

JOHN POOR.

All that is now left of the once prosperous mining camp of Louisville, is the residence and store of John Poor, who came to the place in 1867, and established himself in business. He was born in Concord, New Hampshire, October 28, 1828, and came to California in 1852, engaged in the mines at Columbia Flat, and still later, at Peru.

When quite a boy he went to sea on board an old "Spouter," or whaling vessel, and in the service of such has traveled the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, passed through Behring's Strait to the North Sea. On the 30th day of July, 1863, he married Susan Smith, who was born in the county of Cork, Ireland, March 5, 1840, and came to California in 1862. To them have been born four children, John, on the 24th day of April, 1864, William S., on December 10, 1866, Sid M., November 9, 1868, and Charles, August 13, 1870. On the 18th day of November, 1881, Mr. Poor's entire property was destroyed by fire, but was soon rebuilt and business resumed. In connection with his store he does some mining and farming.

ELIAS L. PARKER

Was born in Massachusetts, 1830, crossed the plains to California with oxen in 1850. Has been one of the enterprising men of the county; was actively engaged in mining and farming for many years. Is owner of the Little Weber ditch, built in 1852. Erected the brick building now used as an Academy at Placerville. Resides three miles southeast of Placerville. Is a member of the Pioneer Association at Placerville.

JOSEPH W. D. PHILLIPS

Was born in Orange county, Vermont, on the 9th of February, 1827, and is the oldest son of Joseph M. and Lydia Phillips; when about 9 years old his parents removed to Pennsylvania and settled in Lawrence county. In May, 1846 he left home and went to Nauvoo, Hancock county, Illinois, where he engaged in clerking for four years. He then purchased the business and conducted it for several years. On the 20th day of December, 1852 he took passage on the steamship Northern Light for California and arrived at San Francisco January, 16, 1853. He went to Nevada city and began hotel keeping in a house known as the Keystown. In June, 1855 he went to Shasta county and there kept a hotel at Horsetown. In September, 1857 he returned East leaving his family in California, they soon joined him, and removed to Coles county, Illinois, in March of 1858. In the fall, same year, they returned again to California and kept a boarding house in Tuolumne county, on the 22d day of June, 1860 he came to El Dorado

county and located on a ranch between Hope and Lake valleys, here he spent the summer and the winter at Placerville. In 1862 he opened the Phillip station on the stage road and made it his permanent abode till 1869.

In 1873 he located his present home on section 4, Township 11, Range 10 and began improving it. In 1874 he was the independent candidate for the Assembly and beaten by a very trifling majority. In 1879 he was again beaten for the same place by a very small vote. His brother Daniel is a partner in the ranch, they have about 40 acres under cultivation all very productive land. Mr. Phillips is one of the enterprising and industrious men of El Dorado county, he has been engaged in many mining ventures that were not successful, but never gave up. He was wedded to Miss Mehitable J. Ball, at Quincy, Illinois, on the 22d day of September, 1857. They have two children, viz: Sierra Nevada, born at Nevada city, California, July 28, 1854, now Mrs. A. W. Clark, of Glenbrook, Nevada, and Ida M., born at Williamsfield, Ashtabula county, Ohio, on the 19th of May, 1858, now Mrs. J. B. Meloche, of Glenbrooke, Nev. Mr. Phillips was Superintendent of the United States Mining Company near Nevada city, the first one to erect pumps in that vicinity. In 1876 his property in the mountains was destroyed by fire.

WILLIAM MADISON PALMER,

Is a native of North Carolina, and son of George and Polly Palmer. He was brought to light on the first day of December, 1822. He served under General Taylor, in the war with Mexico, during which campaign he visited the city of Mexico, Buenevista and other places of interest in the ancient land. In 1852 he came to California and from that time followed the mines continuously at Coloma, Johntown, Placerville, Downieville, and other points until 1859. He then engaged in the cattle business and is now the most extensively interested in that branch of any party in the county. Is also engaged in sheep growing, keeps about 1,000 sheep, and 300 head of cattle. In 1875 he purchased the "Boland," better known as the "Spring Garden" ranch, one of the best stock ranches in El Dorado county. In addition to this he has a fine mountain range, called Union valley, and in all about 3,000 acres of land. Mr. Palmer is one of the oldest and most responsible citizens of the county, having by hard work and perseverance accumulated a good competence. In his boyhood days there were no free schools and he received but a limited education, in a subscription school in Buncombe county, where he was born. His mother was a Miss Starrit of revolutionary fame, her ancestors having won distinction in the struggle for liberty.