

CAREER OF A. ABSHIRE INTERESTING

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Many of the older residents of Yolo county, and many others as well, will probably be interested in a short sketch of that stalwart pioneer, Andrew Abshire, who died here early this year. The following sketch was prepared from data furnished by his widow, Mrs. A. Abshire, whose home is at 35 Oak street, Woodland:

In the spring of 1863 Andrew Abshire, then a young man, left his old home in Iowa, bent for California. He was accompanied by his three older brothers, one sister, their families and a few friends. The party left Iowa in the covered wagon peculiar to the emigrants' travel of that day.

Shortly after leaving Iowa they joined a large emigrant train and traveled with it until they began to approach Denver. Then they heard tales of the Indian Mormon massacre. After passing a stage station where the two keepers had been killed and the station burned by Indians, most of the emigrants became badly frightened.

Turn To Denver

After a long conference most of the emigrants decided to go to Denver, while the Abshires decided to continue on to California. This left only five wagons in the train.

The trip across the Colorado was fraught with sorrow and suffering. The husband of Abshire's sister died on the way and a simple funeral was conducted. The emigrants lost some of their stock, horses stampeded and there were other difficulties, including the one of often finding feed far from camping places. Owing to the dangers which beset it was necessary for the men to take turns each night, patrolling the wagon train in twos.

Meet Brigham Young

As they neared Salt Lake City they met with an experience which Abshire often referred to in later life. As they were driving along toward the city they were met by one of Brigham Young's guards, who ordered the emigrant wagons out of the way, as "Brigham Young is coming." On each side of the carriage in which the Mormon leader rode were many mounted guards, who cleared all from the road before him.

After further trials and suffering the train proceeded on to Carson City and from there came to Woodland, where they decided to settle. The following winter Andrew Abshire and his brother, Elza, cleared a home for themselves, felling many of the state-oaks which then stood upon the present site of Woodland.

At that time there were only a very few, scattered houses. The Christian church was then conducted by Wick Pendeghast. The church was like all of the small churches of that period, with the little graveyard behind it and on the site of the present cemetery.

K. L. Shipping Point

Andrew Abshire spent most of his early life in the immediate vicinity of Woodland, raising grain on Lowes Grant and hauling the grain to Knights Landing to be shipped by the only method of transportation then available, river steamer. As was the custom of the day he co-operated with other ranchers, among them being such old friends as Poffenberger, Miller, Sam Deaner, Noah Myers, Lou Baird and Jim Baird.

For years he made his home with his sister, the late Mrs. Permelia Simmons, until 1892. In that year he was married to Christie Beck, of Knights Landing, Rev. Joseph Emery performing the ceremony in the M. E. Church, South.

In the spring of 1911 the family moved to Woodland, having purchased a home here.

Andrew Abshire was generally known as a man who not only loved his family, but also loved his city and community and worked for them until health failed.

Plumas National Bulletin

8-20-1925

DEPOSIT OF HIGH GRADE JADE DISCOVERED NEAR PULGA ON KING HOLDING

Colors From Pure White To
Light and Dark Green—
Stone Said To Be Ideal
For Jewelry Working

PULGA, Aug. 20.—Jade deposits recently discovered here are declared by old time miners the best opened up in this country for many years.

The jade runs in colors from pure white to light and dark green stone and is declared to be the same jade sought by expert ornamental carvers for jewelry.

The deposit is owned by W. H. King, who has made several shipments of the stone from the prospect, including one this week to San Francisco and Portland for jewelry purposes. King plans to organize a company to work the prospect.

C. E. Wallace, mining prospector who has examined the deposits, says other precious stones than jade are imbedded in the rock formations of this country as indicated by the quantity of firestone found here. Wallace has recently prospected for opals in the Humboldt county mountains.

The jade prospect here is in a solid serpentine formation and the outcrop of that stone indicates that the prospect is rich. Much of the jade will bring \$10 a pound while other portions of it will sell for \$3 a pound.

Jade deposits in the United States are rare and some deposits are said to be limitless in depth. The Pulga jade has been passed upon by Moser Brothers, San Francisco lapidaries, and pronounced to be of the best.