

Around the World....

Rev. Dr. Kern's Travels on His Tour Around the World, Written Specially and Exclusively for the Herald.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., October, 1902.

[CONTINUED.]

Yesterday I visited the Presidio, the barracks and fortifications guarding the Golden Gate, where I met Sergeant Frank Judson who has spent six months in the Philippines and four months at the Presidio since leaving Alliance. He secured a forty-eight hour furlough and proceeded to make my stay in San Francisco the most interesting. Military authorities, who have made a study of the world's fortifications, assert that the works, guns, etc., about the Golden Gate constitute the most impregnable fortress on the globe, and the greater part has been completed by Uncle Sam since the Hispano-American struggle.

I was surprised indeed to be informed that Gibraltar is not to be considered as a strongly fortified point in comparison with our stronghold which stands as the guardian of San Francisco. It is a matter for self-congratulation to be a citizen of a country that stands second to none among the nations. Our commercialism has captured the old world. When military operations demand that a bridge be thrown across a river in South Africa, Lord Roberts sent the specifications to England demanding that such a bridge be constructed at once. The British authorities advertised for bids. An American, a representative of the Iron and Steel Works of Pittsburgh, happened to be in London at the time, and cabled the specifications to Pittsburgh for a bid. The mathematicians of the company sat up all night, figured the cost of the bridge completed and resting upon its piers in South Africa, and cabled the bid to London the day following, and secured the contract. The nearest English, French or German competitor demanded six months to set the bridge in place after it should arrive on the ground, while the American firm agreed to build the bridge, transport it to South Africa, haul it more than fifty miles inland, erect it so that the troops might move over within three months after the contract should be awarded. The manifestation of such energy on the part of Americans created a new era in European thought.

The battleship Oregon, the pride of America, is now in San Francisco. Built at the Union Iron Works in this city, she seems to be proud of her strength, and has chosen the place of her birth as her favorite stopping-place. She has orders now to proceed to Oriental waters as flagship for Asiatic squadron. Her departure next Tuesday will call to the wharf a multitude to wish the colossal battle-ship God-speed across the Pacific.

Today I visited Oakland and Berkeley, the latter city being the seat of the University of California which is second in enrollment in the United States. One of its buildings is said to have cost a half a million dollars. Here I witnessed a game of foot-ball between eleven from the high schools of Oakland and Berkeley, the game to decide the championship for this section of the Pacific coast. After a helter-skelter scrimmage in the mud, encouraged by deafening cheers from the grand stands, the game was won by the home team.

No tourist will leave the city without first visiting the Golden Gate Park and Cliff House. The park is much larger than the Central Park of New York City, and if my memory serves me correctly, this park is superior to its eastern competitor in several features. The Aviary and Museum of the Golden Gate Park are well worth a week's visit. A book might be written on the wonders observed here, hence I should not even enumerate them. Whatever is forgotten, Cliff House and Seal Rocks will linger on the scroll of memory.

I was particularly fortunate in having visited the Cliff House on what mariners say was the roughest day of the year on the sea. The waves, driven by a roaring driving sea, dashed against seal rocks and leaping high in the air, fell in foam and spray upon the topmost rocks, which were covered with bellowing, howling seals maddened by the wild breakers. No picture can do justice to the scene as canvas cannot catch up the characteristic swish and rumble of the ocean and add to it the noise poured forth by the enraged seals. On that day two schooners were wrecked by the high seas. I saw one of them. It was driven upon the rocks. Looking far out at sea, I could discern large sailing craft tugging at their anchors, unwilling to make the Golden Gate in the jaw of such a gale. Well might they fear, having sails only, but steam craft find the Gate easy to enter regardless of what the ocean is doing. I might add here that the seals on seal island are protected by law as their bellowing serves as a warning to seamen during high seas, at which times the bellowing of a pack of fox hounds is tame compared with their uncultured clamor. The Maker of all had a purpose in His every creation. No one can commune with the ocean, try to unlock its secrets without becoming better acquainted with the Ocean-Maker, the God of the Bible.

"They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in waters. These see the works of the Lord, and His wonders in the deep. For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof. They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths, their soul is melted because of trouble.

They reel to and fro and stagger like a drunken man and are at their wit's end." Psalm 107:23-27.

Observe Longfellow's impressions as he gazed upon the sea:
"Ah! what pleasant visions haunt me
As I gaze upon the sea!
All the old romantic legends,
All my dreams, come back to me,
Till my soul is full of longing
For the secret of the sea,
And the heart of the great ocean,
Sends a thrilling pulse through me."

Mighty and mysterious as the ocean is, there is much in addition to stagger thought as it struggles to comprehend the vast.

In the Golden Gate Park is a section of the remarkable California tree, the sequoia gigantea, which measured 308 feet in height, ninety-six feet in circumference at the base, its bark two feet thick, and its age estimated at 370 years.

If the age estimated be correct that monster of the vegetable family was an infant when Joshua marched around Jericho.

San Francisco, the third commercial city in the United States, has to its credit the following facts:

SAN FRANCISCO
Has one of the best harbors in the world.
Has no financial indebtedness.
Has a population of 360,000.
Has the largest mint in the world.
Has nine savings banks, with resources aggregating \$138,508,835.81.
Has seventeen commercial banks, with resources aggregating \$87,074,810.75.
Manufacturing output for 1901 was \$125,000,000.
Capital owns and controls most of the Pacific coast mines.
Built the Wisconsin, the fastest battleship afloat.
Is the natural shipping point for the Hawaiian and Philippine Islands and Oriental ports.
Has the most complete street-car system.
Imports for 1900, \$39,000,000.
Exports for 1900, \$37,000,000.
Has 185 clear days each year.
Has 104 partly cloudy days each year.
Has 76 cloudy days each year.
Has a temperature which only varies 10 degrees between seasons.

Has the largest horse in the world. His name is "Sampson," and can be seen on the streets in a buggy built for his special use. Weighs over one ton; length, 10½ feet; height, 82 inches.
Flour exports during 1901 were over 1,000,000 barrels.

Stock and bond sales for 1901, transacted by S. F. Stock and Bond Exchange were \$25,314,000.

Is the greatest shipbuilding port on the shores of the Pacific Ocean.

Imports of cement for 1901, 290,152 barrels.

Imports of Rice for 1901, 30,000,000 pounds.

Imports of Coffee for 1901, 395,487 bags.

Imports of sugar for 1901, 600,000 pounds.

Ranks first in the world in the use of telephones, having one phone for every sixteen inhabitants.

Is the western gateway for American commerce.

Exports by sea during 1901 were over \$40,000,000.

Branch mint coined during 1901 over \$70,000,000.

The following laconic items of interest regarding California may be of value to the student of today:

CALIFORNIA

Has produced \$1,500,000,000 in gold, which exceeds one-third the production of the world.

Has the highest peak in the United

States—Mount Whitney, Inyo county, being 15,046 feet.

Has the highest town in the United States—Bodie, Mono county, being 9,000 feet above the sea level.

Has the lowest point in the United States—Death Valley, Inyo county, being 300 feet below the sea level.

Has greater wealth, per capita, than any other State.

Has the largest tree in the world—"General Grant," in Tulare county, being 109 feet in circumference.

Has the tallest tree in the world—"Key-stone," in Calaveras county, being 365 feet high.

Has 2,000 oil producing wells.

Has a world renowned reputation for fine blooded fast horses.

Has a coast line of 900 miles, with numerous good harbors.

Has twice the barley crop of any other State and one-fourth of all that is produced.

Has the richest educational institution in the world—the Leland Stanford, Jr., University, endowed with \$30,000,000.

Has a topographical situation which will duplicate all the climates and all the products of all the other states combined.

Has a larger honey production than any other State.

Has a reputation of being the only rasin producing State in the Union.

Has the largest irrigation canals in the United States, located in Fresno, Kern, and Tulare counties.

Has adopted, by common consent, as floral emblem of the state the California poppy or eschscholtzia.

Has a greater variety of fish than any other locality known, over 150 species being reported in Monterey Bay.

Has over 3,000 artesian wells.

Has the record of having the first beet sugar factory in the United States, at Alvarado, Alameda county.

Has produced the first pig tin in the United States, from the Temescal mines San Diego county.

Has the largest ferry boat in the world, "The Solano," used for transporting trains across Carquinez Strait, between Benicia and Port Costa.

Has a population of 1,800,000.

Has a larger beet sugar production than any other state.

Has an enormous petroleum output, and will probably shortly lead all the other states.

Has the largest farm in the United States.

Has a larger production of walnuts than any other state, and a better quality.

THE LARGEST MINT IN THE WORLD

Is located in this city. Through the hands of its chief weigher, has gone all the money coined during the past twenty-five years, an amount aggregating over nine hundred million dollars and not a solitary piece of money has gone astray. He now handles over \$600,000 daily, or rather \$1,200,000, for he delivers bullion to the cashier in the morning and receives it back coined during the day. Counting is done by weighting, but the little coins are both counted and weighed. A device is in operation by which 10,000 separate coins can be counted in three minutes, thus making it possible to count the vast output. There are now in the vaults of the mint over fifty million silver dollars in canvas sacks, each sack containing \$1,000. This vast fortune is guarded by seventeen men, twelve serving at night and five in the day time. A system of electric alarms have been installed so that all may be called instantly to one point should some desperado attempt to feather his nest with Uncle Sam's glittering coin, which is laid aside for a rainy day.

Since its establishment in 1854, the mint has coined over \$1,300,000,000.00, of which about \$1,100,000,000 was in gold and about \$200,000,000 in silver.

Admission to the mint is free, the Secretary of the Treasurer having provided conductors to guide visitors through the mint from 9:00 to 11:30 a. m. daily except Sunday. About 80,000 persons visit the mint annually.

E. C. HORN.

R. F. Hanson,

Alliance, Neb.

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That the following prices are the lowest ever offered in the same quality of goods.

Owing to the lateness of the season and the enormous stock of Ladies and Children's Cloaks we have on hand, we quote you these prices.

READ THEM!

Cloaks.

Ladies Black Kersey, 19-inch, heavy satin-lined and satin-faced, for \$8.95
Black and Tan Kersey, nicely trimmed, for 5.85
Castor Brown and Black Kersey 27-inch Coat, satin-lined, velvet-trimmed, 7.50
Black Castor and Brown 45-inch coat, a bargain for \$13.50; we sell at 9.95
19-inch Coats that sold for 7.50 and 10.00 last fall; now 3.50
Children's Jackets for \$1.75.

We have a full line of Monte Carlo and all latest novelties in Cloaks at very reasonable prices.

Don't fail to see our line before you buy..

Calico and Percale.

Best American Print Calico, 5c per yard.
Percale, you generally pay 12 1-2c for, we sell for 10c.

We also carry a full line of all the latest Novelty Suiting, Dress Goods, Etc.

Shoes.

Having decided to close out the entire line of shoes, we quote you prices that will set you thinking.

Read Them!

Ladies' Welts, military heel, heavy sole shoe, worth 3.50, now 1.98
Ladies Genuine Hand Turned Shoe, flexible sole, selling at 3.50, for 1.98
Ladies Fine Shoes, beveled sole, military heel, selling at 2.50, now 1.54
Children's School Shoes, 8 to 2½, selling at 1.50 and 1.75, now for 1.19
Infants Shoes, 1 to 4½, 19c.

Ranchmen!

While in town, don't fail to call on us. We will save you from 10 to 20 per cent on Fall Dry Goods.

Alliance Bowling Alley,

W. S. RIDGELL, PROPRIETOR.

Have Just Opened the Newest, Cleanest and Best

Appointed Amusement Place in the West, and Invite All to Call. Ladies Especially Invited.

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R. F. Hanson,

Alliance, Neb.