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THE EXAMINER, SAN FRANCISCO: FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 7, 1893. 5

QUEER THINGS AT AUCTION.

Opening of the Sale of the Woodward's Gardens Relics.

A FEW INCIDENTS OF HISTORY.

Adolph Sutro Buying in the Stuffed Things and Bric-a-Brac—Miss Martin Risky as an Ad Capitalist—Most of the Mermaid's Jewelry Wonders Sold for Little More Than a Song.

At Woodward's Gardens yesterday afternoon the fabulous prices yearned like a spring opening and blinked at the figurative canary-bird just over the fence. The prices was showing musical interest for him, because his thinking is generally introspective rather than flirtatious.

"What now show is on at the old stand?" he mused. "There seems to be a great deal of intendance with few souls adorn."

Auctioneer Lodington had just opened proceedings and unloosed his tireless tongue in the effort to sell the accumulated birds, beasts, curios and moth-eaten stuffed

ADOLPH SUTRO BAZES FONDLY UPON AN OLD FRIEND.
[Sketched by an "Examiner" artist.]

lightenitudes—the dragged detritus of the city's oil pleasure ground. After years of litigation and family discontent the prince and his co-workers in the cause of amusement and instruction were being sued on the block to close the estate of H. H. Woodward, founder of the gardens, and to enable the disposal of the grounds by the front foot, so that flats and groceries may take the place of the grass and the geraniums.

THE DAWN OF HISTORY.

"Mr. Woodward was a pioneer of '49," said the auctioneer on the block, reaching back for a bit of history and bits of tobacco at the same time.

"He began this wondrous collection in the four old days when he owned the What Cheer House and made a fortune out of it."

"That was before the day the mule ceased spread himself by swallowing the dynamite cartridge," chuckled the auctioneer, who never could abide all pudge or flat fashion.

"When Mr. Woodward built his home, on the site of the present gardens, he maintained the auditorium. He laid out breezy parlours on the dolorous sand-dunes and reserved his collection of curios here from the old hostelry."

"I was there all the while," remarked the weather-beaten whale's jaws, "and have a vivid recollection of it."

"I was there to contribute the ingenious blatherskite," that the country fell upon art days. The red ravin and rapine of war bounced and abolished through all the land."

"That must have been the time I hid my famous encounter with the parrot," remarked the simian patriarch of the "Happy Family" cage, with a reminiscent leer, which, from expression, emitted an eloquent burst of silence.

"The patriots wanted money," said Lodington.

"They did that," broke in the moss-grown bust of George Washington, "I've been pawned a dozen times myself."

"The loyal people of California arranged all sorts of entertainments to aid the Sanitary Commission—those noble men and women who soothed the brow of suffering and bound up the wounds of the heroes. They came to Mr. Woodward and said in effect: 'Here's a sanitary fair to be held in San Francisco. Have you any old-fashioned brie-a-brac, curios, freaks and fossils from the museums of the world. In your inclosure room and rear the strange beasts of your land. Bind their primeval fur through your aviaries. The measures of the country must have aquariums.'"

"And there is no more feared from the old settler than the word 'aquarium' in the mouth of the thug."

"In your conservatories flourish the rarest plants. From the walls of your galleries the works of the greatest artists look down upon the benighted flora."

"A curate by the title Virgil Williams came to Mr. Woodward with modesty as to attitude to true worth."

"And now," said the people to Mr. Woodward, "we ask that you throw open to the public your glorious preserves in order to raise funds for the Sanitary Commission."

THE OSTRICH EAT THE TACKS.

"Generous noble man that he was, Mr. Woodward threw open his private gardens

THE PELICAN SHOWS TRADE AT FANNING FROM THE OSTRICH.
[Sketched by an "Examiner" artist.]

to the people in the sacred cause of charity, and day the garden were opened the people would not be denied, and the quiet home of Mr. Woodward became the pleasure ground of the masses. Then came the days of——"

"Pensais!" ejaculated the man-eating, man-eating tiger, with a roar that shook the bars and made several ostriches swoon.

"That came the days of scorching the naked globe for new acquisitions," went on the man who was not born to silence. "Emissaries were sent into the dread and darkling jungles and the sun-stillen deserts for new specimens. Then came the days when were scarcely spare. The sovereign was raped to bring its feathered wonders before the delighted eyes of the San Franciscans. The behemoth and the leviathan, the rhinoceros and the kohlib, the tyrebird——"

"You're another," said the sacrosanct. "It was the ostrich who ate the carpenter's tacks. That scandal was lived down long ago."

"They gloried here the great ships of the desert, caused after my friend Campbell here," continued the man of many words, dropping into a jocular vein.

At this Mr. Campbell, a small person with a peachlow nose and rose-tearful eye, discreetly and reprovingly demurred.

"There's the retiter, who dwells in an alcohol jar."

And upon at the time, with drinks free. And forgiving that waiting sapphires are——

"Why don't they name him for me?"

But the camera's eye was——

And so on.

And they named the long thirst after me."

THE SUCCESSFUL TWO-STANDS SOLD.

The birds and beasts and fish were not long remembered, the latter, who has no soul, for song. "The six-legged calf and the headless rooster did not fill Mr. Woodward's ambitions."

Then the stuffed head of the two-headed goat set off the regular male auctioneer, who enthusiastically whizzed the ancient slogan. "Ho, ho!" laughed the bi-ha bird with one eye.

"Great giants and infinitesimal pigmies were placed on exhibition. Twisting himself into contortions that would have made Mrs. Jeffries shudderingly turn over in her sod, and lifting the fleecy skirts of fascinated ladies to the gaze of the curious. Golden-throated singers warbled their most inspiring melodies. Prehistoric plaisted, extinct hurtled, and——"

"Almost forgot, the aerial velocipedist-rider, fell into the tank," sneered the gilded bird.

"And the band played. The people danced and made merry. Woodward became the 'Harmony of the Vale,' and he, boy, gentlemen, you are to have the privilege of purchasing the precious appropriations of unsurpassed and unsurpassable, unapproachable and unattainable, unsought and sold, alive, and more dead than alive—which the great man collected for the benefit of his kind. That's all he'd to me. Where's my pencil?"

The auctioneer gulped, but uttered no sound; and he even up on the gustatory department of his face and wiped the lair of the goldfish, and settled back in one long, benign, satisfied smile.

THE BIG STUFFED WHALE.

Martin Kelly stood in the picture gallery and stroked his gray beard thought-fully as he looked at the pictures and listened to the persuasive eloquence of Auctioneer Lodington, as the latter called attention to the splendors of the various paintings. Mr. Kelly is a resident of Melrose, who wore his usual corn-colored necktie, and a pair of patent leather shoes upon which it was evident the paint was about to expire.

"Say, Dicky," whispered Martin, in his mildest Third street tone, "are you a sharp or a sucker at this business?"

"Well, I cannot say that I am a connoisseur, but in my day, Martin, I knew a deal from an old master."

"Never mind then, old man, never mind. You just keep your eye on the auctioneer and do the bidding and I'll give you a quiet lunch on the values.

"Now, there's a picture you can let your money go on. That's a Madonna, I guess."

"Title of the Christian Adjutant of the Melrose get the pictures for $200.

"Now, there is 'Jerusalem,'" shouted Mr. Lodington, "beautiful Jerusalem, how often have I pushed there!"

"I wonder what the limit was?" mumbled Martin.

Then Melrose got the picture of Golden Head painting the portrait of Cesar for $70 and looked happy.

MR. SUTRO BIDS DOWN SOME BIRDS.

Earlier in the day Adolph Sutro was dowsed in with a block of grim determination in his eye and a fat checkbook in the pocket

MARTIN KELLY SITS DEEPLY MELDED IN THOUGHTS ON PICTURES.
[Sketched by an "Examiner" artist.]

of his no-colored overcoat. He paused for a moment at the circular table to look at the heads of the stuffed birds that were there arranged on the three-cent beauty drawing upon his mind for the ornithological exhibits which he could place to the Cliff House to replace the old specimens. A moment later Mr. Sutro strolled over to the museum entrance and looked in calling to Jones to range it order, and his first purchase was a stuffed owl, with a few extra feathers, a couple of shell parrots and two strangers named Jones and Smith. Mr. Sutro was in high glee when he knew how much the bidding spirited at times. They succeeded in worrying Mr. Sutro from time to time to forego the bidding, and once Mr. Sutro lost his temper. It was when a large cabinet of quail-eggs sank and sailless, including the eggs of the California vulture, for which Mr. Sutro insisted on——

"Fifty dollars," yelled Jones.

"Seventy-five," was the quick response.

"I'll make it a hundred."

Then Mr. Sutro grew angry. He made up his mind to have Old Ben at any cost and his determination hovered an expense of $170.

When it came to the business of the big whale which have stood near the entrance for years Mr. Sutro shook his head and refused to consult with his son. Winona secured the privilege of carting away the whale for $15 and the bidding for the carcass was a wild and wooly affair, which the great man was enlisted for the benefit of his kind. That's all he'd to me. Where's my pencil?"

The monetary gulped, but uttered no sound; and he even up on the gustatory department of his face and wiped the lair of the goldfish, and settled back in one long, benign, satisfied smile.

HOW THE CURIOS WENT