# GOLDEN JUBILEE OF CALIFORNIA

## Anniversary of the Discovery of Gold by Marshall in 1848 to Be Celebrated With Pomp and Ceremony.

CALIFORNIA as a state and as a people will soon celebrate in San Francisco the discovery of the glittering gold that has since made her a great and influential empire.

On Jan. 24, 1848, 50 years ago, gold was discovered by James W. Marshall, a mechanic from Pennsylvania, in his mill race at Coloma, on Sutter's creek. Then, Minerville, a state spread into existence whose subsequent history is an integral part of that of our glorious Union. Her inspiration dates from that day.

This "find" had a worldwide impression. It caused the development of the great Pacific slope 200 years in advance of natural processes and added largely to the wealth of the universe. The fiftieth celebration of any event—a marriage or a coronation—is called a "golden jubilee," and hence the special signification of this forthcoming joyous day, for it is one of gold.

The Klondike can only add to California's greatness. No commonwealth will ever be founded on an Klondike. California's gold is not only in the hills and streams, but in the sunshine, flowers, fruits, grains and wine—perennially and inexhaustively golden.

The Society of California Pioneers, having decided to celebrate the semi-centennial of the first discovery of gold, will make herculean efforts to have the occasion worthy of that memorable event.

It will be far more imposing than the celebration which marked the fortieth anniversary, seven years ago, of the admission of California to the Union. All the state associations will share in it. San Francisco will be in gala attire and dressed in gay ribbons.

Of its importance to the individual in many ways there can be no doubt, but one of the novel features will be the arousing of an intense interest in historical data over which the veil of obscurity has gradually been lifted.

After Jan. 24, 1898, the rising generation of the great Pacific commonwealth will know more about the early mining days than even the numerous text books of their schools have recorded.

Few of them now could locate in the modern geography the old time towns of Bloody Flat, Poverty Bar, Tom Bet, Moonlight Flat, Blanket End, Chivalry Hill, Dude Gulch, Greenhorn Bar, Humbug, Last Chance, Happy Camp, Yuba Dam, Mad Mule, Yankee Jims, Nip and Tuck, Poker Flat, Roaring River, Mountain Brow, Dirty Hill, Red Dog, Boneyard, Dead Horse, Whisky Slide, Sublimity, Piddletown, Hungry Hollow, Two Cent Ranch, Jimtown, Dirty Bar, Dog Mine Creek, Rough and Ready, Nary End Diggins and Sky High Diggins.

What an atmosphere of Best Have there is in this nomenclature of the Argonauts! What pages of history are unrolled! It is truth and poetry and romance.

John A. Sutter, the son of a French speaking Swiss, was born in Baden, Germany, in 1803. He came to New York in 1834, then went to Missouri and three years later (1837) was sauntering on his route, by way of the Oregon trail, arriving finally at Fort Vancouver, in British Columbia. After sailing to the Sandwich Islands and passing through exciting adventures, he reached Yerba Buena, now San Francisco, on July 2, 1839. He was, at last, allowed by the Mexican governor, Alvarado, to settle in the Sacramento valley, agreeing to build and maintain a fort, and thus permanently established himself on the American river, about two miles above its junction with the Sacramento. There he erected what was subsequently known as "Sutter's Fort," with a colony in the beginning of three whites and eight Kanakas, and received the Mexican grant of land that he had obtained at the junction of the American and Sacramento rivers, embracing the site of the present city of Sacramento.

The fort is now little more than a memory. The adobe walls were pulled down and used in making levees or filling in city lots, and the only relic left standing is the main building of the latter, 25 by 50 feet square and two stories high. There is a plan to purchase the original site and restore the walls as they were when first built, after which the historical relic will be presented to the municipal guardianship of Sacramento.

During this time some people in California in 1848 many people settled in the valley of the Sacramento under protection of Sutter's Fort. There being a large demand for lumber, General Sutter decided to build a mill and for that purpose entered into a contract with Marshall. The first furnished the mill and the latter was to have a share of the lumber for his compensation.

Marshall was eccentric. Thought not a scientist, he was an ingenious mechanic, but, aside from a genius for "tools," he was unstable. He built a good sawmill, but his selection of a site was a mistake, because, for lumber purposes, there were pines nearer the fort whose timber, rather than where Coloma now stands, he chosen. There was no lack of water power anywhere on streams winding through the immense pine belt of the extensive mountain range.

Marshall intended to hand his share of the lumber down the banks of the creek to the river, there raftage it into rafts and float them down to Sacramento and sell on the spot for the market. He carried the distance from the fort to the mill 20 miles, but as the present road it is 36, and by his original crooked route it must have been 50.

No other man would probably have chosen such an inaccessible spot. If gold had not been discovered, Sutter would have selected a more favorable location. He had confidence in Marshall, however, and gave orders for the erection of the mill without going to see the place. The lumber enterprise would have resulted naturally in a disastrous failure.

It was on the south fork of the American river, afterward called Sutter's creek, that Marshall began the construction of the mill, just above a rapid or riffle, where a dam could be built. After digging a tail race, he turned into it the entire force of the water for the purpose of widening and deepening the channel. In doing this a quantity of sand, sand and gravel was carried along with the stream and deposited in a long at the foot of the mill race. The next morning, after the gates were closed, Marshall walked along his newly formed waterway and saw numerous glittering particles among the sand and gravel. One larger than its fellows he picked up and, after a cursory examination, was induced to gather others along the banks. This is Marshall's own story.

Then it was that Sutter wrote in his diary, at the town he had named New Helvetia:

"Friday, January 28th, 1848.

"Mr. Marshall arrived from the mountains, very interested about a gold mine."

The "importance" of the business is indicated by the statistics that fell of Hubert Howe Bancroft from the annals of California since "Mr. Marshall arrived from the mountains." He brought a nugget to Sutter's Fort that was tested and found to be pure gold.

It is not a new story to Californians, but it is an unforgettable one, and the people will dispel their understanding of it in the forthcoming celebration.

General John Bidwell, who was a clerk at Sutter's Fort at the time of the discovery, says he saw the nugget, a letter to Alphonse Sutter of San Francisco, the sutter's grandson:

In regard to the relations of Sutter and Marshall, the former, of the sawmill at Coloma, it was emphatically Sutter's enterprise, for it had been for years the fixed purpose to build a sawmill somewhere in some of the foothills, and Marshall was sent as a foreman who could be found in order to supply the increasing wants for lumber.

"Previous to the building of the mill at Coloma all lumber had to be sawed by hand. One hundred feet for two men was a day's work. At first Sutter's enterprise was from the redwoods across the bay and from Bodega, on the coast, where he had men to saw lumber in 1842. In 1844-5 he had men saw lumber from redwood on Feather river.

"In 1845 he sent men to saw lumber in the Sierra Nevada mountains south of Cosumnes river and about 40 miles from New Helvetia. Bill his principal source of lumber was from the redwoods, and he was constantly sending his launch to the bay for lumber and other supplies.

"Almost every year he sent out parties to explore for lumber—to find the most feasible site for a sawmill. Taylor was one—only in the most remote, in 1841, and in the mountains north of Feather river in 1844. Two or more parties were sent in 1847. The last sent was Marshall."

The two men intended to keep the discovery good fortune a secret, but there was a boarding house for employees at Sutter's mill, and Marshall had foolishly given to Mrs. Wilson, the cook, a piece of the gold, and she had placed it in a bottle of bluing for to see what effect would be produced on the chlorine cross, and a few days later there were over 1,000 people in the vicinity busily at work with all sorts of implements, digging and washing.

There was wild excitement and sensible and the entire world began emptying its hosts into the mines. Two hundred and fifty thousand of the boldest, bravest, most intelligent men ever before seen gathered in a small section of country, with a gross many of the most reckless and dangerous characters on earth. There was more serious energy in the entire lock of brain than since the Spanish conquests. There arrived in San Francisco in the last nine months of 1849 50 vessels from home and foreign ports, 25,000 passengers came by water, 27,000 immigrants crossed the plains. In September, 1853, there were more than 200 vessels lying at anchor in the port. They brought the products of the earth—flour from Chile, potatoes and fruits from Hawaii, bonnets from Prairie and necessaries from the Atlantic coast. The miners paid with lavish hand. Labor was $16 a day, and fortunes were made and lost in a single month.

Gold in the earth, gold in the air, gold in the trees. Gold was everywhere in the new country, and the immigration was such that in comparison with it the Alaska rush is but an incident.

Probably there never has been such an invasion of a land since the days of Peter the Hermit and the Crusaders. And there never was another country on earth where the climate conditions and the local surroundings were so favorable for the disposition and general comfort of such a body of people as was the California of that day.

The first gold nugget that Marshall gave to Mrs. Wilson is now owned by W. W. Allen, a San Francisco lawyer, and will be given a prominent exhibition, as it was with a collection of other interests at the World's fair at Chicago.

Mr. Allen contributed to the amount of the Wilsons in their poverty stricken old age, and, prior to her death, in 1893, Mrs. Wilson handed him her nugget. Her husband lived for four years more.

The lawyer has said: "During Marshall's decline I met him a number of times, and he would always request me to produce the gold that he might see the fine pieces he had polished up and through which such ruinous wealth had been created. Although he was a man of rude, crude habits and unstudied speech, he was the sensitive and soul hearted and always felt that the government and state of California had not done what they should have done in the discovery of the gold and the great mining industry, which they undoubtedly were. He died alone in the cabin at the foot of Kelsey hill, El Dorado county, in 1885, with not enough wealth to defray the expenses of a simple burial. The state of California, by an act of the legislature in 1887, appropriated $5,000 for the erection of a monument to his memory. The monument was built and placed upon the hill overlooking the point where the first nugget was discovered. The figure of the state points down to the very rock where he picked it up. The monument was unveiled May 8, 1890."

It is not well known, however, that this important day was long supposed to be on Jan. 19 or 18 and that General Sutter discovered a share in the credit of the discovery, though he never claimed it. The sawmill at Coloma was his enterprise and Marshall the manager. The settlers in New Helvetia shared the credit for the chance discovery, but the uncovering of the mineral wealth was Sutter's financial ruin. He saw only the wealth of the golden grain. His only care was for the agricultural control of the estates which had been his cherished dream on making his way to the great Lone Star state—a dream which became a reality, vast and glorious and then faded away into dreary nothingness.

In an eastern village is the grave of Sutter. On the mountain side where he searched for timber lies the discoverer, Marshall. There is nothing in the story of one that can detract from the honest fame of the other, and of the two it may be said in common:

They served as means by which the immense wealth of a golden land became the property of mankind.

The following communication of recent date from one of the surviving companions of Marshall to the historian John S. Hittell is of interest:

"Mt. George, Utah.

"Dear Mr. Hittell—Yours of the 24 inst. to hand, in which I learn that the Society of California Pioneers is considering the matter of celebrating on the 24th of January next the semi-centennial of the discovery of gold at Coloma.

"You wish me to give you a list of the survivors, with their precise names, postoffice addresses and any information I have in regard to their health and strength.

"James S. Brown.—I met him at our great jubilee in Salt Lake City last July. He was in his usual health, mentally and relatively as ever. His address is 21 South First West street, Salt Lake City.

"Azariah Smith a few years ago was living in Manti, Sanpete county, Utah. I have not heard of his death or of his leaving that place. The last account his health was pretty good, though he was somewhat enfeebled at times with ague.

"William J. Johnson.—His address at last accounts was Ramah, Valencia county, N. M. His health was good then.

"My memoir will says with Jackson shall at the time he found the gold at Coloma are all dead, so far as I know, except myself and the same I have just mentioned. My health is pretty good for a person of my age—now in my eighty-third year—appetite good, and people say I look very age splendidly, and my walk is firm, though I have to use a cane to steady myself, as I am so light headed as to be in danger of falling. I am pleased to hear that you propose about to celebrate the 50th anniversary of January, 1898, and hope you will save a place for me and I hope to be in the grand festivities on that occasion.

"Any information I may have that you would like to know you have only to write, and it will be a pleasing task for me to give it if I can. Respectfully yours.

"HENRY W. HIGLEN."

If possible, these survivors of the party that accompanied Marshall will be brought to San Francisco for the celebration, as their presence would impress the people that the discovery is still within the memory of the living.

Jan. 24 will be a legal holiday. Some of the features of the celebration will be literary exercises, president of the day; orator and poet; music and song interpersed in the programme. Bands of the state militia and troops of the U. S. army; commercial, mercantile, manufacturing and labor organizations of the city and state. Delta corresponding the different cities of California; leading divisions representing the nations to follow in order the survivors of Marshall's party; Spanish navigators, native Indians, vaqueros; pioneer cattle, such as mud wagons, ox teams, pony express and other forms of primitive conveyance. The California area will be represented by the aborigines, the missions, Mexican occupation, American conquest, agriculture, horticulture, commerce, civilization and a single allegorical representation embracing all these ideas, culminating in the pageant of the "Golden Jubilee."

There will be a mining exhibition in the Mechanics' pavilion, while the event of the day will be the laying of the cornerstone of the commemorative arch. Civic bodies, fraternal societies and military and social organizations from every county will add to the splendor of the procession, and the children of the public schools of San Francisco will assist prominently in the exercises. Souvenirs, badges and emblems of the jubilee will all be tinted in the distinctive and appropriate color—gold.

Ample arrangements have been made for the transportation and accommodation of the naturally expected hosts of visitors.

Rugged miners will come into the city. They will come from the Mariposa gulches of Amador and Tuolumne, from the gravel beds of Calaveras, from the golden bedded streams of Butte, Yuba and Placer, from the Trinity valleys through which meanders the Sacramento and from the fastnesses of the granite ribbed and snowy topped Sierras. Then there will come also pastoral pioneers from the sun scorched plains of southern California, where cattle browse quietly in the balmy weather time; from the orange groves of Los Angeles and San Bernardino, from the vast wheat empires of Kern and Tulare, and from the vine covered sands of San Luis Obispo.

The general officers in charge of the jubilee work are President, J. H. Jewett; vice president, J. D. Spreckels; Mrs. Belle W. Conrad; secretary, S. H. Daniels; treasurer, Henry S. Martin. The executive committee is formed of representatives of the Pioneers, Native Sons of the Golden West, Native Daughters of the Golden West, California Miners' association, San Francisco Miners' association, with Governor James H. Budd and James D. Phelan, mayor of San Francisco.

ALBERT P. SOUTHWICK.

## Pioneers at The Jubilee.

One of the features decided upon in connection with the celebration of California's Golden Jubilee is to extend an invitation to the pioneers who settled in this country prior to 1848. Pioneers of the parade committee have compiled a list of those who are now known to be living, but there doubtless are some who have been omitted. The list is as follows:

Henry Judson, 1841, San Jose, 1839; R. Pacheco, native born, 1812; Isaac Brown, Yountville, 1839; Major Beale, Lancaster, San Jose, 1841; William E. Dennet, San Francisco, 1841; John Bidwell, Chico, 1841; Augustus L. Stone, Pasadena, 1841; William P. Toler, Oakland, 1841; Henry F. Teschemacher, San Francisco, 1841; Francisco P. Fuller, 1842; R. M. Holderness, Fort Tejon, Tex., 1843; John H. Foley, Hollister, 1844; R. C. Dooley, San Francisco, 1845; Henry Fowler, Napa, 1844; H. D. Phippy, San Jose, 1844; F. W. Bartlett, San Luis Obispo, 1844; Jackson Jordan, 1845; Francis Sears, Francisco, 1846; Thomas Fairer, San Francisco, 1846; Thomas Brannan, Jr., Tombstone, A. T., 1846; Isaac M. Baker, San Francisco, 1846; John Griffin, Los Angeles, 1846; Henry Mathews, Oakland, 1846; Annie L. Martel, San Francisco, 1846; William H. Nash, San Francisco, 1846; Robert Sherman, San Francisco, 1846; James H. Adams, San Francisco, 1847; James G. Adams, San Francisco, 1847; William L. Chalfant, San Luis Obispo, 1847; William K. Carousel, San Francisco, 1847; John H. Frisbie, City of Mexico, 1847; William Green, Sonoma, 1847; J. H. Shafer, San Francisco, 1847; Simeon O. Houghton, Los Angeles, 1847; William A. Hutchinson, Salinas, 1847; George Henry Hamilton, 1847; H. H. Cannon, Healdsburg, 1847; Alfred G. Laflin, Portsmouth, N. H., 1847; P. Lynch, San Francisco, 1847; James Lynch, San Luis Obispo, 1847; Thomas W. Mitchell, San Francisco, 1847; Charles Northiff, New York, 1847; Andrew H. Piper, Ecuador, 1847; Adolphus C. Rose, San Francisco, 1847; Frederick Rose, Oakland, 1847; L. H. Sparks, Point Orford, 1847; J. C. L. Walsworth, Lisbfeld, Conn., 1847; Robert Wilson, San Francisco, 1847.

## How Pullman Was Named.

The town of Pullman was not originally named after the late Mr. Pullman himself. The story is that W. W. Boman, the architect of its town, being justly proud of his work went to the proprietor and asked that it be named "Boman."

"Tut! tut!" said the magnate. "Yes I had thought of calling it plain 'Pullman' from the man who built it and paid for it. However," Mr. Pullman added, as he observed a look of disappointment on the architect's face, "I am not particular. Now what do you say to a compromise? Suppose we take the first syllable of my name, 'Pull,' and the second syllable of your name, 'man.' There you have it, 'Pull-man'—Pullman. You see that combines your idea with mine."

Mr. Pullman's suggestion prevailed, and the name, it seemed, was a compromise, though it is not reported that Architect Boman was greatly pleased thereby.

## Bootblacks In London.

The force of American demand is being once more exemplified in London by the placing at all important railroad stations of stands in connection with the bootblack brigade. This work is undertaken by the Central Bootblack society. There is already such accommodation provided at Euston station. It appears that American gentlemen visiting London express surprise that they are expected to stand while they have their boots blacked, as they are accustomed to sit during the operation at home.

The society has 60 boys who are lodged, taught and partially boarded in the premises of the institution, and there is an ingenious element of their earnings into three parts after an allowance for food received out of doors, one-third being their own, another third the society's and the remaining third going to their bank account, on which they can draw for special purposes.

## Legend of the Peach.

The Japanese, who claim to have first discovered or utilized the peach, have a beautiful legend as to the fruit. A pious old couple, sunken with years and poverty, subsisted by begging. One day on the highway the old woman found the beautiful ripe fruit. Although almost famished, she did not selfishly eat the luscious peach and but took it home to share with her husband. As the knife cut into the fruit opened and an odor spread forth, who told the astonished beggars that he was the god Jiki To and had accidentally fallen from the orchards of the Japanese heaven while at play with some other gods and goddesses. He rewarded the humble peach with the gift of the Japs its seed to plant and told them its product would make them wealthy. This is the origin of the peach, according to the legend.

## California's Production of Gold.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1848 | $5,000,000 | 1871 | $17,457,779 |
| 1849 | 10,000,000 | 1872 | 17,626,000 |
| 1850 | 20,000,000 | 1873 | 17,500,000 |
| 1851 | 55,000,000 | 1874 | 17,000,000 |
| 1852 | 65,000,000 | 1875 | 16,000,000 |
| 1853 | 65,000,000 | 1876 | 15,000,000 |
| 1854 | 60,000,000 | 1877 | 14,000,000 |
| 1855 | 55,000,000 | 1878 | 13,000,000 |
| 1856 | 55,000,000 | 1879 | 12,000,000 |
| 1857 | 55,000,000 | 1880 | 11,000,000 |
| 1858 | 55,000,000 | 1881 | 10,000,000 |
| 1859 | 55,000,000 | 1882 | 10,000,000 |
| 1860 | 45,000,000 | 1883 | 10,000,000 |
| 1861 | 40,000,000 | 1884 | 10,000,000 |
| 1862 | 35,000,000 | 1885 | 10,000,000 |
| 1863 | 30,000,000 | 1886 | 10,000,000 |
| 1864 | 30,000,000 | 1887 | 10,000,000 |
| 1865 | 30,000,000 | 1888 | 10,000,000 |
| 1866 | 30,000,000 | 1889 | 10,000,000 |
| 1867 | 30,000,000 | 1890 | 10,000,000 |
| 1868 | 30,000,000 | 1891 | 10,000,000 |
| 1869 | 30,000,000 | 1892 | 10,000,000 |
| 1870 | 20,000,000 | 1893 | 10,000,000 |
| 1871 | 18,187,000 | 1894 | 10,000,000 |
| 1872 | 18,000,000 | 1895 | 10,000,000 |
| 1873 | 18,000,000 | Total | $1,000,000,000 |

## Death of a Famous Giantess.

Probably the tallest woman in America died recently in the City of Mexico. Her height was 8 feet 2 inches. She was born in the state of Sonora and was in no way remarkable except for her unusual height. For the last 60 years she had been a familiar figure on the streets of the capital of Mexico, where she attracted a great deal of attention from strangers and travelers, and it was pointed out to them with pride as one of the curiosities of the nation. She died at the age of 43, leaving a husband and three children. Her name was Magdalena Cerrutta. She was married and raised quite a family of children, and, with the Spanish language, with difficulty, but the fame of her size was widely known.

A Parisian lady proposes to render celluloid inconbustible by mixing it with chloride of magnesium.

# FACT AND FICTION.

About 4,000,000 false teeth are manufactured annually in the United States, while over a ton of gold and over four tons of silver and platinum go to the value of $50,000,000 are used in stopping teeth.

Romance rather than sale made in Bohemia by dipping a cake into a rubber solution, evaporating the solvent by agitation and pulling the rubber cake into thin ropes. The dipping process may be repeated as often as desired.

The great fire at Hamburg 45 years ago destroyed the courthouses, which was more than 600 years old. Recently the new courthouse was composed at a total cost of $2,000,000.

The most costly piece of railway line in the world is that between the Mansion House and Aldgate stations in London, which required the expenditure of—one upon $2,000,000 a mile.

A recently compiled list of graduates of Harvard, including both academic and professional school graduates, who have been in the public service, shows that Harvard has furnished 3 presidents of the United States, 2 vice presidents, 21 cabinet officers, 32 embassadors and ministers plenipotentiary, 37 United States senators and 178 representatives in congress.

The German agricultural papers make the remarkable statement that the imports of American apples into the German empire last year were more than 20 times larger in any previous year, and, the shipments in 1896 having amounted to no less than 4,000,000 centners—the number being equal to a hundred pounds.

An American who visited Birmingham, England, not long ago, found that in constructing the street trolleys there the cable was made in Pittsburg, the wire in Philadelphia, the boilers in Erie, the engines in Milwaukee and the general electric fittings in Schenectady.

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Most of the blond hair used in wigs and switches comes from the Italian and Spanish convents; most of the blond hair from the heads of Swedish, Dutch, Russian and German peasant girls.

The alumni of the University of Minnesota will erect a statue of John S. Pillsbury on the college campus.

The trustees of the Chicago Public Library have now opened that institution on Sunday from noon to 6 p. m. to the circulation of books as well as to general reading and reference.

It is something of a surprise to learn that from Rome, the home of art, the value of works imported from that city is only $1,000 less than the value of the paintings, cheese being the second article on the list of exports from Rome.

It is said that the rules paid to Mark Twain for his new book in $40,000 and that Major Pond has recently made him an offer of $125 for a series of lectures.

In a new Prussian portable cable for hoisting in mines the conductor is formed of twisted copper wires. The first insulating layer is gutta percha; over this follow two tapes of Para rubber, and then two coverings of linen yarn soaked in rockerite.

Mrs. Scott Smith of Michigan possesses one of the finest collections of paintings in this country. He is a great admirer of American art.

In the shop of a St. Petersburg watchmaker a human skull clock is on view—the only one of its kind. The hands are pivoted on its nose, and many messages that may be spoken into its ears are reported by a phonograph through its mouth.