

Chapter XVI

Life in Hornitos, during the Civil War
and life back home in
Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois and Virginia.
1850-1865.

While they were in Bell County, Texas and traveling west, the trouble they had been expecting, slowly began. Now the Apocalypse was about to start. According to the book *Generations*, by Strass and Howe, **William** and **Sarah**, as part of the Transcendental generation, experienced it all:

“The mood of the country turned sour with the failure of European revolutions, the unpopular compromise of 1850, the frontier violence, and spectacular fugitive slave chases. In the mid 1850s, with lawless mayhem breaking out in “Bleeding Kansas” midlife Americans feared younger men were about to shatter their visions and rip America to pieces, Preachers warned of Apocalypse from their pulpits. In 1859 the “martyrdom” of John Brown after his raid on Harpers Ferry catalyzed the mood on both sides. Lincoln’s election answered Whitman’s plea for a “Redeemer President” America grimly prepared for a Civil War.

Lincoln insisted “no mortal could stay” as young men marched off to bloody battle. While moralists warned the Union was dependent for success entirely on the religious sentiment of the people. Around the time Atlanta was in flames, the words “In God We Trust” first appeared on U.S. coinage. The North finding redemption at Gettysburg, in Sherman’s march, and in Emancipation. Transcendentals felt spiritual fulfillment: a huge human price had been exacted from the young, but a new era was indeed dawning”.

South Carolina called for secession on December 24, 1860, because of the election of Lincoln, “whose opinions and purposes are hostile to slavery.” The Civil War did not actually start until April 13, 1861. The country called for volunteers but **William Henry Titchenal** was 44 years old and had six children still alive: **John Jackson** was 18, William Charles 17, Rebecca 15, Martha Jane, seven, David Dickason, three, and Samuel Henry one year old. McHenry Morrison was 28. He had one son, William Miles, one year old; and his wife, Susan, was pregnant. Neither **William Henry, John Jackson, William Charles Titchenal** or McHenry Morrison were required to join the army. They sold their land in Martinez and went back to the Hornitos area.

Sometime before February, 1862, the **William Titchenal** and McHenry Morrison families moved back to the Guyan Ranch near Hopeton... in time for the birth of John Morrison, Susan and McHenry’s second child, in Hornitos, February 5, 1862.

On October 1, 1863 **William** and **Sarah’s** second oldest daughter, Rebecca [age 17] met and married James Clinton Hail [age 30] from Tennessee. Their first child, Henry Lee, was born August 22, 1864. A second child, Mary Ellen, was born in Hornitos, July 23, 1866. Rebecca had eight more children. At the age of 38, she and her last son died together at childbirth in 1883 in Plainsburg, Merced County, California.

California was a free state and the Civil War did not affect it, except for a few skirmishes in southern

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California. However, **William** was very much aware of the war for several reasons. As mentioned earlier, Major General John Fremont lived close to Hornitos, on his Mariposa mine property, in the early 1850s. He had been the first presidential candidate of the newly organized Republican Party in 1856. He ran on an anti-slavery platform but lost to Buchanan by 500,000 votes. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was called back to Washington and made commander of the Department of the West at St. Louis. His radical policy toward slave holders brought him in conflict with Lincoln's policy, and he was removed from his post. Fremont was then given a command in Western Virginia under General Pope, whom he did not like and eventually resigned.

In addition, **Sarah** had been keeping in touch with **William's** uncles in Virginia, her sisters-in-law in Fort Smith, and her siblings and father in Illinois. Those states were very much in the middle of the fighting. It is possible **William's** nephew, Henry Irving Falconer may have visited with them in California during the late 1850s or early 1860s. He is listed in the 1860 Sierra County, California census as an unmarried miner. Sierra City is about 100 miles north of Murphys. It is not known when he come to California, or if he visited with his uncle **William**. He was back in Arkansas in 1870.



Village of Clarksburg—1862.

Clarksburg, Harrison County, Virginia was still a small village of 895 in 1860 at the start of the war. Northwestern Virginia was in a geographical position of a buffer area between the Tidewater and Piedmont sections of Confederate Virginia and the state of Ohio. Politically she was it odds with eastern Virginia. These two facts determined the course of the war. Except for the Jones-Imboden raid in 1863, the military action was greatest in the Harrison area in 1861 when the confederates were trying to gain control of the railroad lines to Wheeling and Parkersburg.

He had many relatives in the southern states of Virginia, Maryland, Arkansas, Missouri and Illinois. Maryland was split at first but in the end became part of the Union. West Virginia split off from the rest of Virginia and some of the Titchenals there, fought for the Union. Not many battles were fought in or near his home in Clarksburg, West Virginia (where his grandfather and uncles still lived) even though it was a hotbed of mixed loyalties. Before General Jackson moved out of Virginia. After General Stonewall Jackson left Clarksburg to join the Confederate army, it was used as assembly point for union troops and a staging area for horses mules, equipment and provisions for union forces.

Missouri was a free state but became a theater of the war after Governor Jackson attempted to lead the state out of the Union. The state divided into two groups: 109,000 Missourians joined the Union army and 30,000 fought for the Confederacy. Two major battles were fought in the southeastern part of the state, near the Arkansas border in 1862. There were many raids in and around Fort Smith, and this worried **William**.

William's mother and sisters still lived in Arkansas and he knew the Falconers were pure Southerners and would be fighting for the Confederacy. He was right to be concerned. He didn't hear much from them until after the war. Arkansas had both northern and southern sympathizers living in the state. The war caused a lot of problems for his mother and sister's families, separating some of them both during and after the war.



Village of Clarksburg, Western Virginia—Headquarters of General Rosecrans—1861.

When the war broke out, trouble started for the family left in Arkansas. All of Mary Ellen Falconer's sons (except Henry who was in California) volunteered for the confederate army and were gone until the south surrendered. Mary Ellen (Titchenal) Falconer's second husband, Thomas McCarron thought it best for his family to move to Texas. He left shortly after the war started in Arkansas and took as much of their cattle and livestock as possible.

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Once in the dead of night, when Mary Ellen realized the battle was not going well for the south, Mary Ellen awakened her two eleven year old girls and put them in a covered wagon with a black female servant and told them to head for Sherman ,Texas and find their father, telling them only that it was just across the Texas border. She also sent all of the cattle and horses they could take, to Texas with them. The federal troops were within a mile or so of the Falconer home and she knew they would commandeer everything of value on the place.

Later when the Confederate Army had retreated for the hills where they fought a valiant but losing battle. Mary mounted a fast horse and headed for the home of some Titchenal kin (probably her sister Susan Eliza Browne) in the Cherokee nation, later joining her family and Mr. McCarron in Texas.

The girls and the black woman with their stock passed the night right through the battle lines, stopping only to rest or let a calf be born, some thirty or forty in all The new arrivals had to be put in the wagon until they strong enough to travel so at times, the occupants had to walk. They completed their journey after many mishaps in about two and one half months, many severe hardships, especially the lack of salt.

In Sherman, Texas, their mother established a temporary home for any Confederate solders, including her sons, since many of these calvary-men had to retreat South in the winter to feed and rest their horses and mules, The confederate army in this part of the South had no supplies for their stock and very little tools of war.

Among the troops were such famous names as ... Quantrill, Jesse and Frank James, the Younger brothers and the Dalton boys, all of who later became notorious outlaws. The Falconer family never condemned their former comrades, contending that it was only after they returned to what was left of their decimated land and homes after the war, that they turned to outlaws. No one ever spoke ill of these men to the Falconers of that generation whom they visited often.

Lee surrendered at Appomattox on April 7, 1865. Lincoln was assassinated April 14 1865. The final capitulation of the south was not until April 26, 1865. The Civil War had ended, the Union had suffered 359,528 dead and 275,175 wounded. The south 258,000 dead and at least 100,000 wounded. The country also suffered great wounds in from the division of the north and south. These wounds would not be healed easily. In fact they are not completely healed even today, after 140 years.

In the eight years following the war, the North on the whole had great years of prosperity. At first the South shared little if any of the post war boom. Eventually, despite political disorder, many areas of the South began to show recovery from the war induced poverty. But in 1873, a financial panic struck the nation. There ensued the longest and deepest economic depression in American History. As Late as 1877 thousands of men stood idle in the industrial cities of the North. That year a series of railroad strikes and mob uprising spread from Maryland to Missouri. Not until six years after the panic did the country recover from the slump.

After the war, the south still had a few factories and some new textile mills were founded in Virginia and the Carolinas providing jobs for whites, not blacks. The South suffered less than the north from industrial unemployment, but nevertheless was seriously

affected by the depression. The output of their farms and plantations, which had begun to rise leveled off again. Not until the end of the reconstruction, and the end of the depression (about 1879/80) did the south produce as large an annual cotton crop as before the war.

From 1865 when the war was over, the political upheaval continued unabated in the South until the 1874 congressional elections when the Democrats won a majority of the House of Representatives for the first time since the Civil War.

None of the new laws enacted changed the prevailing view of many Southerners after the war. It would have been surprising if any ex-Confederate, facing the ashes of defeat, would have immediately given loyal devotion to the authority they had fought four years to overthrow. It would have been surprising if many of these people brought up on the pro-slavery argument with it's doctrine of Negro inferiority, had suddenly welcomed the former slave as a person completely free and equal. The Congress and the entire country were in a state of confusion, The following statements indicate some representative views prevailing at the time:

During the winter of 1865-66, General Grant reported to Congress:

"I am satisfied that the mass of thinking men of the south accept the present situation of affairs in good faith. They regard the questions that had divided the people... State rights, the right of state to secede from the union and slavery has been settled forever by the highest tribunal-arms-that man can resort to." He added, I was pleased to learn from leading men whom I met not only accepted the decision as final, but after reflecting, they feel this decision has been a fortunate one for the whole country."

On the other hand, many of the citizens of Fort Smith, including the Falconers, thought otherwise. Their thoughts were more closely expressed by what Carl Schurz, a soldier and politician and Governor Cobb of Georgia Carl Schuyz, told Congress:

"Treason does not appear odious in th South, under existing circumstances, but the Southern people do not feel a sense of it's criminality. The Southern people have an utter absence of national feeling. Although the freedman is no longer considered the property of an individual master, he is considered the slave of society, and all independent state legislation will share the tendency to make it so"

In 1865 Governor Howell Cobb of Georgia stated this view and Southern feeling clearly, which was probably shared by many Southerns,

"The whole South has been more or less devastated. Their physical condition in the loss of property, and deprivation of comforts of life..... is as bad, as their worst enemy could desire. It will require much time to recover from the effects of this devastating war. I regard the abolition of slavery as unfortunate for both the white man and black.

The institution of slavery, in my judgment, provided the best system of labor that could be devised for the Negro race. The abolition of slavery not only deprives Southerners of a large property, but revolutionizes the whole system of agricultural labor; and must retard the restoration of former prosperity. So completely has this institution been interwoven with the whole framework of society, that it's abolition involves a revision and modification of almost every page of the statute books of the states.

The avowed object of the Government was to restore the Union. The successful

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termination of the war has affected that result, so far as further resistance on the part of the South is concerned. Looking to future interests of not only the southern people, but of the whole country, it is desirable that the bitter animosities.... should be softened as much as possible; and the devastated country restored.... to comparative prosperity. “

Arkansas was one of the early states to be readmitted to the Union. In June 22-25, 1868 seven states, Arkansas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North and South Carolina satisfied the requirement of the Reconstruction acts and were readmitted to the Union by Congress.

Congress held up the removal Federal Troops because of Ku Klux Klan activities and, on February 26, 1869 Congress proposed the Fifteenth Amendment forbidding any state from depriving a citizen of his vote because of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. The South more or less de facto finally won peace by writing laws that left the Negroes mostly poor tenet share croppers, without land, segregated and their vote all but disenfranchised.

The Ku Klux Klan was founded at Pulaski Tenn. in 1866. It was aimed to destroy Radical Republican political power and establish white supremacy, the order was a cloak for lawlessness and violence. It was formally disbanded in 1869, although it's activities continued for some time after that date, even into the late 20th century. Congress passed a law in May of 1870 and April 1871, to enforce the 14th and 15th amendments. Certain section were declared unconstitutional in 1876 and again in 1883 by the supreme court.

In 1868, after taking office the carpetbagger [3] governor of Arkansas, Powel Clayton, fought the Klan by calling out the militia (Negro and white) and proclaiming martial law. His suppression of the Klan disorders were followed by Arkansas leading the country in economic growth and prosperity. By July 1869, the wages paid to negro laborers in the cotton fields of Arkansas far exceeded the wages ever paid before to labor anywhere, except in California during the few years after the discovery of gold.

The Federal Troops were not removed from Arkansas until 1877, when president Hays finally removed all of the Federal Troops out the South,

Along with all of the south, the Falconer home and land was also decimated during the Union occupation. The Federal Troops had confiscated all of Mary Ellen's horses that had been left, including her one of her personal favorites. One day, she saw a particularly pompous looking Union officer riding her horse on the street. She whistled a special signal to the horse, the horse suddenly reared up on it's hind legs, and dumped the officer on the street. The officer never knew why the horse bucked. Mary Ellen, was pleased; she secretly put the Union officer in his place that day.

Even though they never knew the Falconers, it is interesting to realize that My Cherokee grandfather, **William Keith** and his mother's father, **James McClure**, were a cousins of the Starr family. The **Keiths**, **Arnetts** and **McClures** lived in the Porum area of the Cherokee nation. Later in the 1880s they became friends with Belle Starr, the Dalton, James and Younger gangs. In fact **William Keith** claimed he kept fresh horses for the gangs to help them get away from the posse after a robbery. (See Volume II, The Titchenal-Cherokee Connection.)

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After the Union forces took control of Arkansas, guerrilla renegade Confederate army units like Quantrill joined with Cherokee soldiers and harassed the Union troops. For a while they were respected by the Confederate citizens. Later, and particularly after the war, Quantrill turned outlaw and was joined by such men as Cole Younger and Frank and Jessie James. (See the Cherokee Connection). They and other ruffians of the worst sort, both red and white, banded together along the Oklahoma border to sweep down on hapless settlers and rob banks and trains.

In spite of the Falconer family's personal feelings toward these men, to combat these raids, Mary Ellen Falconer's son, Col. John Perry Falconer, organized a company of scouts who offered protection to the citizens and hunted down and punished those guilty of crimes against the people. It is said he was so successful in deterring crime that his very name struck fear in the hearts of the lawless.

Col. Falconer and his company of scouts operated all through the war and for some time after, while conditions were still chaotic and crime was rampant. At one time, according to Mary's great grandson, John Luce, Colonel Falconer was called before a judge and asked, "Have you ever killed any men?" "Not a damn one that didn't need it". replied John Perry Falconer, who then strolled from the court room. Not a hand lifted to stop him.



When the war was over and the southerners rode to lay down their arms. John Perry Falconer rode into Fort Smith, doffed his hat to a Union Officer, and stated, "I am John Perry Falconer." As he rode away it is said that men of both armies doffed their hats in honor of his brave deeds.



**Mary Ellen Titchenal Falconer
in front of her home about 1860.**
Note: black slave boy in playing in yard

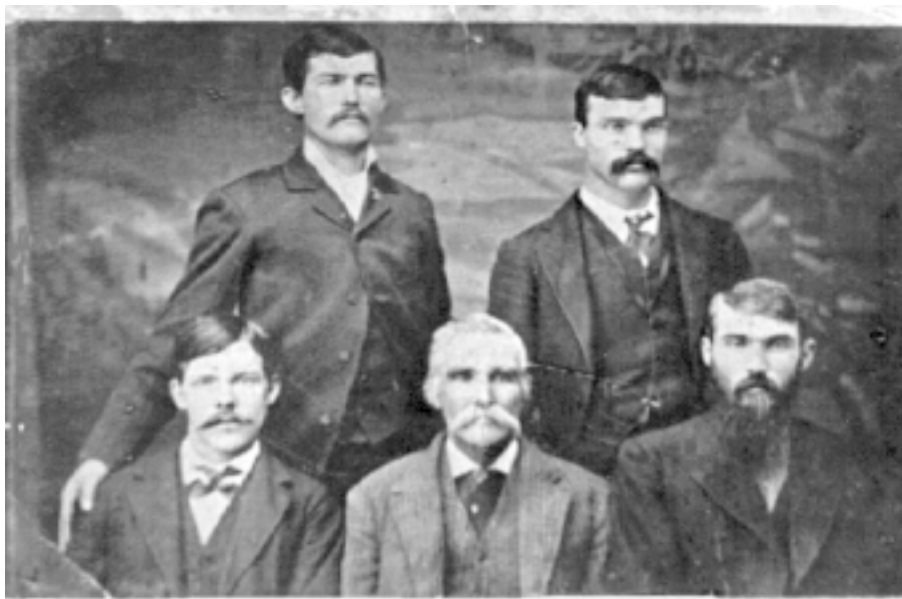
During and just after the war, many valuable records were stolen or destroyed by northern carpetbaggers^[3]. Many Confederate families lost almost everything they had, including their land, home, livestock and personal belongings. Even the county records were stolen. A party led by Henry Falconer and Bleeker Luce^[1] rode from Sebastian County south to adjacent Scott County and recovered and brought back records and items that had not been destroyed.

William's other sister's [Sarah Ann (Titchenal) Hackett] husband, Jeremiah Hackett, Jr. joined with the Union forces in 1861 when the war broke out. Jeremiah became a

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captain of Company A of the 2nd Kansas Calvary, served his time out with distinction and bravery and was later promoted to Major.

In march of 1863, his son, Benjamin Franklin Hackett, enlisted as a private in Company B of the 2nd Kansas Calvary. The unit later became the Third Kansas Battery and participated in the fights at Honey Springs, Fort Gibson and Weber's Falls, but Benjamin escaped without any wounds. After the war, Benjamin held a number of Civil offices and was elected to the Arkansas Legislature in 1866. Benjamin became a merchant and a lumberman and had a string of lumber mills in Indian Territory. He was a Major in the State Guard. He was U.S. Commissioner and U. S. Marshall in the central District of Indian Territory. He was an "old fashioned Fiddler" and it is said he composed the famous - "Arkansas Traveler" which was once the state song.



Jeremiah Hackett, Jr. and his four sons. (about 1890)
Benjamin Franklin, Thomas P., John P. and Albert P.

John Luce wrote that **William's** sister, Mary Ellen (Titchenal) Falconer and her daughter Margaret never forgave Jeremiah or his son for joining with the Union forces against the south. As a matter of fact, the men were not popular with any of their neighbors for some years after the war but later became the respected and well liked citizens. [see the obituaries of Jeremiah, Benjamin and Sarah Ann [Titchenal] Hackett, Foot notes pages 191-1992.]

William's youngest sister, Susan Eliza, married, George H. Browne, on March 22, 1852. George Browne also was a Civil War veteran. No one knows if he fought for the Union or the Confederacy. Whichever side he fought on must have worried Susan's mother, Rebecca. Rebecca was about seventy years old and living with her daughter, Susan, during the Civil War years while George Browne was away fighting. Susan died January 16, 1865, a few months before the war ended. Her husband may have been away at the time. They had three young children; A son Thomas, twelve, a son William, ten and a daughter Mary Elizabeth, eight. I assume their grandmother Rebecca

continued to care for them as long as she could. After the war, George Browne served a deputy U.S. Marshal under Judge Isaac Parker.

George Browne had built a log cabin for his bride, Susan, shortly before they were married on March 22, 1852. It was restored and moved to the George Combs dairy farm; One half-mile south of Cavanaugh Road at 8424 Texas Road and in 1980 was open to visitors on Saturday and Sunday.

Dorothy Pulley, who now lives in Yukon, Oklahoma is the great-great granddaughter of Susan and George Browne. Her mother could not tell her much about the Brownes, but Dorothy has an old trunk that is thought to be a trunk that was part of the belongs that **John** and **Rebecca Titchenal** floated across the river in a wagon bed when the boundary between Indian Territory was changed by the treaty of 1825 and they were forced to move



**George and Susan Eliza Browne's cabin
built about 1852**

back to Arkansas. It is believed Rebecca continued living with Susan's family until her own death after Susan's untimely death, so there is a good possibility that it is the actual trunk.

Charles Dickason, Sarah Ann's father, and her sisters, left Ohio for Illinois in the 1850s. There were no major battles fought in Illinois, I assume they were safely out of the war, but I have no information on how the war affected their families.

William was glad he did not stay in Arkansas. Even-though, he was concerned about the safety of his family, he didn't regret that he or his sons missed fighting in the war. Nor did he miss the family squabbles that must have occurred. If they had stayed in Fort Smith, he did not know how he or his sons would have reacted to the war or the beliefs of his mother and sisters; his Falconer and Hackett relatives; or his other southern confederate friends.

After knowing and becoming friends with former black slaves in the California mining country, **William** only solidified his views on the South and slavery. He knew from experience that the southern plantation owners passionately believed slavery was the best labor system ever devised for cotton and tobacco farms, and thought it was good for both the planters and the Negro people. He knew his mother and sister had never felt right about the way their countrymen and America treated the Indian and Mexican people. He agreed with them, and therefore couldn't understand why

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they tolerated and approved the slavery of the Negro people in the South. In fact, he agreed with the views expressed by a union officer, Major General Rufus Saxton, before congress in February 1866:

“I think that negro freedmen share with the rest of the human race a natural disinclination of labor, but no greater extent than the white race. With the proper stimulus they would be as industrious as any other people. The only stimulus the negro formerly had to labor was that of the lash. That removed and the stimulus of wages that provide the necessities of life that they desire will make them thrifty and industrious people.

The object which the freedman has most at heart is the purchase of land. They all desire to get small homesteads and to locate themselves upon them. and there is scarcely any sacrifice too great for them to accomplish this object. **I believe it is the policy of the majority of the southern farm owners to prevent Negroes from becoming landholders. They desire to keep the Negroes landless and as nearly in a condition of slavery as is possible for them to do.**

I think that the former slave holders know less about the freedmen than any other class of people. The system of slavery has been one of concealment on the part of the negro of all his feelings and his impulses; and that feeling of concealment is so ingrained with the very constitution of the negro that he deceives his former master on almost every point. The freedman has no faith in his former master, nor has his former owner any faith in the freedman.”

In the meantime, the war didn't come close to Hornitos. Susan and McHenry Morrison had four more children: Sarah Catherine on December 6, 1863; McHenry Jr. on January 3, 1867; Charles Gesford on Jan 7, 1877 and James Walter on March 9, 1889.

George and Rosa Reeb were another couple that moved to Hornitos during the gold rush and later became important to the Morrisons and the **Titchenals**. George Reeb was born in France and his wife Rosa in Switzerland. George Reeb was probably part of the large cliques of French miners that rendezvous at the Pacific Saloon and first looked for gold in Hornitos.

Later, he became a farmer and had a butcher shop. The shop became one of the most popular places in town, not only because of the meat he sold but because George himself was well liked. He became close friends with the **Titchenal** and the McHenry Morrison families. George and Rosa Reeb had at least two beautiful daughters, Rosa, born in Hornitos, March 6, 1866; and Katherina Frances, born in Hornitos November 11, 1870.

Interesting stories about George Reeb, his butcher shop and Hornitos during the 1850s are told in the book “*The Call Of Gold*” by W. E. Chamberlain:

One day George Reeb, the butcher of Hornitos and one of its most substantial citizens, had a sow killed, so large that it had to be scalded in sections.

He was about ready to have it unloaded from his wagon and carried into the shop, when a crowd collected to view the immense carcass. One of the spectators suggested that bets be made as to the weight of the animal, the one making the poorest guess to pay for a bottle of whiskey, from which, each would be entitled to a nip and the one making the best guess to have the privilege of draining the bottle. So the contest was soon on and the guesses ran all the way from four hundred pounds to seven hundred. Aleck happened along at this

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time and was invited to guess. This bow-legged "niggah" smacked his lips a few times, his head from side to side and his eyes sparkled as he looked the animal over carefully, then he said slowly, 'Yassuh yssuh, five hundred and ninety-four pounds'.

After all the guesses had been made, the hog was hoisted to a weighing beam and the weight was found to be exactly five hundred and ninety-four pounds. Several of the white participants patted Aleck on the back, with such remarks as, "you're a pretty good judge of hogs, you're really an expert" and "You're a lucky cuss, a pretty good guesser, Aleck". With each word of praise, Aleck's bow-legs became straighter and straighter, until he stood nearly six feet in height, and he smacked his lips a few times, before remarking in a slow drawl, "yassuh, I could do better than that with a little practice" No one present ever forgot that remark and it always brought a smile whenever recalled to memory. From that day on, Aleck's bow-legs were not so noticeable.

Many Southerners had come out early to the mines with their slaves. However when they learned that California had been admitted to the Union as a free State they usually freed their "niggah."

Some waited until President Lincoln's Proclamation. The freed slaves generally stayed in close proximity to their former masters and so after the Civil War there were about twenty negro families living near the southern limits of Hornitos.

Aleck was one of these slaves. He was slim, tall and very bow-legged. It was said in exaggeration that when standing natural two sheep could walk side by side between his legs. He was a good citizen, who always removed his hat when passing a lady. He was a great talker, always happy and comical in his actions, which made him a great favorite. He lived in a three-room cabin, raised a few ducks and chickens, did a little mining and occasionally worked for some of the stock men.

At this time, Hornitos was still a very prosperous mining section with many mines operating nearby with mills and water equipment. The Chinese were busily engaged in working over the creek beds by hand which had already been worked over by the whites and Mexicans.



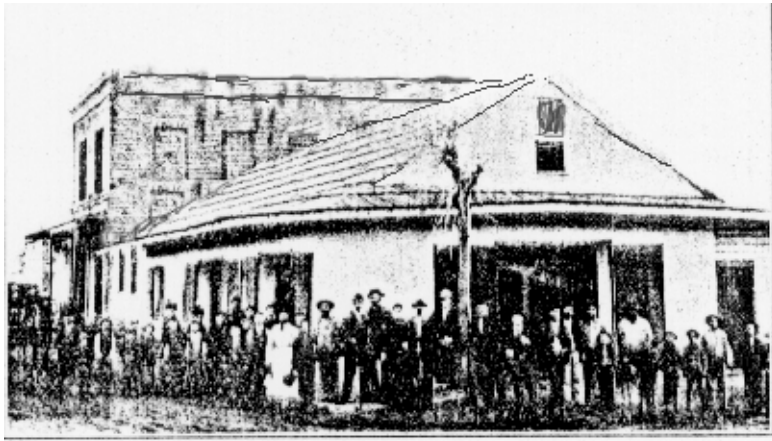
The town was full of people. The negro settlement was on the southern end of town. Here, on every pleasant evening, was enacted scenes of the sunny south, with men, women and children gathered together under the spreading oaks, and singing and dancing to their favorite instrument, the banjo.

The Chinese settlement was on the opposite end of town. It consisted of small cabins in each of which fifteen or twenty Chinese slept on rice mats on the floor. It was a marvel to see how many of these foreign-dressed coolies, with their long queues could be accommodated in such small cabins. Many of the cabins had basements for flight if necessary. In these basements, wells were sunk for water supply. The Chinese, like the Negroes, kept to themselves but in addition they had their own stores and gambling dens which were well patronized by whites.

Their favorite game was tan, which in later years was called "Fan Tan". At one end of a long table the dealer stood with a large pile of Chinese copper coins with a square hole in the centers. He would pick up a handful of these coins and lay them down in a flattened pile over part of which he would place an inverted bowl. He then pulled in the coins left

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outside the bowl with hooked rattan stick. After the players standing around the table had placed their bets he lifted the bowl and stacked the coins hereunder in piles of four. If there were one, two or three coins left over those betting on "odd" doubled their money. If there were none or two left over those betting on "even" doubled their money, while those that guessed the exact number tripled their bets. A small commission was charged to each winner, but the players thought that was fair, although they would note the pay-off Chinaman standing on one side of the table always had stacks of American money. The games would go on for hours, with hardly a word being spoken. The Chinese are noted for being the most impassive and clever gamblers in the world.



Reeb's butcher shop at a corner of the Plaza. Hornitos

In the town there were five stores four hotels, six saloons and three livery stables all of which did a good business. There was a fine lodge of Odd Fellows and one of the Masons. The Mexican dance halls ran all night. Here the Mexican and white spendthrifts gambled at monte and fero and danced with dark-eyed senioritas to the twang of the guitar.

Disputes arose at times and someone would be killed but the fandango never stopped.

Frequently a blanket was placed on the floor or outside on the side on the ground and a group would deposit their gold dust in piles thereon. Then the betting started, a pinch of dust at a time, until one man had won all, through lucky turns of the cards.

The losers however were always cheerful and would start out the next day to find another stake singing the tune of "How Happy's the Soldier" to verses like the following:

"Tis said that each dog shall in time have his day,
so keep up your courage and hammer away,
If you miss it today, you may find it tomorrow,
Oh surely the life of a miner is gay.*

Then dig and be dirty, time passes away,
Soon your backs will be bowed and your heads will be gray,
Then spend all you can and be somewhat ahead,
For you wont need a picayune when you are dead,
Oh, surely the life of a miner is gay.*

In it's heyday, Hornitos was a wide open camp whose streets were lined with fandango halls, bars and gaming tables. One visitor of 1857 was walking past the sidewalk gaming tables when two players flashed knives at each other. The dealer then covered them with his pistol and suggested with evident logic that they go somewhere else and finish the dispute without interrupting the game. Followed by a crowd the pair adjourned to a nearby lot and fell upon each other with their knives. Soon one of them staggered back covered with vicious wounds, tossed down a glass of brandy and retook his seat at the card table. Dispute

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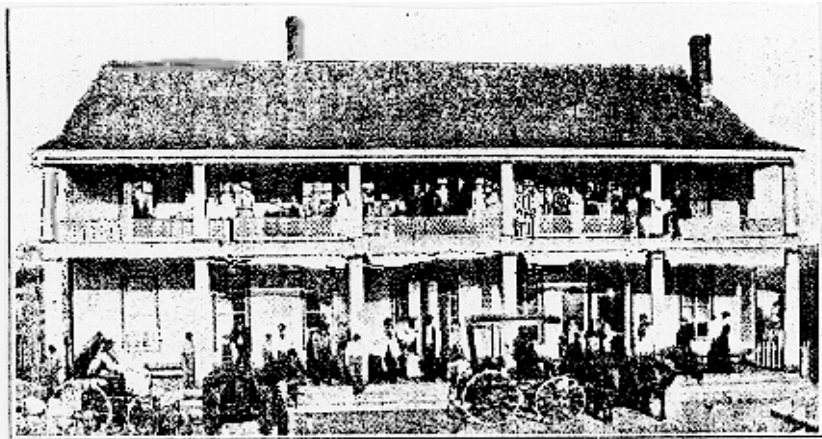
his show of bravado, he was soon buried with his opponent in what the visitor called Dead Man's Gulch."

Many books tell of Joaquin Murrieta, who was one of the most notorious bandits of the period. According to one report:

His career of crime began in Murphys in 1850. Murrieta was mining on the Stanislaus River when a group of tough American miners ordered him to leave his claim. When he refused to comply they gave him a brutal beating and assaulted his wife, Regaining consciousness, he found his wife dead and he buried her nearby. He then came to Murphys where he operated a Monte game in the "Blue Tent".

About this time his brother was hanged unjustly by a mob at Placerville. One day Murrieta visited a friend on Los Muertos creek near Angels Camp and borrowed a horse to ride back to Murphys. When he arrived an American miner saw the horse and claimed the Mexican had stolen it from him. A crowd of miners gathered around and were going to hang the Mexican until he convinced them that he had borrowed the horse from his friend and could prove it. This however, only turned the wrath of the crowd against the friend who was brought into the camp and hanged. Murietta was tied up and cruelly whipped. While he was being whipped Murietta could see the faces of each of his tormentors, and the faces were burned into his memory. He resolved to get revenge upon them. Not long after he met one on the trail at night, and in a frenzy of hate, stabbed him to death. Eventually he killed all the men who had flogged him and hanged his friend.

Three fingered Jack Garcia was the leader of a gang of horse thieves and bandits with headquarters at Los Muertos. After Murrieta was driven out of Murphys he joined this band and became their leader. Murrieta was cool and fearless but one must wonder how he was able to control such a cruel depraved character as Three-fingered Jack is reported to have



Hornitos Hotel, ready to receive an ex-President.

been. Jack was especially fond of killing Chinaman and he enjoyed the smell of fresh blood. One night at Murphys, Garcia robbed six Chinamen, and then tied them up by their queues and cold-bloodedly cut their throats. He was supposed to have collected a string of Chinese ears from his murdered victims. In a short time after Murietta became El Capitan, the bandits numbered over one hundred well mounted men.

Ben Marshall had been constable of Murphys in 1850 and knew Murietta before he started on his career of crime. He had befriended Murietta once while he was a dealer at the "Blue Tent". He knew about the cruel treatment Murietta and the Mexicans had from the American miners. One night Ben ran into Murietta alone in Murphys they pulled their guns but didn't shoot. He told Murietta he didn't blame him from feeling as he did toward all Americans after the way he had been treated, but that the people were demanding his arrest

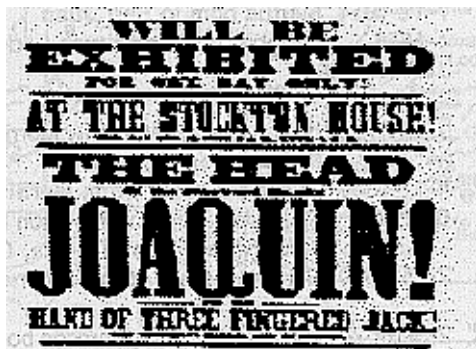
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for the crimes he has committed, and he would have to fulfill his duty unless he left the country and never returned. Joaquin replied, "I respect you, sir. You have my word, I'll leave tonight." He backed away and was gone in the darkness. No crimes were ever traced to him again in Calaveras County.

A few days after his escape in Murphys, Joaquin was reported in Hornitos, apparently having left Calaveras County for good. With his usual bravado he was playing Monte in a saloon and drinking freely until his comrades dragged him away for fear of getting caught.

Joaquin made himself the terror of the southern mines and the sensation of California. More than ever the settlers were panicked. At least two posses were in the field and citizens of the area collected \$1000 reward for Joaquin. The Chinese that suffered the brunt of Joaquin's ferocity, were leaving their isolated camps and congregating in large settlements for protection.

Around March 4, 1853 all of the stock at the ranch of an American near Quartzburg were run off by a band of Mexicans. The determined owner, Mr Prescott, tracked them into Hornitos and found them in a tent. He then collected seven or eight Americans to surround and capture them.



Coalinga. In the fight that followed the rangers killed the leader (supposedly Joaquin) and a man identified as Manuel "Three-fingered Jack" Garcia.

To prove they had actually killed Joaquin, the rangers brought back the leader's head and Three-Fingered Jack's deformed hand preserved in a keg of brandy. Love sought out seventeen affidavits that this was indeed the head of Joaquin. The grisly trophies were put on display at Stockton, then San Francisco, where the curious paid \$1.00 admission.

Ben Marshall and others showed up to look at the head and claimed it was not that of Joaquin. Legend has it that Joaquin returned to his native land Sornora, Mexico and lived



Joaquin Murrieta waves to his admirers

many years afterward."

John Jackson Titchenal, William Charles Titchenal, and McHenry and Susan Morrison all lived in Hornitos as young men and women in the early fifties and sixties during the time of outlaws like Murietta and the fights between drunken miners. They witnessed some of the shootings and stabbing that occurred there so frequently. Outsiders never interfered with the participants and even if there was a killing, the public just took a casual look and then passed by. They kept their distance also, because they knew that curiosity at such times might be costly, and in Hornitos the old saying was true "curiosity really did kill the cat".

David Dickason Titchenal, Will and John Morrison were not born until the sixties. They would not have seen or remembered the wild times as young boys, but they certainly heard many stories about that time. David Titchenal and his nephews, Will and John Morrison, grew up together as brothers. As boys, they must have romanticized about the Hornitos of earlier times, maybe even imagined themselves living in Hornitos during those times. They all seemed to like living there better than Santa Ana.

I could have included many more stories that have been recorded about the times in Hornitos during the 1850s and 60s, but I think the stories included in this chapter represent a pretty good picture of what life there was like for **William** and his family. No doubt the wild and tough life style in Hornitos caused **William** to have his family stay on the Guyan Ranch 17 miles away in Hopetown, rather than in town.

Note: I tried to determine if a Guyan ranch still, or ever existed, in Hopetown. A search of telephone connections in the western area turned up ten Guyan names. All in Southern California. I wrote to one man, he answered that his family has been in Solano Beach hence the late 1800s. He offered no further information. It is possible the Guyan family moved south about the same time as **William**. I have not written to any of the others yet, but I wouldn't be surprised if it turned out they are from the same family that the **Titchenals** stayed with from 1856 to 1669..

Footnotes for chapter XVI:

[1] Bleeker Luce was the son of, John Bleeker Luce, and the older brother of Will Luce, who married Katherine McKinney (daughter of Margaret [Falconer] McKinney. Margaret was the only daughter of **William's** oldest sister, Mary Ellen [Titchenal] and William Falconer. John Bleeker Luce is the great Uncle of the John Luce who has furnished much of the information about the Titchenals, Hacketts and Falconers in Fort Smith. John Luce's grandmother is Katherine McKinney.

John Bleeker Luce was born in Albany, New York into a notable Dutch-English family. His grandmother was a sister of General Stephen Rensselaer. Whose family was one of the most prestigious families of early American history. The Rensselaer family received the largest land grant ever given by the Dutch East India Company, one that covered over fifty square miles and on which entire villages were located. John Bleeker Luce's brother, Admiral Stephen Bleeker Luce became a noted member of the navy, and several ships and buildings were named for him. Admiral Luce married the grandniece of Martha Washington. His sister married the great-grandson of Benjamin Franklin.

John Bleeker Luce first came to the Indian Territory in 1842 as an Indian agent. He later served as secretary to William Armstrong, Western Superintendent of Indian affairs, He later became a lawyer in the Van Buren-Fort Smith area during the 1870s. Among other things, he sued the famous woman outlaw Belle Starr to get back \$33,000 allegedly stolen from the Cherokee tribe by her dead husband Sam Starr. (See the story in the Cherokee Connection)

[2] The many moves **William** and his family made during their 17 years in northern California make it difficult to keep track

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of the size of his family in each locale. The following chart lists the size of his family at the time of each event or move.

The Titchenal and Morrison families' times and travels in northern California.		
Date	Event	Children's ages
7-9-1852	Arrived San Francisco	Susan-11, John -9, William Charles-8, Sarah-5mo.
8-15-1852	Sarah died	Susan-11, John -9, William Chas.-8
1-22-1853	Member of Murphys Lodge	Susan-12, John -10, William Chas.-9
7-23-1853	Daughter died at birth	
10-25-1853	Member of San Juan Lodge	Susan-12, John -10, William Chas.-9
7-12-1854	Martha born in San Juan	Susan-13, John -11, William Chas.-10
1-1856	Member of Quartzburg Lodge	Susan-15, John -13, William Chas.-11, Martha-1-5mo.
11—14-1856		Daughter died at birth, Susan-15, John -13, William Chas.-11, Martha-2-4mo
12-24-1857	Susan Married McHenry Morrison in Hornitos	Susan-16-1/2, John -14. William Chas.-13, Martha-3-5mo.
4-11-1858	David Dickason born, Hornitos	Susan-17, John -15, William Chas.-12, Martha-3-10mo
6-4-1860	Will Miles Jefferson Morrison born Martinez , Contra Costa, County	Susan-19-1/2, John -17. William Chas.-15, Martha-6, in David-4
7-25-1860	Samuel Henry born, Martinez	
2-5-1862	John Beauregard Morrison born In Hornitos	Susan-21, John -19. William Chas.-17, Martha-8, David-4, Will- 2, Samuel-2
12-6-1863	Sarah Catherine born to Susan Morrison (Hornitos)	
1-3-1867	McHenry born to Susan Morrison (in Hornitos)	
11-9-1869	William leaves for Santa Ana	Family split - Susan-28, husband McHenry Morrison 36, Children, Will-9, John B.-7, Sarah C.-6, and McHenry-2, William Chas.-24, & David-11, stayed in Hornitos with their sister Susan

John-25, Martha-15, and Samuel-9 traveled to **Santa Ana** with their parents **William** And **Sarah**

[3] The term **Carpenter** was used before the war to designate a Fly-by-night banker on the western frontier who gathered money from depositors then disappeared. In 1867 it was applied to Northern Republicans in the South. It implied that these were rootless and penniless men who had arrived with all their possessions in a carpet bag. When the southerners used the term they were thought to be men who followed the confederate army south at a safe distance in the rear. Some in sutlers' wagons; some bearing cotton permits; some looking sharply to see what might turn up; and remain there.

They professed to be champions of negro rights to get the black vote. They got elected senators, judges, sheriffs, etc. Once ingratiated with the blacks, they would steal and plunder, many with both arms around the negroes and their hands in their rear pockets picking the last paltry dollar out of the black men also.

The **Scalawag** was an ex-confederate or southerner also embracing the negro while running for office, only to plunder the south for their own benefit.