

# Society

By the  
Editor

**T**HE passion for antiques has never been so desperate in California; a mild madness compared to that in the American east. It is a purely American phase. In Europe they take heirlooms so quietly. A sale of old furniture in London has no interest for natives. This is because they all have their own antiques and the sale of another's is nothing to them. But the opportunity of tourists from the states.

Heirlooms of county families are gathered for Pittsburg homes; heirlooms of perfect strangers with associations and a long line of perfect strangers about them. It surely is, from one point of view, a queer taste. Another considers the beauty of old woods with the depth of color and tone that only age brings, though they do get it wonderfully well in Michigan, where most of the pedigreed beds come from. And as for design, the most exquisite piece of Sheraton can be reproduced at Grand Rapids. But, of course, there are not the traditions of a chair from some dealer in Paris, who secured it from the descendants of the duchesse for whom it was made, with her crest inlaid.

With old books and laces it is different; and, of course, the art of other centuries that has no time. The fortune given for a Rembrandt seems better spent than fifty dollars for a pewter tray. There is nothing universal in the value of a pewter tray. Five dollars would buy one just as good or better than the Dutch antique; whereas five dollars couldn't touch a Rembrandt or anything remotely like it. The point is not quite clear. It is meant to suggest, with no authority assumed or any serious desire to criticize or educate the American taste for antiques, that some old things are worth it and some are not.

As to books, first folios and rare editions are very badly reproduced, and almost any one can tell the difference. A Nouvelle Heloise, 1780, for two dollars looks it, with carefully stained leather and hand frayed pages. And laces of the past are like nothing of modern manufacture. There is beautiful hand work still in Belgium and France and in Italy, where the queen gives her encouragement, but not to be compared with the delicate traceries of old lace and the ivory tone of time.

In California are wonderful old laces of the Spanish regime. The De la Guerras of Santa Barbara have shawls and mantillas of priceless value, and Mrs. Will Tevis, who was born Pacheco and is a connection of the Carrillos, has added to her store on trips abroad. Mrs. Hearst has a fondness for old lace and pieces of historic interest are in her collection, gathered in Europe. Also at the Hacienda is old mahogany to burn and antique Italian walnut carved to make it well worth white. Back to the De la Guerras again, in the quaint old adobe in Santa Barbara are Spanish chests that collectors have long coveted and silver brought from Spain a century or two ago.

Young Mrs. Roosevelt's porcelains, heirlooms in the Alexander and Roosevelt families, are interesting and beautiful. There are cabinets and shelves of old plates in the Pacific avenue cottage, soon to be removed to New York. Mrs. S. C. Bigelow has exquisite old china gathered in Italy and in the orient, a collection that has been loaned to exhibitions. Mrs. Will Crocker is keen about Chippendale, colonial four posters and that sort of thing, and New Place is full of them. Mrs. James Otis has tapestries and old fashioned furniture also. Mrs. Newhall's preference is in old coppers and brasses, brought from Belgium many of them. The late Mrs. Stanford was fond of old jewelry, and left a collection of cameos and cut corals, among more valuable modern things.

But for all these several interests and others, it is necessary to encounter the enthusiasms of Boston or Knickerbocker New York to properly estimate the fascination of antiques for Americans.

Easter week, with its possibilities for appropriate gifts and floral offerings, not to mention its entertainments where the decorations of the season may be displayed and the weddings that concern the happy brides elect, is beginning to monopolize the thought of the social elect. The gay season, after the penitential quiet, will be marked by any number of gala affairs and the mail this week will bring a shower of cards for the post-easter receptions. There are to be several large affairs immediately after Easter day and not a few skating parties with the informal dances that always end the season in a delightful informal way. There will be one or two meetings of the Skating club, under the chaperonage of Mrs. Carroll Buck, after Easter, when she will close a successful season. A few of the dancing clubs will give final dances and there will be the large evening receptions where hostesses will entertain several hundred friends before going to the country for the summer outing. The weddings, of course, will be an array of pretty affairs where the old and young guests will enjoy offering their felicitations and there are parties already planned for the brides who have deferred their weddings until some date early in June rather than for April events.

The April weddings are being announced one after another, and each is of particular interest to some circle of friends. One of the prettiest weddings of the spring month will be that of Miss Dorothy Eaton and Rufus Hatch Kimball, which will take place April 10 at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Eaton, at El Monteito. The wedding is to have a picturesque setting at "Riso Rivo," the country home of the Eatons, which is famed for its beautiful gardens. It is to be an afternoon affair, as most country weddings, and there will be only a limited number of relatives and friends at the ceremony. The maid of honor will be Miss Cora Otis, the pretty daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Otis of this city, and, in fact, most of the guests will be from here, as the bride has a large number of friends in local society. The best man at the wedding will be Sherman Kimball, a brother of the bridegroom. There will be a wedding supper and a reception, as a matter of course, before the young couple depart on their wedding journey farther south. They will return to establish their home in this city.

The wedding of April 20 will be that of Miss Marie Louise Foster and Elbridge Green, which will take place at 10 o'clock in the afternoon at St. John's Episcopal church in Ross Valley. The

ited, so that there will be only the relatives and closest friends of the young couple at the pretty ceremony. There is to be a reception afterward at the "Hacienda," the country home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jay Foster, and the guests will be entertained at a wedding supper and informal reception. The maid of honor will be Miss Enid Foster, the younger sister of the bride, and the bridesmaid will be Miss Edith von Schroeder, Miss Janet von Schroeder, Miss Mina Van Bergen, Miss Edith Lowe and Miss Marjorie Foster. The best man at the wedding will be John Cushing, and the ushers will be Leonard Abbott, Horace Clifton, Donald Jadwin, Frank de Lisle and Frederick Woods. The bride's gown is to be the conventional white satin and lace, and the maid of honor will wear white, draped with blue marquisette. The other attendants will be gowned in white net with pink marquisette, and the pink is to predominate in the color scheme for the pretty wedding. After a brief honeymoon Elbridge Green and his bride will return to town to occupy the attractive apartment which awaits them at Sacramento and Buchanan streets. The young bridegroom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Green and has a large circle of friends. Since the announcement of their engagement a few months ago the young couple have been feted at a succession of delightful parties.

There was a pretty wedding last Tuesday evening at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Bass when their daughter, Miss Mabel Bass, became the bride of Ralph Brown of Quincy, Ill. The decorations were spring flowers and the setting was extremely pretty for the home ceremony attended by less than 100 friends of the young couple. The officiating clergyman was Rev. Father Richard Collins. The bride was attired in an evening gown of white satin and lace, but without the conventional veil. Her sister, Miss Helen Bass, was bridesmaid, and the best man at the wedding was William Hager, Mr. and Mrs. Brown went south on their wedding journey, but will return this week to establish their home here. The bridegroom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brown of Quincy, but he has been here for the last few years and has a large circle of friends. He is a member of the Olympic and Corinthian clubs.

The golden wedding reception of General and Mrs. Jacob B. Rawles attracted several hundred guests Wednesday afternoon to the home of the couple in Green street. General Rawles was in command at the Presidio during the time of the Spanish-American trouble and he numbers his



MISS NADINE DE OJEDA,  
One of the belles who has been receiving a large share of the recent informal entertainment in the younger set

was retired while at the post and since that time has made his home in Green street, with his family. At the reception the other day there were friends from the posts around the bay and a large representation from society in town to wish the couple many happy returns of the day. In the receiving party with General and Mrs. Rawles were their children, W. G. Rawles of Fallon, Nev.; Charles Rawles of this city, Miss Elizabeth Rawles and their granddaughter, Miss Ethel Rawles. W. G. Rawles and Mrs. Rawles came here for the affair, but the others reside in this city. The home was adorned with the gold decorations appropriate for the occasion and there was a bower of golden bells with greens erected in the drawing room where General and Mrs. Rawles stood to receive the congratulations of their friends. The couple were married in Auburn, N. Y., March 20, 1862, and have as many friends in the east as here, so that there were numerous telegrams of congratulation.

Miss Nadine de Ojeda, whose picture is shown today on the society page, is one of the younger belles who is a favored guest at the parties given this season. She has not made her formal debut, but she is very popular and is being entertained in an informal way. Her family name is one of the oldest in the city and she has numerous relatives who have taken a conspicuous part in social and political affairs for many years past. It is probable that she will make her debut next season. She is a beauty of the brunette type and is a petite girl with a personality that makes friends wherever she is a guest.

The play written by Felton Elkins was a dramatic sensation of the week, and also one of the attractions which brought society to the home of Baron and Baroness von Schroeder last Friday evening. A group of young people with Miss Janet von Schroeder as president pro tem organized a "comedy club" and produced the play written by the young millionaire. It was a delightful affair and every one praised the play written for the occasion. The play was not the first by the ambitious young man of the late William

Elkins and grandson of former United States Senator Charles N. Felton of Menlo park. He wrote a play some time ago called "The Crispie," and the one act drama was planned as a curtain raiser for "The Green Elephant" in which the English actress Miss Gertrude Kingston starred. So it was not as an inexperienced amateur that the young playwright came before the select company at the von Schroeder home last Friday evening. The little play entitled "Lost by Default" had every recommendation for dramatic favor with the principal characters as a retired army major, an American woman of the nouveau riche type, her daughter and a woman of the English nobility. There were funny situations and brilliant dialogue and the cast was a clever one. Miss Janet von Schroeder played the American woman, her pretty daughter was Miss Merritt Reid, the haughty major was E. J. Tobin, the English woman was Miss Josephine Parrott and the inevitable butler was portrayed by Wilberforce Williams. The amateurs did well and the play was heartily applauded with lots of compliments for the cast, and more for the author. Felton Elkins has taken up play writing as a serious pursuit and intends to make his name and fame in the dramatic world. His friends say that there is every chance for his success and his efforts have so far been quite beyond the usual attempts of the amateur playwright. There were about half a hundred young people at the society play Friday evening and every one was quite delighted with the performance. Miss Janet von Schroeder who took a leading part in the play has already written a book and her verses have won praise from the young people in her set.

One of the engagement announcements of the week was that Miss Pauline Persons would become the bride of Lieutenant David Le Breton, U. S. N. The young couple are in Boston and the announcement of their betrothal will be of the greatest interest to local society. The bride elect is a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Remus Persons of the naval hospital in Philadelphia, but they were formerly stationed at Mare Island. There is a large circle of friends in this city who wired their congratulations to Lieutenant Le

Breton last week. The bride elect was at Mare Island a few years ago while her father, Doctor Persons, was stationed there, and with her sisters, Miss Susie Persons and Mrs. Henry, wife of Naval Constructor Henry, U. S. N., she was a great favorite. She is one of the most attractive of the girls in the service set and has been a favorite not only here, but in the eastern cities. She is tall and handsome, of the blonde type. Last year, when Mrs. Albert Le Breton and her daughter, Miss Marguerite Le Breton, went abroad, Miss Persons accompanied them on the journey and the two girls have been close friends for several years past. Both families are delighted with the engagement.

Lieutenant Le Breton was graduated from Annapolis with the highest honors in his class and is now stationed at the Boston navy yard. It is at the navy yard that the young couple plan to establish their home after the wedding in June. The bridegroom is a nephew of the late Edward J. Le Breton and is a cousin of (Mrs. Andrew Welch Jr., J. Edward de Laveaga and Vincent de Laveaga. His mother was formerly Miss Nopie McDougall, daughter of Admiral McDougall and a social favorite of several years ago in this city. The Le Breton family is one of the oldest in the city and has a large circle of friends who have been wiring congratulations to the young navy officer.

There were 50 guests present at the marriage of Lord Howard de Walden, one of the wealthiest of London landlords, and Miss Margherita Van Raalte, which took place very quietly in London February 19, but to every guest the bridegroom gave a costly present, each woman receiving a diamond bracelet and each man a diamond scarf pin. The marriage was announced to take place a day later, and the secret of the real date was divulged to only a few relatives and intimate friends. St. Marylebone's church, where the ceremony was performed, was converted into a bower with bride roses, red tulips and golden azaleas. The bride wore an afternoon dress of soft white velvet fastened from neck to hem with white chenille buttons on a scalloped border. A square collar of Richelieu

did she never open her lips, would be enough to draw a breathlessly eager audience. We republicans do love a lord, you know, and of course, every one worships a beautiful woman. The English nobility are doing queer things in these days of democracy. One wonders a little at his lordship seeing his name—the name of the kingmaker—on the posters of a lecture hall. But we are safe in accepting David Lisle's view, as expressed in his fine novel, "A Painter of Souls." The comfort of society is based on the unwritten law that what the husband does not resent, does not exist." And so let it go at that. Some wisecracker has said that looking after a woman is a profession in itself.

It fell a narrow fringe of black chiffon. Her hat was an immense creation of sapphire blue straw plumed with long blue feathers fastened with a rosette made of blue berries. The only jeweled ornament was a long string of pearls, which was one of the groom's gifts. A family luncheon followed at Mrs. Van Raalte's residence, all the guests being seated at one large table.

At another beautiful wedding in London recently the bride wore a dress of heavy cream satin richly embroidered in a floral design in pearls. The short train was pointed and almost completely covered with pearl motifs and fringe. Over a wreath of orange blossoms was worn a beautiful Brussels lace veil. Her bridesmaids wore pale blue satin dresses made with loose satin panels falling from high waisted sashes. They had tunics of pale mauve chiffon and their mauve hats were finished with clusters of pink carnations. Two little boys in highland dress carried the bride's train.

The coming of the Countess of Warwick can not fail to be of interest to local society and also to the socialists. Her arrival in the east has already occasioned numerous speculations and criticisms. Here is one that will be interesting to society awaiting her visit in this city. "The countess, if report is to be believed, is now a socialist. How far her theories in this direction are affecting her life I am not prepared to say. She has tried her hand at many things and has started many enterprises in her day, which—while some of them call to my mind the noble Bohemian described by Calthorpe, who thought that 'she would be very happy in a cottage, dispensing useless soup to the thankless poor'—have been more or less successful. Some months ago she took a flying trip across our continent, on some socialistic errand which drew the limelight upon her beautiful and conspicuous self for a while. It is not often, you see, that one finds the rightful owner of so historic and marvelous an estate as Warwick castle, with its broad acreage of 23,000 going around lecturing to mixed American audiences, and the fact is sufficiently remarkable to be arresting to the imagination. Indeed, so startling has

been her life that as a Frenchman once said of Sir Victor's work, 'You can not view it without blue spectacles.'

The fair countess has been too prominent a figure in the London social world for her eccentricities to pass unnoticed and many and varied have been the explanations given of her present venture. It is difficult to conceive that the few thousands, which, at best, can accrue to her from such a tour could begin to pay a countess of Warwick for the laborious undertaking which she has set before herself.

"But the great town house near St. James' palace, on the door of which a plate tells the passerby that it is the residence of the 'Earl of Warwick,' has been rented; but if this explanation is at fault, it is still harder to evolve any other that could satisfactorily solve the question, unless it be sheer restlessness of spirit that is driving her as once did the Greek Purse. In the days of her youth she was marvelously handsome and every one, from the Prince of Wales, since King, to his Hindoo rajahs and his humblest subjects, was at her feet. She was brilliant; clever and tactful, too; and it was once said that she was the only woman whom Edward VII ever admired who found favor with the proud Alexandra.

"The lady is so eclectic in her pursuits that almost every set in the city could proclaim her. She could even be claimed for a fourth in a polo team, for it appears that the countess is a splendid equestrienne. Among other traits of benevolence Lady Warwick is interested in the welfare of animals.

"The countess of Warwick is said to be a fluent public speaker, even brilliantly eloquent at times. But, of course, one can not help remembering Doctor Johnson's cynical remark about women orators and dogs—although there are a few women, such as Mrs. Besant, for example, who have proved luminous exceptions to the rule laid down by him. To be sure, there are very few speakers, men or women, whom a fairly educated person would take the trouble to go and hear, save from courtesy, or for the sake of getting information on certain topics without wading through tomes of special literature. Few men there are whom one goes to hear because of their gift of eloquence, as there are but few men whose books one reads for the mere pleasure derived from their style. But, be this as it may, the very fact of the beautiful and now famous owner of Warwick castle standing on the platform of a hall where so many ordinary mortals have told what they know—standing there to be looked at—did she never open her lips, would be enough to draw a breathlessly eager audience. We republicans do love a lord, you know, and of course, every one worships a beautiful woman. The English nobility are doing queer things in these days of democracy. One wonders a little at his lordship seeing his name—the name of the kingmaker—on the posters of a lecture hall. But we are safe in accepting David Lisle's view, as expressed in his fine novel, "A Painter of Souls." The comfort of society is based on the unwritten law that what the husband does not resent, does not exist." And so let it go at that. Some wisecracker has said that looking after a woman is a profession in itself.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gebhardt sent out cards last week for the wedding of their daughter, Miss Aloise Marie Gebhardt, to Jefferson Grant Moffitt. This wedding is to take place in April and will be a pretty affair at Grace pro-cathedral Monday evening, April 8. There will be a large company of guests. The reception afterward will take place at the Gebhardt home in Vallejo street, and only a limited number of friends have been bidden to this affair. Miss Gebhardt is one of the popular girls of the younger crowd, and since her debut a few seasons ago, she has participated in the gayeties of her set. She is a petite blonde and has a winsome personality. Jefferson Moffitt is a son of the late Frank Moffitt of Oakland and Mrs. Moffitt, who now resides across the bay.

The boys of the Glee club of the University of California are to give their annual concert and have fixed the date for Tuesday evening, April 9, at the St. Francis. They have given a similar affair for the last few years approximately at this date, and on each occasion there has been a large attendance to encourage their musical effort. The Glee club, as every one knows, has traveled, and during their recent visit in Honolulu they had special music written for them. These selections are to be the star attractions on the program for the April concert. There are to be Hawaiian airs and music of the islands which has not been heard here before, and the friends of the boys are arranging large box parties in honor of the occasion. The concert is under the management of Richard Hill and Kenneth Montague, and promises to be very successful. Among the pa-