

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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From An Old Newspaper

Notice of a sheriff's sale appeared in the Monterey Sentinel on July 28, 1855. The property to be sold to the highest bidder was described in the Sentinel of that date as "Southwest corner of Main and Scott streets, containing 2,784 square yards with improvements thereon consisting of an old adobe house known as the Pacific House."

Main street is now Calle Principal which had been its original name. The Pacific House is now known by the same name and is the property of Miss Margaret Jacks. As yet we have not been able to find the name of the person who appeared at the sheriff's sale to bid in the property, which is now one of the city's most valued landmarks and where the History and Art Association each year on the 3rd of June celebrates Monterey's birthday with a Merienda in Memory Garden at the rear of the building.

In another item in the Monterey issue of the Sentinel in 1855 we found this news item: "Sebastapol, the above hotel having been refitted, the undersigned, late of the Washington Hotel, Monterey, flatters himself that he is prepared and even anxious to accommodate his friends and the traveling public, with all the comforts and delicacies San Juan affords and a new billiard table will be found at hand, Angelo Zanetta."

Mr. Zanetta was the grandfather of Elmer Zanetta, Monterey businessman and chairman of the City Planning Commission.

Another item of interest to those who buy and sell meat in 1951 is the item which appeared in the Sentinel in June of 1855: "Cattle. We are informed by one of our friends residing near San Benito rancho in this county, that 5,000 head of cattle, mostly from Los Angeles, passed that neighborhood during the first week in June."

Sn Benito Rancho borders the Salinas river in southern Monterey County. It consisted of 6,672 acres, was granted to Francisco Garcia by the Mexican government in 1842, and confirmed to James Watson by the United States in 1859.

Among the advertisements in this early publication of the Monterey Sentinel were several of interest, namely one for Pedro Zabala, whose office was on Calle de Abrego; Dr. Santiago L. Ord, doctor and surgeon, who married the daughter of Don Jose de la Guerra of Santa Barbara and whose first husband was Don Manual Jimeno, the builder of two adobe buildings at Franklin and Calle Principal, where the San Carlos Hotel now stands, one of which became St. Catherine's Convent, the first Catholic school in California; Joseph Boston and Company (whose store was supposed to have been at that date in the building now known as "Casa de Ora" on Olivier street) and Francis Doud whose butcher shop was then on Main street.

The Mt. Vernon with Captain Josslyn in command was due to arrive from San Francisco on July 1 and on the 3rd of the month the steamer Sea Bird, with Captain Haley in command, would arrive on schedule from San Diego.

We are happy to note today that the Monterey History and Art Association has again been honored with a number of gifts. Charles Brune of Corralitos (little corrals) has added several small articles of kitchen equipment to that room at the Stevenson House, through his sister, Miss Grace Brune of Monterey. Miss June Klase of Carmel Highlands has presented several Stevenson books and Robert Johnson, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, has presented a very excellent drawing of the head of Robert Louis Stevenson by a very good artist.