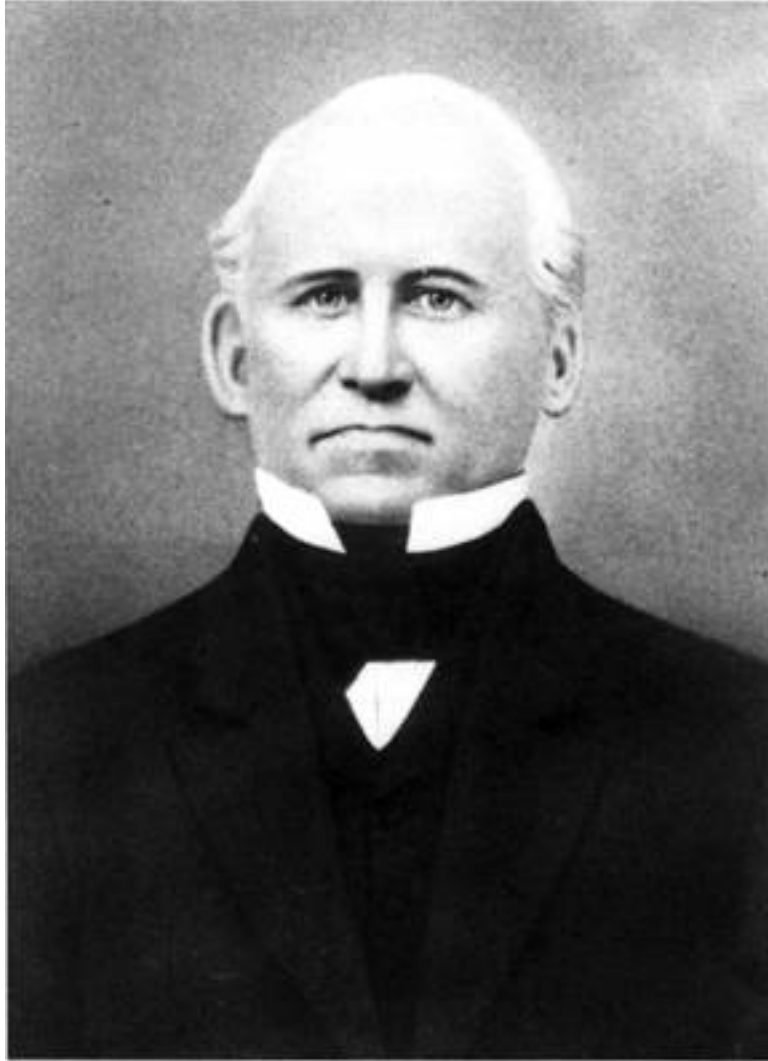


James Alexander Forbes
The Mischief-Making Renaissance Man



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Preface

When I first began research on *The Alameda* in 2005, my first stop was Leonard McKay's house. He showed me his extensive collection of San Jose and Santa Clara directories and told me the stories behind century-old photos of San Jose. I immediately fell in love with the prospect of studying local history. When I finally finished writing *The Alameda, The Beautiful Way* in 2006, Leonard McKay proofread my manuscript for me, suggesting that I should submit it to the California Pioneers of Santa Clara contest. Instead, the book was used as a fundraiser for The Alameda Business Association, enabling the group to run farmers markets on Saturdays and to pursue other community projects. For this contest, I decided to expand on one of my favorite individuals mentioned in my book--James Alexander Forbes.

Los Gatos Historian William A. Wulf has shared countless stories with me about Forbes. He always relates them with so much excitement that I can barely write down all of the information fast enough. Wulf's stories about Forbes are all colorful and entertaining, and always support the notion of Forbes as a renegade without morals. For example, in 1853, Forbes recorded Don Louis Maria Peralta's last will and testament on Louis deathbed. To their dismay, the illiterate Peralta family later discovered that he had bequeathed all of his property to Forbes. According to Wulf, it took the family decades of legal action to recover the land. I chose to omit stories like this one because I have not accessed proper documentation of them. I classify these second-hand accounts as legends that are frequently just as important to tell as documented history, but not always fitting in a historical research paper.

I also met a man in the History San Jose archives at Kelley Park who was researching Forbes. He was defensive at the very suggestion that Forbes was a trickster, calling this statement “libelous.” At this point I realized that there is no such thing as pure fact, and all histories are interpretations colored by opinions.

In this essay I try to resolve the opposing views by sharing all of the stories about Forbes that I encountered throughout my research. Sources that I use include the Santa Clara University Archives, History San Jose, the California Room, and works by William A. Wulf.

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History San Jose

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I. Introduction

The historical silhouette of James Alexander Forbes that has survived over the last two centuries depicts him as one of the most mysterious, highly controversial pioneers of Santa Clara Valley. Many accounts of Forbes are myth, and definitive record of his life may be forever lost. According to some, Forbes was a well-respected member of the California community and a talented businessman. Despite his entrepreneurial spirit, he was disastrously unlucky in his business endeavors. He was a classic example of an early Californian whose misfortunes were exacerbated by the flood of newly arriving Americans. Historian William Wulf proposes another view of this man—a distinguished mischief-maker. Over time, Forbes adopted two contradictory personas; one a conniving con-artist, and the other an enterprising renaissance man. Some stories have elevated Mr. Forbes to a position of statesman-like glory, such as his involvement in ending the Battle of Santa Clara. Others have depreciated his reputation to the point of describing him as a liar and a thief. Forbes was involved with numerous instances of dishonest property sales. This essay will explore multi-faceted personality of James Alexander Forbes and examine whether his varied accomplishments outweigh his foibles.

II. Early History: Forbes' Odyssey

In 1804, James Alexander Forbes was born to Marta Rodriguez and John Alonzo Forbes, a professor at the University of Glasgow, in Inverness, Scotland.¹ After his father passed away in 1817, James Alexander was adopted by his uncle. One account states that he moved to Cadiz, Spain, to live with his uncle, William Forbes, and graduated from the

College of Salamanca. James Weeks, a friend he met along his journey to California, stated that James Alexander Forbes “could speak their [Californios’] language better than they could,” suggesting that he may have had a sophisticated, perhaps Castilian, Spanish accent.ⁱⁱ

Another account suggests that Marta's brother, Francisco Rodriguez, brought James Alexander Forbes to Buenos Aires, Argentina. In Argentina, Rodriguez owned a shipping line that transported cattle and wheat to England. Rodriguez sent Forbes to the Jesuit College of Montevideo, Uruguay. In 1825, Montevideo became the epicenter of a war between Brazil and Argentina. The war began when Brazil received a formal notice from Montevideo that Uruguay was part of the Argentine Confederation. Despite Rodriguez' economic ties to Argentina, Forbes sided with Brazil. Belligerent young Forbes, along with Captain De Paister and a cousin, took one of Francisco Rodriguez' ships into combat. Forbes' cousin and the captain were killed, and Forbes was hit over the head with a saber. For the rest of his life Forbes had a silver plate in his head.ⁱⁱⁱ

To prevent Forbes' execution, Rodriguez paid a large sum of money to Argentine officials. Then, Rodriguez and Forbes fled the country to Concepcion, Chile. Rodriguez was killed in an earthquake there in 1828.^{iv}

Forbes' epic adventure continued in 1829 when he set sail for either Vancouver or the South Pacific on a schooner. In 1830, the boat began to take on water, and Forbes was shipwrecked on a south sea island until an English whaling vessel, the *Nelson*, picked him up. At the Galapagos Islands, Forbes was transferred to another sailing ship, the *Fanny*.^v

He worked to earn his passage, quickly rising to the rank of fourth mate.^{vi} James Weeks, another sailor on board the *Fanny*, explains:

Off Albermarle Bay we fell in with an English barge whaler, the ship 'Nelson' of London. Mr. James Alexander Forbes left the 'Nelson', and came on board of us, expecting to be landed on the Spanish Coast [West coast of South America]. Shortly after Forbes came aboard we went to the Marquis' Islands...and shaped our course for the Island of Christina. This island was called Dominigue at that time...crossed over to Christina, where we came to anchor. We lay in the bay a few days...shaping our course to Whahoo, one of the Sandwich Islands. In course of time we came in sight of Oyhee, where Captain Cook was murdered...We sailed from Honolulu to the Japan Ocean...shaping our course for California...we arrived off the heads of San Francisco, which was October, 1831...we were informed that Mr. Forbes had left.^{vii}

Forbes disembarked the *Fanny* at Yerba Buena (now San Francisco).^{viii} This renegade odyssey sounds, in part, fictitious. It is disconcerting and suspicious that Forbes was the only eyewitness remaining to share the full story with California upon his arrival in 1831. Judging by the other innumerable scams and controversies that surrounded Forbes in his lifetime, it is unsurprising that Forbes might qualify an elaborate myth as fact.

Upon arriving in Yerba Buena, Forbes found a job as an accountant for José Castro near Richmond. Next, James Alexander Forbes, an ambitious and amiable 27-year-old, found his way to Mission Santa Clara.

Padre Jose Viader immediately realized Forbes' business talents and granted him the important position of *majordomo*—the chief clerk for the Mission.^{ix} Wulf notes that at this time, Forbes was one of the most educated inhabitants in all of California. Forbes was now in charge of maintaining the mission's property and financial records.

III. El Potrero de Santa Clara

In the early 1800s, Protestants had no civil rights in Mexican California. Consequently, a Protestant was not allowed to remain on shore more than a few weeks, unless he belonged to some vessel. For Protestants, owning property in California was out of the question. Since it was required that Protestants convert to Catholicism in California, the saying went that “A man must leave his conscience at Cape Horn.”^x So, in 1834 James Alexander Forbes abandoned his “conscience” and became Don Diego Forbes, a full-fledged Californio.

That same year, Forbes married Ana Maria Galindo, the daughter of Juan Crisostomo Galindo.¹ The marriage might have been a way to circumvent the strict laws against foreigners. Some believe that Juan Christomo Galindo included a generous wedding dowry—El Potrero de Santa Clara. Governor Michaeltoarena officiated over Forbes' formal ownership of the nine-square miles of land on February 22, 1844. James Alexander and Ana Maria had 12 children.

British by birth, but re-invented as a Californio, Forbes was always caught between two worlds. After the American takeover of California, the Forbes family kept secret the fact that their children were of $\frac{3}{4}$ Spanish-Mexican descent. The only clue to Forbes' Spanish descent is the marriage contract dated July 2, 1834, which is the only reference to his Spanish mother, “Marta Rodriguez.” Forbes honored his mother by naming his eldest daughter “Martha.”

* See Appendix 1 for the newly translated Forbes marriage contract by the author.

Forbes' sale of El Potrero de Santa Clara was arguably Forbes' first involvement with a dishonest property transaction. In 1847, Commodore Robert F. Stockton negotiated the purchase of Forbes' land for \$10,500.^{xi} A controversy over the acreage ensued. Forbes claimed that El Potrero encompassed 6,000 acres. Stockton discovered, to his dismay, that El Potrero comprised only 1,939.03 acres.^{xii} The U.S. Land Commission and District Court verified this figure. This misrepresentation could serve as evidence of Forbes' flawed character.

In Forbes' defense, there is an alternate story about the sale of El Potrero de Santa Clara. According to historian Frank L. Beach, Stockton's agent offered Forbes the money before the actual size of the acreage was known, and subsequently it was mutually agreed that the land should be surveyed. Ultimately, the acreage proved to be more than enough. Stockton successfully developed The Alameda Gardens subdivision, one of San Jose's first subdivisions.

These two views of the transaction demonstrate that Forbes can be interpreted in two ways—either as a trickster or as a misunderstood pioneer. Even if Forbes intentionally misled Stockton, Stockton was not troubled by the acreage discrepancy enough to take action. Stockton's acceptance of the lower acreage without lawsuit suggests that this was a misunderstanding that still resulted in a successful business transaction.

IV. The First History of California

Historian William Wulf suggests that Forbes may have been sent by his uncle Alexander Forbes, the British consul of Mexico, to gather information about California for

England. On December 7, 1842, Consul Eustace Barron at Tepic, Mexico, recommended Forbes as British Vice Consul of California, a position in which he served until 1850.^{xiii} This confirms his direct involvement with the English government. A *San Jose Mercury News* article in 1890 stated that he was the British Consul during the Mexican war, and “took an active part in the diplomacy by which England attempted to get possession of California.”^{xiv} After helping Mexico set up their government in 1822, England was interested in acquiring California in compensation for their efforts.

With his observations of the land, economy and potential of California, Forbes wrote the first history of California as a report back to Britain. *California: a History of Upper and Lower* □ *California* was a compilation of Forbes’ notes of his travels within California. In this book, he strongly advocated the English acquisition of California from Mexico using financial means.^{xv} Rich with information about the political climate and defense capabilities, Forbes sent his book to Alexander Forbes in Tepic, Mexico. Sir John Forbes, James Alexander’s brother, first published the book in London in 1939.^{xvi} Some argue that Alexander Forbes in Tepic, Mexico wrote the history. This is unlikely because Alexander Forbes had never visited California, but was in close contact with James Alexander Forbes.

A *San Jose Mercury News* article written in 1903 notes that only two copies of the history book were then known to exist in California. One was owned by Dr. Frasse of San Jose and the second by Mrs. L. Cunningham of Morgan Hill. Only two or three copies were sent to the west coast, since “English speaking people here at that time were few and far between.”

V. The Battle of Santa Clara

Forbes was the greatest threat to the Californios and their closest ally at the same time. He obviously wanted England to take California from Mexico, thus undermining the Mexican presence, but he also spoke Spanish and was not an American citizen. Married to a Californio native, he certainly would have considered himself more a Californio or a Scotsman rather than an American. In the 1850s, Forbes was a middleman between the Californios and the American newcomers, since he could speak both English and Spanish. This set the scene for his involvement in the Battle of Santa Clara.

The Battle of Santa Clara was the only American skirmish in northern California during the Mexican-American war. The actual battle was only two hours long, but five days of negotiations followed and ended with an official treaty ceremony. In 1846, members of the San Jose Militia began raiding property of the Sanchez Rancho. Sanchez consequently rallied 100 angry Californios and set out to attack the Mission Santa Clara. According to the newspapers, no one was killed or wounded on either side. Francisco Sanchez sent James Alexander Forbes to call a truce and end the battle.^{xvii} Forbes' involvement with the Californio surrender in the Battle of Santa Clara is cited as one of his greatest feats.

VI. The Two Schools “Founded” by Forbes

Following the Bear Flag Rebellion, Santa Clara experienced troubled years in which American squatters plagued California, simply seizing land as they pleased. With the

transition in governments, it was frequently unclear who actually had the title to a plot of land. Amidst this chaos, the Forbes family moved into the quadrangle of the Santa Clara Mission. In a letter to Bishop Alemany in May of 1852, Father Nobili noted that the Forbes family had appropriated half of the old Mission residence of the Franciscans.^{xviii}

In 1851, Forbes hoped to provide his twelve children a Jesuit education and offered Jesuit fathers in Oregon \$10,000 to start a school at Mission Santa Clara. When the Jesuit fathers arrived, Forbes graciously provided them with his rooms in the mission quadrangle to begin the school. Allegedly, he then demanded \$11,000 from the fathers to move out of the quadrangle and built a mansion for himself in Santa Clara. The Jesuit fathers wrote to the Vatican and appropriated the money.^{xix} Father Nobili also agreed to supply Mr. Forbes with 105,000 bricks and 30,000 feet of redwood lumber.

Father Nobili paid \$7,760 in cash—it was all he had. He signed a nine-month note for \$2,000, and a fifteen-month note for \$1,760. He agreed to provide Mr. Forbes with 105,000 bricks for the new house he was building on the west side of Lafayette Street in Santa Clara; these were valued at \$18 a thousand, so the value of the bricks amounted to \$1,890. Father Nobili also agreed to supply 30,000 feet of redwood lumber, at \$45 per thousand feet, so the value of the lumber amounted to \$1,350. And that made up the sum due, except for \$3,000 which father Nobili would pay off by educating Mr. Forbes' sons.^{xx}

Forbes built his Santa Clara mansion in 1852 using the proceeds from the mission fathers. It stood there for 98 years.

Santa Clara University's first year class included Frederick Forbes, James Forbes, Louis Forbes, Charles H. Forbes, James Alexander Forbes, and Michael Forbes.^{xxi}

Historians contend that Forbes "helped" found Santa Clara. While this may be true, its founding was rooted in personal self interest on the part of Forbes.

According to Eugene T. Sawyer's *History of Santa Clara County*, Forbes was one of the first trustees of the college and contributed \$35,000 to the initial equipping and building. This assertion, given the details of transaction offered by Santa Clara historian Edwin A. Beilharz, seems dubious.

As a solution to his economic woes caused by numerous business failures, Forbes helped found a school for girls in Santa Clara, Notre Dame. He sold his mansion to the sisters of Notre Dame for \$8,000 in 1864 and eventually moved to Oakland with his wife. Later, the Sisters of Notre Dame discovered that the mansion was subject to a lien of \$20,000, which they were forced to pay in addition to the sales price.^{xxii}

A theme of dishonesty runs throughout Forbes' life. Historian William Wulf portrays Forbes as less pathetic, victimized, and abject, and analyzes many of Forbes' accomplishments and business interactions as deceitful schemes. Instead of a horrendously unlucky business genius, Wulf views him as a general failure with bad karma from shady business dealings. These property sales reflect poorly upon Forbes, portraying him as selfish and exploitative.

VII. The New Almaden Quicksilver Mines

Castillero discovered mercury at New Almaden in 1845. The Barron & Forbes Company turned New Almaden into California's first mining operation in 1846. The Barron & Forbes Company was owned by Alexander Forbes of Tepic, Mexico—not James Alexander Forbes. However, historians speculate that Alexander may have been James' uncle. In 1846, Alexander Forbes of Tepic purchased four shares of the mine from José Castro. Later, James Alexander Forbes acquired a one-ninth share of the mines from Alexander Forbes.^{xxiii}

The New Almaden Quicksilver Mines led to a protracted ownership litigation, which cost Forbes some eighteen thousand dollars in attorney's fees and court costs. James Alexander Forbes was accused of forgery and anti-dating documents during this litigation, pointing towards his trickster personality.

Many people at the time believed that the title of the mines was obtained by fraud.^{xxiv} In the court case, Forbes introduced a copy of a letter, written March 28th, 1818, in which Alexander Forbes admitted that the Castillero claim was bad. According to the letter, Castillero acquired his title to the mine from the Mexican government subsequent to the American occupation of California.^{xxv} Forbes stated that the original letter was stolen from him, and the original "forged" letter written by Alexander Forbes to James Alexander Forbes on March 28, 1848 was never found.^{xxvi} The San Francisco Bulletin noted, "the whole circumstances...exhibit a most stupendous and abominable fraud."^{xxvii}

If Forbes truly was an honest man, this trial with allegations of perjury scarred his reputation. He developed a reputation for being untrustworthy. Witnesses in the trial

stated that they would not believe Forbes even under oath. Witness Feliz Raney stated that Forbes was disliked among both Americans and the English.^{xxviii}

This view of Forbes may have emerged by the heat of litigation and slander on the part of his legal adversaries. According to historian Frank L. Beach, Edmund Randolph, the attorney representing the United States in the New Almaden Mine Suit, set out to smear the reputation of Forbes in order to disqualify his testimony.^{xxix}

In the court case, José Castro revealed that James Alexander Forbes was involved in questionable dealings. James Alexande Forbes met with José Castro in Lower California to convince Castro to take action to detach Lower California from Mexico and annex it to the United States. Forbes said that he was “authorized by a powerful company of speculators (empresarios) in San Francisco, to furnish me [Castro] with the necessary means.”^{xxx} Forbes then asked Castro to testify against the owners of the New Almaden Mine in exchange for a government payment of over \$10,000. Castro responded, “I am an officer of the Mexican Government, and will not be guilty of treason; and as to the other matter, I cannot be bought with money to do an infamous action.”^{xxxi} The entire case reflects poorly on Forbes’ character, and suggests that he was willing to engage in bribery and perjury.

The outcome of the litigation favored the United States and the prosecutors rather than the Barron & Forbes Company. Consequently, James Alexander Forbes lost his one-ninth share. The unfavorable outcome further aggravated Forbes’ 1858 bankruptcy.

VIII. Failed Enterprises

In his first unsuccessful business endeavor, Don Diego Forbes became an agent for the British Hudson Bay Company.^{xxxii} He went north to the Columbia River along with Canadian trappers to catch otter. In 1845, the Hudson Bay Company collapsed and the owner committed suicide, leaving Forbes to collect debts.^{xxxiii}

This Renaissance man was also involved in efforts to build the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad. Californians began dreaming of a San Francisco and San Jose Railroad as early as 1851, when William J. Lewis created its rough sketch. That year, the Pacific and Atlantic Railroad Company was incorporated by the most prominent Santa Clara pioneers, including the company's vice president James Alexander Forbes. Just as construction was ready to begin, the financial panic of 1854-1855 hit. This first attempt to build a railroad failed due to a lack of support and funding. In 1860, the company tried to reorganize as The San Francisco and San Jose Railroad Company and secured permission from the state to hold a \$900,000 stock subscription election. Opposition from a San Francisco newspaper derailed this movement as well.

While Forbes was connected with many failed business projects, Forbes' realization that there was an economic need for transportation demonstrated entrepreneurial talent. The San Francisco and San Jose Railroad Company succeeded in completing the proposed railroad in 1864.

Likewise, investing in the New Almaden Quicksilver Mines was a good idea. Later on, the New Almaden Mine produced more fortune than any California gold mine in history.^{xxxiv} Forbes always seemed to straddle the cusp of tremendous success, but timing, shifting governments, and luck consistently failed him.

Forbes seemed to arrive in California at exactly the wrong time—just before the American takeover. California was unstable in the 1850s. It was a place of diversity and rugged adventurers. Titles to land were unclear and jobs and resources were scarce. As a Californio, Forbes suffered from the onslaught of American newcomers. Forbes may have been an honest, misunderstood man who simply arrived in California during the wrong chapter in history.

IX. The Forbes Mill and Forbestown

Forbes' next business failure was his Los Gatos flourmill. In 1850, Forbes acknowledged the need for a flourmill in Santa Clara and was enticed by the outlandish price of flour during the gold rush--\$50 per barrel.^{xxxv} He purchased the tract of land called Rancho Rinconada de Los Gatos, determining that the Los Gatos creek would be sufficient for the mill. To purchase the machinery for the mill he wrote to Barron & Forbes Company in Tepic, Mexico, asking for a loan of \$100,000, backed by his stock in the New Almaden mine.^{xxxvi} Barron & Forbes denied Forbes' request.

Wulf contends that his primary funding source for the mill was a “rich old man in Guadalajara,” who mysteriously loaned Forbes \$100,000 at an extremely low interest rate of 3%.

According to historian Beach, Forbes then requested a \$30,000 loan from Fred Probst in New York, offering to pay a high interest rate.^{xxxvii} Forbes justified his loan based on his one-ninth share in the New Almaden Quicksilver Mines. Forbes authorized Probst's firm to procure the equipment for the mill. In March, 1854, the stone foundation of the

mill was completed. Forbes requested that Probst find a “first rate intelligent mill machinist for setting up the mill machinery” and a “first rate steady, sober honest head miller” for his mill. He also requested an “Americanized Irishman or Englishman.”^{xxxviii} Construction of the mill progressed rapidly as Forbes anticipated taking advantage of the 1854 wheat harvest. In May of 1854 more unfortunate circumstances descended upon Forbes. Forbes received plans that required that the mill be constructed in conformity to the machinery, which was opposite to his original plan. This setback halted construction and Forbes wrote to Probst,

The unfortunate result of not adhering deprives me of the means of grinding the wheat of the present harvest and consequently prevents me from reimbursing the very heavy expense I am yearly under in the construction of this building, which alone will cost me forty thousand dollars.

Along with these setbacks, the price of flour plummeted to \$5 a barrel. The mill finally opened for operation in 1855, profiting very little until its closure in 1857.

Forbes’ Mill was one of the first large commercial mills in Santa Clara Valley. Setbacks with the mill and financial troubles caused by the New Almaden Quicksilver Mines litigation culminated in Forbes’ bankruptcy. According to Wulf, Forbes was never able to pay the \$8,000 he owed to the Hernandez family for the land used for the mill.

The Company of Samuels and Farmer bought the mill in 1862, and it eventually became the Los Gatos Manufacturing Company. The Los Gatos community that grew around this mill—the first real employer of this area—was once named Forbestown. Later, the town name reverted back to the name Los Gatos.^{xxxix}

X. Heirs with Questionable Behavior

Recent history is many times more lucid than history further in the past. For this reason, judgments about J. A. Forbes' heirs may point to information about his true character. In 1892, Forbes' son, James Alexander Forbes Jr., following in his father's footsteps, he became a Consul. He was appointed the American Consul to Guaymas, Mexico and kept the Spanish records in the Surveyor-General's office in San Francisco. Like Forbes Sr., Forbes Jr. also demonstrated behavior worthy of criticism. In 1890, Forbes Jr. was reported missing by his family and friends.

He was last seen on Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock on the ferry-boat coming to this side from Alameda, and was then observed to be excited and restless. It is known that he has had domestic trouble of late growing out of the proposed sale of certain property, and it is thought that he left home on that account. A personal advertisement appeared in a morning paper on Thursday as follows:

"J.A.F.—Return at once. All is settled. C.V.F."^{xi}

It is probable that if Forbes raised a son that was involved in shady dealings, James Alexander Forbes was a questionable character as well.

XI. Conclusion

On May 6, 1881, James Alexander Forbes passed away at 1025 Chester Street, West Oakland at the age of 77.^{xii}

Forbes' many character flaws and numerous failures are frequently overshadowed by his achievements. Forbes wrote the first history of California. From his entrepreneurial spirit and energetic efforts to establish the mill, an entire community emerged—Los Gatos.

Even though Forbes did not have success milling in the 1850s, the mill eventually was a success. The railroad that he strove towards in 1851 eventually was built. Notre Dame and Santa Clara University ultimately flourished and are still in existence. Every failure that Forbes suffered seemed to flower into a positive, lasting impact on California.

With character judgments aside, Forbes was certainly a Renaissance man. Forbes was an author, a fur trader, a miner, a miller, and a planner of a railroad. Forbes was a quickly adapting entrepreneur with poor luck in a volatile political and economic climate. As soon as one enterprise did not succeed, he simply found another. In 1903, Forbes was praised as one of the “most prominent and most active men in the development of the resources of this county.”^{xiii} Forbes was an early pioneer in Santa Clara County who greatly affected the course of its history. James Alexander Forbes will always be remembered as somewhat of a mischief-maker, but, more importantly, he will always be acknowledged for his efforts in developing Santa Clara County.

Notes

ⁱ William A. Wulf, “James Alexander Forbes and his Santa Rosa Brand Flour Mill,” History of Los Gatos Series, n.d., Santa Clara University Archives.

ⁱⁱ Frank L. Beach, “James Alexander Forbes 1804-1891: British Vice Consul in California, 1842-1856,” (Masters thesis presented to the Faculty of the Department of History, University of San Francisco, Jan. 1957).

ⁱⁱⁱ William A. Wulf.

^{iv} “James Alexander Forbes,” Santa Clara University Archives: Spearman Papers, folder 91.

^v “James Alexander Forbes,” Santa Clara University Archives: Spearman Papers, folder 91.

^{vi} William A. Wulf, “James Alexander Forbes and his Santa Rosa Brand Flour Mill,” History of Los Gatos Series, n.d., Santa Clara University Archives.

^{vii} William A. Wulf, “James Alexander Forbes and his Santa Rosa Brand Flour Mill,” History of Los Gatos Series, n.d., Santa Clara University Archives.

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- viii Beach, iii.
- ix Beach, 6.
- x Beach, 10.
- xi Lyman, *Around the Horn*, pp.217, 230-31.
- xii Clyde Arbuckle, *Santa Clara County Ranchos* (San Jose: Harlan-Young Press, 1968), 17.
- xiii Beach, 33.
- xiv “Disappeared Anxiety as to the Whereabouts of J. Alexander Forbes,” *San Jose Mercury News* XVII, Issue 69, p. 3, April 12, 1890.
- xv Beach, 10.
- xvi “Rare History of State Owned in Morgan Hill,” *San Jose Mercury News*, XLIII, Issue 108, p.2, April 28, 1903.
- xvii Dorothy F. Regnery, *The Battle of Santa Clara* (San Jose: Smith and McKay Printing Company, 1978).
- xviii Letter from Edwin A. Beilharz, Professor of History, to Mrs. Constance Perham, June 16, 1970, Santa Clara University Archives.
- xix Bob Aldrich, “The Old Mill Stream,” *Los Gatos Weekly-Times*, March 27, 1996.
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- xxiii History San Jose, www.historysanjose.org.
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- xxv “Important Evidence in the New Almaden Mine Suit,” *San Francisco Bulletin*, IX, Issue 48, p.1, Dec. 3, 1859.
- xxvi Beach, 144.
- xxvii “Important Evidence in the New Almaden Mine Suit,” *San Francisco Bulletin*, IX, Issue 48, p.1, Dec. 3, 1859.
- xxviii Beach, 145.
- xxix Beach, 145.
- xxx “Important Evidence in the Almaden Quicksilver Mines Case,” *San Francisco Bulletin*, VI, Issue 85, p.3, July 7, 1858.
- xxxi “Important Evidence in the Almaden Quicksilver Mines Case,” *San Francisco Bulletin*, VI, Issue 85, p.3, July 7, 1858.
- xxxii Beach, 10.
- xxxiii Beach, 6.
- xxxiv “History of New Almaden,” www.historysanjose.org (Accessed March 25, 2008).
- xxxv Bob Aldrich, 1996.
- xxxvi *Letterbook op. cit.* I, p.195. Forbes to Barron & Forbes, October 9, 1852.
- xxxvii Beach, 156.
- xxxviii Beach, 160.
- xxxix Beach, 166.

^{xi} “Disappeared Anxiety as to the Whereabouts of J. Alexander Forbes,” *San Jose Mercury News* XVII, Issue 69, p. 3, April 12, 1890.

^{xii} Beach, 182.

^{xiii} “Rare History of State Owned in Morgan Hill.”

Photo on cover page: Courtesy of William A. Wulf