

# THE ENTERPRISE

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## TRIP ACROSS THE CONTINENT

Very Interesting Sketch Of a Trip To The Panama-Pacific Exposition And Western Canada.

By HARRY A. BIGGS

After leaving the Yellowstone Park, that place of wonderful mystery, which so charmed and awed us, the next day and night were spent in traveling over the "Old Mormon Trail" through Utah and Nevada. I certainly know of no more desolate section in the whole country than this arid, treeless country of Nevada, unless it be in our own State down about Nag's Head, that mecca towards which the minds of so many of the people of this eastern section turn when the summer's sun becomes too oppressive, and they want to get away from home to have a good time. For many hundred miles the train goes through this weary sun baked and scorched country, at times the dust is very annoying, and one feels that he can scarcely get his breath, this vast section being in that part of the country where they have wet and dry seasons, and where irrigation has not been put into practice, and from the parched appearance of the land, and the few, insignificant specimens of vegetation, it seems that many a hot, dreary day had passed since a drop of rain had fallen to refresh the scorched land.

I am told that the State of Nevada grants a certain number of acres to any one who will go to this desolate section to live, and, in the distance, far off from the railroad, small huts, seemingly representing the greatest poverty, could be seen, around some of these houses there appeared to be small crops of hay, and upon inquiry I was informed that in the sections where some irrigation had been had could be grown.

In the distance could be seen the desolate, dreary and lone mountain peaks, upon which was the sign neither of vegetation or human habitation.

With all this waste land of dreary desert on the east and the ten thousand miles of ocean which rolls between her western boundary and the nearest continent, nature has certainly splendidly guarded Southern California, and has made it a veritable Garden of Eden, and a spot in which it is a delight to live. However, one must not be disappointed when he reaches California when he does not see the orange trees growing all around, or the ground covered with the brilliant hues of many flowers, for many miles must be traversed before he is indeed in what is known as The Garden of Southern California; this section is reached when one has arrived at San Bernadina at which place we arrived at 7:30 on Friday morning, the 6th of August. I was happy, for at least I had reached that land of sunshine and flowers, whose fame has been given to the world in song and story since the days of '49 when so many of eastern people turned their faces towards the setting sun, towards California that land of romance and mystery in search of that which brought them fortune and what they considered happiness.

It is around San Bernadina the entire country seems an un-

broken paradise of orange trees and roses; however, this is not the case, for San Bernadino county alone is twice the size of Massachusetts, and the county of Los Angeles is nearly the size of the state of Connecticut, therefore it is not difficult to understand why a continued expense of verdure is not seen, when one remembers that this county, too, was one day as dry and desolate as the barren waste to the east of it until man appeared with his irrigation and made some parts "blossom like a rose." However, seemingly with the least encouragement the country burst forth in verdure, crowned its responsive soil with fertility, and smiles with bloom." From San Bernadino we visited Redlands, a small town, reminding me something of Washington, N. C., except for the beauty of its vegetation, and the magnificence of some of its residences. It was at this place that we went through the famous Smiley Heights, a garden in which seem to have been placed all the many fruits, flowers, vegetation and beauty for which California is so famous. This garden is private property, its owner having taken the greatest pride in its construction, and while he lived spent every morning within the inclosure to give a welcome and hearty greeting to the visitor who came from every section of the country to see what he, with the assistance of nature had accomplished. This gentleman is now among those of the dead, but his beautiful garden still exists, the blooming flowers, sweet odors, rich verdure and luscious fruit showing to the world what sort of man he was. Mr. Whitaker, who was with us, says he thinks Redlands, with this beautiful garden is the ideal spot in California, and he thinks someday he will go there to live, but I suspect the fascination of California for Mr. Whitaker would pass away, and he would be glad to come back to his home in Williamston, in this good old country, where he is well known and highly respected.

Another charm of Southern California is the delightfulness of its balmy climate; at a time when many cities of the East and North are held in the tenacious grip of winter, their skies of dull gray, and their pavement deep in snow or mud, the people of Southern California are basking in the most delightful sunshine, their vegetable and flower gardens in full bloom, and the air is laden with the perfume of a million roses and violets.

This is a dream land of beauty and charm, a place of the Spanish Mission and a region rescued from the aridity and made the home of delight for the invalid and tourist. Los Angeles is really the metropolis, but San'a Barbara, San Diego and Pasadena are flourishing towns of ninety to a hundred thousand people and are cities in which any one would delight to live.

The first thing an eastern visitor has to do upon arriving at Los Angeles is to learn to pronounce it properly; the soft sound of "g" is taken out, and the Spaniards and Mexicans pronounce "c" like the English "a" in fate; this is not absolutely necessary, but one would be more cordially received in polite society, and the pronunciation of "Angeles," is taboed.

The first Anglo Saxon to arrive at Los Angeles was brought by the Mexicans in 1822, as a prisoner, soon after many Americans appeared, and on August 13th, 1846 Maj. Fremont raised

the Stars and Stripes, and the house which he occupied may still be seen. The city is one of the most beautiful in the United States, and is dedicated to the "Queen of the Angels," and now has nearly four hundred thousand inhabitants, it calls itself the Queen of the State, and several with whom I talked told me it was larger than San Francisco, its rival in the North, but statistics show differently. It certainly is one of the most delightful residential cities in California, and owing to its charm of climate it has attracted a large number of persons of wealth and culture making it a place of fascination and delight. It is clean and beautiful, and here in Pasadena, which is but a suburb, one sees some of the most beautiful residences and flower gardens in the world; flowers grow in the most wonderful profusion and of the most brilliant colors. One of the streets in Pasadena is lined for a mile with specimens of the pan palm, 15 feet in height, and the driver pointed out to me a heliotrope 16 feet high, covering the whole porch of a house, and one sees in every direction geraniums of the brightest colors growing 16 to 18 feet high. And one sees around Pasadena the most beautiful specimens of the date palms, lemons, pomegranate fig and walnut trees.

The most famous show place of the city of Pasadena is the Sunken Gardens of Buseh, the millionaire brewer of St. Louis who had a winter residence there, and the gardens, of many hundred acres are the most beautiful in the world. The most artistic and charming effects are arranged by the skilled hand of an Italian artist, and his genius has made the Busch Sunken Gardens the admiration of lovers of the beautiful in horticulture.

Next week I shall continue to write of the charm of Southern California, telling of the Mission Play which is presented at The Mission of San Gabriel, near Los Angeles, and tell of the effect the Missions of the Catholic church had in the civilization and Christianization of the people of California.

### Keep The Dollar Here

A dollar sent away from home—at Christmas time or any other time—never comes back. Had you thought of it that way? If so, we feel sure that you will do your Christmas shopping at home. The local merchants are the ones who support local institutions. If you need help for any worthy local cause you cannot get it from the mail order houses, can you? Had you thought of it that way? You can get more for your money from your home merchants than you can from the mail order.—Ex.

### Mrs. Mary Cook Dead.

As we go to press we are pained to learn of the death of Mrs. Mary Cook, at the residence of her son, Mr. John S. Cook, on Main Street. Mrs. Cook had been confined to her bed for several weeks.

A sketch of her life will appear next week.

### Good Pictures

On next Tuesday night, Dec. 14th, the Gaiety Theatre will put out on the screen "Napoleon and France," an educational picture in six reels. Don't fail to see this picture.

### Twentieth Century Club.

Mrs. Percy B. Cone was hostess to the Twentieth Century Club at her home on Houghton Street, Wednesday afternoon, November 4th.

The subject of the day was Hawthorne, and Mrs. W. H. Harrell, careful in the selection of the data concerning the author, read a most interesting sketch. The other numbers on the program were given in a pleasing manner and were as follows: Selection—Mosses from an Old Manse—Mrs. Martin.

Selection—Snowbound, (Whittier), Miss Smith.

Current Events—Mrs. Martin, Jr.

Roll Call—Quotations from Hawthorne.

The guests of Mrs. Cone were served refreshments, which they enjoyed and could thoroughly appreciate, expressing as they did, the careful thought of the hostess for her guests.

The next meeting of the Club was held with Mrs. Harrell on Dec. 8th.

### Fireworks Again.

The nearness of the Christmas season, fills the boys with a strong desire to shoot crackers, send up rockets and otherwise produce the noise which is dear to the heart of the boy and not alone to them, but to the older boy who is in years a man. Tuesday night meteor crackers, dynamite crackers, etc., were burst on Main Street, and the police got busy. As it is always fun to fool the police, there was something doing in that line. It is very often unsafe to burst the large crackers on the main thoroughfares, and the boys should be very careful with their fun. One cracker could cause a destructive fire, or produce an injury which would ruin a person's future happiness.

"Safety first" should be the motto in the heart of the young American who gets enjoyment in this or any other way.

### Tobacco Market to Close.

The Williamston Tobacco Market will close on the 18th for the Christmas holidays. There is still some good leaf coming in, and most all of the crop will be sold by end of the year.

Those farmers who have not sold their entire crop, should take notice of the close of the market for the holidays unless they desire to sell after Christmas.

### Court Next Week

The December Term of Martin County Superior Court convenes next week with Judge George Rountree presiding. The term will be for only one week, and will be given to the hearing of criminal cases alone. The nearness of the term to the Christmas holidays, makes the Court anxious to dispatch business quickly as possible, and to hear only those cases which demand early action.

This is the second term of Judge Rountree in the county, and will be his last as he has resigned, and W. P. Stacy, of Wilmington, has been appointed to succeed him.

The members of the bar here decided that they would not make any Civil Calendar, and so have informed attorneys out of the county who may have had business at this term.

## PREPAREDNESS IS THE WORD

This Great Question Will be the Most Important to Come Up Before the Present Congress—Theres Argument on Both Sides.

On the lips of even children, the word "Preparedness" hangs just now, when the whole people are waiting and watching for the meaning of the word to be put into practice, or eliminated from the vocabulary of National affairs. But it is not to that meaning that we call attention, for it has varied applications, and its effectiveness is seen in a larger sense when incorporated into the life of the individual.

Just now with the dying of the old year, with the coming again of the Christ Child into the heart of the world, preparedness should be the keynote for every human soul, who thinks. The careless and free know not its meaning. Life to them is only for the moment; no thought of years to come when age will creep upon them; no desire for better and higher things, the acquisition of which demands renewed activity within and without. The soil of the heart needs a preparation for the harvest of deeds, which will sweeten the life of the individual and all with whom he comes in contact.

"Preparedness" is fraught with meaning whether applied to affairs of the Nation, the Church or the home. The complete life in man or woman is an application of its truest and best meaning. The great majority are attending only to the material preparedness, and it is the duty of each to look after the material, but not alone to this, or else life is a failure and Heaven far removed. The many ills of life are multiplied because of this very fact—the rush for the material only. Then there are numbers of the foolish, who make preparation only for the pleasures of life. All other thoughts are banished from their mind: Christmas to them spells "saturday" and the hidden mysteries of the Gospel of Jesus Christ remain to them a myth to be talked about by a few whose business it seems.

But each life and the world, too, are fast approaching a day when preparedness will be the most stupendous word known, for then it will be most needed. There is no better time than the approaching Christmas season to take stock of our hearts and lives, and prepare them for the inevitable end of all things.

### Married in Norfolk.

Friends here will be interested to learn of the marriage of Mr. James Harry Kirby to Miss DeLoatche at Norfolk last week. Mr. Kirby is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Kirby, and went to Norfolk with his mother when a boy. He is making good, as are his brothers, in the home of his adoption. While on their bridal trip, the father of Mrs. Kirby, Mr. K. B. DeLoatche was run over by a jitney bus driver, and died from his injuries at the Protestant Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Kirby were in Washington City at the time of accident, and returned immediately to Norfolk.

Meet me at Gaiety to-night.

## WILL TAKE ACTION IN THIS WORK

The Board of County Commissioners Will Act on This Matter As Soon As Data Has Been Furnished

At the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners Monday, Mrs. J. G. Staton asked that the Board consider an appropriation for a county Canning Club, which will be under some woman trained in this branch of the work. A part of the sum necessary is to be supplied by the State appropriation, but at present there is no fund available. The Board expressed itself as in accord with the movement, and will take action in the matter as soon as sufficient data has been furnished them.

A number of counties have these Clubs and the work has been highly satisfactory, and Martin County cannot afford to be behind in those things which will help largely, especially in the rural districts. An acre of land in tomatoes will prove profitable, and the Clubs will promote a closer co-operation among the women and girls of a neighborhood. County Demonstrator Holliday is interested in the movement, and will assist in promoting it.

## SOME LOCAL GEOGRAPHY

Name the most important town in this section?  
Ans. Williamston.  
Where is it situated?  
Ans. On the right bank of the Roanoke River, in Martin County, North Carolina.  
How many inhabitants has it?  
Ans. 2,000.  
What are its shipping facilities?  
Ans. Freight steamers and the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad.  
How many banks?  
Ans. Two, the strongest in this section.  
Name some of the important industries.  
Ans. Cotton Ginning Company, Cooperage Mill, Pants Factory, Peanut Factory, Baggy Factory, Iron & Motor Co. Enterprise Publishing Co.  
What is the nature of the surrounding country?  
Ans. The best agricultural section in the State.  
What farm products are sold here?  
Ans. Cotton, peanuts, tobacco, potatoes, corn, etc.  
For what is the town especially noted?  
Ans. First: For the largest market in the world for the Virginia peanut direct from the farm. Second: For the highest prices for tobacco. Third: For strong cotton and peanut Brokers, who know grades and values. Fourth: For best prices for hams, chickens, beef, pigs and all country produce.  
What should every producer do in this section?  
Ans. Come to Williamston when he has anything to sell, unless he does not want his money's worth. Williamston, like Jones of Binghampton, "pays the freight."  
What are the educational and religious advantages?  
Ans. There are four churches with active congregations, and Skewarke Church is situated just out of town. The High School is the head of the educational system of the county, and its graduates are fitted to enter the University of North Carolina.