

A CALIFORNIA GEYSER

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A California geyser by Wm. N. Meserve

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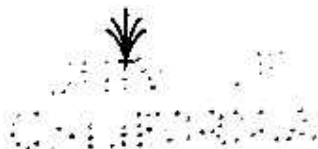
WM. N. MESERVE

**A CALIFORNIA
GEYSER**

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BY

Wm. N. Meserve



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1887

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA

A CALIFORNIA GEYSER

- 1 The lecturer at first looks wise,
Starts low then takes a riser,
Then plunges forth in heated guise
Then froths and spouts—*A Geysier.*
- 2 Succeeding verses show some nerve
And possibly some fervor;
Produced by William N. Meserve,
A somewhat bold *rhyMe server.*
- 3 With verse the world is overflowed;
Helps this to overload her?
It's good and justifies the ode
That yields a pleasing odor.
- 4 The sweet-breathed calla ever shall
Delight us with its pallor;
The author wrote this book in Cal.,
The State that grows the calla.

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- 5 Heaven's flag has waved since time began,
We give it glad hosanna;
To all things bad it is a ban,
To all things good, a banner.
- 6 So much depends upon one's goal;
Must be a self-controller;
And every rightly ordered soul
Less lunar is than solar.
- 7 'Twere better much the mouth to shut
Than merely utter mutter;
Whoever expletives with tut
May some day stut-tut-tutter.
- 8 What mighty consequences cram
Within some little clamor!
It's often true, only a dram
Preludes a shameful drama.
- 9 A fine gift is the gift of wit,
Delightful, seldom bitter;
Whose wisdom-lamp when brightly lit
Reveals a world of litter.
- 10 Hats at attractive gold will doff
As slips it in the coffer;
They're seldom known to call it off
Who have a golden offer.

-
- 11 This puts you, snuffers in a huff;
You rate *me* as a duffer;
Reserve your venom for the snuff
That puts *you* in the snuffer.
- 12 And still the serried armies grow
And multiply the more;
And to the front they quickly go
To pour the more their gore.
- 13 Ne'er everlasting any calm,
Appears in course some harmer;
At proper sounding of alarm
The wise are seen all armor.
- 14 In memory we ever shall
Our mother dear recall her;
Nor can there be an interval
That will not hint her valor.
- 15 No use to treat it with disdain
For nothing can be plainer,
There is no power in weak champagne
To make a strong campaigner.
- 16 There's much that loves the grovel groove,
To move it needs maneuver;
But all such takes a hasty move
When dynamite's the mover.

- 17 Some matters rude may yield much good,
Somewhat of good things cruder;
No Lion lairs in lowly Jude,
Press on to Him of Judah!
- 18 The sneak will always dog the great,
Obsequiously a waiter;
Possessing just the kind of trait
That blossoms large in traitor.
- 19 No matter if the times are calm
And soundless the alarmer;
'Twere well to wear upon the arm
Some good defensive armor.
- 20 I need but simply to allege
Without the aid of wager
That I was once an army maj.—
No, not the Ursa Major.
- 21 On every hand is evidence
That grows the while intenser
That every one of good sound sense
Should swing a heav'n-lit censer.
- 22 Whoever will may surely hear
And hear it growing clearer,
Comes sweetly whisp'ring to the ear
A coming golden era.

-
- 23 No doubt the world since time began
Has had its propaganda;
He's worshiper of old god Pan
Who to his sins will pander.
- 24 Some learners have the quest in eye
And show a strong desire
To find what best will edify
And hold a steady fire.
- 25 How gladly we strong drink eschew,
We thirst for water pure;
So boozing meets its Waterloo
Before the water lure.
- 26 You'd better lay than raise a dust
For nought is gained by bluster;
When duty plainly says you must!
Then all your forces muster.
- 27 'Tis grand to be iconoclast
And tear things down the faster;
Who stumbles on a bioplast
Might need to buy a plaster.
- 28 It's churchly light that's chiefly bright
And bleaches darkness whiter;
The church when right is heaven's light,
Beware how you do slight her.