

# *Murrieta Mineral Hot Springs*



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*A Souvenir*

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THE FINEST NATURAL HOT  
MUD BATHS IN THE STATE

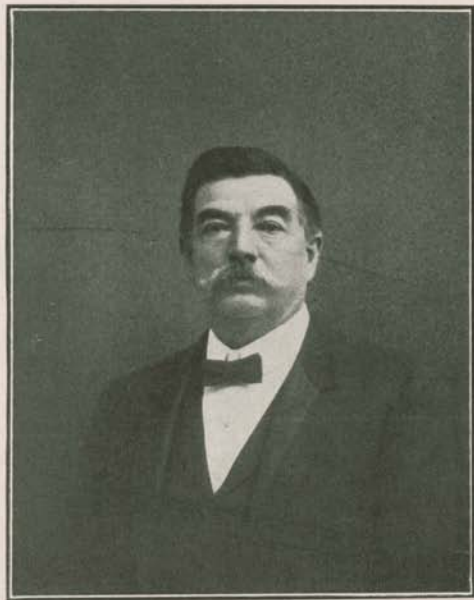
FRITZ GUENTHER, PROPRIETOR  
MURRIETA, CAL.

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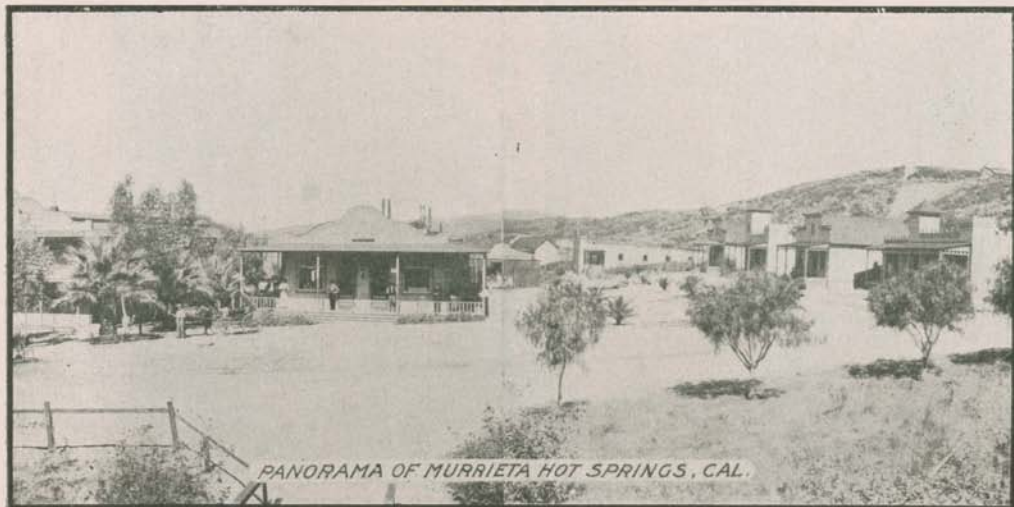
MURRIETA MINERAL  
HOT SPRINGS

Fritz Guenther,  
Proprietor

Hugo Guenther,  
Manager



**Fritz Guenther.**  
**(The Genius of the Scene.)**



PANORAMA OF MURRIETA HOT SPRINGS, CAL.



**Murrieta Station.  
Hot Springs Passengers.**

**M**URRIETA Mineral Hot Springs are, by Nature, superior as a health resort to all others in Southern California, which means superior to all others in the United States, and not excelled in EUROPE.

These great mud springs are about three and a half miles from Murrieta Station on the Santa Fe Railroad, near the south line of Riverside county. A free auto-bus for guests and baggage meets every train at Murrieta Station. Autos from Los Angeles, Long Beach, Riverside and other points constantly bring cripples to this new Ponce de Leon.

The American flag unfurled to the breeze night and day, from the summit of a low

Crescent Butte, some 200 feet high, at the head of the Vale of Hot Springs River, is the first vision of this great health resort that greets the passenger as the auto-bus turns out of the lovely Vale of Santa Margarita River, a mile distant from his goal. This most remarkable Butte is the VERY CENTER of all the interest that clusters around Murrieta Springs.

A nearer approach opens to view a crescent-shaped PEAT BOG, with verdure of the richest green, hugging the base of the Crescent Butte, for half a mile or more, between the east and west branches of Hot Springs River. On this green are seen



**U. S. Flag on Butte Summit.  
(Hunter's Beacon.)**

browsing a dozen or more fat milch cows of the best breeds, that supply the best of milk and butter for the hotel guests. The sunburnt hills and vales adjacent are in striking contrast with this refreshing vision.

In the Bowels of this Butte is an unlimited fountain of mineral waters of almost every healthful and healing kind. For UNTOLD CENTURIES these mineral waters have been flowing from the base of this Crescent Butte into these Peat Bogs. Many Springs, too, of these hot mineral waters BUBBLE UP from the bed of the PEAT BOG itself. The sulphur, iron, lime, magnesia, soda, arsenic and many other minerals that are found in these waters have, through all these centuries, impregnated the mud and peat with their health and life-giving virtues—making Nature's own mineral poultices for the cure of human ills. Used in conjunction with the hot mineral waters, they have effected wonderful cures; and, like the Pool of Siloam, the afflicted are seeking them in ever-increasing numbers.

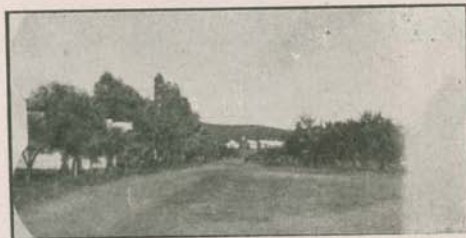
These Peat Bogs are inexhaustible in quantity for all purposes of the greatest health resort of the world. The mineral springs, too, are inexhaustible, and are almost countless in number. Owing, however to the fact that but four years have elapsed since the resort was established, only a few of these springs have been developed and utilized. Fritz Guenther, the present owner, bought, five years ago, the 300 acres that included the springs and bogs. The resort was then in a wild state;

its only buildings being an old ranch house. That old house still stands, but has been added to and painted up, and put to some use for "help" quarters, etc.

Since then the "rush" of guests has been so great that "Fritz," as the jolly proprietor is familiarly called, has been unable to do more than meet the most urgent demands of guests for treatment. Hence the great majority of these springs are yet undeveloped and without analysis. Those most in use are three in number. These are near by the hotels and bath houses now in operation.

The largest and hottest of these springs is the Siloam. It will boil an egg in 10 minutes. Its waters are 170 degrees Fahrenheit. Subjoined is an analysis of this spring by Prof. C. E. Wagner, an eminent chemist of Saxony, Germany:

	Constituents, Grains	
	pr. 100,000	pr. gal.
Sulphate of lime .....	2.14	1.25
Carbonate of lime .....	.69	.40
Carbonate of magnesia .....	Trace	Trace
Iron .....	.52	.30
Soluble silicate .....	6.00	3.50
Chloride of sodium .....	60.10	35.50
Carbonate of sodium .....	2.83	1.65
Hydrogen sulphide and carbonic acid .....	5.15	3.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	77.43	45.10



**Palm Avenue.**

A second of these springs is named Ramona—the Beauty Spring—owing to the trace of arsenic, which is thought to beautify the complexion. Most of the ladies habitually frequent this spring; likewise some of the younger men.

The third of these springs is named the Bethesda. Its waters are not quite so hot and its medicinal qualities are somewhat variant from those of the other two.



These three springs, and the hidden springs close by, have a vast outflow. They supply the bath houses with hot mineral water, except at places where the bathtubs are set over natural springs, coming up from beneath. They also supply the reservoirs.

A gasoline engine and a windmill, hard by these springs, and operating pumping plants, elevate countless gallons of these waters into two great reservoirs, built far up toward the summit of the Crescent Butte; the latest built having a capacity of 500,000 gallons. Thence the water, after cooling, is piped to guest rooms and quarters, and diverted to domestic purposes, and for fire protection.

And still the waste waters flow on and are lost in the great Peat Bog, with ever green coating and healing poultices.



"Ramona," or the Beauty Spring.



Siloam Spring.

Along the trail (named Lovers' Lane) en route to the Indian Painted Rocks easterly, is a mud spring of healing virtue in the margin of the Peat Bog, where a "wickiup" shades the cripple while he buries his feet or hands in the healing fountain of mineralized mud.

Further along the trail, at an elbow of the Crescent Butte, is a barrel spring of almost pure, fresh cold water. It may have a touch of borax or other mineral curative of kidneys, as some insist.



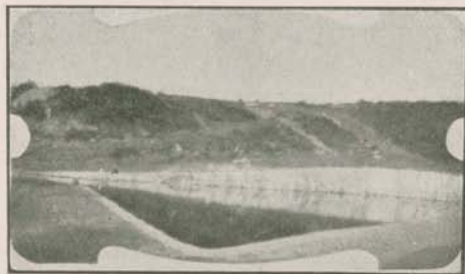
**Bethesda Spring.**

the winter time. One of these is called the Iron Spring, because of the excess of iron in its waters. No analysis has been made of any of these more remote springs, which constitute the reserve supply of the great future health resort of the Pacific Coast.

All along the bed of this eastern arm of the Hot Springs River are many oases of green, where still others of these hot mineral springs are found. Whence comes these healing waters? From the river Styx of ancient fable? Or from the great molten river of life in the bowels of the Sierra Madre? Science may some day solve this question that puzzles all who visit these remarkable springs. The only certainty is

A palm leaf "wickiup" at the margin of the Peat Bog shelters the spring; while some ancient pepper trees and other indicia tell of a home here in the long ago.

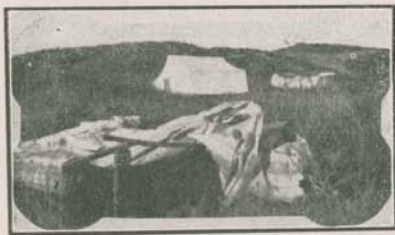
Passing the mysterious hieroglyphics, painted on the rocks by some ancient tribe of Indians, and the mortars and pestles, with other insignia of the abode of Indian royalty in the long distant ages, numerous other hot mineral springs are found flowing or oozing from the eastern slope of the Crescent Butte and running down into a branch of the Hot Springs River—a river with a dry bed except in



**Upper Reservoir.**



The Painted Rocks.



**Wayfarer's Spring.**

The tent houses are most comfortable, with their adjustable flaps for the front and rear doors; so that they may be kept perfectly cool in the hottest days, and nicely warm in the coldest nights. The tents are of the latest patents, and are preferred by many for comfort and convenience.

The dining-room and its social hall attachment, with its grand piano, are models of neatness and comfort—large and airy, and with windows and screens on all sides. The cuisine is all that could be desired. Fresh butter, ranch eggs and pure milk are the prime features, and the meats are excellent, being home productions.

Mere existence here is a *joy*, and the hotel and cottages and the tent houses, too, are filled all the year round. An elevation of 1309 feet above

that here are inexhaustible fountains of health-giving hot mineral waters of every quality, and an unlimited supply of mineralized mud, prepared by Nature as poultices ready to the hands of the afflicted of Earth.

The hotel building and all the cottages are illuminated with gas and supplied with all modern improvements. The hotel has forty rooms, each en suite or single, with sulphur baths, both hot and co'd, piped directly from the springs; the hot water being at 170 degrees Fahrenheit.

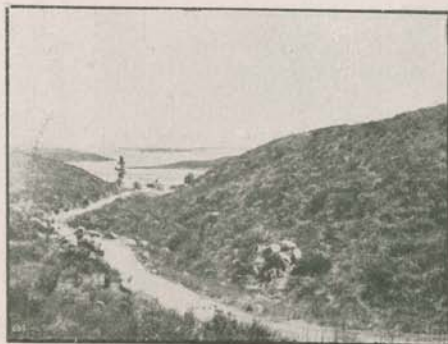


**Pure Water Spring.**

sea level, with fresh, pure, bracing mountain air, and the life-giving heat of a southern sun, tempered by the ever-flowing afternoon sea breeze from the Pacific Ocean, only twenty miles away, together make of this an Elysian climate. It is never too hot; it is never too cold. Even the world-famed climate of the adjacent San Gabriel Valley cannot equal that of this southwest portion of the San Jacinto Valley, a glimpse of which is had in Ramona's account of the sojourn here of "Aunt, Ri" and her sick son from "old Missouri."

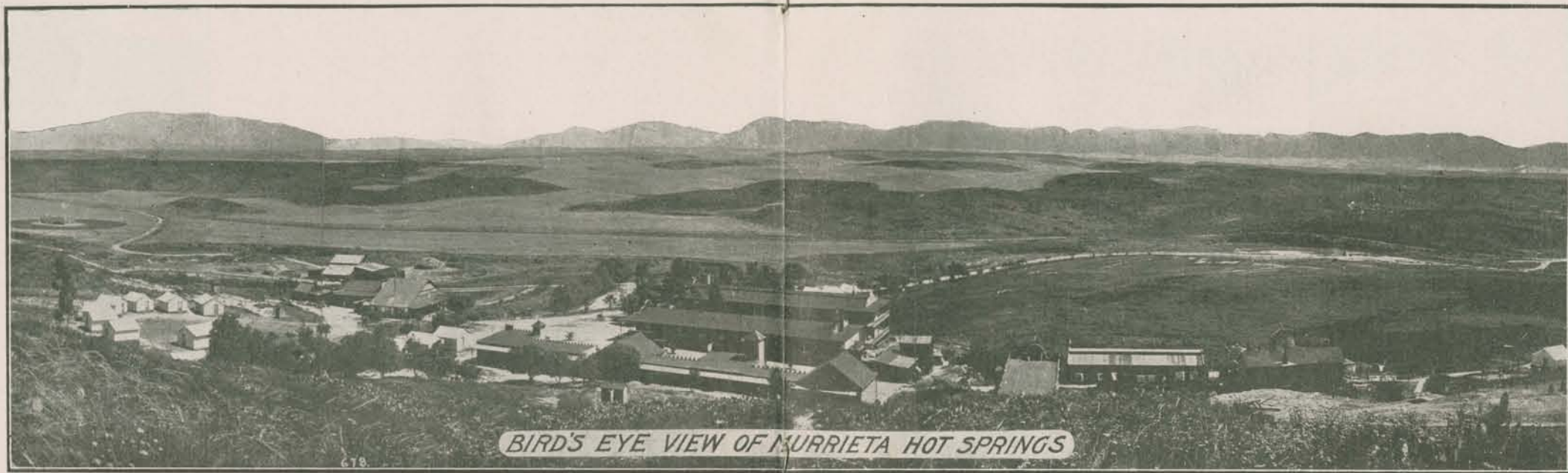


**The Iron Spring.**



**Coming Down Crescent Butte.**

To his original 300 acres that included the Buttes and Peat Bogs, with their priceless springs, Mr. Guenther has added 230 acres of valley land, extending this great estate to the county road. This valley land supplies hay and grain for his numerous horses, kept for guests who wish to visit the many points of interest in this region. It is the purpose of the management to erect a grand hotel on the southerly slope of Crescent Butte, with elevator from the spring level. The summits and slopes of all the estate will, by use of the vast underground supply of water, be irrigated and lawned, with terraces, drives and



*BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF MURRIETA HOT SPRINGS*

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**A Model Tent House.**

the ladies' department. The sanitary plumbing is up to date, and of the very best.

**DISEASES CURED.** — Rheumatism and ailments of the stomach, kidneys, and blood are cured by these baths. Many other ills are also cured. The waters are especially good for those who have used intoxicants or drugs to excess. Weak eyes are often cured. Also heart trouble. As a place of rest and quiet, it is unequalled; with its union of mountain air and sea ozone and glorious afternoon sea breezes, co-operating with the health-giving mineral baths.

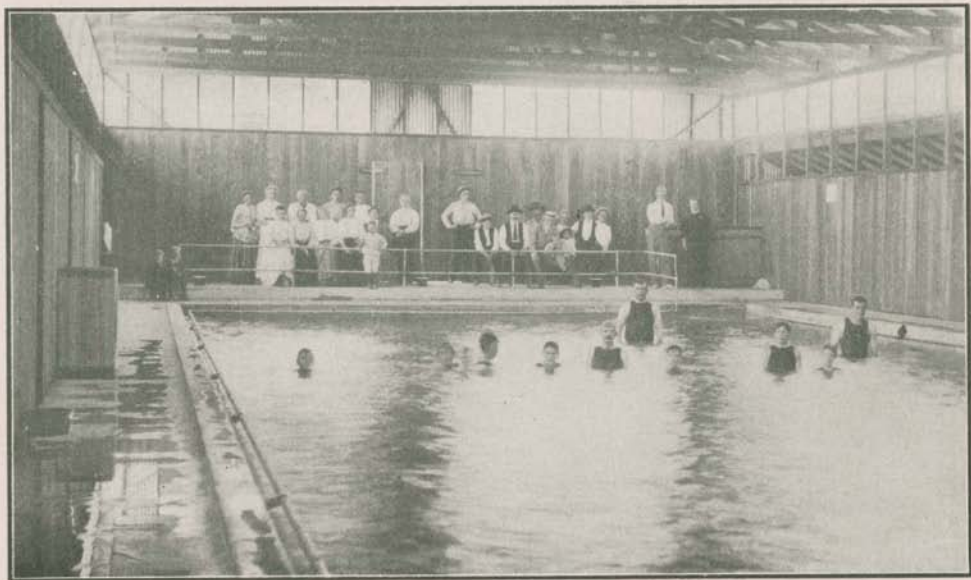
cement walks and eucalyptus and pepper trees bordering, and with numerous spouting fountains and small parks. The present hotel grounds will also be improved in like manner—the tents and cottages fronting on park squares.

When these improvements are completed, Murrieta Hot Mineral Springs will have become, both in natural and artificial conditions, the greatest health resort of the United States, and unexcelled in Europe.

**BATHS.**—"Doc Mudd," with his sixteen years of experience, is in chief charge of the baths. A skilled lady assistant has charge of

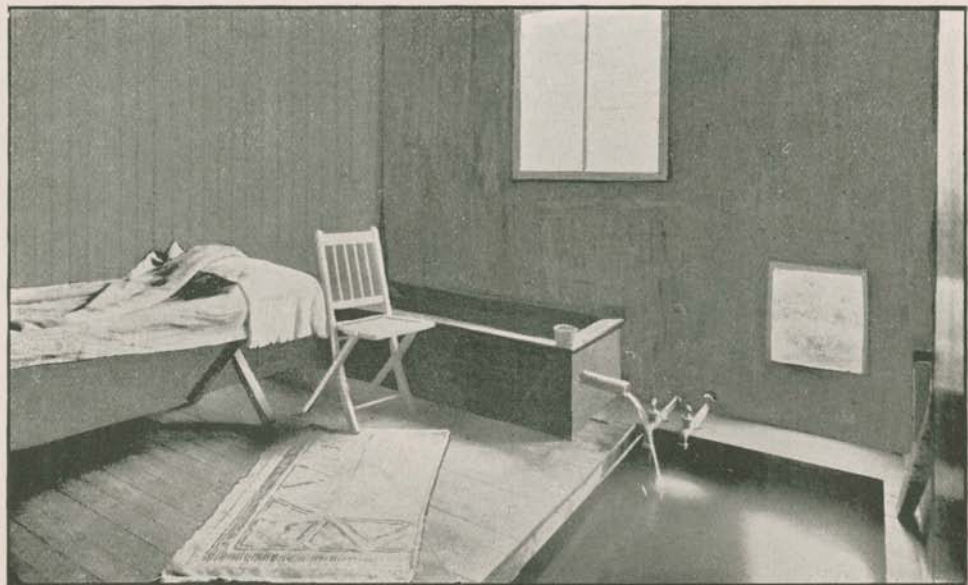


**Glimpse of the Grounds.**



View of Plunge at Murrieta Springs.





**The Hot Mud Bath.**



**"Doc Mudd" at Men's Bath House.**

York diamond merchant; the home of Ramona Wolf, where Helen Hunt Jackson's *Ramona* was written, is only six miles away, and the grewsome cemetery is hard by. Senor Gonzales, the Castilian agent of Murrieta, and his Mexican co-owners of Temecula rancho, at the expulsion of the Temecula tribe, lives in his ancient adobe, only two miles from the hotel.

**SHOW PLACES.**—The Indian Painted Rocks and the sunrise view under the flag on the Crescent Butte Summit are much frequented by guests. Santa Rosa Rancho, with its 49,000 acres, is a natural park on the Santa Rosa Mountains; Temecula town and canyon, with the great granite quarries, are much visited by tourists; so with Pachanga, Palma and Pala Indian reservations, only a few miles away across the granite range, especially during the annual summer fiestas; in the same range are the tourmaline and kuhnzite quarries, the latter operated by Tiffany, the New



**Stopped for a "Snap Shot".**



*INTERIOR DINING ROOM AT MURRIETA*

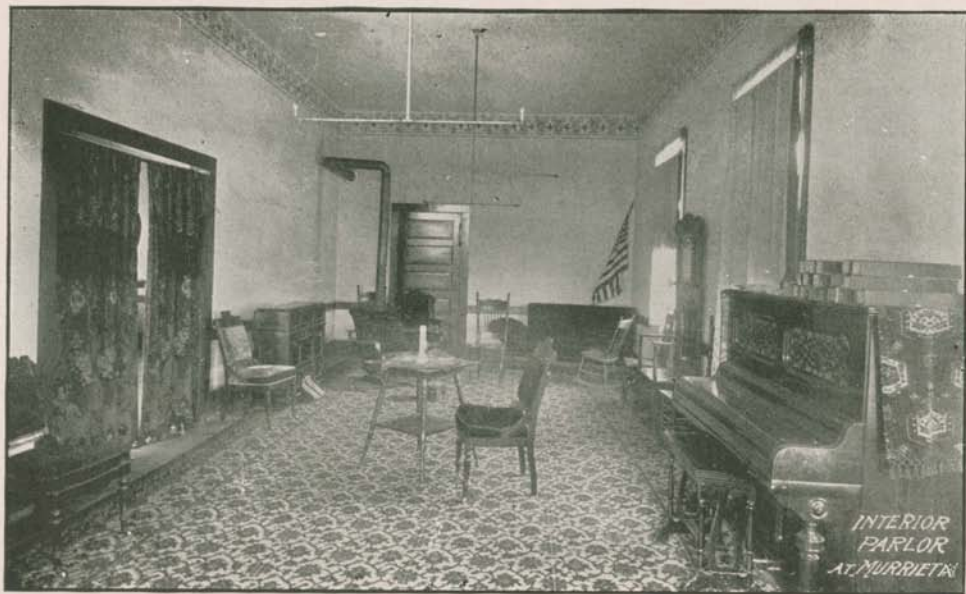
**Large Dining Room.**

## Social Entertainment

Don't think that things are wanting in the amusement line, and that one would suffer ennui, for there is almost everything imaginable to please. About twice a week a social dance is given, and musical entertainments of a high order frequently given. A beautiful lawn tennis court, croquet grounds, acrobatic bars, dumb-bells, boxing gloves and punching bags for outdoor sport, are all kept in good order. In fact, there are so many things to amuse that it would be impossible to enumerate them.

Murrieta Springs is in connection with the outside world by the Long Distance Sunset telephone service, with station in the office of the hotel.

The able and courteous manager of the hotel and springs, Hugo Guenther, long a resident of Los Angeles, and so well and favorably known as the prince of hosts, is ever on the alert to entertain the guests and make them comfortable and happy.



INTERIOR  
PARLOR  
AT MURRIET

Social Hall

## Hunting



**Hunting Scene.**  
**(Getting Ready for the Cook.)**

Quail are plentiful. Sportsmen bag the limit every day in season, seldom going more than three miles from the Springs. All kinds of small game are in abundance, and an occasional deer—although it is necessary to go some distance to get at the larger game. Sometimes the boys bring in a wild-cat or some other of the fiercer animals, but they are some distance out.

RATES.—The rates range from \$10 to \$14 per week, which includes board, lodging and all baths, with ordinary attention. Other desired information can be had by writing to

FRITZ GUENTHER,

Murrieta Mineral Hot Springs,

Murrieta, Cal.

Or

HUGO GUENTHER, *Manager.*



QUAIL HUNTING AT MURRIETA



**Crescent Butte and Green Peat Bog.**



## The Irishman's Poem

[The following letter in poetical form was written by a gentleman of Irish extraction, Mr. Geo. Coulson, to a friend, telling of the virtues of Murrieta Springs]:

My dear Friend, Albert Ochiltree, Shelbyville, Tennessee,  
I thought I'd write a line to you; as you expect to hear from me,  
I fancied you would like to know through the medium of a letter  
How much I have improved in health since I came to Murrieta.

I arrived here last Friday, about the hour of noon,  
When the Chief Clerk, Hugo, ushered me into a pleasant room.  
The location it is beautiful; everything is neat and clean;  
The employees are dutiful—some guests are fat, some lean, some betwixt between.

The springs are in the hillside, on a small declivity;  
Twelve hundred feet above the tide, twenty miles east from the sea;  
The waters they are hot enough to boil a turkey's egg,  
Or take the cricks and pains right out of a cork or wooden leg.

This is the place where people come to cure their chills and fever,  
And if a man feels on the bum, he drinks the waters for his liver.  
The springs run here from hot to cold, like steps in Jacob's ladder;  
They cure the pains of rheumatiz, the kidneys and the bladder.

And cripples come from far and near, from all the country 'round;  
For others, soaked with rum and beer, a sure remedy is found;  
Or if your stomach needs repairs, or bad germs get in your blood,  
You walk right down the little stairs into a bath of mud,  
(And that'll fix you.)

Fritz Guenther, the proprietor, is a jolly German man;  
He makes improvements all the time, and does the best he can,  
Assisted by his goodly wife, his daughter and two sons,  
Hugo and Rudolph, who dally to the depot make the stage and buggy runs.

The view it is magnificent, and wild flowers do abound,  
While game is plenty in the vales, and all the hills around.  
Oh, if I were a poet, or else the man that sings,  
I'd sing a little song to you, of the Murrieta Springs.  
So, Bert, come and see for yourself,  
Your friend,

GEORGE COULSON.