

done much to enhance El Centro's natural beauty. He has been prominent in Masonry, and is past noble grand of Oddfellowship. But little more can be said of this man's honorable career, which is now in its zenith. He has enjoyed, is enjoying and will continue to enjoy the confidence and respect of the people of his city. The citizens of El Centro have repeatedly shown their sincere appreciation of his untiring industry and sterling integrity. He has the reins of city government firmly in hand, his executive ability is of a high order, and his administration has been a wise and a just one. Both in his official and private life he deserves and has the highest esteem of his fellow men.

Mr. Norton was first married in 1888, to Miss Jennie Harmon, of Vassar, Michigan. She died in 1904, and on February 3, 1910, Mayor Norton was married to Miss Genevieve Case, of Riverside.

In politics Mr. Norton is a Republican. He was elected to his high office November 8, 1910, on the Republican ticket, for a four years' term.

TIREY L. FORD. Essentially worthy of designation as one of the really great lawyers and influential men public of California is Hon. Tirey L. Ford, who is engaged in the active practice of his profession in the city of San Francisco, who has served as a member of the state senate and as attorney general of the state, as well as in other positions of distinctive public trust, and who is a citizen exemplifying the highest civic ideals and most progressive policies. His influence has permeated in many directions and has ever been benignant, and he is not only a strong character but is descended from a strong and worthy ancestry, as even the curtailed data of this sketch will indicate.

When William, Prince of Orange, proceeded from Holland to claim the throne of England, in November, 1688, three of his regiments, comprising about seven hundred and fifty men each, were French Huguenots. As an expression of gratitude to these supporters, William, after he became king of England, invited them to make their home in his new dominion in America. Accordingly, in the year 1700, four ship-loads of these Huguenots, sometimes called French Huguenots, numbering some five hundred and including men, women and children, came to Virginia and settled on the James river. In the first ship, which arrived in the latter part of January, 1700, came Pierre Faure (later called Peter Ford) and with him his wife and one child. In the same vessel came also his brother, Daniel, and two sisters whose names are not a matter of record. From Pierre Faure, a representative of that class of French Huguenots who fled from their native land to escape the religious persecutions incident to the revocation of the Edict of Nantes and who found refuge in Holland, as already intimated, is General Tirey L. Ford a direct descendant, and the genealogy will be briefly traced in the following paragraphs.

Pierre Faure (Peter Ford) settled in Manakin Town, on the James river, in 1700. Later, just when it is not certain, he was allotted one hundred and seven acres of land on the south side of this river, in Henrico county, this allotment being a part of a large body of land surveyed and set apart for the colony of French refugees. This allot-

ment was confirmed by a grant on the part of the lieutenant governor of Virginia, Alexander Spottswood, under date of October 31, 1717. This grant was to Peter Faure, and later grants were made to him, under the name of Peter Ford, as follows: January 13, 1725, four hundred acres on south side of James river, in Henrico county; January 13, 1725, three hundred and fifty acres on south side of James river, in Henrico county; July 19, 1735, one hundred and ninety-five acres in Goochland county. Thus Peter Ford owned, either at one time or at various times, about one thousand acres of land in that section of the Old Dominion. He died in 1745, and following is a copy of his last will and testament, the same being designated at the head as the "Will of Pierre Faure:"

In the name of God, Amen. I, Peter Ford, of the parish of King William, county of Goochland, being sick and weak of body, but of perfect mind and understanding, do make this my last will and testament as follows: 1. To my son James Ford, the plantation whereon he now lives, to him and his heirs and assigns forever. 2. To my son Peter Ford, three hundred acres on Mathew Branch where he now lives. 3. To my son John Ford, one hundred and twenty-five acres where he now lives on Jones creek, also one negro wench. 4. To my son Daniel Ford, the plantation where I now live, being in Manakin, on the river; also to my son Daniel one negro boy Tom, also one feather bed and furniture, also two cows and a calf, also one sow and pigs. 5. To my daughters Judith and Mary Ford all the remainder of my movable estate equally between them. If either of my daughters should die under the age of twenty-one years or not marry, then the survivor to have her part of the estate. I do appoint my sons John Ford and Daniel Ford to be the executors of this my estate and of this my last will, dated this 29th day of April, 1744.

PETER FORD.

Witnesses:

Samuel Weaver, Demetrius Young, John Harris. Proved at a court held for Goochland, 16 April, 1745. (Book 4, page 525.)

James Ford was the eldest son of Peter Ford and was probably the child mentioned in the ship's record, though this can not be authenticated. The records of the Manakin Town show that James Ford's wife was named Anne and that they had seven children. Among these children was a son designated on the register of Manakin Town as "Pierre Faure, son of James Faure and Anne, his wife, born 11 January, 1733." This son was generally called Peter Ford. It will be noted that he was somewhat less than a year younger than George Washington. James Ford removed to Albemarle county, from which Buckingham county was later formed, and there several grants of land were made to him. This removal was made about the year 1750.

Peter Ford (Pierre Faure II) was born, as above noted, on the 11th of January, 1733, and was the third child and eldest son of James and Anne Ford. He lived in Buckingham county, Virginia, on the James river. He was four times married and was the father of a large number of children, but as the records of Buckingham county were destroyed by fire the exact number of his children and the re-

spective dates of birth can not be authentically stated. For his first wife Peter Ford married Judith Maxey, and one of their children, the next in line of descent to the subject of this review, was Jacob Ford, who was born in Buckingham county, Virginia, about the year 1771. At the age of sixteen years he served three months in the war of the Revolution, and he was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, at Yorktown. At the age of seventeen he left the parental roof and, after several adventures, went to Kentucky, where he cleared some land. He then returned to Virginia, and thereafter he made several trips to Kentucky, traversing each time a wild Indian country and participating in many conflicts with the Indians. About the year 1796, as nearly as can be ascertained, Jacob Ford removed permanently to Kentucky, and he settled in Garrard county, as did also his father. A considerable company made the journey and though they were on the lookout for Indians, the party was surprised one night in the Cumberland mountains and many were slain by the Indians. Jacob Ford and his father escaped and finally reached their destination. Jacob Ford married Lucretia Maxey about the year 1790, and to whom were born six sons and two daughters, namely: Pleasant, Nathaniel, Samuel, Daniel, John, Jacob, Elizabeth and Kizziah. The exact places and dates of birth of all the children are not known, but records show that the son Pleasant was born in Buckingham county, Virginia, in the year 1793 and was about three years of age at the time of the family removal to Kentucky. His mother taught him to read and otherwise gave him the rudiments of an education. In August, 1812, he volunteered for service in the war of 1812, in the army commanded by General William Henry Harrison, and in the following winter he assisted in the building of Fort Meigs, Ohio. In March, 1813, he returned to Kentucky and married Miss Ellen Harris, who was born in South Carolina, in 1797, of Irish parentage. She was a child at the time of the family's removal to Garrard county, Kentucky.

In 1819 Pleasant Ford immigrated to Monroe county, Missouri, about two years prior to the admission of the state to the Union, and there he continued to reside, save for two brief intervals, until his death, in August, 1844, at the age of fifty-one years. Pleasant and Ellen (Harris) Ford became the parents of three children, namely: Elgelina, who was born in Kentucky, on the 23d of February, 1816; Tirey, who was born in the same state, January 21, 1818; and Jacob Harrison, who was born in Monroe county, Missouri, August 21, 1821, just ten days after the admission of Missouri to the Union. Mrs. Ellen Ford died in the autumn of 1825, and in 1832 Pleasant Ford contracted a second marriage, being then united to Miss Mary Williams, who was born in Kentucky but was a resident of Monroe county, Missouri, at the time of her marriage. Four children were born of the second union,—William Henry, Pleasant L., Charles Warren, and Lucretia Barbary.

Jacob Harrison Ford, youngest of the children of Pleasant and Ellen (Harris) Ford, was born in Missouri, as already noted, and, like all of his ancestors in the paternal line, he identified himself with the agricultural industry. He acquired a small farm of his own after reaching manhood. On the 17th of January, 1844, when a little over

twenty-two years of age, he wedded Miss Mary Winn Abernathy, then a resident of Monroe county but a native of Howard county, Missouri, where she was born February 28, 1818. The names of their nine children, with respective dates of birth, are here indicated: Ellen, January 26, 1845; James Pleasant, March 4, 1847; Davidella, September, 1849; William Henry, October 22, 1851; Mary, December 1, 1853; Arzelia Rozannah, December 21, 1855; Tirey Lafayette, December 29, 1857; Zeralda Thomas (daughter), April 29, 1860; and Hugh Wilson, July 18, 1865. The married companionship of Jacob and Mary W. (Abernathy) Ford covered a period of forty-five years. They were devout Christians and regular church attendants. A few years after their marriage they secured a tract of prairie land in Monroe county, Missouri, where virtually the residue of their lives was passed. Jacob H. Ford was a man of strong views and sterling integrity. He was rather strict in his moral views and was a man of correct personal habits. He never used tobacco or indulged in wines or other intoxications of any kind. He was devoted to his family and his disposition was most kindly and affectionate. He died at the home of his son Hugh W., in Kansas City, Missouri, in November, 1908, at the venerable age of eighty-seven years. His first wife, Mary, died in 1891, a woman of the sweetest nature and of blameless life. A few years after her death he married her widowed sister, Mrs. America Tribble, who preceded him to the life eternal by a few years.

Tirey Lafayette Ford, to whom this sketch is dedicated, was the seventh in order of birth of the children of Jacob H. and Mary W. Ford and was born on a small farm in Monroe county, Missouri, on the 29th of December, 1857. His birthplace was a small, two-room farm house in the midst of a large prairie that was yet wild and uncultivated save for a few isolated and newly settled farms, with the primitive dwellings rudely constructed by the settlers who had ventured into the prairies of northeastern Missouri. The earlier settlers had confined themselves to the streams and wooded sections. The childhood and youth of Mr. Ford were passed under the conditions and influence common to those of the average farmer boy of the locality and period,—characterized by early rising and early retiring, with plenty of hard work between. About four months of each winter season were spent in attending the district school. This discipline was supplemented by a two years' course in the high school at Paris, the county seat, where he so diligently applied himself as to complete a three years' course in the two years, during which he worked evenings, mornings and Saturdays to pay his board. Success is justly the prerogative of such valiant souls.

On the 1st of February, 1877, at the age of nineteen years, Mr. Ford severed the ties that bound him to home and his native state and set forth for California. He made the journey on what was termed an immigrant train, and he reached his destination after the expiration of ten days. He worked as a laborer on ranches in Butte and Colusa counties until the close of the year 1879, but his ambition had not been somnolent and he had clearly defined plans for his future career. On the 1st of January, 1880, after having saved a few hundred dollars from