MEDIA PACK

“Why Do People Move to Los Angeles?”

Megan Landman
Westwood Charter Elementary

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We’re always with you.
A Flower from the Golden Land

A description of Southern California, its people and its customs, in 1876, now printed in English for the first time—

By Ludwig Louis Salvator

Archduke of Austria • Illustrations by the Author

Part I • Translated by Marguerite Eyer Wilbur

HEALTH resorts are becoming daily more and more popular. With the approach of the winter season there is always a heavy migration toward the South, a migration that occurs not only in Europe, but also across the ocean. Thousands journey annually from the frigid climate of the Northeastern states to the milder lands of Florida, or Southern California. However, there are many who cannot afford to migrate like birds of passage and who are thus forced to see their families endure the harsh, unpleasant winters of their own country. To these, notwithstanding, an extraordinary opportunity stands open; to pioneer to a more favorable country, where health and prosperity beckon. For this purpose no land offers greater advantages and is better adapted for European migration than California; a land that combines fertility of soil and opportunity for industrial development, with a healthful climate; a land where harsh winters and hot summers are equally unknown.

The name Southern California usually refers not to the southern tip of the peninsula that is still under Mexican rule, but to territory in California, extending from the thirty-sixth parallel down to the southern boundary of the United States. Southern California contains seven [1876] duval States or counties: San Diego, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Kern counties.

Of all these counties, none has been so favored in every way by nature as that of Los Angeles—the subject of this sketch—which can most suitably be called A Flower from a Golden Land.

With an area of some 5600 square miles—about 3,600,000 acres—it is bounded on the north by Kern County; this line runs due east and west for approximately seventy miles. On the east, where it touches the county of San Bernardino, the boundary line stretches almost directly north and south, being 100 miles or more in length. Off toward the southwest, along a coastline of approximately 100 miles, lies the Pacific. On the west, the boundary line is formed by Ventura County; this line runs northeast for fifteen miles and northwest for forty-five miles. The major portion of this county thus forms a parallelogram measuring, roughly, seventy miles from east to west, and about sixty miles from north to south. This has a triangular section projecting out from its southeastern corner which has a northern line of seventy miles and an eastern line of forty miles and which adjoins the county of San Diego. [Los Angeles and San Diego counties no longer touch; in 1889 this "triangle" became Orange County. —Ed.] Approximately thirty-five miles in a southerly direction from this imaginary boundary line rises the sharply defined mountain range known as the Sierra Madre which, as it stretches off toward the north, forms the San Fernando, San Gabriel, and San Bernardino ranges. These, varying in height from 3000 to 9000 feet, form a bulwark that is virtually unbroken except where, at one point, the latter ranges are cut at an elevation of 4676 feet by the Cajon Pass.

These run in an easterly and southeasterly direction, parallelizing in a general way the coast, and lying, on an average, about thirty-five miles inland from the ocean. They form two main watersheds: the northern, the mining district of the county, that stretches from the Santa Clara Valley, which is watered in its northern part by the Santa Clara River, down to the Mojave Desert; and the southern, which forms the backbone of the agricultural wealth of the county of Los Angeles, a valley thirty-six miles long and seventy-five miles wide, stretching off toward the south, which is watered by three rivers: the San Gabriel, the Los Angeles—a tributary, and the Santa Ana.

The coastline of the county extends from Punta Maga [Mugu.—Ed.] in the north down to where it terminates at Point San Mateo in the south. Both in the north and south mountains rise near the coast—the Sierra de Santa Monica in the north, and the San Juan range in the south. These also serve as boundaries for the flat farmlands of the County. From there projects, however, a hilly promontory almost square in shape, whose northern and southern tips are called respectively, Point St. Vincent, and Point Fermin. These both form, and, at the same time, separate from one another, Santa Monica and San Pedro bays, the two largest natural harbors in the County.

Los Angeles County, generally speaking, is not rich in native trees. With the exception of the live oak, which forms groves or little woods on the hills and in the valleys, it is often necessary to travel a considerable distance before encountering trees. Poplars, cottonwoods, the California horse chestnut—which are used by the Indians for food—and a species of willow, are also fairly common. With the exception of these, it is necessary to go far up into the mountains to find large trees; there; however, many trees of great size, particularly oaks, grow. Especially worthy of note is the redwood (Sequoia sempervirens), which is frequently found in the coast ranges. It belongs to the species known as the Big Trees of California, which are now ranked as one of the wonders of the world. These are the second in size, and the first in commercial importance, of all the Big Trees of California. Of almost equal splendor is the sugar pine with its giant needles, in length as long as a shoe; the yellow pine, and the arbor vita. The so-called cedar and the white cedar are also fairly common.
Various kinds of evergreen shrubs are also growing rankly on the hillsides and in shadowy valleys, such as the manzanita, (which lends itself so readily to artistic effects), and the long-leaved and exquisite green bitter-sweet, buckwheat and the pinnetta, all characteristic of California. Since this is not an opportune place for mentioning the many plants of California, only two of the most remarkable varieties will be mentioned. The first of these is the poison ivy, or yedra. This plant is somewhat dangerous in contact with the leaf and stalk causes a most irritating eruption of the skin, accompanied by severe inflammation. Down in the vicinity of Los Angeles, particularly in February, this plant is often found clinging closely to the trees. The fruit, when cooked, is not harmful. Entirely harmless, on the other hand, is the soap plant, whose onion-like bulb, when rubbed in water forms a kind of lather that is used to remove dirt. By the Indians and Californians, it was frequently used for this purpose. The century plant is indigenous, as are several varieties of cactus that resemble them.

The fields in and about Los Angeles are particularly rich in flowers. Thus in March they appear to be cloaked in red; in April, in blue; while in May they resemble mats of pure gold. The latter may be ascribed to the orange-colored poppy, which is aptly called cupa de oro (cup of gold).

The ocean here is peculiarly rich in vegetation: a sea weed, which is often 200 yards long, being common. Among important ocean fauna found in California should be mentioned the teredo navalis, the destructive Limnoria, and the abalone. The latter, which is five or six inches in length, clings in masses to the rocks and is removed by spongers at the exact instant when its tenacious grip is relaxed. They are then dried and sold to the Chinese, who consider them a great delicacy.

The local waters are also fairly rich in fishes. Of major importance among those found are the Jewish, the Sunfish, the gay-colored Lachryma monticola, and the anchovy. A flying fish is also frequently seen in California waters. In the rivers are also many other kinds of fishes; the salmon, abundant between November and June, and two kinds of trout: the Brook trout, and the Salmon trout.

On the continent, tarantulas are numerous. These creatures live in holes fitted with an ingenious kind of lid to cover them; oddly enough, they are often chased and killed by vipers, who then lay eggs on their bodies. A few other deadly insects are such creatures as the scorpion and, most important of all, the rattlesnake. These, however, have been largely exterminated in the settled regions in and about Los Angeles.

Among birds, one that is peculiarly striking and frequently seen is the scapenye turkey vulture, a shining black creature with a head of brilliant red. These are in high favor, because they consume old refuse. Less common is the road-runner, supposed to kill rats. Especially common is the small burrowing owl, which has one salient peculiarity: that it lives in the same holes as gophers and ground squirrels, and is often seen sitting, day after day, on a tiny hunk of earth thrown up at the mouth of the hole. The blue-black glistening oriole is also indigenous to Southern California; its favorite haunt is the brooks that flow close to Los Angeles, it may be seen flying back and forth much like the starlings in our own country. Varieties of poultry include the California quail, and the Orator, a bird of golden hue, which are frequently found in the forests.

In the animal kingdom the ground squirrels are especially noteworthy primarily because they are so numerous and lend to the landscape so picturesque an appearance. These little creatures are wonderfully pretty and energetic; time and again I have watched their antics out in the sunny fields with the keenest pleasure. As soon as they think no one is watching, they creep out quietly and mysteriously from their burrows, sit up on their haunches, look carefully around, run and jump together with such vivacity that their shrill chatter can be heard for a considerable distance. Again they eat greedily, while, sitting quietly on little heaps of earth nearby, like well-mannered but interested veterans, a few silent owls, like so many dumb witnesses. If a carriage happens to drive by or if the slightest noise is heard, every squirrel with tail half held, rushes into his hole, leaving the fields empty and silent where, only a moment before, they had been so full of animation. Encouraged by the ensuing silence, they again poke their tiny heads, with their sparkling black eyes, out from their subterranean houses. I
took several of these creatures back with me to Europe, feeding them solely on oats, and found constant amusement watching their flirtatious ways. When annoyed, they emitted a peculiar grunting sound quite unlike their usual high-pitched cries expressing joy when they saw food. In rain fields and in vegetable gardens they are a constant pest, causing considerable damage. Almost as injurious is another rodent, the gopher, who lives in the main underground, gnawing the roots of vegetables and fruit trees. Another species is the Colorado gopher, which, however, is not so prevalent.

A jumping rat, Dus Jerboa, and two kinds of hare, as well as the rabbit, are indigenous to these regions.

The principal cud-chewing animals are the antelope, which is unfortunately, rapidly being exterminated; high up in the Sierra, the mountain sheep and two kinds of elk: the American Elk and the Black-tailed Deer.

Among beasts of prey the most important is the puma, a fine-appearing but cowardly animal, who roams only after dark. Nomadic in habit, he moves constantly from place to place, except when hiding in the underbrush. He prizes, above all else, young calves. The lynx is also frequently encountered up in the mountains, as well as the mountain cat, an intelligent, pretty little creature which is often domesticated by the mountaineers.

Coyotes, animals that howl all night long, much like a chorus of jackals, are very numerous, and prey ominously on poultry, lambs, and young pigs. The latter they are especially skillful in catching, stealing up and surprising them while the sow, wild with rage, pursues the culprit as a rule, an habit, they often attack cows, catching them by their throats. They are born thieves, and it is not unusual to have them steal even from a guarded camp. When starving, they will even eat the ropes, containing tallow, which are used to tie horses; however, they will not touch those woven from hair. For this reason, the early Californians used the latter kind of rope exclusively for this purpose.

A small weasel with a white neck is often seen in and around Los Angeles. In the mountains live two species of bear: the cinnamon brown and the grizzly. The latter, who is in the habit of roving at night, goes out after swine as well as many kinds of roots, fruits, and vegetables. Owning to the zeallessness of hunters, who wage constant warfare on this troublesome neighbor, he is daily growing rarer. Sea lions, on the contrary, thrive near the shore, being protected by a law that prohibits shooting them within twenty miles of the coast. Groups of fifty or more are often seen swimming, with the swiftness of dolphins, around a ship or traveling by the hundreds up and down the coast, their deep bellowing mingling with the roaring of the waves. Sea otters are common on the coast as well; they are particularly fond of abalone. Nor is it unusual, when sitting on the beach, to see far off in the distance a thin column of water being spouted by a whale, especially in the vicinity of Monterey Bay.

The county of Los Angeles has a population of some thirty thousand inhabitants, a decidedly mixed population, for people have streamed into this paradise from all over the world. Of this number about a quarter are Californians—a term used to designate those of Spanish descent as well as those who have intermarried with Indians. All Anglo-Saxons and, in fact, all settlers from other States in the Union are called, on the other hand, Americans.

The development of this country dates back only to 1828-9 and 1832. From 1841 on a number of Americans and foreigners came out as settlers. It was these settlers who, as has already been observed, not only formed the backbone of the population, but also injected fresh energy into the country. Intelligent, ambitious, industrious as these settlers were, they have since taken an important part in the life of the community and become warm supporters of the State where they have attained wealth and prosperity. For this, indeed, they are fully compensated. Furthermore, the idea of equality is probably more highly developed out here, and in fact all over California, than in any other State in the Union, a situation that had its origin no doubt in the rapidly changing conditions in this country. Any stranger, provided he shows good breeding, is looked upon with favor. This land, moreover, is famous for its hospitality. Among the local Americans chivalry toward women is especially notable.

As a general thing, the inhabitants of California seem stronger and in better health than those in other States, while travelers who have come out from the East are quite surprised by the healthful coloring of the population as a whole and at the rosy complexions of the children. What causes this is primarily the favorable climate and the opportunities for being constantly out in the open.

The name "Pikes," a term applied to certain families who have come out from the Southeastern States, merits particular mention. The name comes from Pike County in Missouri, the home of many of the first California settlers. Most of them are engaged in ranching cattle, which they understand thoroughly. Though hospitable and loyal even toward their enemies, they are, however, not progressive like the other Americans. Other inhabitants out here are fond of cracking jokes at their expense, whether true or fictitious.

The negro population is about a hundred; several in Los Angeles are very rich, although they are not much in evidence.

The language most commonly used, at least by the Americans, is English; however, it is mixed with many Californianisms, notably words of Spanish origin which are in general usage. Many odd expressions that have originated in mining camps are also heard.

While every kind of religious belief is represented, the majority of the population is Catholic. All sects show the greatest tolerance toward one another.

The population, on the whole, is fond of outings; the lack of rain during the summer season affords one opportunity for memorable picnics. One of the most popular summer diversions is sea bathing, especially down at Santa Monica. Many of the more energetic citizens go over to Santa Catalina, which lies about thirty miles off the coast, for this purpose.

One day one of the early Californians, an idle and talkative old fellow who knew this El Dorado in its halcyon days, during the Spanish and Mexican régime, said to me, "The Spanish colonists, as a rule, are now like a devastated grain field." No one will deny that even if the material prosperity dates from the day when the Stars and Stripes were unfurled, yet the
true poetry of California is inseparably linked with the Spanish element. The patriarchal mode of life—which is now entirely past—that centered around the old missions was essentially a happy one. Since settlers were comparatively few in this vast country, they lived like kings in their own domains, bound together only by mutual interests. Land having very little value, vast land grants were made by the government to individuals. If more land was required it was given merely for the asking. For dowries their daughters received the choicest lands from the public domain. Cattle traversed unmolested in the finest pastureage. What was brought in from the hunt was always divided, and whatever one neighbor requested from another was always given. Poverty was a thing unknown; the poor lived at the houses of their rich relatives, whose doors were always open. The Indians were trained to act as servants.

Whenever the lord and master of one of those establishments traveled, he was always welcomed at private homes, and supplied, free of charge, with board and lodging. Not only was he entertained, but even a clean shirt was furnished in the morning. Where he was personally known to the family he was presented with one or two hundred dollars; from this he took what was needed. If his horse was tired, a fresh one was supplied for the day's journey. As a general thing the luggage carried by a ranchero consisted only of a blanket. In the choices he made he told himself to rest; a horsehair rope for piqueting his horse, and a lasso. In a small bag fastened to his saddle was some pinole—corn ground between stones and roasted—which, mixed with sugar, made a good breakfast. Whenever his horse showed signs of liking something, he would lasso another in the nearest field, repeating this until he reached his destination.

The early Californians supported themselves by raising cattle for recreation they went hunting. On Sundays, both gentlemen and ladies, forming in an impressive cavalcade, went to church. The even tenor of their daily lives, however, was frequently interrupted by festivities. These usually centered about the old missions and were semi-religious and semi-secular in character. To attend these many came from a distance of fifty miles or more, and remained one or two weeks. The mission fathers, who had vast cattle lands, acted as hosts to the entire countryside.

In this way a firm bond was formed between priest and parishioners, which materially strengthened the community spirit. The simple needs of these people were supplied from their own ranches; meat, milk and cheese were furnished by the cattle, while on their own vast acres the grain, which was ground between stones by the Indian women, was raised. On the larger ranches, as a matter of fact, the Indians who had been taught by the mission fathers were employed at such manual work as tanning the hides of sheep and cattle to be used for garments, blanket weaving, and other labor. To secure such luxuries as tea, coffee, or women's clothing, hides, horns, and melted tallow were often sold to Yankee traders. Much of the richest land, however, lay fallow; few trees were planted, and only a few fields—most were used primarily for pasture—were placed under cultivation. Nevertheless, fortune favored them. Though living in the utmost simplicity, they were practically independent, and were their own masters. With the coming of the railroads and the consequent changes, how deeply they must miss the pastoral days of California!

Those noble traits that distinguished them in the times past have been retained, even down to the present. Among these was self-restraint and moderation (especially in drinking), generosity, and a Spartan-like way of enduring physical hardship. At the same time, these Californians were good-natured, pleasant and so kind toward their subordinates that they became warmly attached to their masters. Skilful and tactful in their handling of men, they were also noted for their hospitality, their friendliness, and their dignity.

But as business men they were unsuccessful, desiring merely to live in peace and comfort. With the influx of Americans into California the value of cattle soared; owners of herds, finding themselves rich overnight, spent lavishly. Much of this wealth went into ostentatious luxuries: saddles studded with gold and silver, golden stirrups and spurs, silver chains, costly lace bedspreads, and elaborate silk dresses for the ladies. Before long the frugal Americans owned the land and today [1876—Ed.] the Californians do not own one-twentieth of what they possessed in 1848.

Since the Spanish settlers who migrated to California in the days of Spanish rule brought few women with them, many married Indians. The majority of present-day Californians are the descendants of these marriages. Under the former Spanish and Mexican regimes those of pure Spanish blood alone comprised the local aristocracy. Even now they are the most prominent Californians, and number in all about fifteen families. Those of mixed blood, on the contrary, are nicknamed “greasers.” Those who came originally from the Mexican province of Sonora are known as “Sonorans.” The Californians living here prior to the days of the American occupation had very nearly large families and lived to a ripe old age. Many, in fact, were centenarians. This may be caused, on the one hand, by the milder climate; on the other, by the mode of life. Out in the San Gabriel Valley at the present time there is living a woman 135 years old. She has several healthy children, the youngest of whom is now eighty, and she has assisted at the mission church for over 100 years. She has a wrinkled face, stringy, brittle hair, excellent hearing, and a good-natured smile.

The Californians, all in all—most of whom are the descendants of Spanish-Indian stock—are a healthful, strong people. They have heavy features, mild, pleasant, expressive black eyes, and smooth hair. In color they are dark, but increases with age, as does their corpulence. The Spaniards have not clung to their characteristic costume. However, in outfitting their horses, they follow their old customs. Among these are the use of exquisitely wrought Mexican-style high saddles of fine leather with embossed decorations. A saddle-bag, used for carrying a rolled coat or blanket, reins composed of small balls ending in a chain, a whip made of gut strings for urging on their horses, and buckled spurs, bent sharply down, complete the richly appointed of a gentleman. Characteristic of the feminine costume is the use of a kind of shawl or Mantilla, which is thrown over the left shoulder.
Most Californians live in the country; their chief wealth, even now, is land and cattle. The principal occupation of the lower classes is herding cattle. Their daily routine is rarely varied—they both rise and retire at an early hour. Their food is extremely simple. Beef, especially dried beef (carne seca) is the staple food of the rancheros, together with tortillas that is, wheat or corn cakes. The chief beverage is tea or coffee, with, occasionally, wine. At the close of the evening a few cigarettes are smoked. In every way they are a very cleanly people.

They have many beautiful folk songs and dance the jota, which is similar to the aragonesa and the fandango, with the greatest enjoyment. The Castilian tongue is usually heard, with the addition, however, of many colloquialisms. Conspicuous among these is paix, which has been brought over by the Spaniards. For instance, in place of pais they say paix, meaning land or country. Their children learn very rapidly and retain their own tongue, while those who associate with them soon learn to speak Spanish.

There were very few Indians in California. When the first census was taken in 1823, there were 100,826. By 1863 there were only 29,300, and now there are probably less than 20,000. It is greatly to the credit of the mission fathers to have been able to civilize these wild Indians and to have taught them, as well as religion, useful industries. Assimilation with the Spaniards who, instead of inciting the Indians to hostility, intermarried with them, accounts for the mixed blood of the Californians. And while even today in the country it is not uncommon for men to marry Indian women, a white woman practically never marries an Indian man. Californian Indians, as a whole, are not malicious and far less warlike than those tribes who live like beasts in the central and eastern parts of America. Between the years 1825-1840, however, the settlers were the victims of a series of attacks.

These Indians of California have large bodies but small hands and feet. The average height of the men is five and a half feet; of the women, four feet and ten inches. Physically, they are very sturdy. At one time long-lived, they are now becoming strongly addicted to brandy. The women drink as well as the men. This, together with the prevalence of syphilis, which is brought over by the European settlers, is what has increased their death rate and materially shortened their span of life.

When used—as they are throughout the country—as laborers, they are harmless and industrious, although as laborers they are somewhat slow. To counterbalance this, they are very cleanly, a trait they have acquired from the old Spanish-Californians. Their huts are made of reeds and straw with a framework of long poles. For winter quarters they are sometimes tipped with obsidian or bone. From this same stone or obsidian knives as large as a man’s hand and sharp on one edge are made. Now, however, they have firearms and modern tools as well. From wire grass they braid baskets. Numbers of these are quite attractive. Many of them raise cattle. They live with the utmost simplicity and consume mainly acorns, clover, grasses, horse chestnuts, roots, and berries. Clover is eaten raw. The acorns are gathered by the women, pounded with a pestle and rubbed between flat stones, mixed with boiling water, and baked. Both horse chestnuts and grass seed, after being pounded in a mortar, are usually made into a soup or stew. Fish and wild game are roasted over a coal fire. In so doing they observe the customs of the Spanish-Californians.

The Indians, in the vicinity of Los Angeles, are known as the Cakines; those in San Timoteo are called the San Juaneos (about 200 in all) and are strongly addicted to drink; in the La Jolla Reserve are the San Luisenos; in Katkeki, the Ferdinandinos. These come into Los Angeles toward the end of August to trade, or hire out as laborers. Many of them are fairly well educated and can read and write Spanish. Some of the sons of the chiefmen who are English, are said to have forgotten the language of their fathers.

No problem in California has caused more agitation and has more closely affected the community at large than that of the inhabitants of the Celestial Kingdom. Of late, considerable anti-Chinese agitation has sprung up. A group has been formed that has declared, both by word and deed, a veritable war against this peaceful Mongolian invasion. As seen through the eyes of a European, it is idle to deny that much can be said on both sides of the question. Looking at this purely from the legal standpoint, there is a law permitting them to immigrate, to remain in the country, to work, but not to take out naturalization papers—the Chinese have every right to remain in the country, and to expel them would be a violation of both law and justice. In fact, now that they are here, their presence has become essential to most inhabitants of California. Esteemed for their loyalty, they are used in railroad construction, in mining, as gardeners, as farmers, and as workmen in manufacturing enterprises. In these various activities they have been highly successful and, without their help, another quarter of a century might have elapsed before the material wealth of California could have attained its present development.

Furthermore, because of their suitability and cleanliness, many homes use them as cooks and stewards. They also make especially capable laundresses. They are hard workers, and do not drink excessively. Since their needs are easily satisfied, they are contented to work for much lower wages than white workers.

On the other hand, it is held that since these heathen do not observe Sunday, they are a demoralizing influence in a Christian country, and some are subject to leprosy and syphilis, and tend to spread this among the white races. However, that they are actually dangerous to the white race seems a grosly exaggerated belief.

It is further asserted that they impoverish the country of its wealth by carrying off the money they keep the country, instead of having their earnings put back into circulation, loses them; and that, finally, their lower standards of living are a menace to the white proletariat.

Granted all this, all were true, it would un- doubtless give ground for consternation. But while it may not be possible to win over these Chinese to the Christian faith, yet it seems fairly evident that their presence is not jeopardizing Christian society. Their living conditions should be inspected, and by establishing hospitals for lepers, and segregating the tenements, and regulating sanitary conditions in their dwellings, the dangerous contamination of the European population could be largely circumvented. Moreover, as regards their departure from this country, it is not surprising that people who are denied citizenship and equality before the law should return home, and, finally, as to the agitation about the Chinese depriving the white man of work, it might be aptly remarked that the Chinese population has much to learn from the simple standards of living that cheap labor is highly advantageous for the welfare and development of the community and a veritable boon to the country at large.

Even now, their numbers are fairly formidable. In 1870, it was estimated that 140,000 Chinese had already come to the Pacific coast, and that of these numbers 95,000 had remained. More, too, have been entering every day. In the year 1875, 18,000 entered—the largest number, up to that time, that had arrived in a single year. Among the Chinese immigrants entering California are many from the scum of society. Most of them come from Southern China and belong to companies which recruit workers in their home districts. These companies have headquarters in San Francisco, and, for the period of several years at the low wage of from four to eight dollars a month.

In Los Angeles the Chinese have their own quarters and are greatly in demand as laborers. Some have intermarried with Europeans. These are easily recognized by their appearance. American boys frequently hold up to scorns and ridicule these younger sons of China. At times, even the adults indulge in fist-fights, which are brought about, as a general thing, by prolonged mistreatment.

They live plainly, and consume quantities of abalones. Ground squirrels and pork are among their favorite foods. All in all, they are not popular, and in Los Angeles the anti-Chinese feeling is highly developed.

The exterior of a house invariably indicates whether it belongs to an American or a Californian. That of the former is constructed of wood, and seldom of tile; while that of the latter is made of unbaked brick, and has been usually patterned after those in Mexico. While not beautiful in appearance, nevertheless they appear comfortable and suitable for this climate. They are invariably one story high and consist—no matter how affluent
the owner—of only one suite of rooms. The roofs are flat and made usually of asphalt (brea) mixed with coarse sand, which is laid on top of small planks or boards, through which small wooden spouts are inserted. In some instances the roof is covered with shingles. Around the house run broad verandas supported by wooden posts. All the rooms open onto this veranda, with the single exception of an ell, which does not connect with the porch and has only one small window. This room is for the unmarried daughters of the house, or for the upper classes in Los Angeles. It was customary to lock their daughters at sunset to shield them from clandestine flirtations. The interiors of the houses are very simple; many having merely clay floors; everywhere, however, the most scrupulous cleanliness prevails.

In the variety and extent of its agricultural products, Southern California is the foremost State in the Union, and with the annual increase in population by the arrival of the new settlers, who bring in new species from their own homes, this is rapidly growing more extensive. Under cultivation at the present are olive, fig, almond, filbert, walnut, orange, lemon, citrus and lime trees. The pear, which was planted so extensively by the early Californians and mission fathers, is also raised. Today it is not planted as extensively as formerly, for the varieties introduced were not satisfactory and may have been abandoned, while others have been superseded by better varieties. The apple tree, however, flourishes splendidly and begins to bear after the second year. By the fifth year it yields a good crop. Quinces and peaches raised from seed give fruit by the second year. Apricot trees grow to the gigantic height of twenty feet; plums, prunes, chestnuts—many of which, when fifteen years old, give 100 pounds of chestnuts—nectarines, bananas (the West Indian variety is the best grown), and pomegranates flourish. The latter, which are propagated by seed or slip, grow in great variety. They do not seem, however, to be greatly in demand in the markets. Wine grapes of all kinds are grown, as well as every variety of berry and melon. Pecans and guavas are also found in the gardens, while strawberry can be set out every month in the year.

Most of the plants under cultivation, however, have been imported. Grains palms, and wine grapes. Although these fruits had long been cultivated at the missions, yet, in the days of the Spanish ranchero, it was impossible to erect hedges to protect the fruit trees from the vast herds of cattle. Moreover, the first Americans coming out to California were so engrossed in mining gold and silver that this situation failed to arouse their interest. Not until a later day did they realize that the wealth of California was on top of rather than under the earth.

The Franciscans originally introduced the orange tree into California, and the first orchards were planted at San Gabriel Mission. Soon after this came into bearing, Don Luis Vignes started an orchard in Los Angeles. This was followed by William Wolfkill's orchard—one of the most celebrated throughout the country—which was the first private undertaking of any magnitude and which was developed from what was originally merely a horticultural experiment, or nursery. Don Manuel Requena next planted oranges, setting them out in a garden enclosed by an adobe wall. Yet, on the whole, comparatively few orange trees were planted. Fresh impetus was given this industry by the arrival of the Americans. In 1853 Matthew Keller and Dr. Halsey imported some seeds from Central America and the Hawaiian Islands and established nurseries. Those of Dr. Halsey were the larger. After the departure of these men, William Wolfkill acquired their holdings. Dr. Shaw has also grown oranges in his nursery from seed brought in from Nicaragua. Among the early orange growers, Wilson and Rose were especially prominent. In 1874, 34,700 orange trees were growing in Los Angeles County. Since that time, however, not only have many new orchards been planted, but those already established have been noticeably enlarged, until now with its total of 48,850 orange trees, Los Angeles ranks as the center of orange culture in California.

The Sicilian lemon is excellent, easily raised from shoots or roots, requiring water, it is less care the orange, being considerably harder. On the other hand, it grows more slowly, yielding fruit only after its tenth year not coming into full bearing until the tenth year. A heavy bearer, its fruit is picked throughout the year. The navel lemon, which is almost as large as the lemon and which ripens throughout the year, has a flavor that is mixed only for fresh or preserved, as well as for eating, is valued even by the Sicilian lemon. Nevertheless, it has not yet come to be used commercially, although used to some extent for preserves. For a time, the Marseilles was cultivated in large quantities. Now, however, it is being superseded by trees that are bringing more profit, withstanding, it is a ready bearer and yields constantly; every tree bears for at least ten times a year.

Among all the products of Los Angeles, none is more important than the olive. The so-called mission grape was brought by the fathers in 1770 and extensively raised by the Indians under this tutelage. This, presumably, was of the malaga variety known as Vino Carlo. In Marseilles, from where the first cuttings were imported, many of its salient character and disease strength were lost, and it no longer resembles the malaga grape. Though only a fair color can be made from it, the fathers gave the preference, since it was both hard and prolific bearer. Even now (1765–1775) 75 per cent of the grape vines in California are hardy bearer. In shape it is round, being, when fully developed, three-quarters of an inch in diameter. The ripening it is of a reddish color when fully ripe it is a beautiful and full of sweet juice, but without a This is a considerable detriment, not the in the preparation of wine, but also as a table wine. Made this kind of grape quite strong, shining port and wine. In and around Los Angeles the mission grape is generally popular; there existed not until that variety was able to grow there. Those from were imported. These have generally been taken as relatives of the old grape; such as the Flamingo, Rose of Peru, Morocco, Blum, Hamburg, and
A Flower from the Golden Land

A description of Southern California, its people and its customs, in 1876, now printed in English for the first time—

By Ludwig Louis Salvador

Archduke of Austria • Illustrations by the Author

Part II Translated by Marguerite Eyer Wilbur

Editor's Note

In the second part of Salvador's "Eine Blume Aus Dem Goldenen Land Oder Los Angeles," translated here by Marguerite Eyer Wilbur, the observant Archduke of Austria presents some illuminating sidelights on property values in Southern California fifty-three years ago. His description of sheep-raising, the cattle business, hunting and fishing, mining activities, industries, trade, railway and postal service, and the early history of El Pueblo will recall fond memories among many now living in the metropolis of the Southwest.

It seems incredible that this entertaining account of an important period in the growth of Southern California has never, heretofore, appeared in English, and TOURING TOPICS feels that in presenting it, a distinct public service has been rendered.

Readers must remember that Salvador's observations were made in 1876, and not become confused at the references that appear in the present text—The Editors.

Cattle-raising has long occupied an important place in the development of Los Angeles County and although not so extensively pursued as during the Mexican regime (it no longer pays to retain intact great stretches of rich pasture-land) yet stock-raising still flourishes.

The country is peculiarly adapted to this purpose since it has ample water and excellent grass both on the foothills of the Sierras and also in the valleys. The young grass begins to sprout in December and lasts until June, when it is cut for hay and grain. Cattle are thus grass-fed until the first of June, given hay from June 1 to October 1, and supplied with grain from October 1 to December 1, when the winter rains begin.

During the winter and spring months are found two plants that afford them considerable food; alfalfa and bunch-grass. The former, which is the most abundant of all the native growing grasses, grows thickly on the hills and plains and with its light greenish-yellow coloring imparts a soft tone to the landscape. This is one of the richest foods for cattle.

Among the many kinds of livestock raised extensively in Los Angeles County are sheep. Considerable attention is given their breeding and many fine herds have been raised by prominent rancheros. In Los Angeles County sheep during the daytime are pastured in the open, guarded by herdmen. On large ranches a shepherd herd thousands of sheep. Herdmen in California are usually Indians, Californians, Chinamen, and Scotchmen; of these, the latter make the best herdmen. At night the sheep are shut up in corrals to protect them from attacks by beasts of prey who are afraid to come over low fences. Enemies of sheep are the puma, wild-cat, fox, and coyote. The latter are readily poisoned by meat, saturated with strychnine. The former are hunted when they prove too troublesome. In mountain regions the shepherd often sleeps at the entrance of the corral on a platform called a tempestra raised above twelve feet off the ground on thick posts rammed into the earth as a protection from grizzly bears, who cannot climb.

One of the most successful sheep-ranches in the county is that of J. Bixby and Company, Cerros, containing about 25,000 acres and ten artesian wells. Bixby has been in business seventeen years or so and has 30,000 sheep, 25,000 of them belonging to the company. They are all Spanish merinos and give about ten pounds of wool a year, sheep being sheared once in the spring and again in the fall. The shearsers are Californians and receive five cents a fleece. One man can shear twenty or thirty sheep a day and as each fleece is thrown down on a counter the shearer is given a
check worth five cents. Once a week all these checks are paid in cash.

After shearing, sheep are dipped as a preventive of scab. This is accomplished by submerging them in a dip of tobacco and sulphur. Mr. Bixby, however, expects to secure the same results through the use of steam. Having been dipped in the reservoir, the sheep come up a plank runway out into the open, and are kept for the next six months in pasture.

Goats are comparatively few in number; several cashmieres, however, have been recently imported. Steers are also fewer in number than under the Mexican régime—although in 1875 they amounted to 16,408. Many of them, however, have been shipped out to regions where grass is especially abundant. Even if the numbers have diminished yet the breeds have improved materially and a fine foreign strain has become established. English, Spanish, and American stock has gradually been replaced by others, Durhams, Ayrshires, and Guernseys being especially popular. The former run wild over the ranges and do not require special fodder. With the introduction of these new breeds there has been a decided increase in the output of butter and cheese. This is an industry fostered by the Americans, but largely neglected by the early Californians whose so-called Spanish cattle were brought in in 1770 from Mexico by the Spanish missionaries. At what period these cattle were introduced into Mexico is unknown, but it must have been shortly after its conquest by Cortés. In type they are a small, well-formed breed with long, thin feet, large, wide horns, and a wild appearance; they do not fatten readily, nor do the cows give much milk.

At the time of Spanish colonization and Mexican rule, cattle-raising, as already observed, was one of the chief occupations of Californians. Cattle were slaughtered solely for their hides and tallow, meat being discarded since there was an over-supply in comparison with the needs of the scanty population. No rancho had less than one-quarter of a square league (4438 acres) and the government gave without compensation from one to eleven leagues to anyone who was willing to build a home and stock the land with 100 head of cattle. For a man to possess 5000 cattle was not unusual. Cattle roamed at random, cows being kept for breeding. Steers, on the other hand, were killed when three or four years old. Calves were usually born early in the year and by March the first rodeo was held to brand young calves. There were, and still are, what are called general and special rodeos. The general rodeo is held under the auspices of all cattle-growers in the immediate vicinity; a special rodeo is held by a private individual who wishes to check over the cattle on his own ranch. A rodeo may thus serve for one ranch or for several; every large ranch, however, holds its own rodeo, usually once in the spring and once in the fall, being required by law to hold at least one a year.

When a general rodeo is to be held invitations are sent out weeks in advance to all the neighbors. The vaqueros drive the cattle to the appointed place, which usually remains unchanged from year to year—and the cattle, accustomed to the proceeding, frequently run in by themselves. Visiting rancheiros who come from the greatest distance are usually allowed to select their cattle and drive them away first. Frequently these rodeos last several days. Rodeos, as a general thing, are held in rotation, usually starting from the south and working north. The rancheiros attend each rodeo in succession, where they believe they may find some of their cattle. Often there are from twelve to twenty of these round-ups, each attended by ten or fifteen vaqueros and friends making a small army. Cattle are recognized by the brand, while calves follow the mothers. The spring rodeos are in reality jolly, pleasant parties where each vaquero displays his skill in riding and lasso-throwing, which requires extraordinary knowledge of cattle.

In times past, every one attended these festivals in gala attire. Contests were often held, a favorite sport at rodeos being an exhibition where the rider approached a cow or a steer and, catching the animal's tail, held it between his foot and the saddle and rode parallel to the creature. When the horse ran too fast, the rider would be thrown off head-first.

The lasso, usually called the riata, is a leather rope some five-eighths of an inch

"Sonora and the mountain ranges." The author's sketch of Sonoma Town is testimony to the almost miraculous growth of metropolis of Los Angeles. From "Blue Blazes on the golden land o'er Los Angeles."
in diameter and thirty yards long made of four strips of braided cow-hide which has been stripped of hair and smeared with fat. It is only a few distances to thirty or forty feet. There are some vaqueros, however, who can lasso a cow thirty feet away.

When a ranchero returns from the rodeo he brings his herd into a corral, usually an enclosed area from thirty to fifty yards square surrounded by a staunch fence, where the calves are branded. If too many have been brought back from the neighboring ranches to brand in one day they are herded until the work is completed. When marked the cow is set free; usually she returns to the ranch to which she has grown accustomed. This is of no importance to the ranchero, provided she does not wander to ranches whose rodeos she did not attend. Only when serious grass famines occur do the rancheros drive strange cattle off their ranches.

After the rodeos are over the cattle on each private ranch are next branded. Every month about two cows with their calves are driven into a corral. There, while one vaquero holds the cow by the head and another by both feet with a lasso, the brand is burned on the flank. The law requires the branding of all horses and cattle and a copy of the brand, burned on leather, to be deposited in the county recorder's office. All cattle and horses eighteen months old must be branded—delinquency being classed as a felony. The brand is the only evidence of ownership. If the owner plans to sell his cattle, however, they are branded on the shoulder. This denotes sale. The buyer then brand the cattle on the flank. Thus the hide of a Californian horse or cow records the history of his past ownership. Every servant who has animals of his own must also use the brand of his master.

In autumn, rodeos are held usually to mark calves that were overlooked in the spring or were too young for branding. Sometimes in summer, the same calves are used as a slitting of the ears, or a notch on the dewlap of a horse, which is then branded. Of this, a drawing must also be deposited at the office. It is illegal to clip or cut the ears in any way for such an act would eradicate marks inserted by owners. In 1875, there were 11,707 horses owned by Californians. Years ago horses were numerous, having been brought over from Spain to Mexico in the Sixteenth Century and from there into California about 1816. This breed is a small, rugged animal often mouse-colored, dull brown, and wiry, but quick, sturdy, and quite suitable for the ranchero; however, they are unfitted for hard labor. As riding horses they were unsuited in early California because it was not to carry a rider 100 miles in a day and feeding exclusively on grass. To ride sixty miles a day was not considered extraordinary. Formerly, in the days of the great ranchos, they were branded in murado, or herds, under one owner. Murado means to brand as a rule before they were three years old; the colts were then put into the caballado quarters for training horses. When three or four months old the colts were branded.

The early Californians never trained their mares and considered it beneath their dignity to ride one. Today [1876.—Ed.], in Los Angeles County, on the north side of the Santa Fe railroad tracks, there is a half-wild broncho, handsome American and foreign-bred horses. In this respect Los Angeles County is second to none and will probably within a short time rival the famous blue-grass region of Kentucky. Trotters, especially large, beautiful animals imported from the Eastern States, are in great demand. Mules are few in number; they are not favored by Americans who consider them ugly. Of late, some fine mules have been bred from the donkey stock of Kentucky.

Hunting around Los Angeles is excellent, especially along the coast and the marshy lands where duck and geese are found by the millions. They are, however, very shy, since hunters are numerous. California quail, cotton-tails, and every kind of small game are to be found along the mountain ranges and the foothills east and north of the city, where they seek shelter in the thick undergrowth and brush of the country. The San Fernando, San Gabriel, San José, and Cucamonga valleys are particularly famous for their hunting. For big game it is necessary to go high up into the San Fernando, Soledad, or Fort Tejon country where deer, antelope, mountain sheep, and cinnamon bear are common. While strenuous hunting, it is fine sport. Frequently in Los Angeles large parties are arranged for the hunt, many sportsmen going into the mountains two or three times a year.

Deep-sea fishing affords rich booty from whales down to oysters. This sport, moreover, is still in its infancy. Most fishing is done off the wharfs at Wilmington and Santa Monica. Frequently sharks and porpoises are harpooned. Fishes in large numbers are caught in nets for the Los Angeles markets. In the mountain streams further inland fine brook trout and salmon trout are caught. The latter are usually taken in fall and winter from the abounding tailings, which have meshes barely large enough for the trout's head to pass through and which ensnare him behind his gills. The net does not touch bottom since the fishes swim fairly near the surface, but is stretched diagonally across the stream or a section of it and floats with the current for several hundred yards or even half a mile while the fishermen follow behind in a boat.

Despite the fact that gold was first found in Los Angeles County, it is of considerable less importance as a mining center than as an agricultural community, being neglected for a considerable period in favor of cattle-raising.

The story of the discovery of gold is as follows: It was first found in 1833 by natives in the gravel and sand on the hills on the northern boundary of the county. [Bancroft in his History of California, Vol. IV, p. 297, gives the date of the discovery of gold in Southern California as March, 1842, and locates the first strike on the San Francisco Rancho, owned by the Del Valle family. This is also the date usually given by modern writers on California.—Ed.] Don Abel Stearns, who had come out from Boston in 1829, assayed the gold and sent it to the mint in Philadelphia, receiving in return gold coins. This was fifteen years prior to the great gold strike.

In 1854, gold was discovered in sand and gravel beds by Captain Hannager and a party of prospectors from Los Angeles in San Gabriel Canyon, about eighteen miles from Los Angeles. In 1855, these claims were worked by several men. Soon after, however, they were abandoned. In 1871, Dr. Winston and Mr. Anderson introduced the hydraulic system of mining, bringing down flood-tides to the entrance of the canyon. Mining, at the present writing, is being pursued with profit. Until recent years, however, owing to the great agricultural wealth of the county, gold-mining has been comparatively neglected, not withstanding, is the fact that during the past eighteen months Messrs. Ducommom and Jones, Los Angeles merchants, have purchased more than $8,000,000 worth of gold-dust from the owners of the San Gabriel mines, which they have probably twice this amount has been bought by other dealers and merchants in San Francisco. The fact that one-twentieth of all gold extracted is usually lost in washing must, moreover, be taken into consideration.

Approximately three miles from the mouth of the San Gabriel and twenty-four miles from Los Angeles are the Zapata mines carrying rich silver-bearing veins. These mines, which belong to Mr. F. W. Goldsmith and his associates have good indications. Work on them, however, has been interrupted owing to slides. In 1861, copper was discovered in Soledad Canyon at the source of the Santa Clara River and shortly after $300,000 was expended for its exploitation. This ore runs 85 to 90 per cent. Unfortunately, since it was found primarily in pockets, the workings failed to pay since ore was not present in large quantities. On a sandy hill a few miles west of the abandoned tunnel, gold-bearing quartz was found in 1862, but not in commercial amounts. Traces of alum, cinnaabar, lead, gold, and silver are to be also found in many parts of this country. Cinnabar deposits have, moreover, been located in the chalky cliffs along the coast. Mercury, too, is present in several parts of the county while extensive tin deposits of great wealth have been discovered, especially in the southern and eastern ranges. Capital for their exploitation has not, however, been forthcoming. Large deposits of coal, unfortunately, have not been located, despite constant searches. A good grade of marble in paying quantities has been located at Anaheim and San Fernando. Gypsum deposits, believed to be thirty miles in extent, are reputed to exist in the mountains; these, however, have not yet been carefully inspected.

The greatest mineral wealth of Los Angeles promises to be petroleum. The Pennsylvania oil-fields being already on the decline, a new field promises to open up on this coast. About half a mile from the shore, in the general vicinity of Ven-
and Santa Barbara, the ocean is covered with a thin film of oil about ten miles in length and stretching far out to sea. This, which is ascribed to submarine oil-wells, is highly significant, as is the steady seepage from hidden oil-sands near the shore which discharges into the ocean. The oil region in the Ventura district stretches westward from Ventura and, paralleling the coast, reaches the ocean at Ortega Hill, then strikes off in an easterly direction to Santa Paula Creek, forming the oil-lands of the Sespe Mountains and the San Fernando range. [Much of this oil-bearing land paralleling the coast north of Ventura has only been developed within the last two years. The rigs may be seen almost touching the coast highway a few miles beyond Ventura.—Ed.] By so doing it embraces three counties, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles, and extends for 100 miles. The San Fernando oil-fields, however, are alone of importance in this account as falling within Los Angeles County.

The district of San Fernando lies in the northwest corner of Los Angeles County. On the north it borders San Francisco Bay; on the west the sierra of Santa Susanna; on the south Rancho Simi, and on the east Mission San Fernando. It also adjoins the foothills on the northeast slope of the San Gabriel Mountains where, toward the north, the Santa Clara Valley stretches. In a lone spur of the San Fernando Range about thirty-five miles from Los Angeles, oil was discovered in February, 1865, by Mexicans who, while out hunting bear, became thirsty and began to search for water. Finding a brook that emitted a strong odor of petroleum, they struck a match and it immediately ignited. Cognizant of the importance of their discovery one remained on the ground to establish possession while his partner hurried off to Los Angeles to inform some of the most influential citizens—among them General Andres Pico, Dr. Vincent Gelich, Colonel Baker, and Messrs. Wiley, Leaming, Stevenson, Rice, Todd, Lyon, and Andere—of this discovery. These men decided to go out and stake claims measuring 1500x600 feet apiece in conformity with the mining laws, and instruct the discoverers how to protect their claims.

The first claim was named Canada Pico (General Pico’s holding, later owned by the Star Oil Working Company), the second was called Wiley, the third Moore, the fourth Rice (this is now owned by Dr. Gelich), the fifth after a man named Leaming, the sixth for Gelich, and the seventh for Todd.

Toward the close of 1865, the district was incorporated and several companies formed. In 1867 Macpherson and Scott of the Pennsylvania Company of Philadelphia vainly sought to acquire possession. Dr. Gelich had, however, realized the importance of these holdings and had drilled a well on the adjacent high ground. In 1873-4, Dr. Gelich purchased all claims in Rice Canyon from the owners, paying considerable amounts.

In 1874, Dr. Gelich started a refinery that will soon produce 300 barrels a day. The crude is 80 per cent pure oil. Even with a refinery capable of handling 1500 barrels a day, the capacity would be inadequate to handle the total daily production of the wells. In the beginning the problem of transportation proved difficult; now, however, the railway is only six miles away and at Andrews Station, two hours out of Los Angeles, wooden tanks have been erected for storing oil. Furthermore, the Star Oil Working Company has established a refinery which is running at full capacity. Oil crude oil 60 per cent goes into an illuminating oil of high gravity with 120-130° fire test. 25 per cent is extracted as a high grade lubricating oil of 18° gravity; the balance is used for fuel.

Closely associated with these oil-wells are the numerous valuable asphalt deposits which are found throughout the county. The principal deposits and springs are in the La Brea Canyon, Los Nitos, the Santa Susanna Mountains, the San Pedro Hills, San Juan Capistrano, and the plains near Cahuenga Pass, lying about seven miles in from the ocean and a similar distance from Los Angeles. The latter are very large, rich deposits that extend out over a considerable area. Major Hancock’s Asphalt Works, that prepare from two to three tons daily for the market, are located nearby. Here the raw asphalt is boiled in huge kettles for twelve hours over a hot fire. The sediment having been precipitated to the bottom, the slack is then removed. The asphalt is next poured into forms made of sand where it is shaped. One third is slack and sediment, especially the latter, which is saved and utilized in its entirety for fuel.

This asphalt is largely used for roads and sidewalks. For the former purpose it is frequently used on many of the Californian houses in Los Angeles. It is also in demand for the manufacturing of glass.

The principal industry of Los Angeles is the production of wine and brandy. The manufacture of olive-oil and mustard is, likewise, of considerable importance. In Los Angeles County there are forty-five distilleries, three breweries, two cigar factories, 283 retail liquor dealers, and 247 retail tobacco establishments.

In Los Angeles County business consists largely of the sale of domestic products to the San Francisco markets, and the supplying of miscellaneous wares, agricultural implements, and building material, to the back-country. There are already four banks in Los Angeles and yet there is room enough for several more. In this new country money is greatly in demand and interest rates are high. The leading bank, the Farmers and Merchants Bank, is capitalized at $50,000. Its stock is held almost exclusively by several of the richest citizens. It pays monthly dividends of five dollars.

The Temple and Workman Bank, which was organized in 1871, has the confidence of the public at large. The Commercial Bank, which was established on December 1, 1871, is capitalized at $300,000.

The Los Angeles County Bank is the only institution that is primarily a savings bank. It has a capital of $300,000 and pays a semi-annual dividend of 5 per cent. The bank makes commercial loans, conducts a savings bank business and buys exchange on London, Paris, Berlin, and Frankfort. The average interest rate charged for gold loans secured by firm collateral is 1½ to 1½ per cent a month, with extra brokerage charges of one to two per cent.

Shipping is, and always will be, of vital importance to the commerce of Los Angeles. Since the distance from San Pedro to San Francisco by sea is only 400 miles (by rail it is about 500) connection by water is an inestimable advantage. From Santa Monica, the distance being only 300
miles, swift steamers could reach San Francisco almost as quickly as trains.

The entire trade along the Southern Californian coast is in the hands of the Goodall Nelson and Perkins Steamship Company. This concern has a fleet of ten ships called the Santa Cruz, Kalamata, Monterey, San Diego, Orizaba, Molango, Ancon, Los Angeles, and Salinas. A tenth has recently been purchased. Five of them are sidewheelers; the others have screw propellers. Sailings are made from San Francisco on alternate days, The Orizaba, Molango, Ancon, Senator, and Los Angeles stop regularly at San Pedro and Los Angeles. The Ancon and Orizaba run to San Diego. The Kalamata, Monterey and Salinas carry freight only. They are all large and comfortable boats built, owing to the calm weather they encounter, more like river than ocean steamers. They are usually three-deckers with cabins and broad decks on each side. Prices for transportation are extremely low. From Wilmington to San Francisco the fare is only ten dollars, whereas by rail it is thirteen dollars.

Of late the Pacific Mail Steamship Company has begun to compete with this company, which put their prices down to a level that many travel by the Goodall steamers up and down the Californian coast merely for a summer vacation. The Pacific Mail Steamship Company now has a boat sailing for Panama once a month that puts in at San Diego, San Pedro and Santa Monica on its way up the coast.

In Los Angeles County there are now [1876.—Ed.] 129 miles of railway. The main branch of the Southern Pacific Railway runs for twenty-five miles north through the San Fernando Valley to where it meets the Sierra Nevada, then piers the mountains through the Tehachapi Pass and extends on toward San Francisco. A branch line runs east thirty-five miles to Spadra. The line running to Anaheim is twenty-two miles long; another branch swings east to the valley of the Santa Ana River. The line to Wilmington and the coast is twenty-one miles in length. The Los Angeles and Independence Railway, together with that of the Santa Monica line to Los Angeles, is sixteen miles in length and was completed in 1875. With its terminal for trains at Santa Monica, this makes possible a close connection between rail and steamer. At the present another project is on foot to build a new line across the great desert to Colorado by way of San Gabriel, the Puente Hills, and on east about eighty-five miles to San Gorgonio, and the Cajon Pass.

The founding of Los Angeles dates back to the second half of the last century. On August 26, 1781, Felipe de Neve, governor of California, issued an edict from Mission San Gabriel, which had already been founded in 1771, for the establishment of a new settlement, El Pueblo de la Reina de Los Angeles. Special care was taken to find a sightly, well-drained location. On September 1 the settlement was founded in accordance with the laws governing Spanish colonization and the organization of pueblos. Most of the first settlers were ex-soldiers from Mission San Gabriel who, although relieved from service, still drew salaries and rations. The settlers consisted of twelve families, or forty-six persons, of whom twenty-three were children. Of the eleven male adult colonists two were Spanish, one mulatto, two Negro, four Indian, one Chinese, and one half-breed.

Of the women, six were mulattoes and five Indians. One of the settlers was a widow with two children. Among the others, eight had progeny. The adults came from Lower California, and were born with the exception of the two Spaniards and the Chinaman, in Sinaloa and Sonora. The names of these settlers were José de Lara, José Navarro, Basilio Ross, Antonio Mesa, Antonio Villavicencio, José Varegas, Alejandro Rosas, Pablo Rodríguez, Manuel Camero, Luis Quintero, José Moreno, and Antonio Miranda.

Each family received from the royal treasury two oxen, two mules, two stallions, two sheep, two cows, together with a calf, a donkey, a pig, and what tools were essential for farming. For these articles, including the cattle, a price was established by the government to every settler in the community and the cost was to be deducted in small installments from their salaries.

In laying out the district, a parallelogram 100 by 75 varas [The Spanish term of measurement, equivalent to 2.78 feet.—Ed.] was selected whose lines, instead of pointing toward the four main posts of the compass, were set at adjacent angles. On three sides of this plaza there were twelve main house-sites, each 20 by 30 varas, together with two plots of a different size. One-half of the parallelogram was reserved while the other was used for a guardhouse for the royal officers, and a dumping-ground. This was located north-east of the present mission church.

At the same time, thirty fields were staked out measuring 100 by 300 varas; these were separated by streets three varas wide. The fields lay between the Los Angeles River, which was then known as the Paciaca, and an irrigation canal that carried water to the settlement and on over to the east side. The land stretching between the river and the canal measured over 120 varas. After the settlement was established, the river cut a new channel on the west side, at the same time emptying away the fields or covering them with sand. In 1825, the river again left its course and formed a third channel between the two earlier ones.

For the first fifty years, the population increases were gradually being augmented only by a few pioneers and soldiers who had been dismissed from service and became settlers. In 1833, Los Angeles for the first time was raised to the rank of a city, and, by an act of the Mexican Congress, was made capital of Alta California. During his short career as governor, Don Carlos Carrillo made it the seat of civil government. After the occupation of Monterey it again became the seat of government under Don Pío Pico from February, 1845, to August, 1846. At this time the city fell into the hands of the United States army after two sharply contested struggles against the Mexicans, one on the banks of the San Gabriel River, the other on the mesa opposite the city where General Kearny's army joined forces with marines sent up from port under Commander Stockton. These, massing at the river, entered the city where they were reinforced by General Frémont from Santa Barbara. Fortifications were hastily made on the hill northwest of the city, but, despite this fact, the Americans were soon compelled by superior forces to abandon their posts, and, pursued by the enemy, to withdraw to San Pedro.

Shortly after this event, however, war with Mexico ceased and Los Angeles was given over to the Americans. In view of these changed conditions there arose against the Americans a feeling of hostility. This, nevertheless, gradually disappeared.
By the end of the Mexican war, Los Angeles had a population of two thousand. Most of the houses at that time were of adobe, comparatively few were of stone and none were of brick. The streets were crooked and poorly paved. Not until 1853 did the Americans as well as the Europeans begin to feel established and settled, and real progress set in. The first city plan was made at this time by Pacificus Ord; this is still the leading map in the city.

The gold-rush lured so many immigrants to Northern California that Southern California's excellent climate and fertile soil failed for a time to receive the attention it merited. Not until 1867-68 did the city begin to grow rapidly and show decided progress in the erection of handsome houses, fine buildings and substantial brick shops, hotels, schools, banks, and factories which sprang up at this time as if by magic. But it is only within recent years that this growth has been so stupendous.

The valley of Los Angeles can easily hold 1,000,000 inhabitants, although it now [1876.—Ed.] supports less than twenty thousand. Yet the many advantages offered by this newly-discovered region have already been recognized, a fact that accounts for the astounding growth of the city in recent years. Situated as it is, in the heart of a fertile agricultural region in close proximity to the only two passes that cut through the mountains into the back country, thus connecting it with the coast, and only a short distance from the ocean, where Wilmington affords an excellent harbor, Los Angeles is destined to become the second largest city in the state. Its back-door is the remarkably rich mining district of Arizona and New Mexico, a district that merely awaits a renewal of interest in mining. Every year the railroad moves nearer these districts, whose trade will naturally flow into Los Angeles. The importance of the southern transcontinental railway to this city has already been indicated.

Rising at the foot of gently-sloping hills that tower sixty feet or more above it, Los Angeles extends over the south end of the valley, rising partly on the foothills and partly on the plains reaching southward from there and extending on over to the west bank of the Los Angeles River—the source of so much of its wealth—to where it breaks through a row of low hills twenty miles north of San Pedro. Los Angeles lies in the midst of a pleasant garden seven miles long and eight in width—a site which is unequaled throughout the United States. In appearance more like a series of gardens and country places than a compact mass of houses, it covers an area of six square miles. For purely local reasons, the city, instead of being a consumer is, oddly enough, a producer. The yearly product within the city limits is, in fact, so great that it will practically support the entire population.

Viewed from a distance, Los Angeles is picturesque from every angle. Perhaps the best view, however, is that from the house of W. H. Perry with its charming garden in the foreground, or from the west end, with the magnificent sierra looming up in the background. In appearance, this city differs materially from other American cities. The buildings the American and the Mexican, are apparent. Of these, the latter predominates. The streets are unpaved and, in summer, very dusty. There are three main streets that run nearly parallel through the city. The two upper streets, Main and Spring streets, are the most important. These are joined on the west by a third called San Pedro Street. The city centers around the plaza; from here it stretches out following the four main points of the compass in every direction; there are also evidences of the Californians, known as a Mexican league [Approximately 2.63 miles.—Ed.] This, nevertheless, should not be taken too literally; it is rather, as observed above, a continuous chain of villas and gardens.

In the heart of the city there are many board sidewalks which are kept in good condition. Others, however, are made merely of earth packed down, with curbs of wood. This custom of holding in dirt walks by planks is in common usage; in fact, even streets and terraces are laid down this manner on the hillsides. In front of many of the houses a diagonal section has been paved. Bordering the sidewalks are many pavers, a tree highly favored for its delicate appearance, slender, eucalyptus, cactus-bean plants, and frequently, too, the stately, full, weeping-willow. Many trees along the streets are boxed with boards. On the side of the street near the gardens adobe walls are frequently seen enclosing vegetation in willow hedges, trickling sanjana (irrigating ditches) and century-plants.

Among the newer houses are many stately buildings built of brick, wood or Mexican adobe. The latter are rapidly disappearing, however, being seen here and there in and near San Pedro Street (the Chinese quarter where most of the oldest houses are located), and particularly in Sonora Town, where many badly in need of repair recall days gone by. Well up on Main Street, however, is seen the adobe house of Doña Arcadia de Baker, a Californian lady living in Los Angeles who is the owner of Laguna.

Many of the houses are quite comfortable, although most of them have been left in an unfinished state. Frequently ivy is trained over the corners, its dark green foliage contrasting in a pleasing manner with the dark red buildings. The majority of the houses on Main Street have wooden porches supported by rough timbers. Occasionally flag-poles are erected—a popular American custom. Among the newer wooden houses many are built in duplicate and stand close together; this is often seen in England and America. Several houses have the gable over the eaves, and many are enclosed over the porches. Frequently these verandas occupy one entire corner of the house and cover a quarter of the lot.

Many of the houses stand back from the street and are not only surrounded by small gardens, but also have gardens out in front. These are very nicely laid out and, thanks to adequate piping, are so thoroughly watered that even in midsummer they have patches of green turf. In many instances the lawns are bordered with cypress trees and are separated from the house by a low wall, and are also surrounded by flower beds; and in many cases a vine is trained over the wall. In the rear of the houses, often surrounded by cypress trees, are the back yards, which are frequently enclosed by a high wall.

Numerous pepper trees are seen in these gardens, as well as the popular eucalyptus. Frequently, too, appear several tall cypresses, together with almond and orange trees. Houses, on the street-side, are usually enclosed with fences. Holladay's Patent Mills [Windmills.—Ed.] often stand near the houses, especially those on the outskirts, which derive their water-supply from springs.

Adjoining the houses of the more prosperous citizens and even close to the finest dwellings, low wooden houses, made of overlapping planks such as Americans use for laying roofs, and which have only one door, or a door and a few windows, often stand.

The city is lighted by gas. Opposite the Pico House is a small gas-plant that supplies the lamps; at the end of Aliso Street, where the Central Street bridge is built, there is also a gas-plant. The plaza, on which the Catholic mission church and the Pico House face, forms the beginning of Main Street. At the plaza is a circular garden, with a high central fountain, enclosed with an iron railing. Main Street is the most animated of the three principal streets of Los Angeles and has the finest buildings. On it stands the City Hall, an ugly building. It is surrounded by a noisy clock-tower, in addition to the imposing buildings of the Commercial Bank and Catholic cathedral, are some interesting stores where canned goods and enticing displays of California fruits—melons, watermelons, and other fine fruits of this remarkable country—are in evidence. Further south on Main Street the houses grow poorer; most of them are small wooden structures with tiny and often pleasant gardens. There are many vacant lots, and some attractive houses.

South of Main, the second principal street of Los Angeles, opens into Main Street. Here on the upper side is Turner Hall, bearing the inscription "Welcome"; between this and the corner stands another building. From this point the street runs directly west through groves of olives, walnuts, and oranges. Into Main Street an important street, Fourth Street, opens. Down Fourth Street runs the tramway that connects with the line in Main Street.

The third and longest street which is south of Main Street also begins near the plaza in the vicinity of Calle de los Negros with its dilapidated old houses, and is called Calle de San Pedro. It is dirtier and dustier than either of the others. Fairly broad and able to carry traffic, it is in evidence. Further south, it becomes narrower. On the right-hand side is a large shop built of bricks. Several of its houses have porches, some of them being quite extensive, with upper balconies. The tram runs past these and down to the Santa Monica Station of the Los Angeles and In-

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dependence Railway, an elaborate renaissance structure with two towers that resembles a church far more than a railroad. It contrasts sharply with the other station in Los Angeles—that of the Southern Pacific Railway. The lower end of this street passes primarily through gardens; between it and Main Street are splendid orange groves.

Behind the City of Los Angeles stretches, as remarked above, a row of hills. On these, houses are already beginning to rise. These hills are composed of an upper layer of conglomerates, with, below, strata of stone comprised of marl mixed with sand and mica-flake, together with horizontal banks of gravel mixed with decomposed granite. From these banks crushed stone is extracted for the streets.

Over on these hills are several cemeteries (those on the furthest hills being the Catholic) and the city burial-ground where the Jews and Chinese also have graveyards.

A new street leads past the school house to the summit of the hills, surrounded by eucalyptus that commands a splendid view. A steep, unfinished street leads from this ridge down to the vicinity of the Catholic Church on Main Street; the lower slope forms an extension of Hill Street. Tiny, isolated dwellings that can scarcely be called houses, rise here and there. Many of these have fresh green grass plots which have water piped in from springs placed on the summit of the hill, and which forces water up from a lower reservoir into one holding a million gallons. Toward the end of the range of hills where century-plants rise so picturesquely is a small crooked gully running down toward the southwest which flattens out as it joins a small brook. From these heights there unfolds below a magnificent panorama of the middle and western section of Los Angeles, with its stately buildings, luxuriant fruit orchards, and, winding off to the right as far as the eye can reach, the Los Angeles River. On the left is a border of gentle hills that gradually disappear in the distance, merging finally into the plains.

Far off toward Santa Monica glimpses of the ocean may be had in three directions over Wilmington, the Pacific Salt Works, and behind Ballona. On clear days the distant island of Catalina may be seen silhouetted against the horizon. On the western tip of this row of hills lies an orange grove, aptly termed Bellevue Terrace, which belongs to Prudent Beauroy, Major of Los Angeles. This, which has an area of six and a half acres and is surrounded with eucalypti, has 400 strong young orange trees, one hundred and twenty-five limes and lemons, many other fruit trees, and several vineyards. For fertility of soil and magnificence of view it is a perfect jewel. Upon descending from Bellevue Terrace, City Gardens, a small public garden now being laid out and enclosed with a picket fence, is reached.

[The third section of A Flower from the Golden Land will appear in an early issue of Touring Topics.—Ed.]
A Flower from the Golden Land

A description of Southern California, its people and its customs, in 1876, now printed in English for the first time—

By Ludwig Louis Salvator

Archduke of Austria • Illustrations by the Author

Part III • Translated by Marguerite Eyer Wilbur

Editor's Note

How many churches were there in Los Angeles in 1876? How was the Los Angeles Public Library operated? What were the chief hotels? Where was Washington Hotel? Who was the foremost winner? Where was the old Fire Mill House?

Ludwig Louis Salvator, Archduke of Austria, answers these puzzling questions in the third part of the English translation of his “Eine Blume Aus Dem Goldenen Lande Oder Los Angeles,” by Marguerite Eyer Wilbur, appearing in this issue of Touring Topics.

Ranking with Harris Newmark’s “Sixty Years in Southern California,” Jackson A. Graves’ “My Seventy Years in California,” and Florence Bell’s “Reminiscences of a Ranger,” this story of Los Angeles life, its people, its institutions and its manners in 1876 bridges an important gap in the chain of descriptive narratives about Southern California.

Herein are discussed churches, fraternal organisations, schools, newspapers, hotels, street scenes, public gardens, ranchos along the Los Angeles River, the San Gabriel Valley, prominent citizens, etc., in fact, all those factors that entered into the Southern California scene fifty-three years ago.—The Editors.

Los Angeles is the seat of the county government and now has a population of 16,000. These are about equally divided between Americans, Europeans and Californians. Americans and Europeans, however, have given the greatest impetus to the present development, the former owning the most houses and land in the city, the latter controlling the bulk of the commerce. In this latter branch the Irish and Germans have also been notably successful. The native Californians, on the other hand, have gone in largely for ranching, sheep-herding, and the raising of vineyards and orange trees. Despite the cosmopolitan nature of the inhabitants — on the streets are heard spoken English, French, Spanish, German and Italian — the community spirit predominates, being strengthened by a mutual interest in the city’s advancement. Largely through their efforts, despite the many improvements that have been made, the city is free from debt. This contrasts noticeably with conditions in Europe, especially in Austria, where, without apparent reason, various nationalities waste considerable time in futile hostilities that result in nothing but endless friction. Out here, on the contrary, the independence and progressiveness of the citizens unite all factions in constructive activities. Even now there are many number of wealthy men; ex-Governor John G. Downey, an Irishman by birth, is considered to possess the greatest wealth.

Owing to the mixed population in Los Angeles, there are naturally many denominations. These, however, have so much mutual tolerance that they work with the utmost energy to build churches side by side. Of these, the Catholics have the strongest following.

What is known as the Los Angeles Mission [a chapel or oratorio, but never a mission. — Ed.] was established shortly after the pueblo was founded for the benefit of the Spanish soldiers in the new settlement. This church is still standing near the southern end of the city at the plaza. Its facade is bleak and unattractive; within is a flat ceiling supported on either side by four columns. Directly in front of the altar is an ornamental arch bearing the inscription “Reyna de Los Angeles ruega por nosotros.” On the inner side of the facade is the inscription, “Los Ecos de esta Parroquia a la Reyna de los Angeles 1861.” Nearby stands the parish house surrounded by a small garden. Also facing on the plaza is a wooden house with a double veranda surrounded by a cross. Formerly a public school, it is now a private residence. As a result of the rapid increase in population there has also been built on Main Street a splendid cathedral. This was recently completed in 1876 at a cost of $80,000. It is the result, largely, of the efforts of the zealous Bishop of Los Angeles, Don Tadeo Anmat, who, like so many Catholic priests in this country, is from Catalonia. This church is said, furthermore, to be practically copied after one in Catalonia. It is a stately brick building with three naves. Architecturally, it suggests the renaissance.

The facade, which is built with a gable, has a statue on either side and the letters D. O. M. (Deo Optimo Maximo) in the center. Each side of the two sections has a double railing across the front surmounted by statues representing the four prophets. In the center is a rose with a niche on either side. On the frieze is written in gold lettering the dedication: “Dicit a sub invocatione Sanctae Virginis et Martyris A. D. 1876.” Three doors, separated by ornamental pilasters, lead into the airy interior. The main floor is surmounted by a gable; the two side portals by broken arches. At the sides the church has eight supporting columns; at the rear is an octagonal-shaped tower, surmounted by a belfry.

The St. Athanasius Episcopal Church is located at the corner of Temple and New High (Hill) Streets. It has a congregation of thirty members.

The Methodist Church on Fourth Street is a large wooden, Gothic edifice and has what is a characteristically church-like tower at its right that is surmounted by a pointed helmet. This church numbers...
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192 members and has a Sunday School attendance of 190 more.

The Methodist Church South, which was organized about three years ago with only ten members, now has a congregation of sixty-five. These members have built a good church and support a Sunday School.

The Presbyterian Church is on the right hand side of Hill Street near the Episcopal Church and, though organized only two years ago with fifteen members, now has 145 in its congregation. Their first meetings were held in Good Templars Hall on Main Street. In their Sabbath School are over 100 children.

The Congregational Church is on New High (Hill) Street and has sixty-five members; the Sunday School has an attendance of ninety children.

On Spring Street is the German Evangelical Church which is also used by the Baptists. This was organized in Los Angeles in 1874 by four members. In 1875 the pastor resigned and since that time it has been without a minister. The church now has thirty members and a Sunday school of forty children.

In Los Angeles there is also a Christian Church. This congregation, as it is only nine months old, has no church as yet in Los Angeles, having only thirty members. To offset this, at Downey City this sect has a church with 114 members and has many supporters along the Santa Ana River. They are planning, furthermore, to establish a church at Orange.

Lastly, there is the B'nai Brith, with some sixty members.

On the right hand side of Fourth Street is the Jewish Church, a brick building with a handsome Gothic facade. The service begins on Sabbath (Friday evening) and ends Saturday evening. Sunday school is held Sunday morning; every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday the children receive lessons in Hebrew and other instruction.

Several fraternal organizations are established in Los Angeles: The Odd Fellows lodge, the strongest secular organization in California; two Masonic lodges, besides a chapter and a council of higher degree; two Redmen's clubs; one of Knights of Pythias; one of Good Templars, Sons of Temperance, and the Champion of the Red Cross; a Jewish, a French, and an Irish benevolent society; a Turner Verein; a French Hospital, and a home under the auspices of the Sisters of Charity.

Private instruction may be had at Lawler Institute, a Catholic College for boys, and a girls' school under the direction of the Sisters. The Catholic College, St. Vincent's, is situated in the west end of town in a pleasing garden. This institution has three classes with an enrollment last year of some seventy students. Similar in architecture and general arrangement is the Sisters' School, which is in the east end of the city.

Of all the public schools, the high school is unquestionably one of the outstanding buildings in the city. Because of its favorable situation, it is visible from afar, standing out conspicuously above the orchards and city. This imposing building, which cost $39,000, is a two-storey wooden structure with ten windows both front and rear, some projecting additions, and a clock tower. On either side of the entrance flights of steps are. The building itself contains classrooms for the pupils and eight large, airy schoolrooms. The school has four grades.

The Los Angeles Public Library is in the Downey Block and belongs to a company that was organized in 1872. First opened in 1873, it now numbers about 400 hundred members. Two thousand volumes have already been placed on its shelves while a full supply of the best magazines, reviews, illustrated journals and foreign newspapers and publications is to be found on its tables. The membership fee is $25; the dues are fifty cents a month, or $5 a year. Every member may take out two volumes at the same time. Strangers are permitted to use the rooms; however, they cannot take out books without becoming members. The rooms are open every afternoon, including Sundays, and every evening, from seven to ten. A chess and social room is maintained in conjunction with the library. To promote the development of agriculture, a permanent exhibition hall is to be opened shortly. Here the semi-tropical products of the country will be exhibited for the benefit of strangers and with the idea of stimulating their production on the part of the local residents.

Several newspapers are published here in Los Angeles. The most widely circulated of all are the daily and weekly Herald, the Star, and the Express. The first is a morning paper; the latter are evening publications. Both put out weekly extra editions. The Schoolmaster, a weekly, is the organ of the public schools of the city. The Mirror is published once a week and is distributed gratuitously by the Mirror Office. The New Italy, a monthly, is published in Los Angeles by the Immigration and Co-operative Association. This sheet contains many notices about the country as a whole, especially the outlying estates in whose interests it is published. The Southern California Post, a weekly, has a good circulation, especially among the German population in all parts of the city and county. The Chronicle, published semi-weekly, is widely circulated in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Central and South American countries, and even in Spain.

Comfortable accommodations for strangers have been amply provided in Los Angeles. There are several hotels which are generally filled to capacity during the winter season by travelers who come out to enjoy the mild climate of Southern California.

The best of these is the Pico House, which, like all the four leading hotels, is down on Main Street. This is an imposing building of two stories. Of extra-heavy construction, it is supposed to be safest in the entire city in case of earthquakes. It was built under the supervision of its present proprietor, Señor Cuyas, an amiable and intelligent Catalonian. The building, which was begun in 1870, cost $48,000 and was furnished at an expenditure of $34,000 more. It has eighty-two rooms, twenty-one of them suites with baths, and is lighted by gas. The handsome parlor is the rendezvous for many of the elite of the city.

Next in importance to the Pico House is the Clarion Hotel. This hotel has 120 rooms, twenty-five are elaborate suites with bath — and is illuminated with gas. The Lafayette Hotel has 100 rooms and baths. The United States Hotel has seventy-four rooms and cost $40,000 to build and $20,000 to furnish. In addition, there are several good hotels of inferior order.

One particular section of Los Angeles is known as Rancho de la Laguna particularly struck Ludwig Salvador's fancy. Most impressive to him was the typical pastoral aspect of the place with its ranch house of adobe and bra. This ranch was located between Whittier Boulevard and Telegraph Road, not only a short distance from the city.
Sonora, so-called because most of its inhabitants were originally from Sonora in Old Mexico. This, which is the California quarter of Los Angeles, extends north from the Catholic Mission Church on out through the valley. Behind Sonora rise low hills thick with napels. The city is traversed in this quarter by four main streets. Of these, one is very broad. All in all, however, this region has a shabby appearance even though it has several good adobe houses with flat asphalt roofs, a few that are roofed with tile, and several withingle roofs.

Sonoratown has two tramways. One of these runs down the center of the broadest street toward the Catholic cemetery; the other after crossing the wide bed of the Los Angeles River via a wooden bridge, runs over into East Los Angeles. From the opposite bank of the river, where cactus-beans grow rankly, the view over the Los Angeles Valley with its green alder-bushes is magnificent.

Here high up on the gently rolling ground are scattered the houses that comprise East Los Angeles. This is a comparatively new part of the city, but it will soon drive into one of its finest sections. It is divided by Ex-Governor Downey, Dr. Griffin, and his nephew, Hancock Johnston, elaborate plans have been made for its development. One hundred and seventy acres were set aside from Dr. Griffin's 2,000-acre ranch for the creation of East Los Angeles. In this tract lots were sold only on condition the purchaser erected a fence and set out a definite number of trees. Eight-inch pipes connect this section of the city with the Los Angeles water system. On Downey Avenue, which is 100 feet wide, Dr. Griffin has reserved thirty acres for his home near that of Mr. Johnston; it stands in an attractive park filled with fruit, Italian chestnut, pecan and almond trees, many varieties of grapes, and also orange, lemon, lime, olive and pomegranate trees. The park is watered by two mills which supply three reservoirs.

The streets of Los Angeles fairly teem with life. Because of the mixed population, they are always colorful and interesting. Street cars cross the principal streets and travel, according to the American custom, down to the terminus, returning in the opposite direction. On the streets numerous vehicles and carriages are seen; four-seated carriages with heavy springs, light American vehicles, and frequently small carriages driven by Chinese. Las Vegas the Americans usually drive in place of riding horseback. Many riders, however, are in evidence, for the Spaniards, French and Italians prefer riding to driving. Spanish boys are often seen galloping halfway. Young Californians, brown as Arabs, also ride by, sometimes stopping their horses near the fruit-stores and then galloping rapidly away, followed by their bulldogs, up the dusty streets.

A gay crowd of men and animals is constantly coming and going on the streets. Innumerable tipsy-colored horseheads from the Mexican province of Sonora wearing plug hats on their dusky heads, tanned Scotchmen in straw helmets, distinguished Spaniards in riding clothes, animated, laughing girls in large cotton capes and broad straw hats pass by. Strange sights are constantly encountered: barber shops where customers stretch out nonchalantly; elevated seats where men lean back smoking cigarettes while their shoes are being polished; Chinese laundries bearing strange inscriptions advertising their activities; political notices posted from one end of the street to the other; vendors driving carts and selling fish and vegetables are at the peak of their activity in the evenings, especially at the entrance to the opera-house where there is so much pushing and shoving going on that it is difficult to get through. In highly-lighted bars groups of ranchers drink gaily in an effort to forget the trials and tribulations of the past week.

In summer, the dust is distinctly disagreeable; however, in the morning the streets are frequently watered from sprinkling-wagons. The sidewalks are settled by using a hose attached to water connections inside the house.

Evenings the Californians often congregate on horseback just beyond Sonoratown for concerts and sometimes as a pleasant task ride under an arch and try to catch a ring on a lance. This game, which is called Los Argolias, is a relic of Spanish times when it was exceedingly popular.

Only two public gardens, in addition to the small city gardens previously mentioned, exist in the city. One of these, which is at the terminus of the Spring Street car-line, is called Washington Garden. This garden, which once belonged to O. V. Waldron, contains thirty-five acres. It has many fruit trees, a large vineyard trained over a wooden trellis, and, in the center, an octagonal-shaped covered platform for music and dancing. There are also several rows of fine orange, fig and olive trees, as well as pomegranate trees. In addition to these is a large dancehall, an airy building decorated with seven flat arches, which has seats on either side. This is used for many kinds of entertainments. Back of this hall is a young orangery, where is a menagerie of birds where a lioness, a bear, a leopard, an eagle, several monkeys are exhibited. Nearby is a small house surrounded by a veranda. This garden is extremely popular with the public at large and is the principal place of amusement.

Out beyond in the same general direction (this will soon be connected up by tramway) after passing several windmills, a second garden, called the race-track or Agricultural Park, is located. This is the race track and the area is one mile in circumference and is completely enclosed by a double fence. Within, in a setting of eucalyptus, is a inn and bleachers for spectators.

In conclusion several of the most important properties in Los Angeles will be described. On San Pedro Street is the orchard of William Wolfskill. This comprises 130 acres and has both young and old orange trees, nurseries, and two acres of thirty-year walnut trees. On the opposite side of the same street is Dr. Shaw's Los Angeles nursery. This has been planted out in oranges that were raised from seed brought up from Nicaragua and later transplanted into his garden. Next come the orchards and nurseries of G. W. Childs, Esq., one of the early settlers who came out twenty-three years ago, and who has fifty acres on the south side of Main Street. The number of trees sold by him yearly, mainly oranges, lemon, and limes, amounts to $20,000. He also raises excellent Italian chestnuts, a tree that grows splendidly here and bears many large nuts and is admirably suited to local conditions. On the north side of Main Street opposite this fruit garden is a dwelling surrounded by a five-acre park, which is attractively planted and in a flourishing state, owing to the ample supply of water available. Here nectarines, apples, pears, and grapes indigenous to Southern France are raised. Further on down Main Street lives Cameron E. Thorn. Diagonally across the street from him are Colonel J. G. Howard's gardens. These are both ornamental places.

On the west side of the street are Elijah H. Workman's seven acres—a property that is both a pleasure to the eye under an arch and try to catch a ring on a lance. This game, which is called Los Argolias, is a relic of Spanish times when it was exceedingly popular.

On west from here is José de Rubido's large garden and nursery; this has 20,400 young orange and citrus trees, including blood-oranges, largely imported from Italy. He also has an extensive vineyard where grapes both for the table and for wine making are raised.

On upper Aliso Street is T. Jefferson White's Casa Linda, a fine fruit garden filled with flourishing nut trees and two large weeping-willows. Near Mr. White's gardens are twelve acres of a grove belonging to D. Woodworth who paid $1,000 an acre for his land only a short time ago. He has a magnificent orchard of oranges and lemons as well as the oldest vineyards in the city of Los Angeles. Among his vines are 2,000 ninety years old; from each of these vines he gathers seventy pounds of grapes.

Mention should also be made of the young orange trees of Ex-Governor Downey, and the new grove of Beaumont—a circular grove in the hills back of Sonoratown, surrounded by a hedge of eucalyptus—who has also set out several groves of eucalyptus. This property has a windmill and large containers for storing water. Not far away stand the two large reservoirs. Beyond are Colonel Norvan and C. Jones' Innesworth of forty-eight acres which is bounded on three sides by Kohler, Wolf- skill and Bexis Streets.

The Kellogg garden of seventy-five acres on Alameda Street also merits mention. Keller, who was one of the early
settlers, has done much for the grape industry, which he has developed on a large scale. Among wines made by him are the following: Clarcet, port, white, madeira, sherry and angelica. To prepare them he has purchased a complete equipment of presses, distilleries and miscellaneous equipment. His wines are exported in large quantity, and his shipments have an enviable reputation on the market. He also raises cotton and tobacco.

Memories of the past, of the early days of the Indians and Californians, are vividly recalled by driving along the broad, almost waterless, bed of the Los Angeles River through country that is still virgin, uninhabited and where the silence of Nature is unbroken. Even the names of this river's tributaries back to the remote past: El Alamo, the Pocojima, the Tuhunga, Los Verdugos, and lastly on the left, the Arroyo Seco. The latter, although called the "dry brook," presents the gravest danger, because of its floods, to Los Angeles. This, however, is somewhat protected by a stone hill, La Toma (so-called from the waters that drain off and from whose sheer sides slabs of stone are extracted), in the background. The most serious flood in the Arroyo Seco occurred in 1825.

Not only the rivers but also the mountains bear fantastic Californian names. The high chain stretching to the Arroyo Seco is called La Cordillera de Los Verdugos. It continues on toward the valley and to La Calera where chalk is mined. Toward the north are seen in succession, the Tuhunga, Pocojima, Los Palomas, El Alomar, and the San Franciscoito ranges. Southward, in the opposite direction, is the Cordillera de los Verdugos, followed by the San Gabriel, Santa Anita, Asusa, San Dimas, San Antonio, Cucamonga, and lastly the ranges of Los Negros and San Bernardino ranges. And while the sight of these ranges conjures up memories of the life of the Indians and the days of the Franciscan fathers, the hissimg train that passes over a wooden bridge and runs out to San Fernando dissuades these reveries. Upon leaving the Arroyo Seco on the right, the river-bed disappears behind a range of hills that separate it from the main valley. On the left, a wooded, gently sloping hill comes into view; this marks the beginning of Rancho de los Negros. On the right of the Los Angeles River, on whose banks many picturesque willows attain an extraordinary height, rises a picturesque group of mountains, El Potrero de los Felizes, topped by a peak called Portuesuelo de Ca-

huenga. [The meadows immediately south of Burbank and the peak now known as Cahuenga Peak.—Ed.] Directly opposite is a place famous for its tragic story connected with the early days in California; this now bears the name, El Muerto de Pedro Felix, after a man who was murdered in 1837 by his wife and her lover under tragic circumstances. The wife, who was riding horseback ahead of her husband, according to local custom, suddenly seized his feet, pulling him off his horse. By dragging him behind her she gave her lover, Don Manuel Resequea, an opportunity to follow and kill the unfortunate Don Pedro with a stone. The thick evergreen oaks covering the adjacent hills may have aided, perhaps, in concealing this scene of murder. Even now when the bright sun smiles down on the wooded slope, this tragic tale is recalled only with horror.

The country studded with alders on the flat banks of the river is called La Talaya. Further on up the Los Angeles Valley appears the Potrero de los Felizes Los Pescaitas, where, at one time, brook trout were found in large numbers. In front, stretching out like a great curtain, is the Cordillera Tuhunga, crowned by the stately Sierra Madre. Continuing on to the right the way leads to Portusuelo, with its cornfields and scattered houses, then past the Cañada de Francisco Maria, so-called from a treacherous Indian who lived down in a gully and was greatly feared by his neighbors. These unpleasant memories are soon dispelled, however, by visoning what appears a veritable paradise on earth—a grove of olives and assorted fruit trees, particularly peaches, pears and apples, as well as a sunny vineyard. The water flowing through these gardens and which is used for irrigation comes down from the Cañada de los Verdugos. Julio Verdugo was the creator of these charming gardens.

Upon our arrival we were greeted by the inmates with the warmest hospitality. A child on horseback (Californian are trained to ride from infancy) brought us a chair while a small boy without reins or saddle galloped by on a sorrel horse. After we were seated together with these brown, half-Indian faces under a pear tree heavy with fruit, a man brought out two knives and served us splendid watermelons. These were genuinely refreshing on a hot day. The frank hospitality with which this was offered put us quite at ease and left the impression that, under these bronze-colored countenances, Spanish blood surged. After describing what fine products were raised in their gardens, how they were marketed in Los Angeles (they also raise apples to dry) they spoke wistfully of life in the past and of the days when there was great freedom. They live quite simply and have only three small wooden houses.

Having left this delightful spot, a valley was reached where directly ahead rose the mysterious Piedra Gorda, "Eagle Rock."—Ed.—the goal of our journey. At the right is the Cienega del Carvamnza, a small green swamp with clumps of bunch-grass and at the bottom, Sacate de Matiasgo, which never dries out. From here we emerged on a plain where enormous herds of sheep, guarded by strong, fat, shaggy dogs, pastured. Nearby is the entrance into the canyon of Piedra Gorda, a wilderness of luxuriant vegetation, that forms an almost impenetrable thicket often the haunt of wild beasts. The Piedra Gorda, towering above, is an imposing rock of granite conglomerates on one side with exposed parallel strata having two sharply defined hollows in which swallows have built their nests. It was also used at one time by the Indians as a natural bulwark, a rock fortress. Since, from this point, a fine view off across the horizon as far as Los Angeles may be had, this spot was an excellent location from which to observe the movements of the first settlers.

After leaving the Piedra Gorda and crossing over a
low saddle of hills, the Aguaje del Garbanza is reached. This contains a small ranch with pastures, wooden houses and sheds. Nearby a spring flows. The valley here flattens out into a vast meadow cut by a small brook that flows on into the Arroyo Seco. Above is San Pasqual with its orange groves. Crossing over small stones and boulders the bed of the Arroyo Seco with its alders a hill is reached which is thickly covered with a whistling plant called by Californians *Ramita centa.* This plant is said to have the property of preventing the wounds of animals from becoming infected. From this hill a superb view opens out over the entire valley of the Arroyo Seco, the Los Angeles River and far across the mountains and valley. So enticing is the view that it inspires the traveler to loiter here for hours. Upon descending and leaving, on the left, the Cañada Grande, the broad extensive Mesa of San Rafael is reached where yellow-brown hills stretch out towards San Gabriel. On their summits a group of horses grazes. Climbing down over chalk rocks in a pleasant valley, El Valle de la Rosa de Castilla, watered by a brook of the same name that has an outlet in the Laguna de Monterey is reached. Here the ground is considerably broken up and where especially dry is what the Californians call *tierra arrostrada.* This, however, can be readily utilized for raising grain.

The road leading from here to San Gabriel Mission swings toward the right through gently rolling hills and on past the railroad leading to San Bernardino. In the background hover the impressive Cucamonga Mountains. Where the brook dwindles off into a swamp is the Portezuelo de la Rosa de Castilla. In this place the soil, which heretofore was merely rich, now shows a vein of chalk-covered marble lying between layers of quartz-like sandstone. This forms a kind of natural stone bridge which is said to have been used by the Indians in passing over the marshy lands. It is called Puente de las Viejas. With it is associated an old witch-story to the effect that whenever horses passed this point, the witches would hold them prisoners for a quarter of an hour while they indulged in all kinds of evil pranks. The brook at one point also reveals a stretch of this same stone. Pools of water remain throughout the summer and here the sheep come to drink. On beyond this higher ground called La Loma Alta. After passing an adobe house, Las Positas, the road to San Gabriel is reached. And, later, Los Angeles.

One of the most interesting drives in the vicinity of Los Angeles, a drive where glimpses may be also had of early California, is that leading to Rancho de la Laguna. On the way to this ranch the road leads past W. H. Perry’s house, already mentioned for its fine view out over Los Angeles and across gardens filled with vineyards and orange trees. After passing a charming cottage and traveling on across rolling hills, the road continues along the banks of the Los Angeles River that serves as a boundary line for the orchards. The ground is undulating and most of the houses passed are built on knolls. Occasionally down in gulches are found springs. After crossing a deep ravine the road emerges onto an extensive hill that commands a vast view off across the plains where the distant mountain peak of San Pedro looms against the horizon. From this point the road re-descends gradually to the plains. Glancing off into the far distance only an occasional ranch, clump of trees, or the dust of a traveling vehicle break the monotony of the landscape. At the base of the hill where the plain begins, a river with a dry, sandy bed is crossed, and at this point the road continues on to Los Nietos. Another road, however, turns to the right and leads to the Rancho de la Laguna where the early Californian ranchhouse with the mountains in the background, is picturesquely in the extreme. The house is an extensive adobe structure, surrounded by porches supported by fifteen columns and enclosed by a picket rail. The roof is of brea and has a beautiful, vine-covered stone drain. An inner patio contains a well; adjoining this is a corral for sheep. Numerous horses pastured near the rancho enhance the early Californian atmosphere. Not far from the home lies the lagoon which is thickly covered, along its edges, by a reed belonging to the mallow family. Despite the presence of the lagoon, the air on the ranch is not harmful and is even said, in winter, to be mild and balmy. Having visited for a time with the sunburned inhabitants on this remote ranch, being Californians they were typically amiable and hospitable — we departed reluctantly from this enchanting spot so reminiscent of early California.

Every traveler who comes to Los Angeles should not fail to visit the old mission of San Gabriel and its magnificent orchards. Lying between the foothills that define one side of the Los Angeles Valley and the main chain of the Santa Ynez Mountains is a series of valleys known as the San Fernando, El Monte, San Gabriel, and Chino valleys. These, which stretch from east to west for some forty-five miles, have an average width of four and one-half miles and contain about 130,000 acres, or some 200 square miles. This land may be classified as follows: 45,000 acres of pasture, 40,000 acres of vineyard and semi-tropical fruit land, and 45,000 acres fruit and wheat lands. Wheat, since these valleys lie inland from the coast, flourishes in this location.

Of these, the first to be considered is the San Gabriel Valley. The fruit-bearing lands of the San Gabriel Valley, which are celebrated far and wide, stretch from southwest to northeast over about two miles wide and ten in length. On this western end these merge into low-laying hills, while toward the east for a distance of some twenty miles stretches a level area. Toward the north end of this valley toward the somber sierras. The soil here is varied in character, consisting of grayish, porous, sandy, gravel-surfaced soil and a black, sticky clay. Both kinds of soil are, however, equally productive if given ample water.

The trip out to San Gabriel can be made either by the Los Angeles and Independence Railway, or by carriage. The latter is generally preferred, since the trip can be made comfortably in one afternoon. Having left Los Angeles by way of Aliso Street (so-named from the solitary Alder rising near the Philadelphia Brewery) which with its several hairpin curves makes the first ascension of Los Angeles, the road soon swings out into the country. At the Aliso Mill it turns to the left, parts from the old Aliso highway, and becomes a dusty country road. Near the road runs a drainage canal lined with wood that is used to divert water from the Los Angeles River. On the left-hand side of the road near a garden a fine Lantanan palm tree is visible, several more of this same species which is indigenous to the desert, being planted within the garden. From here the road skirts past vineyards and fields of Indian corn. On the left, off toward Casalinda stretch shady groves of walnuts. A covered bridge leads on across the Los Angeles River; a similar bridge serving for the stream runs over as far as Perry’s house. Off across the river toward the left where the land begins to ascend stands the Los Angeles Distillery, where brandy is manufactured. Off, having passed beyond the section that is irrigated the region seems very dry. On the right stretching toward the hills lies a little valley where an old distillery is located. From here the view off across the sparkling Los Angeles Valley with its superb background of magnificent peaks is magnificent. A plank bridge thrown over a small gulley leads to a point where a fine view may be had beyond the upper end of the bed of the Los Angeles River and from there to a flat stretch surrounded by low hills, which serves as the home and playground of innumerable ground-squirrels. In fact these tiny animals, as well as many flocks of sheep, are constantly met along the road. In a gulch on the right is Granite Canyon. The Ranch with its slopes enclosed by eucalyptus, containing almond and fruit trees of every variety and watered by wells pumped by windmills. After crossing the tracks, clumps of prickly pears, flowering green patches and occasional sun-burned Californians are all that break the monotony of the silent, peaceful landscape. After leaving, on the left, small knolls topped with clumps of prickly pears and having again crossed the railroad where a magnificent view of the super-pansy of mountains is visible, the way leads into low ground where on the edge of a small brook stands the Fire Mill House. This is a small wooden structure surrounded by a few poplars and willows used as an inn by the travelers who frequented by travellers. Here we met several wagons bringing in loads of oakwood from the mission valley. Having again crossed the track, the road now begins to ascend slightly. At this point it climbs up a broad, winding road into the valley to the foothills and the towering mountains and, on the right, over undulating hills. The ground near here is covered with several strange varieties of grass, being rather sandy and comparatively free
from gravel. A small valley thickly overgrown with prickly pears is soon crossed, from which is afforded a superb view toward the mission which is soon reached after passing through a second valley.

Upon arriving, on the left is seen the depot near the church, some adobe houses with shingle roofs, and orange groves, a boarding house surrounded by aridos and cacti, a few small wooden houses on a dusty street, and finally, the mission. This is conspicuous because of its six-bell arch and the ten outer columns. Within, on either side, are seen seven supporting pillars, exposed ceiling scaffolding, and walls thick with dust. Above the entrance rises the tower.

A simple wooden chancel, an altar dating back to the sixteenth century, surmounted by a madonna, and several wooden benches form the solitory decorations inside the church. On the right were observed two small side doors and on the left a large arched door recessed into the church wall, the door being fluted with large round copper nails. Over the arched portal has been placed a small niche for holding a statue. Out in front of the house is an arched door. This has two pillars at the sides, railings in the center, and above, an iron balcony that forms the entrance to the tower. On the opposite side of the church lies a small graveyard.

Connected with the church by a vine-covered pergola is a parish house. The residence of the priest proves to be a Catalan home for the home of his oldest parishioner, Eulalia Arrillaga de Peralta, who is of Irish descent. After arriving across from the parish house whose entrance is marked by a tall palm is the mission garden where picturesque groups of olives and peppers, great nuts, pomegranates, rows of lemon and orange trees, and grape vines like those found in Corfu grow luxuriantly side by side in a picturesque manner. Over all reigns a peaceful sunny silence. So strongly reminiscent is it of the land of Southern Europe that it creates an ardent longing to settle permanently in this peaceful, restful corner of the hemisphere.

The missionaries in the early days displayed extraordinary acumen and foresight in their choice of locations for new settlements. In their selection they stressed above all else a fine view, protection from sharp winds, good soil, and the proximity of water, these four conditions being given prime consideration. What was further achieved was accomplished in the course of time with the aid of the thousands of neophytes they had at their disposal. The missions as a matter of fact have formed the basis of flourishing settlements, many of these having developed into important cities.

In few places, however, are these four basic conditions so admirably combined as in San Gabriel. The air is far purer here than in Los Angeles, the winds are milder, and the soil and climate, it can be truthfully said, are almost perfect. Though San Gabriel has failed to grow into a city yet in the neighborhood of the mission have been developed some of the finest properties in the country. Of these among the most important are the estates of L. J. Rose, B. D. Wilson, Colonel E. C. Keven, and General George Stoneman, all four of whom have princely holdings. J. W. B. Short, F. Bacon, Colonel Winston White, L. H. Titus, W. S. Chapman, Messenger, Tallant, Volney E. Howard, and others have fine estates as well. In addition are many small landholders who, having acquired some forty to one hundred acres, have developed on these fine houses and flourishing orchards. This country, in fact, has had an amazing development.

Of several of the more important estates a brief description will now be given beginning with the estate of Mr. Rose, President of the Southern District Agricultural Society. This is reached by leaving the mission, crossing a sun-baked plain where the Sierra looms up in the distance and here and there a frame or adobe house surrounded by various plants such as tobacco, and following a road leading past several live-oaks over a gully, which finally emerges on a plain planted out to grain, maize, and tobacco. After passing a large vineyard, Mr. Rose's estate, Sunny Slope is reached. The approach to the house is toward the east through an avenue almost a mile long, that is formed by a double row of strong nine-year-old orange trees. At the end, on a small knoll, stands the house surrounded by verandas and shaded by great pepper trees, sturdy eucalyptus, (one of these is seven feet in circumference and ninety feet high) figs, almonds, and walnut trees. Mr. Rose acquired this property about six years ago then, to secure water rights, increased his holdings by purchasing about 2000 acres of the Santa Anita Ranch. This purchase enabled him to create within a few months of time one of the finest places in the country. Over a hundred years ago the missionaries built the dam, now on his property, through the narrow pass of the brook and brought water through an outlet ditch over a reservoir which is only a short distance above Mr. Rose's house. Although this is no longer doubtless the dam has been preserved and is now used by Mr. Rose who brings the water through a main channel up to the knoll where the house stands, distributing it from this main point in every direction. On his property are approximately 600 or 700 orange trees. There is also a large vineyard of 150 acres planted out to 135 varieties most of which have come from along the Rhine and which are kept trimmed low. In 1873, these produced 70,000 gallons of wine, and 23,000 gallons of spirits. In 1875 they yielded 100,000 gallons of wine, and 30,000 gallons of spirits. His wines, port and angelica, sell on an average for one dollar a gallon; one-year-old brandy for two dollars a gallon, white wine only; and the brandy is produced for fifty cents. A fine product made from blue Elba grapes, and Zinfandels are highly prized as table wines. Four copper distilleries are in operation that produce daily a thousand gallons of brandy, while a large cellar has storage capacity for 200,000 gallons.

The most easterly property in the fruit belt is the Santa Anita Ranch of some eight thousand acres which lies directly east of Mr. Rose's Sunny Slope. This ranch, which totals close to 8000 acres, contains only groves of timber and orange orchards. It also has an ample supply of water including artesian wells. Formerly the property of Messrs. Newmark and Rose, it has been recently purchased by E. J. Baldwin who has introduced many numbers of improvements.

After leaving Mr. Rose's stables the route leads past many thriving orange groves. On both sides of the road young groves have been planted out in the porous soil. Frequently between rows of trees corn is seen growing. Many of these fields are bordered by rows of eucalyptus. Flying in and out of these Spanish gardens are often seen blue-winged crows and gleaming blackbirds.
A FLOWER FROM THE GOLDEN LAND

(Continued from Page 19)
A Flower from the Golden Land

A description of Southern California, its people and its customs, in 1876, now printed in English for the first time—

By Ludwig Louis Salvator

Archduke of Austria • Illustrations by the Author

Part IV • Translated by Marguerite Eyer Wilbur

San Fernando is one of the most important settlements in the country. It has grown up around the seventeenth mission established which was named for King Ferdinand III, of Castile. Funds to erect this mission were supplied by King Carlos IX of Spain and the Marques of Branciforte. To Indians this place was known as Achah Cunahboc. The location is healthful and, since it is only twenty miles from the sea, the heat is tempered by breezes. The country, furthermore, has an ample supply of arsienol well water, the canyons and the banks of brooks contain large numbers of oaks, alders, and cedars, while only a short distance up in the mountains are vast areas of white pine, spruce, and redwood. When the mission was in its prime, it had many outlying buildings which are now [1876.—Ed.] fast falling into ruins. The central building, used by the fathers and their servants, is still standing and is in an excellent state of preservation. At the present it is being used by General Andres Pico for a dwelling. This building is two stories high, has heavy walls four feet thick, is 300 feet long, 80 feet broad, and is designed with arches, columns, and long corridors. It contains a large reception hall and a stately church 150 feet long, where, once a month, services are conducted by a priest from Los Angeles. The mission gardens, now belonging to the heirs of Don Andres Pico and Don Eulogio de Celis, are very beautiful. Adjoining these are some thirty-two acres planted to 300 olive trees as well as many grapes, figs, peaches, pears, almonds, and pomegranates. The gardens are watered by irrigation ditches that were built some seventy years ago.

The San Fernando Valley, or ranch, as it is more usually called, contains 121,542 acres. When the missions were secularized it became the property of the Mexican government, coming under the control of the governors of California. To secure revenue to ward off encroachment on the part of the Americans, Governor Pico sold it to Don Eulogio de Celis for $14,000. Ten years later, however, Don Andres Pico bought half of it, including gardens and half the buildings, for $15,000. A few years ago, his half was purchased by several men acting under the name of the San Fernando Farm Homestead Association, formed by a certain Senator Maclay. This half of the 59,550 acres sold for $115,000 and did not include the gardens and a thousand acres adjoining it, which were kept by Don Andres Pico.

Mention should be made at this point of the Encino Ranch of 4,400 acres, 3,300 of which belong to Eugene Garnier, and which were formerly part of the San Fernando Ranch. Garnier is a sheep-grower on an extensive scale. In the past few years he has spent $180,000 for French merinos and as much as $900 for one single ram.

Duarte, a new settlement of 2,500 acres about fifteen miles from Los Angeles, has had an extraordinarily rapid development. Its boundaries run from where it skirts the foothills on its northern end to where it slopes gently down toward the south, where merging finally into El Monte, Land, most of the soil being a rich, sandy clay, is now worth $30 to $40. Owing to its sunny location, Duarte, like San Gabriel, is well adapted to raising fruits. As early as 1874 a school was established. East of Duarte lies the Azusa Ranch, a place recently thrown open to agriculture.

El Monte, one of the oldest American settlements, is located twelve miles east of Los Angeles on the Southern Pacific railway. It is a pleasant, picturesque place, and has a Masonic Lodge and a good school. Not far from El Monte, in the direction of San Gabriel, is the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour built at a cost of $4,000 by Mrs. Frances Jones Vinton. Its rector is the Reverend Mr. Messenger. The soil here is naturally damp since, as already shown, the San Gabriel River flows underground, thus eliminating the need of irrigation. El Monte comprises about 10,000 acres, which are rented out in small tracts. Many of these, however, are being bought outright. Land costs from $25 to $75 an acre and, where cultivated, considerably
more. Willows and cottonwoods frequently encircle the fields which are admirably adapted to Indian corn and which, in this locality, yield from 75 to 125 bushels an acre. Potatoes that often return from 8,000 to 30,000 pounds an acre, beets and other tubers thrive here. The raising of hogs is one of the main occupations, land being an important commodity, though it is largely consumed locally since many rich farmers do not raise enough for their own use.

Downey City, on the Anaheim Branch of the Southern Pacific Railway, twelve miles beyond Los Angeles, is the loading-point for a large part of the Los Nietos district, 150,000 bushels of grain being shipped out annually. Several new buildings have already been erected, notably the Baptist Church, while the district supports two public schools and the Downey City Institute, a growing institution.

The district of Los Nietos spreads over 1,500 square miles. Six years ago it had only a few adobe houses; now, on the contrary, it controls seven public school districts, all having good school-houses erected at a cost of from $1,000 to $4,000 apiece. The produce in Downey City. Prices of land vary from $80 to $100 an acre, landowners, as a general thing, owning ten to forty acres of land. The Los Nietos country that begins near El Monte and extends south for thirteen miles along the San Gabriel River, is a veritable garden spot, being largely rolling hills amply watered by the San Gabriel River.

Spadra, lying between two rows of hills some twenty-five miles beyond Los Angeles, is at present the terminus of the Southern Pacific Railway. The settlement was so named by Uncle Billy Rubottom in honor of Spadra Bluffs on the Arkansas River, where he had spent many happy days and where he lost his home through an adverse decision of the courts several years ago. At that time he moved out here, bought 200 acres, and opened an inn which is still in operation. Around his inn a settlement has come into existence. This valley is extremely fertile and has ample water.

About two miles back of Spadra is the upper end of a long fifteen-mile valley comprising about 100,000 acres of excellent land that lies between the Sierra Madre and the coast range, from there extending out into San Bernardino County. In the western corner of this valley is the rapidly growing settlement of Pomona, which is within the boundaries of Los Angeles County, Pon-
northand of Anaheim, are two new settlements with an important future, since they have splendid artesian wells and fertile soil.

Four or five miles west of the Santa Ana River in a valley near the foothills is the third settlement of Richland that has some 7,000 acres of excellent land valued at $15 to $25 an acre, or, when under cultivation, at not under $60 an acre. This colony has been developed in less than three years.

Orange Valley includes what stretches of land lie between the Santa Ana, the Temescal, and the San Juan rivers, and the ocean. Stretching from Burruels Point on the north to San Juan Capistrano on the south, it spreads over about 120 square miles and includes the settlements of Orange, Santa Ana, Newport, Tustin, and the San Joaquin Ranch.

The latter which comprises about one half of the entire valley is comparatively undeveloped and is now on the market. Orange Valley is suited to the cultivation of all grains indigenous to a temperate as well as a semi-tropical climate.

Orange is the most northerly settlement in this valley, being three miles south of Burrrues Point. Fruit-raising is its principal industry. Bananas, oranges, limes, lemons, walnuts, and grapes succeed and give promise of satisfactory profits. Orange is especially adapted to oranges since it is in the high section of the valley, is near the foothills where it is protected from frost, and has soil suitable for this purpose.

Tustin, three and one-half miles southeast of Orange, owes its impetus to Colonel C. Tustin, for whom it is named. After four years of activity, Tustin has grown into a flourishing settlement.

Santa Ana, two miles west of Tustin and one and a half southwest of Orange, is a town with a great future. The community has a school and an Odd Fellows lodge.

Newport, usually known as Gospel Swamp, is situated on Newport Bay and is the fishing place for the district east of the Santa Ana River. Here a large storehouse equipped with every facility to expedite the handling of freight has been erected. In this district are two school houses. This settlement spreads out over an area of some nine square miles.

The most southerly settlement in the county is Mission San Juan Capistrano, lying thirty-three miles south of Anaheim, where in 1775 Father Serra founded San Juan Capistrano, the seventh in the chain of missions. The mission church, however, was destroyed in 1812 by an earthquake in which forty-seven lives were lost. Until 1834, the year when the Mexican Congress began its persecutions against the missions, it flourished. In 1830 it owned several immense tracts of lands, where 40,000 cattle, 70,000 sheep, 3,000 horses and many mules and hogs grazed. Since its foundation, 4,790 natives had been converted and baptized. This mission which, incidentally, was one of the largest, supported a soap factory, made clothes and shoes, and operated a wood-working department and a blacksmith's shop. The gardens and lands contained eighty acres, in the former being 400 venerable olive trees. Many ancient pear trees, the favorite fruit of the fathers, are now standing, but the vineyards have utterly vanished. The San Juan River, flowing as it did throughout the year, proved a boon to irrigation. Some few months prior to the Mexican War, eighty acres of olives and other fruits were sold to Don Juan Forster for $800; these are now worth $80,000. In 1853 the church was again rebuilt of adobe; this new structure, however, has again fallen into ruins.

Santa Monica, which lies some nineteen miles west of Los Angeles, is equally accessible by rail or by carriage. In summer stages make the trip regularly for the benefit of sea-bathers. When the trip is made by carriage the road first leads past beautiful gardens and pleasant houses, over a stream, and across the railroad tracks to where a fine view may be had of the picturesque city of Los Angeles, rising partly on the plains and partly on the rolling foothills with its background of impressive mountains.

At the western end of Los Angeles near the windmill adjoining the Stewart House with its commodious verandas, the main highway which is lined on both sides with quantities of caspar-ban plants is reached. From here a road fork ing to the left leads to the race track or Agricultural Park; the road on the right traverses orange groves, flourishing vineyards, and wheat-ravine, again affording magnificent views of the mountains and the coastal hills sloping down toward Santa Monica. After continuing past vineyards, windmills, young walnut trees, well-watered fields and orchards, the road emerges finally on a pleasant plain bounded by an elongated hill stretching off into the distance. Scattered houses usually enclosed with hedges of eucalyptus dot the landscape. Passing a sand and gravel containing in toward the right a small house is visible rising on a slight elevation that overlooks the gently rolling plains stretching off toward the mountains. By turning off in the direction of the hills on the right at the foot of the mountain chain, is seen Major Hancock's Asphalt Works, distinguishable by its smoke.

From this point the road swings on past a plain of adobe from which is afforded glimpses of a fertile valley lying like a green carpet in a withered plain at the foot of the hills. This is what is known as the orange, a marshy stretch of land ten miles long and three wide. Since the land is constantly damped the grass is green throughout the year, making excellent pasturage and, in certain areas, being suitable for raising grain and vegetables.

On the west, La Ballona Ranch, which is similar in area, adjoins this stretch. Though this land is fairly high, it has ample water and produces excellent fruits, vegetables, and grain. Inasmuch as it is inhabited by Californians a good school and a railway station have been established, the latter being named after the La Ballona House, the only house in Los Angeles. On this ranch is a dilapidated old house where the robber, Tiburcio Vasquez, was said to have been captured.

Continuing down the road, fragrant meadows filled with pink and purple flowers, scattered houses, and a morass thick with marsh reed are passed until at the foot of the hills, the Eight-mile House, or Halfway House, is reached. Here the hills on the left terminate. The mountain view from Zindis, and in his parlor hangs a portrait of the Emperor, "I once," said the good man, while he attempted to wipe the dust off the lithograph with his rough hands, "gave a Slavonian five thalers for it." Thus even out in the prairies, patriotism and devotion to the Emperor were enshrined in this humble home by a man who had left Austria at the age of seventeen and who, although he does not intend to return, yet still clings loyally to the memory of his Fatherland.

From this point a flat region having rolling hills on either side—the haunt of countless ground squirrels—extends on down to the sea. A turn to the right takes the traveler across government land known as the Rancho del Reino. From here the railroad tracks extend to the salt-works overlooking the sea. On the right is a range of mountains; toward the left a projecting hill below the railway the road again skirts hills; toward the right and off in the foreground spreads an undulating dry plain dotted here and there with isolated trees and houses. Continuing on along the road we again come to Santa Monica.

Santa Monica is entirely a creation of late years. Its origin dates back to the building in January, 1875, of the Los Angeles and Independence Railway. This railway, shipping, and sea-bathing are the sole support of this new settlement.

What is visible upon arrival is not impressive. At the end of the plain stand little painted, wooden houses lining a solitary street, the nucleus of the future community. This main street is known as Tilden Street. On it the most striking buildings are a little church with a pointed roof and wooden tower and a large hotel with two side wings connected by a central building. The view out over the ocean is, however, magnificent, as is that near the coast with its fine view of the Santa Monica Mountains. At the end of the esplanade, which is known as Ocean Avenue, is another hotel used exclusively as a lodging-house which is called Ocean House. Several rich merchants of Los Angeles have invested in lots on Ocean Avenue and these, in the course of time, will be occupied by attractive summer villas.

Near the shore the plains terminate in clay cliffs of the front of the hotel and near a pavilion, a flight of sixty wooden steps, topped by a gable, leads down to the shore and to two small bath-houses that have been erected on the beach. The absence of violent winds such as prevail in San Francisco and its adjacent bathing-beaches, the pleasant temperature of the water, the fineness of the beach sand, and the invigorating surf make bathing wholly pleasurable.
Old Santa Monica is generally considered, however, the better place for bathing. New Santa Monica with its railroad, which expedites the trip between this point and Los Angeles, is, however, more convenient. Through two cuts in the cliffs it has been possible for the double track of the railroad to reach the wharf and still leave in the center ample space for vehicles. As a result the wharf has three lines of traffic. The wharf which was completed last May is a long projecting wooden terminus built on piles. It is 1740 feet long and is under water twenty-four feet at high tide. Present plans call for an increase in depth to 200 feet—an increase adequate for all future emergencies. What was originally a double track has been continued and the right side of the wharf is now used by the railroad, the left by vehicles. On the left of the landing is a flight of steps which is lowered to meet boats, and davits equipped for raising two boats. Off the end of the pier there are two buoys; around these swim sea-ions who are so accustomed, like those at the Cliff House, to the public at large that they are quite unafraid by the presence of spectators.

The loafer is used for delivering and receiving freight travel out to the end of the pier to the wooden depot where all trains stop and where the employees and ticket office are housed. To sit here for hours at a stretch gazing out over the vast stretch of ocean and watching the birds soar in gray gulls or the large gray mantled albatrosses—veritable jugglers of the air—is indeed a pleasure. Up to the present writing this wharf, although built directly out into the ocean, has not been damaged by the seas, for the strongest winds, the northeasters, pass over rather than through the land. Storms never fail to make a safe landing and have experienced so far no difficulties in tying up to the docks. As a matter of fact, there is no real harbor, merely an open roadstead, although Santa Monica Bay is fairly well protected. From Point Duma to Point Vincent the distance is thirty miles; the bay stretches ten miles out to sea and has an area of some 250 square miles. The bed of the ocean slopes gradually until it reaches, on the outer side of the bay, a depth of fifty fathoms. From the north-northwest to south-southeast, it is sheltered by land, Santa Catalina, which lies about thirty-five miles south, and Santa Barbara, some thirty-five miles west, breaking the main force of the waves.

Only on its southwestern extremity is it thus exposed to the full force of the open seas. Winds blowing in from this direction are, however, seldom stiff, and if so, are usually of brief duration. On the south shore lies East Santa Monica. Here on the cliffs stand several houses and two frame buildings which serve as machine-shops for the railroad.

To reach Old Santa Monica the road curves up on to the plateau crowning the palisades, past pastures where sheep peacefully graze until the canyon of Old Santa Monica with its flowing brook comes into view. On its banks a bath-house and numbers of tents glister in the shelter of the alders. High up on either side tower the palisades, the ascent of their sheer cliffs being broken only by two plateaus. With its gay Mexicans, brown as desert Arabs, carrying long cunes, and its elegant ladies riding horseback along the cliffs, it makes an interesting spectacle. The tents which are supplied with matting, furniture, and beds, usually camp cuts, are erected on wooden frames and stakes to which the tent-cloth is securely nailed and are frequently used for weeks or even months at a stretch in the country.

The picturesque palisades stretching north from the shore are composed of conglomerates, clay, slate, shale, broken gravel and weathered granite. On beyond is a place where carriages usually halt, called the Old Santa Monica Corral, where there are stalls for horses underneath the alders. Not far from this stands Frank’s Saloon, a large tent house or pavilion flying the American colors that has a large rustic porch running across the front of the building. In conjunction are stables used by the stables, a large open a amb with accommodation for many horses. It is all very delightful. Under the alders on the left side of the canyon are two frame houses. An extraordinarily beautiful clump of alders rises on the left of the brook forming a natural arbor where simple rustic seats have been erected and where, if the signs are to be believed, music is furnished at certain hours.

In Old Santa Monica only about forty-five families who live a simple, pleasant existence are now living. No more economical or happier life can be imagined, as a matter of fact, than this life given over to picnicking under the trees and strolling in the invigorating sea breezes, surrounded by pleasant acquaintances. Many families, indeed, remain two or three months at the beach for the climate does not vary and storms are of rare occurrence. On Sundays the stages come out often carrying from 600 to 800 visitors from Los Angeles, whose citizens throng to this popular resort.

The return trip from Old Santa Monica to Los Angeles is made by way of a side valley that leads past thriving alders and well-watered lowlands where maize is sprouting. Where the road begins to ascend by easy stages onto a right plain a small brick house with a shingled roof surrounded by a grill-like thicket fence interfaced with leather thongs. From here the road continues across a plain where small adobe houses have been erected until it reaches New Santa Monica. Then, crossing a dry plain, it winds onto toward Los Angeles. Far off in the distance looms Santa Catalina Island, silhouetted in graceful outline against the hazy horizon. Finally, in a short time, the road joins the main highway leading to Los Angeles.

Although Santa Monica is the closest, Wilmington, since it has the better shipping facilities, is the real port for Los Angeles. Wilmington lies twenty-three miles south of Los Angeles at the end of the Southern Pacific Railway. After departing from the Southern Pacific station in Los Angeles, the train passes first through flourishing fruit orchards, fine orange groves, vineyards, willow bushes, walnut groves, and masses of cason bean plants growing along the tracks. On the left side loom the majestic mountains. Once the orchards are passed the country becomes flat and level, being varied only by occasional acacias and pepper trees. Then Florence, with its small wooden railway station, is reached on the right. The settlement of Florence is virtually a suburb of Los Angeles, which is only about five miles distant. The soil in this district is fertile in the extreme. Already about one hundred farms have been located in this vicinity.
After the train leaves Florence flat plains used both for grain fields and pastures are passed; here and there this is varied by an occasional home, fields of corn, clumps of willows, and a small pond which is spanned by a wooden bridge. Finally Compton, a small settlement twelve miles from Los Angeles, is approached. Land here commands a good price, selling for $50 to $100 an acre. Compton now has about 150 ranches. Further out in the country, to the left of the track, the number of mills increases. Next is seen the distant range of mountains visible off toward the coast which are known as the Palos Verdes, and on the right Drum Barracks, where the soldiers were mustered out during the last American war. On beyond, located on high ground and surrounded by reeds Wilmington Lake comes into view. From this point, since the land is comparatively flat, the ocean is plainly visible. On the right General Phineas Banning’s house and what was formerly the military hospital now appear. Then come small swamps where concealed behind the tall reeds are some vacant grazing lands.

Wilmington, with its terminus costing $40,000, is the end of the line and is now the principal port in the county. No doubt it will have remarkable growth when it is made, as it eventually will be, the end of the Texas and Pacific Railroad. In the early days of San Pedro with its few wooden houses, was the principal port until, in 1858, a small steamer was put into service to transport freight from ships lying at anchor in the San Pedro roadstead four miles away through the inner channel to Wilmington. This gave a new impetus to the latter port, an impetus which was further enhanced by the building of the railroad. At the present date it has about 1000 inhabitants. The town consists of a number of scattered wooden houses, a Catholic church which was established when the town was founded, a Methodist church, a Masonic and an Odd Fellows’ hall. There is also Wilson College which was founded by B. D. Wilson, who donated ten acres of land and two buildings, one containing classrooms and a library and the other a dormitory. Wilmington, though it is built on low ground that slopes down toward the sea, commands an attractive view out over the lagoons and a view of the harbor with its shipping, to the distant island of Catalina and toward the eastern ranges of San Juan and Santiago, crowned by the lofty peaks of San Jacinto and San Bernardino with Cucamonga, the highest peak looming up far in the background.

Wilmington is already important as a commercial center, especially for wool. The large warehouse standing here was erected by the government, during the war, for storing wool. It belongs to E. M. McDonald of Wilmington and J. E. Perkins of San Francisco and holds 2,000 bales of wool. Wool is shipped out over the Panama line, which makes eastern connections. In 1873, wool sent from Wilmington and Anaheim amounted to 10,000,000 pounds, but of this amount only a small proportion came from Anaheim. The commercial importance of Wilmington is indicated by the fact that 400 ships, carrying from 75,000 to 100,000 tons of freight arrive and depart annually.

The harbor of Wilmington consists, first of all, of a small bay, which is virtually nothing more than a slight dip in the coast, but which affords a firm anchorage. At the far end of this bay is a narrow entrance opening into a small basin leading, in turn, into a series of shallow lagoons. Across this entrance runs a bar covered by a scant two or three feet of water and which is formed of heavy clay, gravel and rock. To remove this barrier a dam was thrown up to stem the force of the outgoing tide and to break down the bar. For this purpose, from Rattlesnake Island (now connected with the mainland) a breakwater of rocks several thousand feet long was built out into San Pedro Bay and this was reinforced on the inside with wooden piles to break the strength of the tide. In this way sediment was deposited on the outer face of the dam, so much sand piling up that nature rendered material assistance to human effort.

Then, on the opposite side, at right angles, smaller dams were built off Deadman’s Island. This work was begun by Captain Sears in 1871 and partially completed by 1875. Congress appropriated $200,000 for this purpose, and, later, an additional $225,000. This amount has proved inadequate, the wharf warehouses, supported by piles, have been erected. Here stretches another terminal projecting out for some considerable distance, which is used by carriages. To this wharf small ships carrying in the main Colorado pine, come to unload. The tender Los Angeles plies back and forth across the harbor carrying passengers out to the steamers anchored in the outer basin where the peacefulness of this scene is broken only by the fluttering seagulls. From this outer harbor is afforded a picturesque view of the mountains on the right, extensive plains on the left and the high mountains of the cape sloping gently down to where they meet palisades at the shore. Gaily painted buoys and wooden pyramids mark the navigable waters and cause vessels departing to describe a great arc as they set their course. Finally, where land meets the outer sea a few warehouses built of wood and several high ladders may be seen. Across from these, down on the shore, in a small cove in the palisades, where the horizontal, veined strata of soil are exposed to the elements stand a few small houses. On down the coast a few more are visible, ahead is the bar, toward the left rises Deadman’s Island; opposite, on the right, where the palisades end, are several more small houses. In front of these, steamers anchor in the inner basin, larger boats tying up at the outer moorings. Among the last houses, on the right, stands a green inn surrounded with broad porches that cater to sea bathers.

Then Los Angeles, at last, vanishes in the distance while the sun dropping into the ocean throws its shadows over the distant outline of Santa Catalina, and the mainland becomes gradually clouded in the grayness of dusk. Tomorrow, however, the sun will rise once more—this glowing Californian sun—and bring fresh life and vigor to this delightful land. But as our ship is already steaming away, by sunrise the Los Angeles coast will no longer be visible; and so farewell, Flower of a Golden Land.
Long, long ago, when life was sweet and simple, a trip to California offered pleasures never to be enjoyed again.

By WELDON F. HEALD

When I was a small fry, living in New England, the only thing I knew about the great State of California was that my grandmother went to Pasadena each winter and always sent us a box of oranges. She invariably referred to them as seedless, not navels.

However, had I been a precocious, studious, or even a bright child, I could easily have learned about my grandmother's exotic surroundings in the land of seedless oranges, palms and orchids. For in 1900 Herr Karl Baedeker of Leipzig, Germany issued the fourth edition of one of his internationally famous little red Handbook for Travellers. It was edited by British Dr. J. F. Muirhead and was called The United States with Excursions to Mexico, Cuba, Porto Rico and Alaska with 53 Maps and 48 Plans. Within its 724 pages were all the answers.

I regret that childish occupations kept me from realizing what a wonder world I lived in then. And now, alas, it is too late. Baedeker would have told me that my grandmother could "travel comfortably" to California "for $5.75 a day; but it would be safer (to reckon on a daily expenditure of $12 . . . The rate of hotels on the American Plan varies from about $6 per day in the best houses down to $3 per day or even less in the smaller towns . . .

It is now, fortunately, more usual than of yore for the price of a bedroom to include access to a general bathroom; but those who wish a private bath must still pay $1 a day extra."

With Baedeker, I might have suggested a way for Grandmother to beat these exorbitant charges, for "Furnished rooms are easily procured in the larger cities, from $3.50 a week upwards . . . Soap, curiously enough, though provided in hotels is not provided in boarding houses and lodgings." It is just as well that Grandmother had no occasion to frequent "tonorial saloons." They are often very luxurious. However, the prices are high (10-15c for a shave, including hair-brushing and the application of essences; hair cutting 25-35c; shampooing 15-25c)."

Nor being a lady, did "boot-blacks" waylay her in hotel "toilette-rooms" (fee 10c; elsewhere 5c)."

Let us, with Baedeker in hand, explore our great land further and journey across the continent to California in a Limited Vestibuled Train, the latest thing on tracks. The little red book has a helpful suggestion for Grandmother: "The thick woolen gowns that English ladies wear in winter." It points out delicately, "would be uncomfortably warm in the ordinary winter temperature of American hotels and railway carriages; and a thin soft silk will, perhaps, be found to be the most comfortable travelling dress on account of its non-absorption of dust."

Furthermore, advises Baedeker, a traveller in America "should from the outset reconcile
himself to the absence of deference or servility on the part of those he considers his social inferiors.” But “good manners will nowhere be at a discount,” and “In a great many ways travelling in the United States is . . . more comfortable than in Europe” if one can acclimate himself to Yankee ways, such as “the habit of spitting on the floor.” We are comforted, too, to know that, “Throughout almost the whole country travelling is now as safe as in the most civilized parts of Europe, and the carrying of arms . . . is as unnecessary here as there.”

After thoroughly enjoying “every imaginable comfort to the traveller . . . a dining car, a library, a smoking and outlook car, a barber’s shop, a bath, a ladies’ maid, and a stenographer,” we arrive in “Los Angeles or La Puebla de Nuestra Señora la Reina de Los Angeles (City of Our Lady the Queen of the Angels: g hard) the metropolis of the S. part of California . . . on the Los Angeles River.” Its population is “now probably 200,000.”

Solemn, impersonal Baedeker obviously likes Los Angeles and we are prepared to make the most of our visit. “It is now a crowded and lively town of wide streets and spacious side-walks, with an extensive residential quarter,” and “its adobe houses have given place almost entirely to stone and brick business blocks and mansions and tasteful wooden residences, some of the latter showing an effective use of Spanish-Moorish architecture.”

We learn that Los Angeles has many fine hotels (European Plan from $1.50 to $2; American Plan from $1.50 to $5); four first class restaurants (two for ladies) and seven theaters. We are advised though, that “Restaurants which solicit the patronage of ‘gents’ should be avoided,” and “Tipping the waiter is, perhaps, not so general as in Europe, but is usually found serviceable where several meals are taken at the same place,” Sound counsel, that.

After getting settled we can, if we like, take one of the “Seeing Los Angeles Observation Cars and Automobiles, with guides, twice daily (50c),” and get acquainted with the city. Among the sights are: “The Old Mission Church, at the N. end of the business-town . . . interesting as a survival of the ancient settlement . . . A genuine Chinatown . . . Sonora Town, the suburb to the north . . . unchanged since Fremont hoisted the flag in 1846”; ‘Angel’s Flight,’ with excellent view of the city; The University of Southern California (1250 students); and Hollywood, a suburb of charming homes . . . A visit may also be paid to the oil belt, with its curious pumps. Opposite Eastlake Park is an "Ostrich Farm, where some 200 adult birds may be seen (adm. 25c).” “Asterisks,” explains Baedeker, “are used as marks of commendation.” So the ostriches, who receive the only asterisk bestowed in Los Angeles, appear to be the Number O. sight.

But we find that “Los Angeles is a busy centre for short trips, chiefly made by electric cars.” There are several pages of fine print listing beguiling places, enriched here and there by other asterisks. Then too, we may take popular day trips over the Great Surf Route, the Kite-Shaped Track, and on the Inside Track Flyer.

However, because of Grandmother and her seedless oranges we are particularly interested in visiting Pasadena. On arrival we are impressed by “a thriving business city and health-resort (9117 inhab. in 1900) . . . well laid out and contains good Schools, Churches, a . . . Public Library . . . an Opera House and other substantial buildings . . . The annual Floral Parade and Rose Tournament (Jan. 18th) attracts thousands of onlookers from Los Angeles and elsewhere.

“One of the most popular excursions from Pasadena is the ascent of Echo Mountain and Mount Lowe . . . the Short Route of the Pacific Electric Co. goes on to (6 m.) Altadena (1300 ft.), near the foot of the Sierra Madre. Immense tracts here are covered in winter by brilliant poppies.” Here from Ribble Canyon (8½ m.) “a great cable incline, 1000 yds. long ascends to the summit of Echo Mountain (4015 ft.; return-fare from Los Angeles $1½). . . . Here are the Lowe Observatory (with a 16-inch equatorial telescope open to visitors) and a collection of native wild animals. From Echo Ml. the mountain-railway goes on to Alpine Tavern (5000 ft.; $2.50). Hence we may ascend on foot or on pony-back ($5 each, including share of guide) to the top of Mount Lowe . . .”

Much as we would like to follow the little red book further on its carefree way, we must return to New England in time for an important game of duck-on-the-rock, followed by a repast of bread-and-butter-and-sugar. But we cannot help regretting that Grandmother never took us along. For—

Here has kind Heaven adorned the happy land,
And scattered blessings with a wasteful hand!