

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

December 7, 1949

The collection of historical records of the Monterey History and Art Association, Ltd., became richer on Saturday of last week when Dr. Boyd F. Huff, a research assistant of the Giannini Foundation at the University of California, presented the association with a photostat negative of an original order from Thomas O. Larkin, first and only American Consul to Monterey for furniture for the Larkin House and clothing for himself.

Omitted from the copy is the name of the firm from which Mr. Larkin ordered, but the list of objects and the price he wished to pay is as follows:

Four dozen chairs, with arm and rocking chairs, \$35 to \$40.

One pair of sofas, 6 1/2 or 7 feet long, \$90-\$100.

One pair of sofas that can be used as beds, \$90-\$100.

Two ladies work tables, \$15-\$20.

Two wash hand stands, \$10-\$15.

One pair large dining tables, \$35-\$45.

One pair heavy round tables, \$35-\$45.

Two pair mirrors, each different pattern, per pair, \$40-\$50

Some other furniture to match, about \$100.

Four large National pictures, handsome frames, each \$15 to \$20.

Four pair large candlesticks of different patterns with large glass shades.

Dated April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

In another order Mr. Larkin listed:

Two large walking sticks with handsome black tassels, and a rim of gold around each for the names. I the heads can be covered with gold at an extra expense of \$6 to \$8 each, I want them so covered.

One cane marked "General M. Micheltoreno de Tomas O. Larkin" (M. R. Put this in Spanish yourself.) One cane marked: Thomas O. Larkin, Monterey, California, January 1, 1945. The canes to be of wood that will last and of a good quality and of a kind not before seen here if possible.

Signed THOMAS O. LARKIN,  
April 20, 1844.

From Consul Larkin's office there went another order the same day for clothing that would befit his new position in Monterey:

A fine first rate make coat for a United States consul, as for decoration of the department, see "Instruction to Consul," lining to be of white satin if such is now used.

Two vests and two pair of pantaloons, all of stiff cashmere between white and yellow.

One gross finest navy buttons for coats.

One gross finest navy buttons for vests.

One piece 10 or 15 yards buff cashmere fine, one piece, 10 or 15 yards navy blue broadcloth, worth in Boston \$8 to \$9 a yard.

One pair of Eplettes for a Consul.

In choosing these articles it will be of importance to have them of the proper style, color and quality as a small mistake may unfit them for use.

Signed THOMAS O. LARKIN  
Monterey, April 20, 1844.

Dr. and Mrs. Huff spent last week end in Pacific Grove as the house guests of Dr. and Mrs. John Hardy in Pacific Grove. Dr. Hardy is a scientist who has been spending a vacation on the Peninsula. Dr. Huff has been doing special research work on San Francisco Maritime history and hopes to have his finished manuscript printed. He is also interested in Monterey and the history of early shipping and ships that came in and out of the bay.

Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Jeffers and their two children, Joan and John, are in their new home on San Bernabe Drive in Monterey which they recently purchased. The house was formerly the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hal Geyer. Mr. Jeffers is Monterey City Librarian.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Sparolini and Dr. and Mrs. Robert Sparolini are receiving the congratulations of their friends and families upon the arrivals of a little daughter for each couple. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Sparolini welcomed Paula Ann on November 25 at the Community Hospital. She weighed six pounds and is their first baby. Mr. and Mrs. H. Long of Fresno are her maternal grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Sparolini's daughter, Catherine Orava, was born Saturday, December 3, at the Monterey Hospital. Susan and Jim, her young brother and sister, are anxiously awaiting their mother's return with the new baby to heir home on El Caminito Del Sur.

Mr. and Mrs. Seth Orava of Astoria, Oregon, are the grandparents.

The late Mr. and Mrs. John Sparolini, pioneer residents of Monterey, were the parents of Francis and Robert Sparolini. Their home on Van Buren Street in Monterey is occupied by their daughter, Miss Josephine Sparolini, the proud aunt of the two new arrivals.