

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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Castro Family Notes

One thing that makes the study of history fascinating is that there is always something new to learn or important items to add to research material already collected about a prominent early settler, the age or location of an important building or the genealogy of founders of our country, particularly California and Monterey.

A short time ago we wrote of General Castro and the Castro adobe, now the charming home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Work. Mrs. Maria Antonia Thompson has corrected us concerning some of the statements and added some interesting material concerning the Castro family for our files.

General Castro had only two children, Esteban and Modesta, the daughter, married William Dana, a cousin of Richard Henry Dana, the author. Their daughter, Francisca Dana, one of a large family, married Rafael Diaz. Who passed away in the adobe in 1908. The house had been left to Mrs. Diaz by Esteban's widow, Dona Adelaida Castro was died in 1917.

Manuel Diaz, Rafael Diaz's father, owned the lot adjoining Casa Munras on the north side, now a used car lot. Here he built his adobe home. It was wrecked many years ago. Besides Rafael Diaz, Manuel was the father of Manuel "Tuquis" Diaz, Mrs. Paula Malarin, Porfidio "Coo-Coo" Diaz and many others, according to Mrs. Thompson, who should know her Monterey history, having been born here and living all her life in her home on Calle Principal.

An attractively printed invitation has just been received from the San Luis Obispo Historical Society requesting our presence at an Adobe Tour and Tea on Saturday, May 3rd, from 2 until 5:30 p.m. The adobe houses to be opened on this occasion will be Andrews Adobe (Wilkinson) built about 1800, 1451 Andrews St.; Canet Adobe (Waterman) 1830, 446 Dana St., and Parker Adobe (Leitcher) 1860, 642 Monterey St. Tea will be served at the Historical Museum, 696 Monterey St. Those attending are asked to give a donation of \$1.50, which we presume will be used by the Historical Society to further their programs of preservation of historical sites and buildings.

Mrs. Richard Y. Dakin, author of the "Lives of the William Hartnell: was a visitor on the Monterey Peninsula during Easter week vacation. The Dakin family formerly lived in Pasadena but now have a home in Belvedere in Marin County. Mrs. Dakin is at the moment busy on a new historical book which will feature women of early California who played a prominent part in early history. It should be a fascinating addition to the libraries of those who collect Californiana.

The California Historical Society's Notes reports that the late Fred Hathaway Bixby of Rancho Las Alamitos, Long Beach, was recently elected to the Cowboy Hall of Fame. It is his family whose Christmases were related in the 1957 Christmas book of the Society, written his daughter and a member of the Society, Mrs. Preston Hotchkis. He is the uncle of Mrs. Dakin a trustee and patron member of the California Historical Society. He is also the father of patron member Fred Hathaway Bixby, and grandfather of still another patron member, Mrs. M.F. Allende.