



from Marvin on Tuesday, Seals and Sloss

Tuesday, April 21, 2009 2:40 PM

From: "Marvin Collins" <[REDACTED]>

To: "Louis Sloss" <[REDACTED]>

Dear Louis,

I am always looking for the telling article that reveals my subjects character and values. We know that Louis Sloss was deeply involved in philanthropic work. This tells me a lot about the level of kindness within his household.

April 16, 1889 SF Alta California AROUND THE CITY. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sloss gave a dinner at their residence on Van Ness avenue on Sunday afternoon, April 14<sup>th</sup>, in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Miss Annie Flaherty as the Sloss family cook.

**Kitchen Maid Honored.** Mrs. Louis Sloss is one of the best exponents of the perfection of German housewifery to be found in San Francisco and the delights of her table are many. An interesting little tale is told, illustrative of the pleasant state of domestic affairs in the Sloss home, and one which has the added charm of being unique. A short time since the German cook who presides over the Sloss cuisine reached the twenty-fifth anniversary of her entrance into their kitchen. The various members of the Sloss family, most who have grown to man or womanhood since the cook's arrival, returned to the old home to celebrate the occasion, bringing with them their husbands and wives. There was a delightful merrymaking and the faithful cook was showered with presents.-From an article reviewing the book, *Society and the Cuisine*, SF Call September 30, 1906.

The pelagic sealing pirates and the International Fur Seal Arbitration have a big role in my story. I have collected dozens of news stories about the pirate schooners, the Revenue cutters that pursued them and the diplomatic gestures and responses. The poachers were active on both sides of the Bering Sea, but the Russians were a lot harsher when they caught them. After studying the question for several years, I really do think the seals were hammered by the poachers.

I can recommend to books that are informative about pelagic sealing :

Busch, Briton Cooper The War Against the Seals, A History of the North American Seal Fishery. McGill-Queens's University Press, 1985

Murray, Peter The Vagabond Fleet, A Chronicle of the North Pacific Sealing Schooner Trade, Sono Nis Press, 1988.

I will close this message with an 1889 interview with Louis Sloss, who was facing the upcoming renewals of his American and Russian sealing leases. I think that it gives a fine insight into the late Victorian values regarding natural resources.

Best, Marvin

October 11, 1889 SF Alta California Afloat and Ashore. Louis Sloss on Alaska Sealing. Alaska Seals and Fisheries. In conversation with a reporter yesterday **Louis Sloss** of the Alaska Commercial Company said:

"Our lease expires on the 1st of May next, but if the present state of affairs continues the company will not want to renew the lease, and I do not think any other company will. Illicit sealing is being continually and persistently carried on by a desperate and criminally inclined class of men. The number of piratical vessels in Behring sea is greater this year than formerly. The Government cutter has done what it could, but it is entirely powerless to watch the whole region.

There have been probably 30,000 skins stolen by the private sealing vessels, and fully 50,000 or 60,000 other seals killed. The Government must afford some protection or the lease will be worthless. Fur-bearing seals are rapidly diminishing in numbers, and at the present rate of indiscriminate slaughter a seal will soon be as rare as a buffalo. The Alaska Company has taken about one hundred thousand skins this year, a smaller number than usual. And not only are the seals becoming fewer, but they are smaller than formerly. Last season 1700 casks were required to pack 100,000 pelts; this year the same amount of skins were put in 1565 casks. Unless we could be guaranteed absolute protection against illegal sealing we would under no circumstances renew the lease.

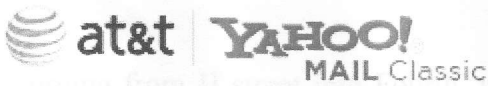
"This is the first year that any insurance has been placed in Ounalaska, and the rates are high. If a revenue cutter should bring any captured sealers to Ounalaska, it is almost a foregone conclusion that a riot would occur there, and much damage would result by fire and destruction of property. Such an occurrence is probable at any time, and the possibility of it happening is a standing menace to the peace of Alaskan ports, owing to the criminal and brutal character of the outlawed sealers.

"As it is with seals, so it is with salmon. It was thought that the Alaskan salmon supply was inexhaustible, but the experience of this year teaches differently. The canneries have reduced the amount of salmon very materially. As an illustration, one establishment that last season put up 100,000 cases was only able this year, even with more men and increased exertion, to secure 56,000 cases.

"Unlimited and unrestricted war on any species of animal, in land or water, will produce but one result — annihilation.

"There are some forests in Alaska, but on account of the distance, they will never be of any commercial importance until all the timber lands nearer to market have been denuded. Timber can never be brought from Alaska, while Washington and British Columbia have forests standing.

"I am inclined to believe that Alaska must depend for her future prospects upon her mineral wealth. Undoubtedly there are vast stores of gold and silver locked up in veins and lodes, and when the seals and salmon are no more, there will undoubtedly be a more systematic effort made to develop the hidden resources."



Leon Sloss wedding from Marvin

Tuesday, April 14, 2009 6:10 PM

From: "Marvin Collins"

To: lsje

Dear Louis,

The pleasure was mine. I will write to Henry Sloss tomorrow.  
Below are two news stories about Leon Sloss weddings.  
Marvin

December 20, 1887 Tuesday SF Alta A FASHIONABLE WEDDING. Leon Sloss weds Bertha L. Greenwald.

Last evening at the residence of the bride's mother, on Van Ness avenue , Miss Bertha L. Greenwald and Mr. Leon Sloss were married according to the Hebrew ritual, the venerable Dr. Elkan Cohn officiating. Miss Greenwald is a daughter of the late S. Greenwald , a well known member of the Alaskan Commercial Company, in which his family continues to hold important interests. The groom is also a prominent and influential member of the same company. The home of the bride was artistically decorated for the occasion, the drawing-room, in which the ceremony took place, being arranged to represent spring. The windows were embowered among tall, majestic ferns, while from the keystone depended a banner, on which was inscribed, " Love only shall rule through all seasons of our lives. The ceremony was performed *en famille*, and took place at 8:30 P. M., after which the invited guests arrived and paid their respects to the bride and groom.

June 20, 1909 SF Call JUDGE WILL UNITE NIECE AND LAWYER. Miss. Louise Sloss to Become Bride of Lloyd Ackerman at Outdoor Ceremony.

An outdoor wedding at noon, with trees and flower arbors in the background, is the unusual scheme for the marriage today of Miss Louise Sloss and Lloyd Ackerman. The service will be read by Judge M.C. Sloss, an uncle of the bride, in the presence of several hundred guests at the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Sloss in San Rafael . There will be a retinue of attendants for the bride, but she will have only one maid, of honor, Miss Sadie Lilienthal, while six children will carry flowers in place of the conventional group of bridesmaids.

The little attendants will be Miss Florence Ackerman; Miss Edith Goldstein, Edgar Goldstein, Miss Margaret Sloss, Dick Sloss and Leon Sloss, Jr. The bridegroom will be attended by his cousin, Walter Frowenfeld. Miss Sloss is one of the most attractive girls .in the city and has been carefully educated here and abroad. She is possessed of many accomplishments and her friends will be pleased to learn that they are not to be deprived of her society, since she is to make her home in San Francisco after a. honeymoon trip. Lloyd Ackerman is one of the prominent young attorneys of the city and is receiving congratulations from a host of friends.

June 20, 1909 Louise B. Sloss married Lloyd S. Akerman, the San Francisco attorney, in a noontime lawn ceremony at the San Rafael home of Leon Sloss, of the ACCo. Miss Sloss is the daughter of Leon Sloss. Justice Max C. Sloss, her uncle, performed the ceremony.

Several guests were injured in an automobile accident in San Rafael shortly after the wedding. Otto Greenwald, Alice Hass, Miss A. Leventhal, Percy Kahn and Leon Greenwald started for the west end train station, with chauffer Howard Collins at the wheel of Greenwald's four cylinder car.

Turning from H street into Fourth, they saw the touring car of Harry Preston approaching. Collins stopped the Greenwald car, but Preston' car collided with it and on impact, Preston was thrown into the rear seat of the Greenwald auto. Leon Greenbaum grabbed the airborne Preston and saved him from being hurled to the pavement. Miss. Leventhal had facial abrasions and a bad shaking up. - abstracted from June 21, 1909 SF Call

... I will write to Henry Sloss regarding ... about Leon Sloss wedding

1909 Tuesday SF Call A FASHIONABLE WEDDING

... at the residence of the bride's mother, on Van Ness Avenue. Miss Louise Sloss and Mr. Lloyd Ackerman were married according to the Hebrew ritual, the ceremony being officiated by Judge M. C. Sloss. Miss Greenwald is a daughter of the late S. Greenwald, a well known member of the Commercial Company, in which his family continues to hold important positions. The ceremony was a prominent and influential member of the same company. The house of the bride was richly decorated for the occasion, the drawing-room, in which the ceremony took place being arranged to represent spring. The windows were embowered among tall, majestic ferns, while upon the wall above depended a banner, on which was inscribed, "Love only shall rule through all seasons of the year." The ceremony was performed *in famille*, and took place at 8:30 P. M., after which the invited guests arrived and paid their respects to the bride and groom.

June 21, 1909 SF Call JUDGE WILL UNITE NIECE AND LAWYER. Miss Louise Sloss to become Bride of Lloyd Ackerman at Outdoor Ceremony

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The little attendants will be Miss Florence Ackerman, Miss Edith Goldstein, Edgar Goldstein, Miss Margaret Sloss, Dick Sloss and Leon Sloss, Jr. The bridegroom will be attended by his cousin, Walter Brownfield. Miss Sloss is one of the most attractive girls in the city and has been carefully educated here and abroad. She is possessed of many accomplishments and her friends will be pined to tears that they are not to be deprived of her society, since she is to make her home in San Francisco after a honeymoon trip. Lloyd Ackerman is one of the prominent young attorneys of the city and is receiving congratulations from a host of friends.

June 20, 1909 Louise Sloss married Lloyd S. Ackerman, the San Francisco attorney, in a beautiful open ceremony at the San Rafael home of Leon Sloss, of the ACCo. Miss Sloss is the daughter of Louis Sloss, Justice Max C. Sloss, her uncle, performed the ceremony.

Several guests were injured in an automobile accident in San Rafael shortly after the wedding. One Greenwald, Alice Hans, Miss A. Leventhal, Percy Kohn and Leon Greenwald started for the west end train station, with chauffeur Howard Collins at the wheel of Greenwald's new cylinder car.