

THE TOWN OF CLEARWATER

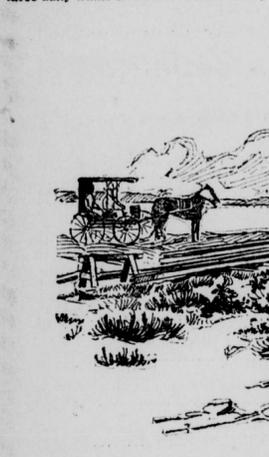
Description of a Flourishing Suburb and Its Population

AN AGRICULTURAL CENTER

With Fertile Soil and an Abundance of Artesian Water

Citizens Whose Public Spirit, Combined with the Natural Advantages of the Place, Have Made a Fine Settlement

The quiet, modest, but growing little town of Clearwater, in Los Angeles county, is not much known or talked about beyond the agricultural region immediately surrounding it, and of which it is the center. The town was born at the very height of "boom times," but it has never had a boom of its own, nor has it ever coveted one—certainly not a wild, reckless kind of a boom, such as afflicted a good many small places in the vicinity of Los Angeles. It is not noted for sensations, either of a tragical or ludicrous character, but rather for the circumspect and well balanced conduct of the people who live in or very near the town. And yet Clearwater is a very interesting place for one so small, and with little business activity beyond what is involved in or pertaining to agricultural pursuits.



ed in the town, where union services are held regularly, with preaching by various ministers. A flourishing Sunday school is also maintained. One of Clearwater's most noteworthy features, and one that furnishes an index to the character of the community, is its literary society. This society was organized over six years ago, and has been holding meetings and giving entertainments regularly ever since, except during two months of each summer. Its membership has steadily increased, till now it includes nearly everybody in the community and a good many from contiguous towns and settlements. The hall built and paid for by the society is a comfortable building with a capacity for seating 500 persons. At the regular Saturday night entertainments the house is generally filled to overflowing. The exercises comprise music, elocutions, readings, speeches and dramatic performances, and, in short, everything to suit every taste. Frequently the festivities are supplemented by a dance, to the delight of the "gay and giddy young people" among us. City folk who occasionally attend are sure to be surprised at the fine quality of musical and literary talent displayed. It would be difficult to find anywhere else a rural community equal to Clearwater in that respect. The society recently built a large addition to its hall, to be used especially for banqueting and dancing purposes. The present officers of the society are: R. R. Briggs, president; Hubbard Galt Atwater, vice president; Miss Maud Houston, secretary; H. W. McKelvey, treasurer.

Clearwater is not much of a commercial town, nor does it make pretensions of being such. It is distinctively a place for agricultural operations. Farming in some form is the prevailing occupation of the people. The soil is admirably adapted to agricultural and horticultural industries. It is also an excellent locality for the dairy business, which is carried on quite extensively by several residents. A butter factory is in successful operation under the management of Charles E. Mitchell. Much of the pure milk and gilt-edged but-

A NEVER-FAILING WATER SOURCE

which run over the beach line of that road, and riding a distance of twelve miles toward the ocean, and to a point about nine miles from Long Beach. The town is an outgrowth of the California Co-operative Colony, a corporation established in Los Angeles in April 1887. The corporation was composed of 200 enterprising men and women who, acting under a charter from the state, engaged in the work of buying, subdividing and either selling or improving agricultural lands. They purchased, on an option, 7,340 acres or the north half of the famous old Cerritos ranch, then owned by the Bixby brothers. It is moist, level land, in an artesian belt, and up to the time of the settlement had never been improved but was used only as a stock ranch. In due time the colony people, whose business headquarters were in Los Angeles, subdivided the land, laid out a town one mile square and called it Clearwater. The enterprise proved a success, but not a fortune maker for anybody. The subsequent flattening out of the real estate boom checked the progress of this bond scheme, as it did all others in Los Angeles county, and prevented its promoters from accomplishing all that they had contemplated.

But today Clearwater is a growing, prosperous place, with excellent natural advantages, and as intelligent, contented a class of residents as can be found anywhere in this country.

Among the natural advantages of the location are the great fertility of the soil, the abundance of artesian water gushing from the earth through the numerous wells already sunk, and with indications of an inexhaustible supply for all future use; the proximity of the town of Los Angeles, and also to Long Beach; superb climatic conditions, and picturesqueness on all sides. At the north end of the town is a beautiful little lake, which is fed the year round from wells and some insect source. The Los Angeles and San Gabriel rivers are also features of the tract.

Everything commonly raised in Southern California can be produced in the vicinity of Clearwater, except that it is not considered a first-class locality for citrus fruits, though experiments in orange growing there have been quite successful. For sugar beet raising the soil is excellent.

Some of the corn crops raised there are of almost fabulous magnitude. Up to the fall of 1892 Clearwater had no direct connection with Long Beach, the beach or any other place. Being located only two and a half miles east of Compton and three miles south of Downey, however, stage connections were established between the colony town and those points where trains on the Southern Pacific road were accessible. In 1893 a postoffice was applied for and established at Clearwater, and Henry Harrison, one of the early promoters of the colony enterprise, was the first postmaster appointed. Mr. Harrison is now the Terminal Railroad station agent at Long Beach, having charge of that station and the one at Alamitos also. Though receiving the appointment of postmaster from the Harrison administration, and serving in a federal office for several years, Henry Harrison did not then nor does he now claim any relationship to Benjamin Harrison, nor does he belong to the same school of politics as his illustrious namesake.

In February, 1892, the beach division of the Los Angeles Terminal railroad was completed and opened for business, the line running from this city through Clearwater and Long Beach to East San Pedro, a distance of 27 miles and a fraction over. This gave Clearwater a fresh impetus, and its growth since then, though not rapid, has been continuous and substantial. The railroad company erected a commodious depot at a convenient point, and a smaller one at South Clearwater, so that everybody living inside the town limits or near them is accommodated. Clearwater is the most important point on the road between this city and the beach, and the traveling and shipping facilities afforded by the Terminal road are appreciated by all residents of the place.

In 1889 the property owners of the school district decided to have a new school house, the small one first erected having been outgrown. The result was the erection of a public school building, that is scarcely excelled in any country district of this county. Even that building is now taxed to its utmost capacity. The school is ably conducted by C. B. Tucker, assisted by Miss Ella D. Maxon. The school board consists of M. E. Mentzer, John A. Philbin and W. O. Houston. The school is one of the most prosperous in the county. A church edifice has recently been erect-

head of a large publishing house. One of his war experiences was a narrow escape from death. Just before entering into a battle he had picked up a lost mule's shoe "for luck," and placed it in his left breast pocket. Shortly after that incident, while forming his men preparatory to an engagement, he was fired at by a sharpshooter in ambush. The large rifle ball struck Colonel Atwater's left breast near the heart, and laid him flat upon the ground, apparently killed. He was only stunned, however, as the ball had struck the mule's shoe and glanced off without doing serious injury. The colonel has in his possession both the flattened bullet and the iron shoe; and he takes pleasure occasionally in exhibiting them to his friends, and explaining how that lucky shoe saved his life. His oldest son, Edward, is a physician, and the only one resident in the town.

Walter Thomas, who hails from Ohio, is one of the pioneer residents, and quietly enjoys his cozy home on Ocean avenue. He takes pleasure occasionally in exhibiting them to his friends, and explaining how that lucky shoe saved his life. His oldest son, Edward, is a physician, and the only one resident in the town. T. J. Tuccock, a former Illinoisan, was one of the first settlers on the colony tract, and has stayed with it ever since, being one of the most successful and industrious of the farmers. Dr. E. Freeman, an eastern man, was an early settler in the town, and is one of its active and successful farmers. Henry Brewer, a native of Vermont, is another of the most solid citizens and agriculturists in the community. His home on Ocean avenue is one of the finest in that region. Other residents of the place are deserving of personal mention, but lack of space forbids at the present time. One peculiarity of the Clearwater community is the harmonious feeling and unanimity of action which prevails, especially with reference to every public movement or enterprise that is started. In this respect the community is exceptionally fortunate. It is scarcely necessary to state that there is not and never has been a



A RISING LITERARY GENIUS

Adopts a Novel Method of Introducing His Work. Among the many means, modest and otherwise, taken by authors to introduce the results of their genius, one of the most striking in point of uniqueness, is that of Brainard Hanby who conceived the idea of putting his literary work before the world by giving an "entertainment" with an admission charge of 25 cents. Four hundred invitations were sent out, as original in form as they were numerous. Following is an extract: "We have the pleasure of inviting you to be present at an entertainment for gentlemen. An idea of the nature of the entertainment will be given and then if you do not wish to remain you can get your money and depart."

Nearly a dozen gentlemen responded to this call. Mr. Hanby produced his manuscript with the explanation that he had discovered it while rummaging through a lot of old books, and since he had enjoyed it greatly himself proposed to read it to his friends, which they he made good. He prefaced his reading with an apology lest it might shock some of those present, and then began to unfold a story somewhat on the order of Boocass's Decameron, though far different in its literary merit. The story was neither bad nor original. After following the lead through a chapter or two of indifferent adventure, the author perceiving the weariness of his auditors put his light back under a bushel and subsided.

A fashion note of significance is the return in smart London and Parisian circles to the wear with evening dress of long loose-wristed black suede gloves. This fashion was always becoming to the hand, and decidedly beneficial to the pulse.

THE WAY CORN GROWS IN CLEARWATER

toward making the place what it is are the following: H. P. Epperson, who came out from Denver a few years ago, established himself in an elegant home in the southern part of town. He is probably the wealthiest man in the community. His home has furnishings, surroundings and adornments that suggest not only comfort but luxury. He owns his home in Los Angeles and one on Long Beach, and has lived for a time in each of them, but he and his family prefer their Clearwater home to either of the others. M. Miller, who was one of the early settlers, hails from Denver, having lived in Colorado several years, where he was a member of the state senate. He has a splendid army record, is noted for his genial character, sterling integrity, and enthusiastic admiration for Clearwater. He is a practical farmer, a merchant, and a gentleman. J. F. Letner, also from Denver, is one of the enterprising and well-to-do residents, owning considerable property including a nice home. S. N. Jennings, an old time Illinoisan, is a prominent citizen whose home is one of the best in that vicinity. He is also a very successful farmer, and notably so in the raising of alfalfa, which, with him, is a specialty. Fred A. Atwater, an original Vermontier, is one of the founders and pioneer residents of the town. He has had a wide range of experience in life as a merchant, a surveyor, a publisher, and printer, farmer and traveler. Prior to settling in Clearwater he spent four years in Sydney, Australia, where he was the

MATERNITY WARD USURPED

County Hospital Quarters Designed for Suffering Women

AS A PRIVATE RESIDENCE

A Close Investigation of the Conditions at the Public Institution

Superintendent's Family Housed in Rooms Built for an Especial Purpose for Which Proper Quarters Cannot Be Substituted

Dr. Barber should at once remove his family and effects from the maternity ward of the county hospital and allow those quarters to be again used for the objects and purposes for which they were designed and built and for which the good, hard-earned money of the tax-payers of this county is paid. When several thousand dollars were taken from the county treasury and expended for the construction of the maternity ward it was not intended that the rooms secured by that expenditure should be used as quarters for the superintendent's family. Those rooms were built for the purpose of relieving the suffering of women about to bring, and bringing children into the world, and with the special object in view of having every comfort that it was possible to secure for them after they had successfully passed through the severe trials of parturition. The superintendent has deliberately usurped those quarters, and he evidently intends to keep them unless the supervisors direct otherwise. They are, on the best arranged, the best lighted and the best appointed rooms that can be found at the hospital. They are really detached from the building, proper, and in every respect of them are especially favored. As long as the sun shines it will enter those rooms. The noise and other disadvantages of the main building of the hospital are avoided by the inmates of what was formerly the maternity ward. The room at present used as a maternity room is ill adapted to the purpose. In the first place, the sun can only get in through two windows, and it can only get its way in during a few hours of the day. The rooms are poorly ventilated, and when four women are in there at one time, lying upon those little iron cots, the atmosphere must be close. It was bad yesterday afternoon when a reporter of THE HERALD went through the rooms. There were no sick women there then, but the air was decidedly bad. With four patients in the limited space it could not have been otherwise than simply vile. The room was not intended for the purpose for which it is now used. It has no accommodations for the patients, and it is impossible to secure the sanitary conditions which are desirable for patients about to be confined and who are going through confinement. The present maternity quarters were built for that purpose. The doctor realizes that the complaints that have been recorded in THE HERALD against the present maternity quarters are justified. He is now striving to make changes which will improve the appointments of the present maternity ward, but he has not the authority to make the ward as complete as the old quarters were where the superintendent's family are now residing. A door which cut through a wall and another small room will be added to the maternity ward. This added room will be divided by a partition that will extend to the wall and these two rooms thus formed will be known as the delivery rooms. When this is done these two rooms will be like cells. Here women will remain twenty-four to forty-eight hours after they have been delivered. Then they will be conveyed into the old nursery where there will be three cots. Here they will be cared for until they recover. These improvements will decidedly help out the maternity ward. They would probably never have been made had it not been for THE HERALD's exposure of the condition of affairs with regard to the subject. But Dr. Barber's family has the best rooms that can be secured, and while all the clerical that can be done the authorities cannot transform any other rooms in the hospital into a maternity ward. The supervisors pay Dr. Barber \$50 per month more than they do the superintendent of the county poor farm. The reason that is done is because it is expected that the doctor will be able to make a fortune in a private residence, and special consideration in point of added salary is therefore shown him. Every predecessor of the doctor's has housed his family out of the institution. Dr. Barber is the first superintendent to usurp the maternity ward for his private residence. It should not for one minute be permitted to do so. There are 164 patients now at the hospital and every nook and corner is occupied by suffering humanity. Room is needed. If Dr. Barber must live at the institution \$50 a month can be taken from his salary, and a cottage can be built for him on the grounds. But whatever is done it will be to the benefit of the maternity ward should be occupied as his private residence. The hospital is undoubtedly conducted in a manner highly creditable. It certainly should be. There is, on an average-

of \$10,000 per year expended there. Good results should accrue therefrom. The doctor is paid a liberal salary to run it properly, and everything needed or required is purchased that he may be enabled to do so. But the doctor should be moved out of the maternity ward and he should be moved out at once. If he will not do so of his own free will the supervisors should compel him to.

HE WAS ACTIVE. A Young Business Man Accomplished Many Results in a Short Time. The active secretary of the Southern California Oil Company, W. G. Blewett, has in about a hundred days organized that company, placed its stock upon the market and sold it all out, with the exception of 20,000 treasury shares, which are reserved. He has also gotten a good producing well on Omaha street, and put the finances in fine shape to sink another well at once. At the last meeting he showed the company to be worth many dollars over and above a nominal liability. During this one hundred days Secretary Blewett has acquired for the company the aid of W. A. Brophy, hundreds of acres of oil land in the Newhall district, and has also secured the aid of several well-known business men, who will aid greatly to the strength of the club.

At the annual meeting of the California club yesterday the following were elected as directors for the ensuing year: C. A. Marriner, F. S. Hicks, W. B. Cline, John C. Mossin and J. E. Jackson. From these will be chosen the president and other officers of the organization. Mr. Marriner will in all probability be elected to fill the chair, and Mr. Hicks will receive the secretaryship. The new directory is composed of well-known business men, who will aid greatly to the strength of the club.

As the one great cure for the demon of drink—The Keeley Treatment stands alone—The Keeley Institute, Cor. N. Main and Commercial Sts., Over Farmers' and Merchants' bank.

THE QUEEN OF SONG,

Helen Bertram, the Prima Donna of the Bostonians, Cured by Dr. A. J. Shores.

HELEN BERTRAM, PRIMA DONNA OF THE BOSTONIANS.

Among the Queens of Song none are closer to the hearts of the American people than handsome and winsome Helen Bertram, the Prima Donna of the famous Bostonians—the leading English opera organization of the world. Miss Bertram is the successor of Emma Abbott, with whom she was associated on the lyric stage. The success of Miss Bertram with the Emma Abbott Opera Company, the Duff Opera Company, the Coirred Opera Company, her grand debut in New York and her later successes with the Bostonians are familiar to all who love music. Miss Bertram was recently here at the Los Angeles Theater. She had long been a sufferer from throat troubles, and acting on the suggestion of a prominent citizen, she called on Dr. A. J. Shores, and as a result was CURED OF CATARRH by that eminent specialist. The following testimonial from the gifted singer is one of hundreds that Dr. A. J. Shores is daily receiving.

DR. A. J. SHORES— My DEAR DOCTOR: I desire to gratefully add my testimonial to the efficacy of your treatment for catarrh. I had long been a sufferer from catarrh and throat troubles, and you have cured me. Yours very sincerely, HELEN BERTRAM.

Dr. SHORES treats and cures Catarrh and Chronic Diseases for \$5 a month until cured, medicine furnished free. Patients living at a distance write for question circular. Dr. A. J. Shores Company (Incorporated) Specialists—Catarrh, Asthma, Bronchitis, Rheumatism, Heart trouble, Lung troubles, Dyspepsia, Stomach troubles, Kidney, Liver and Bladder troubles, Skin diseases, Nervousness, Female complaints and all private and chronic diseases. Files cured without pain or detention from business. Cure guaranteed—Dr. A. J. Shores' new method. PARKERS-BEDDICK BLOCK, Corner First and Broadway.

FOR RELIABLE GOODS IN THE JEWELRY HOLIDAY PRESENTS LINE SUITABLE FOR—GO TO—Julius Wolter, Manufacturing Jeweler and Watchmaker. We have a large and carefully selected stock of fine Jewelry, Watches, Clocks, Novelties and Optical Goods, which we will sell at special low prices for the Holidays. 218 S. Main St., New Odd Fellows' Building.

Meyberg Bros. Crystal Palace 138-140-142 South Main Street. Christmas Presents... FOR EVERYBODY. You are sure to find here what you want. Our prices talk for themselves. We can suit the modest or most extravagant wants equally well.

SNAP SHOTS FROM OUR BARGAIN COUNTERS. 10c COUNTER—Fancy Hanging Matchsafes, Crystal Bud Vases, A B C Slates, Children's Xmas Cups and Saucers. 15c COUNTER—Silvered Crumb Pan and Scrapers, Japanese Teapots, China Teapot Stands, Silvered Picture Frame, Pretty Cream Pitchers. 25c COUNTER—China Sugar and Cream Sets, China Inkstands, Bohemian Rose Bowls and colored Glass Baskets, Carved Breadboards. 35c COUNTER—Lacquer Crumb Brush and Trays, Terra Cotta Jardinieres, Bohemian Glass Vases, Shaving Mugs. 50c COUNTER—Bisque Figures, Bonbon Boxes, Japanese Tea Sets, 3 pieces; China Tea Caddies, fine decorated Cups and Saucers. 75c COUNTER—Chocolate Pots, Cordial Sets, 7 pieces on tray; Majolica Tea Sets, Blue Decorated Cracker Jars, Large Decorated Vases. \$1.00 COUNTER—Handsome decorated Lamps with Shades to match, Terra Cotta Smoking Sets, Engraved Lemonade Sets with Silvered Trays. \$1.25 COUNTER—Colored Imported Lemonade Sets, Elegant French Bisque figures, blue and gold stippled Jardinieres, Set of tinted Fruit Plates. \$1.50 COUNTER—Decorated Tete-tete Sets on Tray, Fancy Lamps and Shades. A lot of goods worth \$2 to \$2.50 been placed on this counter. \$1.75 COUNTER—A profusion of elegant Vases and Bisque figures, fine French China Dishes and fancy articles, all worth \$2.50 or \$3.00. \$2.00 COUNTER—Goods on this counter will surprise by their excellent value as we have placed articles on same worth almost double the prices asked. \$2.50 COUNTER—Onyx stand banquet Lamps with Shades, Lamps with decorated shades and 75 candle power burners; a choice selection of art goods. DINNER SETS—An immense variety of English and French Sets to be sold at reduced prices; a large line of open stock patterns; 58 piece dec. Sets for \$2.50. ART ROOMS—Sparkling with the cream of European importations; rich cut-glassware; Haviland & Co.'s China, Bohemian goods, etc. LAMPS—Banquet Lamps with silk fringed shades \$1.25 complete; our assortment of Lamps is the finest ever shown and includes piano, banquet and table lamps.

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