

Published Accounts by Pioneer Valley Residents

Booth, Edmund W., *Edmund Booth (1810-1905), Forty-Niner; the Life Story of a Deaf Pioneer, Stockton, Calif., San Joaquin Pioneer & Historical Society, 1953.* As the title implies, Chicopee-born Edmund Booth traveled overland to California from his home in Iowa, despite being deaf and sight-impaired. This autobiography draws extensively from the diary and letters of Booth himself. A more recent biography by Harry G. Lang, more widely available, was published in 2004, under the title *Edmund Booth: Deaf Pioneer*.

Clarke, A. B., *Travels in Mexico & California, Boston: Wright & Hasty, 1852.* This book covers Clarke's journey through Mexico to California. It was edited and re-published by Anne M. Perry in 1988 (College Station: Texas A&M University Press). Westfield Athenaeum has a copy.

Hall, Linville John, *Around the Horn in '49; Journal of the Hartford Union Mining and Trading Company, Wethersfield, CT: Linville Hall, 1898.* Linville J. Hall left Springfield, Mass. to join a company of Connecticut men on the journey to California aboard the *Henry Lee*. Having worked as a publisher, he brought a printing press with him and printed a daily journal of the ship's passage. Later, these pages were collected into a volume and published by Hall in 1898. An original copy of the book is difficult to find, but it has been re-published on the internet.

Robinson, Charles, *The Kansas Conflict, New York: Harper & Brothers, 1892.* This book has been re-published several times, most recently in 2002 by Heritage Books, Bowie, Maryland. While the bulk of this book deals with the turmoil in "Bleeding Kansas," the author gives an account of his time in California, especially his involvement with the "squatters' rebellion" in Sacramento.

Shirley, Dame (Clappe, Louise Amelia Knapp Smith), *Shirley Letters From California Mines in 1851-52, San Francisco: Thomas C. Russell, 1922.* Writing under the pseudonym of "Dame Shirley", Louise Clappe, formerly of Amherst, Mass., wrote a series of letters to her sister in Massachusetts, describing the Gold Rush experience from a woman's perspective. These letters, originally published in the newspaper, were collected into a volume which was first published in 1922 and has been republished several times, since. W.E.B. DuBois Library at the University of Massachusetts has a copy.

Taylor, Rinaldo R., *Seeing the Elephant; Letters of R. R. Taylor, Forty-Niner, [Los Angeles]: Ward Ritchie Press, 1951.* This volume of the collected letters of Rinaldo R. Taylor, a Williamsburg native and Greenfield resident, was published in very limited edition in 1951 and is hard to find. The Greenfield Public Library has a copy for use on premises, only.