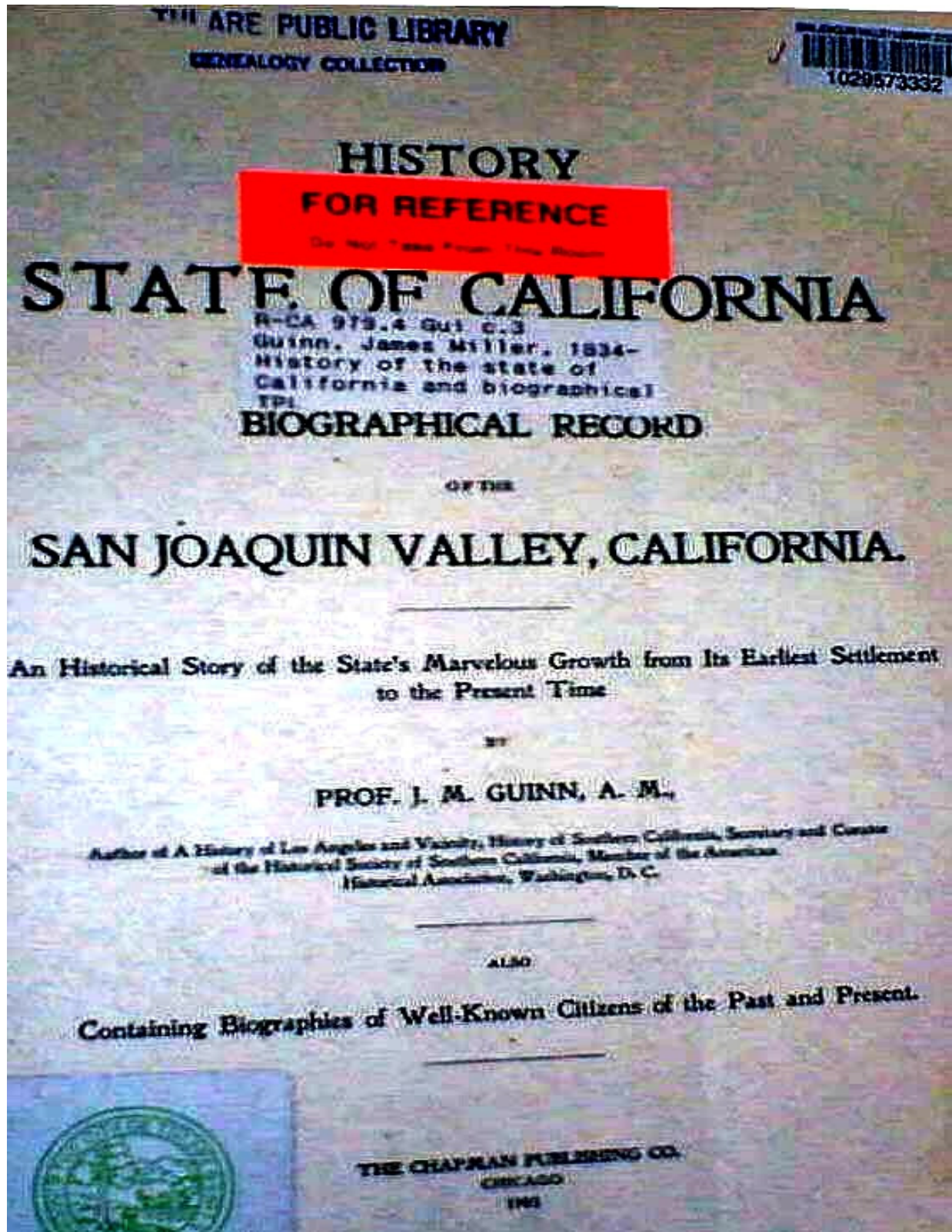


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ALBEA EDGAR SCRUGGS has every reason to be pleased with Tulare county, for a proper use of its opportunities has resulted in a competence for him. He owns a fine farm nine miles west of Portersville, where he has made many improvements, putting up buildings adequate for his needs and erecting a handsome residence. He is justly named among the representative farmers of this section. A native of Virginia, he was born near Palmyra, Fluvanna county, February 4, 1846, the descendant of southern ancestry. His father, Joseph Scruggs, was born in Buckingham county, Va., where he engaged as a farmer until his death, his wife, formerly Pearly Sheplerd, of Virginia, also dying in the same locality. They were the parents of seven sons and five daughters, of whom four sons and two daughters are living.

The youngest in the family of his parents, Albea Edgar Scruggs was reared on the paternal farm in Virginia, receiving his education in the public schools in the vicinity of his home. In manhood he decided to seek his fortune in the more remote west, believing in the abundant opportunities of the newer states. He accordingly came to California in 1867, first locating in Crow's Landing, Stanislaus county. Subsequently he made several trips back east, but his interests remained in California. In 1875 he located in Tulare county, raising stock for a time. In 1876 he bought a ranch of the railroad company

and began to make improvements, while at the same time he followed grain farming and the raising of stock. He now owns four hundred acres on sections 28 and 31, township 21, range 20. Of this land one hundred and fifty acres is devoted to alfalfa. In 1892 he began setting out an orchard of prunes, pears and peaches, being one of the first to devote land to this purpose. He now has an orchard of twenty-five acres, while his entire property is under irrigation from the Woods Central Irrigation Ditch, of which company he is a director. He also owns a grain farm on the plains of four hundred and eighty acres. One of Mr. Scruggs' chief interests on his farm is a dairy, noted for the excellence of its products.

Near Portersville Mr. Scruggs was united in marriage with Mrs. Julia (Rhoades) Turner, a native of Texas, and the daughter of William Rhoades, one of the first settlers near Portersville. He had eight children, of whom Mrs. Scruggs was the sixth in order of birth. To Mr. and Mrs. Scruggs have been born nine children, viz.: William J., of Nevada; John E., a dairyman; Pearley, who died at the age of eighteen years; Hugh E., of Berkeley; Clarence; Fay; Clifford; Roy and Ray (twins), the last five named are at home.

Mr. Scruggs gives his support to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Poplar, of which he is a member. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Tulare, and politically is a staunch adherent of the principles advocated in the platform of the Democratic party as far as regards national issues, reserving the right to cast his ballot locally for the man whom he considers best qualified for public office.