

Monterey-Kern-Santa Clara County CA Archives Biographies.....Luce, Allen L. 1844 -

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ALLEN L. LUCE, a leading citizen of Pacific Grove, and for many years the trusted keeper of Point Pinos lighthouse, is a native of Georgia, born May 8, 1844. His father was a jeweler by trade and occupation; was a native of Martha's Vineyard; lived at Macon, Georgia, where he pursued his calling, and died, his death occurring when Allen was an infant. His mother, who, by maiden name was Sarah A. Brent, was born in Louisiana, a daughter of the Hon. William M. Brent, an eminent member of the Louisiana bar, and a leading and successful politician, having several times represented his State in the United States Congress. After Mr. Luce's death the widow and son removed to New Bedford, Massachusetts, and there, in 1853, she married George H. Bodfish, Esq., and came to California. She survives him, and is a resident of Pacific Grove.

Allen L. Luce received a liberal education. His first experience in business was as a merchant, which occupation he followed at Kernville, Havilah and White Pine, in Kern county, during the mining excitement in 1863 to '69. After about two years spent in Nevada mining districts, and, later, some time at Gilroy, California, he received the appointment of keeper of Point Pinos lighthouse, which position he still occupies.

Mr. Luce married, in 1875, Miss Fannie L. Perry, daughter of Captain Richard Perry, of San Felipe, for many years a resident of Hollister, San Benito county. They have two sons, Raymond Allen and Richard Perry. A daughter, Emma, died in 1881, aged three years.

Allen Luce has perhaps more than any other one man in this vicinity interested himself in the cause of education. He was one of the first to move in segregating the old Monterey school district and organizing the Pacific Grove district. He was foremost in a movement to vote bonds and build the present elegant and commodious school building, which is without exception the finest and most complete of all in the county. The position Mr. Luce has so many years held with the Federal Government, and the esteem with which he is regarded in Monterey county, mark him as a man of excellent parts.

Additional Comments:
Extracted from:

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Illustrated.

Containing a History of this Important Section of the Pacific Coast from the Earliest Period of its Discovery to the Present Time, together with Glimpses of its Auspicious Future; Illustrations and Full-Page Portraits of some of its Eminent Men, and Biographical Mention of many of its Pioneers, and Prominent Citizens of To-day.

HENRY D. BARROWS,
Editor of the Historical Department.