

TRUNK GENEALOGY

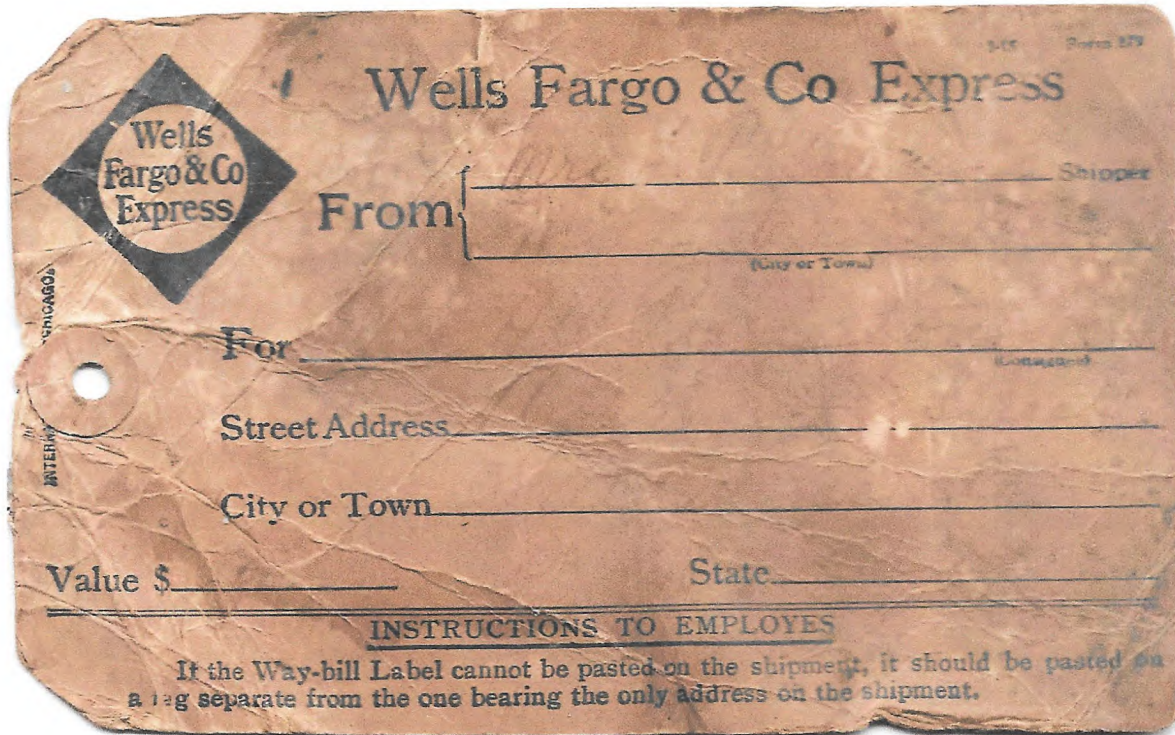
THE PURINTON TRUNK



I bought this trunk in Sacramento, California, in 1992. It is a rare, leather-covered barrel stave trunk. The rollers have a patent date of 1862 and the lock was made by Liebrich, Hillebrand and Wolf of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with a patent date extended to 1868.



There were remnants of shipping tags on the trunk that included a Wells Fargo & Co Express tag indicating it was shipped from F P Grace in Mill Valley, California to Mrs H O Purinton in Sacramento. The date of shipment could have been as late as 1915. (Note: F P Grace was Frances Purinton Grace, daughter of H O & Anna Purinton)



Mrs H O Purinton was Anna Eliza Parker who was born in Sacramento, California in 1851. Anna's parents, James & Lucy Parker, were early pioneers in Sacramento. James Parker and Lucy Taylor met on their way West. Lucy was accompanying her brother, Dr Enos Taylor, on a train of about 100 families traveling west with ox teams. James & Lucy were married in Sacramento on October 5, 1850.

Initially, Anna's father James prospected for gold, but by November of 1850, he sold his profitable claim in El Dorado County and ran a boarding house (The Schuyler House) in Sacramento for about a year (the year Anna was born), then returned to his trade as a journeyman harness-maker, employed by Kingsley & Singleton.

Within four months, James went into the harness business for himself on the corner of Seventh & K Streets. He built up a profitable trade, and in 1864 he bought a building at 518 K Street, where he carried on the harness business until he retired in 1889.

James Parker may have built the Purinton Trunk for his daughter, Anna, as a Bridal or Hope Chest (circa 1872). Trunks were often built by saddle and harness makers in those early days.

Anna met Henry Osgood Purinton in Sacramento. Henry was employed at the Land Office. They were married on January 3, 1872 at the home of Anna's parents. In 1874 Anna's husband (H O Purinton) purchased a 2800 acre ranch in Sutter County and engaged in sheep raising. Henry & Anna Purinton raised seven children - 2 sons & 5 daughters. Their youngest son, James Parker Purinton (1889 - 1966) became one of the large land holders in Sutter County.

Anna Parker Purinton and many members of her family are buried in the Sacramento City Cemetery.



Parker/Shafer Family Plot in Sacramento City Cemetery

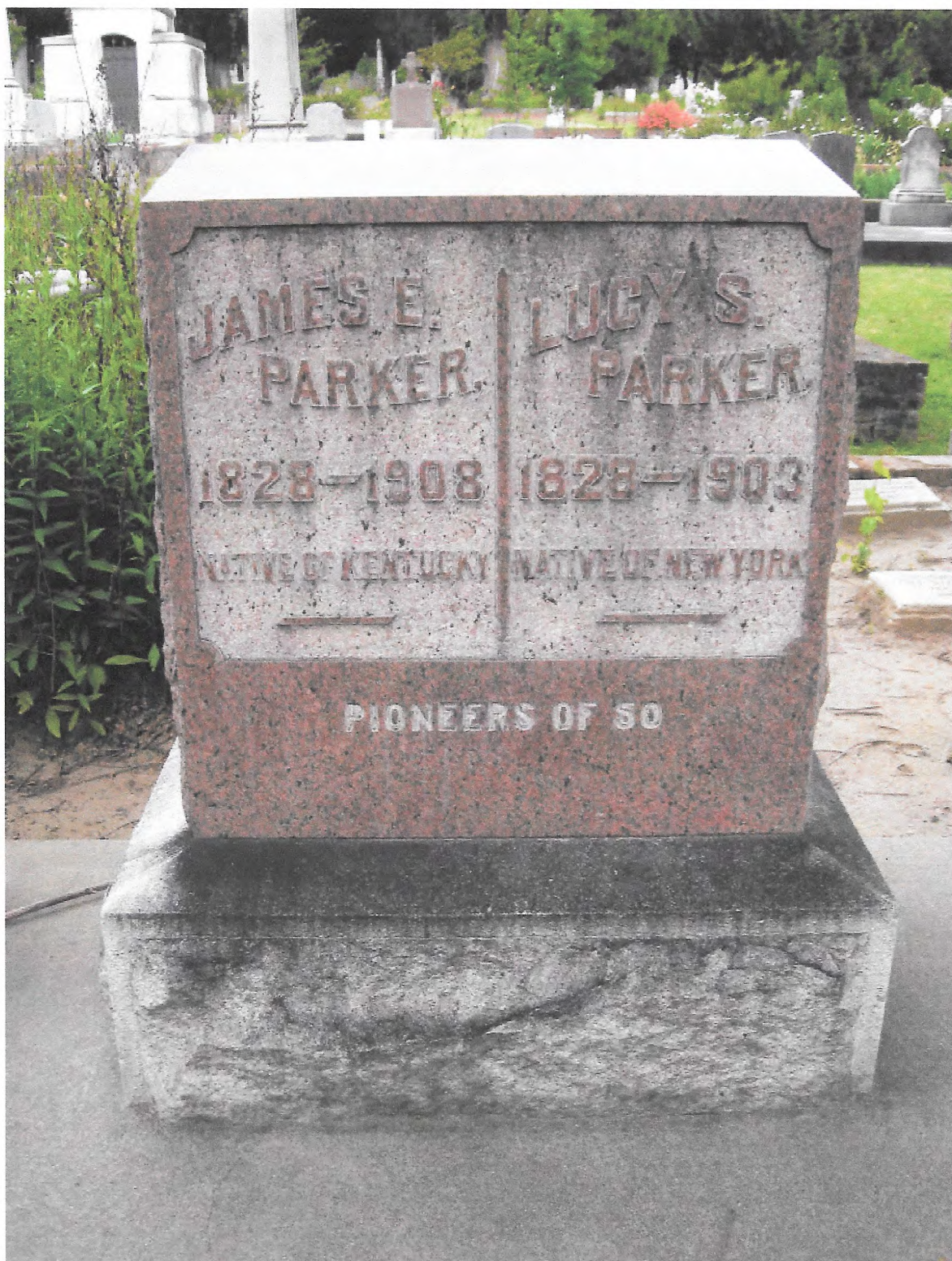


Headstone of H O & Anna (Parker) Purinton as well as their daughter Frances Purinton Grace.



George & Adah (Parker) Shafer Marker

(Adah was Anna Purinton's sister)



Tombstone of Anna's parents, James & Lucy Parker (Located in the Parker/Shafer Family Plot in the Sacramento City Cemetery)