

EARLY SEBASTOPOL

Part IV – “Sprightly Sebastopol” – a “Lively Burg”

By

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Evelyn McClure of the Western Sonoma County Historical Society was aware of my earlier local history research papers on the Laguna de Santa Rosa in particular, and encouraged me to assemble the early newspaper references I had collected about early Sebastopol.

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INTRODUCTION

This historical research paper on early Sebastopol includes the years 1891 through April 1895 and is the final paper in a series of four papers generated to fill the void in newspaper coverage prior to the spring of 1895. This series of papers augments the information in other historical sources, for example, as in McClure's two books on the history of Sebastopol (McClure, 1995; 2000).

My paper on the early Laguna de Santa Rosa (Cummings, 2005) selected and commented on old Petaluma newspaper articles. "Sebastopol" had been one of the key words used in the screening and identification of the old newspaper articles relevant to the Laguna. Hence I had collected numerous references about early Sebastopol – many of which made no reference to the Laguna. Until soon after Sebastopol incorporated as a town in the spring of 1902, the Laguna was an important feature of the early Sebastopol area. But the collection of summaries in this paper does not include summaries of articles that have been previously published by me, unless they also had significant historical information about early Sebastopol.

The first issue of the *Sebastopol Times* available on microfilm is dated April 3, 1895 and comparatively little specific historical information on Sebastopol is available prior to this date.

Analy Township during the period covered by this paper was a relatively large tract of western Sonoma County running south from the Russian River to the Marin County border and included the villages of Sebastopol, Bloomfield and Forestville (excluding the coast and the lower Russian River). The location "near Sebastopol" in many old Petaluma newspaper articles is very vague. While it is clear that the early village of Sebastopol served a relatively large agricultural area, the designation "near Sebastopol" is not well defined. Numerous references designated "Green Valley" – the area northwest of Sebastopol know as the general Graton area today, were often excluded from this paper, but other references about the same area designated "near Sebastopol" are included. The summaries of the newspaper articles focus on the recording of physically substantive historical information about early Sebastopol – a name, buildings, etc., and generally exclude remarks about the crop conditions, the weather, gossip, etc. For example, a note about a non-resident person visiting Sebastopol was omitted unless the name(s) of the Sebastopol resident(s) visited was also mentioned in the article.

The strong pro-Petaluma bias of the *Courier* newspaper is obvious and assumed.

The articles cited in this paper use the names of the original newspapers in which first appeared:

PC – *Petaluma Courier*

DC – *Petaluma's Daily Courier*

DC&PI – *Daily Courier and Petaluma Imprint*

Page and column numbers following the date are in brackets unless the original newspaper numbered its pages and then only the column numbers are in brackets. For convenience, the upper and/or lower case used in the titles of the articles cited faithfully duplicates the cases used in the original newspaper article. The variation in spellings, if any, also faithfully duplicates the spellings used in the original article. The “flavor” of the language used in the summaries often duplicates the language used in the original newspaper article, but is usually not in parentheses. Only long quotes and unusual expressions in the articles cited are in parentheses.

My comments are in small print following the summaries of the newspaper articles.

According to the Petaluma’s *Courier* the total population of the county in 1890 was about 33,000 with about 2,700 people living in Analy Township. Like Santa Rosa Township, the total population of Analy Township had grown in excess if 45 percent in the decade of the 1880s.

PC – January 7, 1891 p1(c1) COURIERLETS

This column contains a note that Victor Piezzi of Sebastopol furnished the Durham bull given away as the first prize to subscribers of “*I’ Electra(?)*” published in San Francisco.

PC – January 14, 1891 p 5(c3) PEGGY’S PENCILINGS

This column includes a note that Frank Little of Sebastopol was in Petaluma and reported that “things were good in that location.”

PC – January 14, 1891 p5(c4) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent “W.H.W.” reports that the brick work of the Barnes’ brick block is about completed and Aaron Barnes will soon begin to build another brick block. Elliot & Berry are building a fine Joss House for the Chinamen. Brown is building another residence in his addition to town. B. B. Berry, an old citizen of Sebastopol about age 83, has been stricken with paralysis. Sickness has confined Mrs. W. N. Elliot to her home and Mrs. E. G. Wilson is visiting in the city. Hollis Hitchcock of Bodega is visiting John Walker. There was big excitement in Chinatown last night when one Chinaman shot another, who is still alive, but has little hope of recovery and the shooter is under arrest.

Hence probably Barnes Avenue and perhaps Elliott Lane?

PC – January 21, 1891 p2(c1) COURIERLETS

This column contains paragraphs updating the condition of Judge B. B. Berry of Sebastopol. It is doubtful owing to his advanced age that Judge Berry will recover from his paralysis. His right side and face are affected and he can't speak. The *Argus* says that Judge Berry had been an intimate friend and companion of Abraham Lincoln when they were young and served together in the Blackhawk Indian war. Mrs. Berry is the oldest daughter of Rev. John Cameron, whose family Lincoln made home in early life, and Lincoln had been a guest at the marriage of Mr. Berry and Miss Cameron.

PC – February 4, 1891 p2(c1) COURIERLETS

This column includes a note that W. W. Jones has given up the proprietorship of the *Sebastopol Times* and that he and his wife have moved to San Francisco where he has taken a position.

PC – February 18, 1891 p2(c1) COURIERLETS

This column includes a note that the people of Sebastopol are going to petition the government to take the mail away from the railroad, since the railroad is now running only one train a day from Santa Rosa and the train's new schedule has greatly interfered with Sebastopol's mail.

PC – February 18, 1891 p5(c3) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes notes from Santa Rosa's *Republican* that the Sebastopol public school is going to have a new 25-pound bell. C. F. Julliard's distillery in Sebastopol was destroyed by fire, was not insured and the fire was most certainly of incendiary origin.

PC – March 11, 1891 p2(c3) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent "W.H.W." reports that he has been a resident of Sonoma County since 1857. Mrs. Parson is remodeling her property on Main Street and F. A. Janessen has built a nice blacksmith shop on his lot on Main, which is occupied by a veteran blacksmith, Bill Wilson. Jesse Hunt, one of the oldest fruit men of Sebastopol, is lying dangerously ill at his residence near town. Mr. and Mrs. Colburn are also very ill. "La grippe has gotten his grip on several of our best citizens." Mrs. W. Wilson is visiting her mother, Mrs. Chas. Owens, in Santa Rosa. "Mr. Thompson, the machine agent, is nursing a pet on his hand." The *Sebastopol Times* still flourishes and will continue to flourish under the partnership of Mr. and Mrs. Williams, who are well and favorably known, and have been Sebastopol residents for some time. Mr. Snow is prospecting our clay to make bricks. F.

A. Janessen, S. B. Berry, George Hama and Jim Woodward went salmon hunting at Duncan's Mills. Miss Warden and Miss Armstrong of Sebastopol visited at Duncan's Mills. Mr. and Mrs. Bert Fennel have moved into their new home. The Grangers are going to have a social and dance, and the Good Templars are holding forth in the Grangers' hall while their hall is under repairs.

PC – March 18, 1891 p5(c1) PEGGY'S PENCILINGS

This column includes a note that a surprise party will be held tomorrow evening for Mrs. Parsons in honor of her 80th birthday.

PC – March 25, 1891 p2(c1) COURIERLETS

This column includes a note from Santa Rosa's *Republican* that about 90 Sebastopol people had contemplated a surprise birthday party for Mrs. J. M. Parsons, but when Mrs. Parsons heard about the party, she declared that she would not receive any entertainment in her building. Included also in this column is another note from the *Republican* stating that some joker led a horse into the front rooms of a Sebastopol residence and left it there, and that "the owner of the house is ready to pummel the joker if he could find him."

PC – March 25, 1891 p4(c4) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes a note from the *Sebastopol Times* that a heartless wretch had thrown cayenne pepper through a window in the Salvation Army barracks in Sebastopol, which fell into the face of a little girl and nearly caused the loss of her eyesight.

PC – April 8, 1891 p5(c1) PEGGY'S PENCILINGS

This column includes notes that Mrs. Martha Jones of Sebastopol visited Petaluma and that William C. Hunt of Hunt Bros. Packing Co. in Santa Rosa was married to Miss May Litchfield, a highly esteemed young lady of Sebastopol.

PC – April 24, 1891 p4(c3) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes notes that "verily Sebastopol is booming." Sebastopol is going to have a fire engine. It already has a fine new opera house, which will open shortly, the new business block is completed and hereafter the town will have two trains each day. Santa Rosa's *Democrat* reports that Sebastopol is strongly agitating to form a volunteer fire department and is putting in a water works. The *Sebastopol Times* reports that after waiting for over a quarter of a century, Postmaster Gannon is now ready to issue money orders or postal notes. The *Sebastopol Times* sent off Sebastopol's first money order and

rejoices that Sebastopol has an aggressive postmaster. The direction for Sebastopol is clearly “onward and upward.”

PC -- April 29, 1891 p5(c1) PEGGY’S PENCILINGS

This column reports on the marriage of Elmer Miller and Miss Maggie Allen at the residence of the brides parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Allen, near Sebastopol a week ago. Rev. L. Ewing performed the ceremony and the relatives present represented four generations from each of the families.

PC – May 6, 1891 p7(c1) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent “W.H.W.” reports that improvements to our “little burg” are still going on in town. Mrs. Parsons has remodeled her property on Main Street. Aaron Barnes has one of the finest brick blocks in the county and is putting up a building for a livery stable on one of his corner lots. F. A. Janssen, our popular hotel man, is making several improvements. The Native Son’s ball was not a financial success, but those who attended had a good time. Sebastopol is going to have a fire engine and talk of a water works continues. George Hardin made a quick trip to Petaluma on Sunday. Mrs. Nancy Owens of Santa Rosa spent a few days with her daughter, Mrs. Wm. Wilson. Criss & Son, the house movers, are moving a barn for Aaron Barnes. Mr. and Mrs. Noaks, our popular barbers, had a Native Son. Mr. Showalter’s family are all down with diphtheria and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Solomon lost their baby girl last week to the same dreaded disease. Mrs. Ella Sheridan spent a few days last week at Duncan’s Mills.

PC – May 13, 1891 p7(c2) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes a note that all of the property owners in Sebastopol have wisely made a stand against Sunday excursion trains and picnics in their pretty town.

PC – May 29, 1891 p2(c3) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column contains a note that Joseph Piezzi, who lives on the John Walker ranch near Santa Rosa, was almost killed last week in a buggy accident. The team started when Piezzi stopped to open a gate and he was thrown down and was struck by the wagon wheel in the right temple, almost amputating his ear. This column also contains a note from the *Sebastopol Times* that 167 prunes were counted on a 22-inch twig on Jesse Hunt’s ranch.

PC – July 22, 1891 p4(c3) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes a note the C. F. Juilliard was thrown from his carriage while driving to Sebastopol from Santa Rosa, but he was not seriously injured when the buggy overturned.

PC – August 5, 1891 p2(c1) COURIERLETS

This column includes notes that William Crist was killed by a train in Santa Rosa and his remains were interred in Sebastopol. Convicted murderer Lee Yune Chung from Sebastopol was sentenced to life in prison, but the case is very complicated and will probably be carried to the Supreme Court.

PC – August 19, 1891 p2(c2) Editorial Note

The editor of the *Courier* reports that a majority of voters in the Green Valley, in the Sebastopol and in many other districts, had voted against establishing a high school at Sebastopol. Sebastopol is in the Laguna school district and the majority voting against the high school was eight.

PC – August 19 1891 p7(c1) SEBASTOPOL

An unnamed correspondent to the *Petaluma Courier* reports that Wilson & Co. have started their grape dryer on the depot grounds and A. Folger is contractor. Mrs. Jessie Barnes has nearly completed her new building. Mr. Gannon is moving to the Yeagler property in the center of town. There were 83 voters in the recent defeat of the high school at Sebastopol. Very few of our business people voted in the election since some of our citizens threatened to boycott those voting in favor of the high school. The Pawnee Medicine company was in town for a week and sold a lot of medicine. G. W. Huntley's dryer is running "full handed," our hotels are full of guests and our merchants are getting their share of business. W. J. Beeson has sold his blacksmith business to Mr. Mathews and Charles Owens is blacksmithing in Wilson's shop. "Some fiend or fiends are poisoning dogs by the wholesale." Mrs. C. H. Palmer is having guests today from Bloomfield and from Nevada.

Reference to Mr. Gannon in this article is undoubtedly James Gannon. Hence perhaps Huntley Street?

PC – September 2, 1891 p5(c1) PEGGY'S PENCILINGS

This column includes a note that a telegram had been received from Ottawa, Kansas that Mrs. L. H. Barnett, age 83, had died suddenly. Mrs. Dr. J. G. Pierce and her daughter, Miss Jennie, had gone to Kansas to attend to the serious illness of Mrs. Pierce's mother,

Mrs. Barnett, some months ago, but had returned home to Sebastopol when Mrs. Barnett had been able to be up and around again.

PC – September 9, 1891 p2(c6) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes a note from the *Sebastopol Times* that Chinamen took from the district \$75,000 last year for cultivating and harvesting hops. “Hop growers prefer white help.” Two hop growers, Joseph Purrington and Otis Allen, have employed a large number of white persons.

PC – September 16, 1891 p2(c2) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes a note from the *Sebastopol Times* that Miss Mattie Alten, a member of the Sebastopol grange, picked 347 pounds of hops in Otis Allen’s hop yard in one day – probably a world record.

PC – October 7, 1891 p7(c2) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent “W. H. W.” reports that our enterprising winery and drier men are paying only \$6.00 per ton for grapes and the town is full of growers since the prices of fruit, hops and potatoes are also at rock bottom. While the dryer of Wilson & Co, employs many people and pays good wages, the dryer needs a great deal of alteration. G. W. Huntly is running his dryer on apples. Sebastopol is none-the-less quite lively, the merchants are doing a good business and our hotels are full all of the time. Mr. Gannon, one of our most prosperous young merchants, has moved into his handsome new store. John Brown is building a storehouse on his property. Miss McMenamin is remodeling her property on Main Street. Aaron Barnes has rented one of his brick stores. Fred Janessen, one of T. G. Wilton’s popular clerks, is dangerously ill at his home in Sebastopol. Mr. Ames’ little son almost lost his eyesight the other day while playing with powder and his face was badly burned. J. H. P. Morris, our retired butcher, is limping with rheumatism. Our Post Office is now across the street from its old location. A fire started by hunters shooting paper wadding near Mr. Pitts’ pasture, destroyed quite a lot of Mr. Pitt’s pasture and fencing. The fire burned over several hundred acres and nearly also destroyed Mr. Cunningham’s house and barn. Town is full of Chinamen getting rid of their hop picking earnings by gambling. Mr. Hicks is going to build a large cannery and drier this fall on his place north of town.

Reference to Gannon in this article refers to Ed Gannon, James’ son. Hence perhaps Wilton and Pitt Avenues in Sebastopol and Hicks Road in Graton?

PC – October 14, 1891 p4(c3) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes a note that Mrs. Dr. Plunkett of Sebastopol, an old resident of the county, died of pneumonia at her home at age 67.

PC – October 28, 1891 p2(c3) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column includes a note that Jacob O. Pfister died at his home in Sebastopol after a short sickness at the age of 35. A native of Switzerland, Mr. Pfister came to America in 1873 and was a resident of Sonoma County for many years. He was a nephew of Conrad Pfister and he was held in very high esteem.

PC – November 18, 1891 p2(c1) ODDS AND ENDS

This column contains notes that C. A. Perry of Santa Rosa has been canvassing in Sebastopol for the purpose of organizing a fruit canning and drying company and \$50,000 worth of stock has already been taken out in the proposed new company. Sebastopol is going to have a canning company. Mr. Julliard has crushed 1,000 tons of Zinfandel grapes this season at his winery and is shipping a car-load of wine every day. Mr. Julliard also periodically ships car-loads of brandy.

PC – December 2, 1891 p5(c1) PERSONAL AND SOCIAL

This column contains notes that J. L. Dinwiddie visited Sebastopol and that Miss Jennie Pierce of Petaluma visited with her parents in Sebastopol last week.

DC – December 4, 1891 (p3c1) ODDS AND ENDS

This column contains a note that an old and highly respected citizen of Sebastopol – B. B. Berry, died at his home. A native of Tennessee, Mr. Berry was age 84 when he died.

This note acknowledges the death of Judge B. B. Berry and is very brief given the prominence of Judge Berry. Judge Berry apparently lived for more than ten months after he was stricken with paralysis. Hence probably Berry Lane or at least the Lane is named for the many early Sebastopol residents of the Berry family.

DC – April 1, 1892, (p3c2) ODDS AND ENDS

This column contains a note that George P. Baxter, cashier of the new Sebastopol bank, had informed the *Courier* that his new bank building is now being constructed and will be ready for occupancy and business on May 1.

DC – October 21, 1892 (p3c1) ODDS AND ENDS

This column contains notes that Sebastopol is considering establishing an electric light plant. Yesterday's issue of the *Sebastopol Times* states that "a movement is on foot to remove from our midst the dirty, almond-eyed heathen who are now occupying the most desirable portion of Sebastopol." There will be a mass meeting in Janssen's Hall to discuss the matter of removing "the disease breeding hovels" of the town and the newspaper encourages all those who are interested in the future of Sebastopol to attend the meeting.

DC – January 28, 1893 (p1c4) SPRIGHTLY SEBASTOPOL

A *Courier* reporter visited Sebastopol and was more than surprised to see many evidences of activity in a town with a population now of fully 600. A number of business blocks are in construction and two imposing brick buildings, in particular, will be "a splendid architectural acquisition to the lively burg." George P. Baxter's new bank building is a modern gem and "is already acknowledged as the chief of Sebastopol's business concerns." A call was made to E. S. Fyfe, editor and proprietor of the *Sebastopol Times*, at the newspaper's office next to the new bank. Fyfe and his wife, who is the practical printer, have done "an invaluable service" to the booming town. The *Courier* reporter concluded that there is little doubt that before the close of 1893, Sebastopol will be the third largest and commercially important city in the county.

DC – February 8, 1893 (p3c2) HERE AND THERE

This collection of news briefs contains a paragraph that Professor Carl Nielsen, who has one of the best schools in the state at Sebastopol, should take honors at the Mechanic's Fair in San Francisco.

DC – February 19, 1893 (p3c2) HERE AND THERE

This collection of news briefs contains two paragraphs from the *Sebastopol Times* beginning with the opinion that the newspaper gets "a good deal of wisdom into a small space when it says too much law making leads to law breaking." The *Times* also reports that the roads leading into Sebastopol are almost impassible and that carpenters are building a two story addition to the Analy hotel to be used for sleeping apartments. Mr. Arthur Winkler of Green Valley and Miss Cora Boswell had a buggy accident on the Healdsburg road near Sebastopol. Miss Boswell's arm was dislocated in the accident and the buggy was almost totally destroyed. Oscar Litchfield has passed the examinations of the California College of dentistry and has been recommended for the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery.

DC – March 15, 1893 (p3c1) HERE AND THERE

This collection of news briefs contains a paragraph from the *Sebastopol Times* which states that more tenement houses are needed in Sebastopol since every house in town is occupied. According to the *Times*, “some of our capitalists should invest their spare cash in a few cottages.”

DC – April 28, 1893 (p3c1) TOWN TOPICS

This column of news reports that G. W. Libby has been appointed postmaster at Sebastopol and replaces J. P. Cannon who resigned.

Hence perhaps Libby Park?

DC – May 3, 1893 (p1c6) FORESTVILLE NOTES

A Forestville letter writer reports that the protracted meeting of the Salvation Army came to an abrupt close when they suddenly left town to camp “on the trail of the hardened sinners of Sebastopol.” “If not run-in as vags or for disturbing the peace, they may succeed bringing some of them down.”

PC – December 13, 1893 p1(c4) SEBASTOPOL NOTES

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that the Y.P.S.C.E. will entertain this evening at the residence of Mr. Hayden. Mr. Burroughs is building an addition to his store. Mr. Foss’ costume brought down the house at the entertainment last Thursday. The Adventists’ church building is progressing.

DC – December 14, 1893 (p1c2) ANOTHER PIONEER DEPARTED

This article is reports on the death of George J. Ragle, a pioneer of the county, who died at his home near Sebastopol on Monday evening, leaving a wife and son, Alex. The Masonic funeral was on Wednesday. Mr. Ragle, a native son of Sullivan county, Tennessee, was born in 1826 and came to California in 1849 to mine in Bear Valley. He soon left mining for teaming in the Russian River district and bought 80 acres of land in Green Valley in the fall of 1850. Mr. Ragle married Jane Fruits in 1854. His agricultural enterprises steadily prospered and he accumulated 325 acres. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, the Lafayette Lodge F. and A. M. of Sebastopol and was politically a Democrat.

Hence the county’s Ragle Ranch Regional Park and numerous Ragle roads, etc. in Sebastopol.

DC – December 26, 1893 (p1c1) SPEED THE PLAN

This long article discusses the Christmas visit to Petaluma of W. S. Dillon of Portland, Oregon – a specialist in building electric railways. Dillon and a Chicago capitalist have considered the feasibility of an electric railroad connecting Sebastopol and Santa Rosa with Petaluma, and have concluded that the enterprise can be set in motion with the cooperation from local capitalists.

The first train of the Petaluma and Santa Rosa electric railroad came up Main Street in Sebastopol at the end of July 1904.

DC – January 31, 1894 (p4c5) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that the recently elected officers of the G.A.R. and Relief Corps were installed in a memorable ceremony. The water was higher than it had ever been during the last winter storm. The new house of M. Flavian Berton’s lot is nearing completion and George Ulrich of Santa Rosa is planting trees on his lot, known as the Perry place. Mr. Graef and Dr. Benepe are better. Mr. Bartley filled his pulpit last Sunday. Mrs. Mayfield has returned from visiting her mother in Petaluma.

DC – February 14, 1894 (p5c2) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that the body of the late Mrs. Morton was brought from San Francisco on the train and buried in the Sebastopol cemetery. Inhabitants of Chinatown celebrated the Chinese New Year with fireworks, singing, feasting and making merry. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Currey’s horse was frightened by the noise of the firecrackers and ran away, throwing the old couple to the ground and seriously injuring Mrs. Currey. The winner of the Demorest medal contest, Miss Mamie Little, is very happy, but all of the contestants are to be congratulated. Mrs. Kennedy of Wyoming is visiting her sister, Mrs. William Johnson of Pleasant Hill. The fire tank for the Sebastopol Packing company is being refilled. Mr. Ayers, the popular elocutionist, deserves praise for the admirable way in which his pupils acquitted themselves in the Demorest contest. G. P. Woodward has just moved to Santa Rosa.

PC – March 14, 1894 p1(c4) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that Mr. Thomson of Burroughs & Son is suffering from inflammatory rheumatism. Mr. Mayfield and Mr. Wilkinson are going into the blacksmithing business in Petaluma. The Chinamen who murdered their brother Chinaman at the Leiber place have been arrested. Mr. Chiles of Santa Rosa has purchased the lot formerly owned by Geo. Ulrich and know as the “Perry Place.” M. Flavian Berton’s “shoe store” building is about completed and the cottage being erected on his lot is almost ready to be occupied.

DC – March 21, 1894 (p5c3) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that Mr. and Mrs. Fyfe have sold their interest in the *Sebastopol Times* to Mr. Brackett of Sacramento. Mrs. Yagley and daughter have returned from their visit to San Francisco. The fire in the Analy hotel on the evening of March 16 created quite a scare, but our people turned out with buckets and the potential disaster "proved to be only a scare." The new store and hall being built in place of the old Janssen hall "will be an ornament to the town" and the addition being put on the store formerly owned by Mrs. Wilton will further improve the town. M. Pickle will move into the house formerly occupied by Mr. Mayfield. Mr. Wm. Johnson is building a new fruit dryer on his place to handle his large crops of fruit. The Pleasant Hill church has been renovated on the inside and the outside is soon to undergo the same process. Mr. Rogers preaches in the Congregational church in the afternoon of every Lord's day at 3 P.M. Miss Chamband wishes to have pupils in music in the Sebastopol vicinity.

Hence probably Wilton Avenue and probably also Johnson Street, although there were a large number of Johnsons in early Sebastopol.

DC – March 28, 1894 (p1c1) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that no one was badly hurt in what might have been a very serious buggy accident last week. Mr. Stephen Morse and Miss Weeks were united in marriage last week. Miss Flossie Christie's "Little Missionaries" sung as part of the Easter exercises and Master Frankie Ballard's declamation was much appreciated. Mr. Slater and his family are occupying Mr. Flavian Berton's new cottage. Mrs. Showalter's mother, Mrs. Pearman, is lying very ill at her home in Santa Rosa.

DC – April 11, 1894 (p1c5) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that "fishing is quite in fashion now." The funeral services for Frank Kauffmann were conducted in the Adventist church last Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Richie entertained friends at their home near Freestone. The children had a joyous time at the fair and they all say "thank you Mr. Chronicle for the pleasure you gave us."

DC – April 18, 1894 (p1c6) NOT THE FIRST ATTACK

This article is about the death of Frank Kauffman of Sebastopol noted in the preceding summary. Mr. Kauffman recently died in Stockton while there for medical treatment. The 43-year-old rancher leaves a wife and two teenage children. Mr. M. C. Meeker, the brother of Mrs. Kauffman, testified at Mr. Kauffman's inquest that the deceased had had previous attacks which usually came in the spring and had again contacted Dr. Wachendorff, who had successfully treated him in the past.

DC – April 18, 1894 (p3c5) HERE AND THERE

This feature column contains notes the Roadmaster Fairclo and his crew has decidedly improved the road between Sebastopol and Freestone. The Cody ranch, some 50 acres of mostly grapes above Sebastopol, was sold to a Frenchman named Gaye, who intends to build a winery on the property. W. J. Emerson, age 65 and a native of Maine who lived in the county for many years, died near Sebastopol. Dr. Benepe of Sebastopol has suffered another stroke of paralysis and is in critical condition.

PC – April 25, 1894 p6(c4) SEBASTOPOL ITEMS

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that William Dale and Miss Cora Boswell married on Saturday, April 21. Mr. Emmerson was buried on Sunday, April 15 after services were conducted by Mr. Bartley in the Pleasant Hill church. The “Pawnee man” has been holding forth for more than a week at Sebastopol. Local talent played “The Last Loaf” in Barnes’ hall on the evening of the 20th and attendance was good at the entertaining play. Many friends of Mrs. Parr are sorry to hear that she is ill. The new buildings on Main Street are nearing completion and Mr. Williams is remodeling the inside of his house.

PC – April 25, 1894 p7(c2) ENTERTAINMENT AT SEBASTOPOL

This article reports on the success of the temperance play, “The Last Loaf,” which was presented by a local theatrical company under the auspices of the W.C.T.U. of Sebastopol.

PC – May 3, 1894 p3(c3) HERE AND THERE

This feature column contains a number of notes of historical interest to early Sebastopol. Mesdames Amos, Hardin, Murphy, Finnell, Schleuter, McLaughlin, Symmonds, Showalter, Thompson and Lapum of the Sebastopol Women’s Christian Temperance Union attended a temperance convention in Petaluma. Mrs. Worden, a long sufferer of consumption, died at her home in Sebastopol last Sunday. The deceased and her husband have been residents of Sebastopol for many years. Elmer Berry, son of S. B. Berry of Sebastopol, fell and broke his arm, but Dr. Pierce set the break immediately and “the patient is doing nicely.” Santa Rosa’s *Democrat* reports that Major John Brown received a telephone message from Sebastopol “to come home tonight, grandpa.” The Major’s daughter, Lela (Mrs. G. W. Libby), arrived at home with a baby a few hours before the major received his message.

PC – May 3, 1894 p7(c3) A GOOD EVENT

This article reports that Professor C. H. Neilsen, principal of the Sebastopol school, has put on a display at Cowan's Bazaar, the every-day work of the school's pupils representing each branch and grade of the school. The exhibit will be sent to the Midwinter fair and is "among the best exhibits which Sonoma county can show to the world."

PC – May 23, 1894 p2(c6) SEBASTOPOL LETTER

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that Mrs. Showalter and Mrs. Fennel have returned from San Francisco where they have been doing the fair. There is no end of improvements to Sebastopol. M. Flavian Berton is building two more cottages. Robert Hardin has been improving his property, and Janssen and Worden have opened a new store in the Janssen building. Mr. Delaney will soon move to the small place he has leased near town. Miss Florence Amos is visiting friends in San Francisco.

DC – June 6, 1894 (p6c2) SEBASTOPOL NEWS

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that much lumber has been delivered to Sebastopol to go into the many new houses being constructed "in the lively little burg," in which there are now only three vacant homes. The well-known freighter of Sebastopol, J. W. Pickrell, is doing a big business hauling freight between Petaluma and Sebastopol. Sebastopol goods can be delivered to San Francisco via Petaluma and the steamer *Gold* at considerable savings.

PC – June 20, 1894 p2(c3) SEBASTOPOL NOTES

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that the packing house under the management of Mr. Hill is regularly shipping fruit to Chicago. Mr. Rogers, pastor of the Congregational Church, has been ill. The band serenaded Ed Walker last Tuesday evening. The new Janssen hall is a very pleasant place to hold meetings such as the recent temperance lecture by Mr. Rich. Mr. Hill at the packing house has disposed of most of the cherries grown in the vicinity of Sebastopol as well as the many cherries that have been shipped to Sebastopol. Mr. Hotle, a student of the University of the Pacific, occupied the pulpit of the M.E. church last Lord's day.

PC – June 27, 1894 p1(c5) THE COUNTY CONVENTION

This article describes the ambitions of Sebastopol to become for the county what Sacramento is to the state – a regular place to hold conventions. According to the *Sebastopol Times* while hitherto Sebastopol has been forced to be in the background, the

most rapidly growing place in the county with over 500 voters in the town's vicinity, Sebastopol now holds the balance of power in the county and should be recognized as such in selecting a place to hold conventions.

PC – July 4, 1894 p3(c1) HERE AND THERE

This regular feature includes a note that Sebastopol has organized a fire department and has appointed a committee to raise the necessary funds to equip a fire company for “that stirring little town.” The Sebastopol committee consisted of J. H. Morris, Sam Berry, Fred Luth, Dr. Pierce and J. B. Loser.

My research notes say that a vote to form a Sebastopol fire district was negative at this time

PC – July 4, 1894 p6(c3) THEY WANT ROADS

This long article from the *Republican* reports on an enthusiastic meeting held at Mr. H. Lapum's fruit dryer in Sebastopol to discuss the possibility of inducing the railroad companies to extend their line through Green Valley and also to secure the right-of-way for a new road in Green Valley to intersect at Chris Schlake's ranch with the new Occidental and Santa Rosa wagon road. Mr. James Gregson called the meeting to order, after which H. Lapum was elected chairman and L. V. Shepherd was elected secretary. The committee appointed to work with the railroads (the SF&NP and the SP) included: M. C. Meeker of Occidental and A. B. Lemmon of Santa Rosa, and Lossen Ross, C. Winkler and J. Purrington. Lossen Ross, C. Winkler, J. Purrington and M. C. Meeker were also appointed to a committee to secure the right-of-way for a new road in Green Valley.

PC – July 4, 1894 p7(c6) TO FRUIT GROWERS

This article reports that W. C. Hill of the fruit shipping company of Santa Rosa and Sebastopol will be in Petaluma to confer about establishing a fruit packing and shipping warehouse in Petaluma. In addition, the article discusses the details and locations of refrigerated rail cars with ice for shipping fruit by rail that will allow the fruit growers to be independent of local cannery operations.

PC – July 11, 1894 p1(c6) WHERE ARE THE GOSLINGS ?

This article reports on a legal dispute transferred from Analy Township to Santa Rosa and tried by Justice Seawell of Sebastopol. James Robertson and John Slatery have adjoining farms near Sebastopol. Mr. Robertson claims that 14 goslings left his farm and were last seen on the Slatery farm, and wants the goslings returned or paid for by Mr. Slatery. But Mr. Slatery contends that he knows nothing about the goslings. Justice Sewell reserved

his decision. Attorney Saunders of Sebastopol was the attorney for the plaintiff (Robertson) and A. G. Burnett was the attorney for the defendant (Slatery).

Hence perhaps Burnett Street?

PC – July 11, 1894 p3(c2) HERE AND THERE

This feature column contains a note that O. M. Berry of Sebastopol and Miss Eunice Hutchings of Amadee, Lassen county, were married in Amadee at the end of June and had arrived at their home in Sebastopol.

PC – July 18, 1894 p2(c6) SEBASTOPOL NEWS

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that one of Mr. Flavian Berton’s new houses is occupied by Dr. Cline and that the other is occupied by the French laundry, and yet another house is almost ready for occupancy. Mr. Jones filled the pulpit in the M.E. church last Sunday. Mrs. Perry spent a day with Mrs. Berry’s family after her usually gentle horse took fright and overturned Mrs. Perry’s buggy, but did not cause serious injury or damage to Mrs. Perry, her child, or the horse and buggy. A depression in business on account of the strike is very noticeable. Mrs. T. B. Ward spent last week at the home of her father in Petaluma.

The strike referred to in this article was a strike of the SF&NP railroad.

PC – July 25, 1894 p1(c4) BOOM THE RAILROAD

This article reports that Sebastopol is agitating for an electric railroad to Petaluma, which is proposed to be extended into Green Valley. The right-of-way for 10 of the 16 miles for the electric railroad has already been secured. A number of Petaluma capitalists will invest their money in the route citing the evidence of the immense and constantly increasing fruit, hop and dairy products produced in the region of Sebastopol.

PC – August 1, 1894 p3(c2) HERE AND THERE

This feature column notes that the Oaks, a large 500-acre tract of the Walker property near Sebastopol, is being subdivided. Sebastopol hay is down to \$10 delivered and Sebastopol wants a beet sugar factory and is encouraging farmers to raise sugar beets.

PC – August 1, 1894 p3(c6) SEBASTOPOL NEWS ITEMS

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that an impromptu ice cream social given by the ladies of the Relief Crops was very enjoyable and that all are rejoiced that the strike is

off. Elder J. B. Haston has been granted a leave of absence by the Christian church of Santa Rosa to attend to the business of settling his late father's estate. A political meeting was held in Barnes' hall and the people of Sebastopol were addressed by E. W. Davis and D. E. McKinlay. The installation of the officers of the Rebecca Lodge and their banquet was enjoyed by those present. The W.C.T.U. gave another medal contest and the first prize was awarded to Mr. Percy Tomlinson. Ref. Mr. Rogers has been granted a month's vacation by the Congregational church. Hill's packing company is busy packing again. T. B. Ward will teach at Penn's Grove. Mr. John Merritt brought a load of apples to Sebastopol to be shipped today. Several parties in the vicinity of Sebastopol are reported to have bought Blackburn's drier.

PC – September 12, 1894 p4(c4) SEBASTOPOL NEWS

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that Harold E. Mouser's lecture was indefinitely postponed after his expected audience was divided among Riley's show, the merry-go-round and the band concert. Rev. Mr. Bartley will attend the M.E. conference at Pacific Grove this week and Mr. McKenzie will fill the M.E. church pulpit for the next two Lord's days. Mrs. Williams opened the Oak Grove school and Mrs. T. B. Ward opened the Pleasant Hill district school as teacher. Hop picking results in a small attendance in some of our schools. The picnic given by the Native Sons and the address given by Emmet Seawell was a grand success, many attended their evening ball and the merriment continued until the morning. The warm weather made ice cream and lemonade welcome, but the ice water given out by the W.C.T.U. ladies was no less welcome.

PC – September 26, 1894 p1(c4) SEBASTOPOL NEWS

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that Miss Bessie Lawton died in San Francisco last week and the funeral services took place at the home of her mother last Sunday. Mrs. Tomlinson went to San Francisco last week and Miss Laura Litchfield is temporarily filling the teaching position left vacant by the late Miss Lawton. Mr. and Mrs. Fennel have gone to Fort Bragg to recreate. Henry Benson spent the day with his sister, Mrs. T. B. Ward. The Democrats of Sebastopol met and formed a club by appointing J. Kelly and Dr. Deas secretary. Elder Winters of Forestville preached at the Pleasant Hill church last Lord's day. Mr. McKenzie kindly consented to fill the pulpit in the M.E. church during the absence of the regular pastor.

PC –November 24, 1894 p2(c4) Sebastopol Correspondence

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that the proceeds of the "Minstrels" to be given on Thanksgiving evening are for the benefit of the Sebastopol fire company. Schools will soon close for winter vacation and Miss Alice Delaney has closed her school in Santa Rosa for a time. Mr. Purrington is shipping some of his hops to London. J. H. Benson and little grandson, Urban, visited Mr. Benson's daughter, Mrs. T. B. Ward, last week.

DC&PI – December 11, 1894 (p1c1) Death of F. J. Carrillo

The *Democrat* reports that Frank J. Carrillo, age 39 and son of Joaquin Carrillo, died at his aunt's home in Petaluma on December 10th. Frank J. Carrillo had been ailing for some time with consumption and his sisters in Occidental have been notified of their brother's death. Frank J. Carrillo's body will probably be buried at Sebastopol.

DC&PI – December 28, 1894 (p1c3) A Sudden Death

This article reports on the sudden death of E. F. Mathews, Sebastopol's well known blacksmith. Mr. Mathews was stricken with apoplectic rheumatism in the morning on Monday and died in the afternoon of the same day. Dr. J. W. Cline was summoned to Mr. Mathew's bedside, but the sufferer was beyond medical aid. Mr. Mathew's sudden death was a shock to the community of Sebastopol. Mr. Mathew's remains were buried in the Sebastopol cemetery by his Masonic brethren.

DC&PI – January 5, 1895 (p1c3) COUNTY ROADS

This article from the *Democrat* describes the many public highways in the county that need a great deal of attention to make them suitable for agreeable travel. Long continued winter storms have rendered most of the roads impassible. The road between Sebastopol and Petaluma is in particularly poor condition, but cannot be fixed by Mr. Skillman unless he is provided with the necessary funds.

DC&PI – January 10, 1895 (p1c2) Sebastopol Notes

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that the recent storms have greatly damaged the roads and that a recent wind storm blew down the frame work of Strout & Thompson's new planing mill causing considerable damage. A section of the branch line of the North Pacific railroad was washed out just east of the Laguna, but it has been repaired again. T. B. Ward visited his wife and baby girl at J. B. Benson's Sr. on Sunday.

Hence probably Strout Street.

DC&PI – January 23, 1895 (p1c3) IT WAS A BIG ONE

This long article describes in detail the great damage reported in the county by a recent disastrous and severe storm. The Sebastopol country had its full share of floods. The lower part of Guerneville is under water. Hundreds of acres are under water and many roads have disappeared. The Laguna was miles wide in places and the Sebastopol branch of the Donahue line "did not attempt to do its duty."

DC&PI – January 24, 1895 (p4c2) Sebastopol News

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that the recent storm water has done much damage. Nearly a mile of railroad track is under water and some of the roads are absolutely impassible, particularly the road on the hill near the cemetery. Many young people spend their evenings in Sebastopol’s new library and reading room. It is an assured fact that Messrs. Hotchkiss and Miller will run the cannery this season and it will be of much benefit to Sebastopol. T. B. Ward was visiting at J. H. Benson’s last Saturday and Sunday. Both the G.A.R. and the Relief Corps held installations of their officers in Jansen’s hall this week. Hard tack and coffee followed the installations and the eating was followed by dancing till near midnight.

DC&PI – February 8, 1895 (p1c1) Sebastopol Jottings

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that Mr. Lorenzo Mock, the teacher, opened the Pleasant Hill school last week. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Williams have moved to their ranch near town and Mr. Mock and his family will occupy the Williams’ town house. The new planing mill is progressing rapidly. The children of Sebastopol were surprised to see a horse drawing one of Mr. Aaron Barnes’ houses up Main Street for use as a bakery and laundry. Henry Elphick is around again after and quite an attack of sciatica. David Burroughs and wife (nee Hattie Solomon) have returned from Yuba County and Mr. Burroughs will manage the firm of Burroughs & Co., Sebastopol. Hotchkiss and Miller have leased the Sebastopol cannery for five years. Mrs. T. B. Ward has returned to Sebastopol with her baby. The roads in the vicinity of Sebastopol have been repaired since the big storm.

Hence possibly Elphick road?

DC&PI – February 19, 1895 (p1c2) “UNCLE” JOHN WALKER DEAD

“Uncle” John Walker, one of the first settlers in California, died at his home near Sebastopol on Friday the 16th. The native of Jackson County, Missouri, came across the plain with his father’s family in 1840. Walker was age 69 when he died and at one time owned nearly 4,000 acres of the best valley land in the county. He is survived by a grown family. Nearly 200 teams were in the cortege for his internment. The Rev. Dr. Avery Shepard officiated at the funeral service, which owing to the large crowd was held under the trees in the churchyard.

DC&PI – February 21, 1895 (p5c2) Sebastopol News

Correspondent “WINTER” reports that the late John Walker was buried at Pleasant Hill last Sunday and a large concourse of friends followed his remains to their last resting place. The Masons were in charge of his burial services and the Rev. Mr. Bartley delivered his funeral sermon. The social at the Hunt residence last Friday was a very

enjoyable affair. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett will occupy the cottage of Mrs. Bowen. Miss Bell is giving a course of elocution lessons in Sebastopol. The apple trees at the side of Strauss' store are being converted into a hitching rack. Mr. H. Ephick and Mr. Charley Johnson of Pleasant Hill have sold a portion of their dried fruit, but prices are very low. The Analy hotel gave Mr. and Mrs. Bennett a reception on their return to Sebastopol. Mr. Drake will remove his residence to the Seely place. Dr. Cline is moving to Santa Rosa. Supt. Davis attended the funeral of the late John Walker. Dr. Button has her office at Mrs. Thompson's on Main Street. Sebastopol had two bakeries.

DC&PI – March 8, 1895 (p1c3) Sebastopol Notes

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that the young friends of Miss Maggie Calhoun gave her a pleasant surprise party one evening in late February. The masquerade given in Jansen's hall was well attended and much enjoyed. Mrs. Reckingpall was buried on February 21st in the Pleasant Hill cemetery. She was in her 83rd year. Miss Tyler of Green Valley was buried in the Pleasant Hill cemetery today. The machinery is being put into the new planing mill. T. B. Ward opened school on Monday in the Canfield district. "Is Sebastopol to have a race track?" Henry Benson is visiting schools today.

DC&PI – March 21, 1895 (p1c1) Sebastopol Notes

Correspondent "WINTER" reports that Professor Symonds is surveying the Brown tract for the possibility of a race track. The planned social at Mr. Rutherford's place given by the M.E. church, was postponed on account of the sickness of Mr. Rutherford. Mr. Halwox has opened a carriage painting shop in Sebastopol. An addition is being added to the bakery on Main Street.

While not shown on the John A. Brown tract on the 1897 map of the county (Reynolds and Proctor, 1887), by April 1898 the *Sebastopol Times* often reported on the horse racing results of Sebastopol's race track – described by the *Times* as "one of the greatest horse racing events of the county."

DC&PI – March 22, 1895 (p1c1) Obituary

The *Sebastopol Times* reports that Mrs. Elizabeth Peckinpah died at her home in Madera county on February 16th at the age of 82, five months and 13 days. She leaves five sons and three daughters, one of whom is Mrs. R. G. Rowland of Pleasant Hill. Mrs. Peckinpah's remains were brought to Sebastopol and her body was interred in the Pleasant Hill cemetery, where her husband and children are buried. The deceased crossed the plains and came to California in 1853, and first settled in the Santa Rosa valley, then in Bodega, then in the Blucher valley, and then in Alexander valley, Petaluma and Guerneville. Her husband, Rice Peckinpah, died in San Francisco in 1865. She was the mother of 14 children, the grandmother of 14 and the great-grandmother of one, making in all 48 descendents, 37 of which are still living.

ADDENDUM

PWA – August 16, 1884(p3c2) DEATH

This article reports on the death of William Gossage of Monterey who died at the home of J. B. Gossage near Petaluma. The late Mr. Gossage died at age 72, was born in Ohio and had been at resident of Sonoma County in its early days. The deceased will be buried with his two brothers in the private grounds of W. D. Canfield in Blucher Valley.

Hence perhaps Canfield Road?

PC – March 6, 1889p3(c5) The Drift

This article from the *Democrat* describes how some people in Sebastopol have not given up hope that they will be connected with Santa Rosa by a branch line of the SF&NP, however, the Donahue people (Judge Overton and others) seem to be much more interested in desirable real estate investments than in the branch railroad. John Walker, well known to be the wealthiest man in western Sonoma County, and Charles Soloman were in Petaluma the other day and assume that Sebastopol will soon be connected with Santa Rosa by a railroad.

PC – July 22, 1891p4(c3) NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

This column also contains a note that Mrs. Nancy Owens died at her home in Santa Rosa. The late Mrs. Owens leaves seven children, one of whom is Mrs. W. H. Wilson of Sebastopol.

DC – December 28, 1894(p1c2) The Vineyards of Analy

This article summarizes the State Viticultural Commissioner's report of 1893-4 for the second viticultural district in Sonoma County (Analy and Petaluma townships). There were 97 vineyards in the district of mostly wine grapes, but about 26 percent of the vineyards were in table grapes and there was only one acre devoted to raisin grapes.

DISTRICTS IN THE VICINITY OF SEBASTOPOL

A. PLEASANT HILL

The 1867 map of the county (Bowers, 1867) clearly shows a Pleasant Hill district school house and the 1877 map of the county (Thompson, 1877) shows a school, a church and a

cemetery at Pleasant Hill. However, the first Petaluma newspaper article mentioning Pleasant Hill was not until mid-April 1886.

While the origin of the fanciful name of “Pleasant Hill” remains obscure, there seems to be little doubt that Pleasant Hill Road is named for the historical district.

B. CUNNINGHAM

J. Cunningham was elected president of Sebastopol’s Manzanita L. and S. Circle in late December 1883. A few months later, a newspaper report describes many Manzanitas going from Sebastopol to J. Cunningham’s in Blucher Valley for a surprise party (some of the Manzanitas got separated from the main party crossing the swollen waters of Blucher Creek). Most of today’s Cunningham appears to be highway development after the spring of 1922 when the new Gravenstein Highway to Cotati was completed (Cummings, 2003a).

Hence Cunningham? By itself, the matching of a surname with a road or district is at best, an historical clue to the origin of the name.

NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF THE *Sebastopol Times*

As noted in the Introduction of this paper, the first issue available in the microfilm files of the weekly newspaper, the *Sebastopol Times*, is dated April 3, 1895. However, my earlier research using volume numbers and anniversary dates led to the deduction that five or more years of Sebastopol’s *Times* were missing in the microfilm files (Cummings, 2003). According to Petaluma’s *Courier*, the *Sebastopol Times* came on the local newspaper horizon in late August 1889.

The history of the fledging years of the *Sebastopol Times* was published by the newspaper in its August 9, 1902 addition and generally agrees with the information gleaned from Petaluma’s paper. Charles Calkins came to Sebastopol from Nevada County in July 1889 and offered to launch a newspaper. The first addition of Sebastopol’s *Times* was dated August 8, 1889 – a few weeks before the *Petaluma Courier* noted that it came on the local newspaper horizon as “a neat seven column sheet” – edited by a single young man “with some ability” according to a Sebastopol correspondent for the *Courier*. Mr. Beacom soon took over the *Times*, but got sick and when he recovered, he sold the newspaper to W. W. Jones. Jones relinquished his interest in the *Times* after only a few months and moved with his wife to San Francisco to take up a position in early February 1891. (The south Sebastopol precinct for the fall election of 1890 was at the *Times* office. But the newspaper moved frequently in its early years and it is unknown where its office was in the fall of 1890.) But the *Sebastopol Times* continued to flourish after Mr. Jones, under the partnership of Mr. (John A.) and Mrs. Williams, a well and favorably known couple who had been residents of Sebastopol for some time. The William’s sold the paper to E. (Edwin) S. Fyfe in the spring of 1894 according to the *Times* – about a year and one-half after a *Courier* reporter made a

fraternal call on Mr. Fyfe in his office next to George P. Baxter's new bank building. Mr. Fyfe sold the *Sebastopol Times* to Mr. Brackett of Sacramento in late March 1894 and the paper was sold again on July 1, 1895 to its owners in 1902. (In its first six years, there were seven owners and numerous printing locations of the *Sebastopol Times*. Conditions that the staff of the *Times* in 1902 (editor, J. P. McDonell) described as those which "would have sent ordinary men to an insane asylum.")

The *Sebastopol Times* was often cited by the Petaluma's *Courier* in its initial years, but the newspaper was cited only once by the *Courier* during the period it was owned by Mr. Brackett of Sacramento, suggesting that the *Sebastopol Times* may not have been published continuously every week during the missing years.

The first newspaper published in Sebastopol was the *Sun* and was published about one and one-half years before the *Sebastopol Times*. Save for two favorable reports and comments by an erudite correspondent to the *Petaluma Weekly Argus* ("FRUIT BELT"), nothing else is known about the *Sun*. (A newspaper named the *Sun* was also a pre-1860 Petaluma paper.) Other Sebastopol newspapers in the late 1890s and early 1900s were the *Analy Standard* and the *Sebastopol Journal* and again little is known about these two other newspapers. Mary B. Williams, editor of the *Standard*, is credited with suggesting the name of "Gold Ridge" in the late 1800s or in the early 1900s. The *Analy Standard* was sold in 1902. The header for the *Sebastopol Times* throughout much of its existence, included an artistically drawn heart containing the slogan, "PUBLISHED IN THE HEART OF THE GOLD RIDGE SECTION." The *Sebastopol Times* published a reprint of the front page of the April 21, 1906 issue of the *Analy Standard* for its 50th commemorative addition of the 1906 earthquake in Sebastopol (ST – April 19, 1956). McClure (1995) reports that the *Sebastopol Journal* was first published in 1896. The Allison, formerly of Santa Rosa's *Republican*, purchased the *Sebastopol Times* in September 1921. The *Times* purchased the *Journal* in late 1928 and merged the two Sebastopol papers into one paper – the *Sebastopol Times*. (Santa Rosa's *Republican* was merged into the *Press Democrat* and Petaluma's *Argus* and *Courier* also merged about this time.) The 50th and the 75th anniversary additions of the *Times* are dated October 13, 1939 and October 8, 1964 respectively, indicating that the paper dates to October 1889. However, when the *Times* published its Golden Jubilee Souvenir Addition magazine, the oldest copy of the paper available was dated December 1889 (Cummings, 2003b).

The *Sebastopol Times* became the *Sonoma West Times and News* in 1995 and continues to publish weekly. The *Times* was briefly published as a semi-weekly paper and was also published as the *Sebastopol Times and News* in the early 1890s. The *Sebastopol Times* was published as the *Sebastopol Times and Sonoma County News* in 1915.

(Santa Rosa's *Times* was first published on January 1, 1875. But the paper changed its name to the *Republican* at the beginning of January 1880.)

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