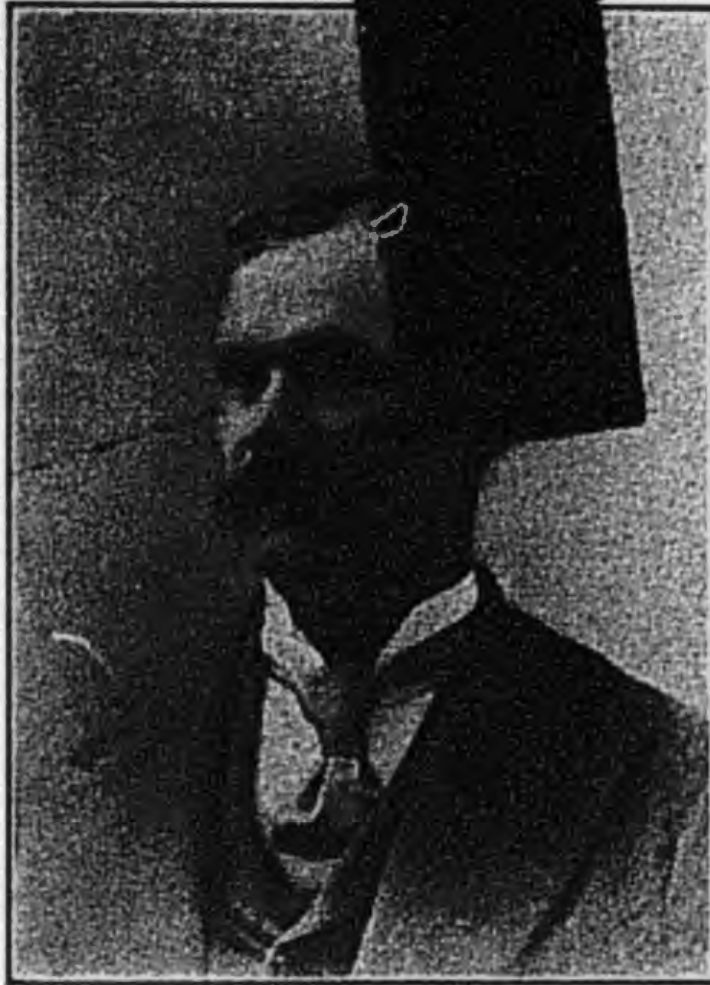


(B) E.S. Babcock

4"

to the Southern California Water Company. Later, the Spreckelses became sole owners of the company has an important contract under which it supplies the city with its entire water supply. Its storage dam at Moreno and its pipe line was extended to the city reservoir. The delivery of water commenced in the summer of 1890.

The San Diego Water Company was incorporated in 1889, and in 1894 the Consolidated Water Company was formed for



C. S. ALVERSON

To whom the public and the government is largely indebted for exact knowledge concerning the water resources of the western slope of San Diego County, which he has studied for twenty years

the purpose of uniting the San Diego Water Company and the San Diego Flume Company under one ownership. The Consolidated acquired by exchange of securities all the stock and bonds of both the water and the flume company. On July 21, 1901, the system of distribution within the city limits became the property of the municipality, a bond issue of \$600,000 having been voted for its acquisition. The city obtained its supply from the pumping plant in Mission Valley until August, 1906, when its

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Office at

Mount Tecarte Land and Water Co.

SAN DIEGO, CAL.,

Feb 7th 1895

Dear Sir.

Will it be convenient for you to see me this afternoon for a few moments at what hour? If not this afternoon or evening name some hour tomorrow.

Want to see you in answer to your note of the 6th which I do not exactly understand.

If you do not happen to be in when this messenger calls please telegraph me care of the Hotel when you do receive it what time will be convenient & oblig.

Yours truly
E. S. Roberts

To W. S. Grant.

GIBSON & TITUS

LAW OFFICES,

ROOM 1, 2, 3 AND 4, LAWYERS' BLOCK.

Confidential

San Diego, California, Feb 9th 1895 2⁴⁵ PM

[1895]

ccm

Dear Mr Grant.

Since seeing you and Judge Puterbaugh information, that seems reliable, has come to me that leads me to think no matter how sincere & earnestly you may ask the Council to act on Monday night in favor of one or the other of the two propositions that other interests, after your withdrawal will take up the proposition and continue the opposition and as I have always told you it would require the united efforts of your friends and mine to carry either proposition I ask as a favor that we consider matters, ^{agreed upon between us to} held in abeyance until you your brother & I can have a conference Monday after his arrival & I ask now for you to - if possible name an hour when I can meet you both Monday. I say in confidence that it is reported ^{you} will not be allowed to decide absolutely to have the question decided one way or the other Monday. I feel as if the Mt Tecarte enemies have practically killed it & I know you have not been a party to it knowingly - hence I ask for an interview with you or your brother as early as possible

To W. S. Grant.

Very truly
E. S. Roberts

U.S. Grant, Esq.,
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Sir:-

The Water Question has reached a crucial stage, as I said to you it would, and nothing is likely to be done. Acting on your statements made previous and in the council Chamber when they took your proposition under advisement, that you only wanted an opportunity to withdraw your proposition if the Council would only express themselves, I to make it exactly equal purposely made a proposition following yours word for word, and had an informal vote taken which stood nine for you, and sixteen for Tecarte. I then expected to hear a withdrawal from you as promised, but was disappointed to note from a purported interview with your brother, a decidedly opposite intention.

I cannot conclude as appearances would indicate and therefore before coming to a conclusion write this note for any explanation which might throw light on the subject. As long as we are both before the public I doubt if either will succeed and the Public will be the sufferers, and having spent many thousands and much time, feel that dilatory tactics should not prevail, and it is notorious that four of the men who voted in favor of your proposition would vote against it and any other proposition, were it likely to succeed.

Respectfully Yours,

E. S. Babcock

Feb 11 1905

Dear Sir

*Understanding that your brother
Jesse is due on the 12⁵⁰ PM train today
I write to ask whether you still prefer
me to call up at Noon or wait until
later*

*Respectfully etc
E. S. Babcock*

To U.S. Grant

U.S. Grant, Esq.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Sir:-

Your favor left at the Mt. Tecarte office only reached me late yesterday after-noon, and I have not had time to look up the matter to try and convince you that you are wrong in the position taken, or at least that I was warranted in forming the conclusions that I have come to

If you will remember meeting me on the street when I handed you the letter O.K'd by your brother you said that you agreed with him fully and would be willing to go to the Council and say to them that they must vote and end the matter, that you did not propose to be used as a club to defeat the Tecarte proposition. When in the house in the presence of your wife the substance of this was repeated and you said that you had begun to think that some members of the Trustees were using you for the purpose of delay and that you would not put up with it. On the day that you went to the city Council when you sat next to me you told me that you were going there and were going to have it ended one way or the other, and that if a vote showed that a majority of the Houses was for ourselves then you would withdraw yours. When Mr. Brandt and the other manipulators, after knowing your intentions so manipulated it that they had the question taken under advisement so as not to express an opinion one way or the other. You then leaned over and told me that you did not think it would be the proper thing to say anything or make any remarks on account of the position they had put the matter in, and I agreed with you though I said it had been done intentionally to prevent you from expressing your self.

I certainly had the impression that as soon as you found out that a majority of the Houses were in favor of the Tecarte proposition that you would not allow yourselves to be used to delay action in favor of our proposition. Unfortunately your proposition from the very first has been used in that way, against your wishes I think, to the serious disadvantage of the Tecarte Company. *upon which I am just starting*

On my return from a shoot I think that I can show you conclusively that I was warranted in all of the conclusions that I have though you may not have meant to give me the impression as strongly as I have it.

I will write you again on the subject and quote from correspondence and conversations in support of my belief.

Very Respectfully Yours,

E. S. Babcock

HOTEL DEL CORONADO

E. S. BABCOCK, MANAGER

CORONADO, CALIF. 2-28-95 189

U.S. Grant, Esq.,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Sir:-

I have just returned from my shoot and notice from the papers that the San Luis Rey has been withdrawn, but at such a time and in such a manner, for which I do not blame you, as to indefinitely postpone the water question and probably defeat any proposition, but as the least said is the soonest mended, I will not refer to the subject again.

Yours Truly,

E. S. Babcock

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 72 Folder: 19

**Writings and Interviews - Water History - Papers
assembled for history from U.S. Grant, Jr. (for
Grant photo see "Writings: Autobiograph) -
Correspondence of U.S. Grant, Jr - Babcock, E.S., to Grant**



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