. Manning, Fall River Mills; Jas. E. Isaacs, Shasta; Dr. Benjamin Shurtleff, Napa; G. W. Jackson, Round Mountain; J. B. Batcheller, Igo; D. B. Matlock, Millville; W. Bailey, Lower Soda Springs; J. F. Bedford, Anderson; Dr. J. E. Stockton, Manzanita Lake; J. S. Nedry, Burney Valley; Dr. J. O. Smith, Cottonwood, and many others. The writer is indebted to Frank and Chappell for most of the material in this booklet.

That there is little time, if any, to save the real history of Shasta for coming generations, may perhaps be best impressed on the reader by this apology written by Frank and Chappell back in 1881: "We will now proceed to speak of events of the past, which will be found as correct as the records now to be had furnish us and the memory of those who figured in the early history serve them."

Major Pearson B. Reading was the first white settler of Shasta County. His settlement was made in 1845, near the junction of Cottonwood Creek with the Sacramento River. There was no further white settlement in Shasta County until 1849, when immigration trains began to arrive across the plains. There were a number of men from Oregon in the country before this but they were moving around and made no permanent settlement.

The immigration to Shasta County in 1849 came in principally by the Lassen Route, now generally known as the "old Lassen trail." It was Peter Lassen, you will remember, who brought the charter from Missouri for the first Masonic lodge in California, first located at Benton City. On May 9, 1851, the Grand Lodge gave authority to move this lodge to Shasta.

The Lassen trail came into the Sacramento Valley at Lassen's ranch on Deer Creek. On the arrival of the immigration at Lassen's, the great inquiry was as to where the best diggings are to be found. The mines north of Lassen's were classified as the Northern mines and those on the south as the Southern. The accounts were, to some extent, conflicting, but the Northern mines were generally credited as being the better and many selected them because there were but few in them. There were three places which constituted the Northern mines (as the Shasta mines were then called), viz., the Upper Reading Springs (now known as Shasta), the Lower Reading Springs (later

known as the Lower Springs), and the Clear Creek diggings (later known as the Horsetown diggings).

These mines were all originally discovered by Major Reading, and he and his Indians did the first mining in each of them. These three places became the headquarters of most of the immigrants, and there prospecting companies were organized during the winter of '49 and '50, who discovered most of the mines situated between the Sacramento River and Clear Creek, from the mouth of Clear Creek up to Spring Creek and Whisky Creek.

It is difficult for one who is not a pioneer to realize the situation of the immigrants of 1849. They were in the land of gold; but to them it was a strange land, and everything was new. They knew nothing about gold mining nor the country. They would occasionally meet men of their own race who had "blazed the way" to the new El Dorado and knew the land—the pioneers of California pioneers—and in such men as Reading, Lassen, Sutter and Moon, they met men who could stand in the front among any pioneers the world ever saw.

The immigrants seemed to be regarded as intruders by a few of the old Californians, but they were generally received with great kindness and hospitality by those who were here on their arrival. Major Reading was particularly kind and generous; he sympathized with the immigrants and manifested a heartfelt and cheerful desire to aid and assist them by every means in his power, and he had words of kindness and of cheer that were often worth more than gold. Many of the first settlers in Shasta County treasure among their most cherished recollections the kind deeds and kind words of Major Pearson B. Reading. Whenever the early history of Shasta County is written, let his name be inscribed on its brightest page.

The records and papers of the office of Alcade at Shasta (when that means of administering justice was law—recognized law in California,) were destroyed in the great fire of June 14, 1853. These would have furnished many interesting incidents of the pioneer times whereof there is now no record.

In October, 1849, Shasta (then known as Reading Springs), was a busy village of tents. There were then nearly as many people living on the hill as in the part of the town under the hill, where the chief settlement now is. Among many others who were then living on the hill, and who spent the memorable winter of 1849 there, were the late R. J. Walsh, of Colusa, and the late



Main street of Shasta, looking north, taken in 1865. All but one or two of these buildings are unknown to the present generation.

John S. Follansbee, of San Francisco. Many of the first settlers were from Oregon. Dick Christman, a native of Tennessee, but who came from Oregon to California in the spring of 1849, was camped on the hill in June of that year. There were quite a number of Oregonians settled on the hill at that time who were attracted by the pure air and excellent water. These were all engaged in mining on Rock Creek, Middle Creek and Salt Creek. They came overland from Oregon as early in the spring of 1849 as the trails were open and the streams fordable. In October of that year, several log cabins were being built, but none completed. Several hundred people were then living in and about Shasta.

The rainy season commenced on the second day of November. It began to rain between two and three o'clock in the morning. From that time it rained quite steadily and sometimes very hard through November, December, and the greater part of January. February was fair, mild and pleasant. The only rain prior to November, in the fall of 1849, was a light shower early in October—about the 6th of the month. Not more than an eighth of an inch fell. The rainy season produced a great panic at Shasta. People feared that all communication would be cut off between that place and Sacramento, and that a famine would follow before communication could be opened in the spring. Parties sold their provisions at ruinous prices, and hurried off to Sacramento and San Francisco. Though freights had been forty and fifty cents per pound between Shasta and Sacramento, flour then sold at twenty cents per pound, and other things in proportion.

The keen, shrewd R. J. Walsh was the only man having money, who dared to invest. He bought largely and when the deadlock came, in the travel between Shasta and Sacramento, through the impassability of Sycamore slough, made a corner on every article of merchandise in his store, and within thirty days after he had purchased flour at twenty cents, was selling it at $2.00, $2.25, and in several instances as high as $2.50 per pound. He was known to sell many a one hundred pound sack of Chili flour cash down in glittering gold-dust for $225, or at the rate of $450 per barrel.

Those were flush times when men made their money easily, and the price of a sack of flour then was as little considered as at the present day. Dr. Benjamin Shurtleff, his cousin Harrison J. Shurtleff, Dr. Hall from Vermont, and a man by the name of Belcher from Chelsea, Mass., were living and messing together at



Main street of Shasta, looking south, taken in 1865. The Empire Hotel was for years one of the finest hotels in Northern California. The Charter Oak Hotel across the street was equally famous. The Empire building still stands. The Brewery to the rear of the Litsch Building is standing.

that time. Occasionally they indulged in the luxury of a peach pie, made in the lower part of the town where the Union Church stood. They cost $1.50 each and were excellent pies, their only fault being in the fact that the lower and upper crusts were a little too near together. This was due to the price of dried peaches. The Pioneer Pie Factory was run by the late Benjamin F. Washington, Vincent E. Geiger and William S. Lany. Geiger cut the wood, Washington made the pies and Lany was the salesman. Mrs. Carthy, the wife of John Carthy, probably gave birth to the first white child born in Shasta County—a girl. This was early in 1851, probably in February or March. This child only survived a few weeks. C. F. Montgomery, later a resident of Arizona, and business manager of the daily and weekly Nugget, published at Tombstone, was born at French Gulch in Shasta County, April 24, 1851.

The late Chief Justice Royal T. Sprague came to Shasta in September, 1849. He, with a number of other immigrants, who came overland from Ohio, forded the Sacramento River at Moon's ranch and built a log cabin just north of the Potter place, where they spent the winter. In the spring and summer of 1850, Sprague mined on Clear Creek at Grizzly Gulch. The late Gen. Joseph Lane was also once a Shasta County miner. In the summer of 1850 he came overland from Oregon, arriving in Shasta in June. He mined in the vicinity of Olney Creek and Oregon Gulch. He was a plain man, agreeable, affable gentleman; endowed with a good degree of strong, practical common sense. His reminiscences of the Mexican war and description of Oregon were very entertaining. He returned to Oregon in the fall of 1850.

Reading Springs was named Shasta by a mass-meeting of its citizens, who met in front of the store of R. J. Walsh, where Armory Hall later stood, on the 8th day of June, 1850. Back in 1881, A. Grotefend was the only person living in Shasta who was there during the memorable winter of 1849.

Much of the history of Shasta County passed into oblivion in 1868, upon the death of its Nestor of pioneers, (Major Pearson B. Reading). The demise of Chief Justice Sprague, R. J. Walsh, J. S. Follansbee, Joseph Isaacs, Levi H. Tower and many others deprives us of much valuable information. The St. Charles Hotel, built by James Macly & Co., and the Trinity House, built by W. S. Bonifield and David Cassant, were the first frame buildings built in Shasta. The lumber from which they were constructed was whip-sawed by Jonathan Otis and his partner, and cost one dollar



Building to left is home of Western Star Lodge, No. 2, F. & A. M., the first Masonic Lodge in California. The Charter was brought to California from Missouri by Peter Lassen in 1848.

a foot (or at the rate of $1,000 per 1,000 feet.) These buildings were erected in the summer of 1850. Macly was a man of great energy and enterprise. He subsequently went East and while on his second trip across the plains to California, was killed by the Indians in Honey Lake Valley. His remains were brought to Shasta and buried in the old cemetery.

There was a great celebration of the 4th of July at Shasta in 1851. Judge Sprague read the Declaration of Independence, and Judge W. R. Harrison delivered an oration. Major Reading and many others from remote parts of the county were in attendance. A sumptuous dinner was served at the St. Charles Hotel.

The first election was held in Shasta County in September, 1850. The first county officers were then elected. W. R. Harrison was elected County Judge. In the following winter he traveled on foot to Hamilton, the county seat of Butte County, took the oath of office before Judge Bean and, returning to Shasta, proceeded to organize Shasta County. The other county officers elect, also the Justice of the Peace, appeared before Judge Harrison and qualified for their respective offices. Dr. Jess Robinson, at that time a partner with Dr. Shurtleff, in business under the firm name of Shurtleff & Robinson, was County Clerk. The law authorizing the organization of Shasta, fixed the county seat at Reading's ranch; but power was vested in the Court of Sessions to remove the county seat to such point in the county as public convenience might require.

Shasta County at that time extended from a point near Red Bluff and from the northern boundary of Butte County to the Oregon line. It embraced all of the present territory of Shasta and Modoc Counties, all of Siskiyou, except what it received from Klamath when that county disorganized, and a part of Tehama and Lassen. For four years after the organization of the county, we had no Board of Supervisors, and the Court of Sessions performed the functions now vested in the Board of Supervisors.

On the 10th day of February, 1851, Judge Harrison and County Clerk Robinson, with Justices of the Peace enough to form a quorum, went to the residence of Major Reading and organized the Court of Sessions by electing two of the Justices of the Peace Associate Justices. The Court of Sessions then removed the county seat to Shasta, bringing it home with them that night, so that the County of Shasta was organized on the 10th of February, 1851. The removal was perfectly satisfactory to all



Picture of Odd Fellows parade in Shasta, April 26, 1875.

persons, and particularly to Major Reading, for the old pioneer, unlike the most Californians, cherished no hankering for a county seat within twenty miles of him. The officers who removed the county seat had a much easier time than Judge Harrison had experienced in his trip to Hamilton, for they made the trip on horse-back.

A great change came with the organization of the county government under the all-Americanized system of government. By an Alcade we had no taxation and justice was dispensed in a short and summary manner. When Peter Bergoon, a Shasta merchant, failed, Judge Sprague, attorney for the creditors, brought suit by attachment before Dr. Benjamin Shurtleff, and also foreclosed a mortgage, winding up the affair within the short space of twenty-four hours. When Bowles was tried for the murder of his partner on Clear Creek, in May, 1850, Sprague conducted the prosecution and Judge Harrison the defense. A jury was empaneled, a large number of witnesses called. Both made exhaustive arguments in the case, Sprague overwhelming the court and jury with statutes of New York and Ohio, while Harrison was just as lavish with the laws of Indiana and Iowa, and yet the case was concluded in a single day, the jury having brought in a verdict of "not guilty" before midnight. Investigation convinced the jury that Bowles' partner had been brutally murdered by Ben Wright's treacherous Oregon Indians, who were camped a short distance away, at that time, from the place where the crime was committed.

Shasta County elected her first Assemblyman at the general election in September, 1850. Party lines were ignored, as neither the Democratic nor Whig party was organized in that locality. Some two weeks before the election a large number of business and representative men of the town, met at the St. Charles Hotel, and placed in nomination Mr. Watson, of the well-known firm of Riddle, Weber & Co., as a candidate for the Assembly. It was an excellent nomination. He was a native of South Carolina, but when quite young emigrated to Illinois, and then, in 1849, came overland to California. He was intelligent and consistent. He was also a model Christian, who brought his Christianity to California and always kept it with him. The early pioneers of Shasta County will remember that the house of Riddle, Weber & Co. always kept their store closed on Sundays, and never permitted goods to be purchased or delivered on the Sabbath day.

Watson would have been an excellent candidate in any of the older States, North or South, but he did not prove available for Californians. A few days after the nomination of Mr. Watson,

the people of Shasta saw a young, stoop-shouldered, lean, dangle-legged young man ride into town up Main Street, upon a small, lean mule, his feet almost touching the ground. He stopped in front of a saloon, dismounted and tied his mule to an awning post. By this time, curiosity being somewhat excited, quite a little crowd had assembled. Turning to the bystanders he said: "I understand you had a meeting in town the other night, and nominated a candidate for Assembly?" "Yes", was the reply, "we nominated Mr. Watson." He then said, "Boys, I'm a candidate for the Assembly. My name is A. Z. McCandless, and whisky is my platform and whisky is going to win this fight. Let us all go in and take a drink." All joined him without a dissenting voice. Thus started the McCandless boom, which kept rising higher and higher, and sticking to his platform, he was triumphantly elected.

San Francisco in July, 1849, probably contained some 4,000 inhabitants. It was about the size that Redding is now. It was all bustle and activity. Goods of all descriptions were piled along the narrow sidewalks. The small houses which the Bay Cities then contained afforded but little room for storage. Everybody seemed to be getting ready to rush off to the mines. Schooners, boats and every variety of light-draft water craft were in great demand to carry passengers into the interior, particularly to Sacramento and Stockton. The Sacramento River was swarming with hopeful, song-singing gold hunters, pushing forward to grasp all that had been pictured in their golden dreams of fortune. Sacramento, at that time, was a lively town of tents and canvas houses. There were then but two or three frame wooden buildings in the town, but during a period of two and a half months Sacramento made a magic growth and had risen to the rank of a populous city.

The trip from Sacramento to Shasta in 1849, is described as follows by an old Shasta pioneer, Dr. Benjamin Shurtleff:

"On the first day of October we left Sacramento, crossing the river on a ferry at the foot of I Street. We proceeded on our journey to Shasta, or Reading Springs, as the place was then called. We camped the first night at Fremont, but there was very little sleep or rest for us that night. On the East side of the Sacramento was the town of Vernon. The Vernon people came over to Fremont and sat up nearly all night discussing the future of the two young cities. Both the Fremont and Vernon people agreed that neither Sacramento nor Marysville was an eligible site for a great city. All agreed that a great city would rise up

in the Sacramento Valley at the mouth of the Feather River, and, in a few years become one of the most wealthy and populous cities in the world. But when they came to talk about fixing the exact point of its location, violent, and at times angry discussions ensued; the friends of Fremont maintaining that they had founded the future great city of the Pacific Coast, while the Vernon men predicted the downfall of Fremont and a growth for Vernon that would astonish the world.

"We made the entire journey to Shasta on the West side of the Sacramento River, and I do not recollect seeing a panel of fence on the route except in three small corrals, one at Moon's ranch, one at Ide's and the other at Reading's ranch. The Sacramento Valley seemed a vast waste. There was grass, but it was all dry and dead. Occasionally we saw in the distance a herd of Spanish cattle or an antelope, and as we approached them it was difficult to tell which ran the fastest, cattle or antelopes. We passed over the rich, productive lands of Stony Creek, of Northern Colusa and Southern Tehama, which, including the Butte Creek Valley, on the East side of the Sacramento River, is the best grain belt in California. But, so little did we know about their value, that we would not have given ten cents an acre for a clear title to the best land we saw. In looking back now, the only consolation I have, is the poor one, that the balance of the pioneers of that day knew more about the rich alluvial lands of California than I did. We knew nothing of the productiveness of the soil, and had not learned that the season for the growth of the more hardy crops, such as grain, grass, etc., was in the winter and early spring."

Colusa, at the date mentioned by the pioneer above quoted, was a beautiful forest and was called Salmon Bend. Its only inhabitants were a tribe of Indians, but the town was settled a short time subsequently and soon grew to be a lively place. The steamer Orient began making trips between Sacramento and Colusa probably in September, 1851, and soon after the Captain Sutter began on the same line, which gave a great impetus to the new town. The enterprising R. J. Walsh, at Shasta, was a part owner of the Captain Sutter, and his own heavy shipments on her made up a great part of her lucrative business. We are informed that in October, 1849, Ex-Governor Wilson Shannon, Ohio's first native born Governor, was negotiating the purchase of the Reading ranch, and that Major Reading's price was $10,000. At the rate R. J. Walsh sold flour the following December, twenty barrels of his flour or 10,000 feet of Jonathan

Otis's lumber, (mentioned before) would have purchased the entire grant.

The winters of 1850 and 1851 were comparatively dry in Shasta County, but there was a pretty good rain in September. It began to rain soon after dark on the evening of the 10th, and continued steadily nearly all night. All enjoyed it, for with it was a fine exhibition of thunder and lightning, reminding the pioneer of his far-off home in the East. There was very little more rain until early in the spring. One word about rain, as it figures largely in the interests of California and is prolific of much good. The '49-ers had seen one California winter, and pitied the immigrants of 1850, for they knew nothing of the rainy season. They knew that in the preceding year the rain had commenced on the 2nd day of November, and they confidently expected to see it about the same time in the approaching fall. One day Major Reading was asked what time he thought the rainy season would commence, and replied that the rainy season was very indefinite and uncertain in its commencement. It might begin in November, sometimes there was very little before Christmas, and some years it was as late as the 20th of January before any heavy rains came, and occasionally an entire year passed with very little rain. Several pioneers give it as their opinion that Major Reading's description of the seasons is the best that can be given.

HISTORY OF WESTERN STAR LODGE, NO. 2.

A charter from the Grand Lodge of Missouri was granted on the 10th day of May, 1848, A. L. 5848, to Sarchel Woods, Lucien E. Stewart and Peter B. Lassen, to establish a Lodge at Benton City; (Benton City, we are informed by Dr. J. F. Winsell, was situated about five miles northeast from where Chico now stands. Nothing, however, remains to mark the exact location), Upper California, to be named "Western Stars, No. 98, of Missouri." Sarchel Woods was elected W. M.; Lucien E. Stewart, S. W.; Peter B. Lassen, J. W. The Grand Lodge proceedings for April, May and November, 1850 and 1851, contain reports from the Lodge as of Benton City, Shasta County. The general impression prevails among the members of the Lodge and other Masons, that Peter B. Lassen brought with him across the plains, in 1848, the charter of Western Stars Lodge, and that he organized the Lodge. This, however, is not substantiated by sufficient proofs to place it on record as a fact.

Following is a copy of the charter:

Sit Lux et Lux Fuit

The Most Worshipful and Honorable Joseph Foster, Esq., Grand Mason of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of Missouri,

To all and every our worthy and well-beloved Brethren sends greetings:

Know ye, That we, at the petition of our worthy and well-beloved Brethren, Sarchel Woods, Lucien E. Stewart, Peter B. Lassen and several others, residing at or near Benton City, Upper California, do hereby constitute the said brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to be held at the aforesaid Benton City, by the name of Western Stars, No. 98.

And further, at the petition of the brethren aforesaid, and of the great trust and confidence reposed in the above-named three brethren, do hereby appoint Sarchel Woods, Master; Lucien E. Stewart, Warden, and Peter B. Lassen, Junior Warden, for opening said Lodge, and for such further time as may be thought proper by the brethren thereof.

Hereby authorizing them, the said Master, Wardens and brethren aforesaid (here follows the usual authority to initiate and raise, and the usual Lodge authority).

And, moreover, we require of you, the said Sarchel Woods, as soon as convenience permits, to send an account, in writing, of what shall be done by virtue of these presents.

Given at St. Louis, in said State of Missouri, under our hand and seal of said Grand Lodge, this 10th day of May, A D., 1848, A. L. 5848.

(Signed) JOSEPH FOSTER,
Grand Master.

E. S. RUGGLES, D.G.M.
C. OSBURN, G S.W.
JAS. MEGGUIRE, G.J.W.

[SEAL] Attest: E. W. S. MITCHELL, Grand Secretary.

The first records of this Lodge were destroyed by fire about the middle of June, 1852, leaving now in possession of the Lodge as the earliest records dated December, 1852. Although the

charter of Western Stars Lodge was dated May 10, 1848, A. L. 5848, it does not appear from any source that the Lodge was organized or any meetings held until October, 1849. In 1850, the name of the Lodge was changed from "Western Stars, No. 98, of Missouri," to "Western Star, No. 2, of California." In November, 1851, Western Star is reported to the Grand Lodge as being located at Shasta, Shasta County.

In 1852 Peter B. Lassen was killed by Indians 80 miles from Shasta. He was buried by the fraternity at Susanville and a monument erected to his memory. His pipe, found lying by his body, is treasured by the fraternity, and can be seen in the lodge room of the Western Star, No. 2, of which he was a member at the time of his death.

From the records of the Grand Lodge we get the following brief excerpts regarding the founding of Western Star Lodge, No. 2, the first Masonic lodge in California, whose well kept home at Shasta today is the pride of California as well as its members, just as it has been since May 10, 1848.

In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of California, 1850-54, we read: "The charter of Western Star Lodge, No. 98, was granted to Bros. Sarchel Woods, Worshipful Master; L. E. Stewart, Senior Warden, and Peter Lassen, Junior Warden. It bears date of May 10, 1848, and has the signatures of the grand officers and the seal of the Grand Lodge of Missouri affixed. This charter authorizes the brethren mentioned to open and hold a lodge in Benton City, Upper California. Brother Woods accordingly opened said lodge at Benton City on the 30th day of October, 1849, and is now performing Masonic work."*

Under date of May 6, 1851, we read: "On motion of Brother T. A. Thomas it was ordered that a new charter be issued to Western Star Lodge, No. 2, its original charter having been mislaid or lost and never returned by said lodge; and that Brother Sarchel Woods be received in this Grand Lodge as representative."†

The following is under date of May 9, 1851: "On motion of Brother E. F. W. Ellis, it was resolved that Western Star Lodge, No. 2, be permitted to remove its place of meeting from Benton City to Shasta City, provided a majority of its members be in favor thereof."

*California Lodge, No. 13, opened in San Francisco in October, 1849.

†The original charter of Western Star Lodge is now in the office of the Grand Secretary.

Free distribution of this Souvenir made possible thru the contributions of the following public-spirited business firms and individuals

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