

HISTORY OF THE TROXEL FAMILY

ROSEVILLE, CALIFORNIA, JULY 10, 1930

GRANDFATHER DANIEL ZACHARIA TROXEL WAS BORN IN FREDRICK COUNTY, MARYLAND NEAR THE OLD BATTLEGROUND OF FREDRICKSBURG ABOUT AUGUST 11, 1803, AND HAD OFTEN SPOKEN OF HAVING A BROTHER NAMED GEORGE, ALTHOUGH NOTHING IS NOW KNOWN OF HIS HISTORY. THEY HAD TWO SISTERS, ONE, BETSY MARRIED A MAN BY THE NAME OF BURBANK, WHOSE DAUGHTER MARRIED GOVERNOR MORTON OF INDIANA DURING THE CIVIL WAR, THE OTHER SISTER, SUSAN, MARRIED A MAN BY THE NAME OF SMITH, VERY LIKELY THEY ALSO LIVED IN INDIANA.

GRANDFATHER TROXEL OFTEN TOLD IN FATHER'S PRESENCE THAT ORIGINALLY THERE WERE THREE BROTHERS WHO CAME TO AMERICA FROM GERMANY, AND SETTLED IN PENNSYLVANIA IN COLONIAL TIMES BEFORE THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR. THERE IS A VERY OLD TOWN IN SNYDER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA NAMED TROXELVILLE. IT IS ABOUT TWELVE OR FIFTEEN MILES FROM MIDDLEBURG, AND ABOUT THE SAME DISTANCE FROM MIFFLINBURG. NO DOUBT THIS TOWN WAS FOUNDED BY SOME OF THE DESCENDANTS OF ONE OF THE ORIGINAL BROTHERS THAT EMIGRATED HERE FROM GERMANY, AS IT IS TRUE THAT ALL THE TROXELS IN AMERICA ARE DESCENDED FROM THEM.

GREAT-GRANDFATHER TROXEL LIVED AT FREDRICK, MARYLAND WHERE HE OWNED AN ESTATE, AND A LARGE NUMBER OF SLAVES BEFORE THE WAR. GRANDFATHER TROXEL STATED THAT WHEN THEY BUILT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AT WASHINGTON, HIS FATHER, GREAT GRANDFATHER TROXEL HAD A BIG CONTRACT TO DELIVER STONE THAT WENT INTO THE FOUNDATION AND CAPITOL BUILDING, UPON WHICH HE WORKED MANY SLAVES, AS A LITTLE BOY AND ON UP TO MANHOOD GRANDFATHER TROXEL WAS ATTENDED BY A

GIGANTIC NEGRO SLAVE NAMED GEORGE.

GRANDFATHER DANIEL Z. TROXEL LEFT MARYLAND IN HIS EARLY MANHOOD, THE YEAR WE DO NOT KNOW. FATHER DID NOT KNOW, AND WENT TO ADAMS COUNTY, OHIO, WHERE HE MET AND MARRIED MISS ELEANOR ZUMWALT, AND AFTERWARD MOVED TO HANCOCK COUNTY, INDIANA, FROM WHERE AT A LATER DATE THEY MOVED TO WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS WHERE MOST OF THEIR CHILDREN WERE BORN, AND WHERE LATER SEVERAL DIED AT TROUTMANS GROVE, NEAR THE CITY OF JOLIET, ILLINOIS.

IN THE FALL OF 1852, THEY DECIDED TO GO TO CALIFORNIA, THE FAMED LAND OF GOLD, AND AFTER SELLING OFF EVERY THING EXCEPT WHAT WAS NECESSARY TO TAKE WITH THEM THEY DROVE TO KEOKUK, IOWA, WHERE THEY SPENT THE WINTER OF 1853. IN THE SPRING OF 1854 THEY JOINED A GREAT WAGON TRAIN AT COUNCIL BLUFFS, ILLINOIS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GREAT UNCLE JOSEPH ZUMWALT WHO WAS GRANDMOTHER TROXEL'S BROTHER AND CAPTAIN OF THE WAGON TRAIN WHICH ORIGINATED AT JOLIET, ILLINOIS, AND WITH WHICH THEY AND FAMILY PROCEEDED ON TO CALIFORNIA, ARRIVING AT ILLINOIS TOWN (NOW COLFAX, PLACER COUNTY, IN SEPTEMBER 1854, AT WHICH PLACE THEY SETTLED AND LIVED UNTIL THE FALL OF 1857 WHEN THEY MOVED TO A FARM A SHORT DISTANCE FROM SILVEYVILLE, AN OLD TOWN A FEW MILES NORTHWEST OF THE PRESENT TOWN OF DIXON, SOLANO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

BOTH GRANDFATHER AND GRANDMOTHER TROXEL LIVED ON THE OLD FARM AT SILVEYVILLE, UNTIL THEY DIED. GRANDFATHER DIED MARCH 16, 1867, AGE 64 YEARS 7 MONTHS, AND 19 DAYS. GRANDMOTHER TROXEL DIED JAN. 25, 1873, AGE 58 YEARS 6 MONTHS. THEY BOTH REST IN THE DIXON CEMETERY. THEY HAD FOUR SONS LIVING AT THE TIME OF THEIR DEATH-- WILLIAM TREMBLE, JOSEPH R., GEORGE WHEATLY, AND ALBERT M. TROXEL.

GRANDFATHER AND GRANDMOTHER TROXEL HAD EIGHT SONS AND THREE DAUGHTERS. ALL BUT THE FOUR ABOVE NAMED SONS DIED DURING A TERRIBLE EPIDEMIC OF BLOODY FLUX (A CHOLERA LIKE DYSENTERY) IN ILLINOIS WHILE THEY WERE CHILDREN. THE NAMES OF THOSE THAT DIED WERE JACOB, JOHN, EVERISTUS, DANIEL, RAECHEL ELLEN, ANN MARGARET, AND SARAH ELIZABETH.

GRANDMOTHER TROXEL WAS BORN IN ADAMS COUNTY, OHIO. HER FATHER'S NAME WAS JACOB ZUMWALT. THEY LIVED ON BRUSH CREEK NEAR THE GREAT SERPENT MOUND. THE LAND UPON WHICH IT STANDS BELONGED TO HER FATHER AT THAT TIME. GRANDMOTHER TROXEL HAD TWO BROTHERS AND THREE SISTERS—JOSEPH, JACOB, BETSY LONG, SARAH KILPATRICK, MRS. CAMERON (MOTHER OF OLD JAKE CAMERON), AND MRS. MARY SOMMERS. GRANDMOTHER TROXEL'S ELDEST BROTHER, JOSEPH ZUMWALT HAD FOUR SONS AND THREE DAUGHTERS, JAKE, JIM, DAN, JOE, MARYANN EIBE, EMILY WEST, AND MRS. PETER BAILY. JAKE ZUMWALT, HER YOUNGER BROTHER HAD THREE SONS AND THREE DAUGHTERS, JOHN, JOE, DAN, MRS NANCY HUNT, (HER NARRATIVE IS PART OF THE ZUMWALT HISTORY), MRS. SARAH SHOEMAKER, AND MRS. LIZZIE ESKRIDGE HALL.

THIS IS OUR FAMILY HISTORY AS GIVEN TO ME BY MY FATHER GEORGE W. TROXEL, ON JANUARY 8, 1918.

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