

# Yosemite

Famous  
"VALLEY of  
MYSTERY"

The great gorge in the granite peak of the Sierra Nevada Mountains known as the Yosemite Valley was set apart by act of Congress in 1864 "for public use, resort and recreation for all time." The Valley has since been taken over by the Government and made a part of the nation's domain, and is now one of the four national parks. The name Yo-sem-i-te means grizzly bear, and was probably the name of an Indian chief. The troughlike valley, walled with sheer cliffs of enormous height, and presenting to view within a comparatively limited area the most astonishing features of scenery known in the world, excites feelings in the mind of the observer which are a mixture of awe and admiration. The Yosemite is generally regarded by foreign visitors to this country among our greatest natural wonders.

The reservation, as now officially outlined, is thirty-two miles in width, from east to west, and forty miles long from north to south. But the valley itself is only six miles long by half a mile in width. It is sunk just about one mile vertically below the general level of the adjacent region, resembling a gigantic trough of irregular shape, hollowed out in the mountains. Nearly in the center of the State of California, the Yosemite is 155 miles from San

opened. The first house was built in that year, opposite Yosemite fall. The whole region was originally part of the public domain belonging to the government of the United States, but the government gave the valley to California, though retaining possession of an extensive surrounding area, which, together with the valley, has been known for many years as the Yosemite park.

Meanwhile a few squatters had located homesteads within the boundaries of the park, and there were signs that certain enterprising persons, more interested in money-getting than in natural scenery, were disposed to monopolize all the privileges and organize a system for swindling tourists. Accordingly, as the best means of protecting the Yosemite from such a fate, the State of California arranged to hand over the whole affair to the national government, which has been accomplished.

#### Wonders of Nature All About.

As the crisp, pure mountain air fills the lungs and the glory of a sunrise in one of the most grand and picturesque canyons in the world exercises to the full its potent charm, you find yourself wondering whether there is, or ever was, such a thing as a city, or such a thing as a bustling, busy business world. The things about you, these grand piles of rock, the singing river, the great invigorating pine trees, the cloudless sky and the brilliant morning sun, these are the only things that are real.

Look above and see the majesty of the huge piles of rocks, the two great domes guarding either sides of the head of the valley; see the sky with its fleecy, fleeting clouds, and the woods, and all that there is to complete an en-

virgin's Tears, which is over 1,000 feet high. The waters flow over this precipice only for a few months after the summer heat has melted the mountain snows. The Yosemite Falls, nearly opposite Sentinel Rock, is made by the Yosemite creek. The first vertical fall is 1,500 feet; then the water descends, in a series of cascades, about 625 feet, and again flows over a precipice 400 feet high. In the "Meadows" are a variety of flowers and grasses in the early summer months. The principal

ly discernible, way below the fractured face of the south dome, whose resplendent helmet is towering above you.

Turning the eye about the horizon it meets the grand pile of rocks known as "Cloud's Rest," so called because its peak is almost entirely buried in the billowy veil of the heavens. Next in the procession appears "Liberty Cap," Mount Lyell, Mount Starr King, Mount Clark and the Obelisk, and in the midst of all this grandeur are the Vernal and Nevada Falls, whose waters sparkle in



VERNAL FALLS.

trees are the pine, fir, cedar and oak. In the vicinity are great masses of dome-shaped rocks, and the famous big trees of California are near by. Among the prominent elevations are North Dome, Sentinel Dome, Half Dome and Glacier Point. From Sentinel Dome may be obtained a good view of the Yosemite Valley and the surrounding country. Glacier Point, 4,740 feet, also affords a magnificent view. Half Dome is an imposing mass, 4,700 feet high.

#### Miles of Unsurpassed Scenery.

It is no exaggeration to say that in eleven miles of mountain trail there is at least 5,000 miles of unsurpassed scenery. At every one of the many turns in the trail there are new vistas which are entirely different from those which have just been enjoyed. Across yonder is the "Eagle Rock," and near by it are the Yosemite falls, glistening in the full light of a vivid midday sun. Across the chasm are the "Royal Arches," which only a few hours ago were huge holes in the face of the rocks, but which are now mere outlines, mere pencil scratches on the great natural slate of rock. Farther up the canyon to the right is a tiny spot of light. It proves to be Mirror Lake, now shorn of its enchantments by majesty itself. Its neglected waters lie scarce-

ly discernible, way below the fractured face of the south dome, whose resplendent helmet is towering above you. Turning the eye about the horizon it meets the grand pile of rocks known as "Cloud's Rest," so called because its peak is almost entirely buried in the billowy veil of the heavens. Next in the procession appears "Liberty Cap," Mount Lyell, Mount Starr King, Mount Clark and the Obelisk, and in the midst of all this grandeur are the Vernal and Nevada Falls, whose waters sparkle in

the dark green of the far distant canyons. From one spot, called Sierra Point, can be seen five of the great waterfalls of the Yosemite, the Upper and Lower Yosemite, the Vernal, the Nevada and the Illilouett. This is a spot where the view is one of supreme beauty in this region of glorious views. From Glacier Point the sunrise and sunset views are among the most impressive to be had anywhere. To see, as the sun either sinks behind the western mountains or as it creeps in the early morn up the eastern facade of the rocks, the play of the lights and shadows, of tints and colors on the canyon's mossy depths, on the greatest of waterfalls; to see the many-hued lights as they steal along and up the faces of the rocks, and then scatter themselves over the floor of the valley, is a picture which the richest cannot buy, but which the poorest and humblest may enjoy.

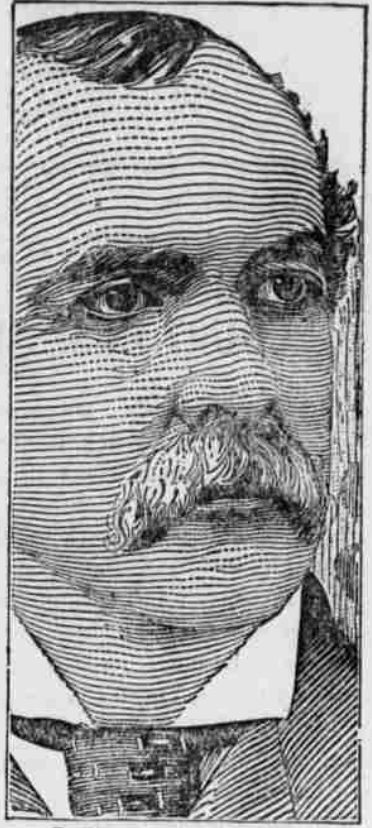
#### Substantial Realities.

"Does anybody believe in pipe dreams?"

"Well, I guess folks who have oil stock do."—Baltimore American.

We would like to know someone who is generally admired. We never knew anyone who was not frequently abused like a thief.

## UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM SOUTH CAROLINA PRAISES PE-RU-NA.



Ex-Senator M. C. Butler.

Dyspepsia is often caused by catarrh of the stomach—Peruna relieves catarrh of the stomach and is therefore a remedy for dyspepsia.

Hon. M. C. Butler, U. S. Senator from South Carolina for two terms, in a letter from Washington, D. C., writes to the Peruna Medicine Co., as follows:  
"I can recommend Peruna for dyspepsia and stomach trouble. I have been using your medicine for a short period and I feel very much relieved. It is indeed a wonderful medicine, besides a good tonic."

Catarrh of the stomach is the correct name for most cases of dyspepsia. Only an internal catarrh remedy, such as Peruna, is available.

Peruna Tablets can now be procured. Ask your druggist for a Free Peruna Almanac for 1909.

#### Penalties of Greatness.

Hercules had subdued the Erymanthian boar.

"What are you going to do with the beast?" they asked him.

"I refuse to answer," he said, "on the ground that it might incriminate me."

For well he knew that any answer he could make would be different from the accounts written by the historians, and at that portion of his career he was sensitive about being accused of nature faking.

#### A Rich Man's Reticence.

"Do you want to make any contributions to our campaign fund?" asked the willing worker.

"Yes," answered Mr. Dustin Stax, "I'd like to. But I don't see why I should put myself on record in a way that will make it your patriotic duty to snub me after the campaign is over."

—Washington Star.

#### Different.

The influential politician was irritated. "You ask me to have a friend appointed to a good position," he said, "but I know next to nothing about you. For all I know to the contrary you don't amount to a snap."

"Maybe not," responded the caller, thrusting his jaw forward, "but my job does. I'm a bridgetender."—Chicago Tribune.

#### Scarcely Worth Mentioning.

"I expect to take a few books with me," said the aeronaut, "as the trip is likely to be a long one."

"They'll be useful for ballast, too, I presume," observed the reporter.

"Not in the least," rejoined the aeronaut. "I shall take nothing but light fiction."

#### Amendatory.

Borus—Yes, I always rewrite my poems before I send them to a publisher.

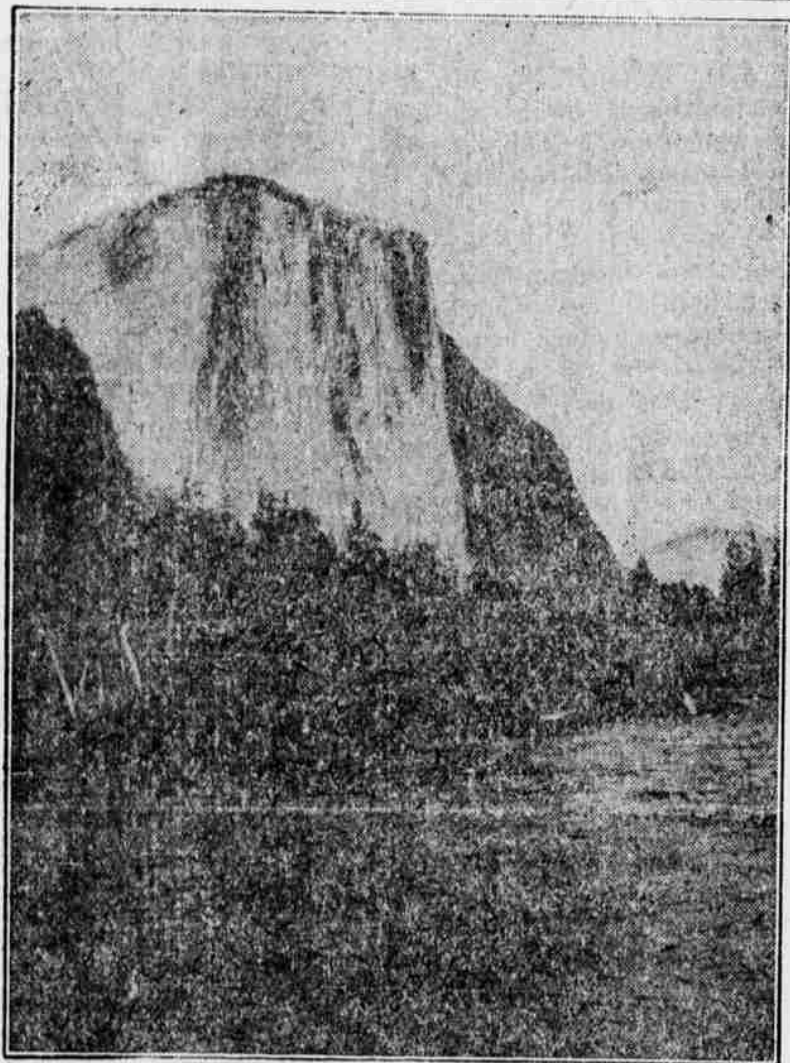
Naggus—You mean, I presume, before you send them to the next publisher.

The charitable people of London have formed a union to see that the money given by them is properly spent.

The oldest church building now standing in New York City is St. Paul's chapel, the corner stone of which was laid in 1764.

Half a gallon of train oil an hour will calm the most boisterous sea around a vessel.

Nearly 8 per cent of the students in German universities are foreigners.



EL CAPITAN, "MONARCH OF THE VALLEY."

Francisco, as the crow flies—a little south of east.

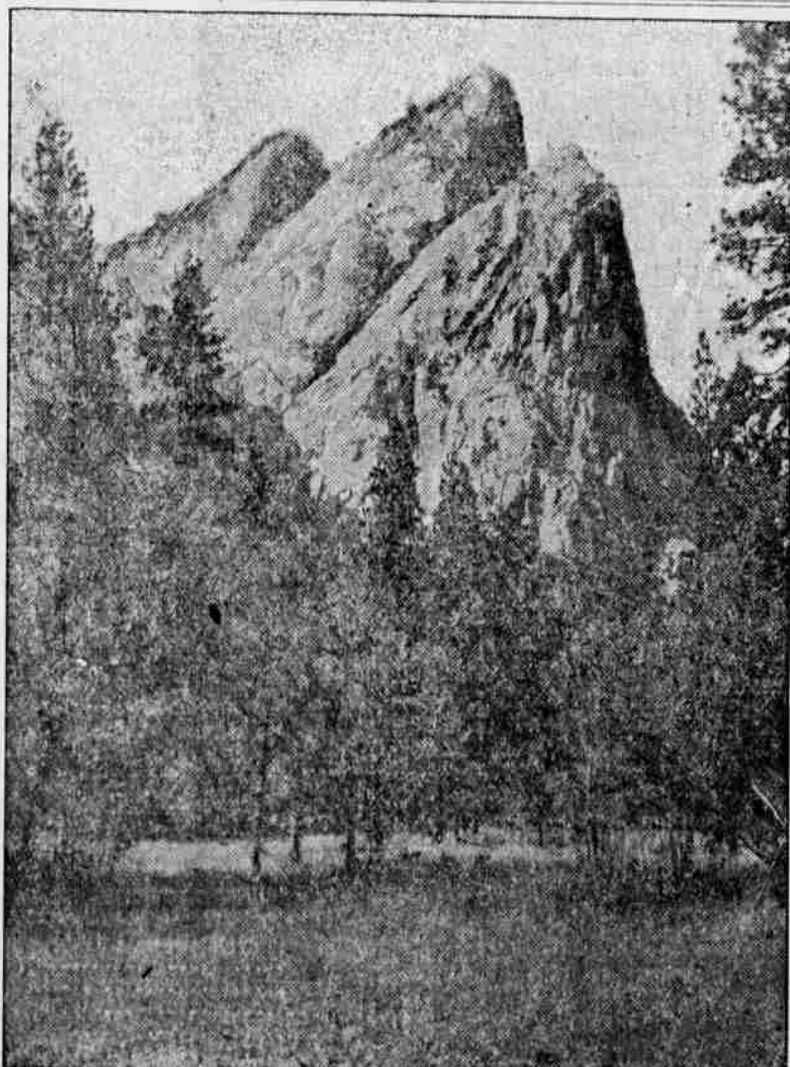
In early days the whites in that part of California had a good deal of trouble with the Indians, settlers being murdered occasionally, and various outrages committed. It was learned that the savages had some sort of retreat far up in the mountains—a natural stronghold, in which they deemed themselves safe from pursuit or attack—and, curiosity on the subject being excited, a military expedition was organized to explore the region and drive out the Indians.

Under the guidance of an old chief, Tenaya, whose name is perpetuated in a beautiful lake between Mount Hoffmann and Cathedral peak, the party finally reached the valley, whose wonders they were first of civilized human beings to behold. They killed some of the Indians and made peace. Nevertheless, not long afterward, in 1852, a party of miners was attacked by redskins in the valley, two of them being slain near Bridal Veil meadow. Another expedition followed, more Indians were killed and the rest were driven out, being compelled to take refuge with a tribe of Monos on the east side of the Sierra. But trouble followed; the fugitives stole horses from the Monos, fled to the Yosemite, were overtaken, and in a battle were almost entirely exterminated.

In 1856 the first pleasure travel to the Yosemite began, and a trail entering the valley from the south side was

chanting picture, and then glance into the limpid depths of the waters and there see again the same picture so startlingly reflected that it seems that it is the first world turned topsy-turvy.

Entering the valley from the lower end, the two distinct valley types may be seen, the V-shaped and the U-shaped. It has the characteristics of a gorge and also of a canon. It is nearly enclosed by walls of granite from 3,000 to nearly 5,000 feet in height. On the north side is a huge block of granite called El Capitan. It projects into the valley so that two of its smooth, almost perpendicular faces are visible; the height is 3,300 feet. Opposite El Capitan are Cathedral Rocks and Bridal Veil Rock. The bottom of the valley widens from El Capitan up to the so-called "meadows." Other conspicuous blocks of the unbroken wall are called the Three Brothers, 4,000 feet, the Spires, Cap of Liberty, and Sentinel Rock. About fifteen miles above is the source of the Merced river, which flows through the valley. There are two falls and about half a mile of rapids in the Merced river. Nevada Fall, the upper one, is about 600 feet high, and Vernal Fall is about 400 feet. The Bridal Veil Fall is on the side of Cathedral Rock which faces the entrance. Bridal Veil creek here falls over a precipice 630 feet high, and flows over an irregular bed which forms a series of cascades that combined, make a descent of about 300 feet. The total fall is 900 feet. Just below El Capitan is a fall called



THE THREE BROTHERS.

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