

Henry Melendy came from Chicago, Illinois, to California in 1864, and in 1865 settled in Bear Valley, San Benito county, being time first settler of the valley. Here he has prospered and acquired a large tract of fine land, by pre-emption and purchase, becoming the owner of 1,240 acres.

Mr. Melendy was born in Eagle, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, June 21, 1848, son of Daniel F. and Eunice S. (Roekwood) Melendy, natives of Vermont. Daniel F. Melendy was one of the pioneer farmers of Waukesha county. He lived on Melendy's Prairie, Eagle Township, until his death; his widow moved to Chicago, where she still lives, having reached an advanced age. Henry is the youngest of their three children. Of the others be it recorded that Cephas J., a member of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, died in 1862; and that Ellen H. is married and lives in Chicago.

Mr. Melendy was married April 7, 1868, to Miss Deborah Shell, at San Juan. She was born in Oregon, December 16, 1851, daughter of Philip and Elizabeth Shell, the latter being now Mrs. Bacon, of Bear valley, of who mention is made elsewhere in this work. Their seven children are as follows: George, born January 31, 1869; Daniel, December 21, 1871; Ella, August 26, 1876; Thomas, November 24, 1878; Lucretia, September 15, 1881; Deborah, October 17, 1886; and Henry, July 2, 1888.

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