

① Griffith Park

Los Angeles Christmas Present

From C. Griffith J. Griffith the Donor of Griffith Park

\$100,000.00 for an Observatory on Mt. Hollywood
the Highest Point in Griffith Park



GRIFFITH J. GRIFFITH

This picture shows that time has dealt very kindly with the Colonel during the past sixteen years. The following letter, written at that time, presenting to our city not only one of the largest parks in any city, but the most diversified and beautiful which bears his name. The spirit of benevolence and love of his city, as shown by this communication, and the magnificent gift it

gives, is again shown at this Christmas in his generous present of a \$100,000 observatory building to be located in Griffith Park. His intimation of other gifts to follow is surely one which our rich citizens may follow, as well as the big heart of the donor of these gifts which the citizens of Los Angeles are proud:

To the Honorable Mayor Alexander and City Council.

Los Angeles, Cal.

Gentlemen:

Sometimes I ask myself, "What have I done to perpetuate the prosperity of my city to posterity?" I feel that it is my duty as a good citizen to contribute to the utmost of my means and powers to the common good—to lift myself above selfishness, to render service as well as accept it. The founders of this republic insure our safety and prosperity at a price bitter with privation and daring and death. They count no sacrifice too great for their descendants, and it is as much the duty of every one of us today to give out of his time and his purse and his heart for the children who will come after us.

With all our schools and colleges and universities; with journalism to send its voice across the continent, to standardize aspirations, to make the earth a school room, to police the highways for the protection of life and property; with one hundred millions of better trained and better educated Americans from whom to pick and choose, with a hundred-fold as many men possessed of sufficient means to serve without sacrifice the material welfare of the many, we are not producing as many efficient citizens per year proportionately as the republic brought forth in its infancy. We average more skill, more wit, more energy per head than any generation of any people, but too many of us are planning and scheming for private advantage and personal profit; too many of us are sacrificing patriotism for profit; too many of us are too concerned with ourselves, the interest table, the market reports and our particular specialties to trouble about the community. Our ideas are far superior to our ideals. We must remember that our strength as individuals is only in proportion to our community strength and that we can only really advance ourselves by advancing the interests of the people at large.

Too many men have died for this country. What we need now are a few thousand more to live for it, to perpetuate its splendid promises, to fulfill the prophecy of its founders. Each year there is a greater necessity for those of us whose welfare has been fostered by the republic, to realize how great is our responsibility toward our neighbors. No man is entitled to honor and respect for what he possesses—only for what he achieves, and it is my ambition to achieve as much as lies within my gifts and my resources for my city and for my fellows. I wish to pay my debt of duty to the community in which I have prospered, and to help advance its interests. Here always shall be my home, and I consider it my obligation to help make Los Angeles a happier and cleaner and finer city, to which end I hereby propose to make another Christmas gift, a donation of \$100,000 for a public observatory, to be erected on the highest point of land in Los Angeles—Mt. Hollywood, in Griffith Park, and to be fully equipped on or before the year 1915, and pray its acceptance at your honorable hands.

If it be a fact that "all true knowledge comes from observation of nature," would not the contemplated observatory in conjunction with Griffith Park prove a lasting benefit to this community?

I can conceive of no greater service than that which will inspire men with hope and dreams. Ambition must have broad spaces and mighty distances. From this noble height one may behold the glories of the fairest land God gave to

His child. And no man standing so near the stars, with illimitable fields and seas to challenge him to his utmost can dare doubt or despair of future opportunities. I make this gift now that I may behold and enjoy the pleasure and progress of my neighbors and live to see the partial fulfillment of my prayers for their betterment. My faith in Los Angeles has never wavered; I have loved my city, and my confidence in her dominance has been ever constant. I place no limit upon her splendid tomorrows and I expect to live to see her population reach the million mark, and ere then be able to donate at least another million dollars to the promotion of her interests, and for the uplift of my less fortunate fellows; but it is not what I plan or what I do that will mean most, it is my example that will benefit Los Angeles most, for I am sure that others who know under what trying circumstances I have struggled, will be inspired by my ability to rise above my handicaps and environment.

I believe that the twentieth century has inaugurated a spirit of service. The world has begun to realize that he who renders service to his people attains the highest in achievement. The charity which feeds hungry people and houses the weakened, is a fine and splendid thing, but at its best it is a crutch. We must go farther and aim higher. There is a greater philanthropy, and it is that which helps men to help themselves, which rouses their confidence and stirs them to endeavor and cheers their hearts to resolution and reliance. There is a chance for every American, but poverty and ignorance frequently cloud his vision. We must dispel it of self; we must encourage self-support in the masses to planes of broad intelligence.

I have always held that the man who wastes a fortune is the best judge in its disposition. I have always believed that great wealth should be disposed of by him who earns it and during his own lifetime. It is a false love that pauperizes ambition and dulls endeavor. The waster is the greatest menace of civilization and many a man with great potentiality for good has been prostituted into a useless citizen by the inheritance of means. I shall not, as others have done before me, will my money to be dissipated in amusement and profligacy, or as is too often the case, permit it to be wasted to the profit of judges and lawyers and selfish parasitical relatives.

In 1882 I made a tour of the world. During my travels I made a close study of social conditions. Returning home, I meditated on the joyless lives of the masses and found myself in perfect agreement with the late Prof. Jevons in his theory that "Among the means to a higher civilization, I unhesitatingly declare that the deliberate cultivation of public amusement is a principal one."

There can be no good work, no hard work, without good play and the opportunity for hard play. Sunlight and air are the first requisites of sanity and health. Things that grow in the dark are unwholesome and lives lived in dark tenements are abnormal. Public parks are a safety valve of great cities and should be made accessible and attractive, where neither race, creed nor color could be excluded. Crime and degeneracy can best be battled with by pleasure grounds. Every bit of open green means the closing of a den and a dance hall and money wisely spent in parks for the people is the best investment that any community can make. There must be outlets for the herds in poor streets and gloomy alleys. Give nature a chance to do her good work and nature will give every person a greater opportunity in health, strength, and mental power.

Throughout America, all great cities have received donations from their far-seeing philanthropists. There are hundreds of citizens in Los Angeles who brought less wealth and profited far more through her marvelous and unprecedented growth than myself, and I am sure that they can be induced to exhibit a public spirit equal to that shown in any other municipality. I specifically refer to the example of San Francisco, located in our own State and similarly populated. The liberality of her wealthy citizens is a challenge to Los Angeles. Whenever one turns, there are beautiful fountains and splendid monuments. In Golden Gate Park, we find scores of attractions such as the "Temple of Music," "The Children's Playground," "The Waterfalls," "The Memorial Gate," and many statues donated, at a cost ranging from five to sixty thousand dollars each, by private enterprises. Millions of dollars have been spent upon this beautiful recreation ground. Every San Franciscan points with pride to these evidences of public spiritedness.

Ours is a rich city and a city of rich men, and I hold that it is the duty of every person of wealth to contribute liberally for the betterment of Los Angeles. I do not own an inch of ground adjoining Griffith Park, except the Reservation, my old home, and this is more than a mile distant from the contemplated improvement. I mention this fact now, so that there can be no possible criticism of self-interest in my donation.

My reservation is within the boundaries of Griffith Park solely because of the urgent solicitation of city officials who needed all the river frontage on account of litigation with the city water company. Mayor Rader at that time estimated that through my five miles of river frontage the city was able to secure an extra million dollars in the settlement of its suits.

I wish to impose but one condition on this donation: That I shall have my own way in the disbursements of this and future donations, so that I may be able to fix the payments upon dates which will synchronize with the dates of my income, and that I may also enjoy the pleasure of superstructure according to the purposes intended.

Faithfully,

GRIFFITH J. GRIFFITH.

PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY

Los Angeles, Calif., Dec. 20, 1912.

Col. Griffith J. Griffith,
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

Referring to your proposed Christmas gift to the City of Los Angeles of an observatory upon Mount Hollywood to be conducted, not for scientific or research purposes, but to enable the citizens and their children of this city to gain education and recreation without expense through the use of the astronomical and associated instruments placed at their disposal through your generosity, I beg to say that when this work is under way for the purpose you have outlined, I shall at that time recommend to my company an extension of the Pacific Electric Railway into Griffith Park; and I trust that this may be associated with the advancement of a project for a great zoological garden in Griffith Park which has been and is now, I believe, under consideration by the City of Los Angeles.

Yours truly,

(Signed) PAUL SHOUP, President.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

WHEREAS, Colonel Griffith J. Griffith has heretofore donated to the City of Los Angeles

that magnificent property known as Griffith Park and has this day offered to donate to this city the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for the purpose of constructing an observatory on Mount Hollywood, the highest point in Griffith Park; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Griffith has signified his intention to supplement this splendid gift by additional donations sufficient to further improve said park and develop its wonderful possibilities as a center for public recreation, culture and the acquisition and development of scientific knowledge; and,

WHEREAS, The people of the City of Los Angeles, and all who may sojourn therein, will receive vast benefit as a result of this expression of public spirit and patriotism on the part of Colonel Griffith, and in future years should remember him as the city's benefactor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Los Angeles that the aforesaid donation of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to and for the benefit of the City of Los Angeles, be and the same is hereby accepted, and that a vote of thanks on behalf of the city and the people thereof be and the same is hereby tendered to Colonel Griffith J. Griffith for this generous gift and the beneficent spirit with which the same is offered.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Council, and that a copy thereof be engrossed and transmitted to the donor.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Los Angeles at its meeting of December 21, 1912, by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Andrews, Betkouski, Langdon, McKenzie, Reed, Topham, Whiffen (7).

Noes: None.

LORIN A. HANDLEY,

City Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles.
Approved this 21st day of December, 1912.

GEORGE ALEXANDER, Mayor.

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE

The following well known citizens were appointed on a committee to accompany Col. Griffith from the Chamber of Commerce to the City Hall where many eulogistic addresses were delivered. Several of the members had served in a similar capacity when 3015.4 acres for Griffith Park were donated sixteen years ago.

J. W. McKinley
J. O. Koepfli
Leslie R. Hewitt
Wm. B. Mathews
Judge E. M. Ross
E. P. Clark
M. H. Sherman
Arthur Letts
C. A. Lukenbach
C. White Mortimer
Isaac Milbank
M. J. Monnette
J. R. Newberry
H. Jevne
K. Cohn
H. Newmark
J. W. A. Off
T. E. Newlin
Henry Hazard
A. T. Currier
J. M. Guinn
Walker Ballard
J. H. Humphreys

H. Z. Osborne
Percy H. Clark
Arthur W. Kinney
Frank Wiggins
James Slauson
R. W. Burnham
Walter Lindley
John T. Jones
Waldo M. York
W. J. Hunsaker
George Rice
Frank C. Prescott
H. C. Whitley
G. G. Johnson
J. B. Neville
Wm. Mead
Earl Rogers
J. B. Lankershim
O. T. Johnson
Chas. Canfield
George Hart
J. A. Graves
J. S. Sartori
J. M. Elliott



Col. Griffith 16 Years ago, December 16, 1896,
date of present of Griffith Park.

To the Mayor and City Council of Los Angeles.

Your Honor and Gentlemen:

In the course of twenty-three years of active business life in California I have become proudly attached to our beautiful city of Los Angeles, which, through its great natural advantages and its matchless climate, averaging three hundred sunny days in the year, is destined to soon become a great metropolis. The arduous work of these years has been rewarded with fair success and recognizing the duty which one who has acquired some little wealth owes to the community in which he has prospered, and desiring to aid the advancement and happiness of the city that has been for so long and always will be my home, I am impelled to make an offer, the acceptance of which by yourselves, acting for the people, I believe will be a source of enjoyment and pride to my fellows and add a charm to our beloved city. Realizing that public parks are the most desirable feature of all cities which have them and that they lend an attractiveness and beauty that no other adjunct can, I hereby propose to present to the city of Los Angeles, as a Christmas gift, a public park of about three thousand acres of land in one body, situated a fraction over a mile north of the northern city line, including fully two and a half miles of the frostless foothills bordering on the Cahuenga valley, five miles of the Los Angeles river bottom, the lands generally known as the Ostrich Farm and the beautiful little valley which was called the Press Colony site. Also with these lands the improvements thereon, consisting of several buildings and a water plant with tunnels and piping, the original cost of these having been over \$10,000, and all of which will be of service

and benefit in improving the park. This park will include over two thousand acres of tillable land and some of the most romantic scenery of any city park in the world. Not only will it be the largest picturesque valley, hill, river and mountain, with many varieties of trees and its rich undergrowth, render it susceptible of being cultivated into the most beautiful of parks.

I will deed this land to the city as soon as the city engineer has established the lines satisfactorily, but in making this donation I would like to impose the condition, if after consideration it should appear that it may be legally done, that no railroad to this park be chartered with the right to charge a larger fare than five cents. I wish to impose this condition to insure this fare, so that this park will be in every sense the people's recreation grounds and transportation to it be kept within the reach of the most modest means.

I wish to make this gift while I am still in the full vigor of life that I may enjoy with my neighbors its beauties and pleasures and that I may bear with me, when I cross the clouded river, the pleasing knowledge of the fruition of a wish long dear to me. I trust that you will accept this gift for the people of Los Angeles, in the same spirit in which it is offered.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) GRIFFITH J. GRIFFITH
Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 16th, 1896.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES—STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Ordinance No. 3975
New Series

An ordinance accepting and dedicating certain lands in the County of Los Angeles as a public park.

WHEREAS, Griffith J. Griffith has this day presented to the City of Los Angeles certain lands outside of said City and to the northwest thereof, and consisting of about three thousand acres, and

WHEREAS, The purpose of said gift is that said lands may be and become a pleasure park for the use of the inhabitants of said city forever, and

WHEREAS, said gift is made by said Griffith J. Griffith without condition or restriction.

NOW THEREFORE, The Mayor and Council of the City of Los Angeles do ordain as follows:

SECTION 1.

That those certain lands situated northwest of the City of Los Angeles, along the Los Angeles River, and containing about three thousand acres, this day presented to said City by Griffith J. Griffith, be, and the same are hereby accepted and forever dedicated, to be used as a Public Park for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of said City of Los Angeles.

SECTION 2.

That in honor of the donor of said lands and as evidence of the appreciation of the people of the City of Los Angeles, said park shall be forever known as and called Griffith Park.

SECTION 3.

The City Engineer is hereby directed to make an immediate survey of the exterior boundaries of said park and to furnish the City Attorney with a description thereof.

SECTION 4.

The City Attorney is hereby directed to prepare the necessary conveyances according to the description furnished him by the City Engineer and when said lines and description are agreed upon, to accept from Mr. Griffith deeds for said property and to record the same in the County Recorder's office.

SECTION 5.

The City Clerk is hereby directed to prepare and present to Griffith J. Griffith an engrossed copy of the ordinance.

SECTION 6.

The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and shall cause it to be published once in the Los Angeles Evening Express and thereupon and thereafter it shall take effect and be in force.

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the Council of the City of Los Angeles at its meeting of December 16, 1896.

C. A. LUCKENBACK, City Clerk.

Approved this 16th day of December, 1896.

FRANK RADER, Mayor.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, City of Los Angeles.

I, C. A. Luckenbach, City Clerk of Los Angeles, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct copy of Ordinance No. 3975, New Series, of the City of Los Angeles, the original of which is on file in my office. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said City, at my office, this 29th day of December, A. D. 1896.

[SEAL]

C. A. LUCKENBACK,
City Clerk of the City of Los Angeles.

IMMENSE POSSIBILITIES OF COL. GRIFFITH'S DONATIONS TO LOS ANGELES.

By Edgar Lucien Larkin.

It is conceded by visitors to the Lowe Observatory from all parts of the world—tourists, world-wide travelers, literary people, business men, city builders, educators, authors, architects, sculptors, artists, landscape designers, park decorators and the like—that Los Angeles is destined to become the Athens of America. And a greater than ancient Athens in its glory. The Parthenon is to be outclassed, and all Grecian monuments of the highest renown are soon to be surpassed in magnificence and beauty. The splendid gift of Col. Griffith J. Griffith is one of such beneficent possibilities that this note is written to outline the proposed new observatory on the highest point in the city. The name, Science Hall, might be given to the proposed building holding scientific instruments.

SCIENCE MADE POPULAR.

All newspapers in the country and magazines, all editors, teachers, writers and publicists, agree that this is a scientific era or age. Indeed, it is and well advanced. The sales of books on science are rapidly increasing, and a number of great publishing houses print scientific books only. But these are mostly used in colleges and universities. True, thousands of homes contain scientific books, more than at any time in the world's history. But more thousands of homes where there are children and youths growing to maturity in body, but not in mind, have none. Now, how about these, living in pent-up cities?

Too poor to attend any school above elementary, and prevented by working for a living at an early age, hundreds of thousands are growing into manhood and womanhood without knowing even elementary things in science, the chief necessity of the day and age.

SCIENCE AND ENTERTAINMENT COMBINED.

The projection of moving pictures greatly magnified upon a screen, where hundreds can see, is one of the chief events in the entire career of man. No device so far invented by human genius is so important in the way of education and general advance. Give Col. Griffith full sway over the expenditure of his great gift, and he will establish the best scientific or projection laboratory or institute in the world. The summit upon which he proposes to erect the new science recreation-study-temple is just large enough for the purpose. My idea would be to build along lines of the new laboratories of the University of Chicago or of Cornell. The Boston School of Technology building could be copied with advantage. Let there be a large room filled with modern, electric moving picture apparatus, and actuated free before all park visitors, say from 1 to 10 P. M. Let the views be of those subjects: Astronomy, physics, electricity, chemistry, biology, zoology, mineralogy, microscopy, techniques, history, art, sculpture, archaeology and portraits of the world's celebrities, also of buildings and scenes. In detail, there would be magnificent photographs of star-depths, the splendors of the Milky Way, and of the sun and planets. Photographs could be run of modern physical instruments, and of college class-rooms. All electrical apparatus in actual use could be photographed on rapid films and projected in the new Griffith Science Building. Likewise, the new photographs of the Earth's geological formations. These have proved to be of great interest. All striking scenes and historic localities could be prepared and projected by the brilliant electric light. The astonishing revelations of modern microscopy, where the invisible is brought to human view, photographed on moving picture films and projected in life motion before an audience, is the limit of the genius of man to date.

The book, "Within the Mind Maze," gives photographs of living creatures in a drop of water, and a picture of the marvelous microscope which revealed these unseen and hitherto unknown wonders. These living minute microscopic animalculae when shown on a screen, all in rapid motion, always elicit the admiration of all. The new Athens of America ought to have something from old Athens. The Science of Archaeology has now become so fascinating that scholars from all parts of the world are going to the Orient, to classic lands, to watch the finds brought to the surface by the many parties now making excavations. The German archaeologists in Egypt are making startling discoveries. The ancient sites of Memphis, Sais, Tais and Thebes are being exhumed and upturned. The very origins of our habits, customs, civilization and religions, likewise, are being discovered. Finds are taken to enrich the museums of Europe, and our own eastern cities.

A MUSEUM OF BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY.

Why cannot the first floor of the building be a museum, filled with historic and pre-historic things from Bible lands? The excavations in

Palestine are now attracting the attention of the world. See the results at Capernicus, for one instance.

Why should Col. Griffith alone foot all bills? Los Angeles is a city of what, in former time, would be called "fabulous wealth." Men here with gigantic incomes could make a museum that would attract students from all parts of the world. The remains of pre-historic monsters that once roamed over the site of Los Angeles, now so skillfully mounted in Exposition Park, Vermont avenue and 39th, are of world-wide interest. And not yet appreciated locally, but appreciated in London, Paris, Berlin, for letters of inquiry about the sloth and sabre-tooth tigers are being received. The Griffith Biblical Museum would at once become so popular that its fame would extend over the country. This is a serious matter. The finds in Palestine and beyond Jordan; in Mesopotamia, Babylonia, Eastern Arabia, are taken to the museums of Europe.

Los Angeles should have a museum of archaeology with emphasis on the biblical department. American archaeology, that of Mexico, the Central American states and Peru, should all be represented in the Griffith museum. The Germans are preparing to explore the long submerged capital cities of departed races in the Gulf of Campeche. The ruins of ancient cities in Gautamala are now giving up remains of an American civilization of the long ago. All ruins in Yucatan are to be further explored, and all work performed by foreigners will be repaid by taking articles of pre-historic value to their respective countries. And now Los Angeles should secure its share before too late, of all these antiquities, and those now being found in Peru.

ASTRONOMICAL

Solid concrete walls and pier should support a good, low-power, wide eye-piece telescope, for easy vision of the wonders of the sun, moon, planets and star-strewn sky. This telescope should be for amateurs, for public use, and not one requiring an expert to handle. Students from high schools, and colleges, no doubt, would be glad to alternate in taking charge of it, for the purposes of entertaining visitors with celestial views. This observatory would be popular, and prove to be a great attraction to visitors, globe-trotters and pilgrims coming "out here." The Griffith Memorial Science Hall will fill a public need, and be a permanent addition to the greatness of Los Angeles.

Lowe Observatory, Mount Lowe, Calif., U. S. A.,
Dec. 12, 1912.

LOS ANGELES, THE GREAT AND BEAUTIFUL MAGNIFICENT GRIFFITH PARK.

By Edgar Lucien Larkin.

The highest point in Griffith Park, to become the real Elysian Park on earth, is in a remarkable geographical position. Really its location is unique; and future generations will be well aware of that fact. It occupies almost precisely the center of what is to become the largest and by far the most splendid city in the Western hemisphere. And that by A. D. 2050. The exquisite architectural beauty of this El Pueblo Nuestra Senora la Reina de Los Angeles, standing in majesty in the rays of that sun, the sun of California, is far and away from my powers of description. Go stand on the eminence rising out of this terrestrial paradise in A. D. 2100, and the startled eye will behold a vision of scenic splendor, beyond anything ever produced, the blend-

ing into a harmonic vista of the works of the Creator and man. The mental nature of man will be exalted, nurtured, cared for and trained as never before. The utmost limit of human genius will be reached in the designing and building of palaces, cathedrals, theaters, churches, academies, colleges, universities, temples, museums, the homes of culture, art, drama and science, and all others that are good. The temples devoted to the new real education, the newly discovered type of mental culture will surpass all that have preceded since teaching began. For, beyond a doubt, a clue to the nature of mind will be discovered by mentalists before 2000. A clue even as to what mind is will reverse the science of education, of that has to do with mental things and change man's career. The new reversed education will appear and be wrought out to a finish in great new Los Angeles.

Entire churches, cathedrals, opera house and temples of concord, music, art, painting and sculpture will be made of solid onyx, onalime stone, porphyry, alabaster and marble. Some of these elaborate and ornate cathedrals adorned with precious things will cost from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000; and the temples of the drama and grand opera, equal sums. And there will be many of these. Entire streets of artistic palaces, temples, avenues of columns and triumphal arches, of peace, not war, will extend from mountains to the sea. The costliest and most elaborate palaces will be devoted to the real study of the mind that is in man and its high culture. It will be city ideal. The stupendous carved and sculptured temples now sinking slowly into the earth at Angkor and Pnom Penh in Indo-China; those of Ellora, Elephantina and Delhi, India; of Ecbatana, Persepolis and Susa in ancient Iran and Persia, of Baalbec in Syria, of Babylonia and Nineveh in Mesopotamia, of Jerusalem, round about Moriah, the mountain of Abraham and Solomon, the rock-hewn temples of Arabia Petrea; the stupendous mystic shiners' temples of Egypt, Meroe and Nubia; of Thebes, Luxor, Arsinoe, Heliopolis and Memphis, Abo Simbel and Denderah; of Tadmon and Palmyra, of Diana of Ephesus, those of magnificent Athens' choragic monuments and the Parthenon, the arcane temples of Eleusis, Dodona and Samothrace and Crete, of Syracuse, and of Rome itself, the Pantheon and Capitol, the temples of medieval and modern times in the great cities will be surpassed by hundreds in Los Angeles, the great. Greatly improved replicas of these will rise in the 1200 square miles of the New City Beautiful; and all put to modern uses. The architectural models of ancient Aryan Hindus, Iranians, Mesopotamians, Hebrews, Egyptians, Greeks and Latins will be improved upon. Not only this, but new thought forms will be expressed in buildings. And this because Saxons and Latins are in between mountains and the ocean, on a southern slope in a sub-tropical climate. New in human history; most auspicious, for a new and splendid type or race will develop here in the sunshine. Really, it is now appearing between the Sierra Madre range and the Pacific, the new race, the race of the Master Mind. Having obeyed Nature's most rigid laws of evolution, the new type will be almost perfect by natural selection. The brain and mind of this people will devise, think out complex plans to settle all controversies that have harassed man during all ages of the past in his erratic and devious career. The natural advantages of Griffith Park are so great that it can be made splendid, beautiful and educational; a haven of rest and instruction combined. The coming city will naturally divide into two parts,

one commercial and manufacturing, and the other, what will it be called? Science City, Literary City or Art City? City Beautiful will always be used; and Better City, will not die out. City of the Finer Forces would sound well, and Queen City of the Angels will endure so long as a building stands. Palace City, Cathedral City, Temple City, City of the Muses, City of the Drama, Educational City, University City, these and others readily suggest themselves. For brilliant and cultured men and women from all parts of the world will center here to think, live, read and write. Vista City, City of Splendid Distances, Boulevard City, City of the Classic Arts, are a few more. City Intellectual is merely one more name. It will be a shining focus of culture, a source of radiating mental energy, of finer forces of the modern mind. The largest publishing houses, for books and papers, on the planet will be here. Thundering presses will print by literal billions.

Science will be brought to the extreme height, and discoveries made in astronomy, electricity and physics that will eclipse all preceding achievements. All these will be less than the coming discoveries in Mind; and the first law of education, the first law of teaching. I have placed these good things to culminate in 2050; but perhaps differences in minds of children and youth will be noticed by educators within 50 years. Then minds of delicate form, those of artists, musicians and poets, will not be scared and ruined by the terrific horrors of old-time education in forced algebra and higher geometry. Col. Griffith J. Griffith is intensely alive to all these higher things. In his munificence he has presented to Los Angeles a supremely beautiful natural park, large, and in the coming municipal center. He looks toward the classic future city. Here is his plan, already well matured. See what it is. I can assure the reader that it is nothing less than to so completely surpass ancient Athens, that its glory of the ages will wane. Walks, rustic open air places for just such teachers and inspired philosophers as Pythagoras, Plato, Zeno, Aristotle, Empidocles, Anaximander, Thales, Aeschylus, Socrates and other classic Greeks, when Hellenic literature, culture and philosophy was at the wave crest. He wants the Porch, the temple the academy in Greater Los Angeles. He wants the genius of man to concentrate around this park and expand to everywhere. He sees the coming splendor: the column, the statue, the winged Mercury, the lecture-room, the science of Hellas, of Egypt, of India; with mysteries made plain. He wants telescopes, cameras, sun-dials, globes, planetariums, maps in relief on the ground, paintings in flowers, with poetry in marble and opal. Exquisite statuary, miniature temples hewn, and carved, engraved and fashioned in lace of stone as in the Taj Mahal. He wishes to surpass Meroe and Memphis, Babylon and Thebes, and even Persepolis, and the Field of the Cloth of Gold. The City Literary will be the great central University of Man. The actual science center of the race. And law! The courts of the world will look to Los Angeles for new laws, jurisprudence, and procedure. And the race in all its traditions, habits, customs, modes of thought and its very career will be greatly modified by the floods of new ideas from city legal—city scientific. The appalling horrors of poverty, starvation, child-labor, woman-slavery, sale of women, prison and asylum for the insane, and those apparently insane, these and more will be solved in this city, around and about Griffith Park. And it will be different. The tourist at first will not be aware that he is in a city park. Every turn, nook, corner, lane, walk and avenue

will be scientific, educational, refining and inspiring. Low power, easily moved, but good telescopes will be free for the people to look upon the moon, planets and the stars. Microscopes, and the chief educational discovery of all time, the kinemacolor moving pictures will be running year in and year out. And wireless news from the habitable earth will come minute by minute. Humanity will reach the highest point of intellect within a radius of five miles from the height in Griffith Park. The wealth concentrated in Los Angeles then will be equal if not greater than that of the entire United States now. From the Lowe Observatory there can be seen now the forming of a city of at least 576 square miles. Corners are appearing in all directions. Entire streets from Madena to Long Beach, 32 miles in length, are developing. Scholars, scientists, writers, thinkers from every nation on earth will come to this city, literary, scientific, artistic, musical, beautiful. Long, dull, rigid, straight granite walls will not be seen in classic Griffith Park. Instead, graceful curves, terraces, inclines, turns, rustic nooks, globes, miniature lakes, canyons and gorges, with falls, and then the flowers. The agonies of minds and bodies of animals in prison will be prohibited by humane laws. The appalling cages where intelligent animals and loving birds are held prisoners for life will be rigidly excluded. Positively, a new civilization will originate and radiate from within a circle of say 10 miles in diameter whose center is the high point of the park. Horrors of prison, asylum, hospital and war, of alcohol, of child murder, and exchange of women for gold, these and more terrors of what we absordedly call civilization will be overthrown by the coming type of culture born in Los Angeles. It is to become a civilizing center. And city scientific, literary and artistic will attract the best minds of the world. Public juvenile libraries, scientific apparatus to be used in play, and art for the children will be in lavish abundance in Griffith Park. No city, ancient nor modern, past or present, will afford a record for extreme perfection in the care of children. There will not be a starving, work-driven child in Los Angeles. The majestic science of eugenics will be first taught in Los Angeles. To repeat, the chief educational discovery of all time, Kinemacolor motion pictures, will be on display perpetually and free to all in this to be classic and historic park university for children and youth. And they will be within, not near Nature's heart in "deep-tangled wildwoods," already there. The height, 1700 feet, in the park will become a new Parnassus, and the beautiful sequestered and secluded walks, worthy to be traversed by Plato and Pythagoras. The city being the recipient of this magnificent gift should give attention to it in every detail. In the hurry of the Owen's Aqueduct, the new harbor, municipal railways to the sea (16 tracks), public utilities, municipal ownership, new buildings, tunnels, boulevards, streets, water and electric works, and a hundred others, the splendid opportunity of securing the best park in the world must not be overlooked. A Griffith Park commission with power to act and expend money should be at once appointed. But this body should utilize and formulate the comprehensive plans so carefully studied out and planned by the generous donor.

Lowe Observatory, Mount Lowe, Calif., U. S. A.,
May 12, 1912.

HIS REWARD

Griffith Park was not his first donation to Los Angeles. Over a quarter of a century ago Col. Griffith donated East Adams street, 82½ feet in width from San Pedro to Hooper, and a mile of Central Avenue from Washington street south. He also served on the committee with Mr. Joseph Wolfskill and the Dalton brothers for several months in their efforts to lengthen and widen that avenue to its present magnificent proportions. Later he donated \$3000 for the first car line built south on that boulevard. In order to make Washington street straight and uniform he moved his fence back and donated 48 feet of that 80 foot street the entire distance from San Pedro street to Central avenue.

The curve, corner of Vermont and Hollywood Boulevard, he gave the city, also half of the boulevard for a block west, and served for two years with Hollywood people in opening and widening Sunset Boulevard to 100 feet, and offered to furnish enough gravel free to macadamize it from the city to the sea. Besides giving miles of streets and roads through his own land in the northern part of the city, he has helped to build several churches here and many a deserving charity has he encouraged.

His most conspicuous charity is feeding the poor. He never allowed a tramp to go through his ranch hungry. Hundreds of boxes of oranges reached orphan homes and no one knew where they came from but his foreman.

Being asked the reward for his philanthropy Col. Griffith briefly replied in these words: "In sowing the seeds of kindness for others, I seem to gather greater happiness and contentment in my own mentality."

Although the deserving helpless in prison have taken up much of his attention and means for several years, others in this country feel deeply grateful for his sympathetic advice and assistance.

Ever since 1873 except the past few years, Col. Griffith was one of the "wheel horses" for every great movement for the upbuilding of this community. The greatest event in our history was the commencement of work on the San Pedro breakwater, which was celebrated for two days. It was on his motion in the Chamber of Commerce that the event was christened "Free Harbor Jubilee." It required \$22,000 to make that celebration a success and Col. Griffith was one of the largest contributors to that fund, as well as to many other enterprises I might mention.

GEORGE RICE.