

A HISTORY
OF
CALIFORNIA

AND AN EXTENDED HISTORY OF
LOS ANGELES AND
ENVIRONS

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1874 there were but five weak Protestant churches between San Jose and the Mexican line, and up to 1887 there were but five churches in this county that he had not helped to establish. Although himself a loyal member of the Presbyterian church from early manhood, he gave freely to all denominations of his hope, courage, and material sustenance, and during the years from 1875 to 1887 he had expended more than \$45,000 of his own private fortune in aiding and upbuilding the cause of Protestant Christianity in California. He did not stop with such help, however, but gave as freely of his affection and sympathy, starting many a falterer on the straight and upward path. His work among the fallen was so well known that he was often referred to as "Sergeant Nellie Truelove's best private."

In his social life Mr. Slauson was known as a delightful companion, and a true friend. He was popular with a wide circle of friends and acquaintances for his genial disposition, his frank sincerity, and his warm-hearted love for humanity. His marriage occurred in 1858, uniting him with Miss Sarah R. Bloom. Of this union were born three children, two daughters and a son, all of whom are well and favorably known in Los Angeles, the daughters, Mrs. Kate S. Vosburg and Mrs. H. L. McNeil, being both prominent socially, while the son, James Slauson, is equally well known.

JUDGE STEPHEN CHARLES HUBBELL. As one of the men whose names are linked indissolubly with the early history of Los Angeles, and whose ability and strength, judgment and resources have been freely expended for the welfare of their fair city since first they came to reside within her confines, Judge Stephen Charles Hubbell will be honored and respected by all true sons and daughters of the Angel City so long as he may live, and reverently remembered when he shall at last have passed into the great beyond, for in the annals of the city there has been no more loyal supporter of her fair name than he, none more devoted to her welfare, nor more prominently and practically connected with her development and upbuilding. He was one of the organizers of the first street railway company, and its first president; he was a member of the first park commission, and for many years

served as park commissioner, assisting materially in the laying out of the city park system and in its establishment and execution. Charities, philanthropies, churches, colleges, schools have all felt the impulse of this man's power, while the commercial and legal history of the city could in no wise be correctly recorded without a full account of his many achievements in the fields of endeavor.

Judge Hubbell is descended from a long line of illustrious ancestors, the genealogy of the family being easily traced to before the Norman conquest, and recently among the ruins of Asia has been discovered a buried city bearing the name of the ancient family. The inference naturally follows that some adventurous member of the name journeyed into the far north, seeking new fields to conquer, and settled in Denmark, where the first authentic trace of this branch is found. The name itself was originally Hubba, and the present name of Hubbell is derived from a corruption of Hubba and hill, there having been known to be at one time in England several eminences known as Hubba's Hill, these being places where the Danish chief of that name and the progenitor of the family in England had encamped. This was finally corrupted into Hubbahill and later into the present form of Hubbell. This Hubba was a celebrated Danish chieftain, who came to England at an early date, and took an active part in the affairs of the period.

Richard Hubbell was the first member of the family to come to America and is the progenitor of the American branch of the Hubbell family. He was born in England in 1627 or 1628, the records varying slightly on this point. On March 7, 1647, he took the oath of fealty to the government of the New Haven colony. Of his early history there is little known, and the date of his arrival in America has not been preserved, but it must have been between 1645 and 1647. Like many of the inhabitants of Britain at that time, he could neither read nor write his own name. He settled at Pequonock, Fairfield county, Conn., at which place he died October 23, 1699. From him has grown the large and illustrious family of Hubbells, now in its tenth generation from this same Richard Hubbell. This family have figured very actively and prominently in the history of Connecticut and other New England states, New York,

Michigan, Iowa, and in fact almost every state in the Union. Many members of this family have achieved military distinction. In the professions of medicine and the law they have excelled. It appears that the family have shown a strong inclination toward farming and the professions, and in all fields of endeavor they have been largely prosperous and prominent.

Judge Hubbell, the present distinguished representative of this family in Los Angeles, is the son of Eli Hubbell, a farmer of Cattaraugus county, N. Y., and a member of the sixth generation from Richard Hubbell, the American progenitor of the family. His mother was Mary Huxley, a native of New York, born at Avon, Livingston county, in 1802. She was married to Eli Hubbell in 1820 and became the mother of nine children, all of whom were living at the time of her death, which occurred when she was eighty-one years old. Her husband outlived her only two months, passing away at the age of eighty-seven years. Their children were Schuyler Philip, Nancy Ann, Chauncey Staple, Eli Sanford, Mary Alma, Lovisa M., Lodisa A., Stephen Charles, and Spencer Ephraim. Of these all the brothers are now dead except Stephen Charles (Judge Hubbell of Los Angeles), while of the daughters, Lovisa M. is now Mrs. George Gladding, of Napoli, Cattaraugus county, N. Y.; Lodisa A. is Mrs. William H. Mills, of South Dayton, Cattaraugus county, N. Y., and the others are deceased.

Judge Stephen Charles Hubbell was born in Cattaraugus county, N. Y., May 31, 1841, the eighth child in the family. His early boyhood was passed in his native county on his father's farm, he attending the school in that district. Later he graduated from what is now known as Chamberlain Institute at Randolph, N. Y., and for a number of years taught in the public schools under a state diploma while he pursued his law studies. His progress was rapid and he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the state of New York in 1863, and later was admitted to the Federal courts of the United States, including the Supreme Courts of the United States, and settled in Jamestown, N. Y., where he practiced for six years, meeting with much success. He was then appointed Surrogate and has since that time borne the title of Judge Hubbell.

Judge Hubbell has been twice married. The first marriage took place at Jamestown, January 6, 1868, to Jane A. Works, of that place. She bore him one son, Charles E., born December 6, 1868. This son is well and favorably known in Los Angeles, having been a resident of the city for many years. He is secretary and general manager of the Hubbell Investment Company, and is also commodore of the Los Angeles Yacht Club. The first wife died in Jamestown, June 21, 1869, and the following year Judge Hubbell came to California and entered the law office of Winans & Belknap in San Francisco as their chief clerk, in order that he might become familiar with the California practice.

It was in 1870 that Judge Hubbell first came to Southern California. He formed a partnership with Hulett Clark, the then district attorney of San Bernardino county, which partnership continued until the death of Judge Clark about a year later. He was married the second time in Manchester, Iowa, to Miss Lora A. Loomis, a graduate of Grinnell College, Iowa, and a native of Vermont. She removed to Iowa with her parents, A. R. and Phoebe Loomis, when she was still a small child, the family becoming well known in Manchester. Both her parents are now deceased, her mother having lived to be ninety-two. This second marriage occurred February 3, 1873, and shortly thereafter Judge Hubbell and his bride came to Los Angeles to make their home and have continued to reside here since that time. Mrs. Hubbell is the mother of two daughters, Lora L., born August 11, 1879, and Mary Snell, born February 20, 1886.

Since coming to Los Angeles, Judge Hubbell has been continually active in the affairs of the city and closely associated with all affairs of public import and general welfare. He became president of the National Bank of California, of which he is now, and has been since its organization, a director. In educational affairs he has been especially prominent and active. He was one of the organizers and founders of the University of Southern California, was one of the first board of directors, and the first treasurer of the board. In religious and philanthropic and charitable work he has also been very deeply interested. He is a member of the Immanuel Presbyterian church

of Los Angeles and for a number of years was an elder, resigning only within recent years.

The commercial life of Los Angeles in its phase of development and general upbuilding of the city has, however, been the most directly influenced by the ability and support of this able man. Shortly after coming to the city he formed a co-partnership with Rodney Hudson, then district attorney of Los Angeles county, which lasted during the term of Judge Hudson in that office. Later he continued his practice independently and met with great success, building up a strong and wealthy clientage. His outside interests, however, soon became so heavy that they required more and more of his time and attention, and eventually he retired from active practice, giving his attention entirely over to the management of his business interests and to his service to the city. His participation in the upbuilding of Los Angeles has been of more than ordinary import. He was president of the first street railway company, known as the Spring and Sixth Street Railroad Company, and was one of its organizers. This, was later taken over by the Los Angeles Cable Company, of which he became a director. He was president of the first company for more than ten years, and scarcely less active in the affairs of the Los Angeles Cable Railway Company, although not its president. This company expended \$2,000,000 in the building and equipment of cable railways in Los Angeles, and as one of their strongest directors Judge Hubbell was very influential in this development work.

Another important work to which he has contributed was in the service of the city as a park commissioner. He was one of three such commissioners to be first appointed by the governor of the state for laying out a park system for Los Angeles, and in this capacity he assisted in laying out the leading parks of the city.

At present Judge Hubbell is treasurer of the Hubbell Investment Company and an active participant in all its affairs of moment. In 1908 he built a residence on Arapahoe street, in the exclusive residence district, which he has fitted and furnished with rare taste and beauty. This home is one of the most delightful in this city of homes, Mrs. Hubbell being a woman of charming personality and the center of

an admiring circle of friends, while the distinguished Judge is himself a genial host and a lovable friend and companion. He is a prominent member of the California Club, and also well known in the inner circles of the local organizations of the Republican party, he being a consistent party man and a firm and unfaltering supporter of the party policy in which he possesses much influence.

Judge Hubbell is most happy in having his three children all settled in Los Angeles and in being the proud grandfather of a charming younger generation of Hubbells—the tenth of this illustrious family in America. Besides the son, who is associated with him in business, the two daughters are both married to prominent Los Angeles business men. Lora is the wife of William P. Jeffries, and is the mother of four children, Allerton, Sarah E., Dorothy Jane and Lawrence Loomis. Mary, the second daughter, is now Mrs. William P. Graves, Jr., and has one son, William P. The son Charles has a son Rex and a daughter Lila. His wife, to whom he was married in Los Angeles, was Miss Anna Cohen.

HENRY KIRKE WHITE BENT. Intimate identification with Los Angeles during the formative period of civic development gave the name of the late Henry Kirke White Bent an honored place in the early annals. Nor was this association limited to one line of endeavor. Education, commerce, political progress and municipal advancement alike felt the impetus of his encouraging interest and the benefit of his fostering spirit. With a devotion to city and state that never weakened in periods of depression, but remained stanch and firm through all the varying years of progress or retrogression, he gave of his best to the home of his adoption and formed one of that heroic band whose loyalty in many a crisis laid the foundation for ultimate prosperity and rendered possible the development of Los Angeles into the metropolis of the western coast. But he was not satisfied to see the development a material one only. It was his ambition to see the cause of education foremost in the west, and to this end he gave most efficient service to the Los Angeles Board of Education, besides giving of his time, influence and means to the establishment of the now widely known Pomona College at Claremont,