J.M. Thomas reports work progressing favorably on his tunnel at Clam Shell Canyon as the tunnel progresses more water is being developed.

"I came to Monrovia" says a gentleman to a reporter the other day "because of the moral standing of the town. There are other places where I might have done better in my business but they did not suit me as well."

A week from Thursday the 17th instant will be the second anniversary of the birth of Monrovia preparations should at once be made for a celebration of some kind wouldn't it be a good idea for the Mayor to proclaim that day a legal holiday. Let's have an excursion on the rapid Transit or something. Last year we had a splendid entertainment in the evening.

If you haven't paid a visit to the gold fields you are behind the times.

Workmen are employed grading Falling Leaf Avenue through Duarte.

Miss Nettie Shaffner of Los Angeles is visiting A.S. Baldwin and wife.

A.J. Bent attended the Minnesota picnic in Santa fe Springs Tuesday.

F.B. Carter has plans made for a cottage to be built on his place in Duarte.

Frank Tracy a printer from Riverside is visiting his friend A.F. Snell, Duarte.

The Sunday school singing of the Baptist Church is now lead by J.A. Case.

For brushes either scrub or shoe, stove, tooth or hair go to Smith's Bargain House.

Tablets, stationery and toilet soaps at prices cheaper than you have seen at Smith's Bargain Store.

Joseph Combs will leave for Nevada, Missouri and Indiana in a few days intending to be gone until next fall.

Call at Smith's bargain House and see the useful and beautiful things you can buy for 5, 10, 15 and 25 cents.

Miss Jennie Shrode of Duarte who has been visiting in San Diego County for a few days has returned home.

C.H. Dingman of Monrovia has purchased a lot at Redondo Beach and intends building there a grocery store.

Maje Shrode says his Duarte blacksmith and horse shoeing shod is filled with work since his return. Try Maje for a good horse shoe.

Try the Columbia Baking Powder 25 cents a can the same that you have to pay 50 cents for the Royal for sale at Johnson & Parker.

C.H. Lee proprietor of the Windsor Hotel of this place will remove to Pasadena to take charge of the Acme Hotel of that city.

J.C. Crewe living at Pasadena shot a large black bald headed eagle last Wednesday near Azusa. It measured ten feet from tip to tip of wings.

Do you want anything in China, glass, and crockery, wire goods or tinware? Go where you can buy them the cheapest, Smith's Bargain Store, Orange Avenue.

At the old reliable firm of Johnson & Parker you can do just as well as you can in Los Angeles if you will drop in and ascertain the price of goods come and be convinced.

C.O. Cummings representing the *Southern California Excursionist* a monthly publication by Warner Brothers excursion agents was in Monrovia Thursday.

Kampferii Japonica, grand orchid-like flowers, all colors, 8 to 10 inches across, for sale at Chappelow's Nursery. Hand painted pictures of this lovely flower can be seen at the nursery.

William Chappelow the nurseryman left on our table the other day an orange tree six inches high containing 2 well-developed blossoms. The staff expects to live high off the crop next season.

On Monday next Mrs. Pomerence and daughter Jennie Mrs. Crews, Rev. and Mrs. Reider and W.C. Badeau will start for Fresno to attend the Baptist State Convention to be held on the 8th instant.

Parties desiring to visit Redondo Beach should call at the office of Pirtle & Keefer, No. 21 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, where round trip tickets can be procured for 50 cents for further information call at the office of the Keefer Investment Company, Monrovia.

Mrs. C.H. Stewart and son accompanied by Thomas Endicott started for Cynthiana, Kentucky, Thursday, their former home.

There is a strike of the Southern Pacific Switchmen in Los Angeles the cause of the walkout is "shorter hours or more pay."

Dr. J. Taylor Stewart and family will leave for New York in a few days. First going to their former home in Kentucky. They will return in the fall.

We have received the prospectus of the only florist's journal published west of Chicago the *California Florist* to be published by the Florist Publishing Company, Santa Barbara.

\$100 REWARD

A reward of \$100 will be offered for the conviction of the parties who broke the windows in the schoolhouse and the Methodist Church on Saturday evening last.

C.A. Reynolds, Clerk

Johnson & Parker will remove their hardware to west Los Angeles where they will open a store which will be under the management of G.R. Johnson of course they will still continue their grocery business here.

Professor P.G. Hull and wife were on their way back to Monrovia from Arizona and remained at Banning for a rest at which place Mr. Hull was taken very ill. Albert Chess went down to see him and reports him very low.

E.R. Root and mother, Mrs. R. Root and Mrs. H.C. Lewis all of Coldwater, Michigan, were the guests of Mrs. and Mrs. C.L. Hunter this week, at the Keefer cottage. Mrs. Lewis has traveled extensively but says that there is no place possessing as fine a climate as Monrovia.

Plant flowers and the world will be more beautiful for your having lived. Cultivate them if you would be happy. How much nicer your home surroundings would be if you would cut down the weeds. Sow a grass plot and set out some flowers and shrubbery. Try it and if you do not feel happier we will miss our guess.

Dr. Rose Talbott and Dr. Lulu Talbott, sisters of Mrs. Sam Maxwell, Duarte, were married to two cousins both doctors at Los Angeles, Thursday morning. The gentlemen were Dr. Frank D. Bullard and Dr. H. Bent Ellis. The four doctors started for a honeymoon on the continent. They will study in Germany one year. Then they will return and practice in Los Angles.

At a meeting held in the Baptist Church here on Wednesday last a formal protest was made against Sunday Ball playing or other public games to the desecration of the Lord's Day in Monrovia. A committee was appointed to draw up a petition to the council with a view to prohibiting such disturbances to the usual quietude of the city said petition was very largely signed by the church and congregation.

G.W. Frazer has set out 30 acres to fruit trees this spring principally in apricots and peaches. Although they were put out a couple of months later than usual they are growing wonderfully well. Mr. Frazer thinks there is more money in these kinds of fruits than in oranges – An opinion, which many would contest. He has had many years experience in raising fruit, however, and his opinion should be worth something he has also set out a large number to tomato plants which are said to pay well when properly handled.

Have you all done registering? If you want to vote at the coming election you should see to it that your name is on the new Great Register of the county. All who have resided in the state one year, the county for 6 months and the precinct for 90 days are entitled to register and everybody weather heretofore registered or not must out his name on the new register, if he wants to vote.

A CHINESE FUNERAL Some Queer Proceedings of the Little Yellow Man

Yesterday afternoon there was great excitement Chins Town and on making inquiries. A Tribune reporter was told that a Chinaman had died the night before and that there was to be a funeral, the first ever given any Chinaman of this city. The reporter went to the place where the corpse was in state on the street in front of a store where he beheld a table which was under a tent on which were two pigs weighting about 150 pounds a piece both of which were roasted. Beyond the first table was another on which were various dishes containing fried chicken, ham, boiled eggs, peanuts and a number of Chinese delicacies at the foot of the table there was a vessel containing candles and fuse there was also one on the southern end of the tent

After surveying this, the reporter then went into the room where the corpse was there in a corner laid out in a neat rosewood coffin with silver mountings was the dead Chinaman. In the same room there were a great many Chinese going out and coming in who would take a few cents and wrap them up I a piece of blank paper which they would deposit in a basket. In a short while the lid of the coffin was put on and the remains carried out on the street and placed in front of the table on which the pigs were. The high priest then took up the symbols of his religion and a blast was played on some Chinese wind instrument. The Priest singing at the same time some hymn. The mourners and friends of the deceased then 2 at a time, kneeled before the corpse and the tables. Going through a number of maneuvers. Then each would take a sup of tea and stew it on the ground making 3 deep bows. After all of the friends of deceased had paid their last respects and tribute. The remains were placed in a hearse to which 4 horses were hitched. The funeral procession was very long. Consisting of over 30 hacks. Accompanied by two Chinese bands of music, which kept up their noise until they reached the grave in the Evergreen Cemetery. When they neared the grave there were hundreds of men and women in waiting. The coffin was taken out of the hearse and placed beside the grave where friends and relatives paid their last respects and scattered whiskey all around the coffin after which the coffin after which the coffin was lowered into the grave. Before putting on the lid of the outer box, eggs, chickens, ham, biscuits, cigarettes, whisky and various other things and trinkets were thrown on the top of the coffin. After which the lid was put on and the grave filled. The Chinaman than making haste to leave for home.

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A CARD OF THANKS

To the friends who so kindly assisted me during the sickness and death of my wife I would return my sincere and Heartfelt thanks.

Respectfully, Thomas Glenny

AN EGGSTRAORDINARY PROBLEM

The following problem is worrying the minds of the mathematically minded. Can you solve it?

"If a hen and a half lay, an egg and a half, in a day and a half, how many eggs ell six hens lay in seven days."

Here is something for the school children to work out. Send answers next week.

FOR RENT

One new double house on J.I.C. Avenue, half a block from school house and two blocks from Rapid transit depot. One new double house on White Oak between Primrose and Magnolia. Inquire of S.C. Savage, Orange Avenue.

FRUIT DRYING

A reporter of the Planet had a conversation the other day with G.W. Frazer about the fruit drying business, which he contemplates starting in Monrovia. This of course is in no way connected with the fruit and vegetables canning business which we mentioned last week, but a separate and distinct business. Mr. Frazer came to Monrovia last fall from? County, which perhaps produces the largest quantity and best quality of apricots and peaches in America. He has had upwards of twenty years experience and course is thoroughly conversant with all the ins and outs of the business. He knows how much profit there is an acre of apricots or peaches; how much he could afford to pay a pound for fruit for drying and how much money there is in the fruit after it is dried and ready for the market. He contends that there is big money for both the producer and drier, and that there is no more profitable legitimate business to enter upon in California. He has just finished setting out thirty acres of these fruits within the city limits and contends that they are more profitable then oranges when properly cared for. But to the point. He has concluded to purchase the apricot and peach crop of this section this season, or as much of it as he can and will proceed to dry the fruit. Next week he proposes to make a trip through the fruit sections of Duarte, Azusa, Covina, Sierra Madre, Alhambra, San Gabriel and Pasadena, and make an estimate of the growing crop, perhaps at the same time making contracts for it. From this trip he will be able to judge the extent of the business. It is estimated that the Duarte crop will be about 200 tons. If other sections yield as well proportionately, the handling of this year crop, if it can all be secured, will employ a large number of hands. This is light work, in which women and children can make as much as men, therefore employment will be furnished to the latter during the school summer vacation. As the apricot crop begins early in June, Mr. Frazer will soon commence to make preparations to handle the fruit. He uses no patent dries, but dries the fruit by the sun. Success to the new enterprise.

VOCAL MUSIC IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The following article will be found very interesting reading. It contains extracts from a paper read before the county teachers' institute at Los Angeles by professor James A. Foshay, of Monrovia.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and Gentlemen:

The real utility of any branch of science depends very much upon how that branch is made to appear in the classroom. Years ago the spelling book, reader, arithmetic and the bible comprised the entire list of text books; and yet the pages of history are brilliant with the names of those who grew to greatness in those twilight days of science. Before this week shall close, we shall be told what the "essentials of education" are. We shall watch with interest to see where vocal music is placed. Vocal music requires time, study and intellectual work. The question seems to be, will it pay? The almighty dollar blinds our senses and shuts out the true light. Parents are too apt to make the multiplication table the standard. The accumulation of town lots is regarded too much as the final proof. All agree that reading, writing and arithmetic should occupy the most prominent places in our course of study; and yet there are very many who question with great earnestness, the methods by which these subjects are taught. So with vocal music. The State of California was the first to take the progressive step of making music a compulsory branch in all the public schools in the State. We are not prepared to say how well this law is complied with; but from previous observations in other states we question the methods and results. It is not the purpose of this paper to discuss the different methods, but to give ideas that possibly may be of use to those who have an interest in the subject. I thoroughly believe that nine out of every ten voices in our primary departments would develop into good singers, if properly trained. It is generally believed that the greatest difficulties are met in the higher grades, when the ages render caution in the care of the voices necessary. I believe that just as great care, and even greater care should be exercised in the primary grades. Most of the voices are ruined before the child is 12 years of age. After much careful observation, while the children were at play, Professor H.E. Holt found the proper tones, which these children should sing. Their tones should be between F and C.

Teachers must see to it that the voices should not be strained and broken, in order that a large volume of "noise," considered by many to be music, may be produced, at the 'commencement exercises' or other entertainments. We confess the temptation to thus have them 'show off' is great, but it must be withstood if we would have strong and yet musical voices.

There is such a charm in the human voice that it commands attention though a multitude of faults prevent its expression. It is easy to select beautiful pieces calculated to cultivate

VOCAL MUSIC IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - Continued

a taste for signing, and give a certain assurance of performance. But it is not easy to lay the foundation on which the superstructure of practice should be built. It is not sufficient to construct a building in the most approved style and proper ornamentation. If the material is not durable the building is a failure. God has given us material prepared in the best possible manner. To use it properly, we must have knowledge and consider the most proper, natural and correct manner of using it.

The writer recently has an opportunity of witnessing the work as conducted in the Pasadena schools under the supervision of Professor R.L. Kent. It was especially pleasing to see with what care those voices were handled. Every child seemed to sing naturally, with no straining; for they were carefully watched, and not permitted to attempt a tone was not within his or her compass. While I am not here to in any way, to forward the interests of one publisher more than another, yet I wish to call attention to Dr. Mason's charts. They will, if followed, assist greatly in directing the teacher, especially if he has not a correct definite knowledge of what should be taught at proper stages or in certain grades.

Since vocal music is made one of our branches of study, we as teachers must prepare ourselves as thoroughly as possible to instruct upon the subject. The slightest knowledge of music is not to be despised. If it is supplemented by careful, intelligent study, that elementary work will bear more fruit than we can now estimate.

I was in a room recently where the teacher could not sing, and had no ear for music. Yet those children sang well at sight and produced good tones. She knew definitely what she had to do, and was conscientious in doing it. Her work was carefully watched by another. Every teacher should know definitely what she is to do, and she should know how to do it.

Music was formerly regarded as a luxury intended only for those to enjoy who had plenty of time and money for its indulgence. And even now we often find it considered as a special accomplishment for those who are supposed to have exceptional talent in that direction and not for the masses. We, the teachers, must overcome that idea and show to the world that all are intended to sing and must sing.

The voice has great capacities, powers, and wonderful controlling influences over the happiness of man. Voice culture is a recognized fact, both in signing and reading, but its importance is not fully estimated. It is conceded that every boy or girl who can talk can learn to sing. Some, it is true, need more training than others, while with many it seems natural. This is not an exception to other subjects. We frequently find pupils ready in

VOCAL MUSIC IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - Continued

geography and cannot seem to master numbers, yet we insist upon their studying arithmetic. Others may not write an exceptionally fine hand and on the average misspell every fourth word; but by perseverance the boy who cannot spell naturally will become able to write a letter, that will look well on the page; and the girl who it seemed could not learn percentage can be fully trusted to reckon her father's interest. So in singing – those not so apt, should receive more instead of less training. All musical instruction that does not enable the pupil to sing is of little value.

There should be no distinction in favor of girls. Give the boys equal advantages, at least. Parents are apt to encourage their daughters in obtaining a musical education, while they furnish some substitute for their sons. Boys are turned out in the world to enter upon life work, without the aid of this refining study. There are no reasons in favor of musical education for girls that will not equally apply to boys. Our boys certainly need its refining influences. Whatever may be said in favor of 'free trade' or "protection" I am in favor of free musical education to every boy and girl, and protection against the ideas that only a few specially talented ones may enjoy its pleasures.

At the present time our attention is especially called to the training of the eye that it may
discriminate form and color. While we thus train the eye, it is unjust to neglect the ear.
The great mass of children receive no other training than that received in the public
school; and when they leave it, they leave all systematic study. If they receive no musical
education in the public

Dr. Hall says, "I need not tell you that music bears upon its wings as it gushes forth from the human lips some of the sweetest and purest pleasures of the passing hour, whether or from the breath of old Aeolus upon his throne. Music elevates and quickens our perceptions; it softens and subdues the rebellious disposition; it refines and soothes the wayward and turbulent passions; it nerves the heart to deeds of valor and heroism; it gives joy and consolation in the hour of affliction; carries the soul captive across the rough and stormy sea of life, and stands beyond the vale of time to welcome, with angelic voices, the wandering spirit to its final home."

Let there is much singing in our schools. It will make the hours pass more pleasantly. Give to it the time and attention, which its importance demands. We believe the day is not distant when vocal music will receive a liberal support from those who have the admiration of common school interests.

A GREAT RUSH ANTICIPATED

The two great overland railways, the Santa Fe and the Southern Pacific, have been adding very largely to their rolling stock since the opening of the new year and the agents of both companies are still purchasing passenger coaches and locomotives in the open market, besides contracting for them at all the car shops that can be induced to take the contracts. Meanwhile, their own shops are putting on large extra forces of men for the purpose of manufacturing new stock. All this, the officials state, is in anticipation of the great rush of passengers business that will take place to California during the coming fall and winter. There will be a regular exodus of people from the East, according to these statements. The Santa Fe has already booked for California very nearly as many people as can be hauled over the road, even with the increased rolling stock herein before alluded to. The Southern Pacific expects to and will carry over its lines at least twice as many passengers as it conveyed westward last winter. Excursion agents are busy in the East everywhere making up parties bound California ward and are, in fact, a little choice in the matter of the composition of these parties. They can afford to make a selection, for there are many to select from. In Los Angeles County the rooms in the Raymond Hotel are already engaged for the next winter and the proprietors of the resort are thinking of building a substantial addition to it. We have had great rushes of people to California, and can therefore judge in a measure what the coming flood is to be, but we cannot form any idea, say the railroad men, of the great number that will come. Certainly, the crowd is immense if this be true, and there is no reason to doubt the trustworthiness of the report.

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MISS RICHARDSON

Miss Lizzie Richardson, of San Francisco, gave an entertainment in Barnes' Hall last Wednesday evening, which was not as well attended, as it should have been. One expects a good deal from a professed professional, most of all something new. Many of this young lady's selections were old, but nevertheless good, such as "Annie Laurie" and Mary of Argyle." Selections from "The Mikado" were her best efforts in the vocal line and showed in which way her best ability lay – the comic. In the recitations her gestures were excellent. The music of the Monrovia orchestra was excellent and Professor Foshay's singing was much enjoyed.

THE RAPID TRANSIT

In the early part of the week a gang of men were employed near the depot here, grading for a switch and also some other necessary grading at the depot. Rails have been laid from Ramona to within three hundred yards of the depot in Monrovia, and the force had to stop work on account of the shortage of rails. The construction engine has been here several times during the week, hauling material. The time when the cars will be running regularly will be hailed with joy.

AMONG THE MINERS

Operations at the Victoria mines are as active as ever. A large force of men are constantly employed, both in the tunnels and on the stamp mill. The large 600 feet flume is being constructed, and the immense water wheel will soon be completed.

Mr. Defty, the superintendent, is confident of the success of the various claims owned by his company. Plenty of money is at hand to carry on operations, and their mines will be most thoroughly developed.

Mr. Nichols and his partner, of Monrovia, have a mine near that of the Victoria Mining Company, upon which they are working faithfully. A rich vein is being opened up.

Farther up the canyon there is a good deal of excitement in placer mining. Several parties have taken up claims and new men are going in every day. Messrs. Wilde, Keefer and Stweart, of Monrovia, have taken up 60 acres and formed a company called the Consolidated San Gabriel Placer Mining Company. Mr. Stewart is a practical miner and is on the ground prosecuting work. It is claimed that some very good returns have been made for the work. Some men are panning out a considerable amount of gold, averaging from \$1 to \$15 per day.

It would be better if more men would take off their coats and till some of the idle land in this neighborhood. There are acres of it with nothing on but a healthy crop of weeds. Now that a cannery is an assured fact for this city, a market can be secured for all that can be produced. It is surprising what an amount of money can be made off an acre or two of land when properly cultivated. Use some judgement in what you plant; know where you can find a market before you start, then success is assured for you. Probably the best thing for this neighborhood would be for large property holders to rent their land to poor people who have not the means to buy. A much better living could be made by men in this way than by day laboring work.