

THE HISTORY OF DECOTO
CHAPTER 03
NOVEMBER 1880 THRU 1889

Bios of Notable Persons	1
Decoto Grammar School	9
Water	9
Memorable Events	10

*** BIOS OF NOTABLE PERSONS ***

The Decoto business & district was composed of mainly of what most small towns in their infancy would have: general merchandise stores, liquor stores and saloons, a barber, a butcher, a blacksmith, a Post Master and an attorney. But Decoto had something special, a train going through the center of town. They also had a train station and a rail agent, several warehouses adjacent to store grain and plenty of rich farmland next to the town from which the rail line could export a variety of local produce.

Barber / Butcher / Clerk, General Store / Engineer / Gold Miner / Merchants / Railroad Agent / Saloon Keeper / School Teachers & Trustees / Warehousemen

BARBER:

Antone T. Freitas:

Antone Freitas was listed as a liquor retailer and barber in Decoto. I could not locate any bio info on Mr. Freitas.

BUTCHER:

Thomas Ibberson:

[See bio under "Saloon Keepers" below](#)

CLERK, GENERAL STORE:

Dewey Hodgkins:

Dewey Hodgkins was born in California in 1854. Dewey was the brother-in-law of Andrew Hare with whom he lived during this period. He was working as a clerk in a general store, probably the one owned by Andrew Hare. It appears as though in the year 1900 that Dewey was living in El Dorado County as a grocer.

ENGINEER:

Joseph Thompson:

Joseph Thompson was born in Scotland in 1816. His date of entry into the U.S. is not known. His wife Jane was born in Scotland in 1817. The date of entry into the U.S. for her is not known. At the 1880 census they had two children living with them, Joan 28 years old and Charles 21 years old. They also had two grandchildren living with them, John 11 and Joseph 9.

Joseph was employed as an engineer, but where and what type of engineer was not given. In 1870 Joseph Thompson was in Enfield Connecticut where he was employed in a powder mill.

GOLD MINER:

Thomas Ibberson:

[See bio under "Saloon Keepers" below.](#)

MERCHANT:

BECKWITH BROTHERS:

In 1878 A.J. Hare opened the first general store in Decoto, later it was purchased by the Beckwith brothers. I was unable to locate any information on the Beckwith brothers.

RAILROAD AGENT:

Andrew J. Hare:

In the mid-1870 to 1884 the dynamo behind the town of Decoto was Andrew Jackson Hare. Here are his accomplishments and the eventual outcome of this period of time for Mr. Hare.

M.W. Wood, in his *History of Alameda County* published in 1883 says of the energetic Mr. Hare:

"On October 1, 1874 Andrew Jackson Hare was appointed agent for the Central Pacific Railroad Company at Decoto, California. He remained in that position until October 12, 1881, while on June 5 1875; he was chosen to fill the position of agent for Wells Fargo & Co., which he held until he resigned the railroad agency. On July 12, 1875, he was appointed Postmaster at Decoto; a position he held until he departed the town of Decoto in 1884.

In 1874 Mr. Hare also took charge of a warehouse that had been erected by private parties, and in 1878 he purchased the majority interest in the concern. In 1876 another warehouse was built by the same parties mentioned above, which they leased to Mr. Hare who periodically added to it until it had a capacity of thirty-five thousand sacks of grain.

In 1879 Mr. Hare constructed a large warehouse, fifty by two hundred feet in dimensions, with a capacity of fifty-five thousand sacks, while in the fall of 1882 he put up yet another, forty by sixty feet in size, with a capacity of fifteen thousand sacks, making four warehouses in all, with storage room for seven thousand tons of grain.

On July 4, 1878, he opened the first store in Decoto, and conducted it until February 12, 1881, when he sold the stock in trade to the Beckwith Brothers. In 1880-82 he conducted the Dry Creek picnic grounds, situated near Decoto, and in 1882 established his barley and feed mill the product of which he shipped to Oregon and other places on the coast."

January 1882 saw Mr. Hare improve his warehouse by the addition of a steam engine to run his grain cleaner and barley grinder, the old horse powered unit being discarded. The engine and boiler were housed entirely in an enclosed building erected specially for the purpose, forty feet clear from the warehouse in which the machinery stands, the power being transmitted by a belt.

Mr. Hare had made many improvements in his Decoto operation over the years, and his energy and the pursuit of business interests helped the little rail town grow. But Mr. Hare had over extended himself and, in January 1884, Mr. Hare filed an assignment for the benefit of his creditors."

"The Nevada Bank" had brought suit against Mr. Hare in Decoto, and Sigmund Salz of Centerville, to recover a quantity of barley stored at Decoto, or \$38,130, the value thereof. To satisfy the lien Mr. Hare delivered 15,000 sacks of barley to the bank. Mr. Hare owned several large warehouses in Decoto, but he had mortgaged them and did not have the assets to continue his business in Decoto. After this Mr. Hare faded from the history of Decoto, only to be mentioned as going bankrupt in 1891 in Oakland. His Decoto warehouses were eventually taken over by the partnership of Gerard Wissman and Edward Salz.

SALOON KEEPER: Thomas Ibberson:

Tom Ibberson was born in Connecticut in August 1860. In the late 1870's he had arrived in Alvarado where he was employed as a butcher while he boarded at the home of John Laughlin, and at this time he was single. Sometime during the 80's he relocated to Decoto where he spent a period of time as a butcher. Circa 1884 he met and married his wife Minnie. The Ibberson's had five children: two sons, Charley and Delbert; and three daughters: Jessie, Alma and Abbie. On November 25, 1890, Abbie, their eldest child died after being kicked in the face by a horse. Alma took sick and died of the croup soon thereafter. The two children died within three days of each other.

Tom switched his occupation from butcher to saloonkeeper during the 1880's and in September 1889 a fire swept through his saloon rendering his business a total loss. His saloon was partially insured for \$400. The fire was thought to have been started by a firebug.

In 1898 Thomas went gold mining with Mr. G. Nelson in Dawson, Yukon Territory. Shortly after the turn of the new century Tom was back in Decoto. In 1901 Thomas bought Harry Fortune's Saloon in Decoto. About this same time the work of building the concrete and steel bridge across the small creek

on the road to Centerville at Edward Whipple's place began construction. Eight men were required on the work. Tom, seeing an opportunity, opened a boarding house to accommodate them with board while they were at work.

In December 1903 Tony Goularte, who had recently retired from the saloon business with Frank Goularte, purchased Tom's saloon. Frank took possession of the saloon in January 1904.

In 1910 Tom Ibberson was residing on the Jarvis Landing Road in the Alviso District. He showed he was still married but his Minnie was not living with him. He showed his occupation as farming. In 1916 Charley Ibberson married Miss Rose Oliveira of San Leandro. At that time it was stated that Tom and Minnie Ibberson were also living in San Leandro.

SCHOOL TEACHERS & TRUSTEES:

Miss May Hilton / Elmer E. Brownell / Ms. Lena Carter / Edwin Whipple, Trustee / Israel Haines, Trustee / Edward Salz, Trustee

Miss May Hilton:

Miss May Hilton was named the new principal for the Decoto Grammar School in July 1888. In January 1889 May Hilton left the Decoto School for a new position at the Centerville School. May was married on March 23, 1890, to Harry W. Lynch. Harry Lynch would later become the school principal at the Centerville Grammar School.

Elmer E. Brownell:

Elmer E. Brownell resigned as a teacher in the Warm Springs Grammar School in June 1888. In January 1889 Elmer was elected the new principal of the Decoto School with Lena Carter as his assistant. In August 1889 Merton Congdon of Berkeley accepted the position of teacher in the Decoto School. Presumably Mr. Brownell had left the Decoto School after a mere six months. Elmer E. Brownell was later found teaching in Santa Clara County and in the 1890's and early 1900's he became a force in the highly politicized Santa Clara County education system.

Ms. Lena Carter:

Ms. Lena Carter was elected to the position of assistant to the new Principal Elmer E. Brownell upon his arrival in Decoto in January 1889. She served as a teacher under Mr. Snyder in 1890 and under Mr. Mock in 1891. In 1891 it was mentioned that Miss Carter had a sister, Nina Cater, who was a teacher in the Tompkins School in Oakland. Later in 1891 Miss Carter and Miss Mary Jenkins, both Decoto Schoolteachers, were both submitted on the list of the *Oakland Tribune's* "Favorite Teacher" contest.

Edwin Whipple, School Trustee:

Edwin Whipple was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1842 (according to his tombstone) to Samuel & Phoebe Whipple who were residing at this time in Pennsylvania. The family relocated to Monroe County New York where Edwin was reared. The 1870 census showed Edwin living at home in Clarkson, Monroe County New York with his widowed mother, sister Annis and brother

Rufus. Rufus and Edwin were engaged in a steam-powered sawmill that they owned and operated.

Edwin disposed of his sawmill in preparation for coming to California to join his brother John C. Whipple at Decoto. Edwin had spent some time in Bay City Michigan prior to coming to California and had married Emily C. Fisher, a native of Michigan. Edwin and Emily then came west to California.

In 1880 Edwin and Emily moved onto the John C. Whipple farm where John C. Whipple had built a home for Edwin and Emily. John Whipple was single at this time and living with him were his single sisters Annis, Zandie and Elinor. In the anticipation of the arrival of his younger his brother, John Whipple had cut his home in half moving the front half next door and building an addition onto it in preparation of the arrival of his younger brother and his bride.

Edwin Whipple had a home built near Decoto in July 1889. The style of the residence was of the modern style of architecture and contained nine rooms. The building as a whole was a credit to the builder, C.E. Dennett of Decoto. All during this time Edwin was one of the premiere farmers about Decoto & Niles.

Besides being a farmer Edwin was a member of the Decoto Grammar School Board of Trustees in 1890, a position he served for many terms. In 1896 he was appointed as one of the local registrars for the Decoto area along with John H. Hayes, William King and Peter Juhl.

At this same time Edwin was appointed the Road Foreman for the Decoto area, making sure that the roads in town were kept in top shape. He graded and graveled the roads in the winter and then he would sprinkle them in the summer to keep down the dust.



The crowning jewel of Edwin's endeavors was achieved when the Masonic Home on the Hill in Decoto was being built. On October 14, 1896 the cornerstone for the Masonic Orphans & Widow's home was laid. Edwin Whipple was one of the trustees of new edifice. The dedication of the building was held in Decoto on October 13, 1898, almost two years to day when the cornerstone was laid. Edwin Whipple, as well as Farley Granger Jr. from Alvarado, was among the Masonic officials of the joyous occasion.

Both Granger and Whipple received pages in the "Official Programme of the Festival at the Mechanics Pavilion in San Francisco." The programme, in book form and hard-bound, featured a page devoted to Edwin with a picture and the following inscription:

"Brother Edwin Whipple, of Decoto California, was born in Eastern Pennsylvania, in December 1846. On his mothers side he comes of an old Masonic family, his mother's uncle having been a Mason for over sixty-years.

He came to California in 1878 and settled in the San Jose Valley, where he began farming and fruit raising. His home ranch consists of about 375-acres, and he is also the owner of 350-acres near the Widows' and Orphans' Home. He has now been on the Board of the Trustees of the home for three years, and has been actively engaged in bringing this grand undertaking to a successful issue. He has been Master of Alameda Lodge #167 at Centerville for two terms."

But Edwin and Emily Whipple were also social folks who enjoyed entertaining and giving back to the community. This was evidenced in June 1898 at the birthday of their eldest daughter Zadie. The previous year Edwin cleared a spot land and erected a stage and then laid a floor for dancing. He then put up two long tables for the convenience of picnickers. The Whipples named the spot "The Maples" and it became a joyful place for social gatherings around their area.

Well, getting back to Zadie's 17th birthday party at The Maples, about ten o'clock the guests began to arrive, and soon after the young people took possession of the dancing floor and held it until the dinner hour when the merry company sat down to dispatch the good things that had been set before them. Dinner over the dance was resumed, while the "Pedro sharps" (Pedro is a very rudimentary card game of the Pinochle family) cleared places on the ends of the tables and indulged in their favorite game; the older ladies sat in groups and chatted; the children romped and played, and all made the most of their day's outing. It was nearly dark before the last guest departed after thanking Mr. & Mrs. Whipple and their daughter for their day of enjoyment.

In August 1905 the young people of the Decoto Church gave an entertainment at "The Maples," near Ed Whipple's place, on Saturday evening, August 19th. The leading feature of the evening's entertainment was a farce entitled "The Garters." The young people put a lot of effort into the play and the cause for the Decoto Congregational Church was a worthy one. The Whipple's graciously let "The Maples" grounds for the use of the church entertainment.

Edwin and Emily had a family of four daughters and four sons. The four daughters were: Zadie, Isobel, Doris and Annis. The sons were: Edwin Jr., Arthur, Theodore and Homer.

Both Edwin and Emily were staunch supporters of the Congregational Church in Decoto, Mrs. Whipple being an active member of the church's Ladies Guild. Edwin was fully immersed in the Masonic Rites being a member of the Alameda Lodge No. 167 at Centerville; the Doric Chapter, No. 66; Islam Temple, N.M.S. of San Francisco; the Royal Arch Masonry of San Leandro and the Oakland Commandery No. 11, Knights Templar. Both Mr. & Mrs. Whipple were members of the Eastern Star.

Edwin Whipple died on June 5, 1929 in Decoto at the age of 87.

[Israel B. Haines, Trustee:](#)

[See bio in Chapter 01 Page 13](#)

Edward Salz, School Trustee:

See "Warehouseman" below

WAREHOUSEMEN:

Edward Salz / Gerard Wissman

Edward Salz:

Edward Salz was born in Austria in 1854. He entered the U.S. in 1875 and in 1881 he became a naturalized citizen. After arriving in the U.S. he came to Washington Township and went to work for his uncle Jacob Salz, in his store in Centerville.

When A.J. Hare went bankrupt in 1884, his warehouse operations in Decoto were taken over by the partnership of Edward Salz and Gerrard F. Wissman. This continued until the death of Mr. Wissman in April 1890.

On July 5, 1891, Edward Salz' grain warehouse and T.S. Ferreira's saloon and general merchandise store (also as a Post office) burned to the ground. Everything was lost. The railroad station was badly scorched. The origin of the fire is supposed to have been too many firecrackers. The property was insured. The Southern Pacific Company sent up a water train, but as the valves refused to work it was of no service.

On December 18, 1895, Ed Salz' warehouse suffered another fire, this time taking the merchandise store of Frank Ribera with it. Also included in the same building was the barbershop of M. Brown, who also lost all. The fire was thought to have been set by a firebug as an attempt had made three months ago to burn the place by saturating it with oil. The loss was about \$2,000 and the insurance \$1,200.

In March 1903 the warehouse business of Lowry, Perry & Volmer at Decoto and Irvington was purchased by Edward Salz. By this deal Ed Salz gained control of all the warehouses of Decoto, Irvington and Centerville.

Ed Salz continued his march forward when he was cited as a major stockholder in the new Niles States Bank in September 1906. The Niles States Bank was incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000, all of which had been subscribed. The bank was located in Niles.

Articles of Incorporation for a firm to be known as Edward Salz, Incorporated, were drawn up in July 1908. The firm was capitalized at \$100,000. The firm was located in Decoto where they engaged in the business of supplying hay, grain and feed, besides doing general contracting and commission work. The capital stock was fully paid in, Edward Salz having subscribed \$99,700, Tilly K. Salz, \$100, Milton H. Salz \$100, and Clarence F. Salz, \$100.

Ed Salz also owned the Newark Water Company, which he sold to the Union Water Co. of Oakland. The transfer went into effect on May 1, 1912, and representatives of the new ownership were already in charge of the plant. No promises of improvement of service were made, but rumors were that the

new owners would soon install larger mains and provide a more general supply of aqua pura in the near future.

H.S. Crocker, from the eastern states, leased one of the Salz warehouses in Decoto in September 1912, and he stated he planned to open a lead pencil factory in its place. The cedar lumber for the factory would be brought by train from Tehama and other counties where cedar grows and will be worked over at the mill into pencil lengths. Mr. Crocker says that work will be rushed on the plant and 50 to 60 hands, men and women, would be employed all the year around.

In February 1920 the Better Pack Canning Company took over the interests of the Salz Canning Company in Decoto. The new company was composed of Frank Garatti and Ambrose Revolti of Pleasanton and Charles Ferrario of Livermore. The new owners were formerly connected with the wine industry in the Livermore Valley on an extensive scale. When the death knell was sounded and their interests closed, they immediately decided to embark in the canning business.

The new cannery would open for business when the cherry season started and would remain open all through the summer to can both fruits and vegetables. The latest machinery for cooking fruits, etc., and the most efficient methods of handling deliveries and shipments were installed. When the machinery was put in place it was one of the best-equipped canneries in the county.

A massive fire broke out in April 1929 that destroyed two large wooden warehouses of the Salz Company on Railroad Avenue, the blaze being visible for many miles in each direction and being observed in Hayward. Both warehouses were about a third filled with baled hay and grain and a considerable loss resulted. No financial estimate of the loss has been made, but it is believed to have been covered with insurance.

Handicapped by lack of a water supply, five fire companies, including one at Decoto, two from Centerville and one each from Newark and Niles, and a total of about 50 firemen battled the flames as best they could to contain the fire and to prevent the surrounding buildings and homes from perishing. Several roof fires were started on nearby houses, but these were extinguished quickly with chemicals. A strong wind was blowing at the time, making the work of firefighting increasingly difficult.

The origin of the blaze was undetermined, but it was believed it may have been caused by tramps. The hay had been stored there about a year, thus any theory that the blaze started by spontaneous combustion is discounted.

The buildings were a mass of flames by the time the fire companies arrived. A general alarm was sounded at 8:10 o'clock; the five companies worked desperately to confine the blaze to the warehouses, but under the circumstances were able to do little to save the two wooden structures and their contents.

Edward Salz married Miss Matilda Kullman of San Francisco in January 1885. They had one son Milton Salz. After the turn of the new century Edward,

Matilda and Milton relocated to San Francisco, but still retained their vast holdings in Washington Township.

Gerard F. Wissman:

Very little was found for Gerard F. Wissman. He appears in Decoto in 1884 and becomes a partner with Ed Salz when they take over the grain warehouse business after the business failure by A.J. Hare in 1884.

In April 1885 he and Edward Salz made an application for membership in the California Produce Exchange in San Francisco. On November 24, 1886, Gerard married Miss Lizzie Decoto, daughter of Ezra Decoto. After this Mr. Wissman relocates to Alvarado, which he leaves in 1889 for health reasons. In April 1890 Gerard F. Wissman passes away. Nothing further was found for Lizzie Decoto Wissman.

* **DECOTO GRAMMAR SCHOOL** *

There is scant mention of the Decoto Grammar School in the 1880's. It was mentioned that Peter Decoto and Edward Haines were issued Diplomas of Graduation by the County Board Of Education in December 1884.

In July 1888 Miss May Hilton was named as the new principal for the Decoto School. Six months later in January 1889 Mr. Elmer E. Brownell of San Jose was chosen as the new principal with Ms. Lena Carter as his assistant. In August 1889 Merton J. Congdon of Berkeley accepted the position of teacher at the Decoto School.

The Decoto School continued to grow. By March of 1889 there were over ninety pupils enrolled in the public school.

* **WATER** *

Floods / Water Rights

FLOODS:

A flood visited Decoto on the morning of April 22, 1880, and the Alameda Creek was higher than had ever been known before. The water spread all over the valley between Niles and Decoto. Severe damage to crops was done. A group of Indians had lived on an island on the creek watched as their houses floated away.

The Indians had to take refuge in the sycamore trees. No assistance could be given to them until the water went down. The railroad and county bridges across the creek remained in place and were not in danger however; more damage was feared as the wind is still from the south with indications of more rain.

WATER RIGHTS:

A large meeting of persons interested in keeping Washington Township's water rights to the Alameda Creek intact met at Centerville on Wednesday, November 18, 1887. A committee was organized to protect the township's water. J.C. Whipple was elected President, J.C. Wamsley Secretary, and W.F. Ingalls Assistant Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting, held at Decoto on November 8, 1887, were approved. Messrs. J. Rock, J. Stevenson, and J.C. Whipple formed the committee appointed at the time to ascertain the feelings of the community in regard to the action of the Spring Valley Water Co. in diverting the water from the Alameda Creek for the benefit of the citizens of the City of San Francisco.

The people of the Decoto area were reported to be very bitter, and the committee raised about two thousand five hundred dollars with which to obtain the advice of able lawyers on the subject.

* **MEMORABLE EVENTS** *

May 20, 1882:

Picnic, Township Pioneers:

On Saturday, May 20, 1882, a grand picnic was held at the Decoto picnic grounds by the pioneers of Washington and the adjoining townships. An oration was given by Judge Augustus M. Crane, first judge of Alameda County at the original County Seat at Alvarado.

This was followed by games and races. A coach capable of carrying 50 passengers was run to and from every train at Decoto and no pains were spared by the management to afford every accommodation to the public in general and the pioneers in particular for a good time.

The officer of the day was J.A. Trefry. Come one come all and be assured of a good time generally! Badges, 50¢.

November 13, 1883:

Train Engineer Injured:

Between 8 and 9 o'clock on the night of November 13, 1883, Adam Bruce was run over by his own train at Decoto and had his right leg crushed from the foot to the thigh. He had been fixing a switch and was walking along back when his foot slipped and was jammed down between the rail and the plank of the crossing.

The train came down on him before he could extricate himself. The injured man was brought to the Receiving Hospital in Oakland where Dr. Woolsey amputated the leg close to the body. At 1 o'clock on the morning of November 14th the patient was very low, with little chance given for his recovery. He had been working for the Central Pacific for only six weeks, but he had been on railroads in Canada, his native country, for several years.

He was unmarried, and had no relatives in this country.

October 1884:
John Rock of California Nursery:



A sale of 557 acres of the Clark Ranch between Decoto and Niles was sold to John Rock in October 1884, the fruit grower of San Jose for \$111,400.

A photo of John Rock circa 1890 working his California Nursery. Here is seen on a wagon bringing a load of palm trees to his nursery.

1885:
Decoto Residents Rusticate at San Cruz:

Reports from the resort town of Santa Cruz reports that there is a Camp Decoto in that town's San Lorenzo Creek. The camp is composed of families living in Decoto that have traveled to Santa Cruz in large wagons and pitched their tents on the banks of the creek. They are well pleased with the grand scenery and surroundings of the Santa Cruz Mountains. Following are the names of those composing the company, Charles, James, Lulu, Annie Charles Jr., Clara, Edna, Ella & Bertha Whipple of Decoto; James Hawley of Alvarado; Major Hawley, Hattie Hawley, Milton Cook and Chauncey Cornell of San Francisco.

February 5, 1887:
Rain and Snow:

Three inches of rain fell in the twenty-four hours ending at 7 a.m. Five inches of snow had fallen since 7 a.m., and it continued to fall steadily. The wind was from the southeast, with the thermometer at 29 degrees.

April 1887:
Mrs. Abbie Odell Passes:

Mrs. Abbie Odell of Decoto has passed away. She was the wife of J.M. Odell and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith.

July 1887:
I.B. Harris:

I. B. Harris, an old Decoto, resident was badly injured this morning. His horse, being frightened by a train, wedged him against the tie rail, dislocating his shoulder.

September 1887:
Ezra Decoto Sr. Strikes Gold:

Ezra Decoto Sr., while engaged in hauling stone from the creek near the old Vallejo Mill for use in the Decoto cemetery, came upon a square, flat stone in the sand. He

had some trouble in digging it out, and was astonished at seeing a rusty tin box underneath. Prying it open, his astonishment can be imagined at the sight, which met his eyes, the box being filled with twenty-dollar gold pieces. Mr. Decoto refuses to tell the exact size of the box or total value of the coin, and says if any claimant presents himself it must be fully described before possession will be given.

October 7, 1887:

Death takes John W. Thompson:

John W. Thompson, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Thompson, died in Decoto on October 7, 1889. He was a native of Scotland and passed away at the age of 43 years.

December 1887:

Manuel Fontes Loses part of Foot:

Manuel S. Fontes, a resident of Decoto, was a passenger on the 7 p.m. broad-gauge local train on December 26, 1887, when he attempted to jump off at West Oakland. He missed his footing and fell between the cars. The wheels passed over the end of his right foot. The wounded man was removed to the receiving hospital, where a portion of the injured foot was amputated.

March 15, 1889:

Storm does not Dampen Party:

A severe wind and rainstorm on the night of Friday March 15, 1889, could not dampen the spirits of a large number of the social element of Decoto and vicinity assembled in the schoolhouse hall where they spent many hours pleasantly in dancing, social converse, refreshments, and other pastimes incident to such gatherings. The party was managed by the Misses Etta Dennett and Lulu Whipple, who were assisted by other ladies of Decoto. The affair was a decided success socially, and reflected great credit on the ladies who arranged the party. Excellent music was furnished by a harpist and a violinist from San Francisco. The merry participants danced until 3 a.m. when all departed for their respective homes with smiling faces and a longing for an early repetition of the event. Among those present from the Decoto area were:

Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bush	Mr. & Mrs. F.W. Meyer	Mr. & Mrs. Fereira
Mr. & Mrs. C. Dennett	Mrs. I.B. Haines	Mrs. J.M. Nichols
Miss Lulu Whipple	Miss Clara Whipple	Miss Etta Dennett
Miss Jennie Decoto	Mr. E. E. Brownell	Mr. August May Jr.
Mr. Henry May	Mr. Charles Whipple	Mr. George Williams
Mr. E. Haines	Mr. Joe Thompson	Mr. George Lowrie
Mr. Conrad Pitsche	Mr. John Rose	

March 22, 1889:

Mt. Eden & Decoto Party:

A number of the young people of Mount Eden and Decoto enjoyed a party in Decoto on March 22, 1889. Dancing and pleasant social intercourse were supplemented by a bountiful supper. The features of interest were various.

The music, by the Merino Brothers, was exceptionally good. Those in attendance were:

John Rose and wife	Joseph Thompson	Henry Graesslin
Charles Whipple	A. H. Bush and wife	Joseph King
Alfred Frank	August May Jr.	Percy Levi
Henry May	Thomas Smith and wife	Miss Etta Dennett

Miss Jennie Decoto
Miss Minnie Peterman
Miss Christina Wrede
C. E. Dennett and wife
Fred Wrede
Mr. Brownell
Fred Meyers and wife
George Williams
A. L. Graham

Frank Dutra
Miss Millie Eichler
Fred Lowrie
Miss Mamie Peterman
Fred Peterman
Ed Haines
Miss Clara Whipple
Willie Dennett

Fred Kuck
Miss Lily Whipple
Thomas Broaden
Miss Emma Eichler
John Penke
J. H. Gray
Miss Annie Penke
J. B. Haines

June 1889:

Dance in new Decoto Train Depot:

Mrs. J.M. Nichols, agent for the S.P. Co., gave a dance in the new train depot on June 6, 1889. Dancing, games and music were the order of the evening. Supper was served about midnight, and dancing continued until an early hour in the morning. Among those present were:

Mr. and Mrs. E. Decoto Sr.
Mrs. E.L. Mann of Oakland
Henry May
Miss Jennie Decoto
Miss Florence Mortimer
Miss Etta Lumsdan
F. W. Craig
A. J. Faria
Percy Levi

Mr. & Mrs. T.S. Ferreira
Charles Whipple
Miss Lulu Whipple
Miss Alvina Decoto
Frank Mortimer of Niles
Miss Mattie Stevenson
James Bowen
H. Graesslin
Mrs. J. M. Nichols

Mr. & Mrs. L. Levi
August May Jr.
Miss Clara Whipple
Miss Olive Lamb
M. H. Comstock
F. A. Lisdell
George Haslett
J. J. Rose

July 1889:

Mr. Peterson Builds new Addition to Home:

Mr. Peterson, living just below the California Nursery, built an addition to his house in the shape of a two-story front, which much improves and enlarges his residence. Mr. Dennett of Decoto had charge of the carpenter work.

July 1889:

Ed Whipple moves into New Home:

Ed Whipple and family have just moved into their \$8,000 residence near Decoto. This new residence is of the modern style of architecture, contains nine rooms, and the building, as a whole is a credit to the contractor, C.E. Dennett, and will stand as a monument over the heads of Mr. & Mrs. Whipple for many generations.

The grounds about the house will be beautified in keeping with the building.

September 1889:

Fire destroys Ibberson Saloon:

A fire was discovered in T. Ibberson's saloon about 4 o'clock on the morning of September 27th. The saloon was a total loss. It was partly insured for \$400. The cause of the fire was thought to be incendiary.

December 1889:

Edward L. Haines Places 3rd for a West Point Cadetship:

The result of the examination of the nineteen candidates for a West Point cadetship show Edward L. Haines of Decoto placed third with a score of 90%.

≈≈≈≈≈

Edward L. Haines Earns a Teaching Credential:

The County Board Of Education declared the result of the recent teacher's examination and granted a certificate to Edward L. Haines, Decoto.