# BREAKING GROUND

## Elaborate Exercises in Monterey

## FOR THE NEW RAILROAD

## To Run Between That Place and Fresno.

## THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE PRESENT

### It Is Expected That the Road Will Be Finished by Next Fourth of July.

MONTEREY, July 4.—Five thousand people witnessed the ceremony of breaking ground for the Monterey and Fresno Railroad this morning.

The exercises were under the auspices of the city of Monterey and were designed to observe this event and the anniversary of American independence.

The procession moved promptly at 10 o'clock and ground was broken at the site of the new depot.

Assemblyman S. J. Duckworth acted as president and as the personal representative of Mayor T. J. Field, who was unavoidably absent. He said: "Fellow-citizens, in the name of the people of Monterey I bid all our visitors to-day a most hearty welcome to our city. This occasion marks an epoch in the history of Central California. We are assembled here for the purpose of inaugurating the construction of the Monterey and Fresno Railroad, an enterprise that is sure to prove fruitful in developing the resources of the magnificent country it will traverse.

"We commemorate the deeds of glory that marked the closing years of the eighteenth century, which culminated in the establishment of the grandest Government on earth, and while possessed of that enthusiasm which the kindling of the fires of patriotism gives to the American heart we purpose to celebrate the inauguration of active work on the railway that in the closing years of the nineteenth century is to make of our city one of the main distributing centers of California. To-day we emerge from the conditions that for generations have maintained us a community interesting only as relics of an ancient civilization to enter upon the path of progress and prosperity and as an important factor in the commercial world.

"This portion of the exercises to-day will be conducted by the directors of that company which, for myself and the good people, I have the honor to officially represent. I now bid them all godspeed in their great work. I now have the pleasure of introducing Colonel A. W. Jones, president of the Monterey and Fresno Railroad, who will preside while this ceremony is being carried out."

During these ceremonies President Jones, Vice-President Greene and Directors Palmtag, Hill, Flint and Moultrie delivered addresses. The enthusiasm of the multitude when ground was actually broken beggars description. Congratulatory messages were read from prominent people along the line, who were kept away by the uncertain transportation facilities.

Following this ceremony the literary exercises were held at Lyceum Park.

Assemblyman Duckworth again acted for Mayor Field. President Jones delivered a masterly oration, Mrs. M. G. Hood read the Declaration of Independence, Rev. N. R. Peck of Pacific Grove and Father R. M. Mestres of Monterey acted as chaplains.

Contractor McLean's construction outfit was a feature in the parade.

All arrangements are made for the vigorous prosecution of the work. President Jones announced to-day that the road would be built to Fresno by July 4 of next year.

The contracts are already let to cover forty-six miles—that is to Hollister. The contract for an 1800-foot pier at Monterey was let last week.

## COAST CELEBRATIONS.

### The Strike Could Not Be Kept Out of the Observance.

NAPA, July 4.—The celebration of Independence day here was on a more elaborate scale than has been undertaken in Napa for some years past. A parade of the principal streets was made in the forenoon by Battery D, Second Regiment, N. G. C., the Grand Army Post and Fire Department, accompanied by the Mayor, City Council and citizens, all under the marshalship of Sheriff George S. McKenzie and aids. At East Napa Park the literary exercises were presided over by Mayor Benjamin Shurtleff. J. A. Fuller was orator and Nathan Coghlan read the Declaration of Independence. In the afternoon there was a drill by Battery B, a boatrace and bicycle races. This evening there was quite an extensive display of fireworks on the plaza in front of Central Jubilee School. The attendance was large, and the whole affair very creditable.

GILROY, July 4.—Gilroy celebrated the day in good shape by a decorative display of bunting, the regulation ball exercises, oration, etc. In the afternoon there were street games and a hose race, winding up with a ball. The whistle of the regular mail trains arriving and departing as usual added to the enjoyment. Public opinion generally favors the A. R. U., although the better informed and more conservative condemn the cause of the strikers.

VALLEJO, July 4.—The Fourth of July celebration here was the best in years. Military from the navy-yard and Company B, the fire department, the Orphans' Home children, and trades of various kinds were in the procession. Sports of all kinds occupied the afternoon. At the literary exercises Raymond Benjamin was president of the day. Frank R. Devlin, reader, and Miss Edna Greenwood, poet. Revs. T. F. Burnham and J. A. Van Anda and the Vallejo Choral Society and the Independence band assisted.

CARSON, Nev., July 4.—The Fourth of July was celebrated by the regulation parade, the chief attraction of which was an imitation Pullman car overturned on top of a firecart. It was greeted with cheers all along the route. The Odd Fellows of western Nevada held a great reunion and picnic here. The weather was perfect.

VIRGINIA, Nev., July 4.—The celebration here to-day was significant from the fact that including the population and visitors the crowd aggregated fully 10,000 people, and of these 95 per cent wore white ribbons to indicate their sympathy with the strikers in the railroad tieup.

## SHE WAS TO BLAME.

### And That Is Why the Gallery Guyed Mrs. Langtry.

There was a certain rough justice in the unmerciful guying which a London audience is said to have given Mrs. Langtry at a recent first appearance of that actress in a new part. The New York Evening Sun tell the story thus:

"The guying began in the second act. Mrs. Langtry had to remark to another woman: 'My character is better than yours. There has never been a word of scandal breathed against my good name.' Instantly a titter ran around the house. The pit went into convulsions, and finally a voice from that region exclaimed, 'Oh, I say, Lily, draw it mild, old girl.' A shout went up from all parts of the theater. Mrs. Langtry bit her lip, but stood her ground pluckily. After the tumult had subsided a bit she went on with her part. But the lines went from bad to worse, and the guying was kept up at intervals until the curtain fell on the last act."

This is coarse fun, but nobody is so much to blame for it as the actress herself. She has chosen to make her name a scandal and a byword all over the world, and gets only what she has invited when reminded of that fact in such an unmistakable manner as she was on that occasion. No actress who openly defies decency as she has done, or who leads a more or less notoriously loose and immoral life, or flaunts her irregular marital relations in the public eye, has any right to complain when held up to derision for her conduct, even in the vulgar and unfeeling manner of this London audience.—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

## THE FIRE RECORD.

### Every Precaution Was Taken to Avert Disaster.

It was a very efficient fire department that coped with the usual 4th of July conflagrations yesterday. Every precaution had been taken against loss both by fire and water.

On the previous day Chief Sullivan and his assistants had made a round of the city and caused many a property-owner to remove the useless rubbish faom his yard and loose shingles from his roof so that the danger from skyrockets and bombs was lessened to a great extent. The result of these precautions was noted in the comparatively few alarms turned in.

Chief Sullivan had every extraman in the department impressed into the service, and every available engine was put in use. In all there were twenty-eight engines, ten chemical engines, seven trucks and four hosecarts, in addition to the tower. Four hundred men reported for duty.

Captain Comstock of the Underwriters' Fire Patrol also made extra preparations. He had fifteen men in readiness at No. 1 house on Jessie street to man the two wagons. Seven men were employed at No. 2 house, on Polk and Eddy streets. Fire Marshal Towe established his headquarters at Polk and Eddy, covering the district bounded by Market, Taylor and the ocean beach, while Acting Deputy Fire Marshal Church covered the district from Sixth street to the county line. Captain Comstock covered the downtown district.

The first alarm turned in was at 4:07 A. M., from box 284. It was for a fire in an unoccupied one-story frame house at 317 Prospect avenue, owned by M. D. Coleman. The catastrophe was caused by fireworks, the whole dwelling being laid in ashes. Loss, $2000. The fire extended to 313 Prospect avenue, a house owned and occupied by D. Cashman. It was slightly damaged. Loss, $150.

At 11:30 A. M. an alarm was turned in from box 43, for a small fire at 103 Stockton street. The building is owned by Heymann Brothers and occupied by the Glasgow Clothing Company. Cause, fireworks. Damage, $100.

There was a long gap during the afternoon, the next alarm not being turned in until 6:55 P. M. from box 285. This was for a fire in a two-story frame house at 615 Jessie street, owned by School Director J. J. Dunn and occupied by Mrs. M. Corlett. Damage to building, $5; to property, $5. Cause, fireworks.

At 8 P. M. from box 217. Two-story frame house, 2019 Pine, owned and occupied by Mrs. C. F. Eggert. Fire on the roof caused by skyrocket.

At 8:57 P. M. from box 68. Fire in a two-story house at 4 Rushton place, occupied by Moore and Hilbert. Fire on the roof. Damage, $5. Cause, skyrockets.

At 9:01 P. M. Box 123. Fire in a woodshed at the rear of 191 Hyde street. Owner and occupier, Joseph Neulhall. Damage to roof, $5. Cause, fireworks.

While attending this last fire Fire Marshal Towe discovered that a one-story cottage occupied by P. Flynn, at 1206 Green street, was on fire. Damage, $5. Same cause.

At 9:30 P. M. an alarm was turned in from box 153 at Harrison and Seventh streets. This was the most disastrous fire of the evening. The houses at 913 and 915 Bryant street, owned by M. Keton and Richard Brady, took fire on the roof owing to a falling skyrocket. The firemen fought with the flames for some time before they were got under way. Eventually the buildings and the contents were completely gutted and the loss estimated at $2000.

At 9:47 P. M., from box 51, fire in a two-story frame house at 315 Folsom, occupied by Mary Gorman. Damage to roof, $5. Cause, fireworks.

At 10:19 P. M., from box 63, for a fire on the roof of a three-story dwelling-house at 44 Rich street, between Folsom and Harrison, owned by ex-County Clerk Sesnon. Damage, $50. Cause, a skyrocket.

At 10:29 P. M., from box 253; some shavings underneath a house in the process of construction on the northwest corner of Union and Laguna caught fire. Damage nominal.

Fire Marshal Towe said last evening that he intended to make strenuous efforts to have Chinese skyrockets abolished before next Fourth of July.

"It's not these firecrackers and bombs that cause the mischief," said Towe. "You can see that from the fact that we have so few fires during the daytime. But it is at night, when the boys begin throwing these Chinese skyrockets, that we find the roofs of houses catching fire. They are dangerous things and should not be allowed."

Meanwhile, the chiefs of the departments are congratulating themselves upon a comparatively harmless Fourth of July.

At 11:09 to-night, from box 73, 709 Natoma, a four-story dwelling occupied by Mrs. McKinsky. Damage $20.

At 1:15 this morning from box 16, a fire in a three-story dwelling at 1412 Mason street, occupied by George W. Dodge; $100; roof.

At 2:07 this morning from box 62 a house at 258 Minna, owned by Mrs. Meyer and occupied by a man named Marshall. Damage to roof, $50.

## WAS IN DOUBT.

### A Woman Who Did Not Know if She Was a Hay or Grass Widow.

The cabin stood a short distance from the mountain road, and as I pulled up my horse in front of it a woman hanging out clothes in the yard turned to see what I wanted.

"You don't remember me." I said, after saluting her.

"I reckon not," she answered, in a puzzled tone, as she came down to the fence.

"I was here last summer to see your husband about some timber, and took dinner with you."

Her face brightened immediately.

"Oh, yes," she exclaimed, "I recollect now. Won't you get down an' come in?"

"Thank you, no, but I'd like to see your husband."

The smile went out of her face instantly.

"He's gone," she said.

"And you are a widow?" I asked, thinking of course the man was dead.

"Well, I reckon I'm a sort uv a one," she explained; "but I ain't shore whether it's a grass widder or a hay widder."

I didn't understand and told her so.

"I 's this way," she continued. "Day before yistiddy Bill run away with Sam Medderses' wife, and pap and Sam and my brother Jim has gone after him. Ef they ketch him I'm a hay widder; ef they don't I reckon I'll be a grass widder—anyway tell somebody comes along to take Bill's place."

As I left that neighborhood before the gunning party returned I don't know to this day whether it is grass or hay.—Detroit Free Press.

A new industry has been started in this country, that of making glass brushes, such as are used by china decorators for burnishing the gilding on china after it comes from the kiln. These brushes are mostly imported from Bohemia.

# SCOTS AT PLAY.

## The Thistle Club Games at Shell Mound.

## A DAY OF SPORT AND MIRTH.

## But the Outing Felt the Effect of the Tie-Up.

## THE ATTENDANCE WAS REDUCED

### Well-Contested Games Which Included All Kinds of Outdoor Sport.

The twelfth annual gathering and games of the Scottish Thistle Club at Shell Mound Park yesterday was well attended, when it is taken into consideration that there were no trains running between the Oakland mole and the picnic grounds during the day.

Those who attended the games from this side of the bay took passage on the boats that landed at the foot of Broadway, Oakland, and from that point they managed to reach their destination by taking passage on the street-cars, which landed them within a few blocks of the park.

It was certainly a rather roundabout way of getting to the pleasure resort, yet it did not take more than one hour's travel from the city to reach Shell Mound.

Considering the many counter attractions of the day, besides the mode of conveyance employed, owing to the stoppage of the regular train service, there was a tolerably good showing at the park, and during the time the games were in progress the seats on the grand stand were nearly all occupied. The dance hall was also well filled with the young folk, who seemed to enjoy the pleasure of dancing to sweet music.

One of the principal features of the games' programme was a bicycle race for ladies, which event was easily captured by a pretty young lady, who was handicapped considerably by a long dress which covered her feet and greatly impeded the action of her pedal extremities. She stuck to the saddle, however, until the finish, when she received a well-merited cheer from the spectators.

The obstacle race was another feature which proved quite laughable and interesting. The contestants had to crawl through barrels and scale fences of considerable height. The race was 350 yards and the finish was very close. The Scotch and Irish dancing on a platform erected purposely for the occasion attracted many people from the dancing hall, and as a feature of amusement it was pronounced by all spectators the event of the day.

The following is a list of events and the successful competitors:

Quoits—First prize, $7; second, $5; third, $3. George Watson, first; R. Jardine, second; B. Bridges, third.

Boys' race, handicap, 10 years and under—First prize, $3; second, $2; third, $1. William Kenney, first; Norman Campbell, second; Thomas More, third.

Girls' race, handicap, 10 years and under—First prize, $3; second, $2; third, $1. Jeanette Pelford, first; Florence Hesketh, second; Katie Moore, third.

Boys' race, handicap, 15 years and under—First prize $3, second $2, third prize $1. F. Smith, first; J. Mullaney, second; J. Donald, third.

Girls' race, handicap, 15 years and under—First prize $3, second prize $2, third prize $1. Mabel Hesketh, first; Louise Bogart, second; Jennie Wilson, third.

Putting heavy stone—First prize $7, second prize $5, third prize $3. Thomas Carroll, 34 feet 3 inches, first; D. R. Campbell, 31 feet 4 inches, second; W. Curley, 29 feet 1 inch, third.

Best-dressed boy in Highland costume—First prize, $5; second, $3; third $2. First, Dun Smith; second, Robert Ross; third, Duncan Wilkie.

Best-dressed man in plain Highland costume (each competitor must own his costume)—First prize, $7; second, $5; third, $3. First, James Baxter; second, E. Ross; third, J. W. Patterson.

Best-dressed man in full Highland costume (each competitor must own his costume)—First prize, $7; second, $5; third, $3. First, Duncan McKenzie; second, T. S. Tevendale; third, Neil Lendsay.

Running high leap—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. First, Thomas Carroll, 5 feet 6 inches; second, Joseph Sexsmith, 5 feet 6 inches; third, W. Curley.

Grand Highland reel for men in costume—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. First, R. M. Monroe; second, D. McKenzie; third, E. Ross.

Hop, step and jump or hop, hop and jump—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. First, T. J. Riley; second, P. Tierney; third, W. Curley.

Sword dance, for men in costume—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. R. M. Monroe first, E. Ross second, James Baxter third.

Highland fling, for lads and lassies in costume—Prize $2 each. Twenty-four children contested and all got prizes.

Short race for amateurs, quarter of a mile—First prize gold medal, second gold and silver medal. H. F. Coffin first, M. Welsh second.

Putting light—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. G. Perrie first, 45 feet 1 inch; Thomas Carroll second, 43 feet 2 inches; B. R. Campbell third, 40 feet 7 inches.

Grand Highland bagpipe competition—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. I. S. R. Tivendale first, G. P. Alerson second, R. Monroe third.

Tossing the caber—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. Thomas Carroll first, 42 feet; G. Perrie second, 38 feet; A. Morrison third, 37 feet 6 inches.

Highland fling for men in costume—First prize, $7; second prize, $5; third prize, $3. R. Monroe first, G. Baxter second, G. W. Patterson third.

Old men's race (handicap), 50 years and over—First prize, $7; second, $5; third, $3. C. M. Brown first, G. H. Finnie second, A. McDonald third.

Running long jump—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. T. J. Riley first, 18 feet 6½ inches; P. Kearney second, 17 feet 6½ inches; J. Sexsmith second, 17 feet 2½ inches.

Reel o'Tulloch for men in costume (competitors must own their own costumes)—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. R. M. Munro first, E. Ross second, D. McKenzie third.

Throwing heavy hammer (sixteen pounds)—First prize $7, second $5, third $3. G. Perrie first, 107 feet 7 inches; T. Carroll second, 100 feet; D. S. McLeod third, 95 feet 5 inches.

Throwing light hammer, 12 pounds—First, $7; second, $5; third, $3. First, G. Perrie, 126 feet 8 inches; second, T. Carroll, 117 feet 3 inches; third, D. S. McLeod, 116 feet 3 inches.

Long race for amateurs, 1 mile—First, gold medal; second, gold and silver medal. First, M. Welsh; second, J. Kennedy.

Sailors' hornpipe for men in costume—First, $7; second, $5; third, $3. First, G. W. Patterson; second, E. Ross, third, R. Monroe.

Young ladies' race—Rose Bogard first, Worth Walsh second, Jennie Bickford third.

Amateur bicycle race for men—R. B. Herriott first.

Ladies' bicycle race—Miss Doyle first.

Members' wives' race—Mrs. J. Baxter first, Mrs. Blair second.

Obstruction race—G. K. Anderson first, Frank Wilson second, W. Gillis third.

John Donaldson was official starter and referee, and the games committee consisted of George Miller, chairman; F. J. L. MacCormac, secretary; William Cormack, Hugh Fraser, James R. Watson, William Fairgrieve, George W. Paterson, James Drever and James Baxter.

## A PERILOUS RIDE.

### Crossing a Bridge From Which the Floor Had Been Removed.

"The severest test my nerves ever experienced," said a gentleman to a Dispatch reporter, "was during a buggy ride I took with a friend down in Hickory Township, Mercer County. Several years ago I was invited to take a drive by L. W. Ormsby of Sharon. He had a beautiful outfit and an extraordinarily fine horse, so the invitation was one that a person would not decline. We drove out through the country and in a short time became very much interested in an argument that made us forgetful of the scenery and, in fact, of our horse. We noticed a jolting and when we looked up found the horse had wandered away from the road and began to cross a trestle which spanned a creek twenty-five feet below. You can imagine our consternation, for the bridge had but recently been altered by a railroad company that was putting its line through the country. The floor had been taken up and wooden ties to support the rails substituted. Here we were crossing a bridge in a buggy, our horse walking on ties, a feat which is difficult for some men to perform, to say nothing of a quadruped. The horse had gone too far to permit of turning back, so there was nothing to do but to go ahead. Ormsby reason d this out in a moment. He did not even dare to stop the horse to consider what to do. Although his first impulse was to rein up the animal, he saw that interference would be fatal; so, notwithstanding the sight of 150 feet of most uncertain stepping before him, he threw the reins around the whip socket and permitted the horse to pick out his way. Our position was far from enviable. Every jolt the buggy gave caused us to better realize our danger. Neither of us spoke as we watched with eagerness the horse stepping from tie to tie. But he seemed to realize the danger as much as we. Every now and then he would come almost to a stop, while he put his head down close to the ties, wanting to be sure of his footing. When that horse reached the solid ground on the other side we took a long breath and congratulated ourselves upon our escape. If the horse had made one mis step and fallen he would have overturned the buggy and we would have dropped on the rocks of the creek, twenty-five feet below, for there were no side rails to prevent."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

## NEW STORY OF THACKERAY.

### A Personal Sacrifice to Assist an Entire Stranger.

As, toward the end of October, a little over thirty years ago, the night train of the Chemin de Fer du Nord was about to leave the station at Paris, an English gentleman got into a first-class compartment, and, stowing away his small valise, took his seat in one of the vacant corners. He noticed that on the seat opposite to him was a gentleman who appeared to be ill. His face was deadly pale; he was breathing very heard, and appeared to be in great pain.

"Are you ill, sir? Can I be of any assistance to you?" the gentleman asked.

"I am very ill," the sufferer replied faintly. "I am subject to a very painful malady, and feeling an attack coming on while in Switzerland, I resolved to go home—to England. It generally gives me a week's warning. But I feel I shall not reach Calais alive."

"But you must not go on, my dear sir," said his fellow-traveler feelingly.

"I am a perfect stranger in Paris. I have come right through from Geneva and I do not know a word of French," replied the sick man, almost in a state of collapse.

"It will never do for you to travel in that state. Come, let me help you out before the train starts."

The kindly gentleman was not a moment too soon. But by the friendly aid of a porter he got the sufferer out of the train, placed him gently in a cab and had him taken to the hotel which he himself had just quitted and where he knew the sick man would receive every attention. Caring for him on the way with all the tenderness of a woman he bade him cheer up, for he knew a physician who was one of the highest authorities on the particular disease from which he was suffering.

All the night the gentleman was exceedingly ill, nor did he improve much the next day. The following morning a relation of the sufferer—who had been telegraphed for—arrived, and the kind-hearted gentleman who had put off his journey to England, thrown away his railway fare and spent two nights and a day almost constantly by the sick man's side, handed over the sufferer to the care of his friend.

Then, and not till then, did this golden-hearted man decide to resume his interrupted journey.

Going into the patient's room in the evening to bid him good-by, he said:

"I must now wish you farewell, as I have important business in London. I wish you a hearty godspeed toward recovery."

The sick man was still extremely ill, and not able to do more than to press his benefactor's hand and to whisper a few words of gratitude.

The relative of the patient, however, who was no other than his sister, followed the gentleman out of the room, and said:

"You have not done me the honor to tell me to whom I and my brother owe so signal an act of kindness as that which you have shown to an utter stranger. Had you not so generously and so disinterestedly taken compassion on him, I fear his relatives and friends would never have seen him again alive. In thanking you again for your kindness, therefore, I should like to know to whom we are so much indebted. Besides, you forfeited the cost of your railway ticket. If you will allow me to reimburse you the amount"——

"Do not mention it," said the gentleman; "it is of no consequence."

"You will at least do me the pleasure of permitting us to know your name?"

"Certainly. I will give you my card."

With these words the gentleman took out his cardcase and handed the lady his card. She read upon it the name, "William Makepeace Thackeray."

It was some weeks before the invalid was well enough to resume his journey; but after his return to England, one of the first visits he paid was to call upon the great novelist, in company with his sister, to thank him personally for the great kindness he had shown him when, as he believed, he should have died but for his timely assistance.—The Million.

## BETTER THAN A PULLER-IN.

### A Sixth-Avenue Jeweler's Clever Device for Catching Thieves.

On upper Sixth avenue is a small jewelry-store, the owner of which has invented a mechanical contrivance for holding a suspected bird of theft. Unless on very warm days his door remains always closed, but if obliged to be open the pulling of a small check string behind the counter can at any time pull it shut in a second.

It is in the working of a bolt to secure the closed door that the invention consists. If a suspected shoplifter is handling jewel trays on the counter the salesman can without apparent movement press his foot on a spring in the floor, which shoots by means of a rod running round the counter and up by the doorway a heavy bolt noiselessly into the door. The groove for the bolt is bored into the door's framework, and the bolt itself is concealed by also passing through a groove in the woodwork where it rises above the counter. Thus the would-be light-fingered man who politely closes the door behind him on entering has no idea that at the moment he plans to escape he will find the passage barred against him.

The contrivance works with electric swiftness, and although it has not been long enough in existence yet to catch a thief it has captured a good many admirers of ingenuity. The beauty of it is that the bolt cannot possibly be undone from the outside of the counter.

Some of the banks, hearing of the invention, have become interested, and within a few days an official from the Fifth-avenue Bank has been twice on the ground to inspect it.—New York World.

## FLOWERS BY MAIL.

### Always Send Them in the Evening and You Will Be Happy.

Have you a tiny window garden? Do you sometimes feel you would like to cut off one or two of the petted blooms for some distant friend if only you knew how to securely pack the frail blossoms for the mail?

Delicate opening sprays can be packed so that they will travel two days and two nights and be none the worse for the journey.

Always mail flowers in the evening. They get a fine start before the rush in the daily mails delays them, and, besides, flowers are best picked in the dark when the sunshine and the warmth of day are not drawing the sap to the surface.

Cut the stems as long as possible, and then, before the moisture has time to escape, lightly dip the end of each stem in melted wax, that from a lighted taper will do. Wet some cotton wadding and wrap it in a big wet mass around the stems, letting only a thin layer cover the flowers themselves.

Around the cotton wrap a big piece of tinfoil, taking care that it does not press upon the flowers. Line the box with some crumpled newspapers, well moistened.

When the nosegay is in and the cover is on take as stiff a piece of brown paper as you can find and paste strips of it around the box wherever the air is liable to get in, for the flowers to carry well must be kept airtight. Then wrap the box in paper and tie.

With a tin cracker-box and a little cotton the work of packing is nothing for the tin keeps out the air, so that neither tinfoil nor pasting is necessary.—Boston Globe.

## FASHION IN GEMS.

### Pearls and Rubies Are in the Lead at Present.

In France, by the way, at present, pearls and rubies are the most fashionable gems. As regards diamonds, the Duchess Doudeauville and the Countess Pourtales have introduced the following mode—a ribbon is tied round the neck, with a bow covered with tiny diamonds.

Coming to turquoises, those of great beauty are becoming rarer and rarer. If a turquoise be of any particular value, it must hail from the old mines, be very close and beautifully polished. When a turquoise is worn, so we are told by experts, by sickly persons, or by ladies with a bad complexion, the stone assumes a greenish dull color. Happy, therefore, are the wearers whose turquoises have a bright blue color, as such women must enjoy excellent health and have a fine complexion.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts possesses one of the finest collections of turquoises in the world, the smallest being valued at from 5000 to 6000 francs. The Empress of Russia and the Countess de Paris likewise possess famous collections of turquoises; but, perhaps, the choicest single stone in existence is that owned by the notorious Maharajah Dhuleep Sing, ex-King of Lahore.—Ladies' Pictorial.

## SPARROWS AND MARTINS.

### They Fight for a Home on the Highest Point of a Bridge.

Across the Quinepiac River, near New Haven, Conn., is a long iron drawbridge—the Tomlinson bridge. On the highest points of the middle of the span are two little iron houses that cover the pieces to which the supporting cables are attached. These little houses are intended to be a protection against the rain, and in winter they are closed by a sort of iron door, removed only when the machinery is oiled.

But in the spring the engineer, Mr. Powers, takes away these small doors, and then two couples of birds—a pair of martins and a pair of sparrows—build nests in these accidental bird houses. Though for several years these birds have been neighbors, they are often at war, squabbling and shrieking at one another while feathers fly through the air.

Mr. Powers, who is a close observer, soon discovered the cause of their strife.

The drawbridge turns upon a pier to let vessels pass and may be turned either half way and then back to its first position or completely round so as to change ends.

Whenever the bridge is thus reversed the sparrows returning from an expedition in search of nest-building material or from marketing perhaps will find, as they think, those meddling neighbors, the martins, at work in the sparrows' home—for the turning of the bridge has brought the martins over to the neighbor's side.

Amazed by the sudden attack the martins there do their best to defend their home from those wicked sparrows—and so the fight will be continued. As the two iron houses completely hide the nests and are just alike the sparrows and martins are continually at war whenever the bridge is turned so as to change its ends.

As soon as he had found out the cause of the strife Mr. Powers was careful to return the bridge always to the same position, and he found that the birds lived in peace and harmony so long as he thus prevented them from confusing their nests.

Occasionally, however, to test his theory or to illustrate it to some passing visitor, the engineer will reverse the position of the nests. The experiment never fails—a quarrel between the mutually angered birds was always the result.

Mr. Powers says also that during the whole time he has been in charge of the bridge—seven years—the same comedy has been enacted. The two sparrows are no match for the two martins, but they bring other sparrows to help them and then turn out the martins in short order.—St. Nicholas.

## SITTING BULL.

### Some Facts Concerning the Old Chief's Death.

"Did you ever know just how Sitting Bull was killed?" asked Lieutenant Baker of the Twelfth Infantry, U. S. A., of one of the correspondents whom he met the other day down at the coal mines.

"I do not think," he continued, "the details were ever printed. I never saw them, and I was there."

I tell it, as near as it can be recalled, as the lieutenant told it:

Sitting Bull was at his shack with his sons, near Standing Rock Agency, when he was sent for to come into the agency. The Indian police were commissioned to bring him in, and when an Indian police man gets that order and finds his man he brings him in, dead or alive, unless the man gets the drop first. Sitting Bull was disposed to obey the summons, but one of his sons, as haughty an Indian as ever lived, taunted the old man for his weakness. He called him a squaw, and that epithet to an Indian brave is the cap sheaf of all that is derisive. The old man weakened under the boy's taunts and the Indian police did the rest. Sitting Bull was all that his admirers claimed for him. When he fell the boy who had taunted him crawled under the bunk where the old man had slept. He was there when Shavehead, an Indian from the agency, came in. He heard the story. He liked Sitting Bull, and when he was told that the boy had taunted his father and was the cause of his death, Shavehead said the boy deserved death and was dragged out from under the bed and killed. These details Lieutenant Baker says he never saw in print.—Chicago Herald.

### Wyoming's Soda Lakes.

As described by H. Pemberton Jr. and George P. Tucker there exists a deposit of sulphate of soda, locally known as a "lake," about fourteen miles southwest of Laramie, Wyo. The deposit is composed of three of these lakes lying within a stone's throw of one another—the Big Lake, the Track Lake and the Red Lake—having together a total area of about sixty-five acres. They are the property of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, and are connected by a branch of that road with the main line at Laramie, and are generally known as the Union Pacific Lakes. In these lakes the sulphate of soda occurs in two bodies or layers. The lower part, constituting the great bulk of the deposit, is a mass of crystals of a faint greenish color mixed with a considerable amount of black, slimy mud. It is known as the "solid soda," and is said to have a depth of some twenty or thirty feet. Above this solid soda occurs the superficial layer of pure white crystallized sulphate of soda. This is formed by solution in water of the upper part of the lower body, the crystals being deposited by evaporation or by cooling, or by the two combined. A little rain in the spring and autumn furnishes this water, besides which innumerable small sluggish-flowing springs are present in all the lakes; but on account of the dry air of this region the surface is generally dry, or nearly so, and in midsummer the white clouds of efflorescent sulphate that are whirled up by the ever-blowing winds of Wyoming can be seen for miles. The layer of white sulphate is from three to twelve inches in thickness. When the crystals are removed the part laid bare is soon replenished by a new crop.—Popular Science Monthly.

### Aluminum Currency.

During a series of experiments for the Royal Society's committee on researches upon alloys, Captain Hunt has made a discovery that will probably be utilized in the coinage of money. His alloy consists of 78 parts of gold to 22 parts of aluminum. These proportions, moreover, are the only ones in which these two metals alloy perfectly.

The product, it is said, is of a beautiful purple color, with ruby reflections, and cannot be imitated. Besides, as gold is 7 7 times heavier than aluminum, the same weight of the latter will be 7.7 times greater in bulk than the former.—Scientific American.


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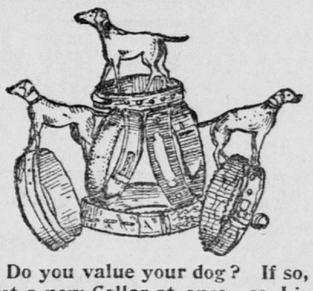

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Order of Adjudication of Insolvency.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT, IN AND FOR the City and County of San Francisco, State of California.

In the matter of GEO. HARTMANN, an insolvent debtor.

GEO. HARTMANN, having filed in this court his petition, schedule and inventory in insolvency, from which it appears that he is an insolvent debtor, the said GEO. HARTMANN is hereby declared to be insolvent. It is hereby ordered that the Sheriff of the City and County of San Francisco be and he is hereby appointed receiver of the property of said insolvent, and that upon his giving a bond to the people of the State of California, conditioned as required by law, and in such sum as the court may order, and qualifying, he take charge and possession of all of the estate, real and personal, of said GEO. HARTMANN, insolvent debtor, whatsoever and wheresoever situate, except such as may be by law exempt from execution, and of all his deeds, vouchers, books of account and papers, and to keep and care for and dispose of the same until the appointment of an assignee of his estate. All persons having the same or any part thereof in his or their possession are hereby directed to deliver said property to said receiver, and all persons owing money to said insolvent are hereby directed to pay the same to said receiver, and that said receiver keep the said property or the proceeds thereof till the further order of this court. And all persons are hereby forbidden to pay any debts to said insolvent or to deliver any property belonging to such insolvent to him or to any person, firm, corporation or association for his use, and the said debtor is hereby forbidden to transfer or deliver any property until the further order of this court, except as herein ordered.

It is further ordered that all the creditors of said debtor be and appear before the Hon. Walter H. Levy, Judge of the Superior Court of the city and county of San Francisco, in open court, at the courtroom of said court, in the city and county of San Francisco, Department 10, on the 26th day of July, 1894, at 10 o'clock A. M. of that day, to prove their debts and choose one or more assignees of the estate of said debtor.

It is further ordered that this order be published in THE DAILY MORNING CALL, a daily newspaper of general circulation, published in the city and county of San Francisco, as often as the said paper is published, before the day set for the meeting