

range of low, smoothly-rounded hills, well watered by numerous creeks, and but little less fertile than the bottom land. This chain of hills produces fine crops of wild oats, bunch grass, and a variety of clover and native grasses, where not under cultivation.

Fruit, grain and vegetables of all kinds and descriptions thrive well in this soil, the black soil of the valley having become especially famous for the wheat and potatoes it produces.

The dews and fogs are almost as serviceable as rain to the crops of this valley.

Nearly the whole of this section is settled by American and European farmers, and is in a high state of cultivation. Well tilled farms lie here and there throughout the valley; villages, school-houses, churches and picturesque residences, dot the landscape whichever way one turns; the foot hills are covered with snowy flocks and herds; the lower ranges are thickly timbered with live oak, and madroña; and still higher against the dark azure of the sky, are outlined the gaunt, bleak, brown peaks of the mountain range. The scene is a delightful one, embracing within the radius of its limits, peace, thrift, happiness and prosperity.

Previous to the year 1850 this valley was without a single inhabitant.

Land is now becoming too valuable for grazing purposes, and is fast being devoted to the raising of cereals, railroad communication rendering transportation feasible, convenient, and cheap.

Monterey exports a large quantity of butter, cheese, grain, and vegetables.

Quite an important source of revenue to the County, are the whale and other fisheries in the bay and along the coast. Large quantities of white sand are shipped to San Francisco for use in glass manufacture, and for the purpose of sanding buildings.

As the indicators of mineral wealth, Monterey contains veins of gold and silver-bearing quartz, of copper, lead and quicksilver ores, of asphaltum and marble; also numerous minerals of a commercial value, which will undoubtedly pay adequately for development. Coal prospects are good, and two mines are being worked with flattering results.

In the Pajaro Valley wheat averages from 25 to 30 sacks,

Barley about 30 sacks,

Hay from 4 to 5 tons per acre.

This season 32 tons of hay was cut from 4 acres, being an average of 8 tons per acre.

A gentleman of the County stated that one season 26 acres of wheat produced an average of 40 sacks; thirty acres in barley averaged 79½ sacks; sixteen acres of beans averaged 2 tons; one acre produced 400 sacks potatoes; and one acre 1,600 pounds flax.

Water in the valleys is generally good, but wood cannot be had short of the hills.

Land generally is worth about \$125 per acre; this, of course, means nothing but good agricultural land.

Land rents at from \$8 to \$20.

Wheat is a trifle darker than that raised further from the Coast, but is solid, heavy, and brings a good price.

The climate is subject to those rapid changes, enjoyed alone by the Coast counties, and to persons afflicted with lung diseases, or pulmonary complaints, the church-yard proves an irresistible attraction.

SALINAS CITY, the county-seat, and largest town in the County, is on the line of the S. P. R. R., near the northwestern boundary of the county, in a fertile valley bearing the same name. Six years ago there was but one building on the site of the present town. The valley was overrun with wild mustard, growing to such a height as to effectually conceal a man on horseback. There is a narrow-gauge Railroad-running from this place to Monterey, which is said to be doing a fine business.

The population numbers about 2,000.

In appearance, Salinas is a very pretty town. The streets are regularly laid out, and cleanliness is maintained, regardless of the expenditure necessary. Regarding its business enterprise, we cannot be too commendatory; it is a thriving community, a "live" progressive, young American city, capable of achieving for itself a brilliant future.

For both classes of humanity, the honest and dishonest, it makes ample provisions. The one can be feted and feasted every day in the year, at a hotel which need blush at comparison with none in the country; while for the comfort of the other a handsome and substantial building has been erected, viz: the county jail.