

WRITES OF THE JUMPING-OFF PLACE

So Called Because Several Misguided Persons Have There Tried To Drown Their Sorrows.

VISIT TO AN OSTRICH FARM.

Pasadena a City of Millionaires— Beauties of the Deep as Seen Through Glass.

Special Correspondence.

Ocean Park, Cal., May 8.—People often say when speaking of a place away off somewhere in a remote corner of the earth: "That is the jumping off place." Well, this is it, as since I wrote you last in March two persons, a man and a woman, have come here and jumped off into the ocean. No doubt their intentions were to make the earth better, but unfortunately their plans were spoiled by misguided mortals who promptly got into the ocean and rescued them. Two bodies have washed up on the shore here recently. These two succeeded. The bodies were not eaten by sharks though they had been in the ocean a long time. "Mexican Frank" and all the fishermen here frequently bring in sharks, for many species of this live in these waters—shovel-nosed sharks, leopard sharks and other kinds you would not care to know. Frank tells me that he has never seen a shark in this bay that was brave enough or vicious enough to attack a man. According to Frank you can bathe in perfect safety with eight and ten-foot sharks basking all around you. He says the man-eating or blue shark lives farther south and that it is much more healthful to bathe in a tub when you are near where this shark lives.

Since my last letter several boats have been wrecked on our beach during the fierce "nor'westers" and the other terrible recent storms. The gasoline launchers "Donohue" and "Willma" went down. The "Mabel Gray," a three masted schooner 150 feet long and laden with 150,000 feet of redwood lumber, went to pieces and fragments of her cargo were strewn along the sand for 10 miles. The schooner "Garden City" was blown against the Redondo railroad wharf, demolishing it and herself. She had aboard 48,000 feet of lumber—that's a good load.

We have now lived on the beach over three months, have been lulled to sleep by the music of the breakers, the same rolling, tossing, foam-capped breaker that have beaten on these sands for unnumbered generations; have seen the ocean like a sea of glass, and it is often this way, well deserving the name Pacific or peaceful; we have seen the terror striking appearance of the ocean in violent storms and are just now able to realize to some extent the meaning of this expression: "the angry old ocean" and that poetic one, "the forgetting tide."

ON AN OSTRICH FARM.

Our visit to the Carvston Ostrich farm, four miles out of Los Angeles, was a treat. Two hundred and eighty birds have fine feathers, is not one of the ostrich. He is very ugly, stands on two thick bare legs, a huge reddish body sometimes weighing 400 pounds, and a long neck at the end of which is a large beak. The ostrich has a tiny brain. When an ostrich gets loose he will run into anything that happens in his way. On his wings and back part of the body grows a crop of feathers that bring in better returns than a gold mine. All the young birds are brown. At eight months the males turn black and begin to grow all the beautiful feathers you see in the stores; the female retains her sombre color and never has any but the brown and less beautiful plumes. It takes 40 days to raise a young ostrich. The male bird sits on the eggs at night the female in the daytime. Barrels of oranges are placed along the walks and visitors amuse themselves throwing oranges over the fence to the ostriches, who swallow them whole as easily if not as quickly as a small boy swallows cherries.

A CITY OF MILLIONAIRES.

This ostrich farm is on the south edge of the city of Pasadena—a city of 14,000 inhabitants, of whom over 100 are millionaires. Some of the most beautiful homes and flower gardens in the world are here and a few of the most wretched people on earth (so the driver tells us) live in them. Painted homes, fairy gardens, nickel trimmed carriages, red autos, pink teas, Parisian gowns—do not keep off family rows, divorce scandals and nervous breakdowns. Just east of Pasadena lies beautiful Altadena, among the poppy fields, orange, lemon, fig and olive groves, nestling at the foot of Mt. Lowe, a bold peak in the Sierra Madre mountains rising very suddenly 6,000 feet. A railroad carries you up near the summit, from where southern California can be seen at a glance.

CATALINA ISLAND.

On April 11 we sailed from San Pedro harbor on the steamer "Hermosa" at 10 a. m. and at 1 p. m. we landed on Catalina Island, 20 miles out in the Pacific. Twenty-two miles long, rough and mountainous, with numerous little bays or coves indenting its shores, a semi-tropical climate, skies of blue, good fishing and boat hunting; such is Catalina Island, true an isle of summer all the year—a magic isle. The most interesting thing to us was a ride in the glass bottomed boats. These take you slowly along near the shore and you see through them the wonders of the mighty deep. Its silken and vegetable life is so abundant and beautiful in its valleys and on its mountains that you are lost in wonder and amazement and apt to think that the people who only see what is out of the water,



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TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY.

(DO YOU REMEMBER)

Cyclone swept Melrose township, Illinois, doing great damage. The New York & Harlem repair shops were damaged by fire to the extent of \$200,000.

Chamber of deputies authorized the president of Mexican republic to contract a loan of \$30,000,000.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY.

"General" Carter and 19 of his followers were sent to prison for contempt. Serious trouble was feared in the Coeur d'Alene district, Ida., where non-union miners were ordered to quit work or fight.

Attorney Anthony Koenen disappeared from his home in Salt Lake City.

FIVE YEARS AGO TODAY.

Arquaindo sought terms of peace from United States government. John F. Potter, one of the founders of the Republican party and a pronounced anti-slavery man, died at his home in East Troy, Wis., aged 82 years.

Leut. F. J. Mills, a member of Col. Willard Young's engineer corps at Honolulu, had a rib removed at St. Mark's hospital.

Thousands of Paris postmen went on strike for increased pay. President McKinley congratulated Nicholas II on the opening of the Peace Congress.

see but the half of the beautiful and the wonderful works of God.

DOWN IN THE DEEP.

There are mighty forests of kelp or sea-weed in many varieties and endless shades growing from the rocks and rising 50 to 100 feet above them in the blue water, just as trees rise in the air and furnishing food and homes for untold varieties of fish, mollusks, crustaceans and other forms of animal life. Electric fish, angel fish, perch and other varieties of finny beauties dart about among their forests on hill and in meadow, colored in colors so bright and beautiful as to make the birds of the tropics turn green with envy, could they have a look through a glass bottomed boat. Their color and beauty are heightened by the green-blue of the water and the color of the rocks, grasses and mosses on the bottom of the sea, together with the many bunches of phosphorescent sea-weed that sparkle like diamonds or shine like strings of pearls fallen from the neck of an eastern fairy queen.

Gray must have been thinking of a trip in a glass bottomed boat when he wrote: "Full many a gem of purest ray serene, The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear, Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

Even the lowly star fish as seen in his native haunts wears clusters of phosphorescent gems that would outshine the diamonds in the crown of an Indian Rajah.

One such look among the forests, hills and valleys at the bottom of the ocean convinces me that there yet remains many wonderful things to be found and classified by the scientists who are working with deep ocean dredges and improved diving apparatus. Last year a new and most beautiful sea Anemone was found, named and placed in the Catalina aquarium which contains specimens of most of the animal life found in the ocean around this island. A government scientific expedition which just left Catalina, took with it several animal specimens that have never before been seen or named by man.

THE TOWN OF AVALON.

The town on the island is Avalon on a small but beautiful bay with a resident population of 800 and a summer population of 10,000. It has all the modern things except street cars, and is situated in a little valley that was at one time the home of a numerous, thrifty and intelligent Indian population. They were of a superior class physically and intellectually, were found all over the island and are said by students to be a mixture of Indians from the main land, from the mountains along the west coast of both Americas, together with hardy adventurers and ship wrecked wanderers from the islands and coasts of the far off orient.

Catalina is a rich field for the student of archaeology. Its dusky inhabitants were induced to go to the mainland about 1750 by the Catholic missionaries and here they perished. Their last council fires have gone out and the story of their melancholy fate is sung by the southern winds sighing through the pines and sycamores of their beloved and beautiful island home.

We never caught any large fish while here and this is the fisherman's paradise but we got some large ideas and decided it was about the most interesting trip we have made "in this far western land."

STATE FORESTRY STATION.

After this we visited the state forestry experiment station in Santa Monica canyon, about four miles from Ocean Park. This is a most instructive place to visit. The station is under the direction of the state university; its object is to find and grow the trees that will cover California's mountains with forests of the best wood in the shortest time without irrigation.

The Australian Eucalyptus, of which there are about 300 varieties, gives the best promise so far. Imported some years ago it can now be found growing in every part of the state. Prof. Shutt, the genial and enthusiastic gentleman who has charge of the station, showed us one variety of this tree that he planted last year as six-inch seedlings, that are now 20 feet tall and 12

inches in circumference at the butt. The professor is sending some to the St. Louis fair. Some varieties grow to a height of 500 feet, some yield large quantities of gum which is 90 per cent tannin and is used for tanning leather. Another variety blossoms during the three months when the flowers do not, and so furnishes honey for the bees. The leaves of another are good food for cattle, while another gives wood almost as hard as mahogany, some varieties furnish one of the most valuable of the medicinal oils, the flowers of others a most fragrant and lasting perfume.

All make good wood and lumber and forests of such trees will help draw from the clouds showers whose value to the state will be greater than that of all the gold that will ever come from her mines.

The mountains of all our western states must be reforested or they will cease to draw and retain the moisture which is the very life of the communities that dwell in their valleys. Yet all the state universities, schools and public spirited men and women of our country encourage the planting of the best trees and preservation of our forests, as this is one of the most vital questions now before us.

What does he plant who plants a tree? He plants a friend of sun and sky; He plants the flag of breezes free; Who sheds of beauty towering high; He plants a home to heaven high; For song and mother-croon of bird, In hushed and happy twilight heard— The treble of heaven's harmony; These things he plants who plants a tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree? He plants cool shade and tender rain, And seed and bud of days to be, And years that fade and flush again; He plants the glory of the plain; He plants the forest's heritage; The harvest of the coming age; The joy that unborn eyes shall see; These things he plants who plants a tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree? He plants, in sap and leaves and wood, In love of home and loyalty, And far-cast thought of evil good— His blessing on the neighborhood; Who in the hollow of his hand Holds all the growth of all our land— A nation's growth from sea to sea Stirs in his heart who plants a tree.

PINE MINERAL WATER.

While hunting for oil in the western suburbs of Los Angeles a company bored a hole down into the earth 1,750 feet, at this depth the drill passed through three feet of white marble and immediately there gushed out a large stream of water, which now supplies the famous Bimini bath. The water comes up at the rate of 150 gallons a minute, 104 degrees hot, and is much the same in chemical composition as the famous vichy water of France and the Seltzer water of Germany. It contains 51 grains of carbonate of soda and washing soda with 17 grains of table salt and two grains of magnesium to each gallon. It is a most excellent mineral water for bathing and for rheumatics and certain kinds of dyspepsia, many of whom have been cured by its use. The man who discovered the commercial and medicinal value of this excellent water and who had the brains and courage and money to bring the baths to the present state of perfection is a Dr. Edwards, one of the great men of the west.

ON THE SMOOT CASE.

During a recent interview with the doctor he learned I was from Utah, when he said to me: "I don't know how you regard the Smoot investigation, but I'll tell you it is a piece of pure persecution of the Mormon Church."

The doctor at one time was a dentist. He was the originator of the conservative Life Insurance company of Los Angeles, now a very strong and progressive company. He said to me: "I notice by the papers the Gov. Wells Mr. W. S. McCormick and other leading men of your state have recently organized and started the Continental Life Insurance company. It is the right thing for the people of Utah to do; to keep their money at home by insuring in a home company that is offered by such a set of reliable men."

LOS ANGELES PARKS.

Los Angeles has some beautiful

parks. They are not so large as the Golden Gate park in San Francisco which, by the way, is the third largest park in the United States, the others being Druid Hill park, Baltimore, and the largest, Central park, New York.

One of the potential factors in the progress of this country is the Los Angeles Pacific Electric railway. Its 200 miles of track connect all the towns and gives them the best transportation facilities of any county in our nation. It is a railroad in every sense of the word, its trains making 30 miles an hour on some runs. The people can go from Los Angeles to their beach homes in about the same time that Salt Lake City can go from the Pioneer monument to their beautiful Waterloo homes.

AN ENJOYABLE OCEAN TRIP.

We made a 500 mile ocean trip from here to San Francisco that was full of pleasant experiences, save for the little item of being seasick. On the way our boat, the steamer State of California, stopped one hour at beautiful Santa Barbara, during which time we went ashore and drove to the famous old Santa Barbara mission, established in 1785. Also saw the headquarters of Gen. Fremont and the home of the first Spanish governor of California.

The governor's home is a wide spreading one story house with flat tile roof, adobe walls and wide veranda. It stands in strong contrast to the homes of the millionaires located in this one of the most beautiful cities of the state.

SCHOOLS OF WHALES.

Off Monterey bay we saw several schools of porpoises and whales. They appeared to be playing some very exciting game the way they were spouting and jumping 10 and 15 feet out of the water. A month ago a large whale was almost run ashore at Santa Barbara by two sword fish. He at last escaped to deep water. At Port Los Angeles we talked with a Danish sailor on the Rhinebeck, one of the largest sailing vessels afloat, 320 feet long, that had just come from Hamburg with a cargo of Alsen cement. She will load wheat from here to Australia, wool from there to Chili and salt petre from there back to Hamburg.

This fair-haired manly Dane told us that while rounding Cape Horn the ship was covered with ice and snow and had encountered terrible storms.

A WORD FOR THE ELDERLY.

While in California we have met and associated with the Elders and Saints of the California mission, and have much to thank them for during our stay. They are as good and progressive a people as you can find anywhere. We are now reluctantly leaving Ocean Park for our home in Salt Lake City, where we expect to arrive about May 20, after seeing San Francisco.

The trip has done us all good, especially my wife, for whose benefit it was undertaken.

During our stay here we have had very pleasant calls from Bishop Robert Patrick and wife, Mrs. Wilford Woodruff, Jos. J. Daynes, Jr., and wife and Mrs. D. A. Swan of Salt Lake City, President Robinson of the California mission, Elder C. W. Nibley, Miss Emma Ramsey of Utah, Miss D. Saffrey of Springville, and Dr. W. B. Baker and wife of Ogden.

For a few weeks or months outing and rest we are sure no better place can be found than the beach at Ocean Park and Santa Monica.

SAMUEL H. ALLEN.

Cured His Mother of Rheumatism.

"My mother has been a sufferer for many years with rheumatism," says W. H. Howard, of Husband, Pa. "At times she was unable to move at all, while at all times walking was painful. I presented her with a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm and after a few applications she decided it was the most wonderful pain reliever she had ever tried, in fact, she is never without it now and is at all times able to walk. An occasional application of Pain Balm keeps away the pain that she was formerly troubled with." For sale by all druggists.

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