

N. Doderio; first Protestant church, first tannery, first Sons of Temperance lodge, first powder mill and first lime kiln, the small beginning of what is now the extensive Cowell lime works.

The Sweet gulch, located midway between this city and Soquel, is named after the Paul Sweet above mentioned. He was a large and powerful man, and some of his descendants still reside in this county, probably not far from where they were born and raised.

According to the above article Rafael Castro owned the Aptos Rancho as far back as 1838, the land that is said to be now passing from the ownership of the Spreckels heirs into other hands. Many present "Sentinel" readers remember Rafael, the only Santa Cruz Co. don who always dined alone. At one time he had \$3000 hidden in his house. The gold was in \$50 slugs, octagon in form. They were stolen. A man was convicted of the robbery, but after serving a time in state prison, on a second trial, was given his liberty, and disappeared forever from this section.

The word "Shoquel" appears above. Is this word the name of our present Soquel, a word that is said to be of Indian origin?

## Evelyn Wells and Her Story of Santa Cruz

By Josephine C. McCrackin  
(In Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce  
Bulletin.)

Though we of Santa Cruz—whether to the manor born or late comers to the City of the Holy Cross, are all properly boastful of our home town, of the blue bay on which its borders, of the mountains, the forests, the valley glades surrounding it—have never yet quite grasped the historical importance of the early days of this mission town, and of the years preceding its founding as the Mission of the Holy Cross.

But how many of us, enjoying the beauty of the climate, the industrial, educational and social advantages of this city by the sea, would take the trouble to hunt up the history books telling of California before it became California, and of Santa Cruz before the pious padres from Spain had selected the territory on which we now live, as the site on which to erect the Holy Cross and the mission named in its honor.

How many, I repeat, have labored through the musty volumes to search for dates and facts for occurrences and incidents, illustrating the history of our civic and religious past as Evelyn Wells has done, who brings the whole truth before us in a story pleasant to read, easy to grasp, from the days of Viscayno and Cabrillo to the days of disintegration of the mission system, the period of the Spanish exclusiveness, and the present day free American enjoyment of all pleasures that distinction, wealth and culture can offer at a seaside city, or in the home surroundings of the citizens who now occupy the spot where the Mission of the Holy Cross was first founded.

A tribute to Evelyn Wells should be paid by historians and writers. A young girl hardly out of her teens; and she has already the better part of a history of California written. And we "who would like to know" but are too lazy, and think we are too busy, to search through dusty old books for ourselves, can give credit at least, to the California girl who is not afraid of picking up a volume on which the dust lies thick and threatening to white kid gloves. We of Santa Cruz salute Evelyn Wells.