

STATE PRISON AT FOLSOM, CAL.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF PRISONERS ELIGIBLE TO PAROLE UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE LAW.

Name Roy Jerome Smith; Registered No. 4,856
 Date when received Dec. 19, 1900; County
 Committing Judge Thos. M. Hughes; District Attorney
 Counsel for defense none; Address
 Crime Forgery
 Term of sentence 14 years (6.)
 Maximum term for crime committed 14 years; Pleading guilty yes
 Convicted no; Nature of crime, and against whom committed Passing a \$25 check on a Sacramento Dry goods store, led into it by one Albert
 Causes of crime Tarman with whom I worked at Packing House Fresno City
 Previously convicted of misdemeanor, or charged with crime yes petty larceny
 If so, in what State California; County Fresno
 Town of Fresno; Under what circumstances hooking down with a wood
man I exchanged a hammer out of a vacant stable on the center with a road.
 Date of birth August the 18, 1879; Age when received 21
 Race White; Place of nativity E. Greenwood, Iowa
 Name of father R. M. Smith; Name of mother Alpen Romgardner
 Father alive no; Mother alive yes; Present address of father and mother, if alive mother
and stepfather J. R. Romgardner live on their own place
 Name and present address of other near relatives also grandfather J. R. Romgardner deceased
 Father's birthplace Farmington, Ohio; Mother's birthplace Farmington, Ohio
 Present name assumed no; If so, true name Roy J. Smith
 Previously lived under assumed name no; Where living when under said assumed name
 If ever living under assumed name, reason for same
 Unmarried yes; Divorced no; Children no; Wife alive no; If alive, name and present address
 Read, when received yes
 Write, when received yes; Read, now yes; Write, now yes; Where educated Fresno High
 Under what system Public School; Years at school five; Years at college none
 Degree of mental culture good; Progress of education while confined in this prison good
 Religion Baptist; Religion of parents Baptist
 Degree of attendance upon religious services while in prison regular
 Extent of moral training in youth Christian training
 Habits of life: Addicted to the use of alcoholic liquors no; Tobacco no; Use of opium or morphine no
 Age when leaving home 21; Legitimate occupation contracting
 Any knowledge of other trades yes; If so, what trades carpenter, blacksmith, farmer
 Trades, names, and addresses of past employers, length of time employed by each, and causes of loss of employment in every case Worked for Ernest Bishop, Farmer, alone and Fresno
nearly 6 years, haying, plowing and vineyard, left him
to work for Harry Hill with Griffith and Schick's Packing
house as foreman also in Fresno and worked for him till during
3 seasons, also season for Foreville Packing house left him to work
between seasons for Frank Powell, Ex Sheriff, Tay Scott and E. D. Wacker -
Farmer in Fresno County, California.

History of life from boyhood to present time, enumerating various places of residence; length of time lived in each county, State, and town; cause of removal; names and addresses of responsible parties in each place of former residence, for identification and reference as to truth of statements; including in this biographical sketch such items as may indicate the causes of the criminal character or conduct of the prisoner and the advantages and opportunities of education, moral training, employment, etc., enjoyed before arrest.....

When 6 months of age, my father moved from Iowa to La. City, Nebraska, he being a Master Mechanic on the P. and M. Rail. Road there, when I was 2 years old, my father being afflicted with Consumption moved to Fresno for his health where he two years after died and was buried by the Masonic Lodge, I being then 11 years of age. My father bed ridden in Fresno most of the time, I though a small boy yet had to work doing odd jobs, helping to support the family and go to school the same time, after school hours I scaved carpets etc. and worked one year for Mr. J. H. Carney wood-gard on California Ave. & Pickwick addition Fresno. Cal. and had to leave him because he went through insolvency. After my fathers death my sister was sick in bed for one year and also died. This left me alone to help my mother and for this reason I had to leave school early. My Grandparents Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Munckler, my mother and also Mrs. Both all residing on Alameda St. Fresno, addition Fresno could verify this statement. Also Harve. Bros; and Mr. E. Bishop of Fresno, may yet remember me helping my mother before and after my fathers death. When 12 years of age I went to work for Mr. Ernest Bishop who lived yet on Alameda St. Fresno, was farming and laboring for him, but always stopped home and gave my earnings to my mother sometimes I took half instead of money for our coming I worked for Mr. E. Bishop about 8 years and left him only for steadier work and more pay as Box-maker in the Paking house there at about the age of 17. I secured the position as Boxmaker for Harry Still contractor for Griffith and Kelly Paking House. I worked for him 3 seasons in 2 or 3 years and one season for Turney Forsythe Paking House. Between the 3 seasons I worked for Frank Rawell, Ed. Machen and Ex. Sheriff pay I both of Fresno, ranching, harvesting and farming have also taken small contracts, when going for sewer and Wapery Builders and Carpenters of Fresno all the above mentioned parties will be able to testify to my statements and former characters. In several occasions my mother drew my pay ^{when over 14} needed it, from Ed. Machen and E. Bishop.

After these 4 years having saved about \$200 for myself my mother having married again, I thought, at the age of 21, to be able to start in business for myself and with this intention I went to Stockton to buy a small Blacksmith shop as I understand horseshoeing; At the Stockton Real Estate office I was persuaded to buy the White Star Restaurant instead, opposite the Ferry Depot for \$200, not understanding the business I took in a Partner by name Mr Donald who was the cause of the Restaurant proving a failure after two months, I then left Stockton went back to Fresno and brought \$20 more to pay off Bills with on my return trip I fell in with bad Company by meeting a man whom I had worked with together in the Raking house in Fresno named Albert Furman, when we arrived at the Restaurant it was closed and in the hands of the creditors I then only \$30 left, did not like to return home and was urged to accompany this friend of mine Albert Furman to Sacramento where he said I could find work I stayed in Sacramento about 3 weeks looking for work in the Employment office on 4th St. & 14th St. and being unable to find work, unacquainted with City life and now completely broke this Albert Furman to raise money for our existence gave me the check to pass, for which I was arrested at our return in Stockton, he escaping I was induced to plead guilty in return of a light sentence and received 6 years At age of 18 I was arrested once for Petty Larceny served 90 days in the Fresno Co. Jail for the exchange of a harness I made ^{when} breaking down on the road from Centerville with a wood team, but was never arrested nor convicted of a felony before I promised to go home and lead an honest upright life in the future with the Almighty's help.

I affirm the above and foregoing statement to be correct.

(Signature of convict): Roy J. Smith. 4856.

STATE PRISON AT FOLSOM, CAL., 1902.

To the honorable the State Board of Prison Directors:

GENTLEMEN: We have carefully obtained the above and foregoing biographical sketch of _____, Convict No. _____, and have made such inquiries in verification of the same as to us seemed proper and necessary. We believe the statements made to be true.

Respectfully,

_____, Warden.

_____, Captain of the Guard.

_____, Physician.