



LUCKY'S LITIGIOUS LOVES

by
Judge Donald William Hamblin

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Lucky's lechery well may vex
Those who only think of sex;
You whose vigor isn't spent,
Hear of Baldwin and repent.

THIS article is not intended to be an account of the life of Elias Jackson "Lucky" Baldwin (1828-1909), but it may be appropriate to give some brief highlights of his career before I launch into an account of his post-sexual lawsuits with Verona, Louise and Lillian.

The foundation of Lucky's fortune was his speculation in Comstock Lode silver "footage." Never a working miner, but one who knew when to listen to Mackey, Fair, Flood and O'Brien, Lucky made more than \$10,000,000 out of his dealings in the Comstock.

Lucky was fascinated with hotel building and management. Among his hotels were the luxurious "Baldwin" in San Francisco, the "Tallac," a pioneer development at Lake Tahoe, and the "Oakwood" in Arcadia near his famous Santa Anita Ranch. The "Baldwin" represented an investment of \$3,500,000, and, more entertainingly, figured frequently but not exclusively as the scene of Lucky's assignations.

Lucky, born a Hoosier farm boy, never lost interest in the soil. His Santa Anita Ranch comprised more than 50,000 acres of the finest land in the San Gabriel Valley. Our hero acquired 33,000 acres at less than \$10 per acre, together with valuable property in the heart of Los Angeles, by foreclosing a mortgage given by Workman, Temple and Sanchez. A profusion of fruits,

(Continued on page 4)

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THE BRANDING IRON solicits articles of 1500 words or less, dealing with every phase of the Old West. Contributions from members and friends welcomed.

Corral Chips . . .

An accolade goes to C M Tony Lehman for the arrangements of a wonderful program for the 11th Annual Southern California Symposium, Conference of California Historical Societies Feb 7 - 8th at the Ambassador Hotel in L.A.

Dr Carl Dentzel and Dr Ed Carpenter were speakers, other L.A. Corral members attending were Henry Clifford - Jim Currie - Dudley Gordon - Ev Hager - John Kemble - Wade Kittell - Geo. McMannus - Thos. McNeill - Sid Platford - Vic Plukas - W.W. Robinson - Manuel Servin - Robt Weinstein

Page Two . . .

C.M.Dr. Coke Wood, director and curator of the Pacific Center for Western History Studies at University of the Pacific has been named " Mr California " by a concurrent resolution of the State Legislature. Dr Wood is a funder of the Conference of California Historical Societies and has served as executive Secretary of the group since its inception

The Third Annual Assembly of the Council of Abandoned Military Posts is set for April 2 - 3rd in San Francisco. Members of CAMP will gather at Fort Point, an old installation at the South anchorage of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Lt.Col. Herbert M Hart, U.S.Marine Corps, president of CAMP, said the two days will include visits to numerous military installations (both active and inactive). Visits scheduled to Angel Island (Fort McDowell) Alcatraz Island (Post at Alcatraz) Forts Mason and Scott, and the Presidio of San Francisco.

Maurice Fulton's History of the Lincoln County War, edited by C.M. Robert N Mullin has been published by The University of Arizona Press — Bob will have an article for us in the next issue of the Branding Iron

The last historic landmark of the great mining boom that swept the Santa Ana Mountains in Orange County during the late nineteenth century is about to get the axe.

Ironically, the hatchet man is the United States Forest Service, which has begun condemnation proceedings against the old " Tin Mine " of Trabuca Canyon.

Previous active member of the Los Angeles Corral of the WESTERNERS, Philip J Rasch, is now located at 405 Clyde Drive, Jacksonville, North Carolina, 28540. In correspondence with Glenn Dawson, member, he states that he is going to retire in two years and probably will choose Sarasota, Florida as his retirement home. Phil, if you are ever out this say be sure and stop in at our meeting and we would surely welcome you back if you choose to retire in California! (Why anybody would choose Florida over California I will never know. Editor)

Mr. Clyde Dollar, a member of the Chicago Corral of the WESTERNERS was also present at the February meeting. He is a consultant for the Historical Resources Division of the Sioux Tribe. His home is in Rosebud, South Dakota. He has been working as a consultant on some movie that regular member Iron Eyes Cody has had something to do with recently.

CORRAL MEETINGS . . .



February Speaker is Charter Member George L. Harding, and Sheriff Ernest M. Howard. Oil painting in background is by the late Clarence Elsworth entitled "Watching the Wagon Train".

Photo by Iron Eyes Cody

1969 started off at Taix Cafe on Jan 8th with Sheriff Ernie Hovard in the saddle, who presented a notable speaker Col. John Bakeless who is doing research at the Huntington Library, his interesting discussion was on the Lewis and Clark Expedition and its military aspects

February 12th meeting was held as usual at the Taix Cafe , W.W.Robinson introduced the speaker of the evening George L. Harding who spoke on "The Odyssey of John Gruwell" or, from Kent County, Delaware, to Santa Clara County, California. George is no stranger to the members of our Corral, nor to our meetings, he has for many years been an author, editor, bibliographer, and patron of the history of things Californian and its early printing and printers. His writings include the monumental study of Don Augustin V. Zamorano, issued by the Zamorano Club in 1934 : and for the Bibliographical Society of America his work on Tahitian imprints of the years 1817 - 1833. Harding has been a contributor to and editor of several other publications for the Book Club of California, the Zamorano Club, and has capably served the California Historical Society, the Book Club, and ther groups in both executive and editorial capacities. He is an ex Noble Grand Humbug of E Clampus Vitus. Both George and his wife Dorothy share an interest in history, bibliography and collecting, as well as in genealogy

A beautiful tribute to "Women of California" Susan Bryant Dakin, has been written by W.W. Robinson and published by the Friends of the Bancroft Library

The International Book Fair of Las Vegas, in conjunction with the 46th Convention of the National Association of College Stores of the United States, will be held in Las Vegas Nevada April 21-25 - 1969

Ex Sheriff of the L.A. Corral Henry H Clifford's Collection of Western Postal History Covers, sold Jan 22 - 23 by the Robert A Seigel Auction Galleries of New York realized a total of \$80,818 demonstrating again the avid interest of Collectors in the rare and unusual - The sale closed with the Clifford Philatelic Library which concentrated to some extent in the Western field. There was great bidding activity throughout this entire section

On March 7th the Dwight D Eisenhower Library, Abilene, Kansas, is sponsoring a one-day conference on Western History and inaugurating a three-week exhibit of Western art, our Companero Dr John A Hawgood will be one of the speakers

vegetables, grains and livestock resulted from the development of the Rancho. In the first year after the extension of the Southern Pacific to the Rancho, Lucky shipped 385,000 gallons of wine, and 55,000 gallons of brandy. During the land boom of the 80's, Lucky began to subdivide, creating the towns of Arcadia and Monrovia. Lucky once remarked half facetiously that there was oil in the Montebello Hills on the southern part of his ranch, but it was not until 1916, seven years after his death, that oil gushed from the Montebello oil fields.

Lucky was in a class by himself as a breeder and trainer of Western race horses. He brought thoroughbred racing to Southern California, and also had many famous winners at the Eastern tracks.

Despite these vast enterprises, Lucky, especially in his later years, was almost always short of cash. Will Keller, a grain broker, said, "I believe I'm the only man who ever collected a bill from Lucky Baldwin without a court judgment."

But Lucky was never short of women. There were, of course, his daughters, Clara and Anita, and his four wives. As to the other women, one wonders whether Lucky originally took as his credo lines from Chaucer written 500 years before:

"Know you not well the old clerk's saw,
Who on a lover sets the law."

Lucky's attitude was more neatly described by one of his contemporaries, C. C. Goodwin, who wrote: "When a great fortune came to him, many an adventuress sought his acquaintance. He knew their object; he was restrained by no sense of propriety, no regard for public opinion, no chivalrous concern for womanhood. It was not long before he took the blackguard's idea that every woman has her price."

How many women the licentious old millionaire had will never be known. As already intimated, I will describe the vicissitudes of three young women who resorted to the courts after Lucky bedded them.

Verona Baldwin was tall and slender, with patrician features and huge hazel eyes. Speaking with a cultured British accent, she claimed to be "Lucky's" English cousin. She came to California when she was twenty, and Baldwin employed her on the Santa Anita Ranch officially as a school teacher. Lucky shortly found her virtue negotiable, but evidently so did others.

A servant reported that he had surprised a doctor guest of Lucky's with Verona in the doctor's room. The doctor was ordered to leave the ranch and Verona was dismissed. Verona made various threats to Baldwin's attorney in Los Angeles, and followed Lucky to his Baldwin Hotel in San Francisco.

On a winter morning in 1883, as Lucky was leaving his private dining room on the second floor of the Baldwin Hotel, Verona without warning shot him from behind. Although she was only about six feet away, Verona's shot went through Lucky's upper left arm, inflicting a fairly minor wound. Verona was disarmed and arrested, and speedily made headlines with her statements to the press, which were in part:

"He ruined me in body and mind . . . I ought to have killed him at the Ranch. . . . This time I hit him just where I wanted to, for I am a good shot and never miss anything I aim at. But it would have been far better if I had killed him."

Baldwin refused to testify against his cousin at her trial, and she was acquitted. No doubt Lucky made a settlement; Verona immediately went to Washington Territory for a three-year stay. Upon her return to California, she made headlines again by filing a paternity suit against Lucky. After another settlement, Verona vanished again. When she reappeared a third time, Lucky removed this source of annoyance by having Verona committed to the State insane asylum at Napa. In the courtroom Verona screamed that she was of British royalty on British soil, but Judge Lucien Shaw nevertheless committed her.

After Verona gained her freedom, she became a very successful madam in Denver around the turn of the century. There is a titillating description of her as a madam in the late nineties:

She wore a royal purple velvet de Medici costume trimmed with white lace, surmounted her piled-up mass of long hair with a jeweled tiara, and carried a shoulder-high-staff.

Lucky may have ruined her in body and mind, been instrumental in her commitment to an asylum, and refused her the kind of money she expected to get from him; nonetheless, by her wits, Verona lived fashionably in her later years, and left a goodly estate. One wonders whether Miss Baldwin, in using a famous name for infamous purposes, may have set an example for Sally Stanford.

Louise Perkins was sixteen and Lucky was fifty-five when he deflowered her. She was petite and lovely, with limpid dark eyes and long wavy brown hair. Louise brought suit in Los Angeles in 1884 for breach of promise of marriage, seeking damages of \$500,000.

The suit spawned vast newspaper publicity, particularly in Southern California. The lawyer-publisher, Horace Bell, was the leader in bitter denunciation of Lucky—among other things, Bell called Lucky, "Beast" Baldwin, and said that the Santa Anita Ranch was publicly known as "Baldwin's Harem." Lucky moved for a change of venue, asserting that he could not get a fair hearing or an impartial jury in Los Angeles County, which then boasted a popula-

tion of 60,000. He actually alleged, through his counsel, that his public reputation was such that every woman who came near him must have been warned against him in advance.

Louise swore in a counter-affidavit that there were five thousand men in the county who would do Lucky justice, and that his reputation, while generally bad, was no worse in Los Angeles than elsewhere. Lucky's motion was denied in the Superior Court, and the ruling was sustained on appeal to the Supreme Court.

Thus, the case finally came to trial in early 1886. Without doubt, Louise Perkins was a charming and appealing witness. Her story was that she had gone with her father, a former neighbor of Baldwin, to see Lucky on a matter of business. Lucky was so agreeable a seducer that he soon persuaded Louise to stay with him for a week at Santa Anita Ranch; then and afterward he showed her the countryside.

In March, 1883, two months after he had been shot by his cousin Verona, the licentious old millionaire persuaded Louise to accompany him to San Francisco. According to Louise, in the following month Lucky twice proposed marriage (he was then between his third and fourth wives), promising that the wedding would take place in two or three months. On the second proposal, Lucky took a diamond stud from his pocketbook, and presently took Louise to "Col. Andrews Diamond Palace" on Montgomery Street, where the stud was set as an engagement ring.

This, plus Lucky's promise to Louise's mother that he would protect and advise Louise as he would his own daughter, completed Louise's downfall. Overnight stays in hotels in Sacramento and San Jose were interspersed with longer idylls at the Baldwin Hotel in San Francisco. Unfortunately for Louise, she returned to Los Angeles, and saw Lucky only once more before his marriage to his fourth wife, nearly a year later. Louise claimed that Baldwin, even thereafter, told her he would get rid of his wife and marry her.

Lucky, on the witness stand, freely admitted improper relations with Louise, but denied seduction or promise of marriage. His efforts to prove that Louise was not the unsophisticated innocent she pretended to be were not as successful, at least at the trial, as in his coming litigation with Lillian Ashley.

Louise was represented by a fearless young lawyer of growing reputation. He was none other than Stephen M. White, whose career I have outlined in another article. White delivered an impassioned appeal for Louise, which brought tears to the eyes of the jurors. He said in part:

"Women, cruel to their own sex, will not look upon her with an eye to charity. What shall she do? She might be put in a position of competency but

she can do nothing. No merchant can employ her because some fine lady customer will not come to the store if he did. She must make a living—she must exist. You cannot send her upon the pathway of want. You will not do that although you have it in your power to do so. You can at least say to this community that she was dishonored by the wiles of this man.”

The jury promptly returned a verdict for \$75,000 damages, at which the courtroom broke into applause. However, Lucky’s attorneys moved for and some months later obtained a new trial on the ground that the verdict was excessive, and that Steve White’s appeal to the emotions of the jurors went beyond permissible limits.

The case was called again for trial in June, 1887, but was continued for the reason that Lucky’s attorney represented that his client was dangerously ill in Kentucky. The next day a newspaper item from St. Louis reported: “Mr. Baldwin is enjoying the races in his usual good health.”

Late the next month, when the case was again called for trial before Judge O’Melveny, it was Louise who failed to appear. It soon developed that Miss Perkins, without the knowledge or participation of Steve White, had released Lucky from all claims for \$15,000! She then eloped with one Will Fallon, of San Jose, well-to-do son of a rich mother. Poor Steve White! He was probably not the first and certainly not the last attorney to win a great court victory and to put in two years’ hard work for no fee, while his losing opponent was paid handsomely.

Lillian Ashley was the oldest of the three female victims; she was twenty-five when Lucky seduced her in San Francisco in 1893. But then, Lucky was getting along, too—he was 65! Before the legal battles over this affair were over, that is, Lillian’s seduction suit and her daughter’s pretermitted heir claims, nineteen years had passed, and Lucky had been dead for three years.

Lillian’s suit for \$75,000 damages for seduction was tried in San Francisco. After nearly a month of testimony, there occurred the most dramatic moment of that trial. A small, drab little woman stole behind Lucky’s chair in the courtroom, lifted a heavy revolver, leveled it point-blank at the back of Lucky’s head, and pulled the trigger with both forefingers. But the weak and inexperienced woman (who turned out to be Lillian Ashley’s sister) jerked the barrel upward as she fired. A wisp of white hair flew from the intended victim’s head, and the heavy slug buried itself in the wall of the courtroom. Lucky had earned his nickname many years before; he more than justified it that day, and a little later, he won the seduction suit.

The whole sordid story of Lucky and Lillian Ashley may be found in 162 Cal. 471. The writer of the opinion was Frederick W. Henshaw, who seems

like another old friend, because he also appeared in "Silver, Greed and Corruption." Some of you will recall from that account that Henshaw was more to be praised for his brilliant prose style than for his moral fibre. *Estate of Baldwin* may not represent Henshaw at his peak, though there are certainly gems in the opinion. But, on to an outline of Lillian's supposed fall from virtue.

From girlhood on a Vermont farm, Lillian was interested in race horses. She was orphaned at twenty-two, and the next year she went to live in Boston with a childless, refined couple named Thompson. She wrote Lucky originally in an effort to secure from him a memento of one of his famous thoroughbreds. This was followed by many other letters in which Lillian disclosed her Puritanical training and temperament, her poverty, and her unhappiness at her inability to spread her wings. She also suggested that Lucky support and adopt her and "love me very fondly in a nice manner." In exchange, she offered her love and undying obedience. Yet, the court said:

"Baldwin's own reputation as a libertine, if not national, was certainly more than local, and there is evidence that Miss Ashley knew this."

"Lucky," although no letter-writer, was intrigued enough to call at the Thompsons' in Boston in the summer of 1891. During the conversation, he invited Lillian and Mrs. Thompson to come to California and visit him, at his expense, at one or another of his hotels. In this conversation and also in Lillian's subsequent letters, there was reference to Lucky's promise to educate her and adopt her.

Lillian made it to Los Angeles, alone, with a Raymond excursion party in February, 1893. Lucky did not meet her, but sent her twenty-five dollars to join him at the Baldwin Hotel in San Francisco. The wily lothario registered her as "Mrs. Ashton, Boston," and placed her in rooms directly above his suite. Lucky got down to the business at hand the next night.

Following an after-theatre champagne supper in Baldwin's suite, he proposed marriage, falsely claiming that he was legally divorced, and had no one to love or care for him. According to Lillian, she insisted upon a ceremonial marriage. Baldwin persuaded her that a marriage contract would be just as good and equally binding. He took some hotel stationery, dated it March 3, 1893, and wrote words whereby each of the parties took the other to be a "lawful wedded" spouse. Lucky gave the paper to Lillian, but the next day took it back "for safekeeping." It nevermore appeared. After this "ceremony," the parties adjourned to Lillian's rooms for the bridal night!

After a few more nights in the Baldwin, Lucky and Lillian continued the affair in Los Angeles and San Diego. Then Lillian was lodged for a month at Lucky's Oakwood Hotel in Arcadia, about a mile from the Santa Anita Ranch;

this was followed by another month's stay at the Baldwin in San Francisco. Lillian's child, christened Beatrice A. Baldwin, was born nine months and four days after the first "honeymoon" night at the Baldwin.

Lucky's attorneys and investigators did a credible job of deflating Lillian's claim of Puritanical innocence. The defense showed that Lillian had had at least three extra-marital larks before she wrote Lucky. It turned out that Lillian had been the mistress of a horseman named Balch, although she insisted that he was her protector and benefactor after the death of her parents. Lillian's early correspondence with Lucky as an owner of champion horses was not unique; she had tried the same technique on several other horsemen.

One "Colonel Pope" of Boston was the most deeply involved of the group. The evidence was in conflict as to whether Col. Pope had tried to rape Lillian, as she claimed, or she had been his mistress as other evidence indicated. At any rate, Lillian thereafter got substantial sums from Pope or his agents. His money financed her trip to California, and after her return to Boston, Pope's detective proposed that if Lillian would stop annoying Pope and go back to California to live for a year, Pope would buy Lillian a \$2,000 house in Los Angeles. Lillian signed a release of all her claims against Pope and got the house.

In 1909, shortly after Lucky's death, Beatrice A. Baldwin, Lillian's child, through her guardian, laid claim as a pretermitted heir to her share of Lucky's \$10,000,000 estate. This was on the theory that since Lucky was not divorced from his fourth wife, she was the legitimate issue of a marriage "null in law," under the provisions of former Civil Code Section 1387.

The Supreme Court thought it was sufficient to determine only whether there had been a marriage between Lucky and Lillian. This involved old Civil Code 55, which until 1895 provided in substance that consent, followed by a "mutual assumption of marital rights, duties and obligations" was enough to constitute marriage. Some of you may recall that written marriage contracts compounded the sex problems of Lucky's rivals and friends, Senators William Sharon and James Graham Fair. In 1895, because of the many public scandals involved, the law was amended so as to recognize only marriages solemnized in an authorized manner. After pointing this out, Justice Henshaw said, "Wherefore, we indulge the not unreasonable hope that this case will prove the last of a most malodorous brood."

I shall not spend much more time on the evidence. Apart from her own testimony, Lillian's best evidence of Lucky's alleged public recognition of her as his wife came from George Baldwin, Lucky's cousin and the husband of his daughter, Anita.

After testifying that during the second stay by Lillian at the Baldwin, Lucky had introduced Lillian as his wife, George said:

"He asked me to say nothing in regard to the introduction he gave me. I says, 'How is that, haven't you got a wife?' And he says, 'Yes but you can have as many as you want if you know how to manage it'. I says, 'That is a new one on me; you can do that in Utah, but not in California.' He says, 'Don't say anything about it, George,' and walked away."

The Supreme Court thought that the explanation of this and similar testimony lay in the testimony of one of Lillian's witnesses named Wheatfield, who said he had got himself "mixed up so on Mr. Baldwin's ladies that I would not stand here on oath and swear to any of them . . . as to being his wife or not his wife. . . . He had a manner of introducing them that way."

The court concluded that there had been no marriage, and that therefore Beatrice had no rights as a pretermitted heir. Perhaps one ringing sentence from Judge Henshaw's opinion is a fitting conclusion:

"To declare that the holy state of matrimony is shown by this low, lecherous liaison, this clandestine commerce, compounded of concupiscence and cupidity, would be to the mind of woman as abhorrent as to the mind of man it is preposterous."

From The Mailbag . . .

Crow Agency, Montana
February 4, 1969

Dear Mr. Kimes:

I am currently working on a biography of Brigadier General Guy Vernor Henry (March 9, 1839-October 27, 1899). I was hoping you or some of the members of the Los Angeles Corral would be able to furnish me with some information on General Henry. I am particularly interested in his years on the Western frontier.

Some of the more well-known actions in which General Henry participated were:

Crook's Apache Campaign, July - December 1871.

Expedition to the Black Hills, Dec. 26, 1874 - Jan. 11, 1875.

Big Horn and Yellowstone Expedition, May 18 - June 1876.

Battle of the Rosebud, June 17, 1876.

White River Ute Expedition, September - December 1879.

Wounded Knee and Drexel Mission, December 1890.

Guy Henry served as a Captain in the Third Cavalry Regiment from December 15, 1870 to June 26, 1881 and as a Major in the Ninth Cavalry Regiment from June 1881 to January 30, 1892.

Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
B. William Henry, Jr.

THE DIRTY BROTHERS . .

The Dirty Brothers, now living in Idaho, were so called by the Navajo and Hopi Indians. This name was so much in use that few people knew their real last name. Brothers Josh, Willie and Jess Blevins, their real name, with their father Joseph were originally cattlemen. Aided by two sisters and their mother, the family bought a small trading post and gas station not far north of Flagstaff, Arizona. They lived there twenty five years but had been near or around the area for about fifty years.

Upon going into the trading post and service station they sold all of their cattle to the Babbitt brothers, well known Flagstaff Indian Traders. The Blevins family was on good terms with all the Indian people and helped the Indian in many ways. Their location on Highway 89 between Flagstaff and Cameron, Arizona, received a lot of trade from the traveling motorist, but even more from the Indians. To say that they were unusual people would be putting it mildly. Not educated they carried on all dealings in cash. Needing supplies and necessary stock they telephoned for all necessities. The name Dirty Brothers was bestowed to them by the Navajo people. A more appropriate name would be difficult to select. None of the family ever took a bath. They would buy clothes and when they became dirty would just discard them and put on new ones. With the grease and grime of their gas
(Continued on page 11)

DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL . . .

SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN TRIBES by Tom Bahti, Flagstaff: K.C. Publications. 74 pp., color illustrations, map. \$2 illustrated wrappers, \$5 cloth.

Tom Bahti of Tucson, anthropologist and lifelong student of Indians, has written a significant book, "Southwestern Indian Tribes" which describes nearly 40 tribal groups resident of Arizona, New Mexico, and the eastern border of California. Accompanying each condensed chapter are numerous illustrations in color of native crafts, ranging from pottery and baskets to Kachina dolls and jewelry.

A book such as this has been long overdue for Americans with ever growing awareness of the contributions we inherit from the peoples who inhabited our land before the Spanish conquest. Bahti gives a bit on the origins of each tribe, tells significant events of historical years, locates present day reservations, and offers population figures both for reservation and non-reservation members. The way of life, occupations, and some beliefs are told in the author's ever friendly view which give the reader the feeling he has been there and knows the Hopi, Navajo, Zuni, Papago, Havasupai, Pima, Apache and Maricopa.

California border dwellers and their reservations included are the Mojave, Chemehuevi, and Yuma. Their native dress is pictured along with pottery bowls and baskets.

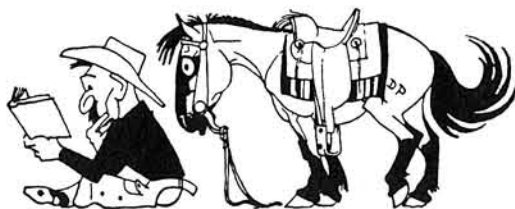
The author earlier wrote "Southwestern Indian Arts and Crafts." A companion book covering the same area and peoples. Of similar format, the two volumes offer a balanced view of these first Southwesterners.

— L. Burr Belden.

THE SIX TURNINGS, by John Upton Terrell, Glendale: The Arthur H. Clark Co. 250 pp., end maps, index. \$8.50.

Changes of major significance in America's westward march during the first three decades following the Louisiana Purchase are chronicled and evaluated in a new book, "The Six Turnings," by the noted author John Upton Terrell of Monrovia. In no sense a general history, it is rather a search of basic happenings as they affected the young republic which in less than a half century had leaped from the Atlantic seaboard, across the Ohio Valley, and started its exploration of the vast domain included in the Mississippi and Missouri River drainage areas, particularly the latter.

The rapidly expanding fur trade proved the



chief impetus for this phenomenal expansion, a trade that called for bravery beyond any ordinary call of duty with trappers and traders surviving and prospering, if possible, in a land inhabited only by wild animals and aborigines. When a trapper made friends with the Crow, he automatically made enemies with the Black-foot.

The lucid Terrell analysis of this third of a century breaks down the western advance into chapters devoted to major changes. It starts with the return of the Lewis and Clark expedition from its continent-wide exploration as a trapper's canoe is noted on river shore in the Mandan Country.

Next John Jacob Astor moves to the Pacific by both land and water to found Astoria only to be forced to give it up to the British in the War of 1812. The third chapter or "turning" comes with steamboat navigation of the great rivers and the fur trade expansion this induced. Next, Astor's American Fur Co. enters the St. Louis picture both through agents and then directly.

With William Ashley and Jedediah Smith the rendezvous method succeeds the years of varied expeditions as trapping moves onto the western slopes of the Rocky Mountains and beyond. The final phase sees the building of private forts as safety islands and as supply centers. As the fur trade declines these forts guide and protect the beginnings of the westward settler movement toward the Oregon Territory as the covered wagon displaces the pack train. Told in the author's engaging style, "The Six Turnings" makes a thrilling story of a vital phase in the nation's past.

— L. Burr Belden.

The Dirty Brothers . . .

(Continued from page 10)

station one wonders how long it would be before new clothes were needed. A person would think that for one to do any business in this manner the need for a strong wind would be necessary. Regardless the brothers continued with no difficulty. For the traveller they had no laws in regards to opening and closing hours. It was common for them to be awakened at late hours of the night or early morning. With their quick appearance people thought perhaps they even slept in thier clothes. To the Indians they were generous with coffee and a smoke.

— Al Hammond

Announcing LOS ANGELES CORRAL'S BRAND BOOK *Number Thirteen*



There is no bizarre or fanciful superstition about this Number Thirteen! It's a volume for the historian, librarian, collector, and above all, for the true Westerner.

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