

COVINA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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purchased ranch on Cypress Avenue where a small frame house became her home for several years. Entering into the life of the little community the Wheeler home was the center of gracious hospitality. The first Methodist Sunday School classes were held in the dining room of their home. With their young daughter, Lucy, the Wheelers were a happy and united family.

When Mrs. Wheeler said good-bye to her husband on a fateful morning in 1904 she little realized that was the last time she would see him before his tragic death.

He left that morning to accompany a cousin, who was a noted botanist, to the summit of Mt. Grayback, where the cousin hoped to find flower specimens for the collection he was assembling for the Smithsonian Institute. During the expedition Mr. Wheeler was struck by lightning and instantly killed.

Left alone with her little daughter, Mrs. Wheeler courageously managed her

affairs and conducted a successful ranch.

Mrs. Wheeler and her daughter, Miss Lucy Wheeler, reside in an attractive stucco house which has replaced the little frame building of nearly 50 years ago when this gracious and genteel lady first became a resident of our community.

The wedding of Walter Wheeler of Covina and Miss Jennie Farmer of San Jacinto will occur at the latter's home on May 31, 1894.