



J. H. Van Dyke

fairs. Mr. Curry is now the owner of the famous John Muir homestead at Alhambra Valley, Contra Costa County, this property including five acres of ground and the beautiful old house, which was erected at a cost of \$26,000.

For more than a quarter of a century Mr. Curry has been affiliated with Oakland Lodge No. 171, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, at Martinez he maintains affiliation with the I. D. E. S., and at Pinola with the U. P. E. C. He has been a leader in the councils and campaign work of the democratic party in California, was for several years a member of its State Central Committee, and was for twenty-five years chairman of the Democratic County Committee of Contra Costa County. Before the adoption of the direct primary system in elections he was a delegate to the county and state conventions of his party with almost uninterrupted regularity.

January 1, 1890, recorded the marriage of Mr. Curry and Miss Mollie K. Kelly, who was born and reared at Martinez, a daughter of James R. Kelly, long in service as a member of the county board of supervisors. Mrs. Curry is a member of the California State Federation of Woman's Clubs, and is president of the Woman's Improvement Club of Martinez. Her sister, Miss Alice E. Kelly, is principal of the Martinez grammar school.

EDWARD FITZMAURICE. Early records of San Francisco show that one of the men largely responsible for much of the upbuilding of the city was Edward Fitzmaurice, one of its successful merchants, and a citizen of high repute. He was born in County Kerry, Ireland, in 1837, a son of Garrett and Bridget Fitzmaurice. Edward came to the United States in 1852, and after one year's stay in San Francisco went to Benicia and later to reside permanently in the vicinity of Vallejo, of which, with General Vallejo and others, he was one of the founders. He then sent to Ireland for his parents and two brothers. Edward Fitzmaurice was educated in church schools and college, and was given special training on the violin. He became a pioneer merchant of Vallejo, and made the first contract to supply, during the regime of Admiral Farragut, the Government at Mare Island with its meats, and this contract he continued for many years, besides holding other Government contracts of importance. He invested largely in real estate there and at San Francisco, and was a man of large means. A staunch democrat, he gave his party a loyal support and was always interested in politics. He affiliated with all church people, but adhered in faith to the Catholic Church.

Edward Fitzmaurice married in New York Hannah Holland, a daughter of Martha and John Holland. Mr. Holland was a cattle raiser upon a large scale. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzmaurice became the parents of the following children: Annie, who married E. J. Brown, both of whom died, leaving three sons and one daughter; Martha, who married John R. Hanify, mentioned below; and five who are deceased. Both Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fitzmaurice were spared to their children into a ripe old age, she dying at

the age of sixty-five years, and he when he was seventy-three. They were still living at Vallejo at the time of their deaths.

John Ryder Hanify lived about forty-eight years in the San Francisco Bay district. He was born in New York State in 1862, and was about fourteen years of age when he came to California, after having finished his education in a boys' school. He always regarded it as part of his singular good fortune to have found employment as an office boy, at \$4 a week, with the lumber firm of A. D. Moore & Company. Mr. Moore, a university graduate and a gentleman of high caliber, with the bookkeeper were the only other two people in the office. At the age of seventeen John R. Hanify was getting \$60 a month. Soon afterward occurred a tragic taking off of the bookkeeper, and young Hanify succeeded to his place and by a resourcefulness that characterized him always, he managed to fill the position creditably. From that he was advanced to general manager. The firm established a number of lumber yards at Stockton and at points in the San Joaquin Valley, and the business of the home office was to keep the yards supplied with stock shipped in from Washington, Oregon and California mills. By 1897 Mr. Hanify was getting a salary of \$600 a month and an interest in the profits. In that year he resigned to engage in business for himself as an agent for lumber manufacturers, and during the next twenty-five years he built a business as a wholesaler in which he controlled a fleet of steam schooners and sailing vessels plying between Puget Sound and various Northern and Southern California ports and also to foreign ports, and his interests also included several mills in the Redwood timber district of California. Mr. Hanify for a number of years ranked as one of the wealthiest captains of industry on the coast, and his place of business on Market Street was only a block away from the office where he secured his first job at \$4 a week.

Mr. Hanify was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, serving a number of years on its committee of appeals, and was an active member of the Pacific Union Club, Bohemian Club, Olympic Club and the San Francisco and Corinthian Yacht clubs. He was one of the most enthusiastic yachtsmen on the coast. With his sloop *Westward* he won the King George Cup during the Panama-Pacific Exposition, and with his boats he was winner of many other trophies, yacht racing having been the sport which appealed to him most from boyhood up.

Mrs. John R. Hanify, whose maiden name was Martha Fitzmaurice, was born in the City of Vallejo, December 10, 1860. She was educated at boarding school, and was graduated with honors in 1876. She was married in her native city, May 10, 1881, to John R. Hanify, who recently lost his life in a yachting accident on San Francisco Bay, May 6, 1922. He was a man who stood very high in business circles. Mr. and Mrs. Hanify had no children.

Coming of a family always interested in civic affairs, Mrs. Hanify has used her large means and leisure to promote different worthy objects. Prior to the war of this country with Spain she had become interested in the work of the American Red Cross. After the fire and



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