This delta is level valley land, with the exception of a singular elevation, known as the "Buttes," which rises to the hight of 2,000 feet from the level of the surrounding plain. It is a marked feature of the Sacramento valley. The rest of the county is level alluvial land. The area of the county is 391,000 acres. The soil is remarkably and uniformly fertile. It was undoubtedly formed at the bottom of what was once a great inland fresh-water lake. The soil is, therefore, the weathering and washing of the adjacent mountain ranges. For untold ages the potash from the decomposing granite formations, the magnesia and lime form the weatherings of the magnesian lime strata, and the soda from the decomposed vegetation, were carried year after year and deposited in the bottom of this inland lake, where it was stored up in inexhaustible quantities for the uses of the tillers of the soil in latter times. This accounts for the great fertility of the soils in Sutter county.

CLIMATE.

The climate of this county is like that of the balance of the Sacramento valley—winterless. The summer heat in the daytime is high enough to perfect oranges, lemons, olives and figs, and the temperature of the nights is low enough to grow wheat, barley and all the products of the north temperate zone.

SOIL AND CROP VALUES.

The rainfall is such that a complete failure of crops in the county has never been known. There is no area of equal extent on the Pacific slope that has a higher average production of all the staple crops to the acre than Sutter county. Large land-holding—the curse of the State—does not exist in this county to such a degree as in other counties. There are in Sutter county 580 farmers, and they cultivate 219,000 acres. The average land-holdings are, therefore, 377½ acres. The value of all farm products averages more than $3,000 to each farmer, great and small. The average value of each farm is more than $25,000. By comparison, we can see the excellence of the soil and tillage in Sutter county. In San Luis Obispo county the average product of farms is $1,113; San Mateo, $1,670; Los Angeles, $961; San Bernardino, $606.

TRANSPORTATION.

One great advantage enjoyed by Sutter is transportation by the water-ways of Feather and Sacramento rivers, which are both navigable. The freight from all river points to tide-water is $1 50 per ton. Some years ago a branch of the California Pacific railroad extended from Woodland, Yolo county, through Sutter to Yuba city, but after having been frequently washed away by freshets that line was abandoned. Yuba City, the county seat, is however right across the river from Marysville, hence Sutter has practically a railroad to her very doors.

The people of Sutter are prosperous and progressive. They have an abundance of well-supported schools and churches. There is seldom heard among them complaint of hard times, and their lot in life is apparently a pleasant one. Yuba City, the county seat, has a population of about 1,500, and supports a large weekly newspaper, the *Sutter Farmer*.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$7,963,465
Head of cattle	6,241
Head of hogs	11,958
[illegible] of horses and mules	6,709
[illegible]	41,189
[illegible]	99,182
[illegible]	13,735
[illegible]	1,208
[illegible]	140
[illegible]	150
[illegible]e	2,392
[illegible] sold	330,000

YUBA.

Yu[illegible] county lies directly northeast from and adjoins Sutter county. Its area is 617 square miles, or 395,000 acres. It lies on the eastern side of the Sacramento. and embraces a considerable portion of the foothills on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada. These foothills, which were once the home of many thousand miners, are now being settled and cultivated by agriculturists, who find the soil well suited to a variety of crops. The western portion of the county lies in the valley proper, where the land is of the most fertile character.

WATER COURSES.

The Feather river, a navigable stream for some miles above Marysville, courses on the western side of the county, and Bear river, a turbulent mountain stream, runs along the lower line of the county, both of which join the Sacramento. The Yuba, which rises in the heart of the Sierra, courses through the county in a westerly direction, and joines the Feather at the point where the city of Marysville is located. All these streams have tributaries of considerable size, showing that the water supply of the county is well distributed.

CLIMATE AND TEMPERATURE.

Like other portions of the Sacramento valley, Yuba is blessed with a climate that may without exaggeration be called "glorious." While the midsummer heat is often quite severe in the daytime for brief spells, the nights are always comfortably cool. Flowers bloom nearly every month in the year, while in the same latitude on the eastern side of the continent the winters are often excessively cold, and the summers unbearably hot. Statistics running back thirty years show the mean annual temperature for Yuba to be 60°. For the spring and summer months it is 59.5°, for the summer 71.8°, for autumn 61.6°, and for winter 49.2°. This average of temperature is not excelled in any other part of the United States or Europe. High winds or hurricanes are unknown in that section, as indeed is the case almost generally throughout the northern interior of California. The advantages of a climate of this character over that of sections where the winters are of five or six months' duration, can hardly be estimated from an economic point of view, and are appreciated only by those who have experienced both. Here live stock require no particular care in winter, and the saving in the one item of fuel alone is an important consideration to families. Outdoor labor is scarcely interrupted throughout the entire year, which means a great deal to the class who depend on their labor alone for their livelihood. Who can say that life is not incomparably easier and more replete with comfort and happiness under the sunny skies of the Sacramento valley than in those parts of the East and North where people are virtually housed for nearly one-half the year?

RAINFALL.

The average annual rainfall for Yuba county is 22 inches; for the winter months, 12.1 inches; for the spring months, 5.15; for the summer months, .15, and for the autumn months, 4.6 inches. The lowest temperature on record, for Marysville, is 26° above zero, and the highest—where the test was fair—100°.

LUMBER AND FUEL.

The eastern portion of the county is quite heavily timbered with spruce, fir and pine. The valley portion is generously dotted with oaks, while the water-courses are bordered with a variety of trees of smaller growth. Lumber and fuel are consequently both abundant and cheap.

SOIL AND PRODUCTS.

Along the streams the soil is of a vegetable mold. On the higher plains it contains sand, clay, lime, iron, and various saline and alkaline matters. Fertility is not its only claim upon the attention of the agriculturist, for it possesses qualities of an enduring character. Created by long-continued washings from the mountains above, it has great depth and richness. The soil of the foothills is different, and is specially adapted to horticulture, grape culture especially.

The products of the soil embrace all the usual semi-tropical grains, fruit, etc. The average yield of wheat is eighteen bushels to the acre, and of barley twenty-two. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, apricots, cherries, nectarines, etc., are successfully grown in all parts of the county, as well as the smaller fruits and berries. The orange, lemon, olive, fig and almond are grown without special care or effort, while wine, table and raisin grapes of the choicest varieties yield abundantly. As high as $75 to $125 profit per acre has often been realized from vineyards of Muscat, Muscatel and other choice varieties. With all these advantages, and inducements for people to engage in fruit and grape culture, scarcely more than one-eighth of the land in the county have ever been cultivated. Here, surely, is something for the immigrant and the struggling farmer of the East to reflect upon.

LAND VALUES.

Land in the more improved portion of the county commands from $25 to $60 per acre, according to local conditions. For $1,000 a person can purchase all the land needed for a profitable orchard or vineyard, or both. As proof of this it may mentioned that one orchard of thirty-two acres brings its owner an average net income of about $3,000 per annum. A twelve-acre orchard rents for $1,000 cash a year. It is estimated that any well-cultivated orchard or vineyard will return from $400 to $500 per acre. The cost of purchasing, fencing, plowing and planting a twenty-five-acre vineyard, including a $750 house, would not exceed $2,000. The third year (in the meantime the owner can make a living with a pair of good horses by occasionally working for his neighbors) the vineyard will ordinarily return a gross income of $1,000, and the fourth year will give a return of $2,000 or more. Land thus improved will have a value of from $400 to $500 per acre, according to its proximity to market. These facts apply with equal force to a very large section of the Sacramento valley foothill section. There is a large winery and fruit cannery at Marysville, where grape-growers and orchardists can readily find sale for their products.

STOCK-RAISING.

Considerable attention is also paid to the breeding and raising of fine horses, cattle and sheep in the foothill section of Yuba, for which industry it is well adapted.

BUILDING MATERIAL

Is as cheap in Yuba as anywhere in the interior of the State. Bricks are made in large quantities, the hills abound in lime quarries and the local forests and mills supply the best of lumber. The roads throughout the county are good, and the rates of freighting by wagons very reasonable.

TRANSPORTATION.

The California and Oregon Railroad passes through the southwestern portion of the county, on which line there are four depots within a space of twenty-five miles. The California Northern Railway runs from Marysville to Oroville, Butte county, which is a great advantage to the section between these points. It is expected that this road will ultimately be extended northeastward into the Plumas and Lassen country. The facilities for river transportation are excellent and the rates low. A line of steamers and barges is maintained by local capitalists between Marysville and San Francisco throughout the year.

LOCAL INDUSTRIES.

Considerable progress has been made by manufactories in Yuba. There are foundries and machine shops, wagon and furniture factories, one of the largest flouring mills in the State, etc., while the mercantile trade of the city of Marysville amounts to some $10,000,000 per year. There are several banking houses in the county, and the rates of interest are as low as anywhere in the State.

SCHOOLS, ETC.

The county is well supplied with schools and efficient teachers. The people of Yuba—as of most California communities—take a deep interest in the welfare of the public schools. The course of study in the Marysville schools embraces the fitting of pupils for the State University. The several religious denominations are well represented throughout the county, Marysville alone having seven church edifices.

THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

In Yuba are: Marysville (the county seat), Wheatland, Smartsville and Comptonville. The former has a population of about 5,000, and supports two daily papers—the *Appeal* and *Democrat*. The former is one of the oldest journals in the State. The *Graphic* is the name of an excellent weekly published at Wheatland.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$5,659,315
Head of cattle	7,938
Head of hogs	6,701
Head of horses	4,536
Head of mules	261
Head of sheep	56,674
Miles of water ditches	202
Acres in wheat	29,805
Acres in barley	10,660
Acres in oats	1,550
Acres in vines	250
Gallons of wine made	30,000
Grapes sold for market, pounds	180,000

COLUSA.

The vast agricultural wealth of Colusa county has become a matter of history in California. Situated as the county is, almost in the middle of the fertile valley of the Sacramento, it has become one of the first among the grain-producing counties of the State. The county is bounded on the north by Tehama, on the south by Yolo, on the east by Butte and Sutter, and on the west by Lake and Mendocino. Its area embraces 2,300 square miles, or 1,472,000 acres. The western portion of the county encroaches upon the eastern slopes of the Coast Range, but in the valley proper there are about 1,000,000 acres of the richest alluvial soil. The population of the county is about 15,000, and the people are mostly farmers and stock-raisers, except, of course, the residents of the towns.

EXTENSIVE FARMING.

Colusa has been noted for the immense grain "ranches," foremost among which is the celebrated Glenn farm. This great ranch of some 60,000 acres, bordering on the Sacramento river, was a principality in itself, capable of supporting 300 families, each with an improved farm of 200 acres. It was, however, the property of but one man, and consisted merely of a broad expanse of cultivated, but otherwise unimproved, territory. Since the death of Dr. Glenn, a few years ago, something has been done toward the division of this vast tract into farms of more modest pretensions, and ultimately this work of reformation—for it is simply the reforming of a ruthless system of so-called farming—will be completed. There are other grain ranches of 10,000 acres and upward in Colusa, which have in the past operated as a bar to the proper settlement of the county, but the tendency of the times is toward their abolishment, and the substitution of small farms, owned by private individuals.

SOIL AND IRRIGATION.

Not only does the valley section of Colusa possess soil of surpassing fertility, but the foothills in the western portion of the county, and the small valleys with which they are studded, produce abundantly. There are some portions of Colusa in which irrigation is deemed necessary or desirable, and the subject has been one of deep interest to the people there for some years past.

LOW FREIGHTS.

Colusa having the advantage of water transportation to San Francisco, her farmers profit by freight competition. The greater portion of the grain crop of Colusa is sent to market by steamers at the rate of $1 50 per ton. In the early fall the banks of the river in that county present an interest sight, lined as they are for miles upon miles with huge piles of wheat in bags, awaiting shipment to tide-water.

THE CHIEF TOWNS

Are Colusa (population about 2,000), Williams, Princton, Jacinto, Willows, Germantown, Maxwell, Orland, Norman, Butte City, Arbuckle, besides several other villages and railway stations of minor importance.

RESOURCES AWAITING DEVELOPMENT.

Concerning the natural resources of Colusa county, and the causes that have operated against their development, Will S. Green, editor of the Colusa *Sun*, has this to say: "While Colusa has been for many years the richest county in the State in proportion to population—about $1,200 to each inhabitant and upward of $6,000 to each voter—the development of her resources has been less rapid than that of any other county so near to the present center of population. The reasons are obvious. Railroads are the great developing agencies of the country. Some years ago the California and Oregon road was built on the east side of the Sacramento, through Yuba, Butte and Tehama counties, and the California Pacific was built through Yolo and Sutter, thus leaving Colusa the only county in the Sacramento valley without a railroad. People settled along the lines of these roads, and land became valuable. When land was selling for $25 an acre in gold in the adjoining county of Yolo, the same quality of land, with freight on produce just as cheap to tide-water, was lying subject to entry at $1 25 per acre in greenbacks, when greenbacks were worth six bits on the dollar. The consequence was that Colusa was given up to the stock men, who wanted large ranges, and they entered the land as necessity compelled them to do so. Consequently it came to be held in large tracts. Finally the Northern Railway was built, and the attention of farmers called to the great fertility of the soil; but wheat-growing on such soil was profitable, and the large land-owners went into that, so that the small farmer, with his varied productions, found no foothold. Fine orchard and vineyard land can be had cheaper in Colusa county than anywhere else with the same natural advantages. The people are only beginning to realize what a grand bonanza they have in the soil, the climate and the water."

IRRIGATION.

Several surveys have been made for irrigating canals within the past two or three years by such public-spirited citizens as N. D. Rideout, H. B. Julian, John Boggs, L. F. Moulton, W. S. Green and others, and it was ascertained, that for a total expenditure of less than a million dollars an area embracing 650 square miles of land could be thoroughly irrigated. The capitalists who had thought of investing their money in these enterprises were fully satisfied with the outlook and determined on proceeding with the work. But they have encountered considerable opposition from quarters whence it was least expected, and therefore nothing has as yet been done in that direction. While irrigation is not a necessity in Colusa, it would certainly prove a most effective agent toward insuring bountiful crops in years of excessive or partial drought; and with the facilities at hand for a perfect system of irrigation, enterprises of this character will undoubtedly be inaugurated ere many years. Colusa is rich in natural resources, but she, like most counties in northern California, must have population before they can be developed.

TAXABLE PROPERTY IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$21,541,946
Head of cattle	7,380
Head of goats	5,678
Head of hogs	25,595
Head of horses and mules	10,856
Head of sheep	87,516
Acres in wheat	401,901
Acres in barley	38,417
Acres in vines	65
Pounds of grapes sold	20,000

BUTTE.

Synonymous with the history of progress in agriculture in California is the name of Butte county. It lies in the very heart of the great Sacramento valley, bounded on the north by Tehama and Plumas, on the south by Yuba and Sutter, on the east by Plumas, and on the west by Colusa and Tehama. It has an area of 1,765 square miles, embracing 1,130,000 acres, of which more than one-half is tillable. Butte is a great wheat-producing county, farming being generally conducted on that extensive scale generally termed "ranching," many of these wheat ranches covering thousands of acres.

THE VALLEY PORTION

Of the county is of a rich adobe, a quality that retains its fertility even after a score of crops had been raised in as many successive years. Butte was not one of the earliest farming localities in the State, its adobe lands at first not being regarded with much favor by agriculturists. It was originally a mining section, and its hills still yield upward of half a million dollars in gold annually. But as soon as the real value of its broad acres for agricultural purposes became known the county received a large influx of farmers, and land rose rapidly in price.

FOOTHILL FRUIT LANDS.

But it is not alone in the fertility of her grain lands that lies the real wealth of Butte. She has a very large foothill section whose capabilities for horticulture are fa[illegible]ming appreciated. These foothill lan[illegible] late years produced remarkable[illegible]f fruit, and the coming years will[illegible]em peopled by communities of hort[illegible]rists enjoying abundant success. The[illegible]ntry round about Oroville seems to be[illegible]natural home of the orange. Althou[illegible]orange culture has not been made a specialty in that section, there are a number of small orchards that have produced heavy crops of oranges that surpass those of the southern counties in size, beauty and flavor. The fruit, moreover, ripens nearly a month earlier than that of Los Angeles. Lemons are also successfully grown, and all the hardier fruits reach perfection in these foothills. Outside the wheat-growing district land is not as yet held at high figures, and any person of moderate means can readily secure a tract of land suitable for farming on a small scale and fruit-growing. This foothill country is traversed by a large number of mining ditches which will in the future be utilized for irrigation, thereby making productive lands otherwise lacking in fertility. Many of the immigrants that have come to California within the past two or three years have established themselves in Butte county, where they are laying the foundation for happy homes and lives of prosperity.

THE NORTHERN PORTION

Of the county abounds in pine forests, and the lumber trade of that section forms one of the leading industries of the county. Several large sawmills are required to meet the demands of the lumber trade, which gives employment to a large number of men.

THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

In Butte are Chico, Oroville, Biggs, Gridley, Nord, Cherokee, Nelson, Dayton and Durham. While Oroville is the county seat, Chico is the larger, its population being about 4,000. Both towns enjoy the benefits of railroad communication, Oroville being the northern terminus of the California Northern Railway, which runs between that place and Marysville, and Chico being located on the main line of the California and Oregon Railroad. These towns each have stage connections with the more remote parts of the county. As a rule the people of Butte are well-to-do, and their towns and villages are well provided with churches, schools, newspapers and other evidences of thrift and progress. The seventy school districts in the county employ nearly one hundred teachers, whose average salaries are from $70 to $80 per month. Abundant provision is made by the authorities for the proper support of the schools, and the people of Butte feel a just pride in their excellence.

MODEL FARMING.

Prominent among the number of highly-improved farms in Butte county is that of General John Bidwell, near the town of Chico. General Bidwell was one of the earliest white settlers in that section, and has always been a prominent figure in public affairs. His Butte county farm is one of the finest on the coast. It comprises several thousand acres, and has been brought to a high degree of perfection. It is a model farm in every department and branch of agriculture and horticulture. Cereals, fruit of all kinds, table and raisin grapes, oranges, berries, etc., are grown in large quantities, and always command the best prices in market. A flour mill is maintained on the farm, where the surplus product of the grain fields is manufactured into flour. General Bidwell's enterprise and perfect system of farming has done much toward attracting attention to the agricultural resources of Butte county.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$15,472,901
Head of cattle	16,123
Head of goats	1,000
Head of hogs	19,674
Head of horses	8,788
Head of mules	1,297
Head of sheep	90,437
Acres in wheat	82,425
Acres in barley	9,393
Acres in oats	3,033
Acres in corn	1,259
Acres in vines	665
Grapes sold for market (pounds)	322,600
Boxes of raisins made	2,210
Tons of grapes per acre	4

NEVADA.

Nevada county is at present the chief mining county of the State; and, perhaps, taking all the world, there has never been the same area of land which has produced as much gold. It is in the middle portion of the State—or rather, we may say, it is a southern county of northern California. On the map the county resembles, in shape, an old-style revolver pistol, with the barrel pointing east and the butt to the west, with the lower end of the handle in the south. The suggestion may be tolerated that this pistol is gold-mounted. The greatest distance between the eastern and the western boundary lines of Nevada county is 74 miles, and its greatest width is eighteen and three-quarter miles. These distances are as the crow flies. Nevada county extends from the lower foothills near the Sacramento valley, across the Sierra Nevada to the line of the State of Nevada. To the east of the Sierra summit there is a strip of Nevada county nearly twenty miles long. In this strip are Donner and Independence lakes, the towns of Truckee and Boca, and several stations and camps on the Central Pacific Railroad. Nevada county contains 1,016 square miles, or 650,240 acres.

POPULATION.

Nevada county is divided into nine political townships. According to the United States census of 1880, the total population of the county was 20,534. The townships have population (census 1880) as follows: Nevada, 5,540; Grass Valley, 6,700; Eureka, 693; Bloomfield, 1,017; Rough and Ready, 1,565; Little York, 1,031; Washington, 527; Bridgeport, 1,982; Meadow Lake, 1,479. The population, according to the census of 1870, was 19,134. The vote of the county at the election in 1884 was 4,215.

THE CHIEF INDUSTRY

Is mining, although farming is carried on with profit in the western portion of Nevada county. The gold is found in both quartz ledges and gravel beds. Nevada and Grass Valley townships are the principal portions in which quartz mining is carried on. Eureka and Washington townships, further east and higher of altitude than the two first named, have also many valuable quartz ledges. The mines in Grass Valley and Nevada townships have been systematically worked and developed for many years; those of Washington and Eureka townships are now attracting the attention of capitalists who invest in working mines. At the very summit of the mountains is Meadow Lake, a mining district which is supposed to have many rich ledges, but the workings of which have not yielded satisfactory returns. In that district, some fifteen or twenty years ago, a large town sprung up in almost a day, because of the mining excitement, and the town withered as quickly because of a failure to work the refractory ores.

THE GRAVEL SECTION.

The great gold gravel region of the county is in the townships of Bridgeport, Bloomfield, Eureka, Little York and Washington. These are of immense extent and incalculable richness. These beds were worked by the hydraulic process for the most part, and enormous values of gold were annually washed out of them. There are some gravel mines in Nevada, Grass Valley and Rough and Ready townships, but they are not extensive—excepting at Mooney Flat, in Rough and Ready, where is the extension of the famous gravel leads of Timbuctoo, Smartsville and Sucker Flat. All these gravel mines are now under the ban of the law, so far as working them by the hydraulic process is concerned. The hydraulicking carries too much debris into the rivers and to the valley lands to be allowed to continue. Some of these rich gravel deposits can probably be worked by drifting, to which method there can be no objection.

In the western part of Nevada county there are extensive deposits of copper; at Spenceville, for instance, successful copper mining is carried on. In the western part of the county are found iron and limestone in great abundance. The

PRINCIPAL WATER COURSES

Of the county are Bear river on the south boundary, the south Yuba running through near the middle line of the county, the middle Yuba at the northern boundary and Deer creek in the middle portion. All these streams have their sources at or near the summit of the Sierra and run to the west. From them some 220 ditches or canals take the water and distribute it over all the lower part of the county, thus making cheap power for driving machinery and an abundant irrigation. The water supply for these ditches is assisted by numerous lakes and reservoirs near the summit.

THE UPPER PART

Of the county is covered with snow more than half of the year, and is therefore not well adapted to cultivation; it is well timbered, however, and the manufacture of lumber is one of the most important industries of that part of the county. The grazing land in this mountainous region is excellent, and affords pasture, during the summer months, to thousands of cattle which are yearly taken up from the great valleys below.

THE CLIMATE.

The altitude of Nevada county, varying as it does from a few feet to 8,000 feet above the level of the sea, must necessarily give rise to a great variety of climate. Such is the case. While in the western portion of the county frost is of very rare occurrence, at the top of the Sierras—at Meadow Lake, for instance—scarcely a night passes without at least a white frost. It snows but rarely below Rough-and-Ready, and at an altitude of 2,500 feet the fall of snow is light, or lies but a few days on the ground; but on the summit snow is often seen from fifteen to twenty feet deep. The winters are not as cold by far as in the same latitude on the eastern side of the continent. The rainfall, however, is much heavier than in the valley regions of the State. At Nevada City, the county seat, altitude 2,500 feet, the average rainfall is 52 inches. The climate of the greater part of Nevada county is pleasant and equable. The summer days, with but very few exceptions, are warm and sunshiny, especially during June and July, while the nights are delightfully cool and refreshing. The winters are not severe, except at the highest altitudes.

FRUIT CROPS.

In the production of fruits, of the very best kind that belong to the temperate zone, a portion of Nevada county cannot be excelled. The fruit region is in all Grass Valley, Rough and Ready townships, and in western portions of Nevada, Bridgeport and Little York townships. These fruit crops are a certainty every year, and the excellence of the production insures the highest prices in the market. In the higher altitudes the apple can be produced in unlimited quantities, and of unsurpassed excellence in all respects. The fruit capacities of Nevada county ought to give it, and can give it, a population more than three times that of the present. In the less altitudes, and in the western part of the county, farming is extensively carried on, and there is not a grain or grass known to the temperate latitudes but can be profitably grown.

The vine flourishes in the lower altitudes, and good wines have been made from grapes grown at the altitude of 2,500 feet. There are but four or five wine cellars in the county, and the grape industry, though promising in results, has not been demonstrated to be a great success.

HOME ADVANTAGES.

The county is well supplied with schools and churches. Every neighborhood has its school-house, and in the smaller places these houses are used for public worship. In the larger towns the school-houses and churches are separate. The county has three daily, one tri-weekly, one semi-weekly, two weekly newspapers and one monthly newspaper.

RAILROAD LINES.

The center of the county is reached by the Nevada County Narrow-Gauge Railroad. This road runs from Colfax, on the Central Pacific, to Grass Valley and Nevada City, a distance of about twenty-four miles. From the two towns named five wagon roads run to all parts of the county. Some of these roads are splendid results of engineering skill in the matter of passing, by easy grades, over sharp and high ridges. The scenery on these roads is unsurpassed on the coast.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$5,245,725
Personal property	$1,246,240
Mining claims (included above)	$972,485
Miles of mining ditches	583
Head of cattle	6,891
Head of goats	2,310
Head of hogs	1,652
Head of horses and mules	2,693
Head of sheep	2,648
Bushels of charcoal	40,000
Acres in hay	5,978
Acres in vines	190
Tons of grapes per acre	3
Gallons of wine made	8,670
Grapes sold for market (lbs)	59,700

SIERRA.

This is one of the oldest mining counties in the State. It is bounded on the north by Plumas, south by Nevada, east by the State line, and west by Yuba. It is a mountainous section, interspersed liberally with small and fertile valleys. Of late years these valleys have been placed under cultivation, and now contain numbers of farmers, who raise considerable quantities of hay, grain and garden produce, which find a ready home market. The eastern portion of the county has an average elevation of some 4,000 feet, some of the higher peaks rising to from 6,000 to 8,000 feet. In winter the people are obliged to do their traveling mostly on snow-shoes. Situated among the mountains in the eastern part of the county is Sierra Valley. This valley is almost completely hemmed in by mountains, and is some twenty miles long, by ten in width. The soil is exceedingly fertile and most of it is cultivated annually. The valley is about thirty miles north of Truckee, and eighteen miles northeast of Downieville.

SOIL, TIMBER AND WATER.

In the valleys and on the plateaus the soil is a deep loam. The western part of the county is watered by the headwaters of the Yuba river and its tributaries, and a number of smaller streams supply the eastern portion. Springs are numerous in all directions, and good well water is found at a depth of from ten to fifty feet. Gold Lake, on the western slope, is the source of the middle fork of the Feather river. The lake is four miles long, and two in width. In the eastern half of the county are several picturesque mountain lakes, chief among them being Independence and Weber. These are delightful places of resort in the summer, and are visited by large numbers of tourists and pleasure-seekers. Their waters are clear as crystal and filled with trout. Summer hotels are maintained at these resorts, whose attractions are becoming widely known. Sierra is a heavily-wooded county, the timber consisting mainly of sugar and yellow pine, fir, cedar, spruce, and wild plum. Lumbering is an important industry.

MINERAL RESOURCES.

The chief industry of the county has been mining. Millions of dollars have been taken from the hills and mountains in Sierra county, and there are yet mines that yield well. As late as 1880 the annual gold product of Sierra county was in round figures about $1,000,000. It is claimed that the ancient river-channels, now covered by mountains of volcanic lava, contain untold millions in gold deposits, but as the hydraulic system of mining has been adjudged illegal it is difficult to understand how these old river-beds can be made to yield up their riches.

There are scattered throughout the county rich slate and marble quarries, and iron and other ores, which, it is expected, will some day be of considerable value.

PROSPECTIVE RAILROADS.

Sierra is likely to have railroad facilities in a few years, in which case her prospects will brighten materially. The Nevada and Oregon narrow-gauge line, which starts from Reno, has been constructed as far as Sierra, and will no doubt yet find its way through Sierra valley. In the meantime, all the important towns have stage connections.

SETTLEMENTS AND LANDS.

From Sierraville to Beckworth's, a distance of about twenty-five miles by road, but five miles across, and skirting the west side of Sierra valley, are found a double row of enterprising and thrifty pioneer settlements—one lying along and close to the foothills, the other along the swamp land, at varying distances of from one to four miles. The intervening space is a vast "common" of rich, but unimproved and uncultivated land, having a natural growth of buffalo grass. Land is for sale at prices ranging from $2 50 to $25 an acre. Some 200,000 acres of Government land in the heavily-timbered mountains, and on the open plateau, are still subject to settlement under the homestead and pre-emption laws.

PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

The county seat is Downieville, which was located as early as 1849, and whose early history forms a very important part of the annals of California. It was at one time the center of trade for the richest gravel mines. It is situated on both sides of the Yuba river, and lies in a deep canyon, picturesquely inclosed on all sides by mountains fully 2,000 feet high. The population is about 675. It is reached by stage from Marysville, on the Oregon branch of the Central Pacific Railroad, distant 67 miles, or from Nevada City, in Nevada county, the terminus of the Nevada Central Railroad, distant 40 miles. There is a bank, good business houses, lodges, churches and fraternal societies.

Sierra City is 12 miles east of Downieville, and has a population of about 425. It is the center of an important mining section. Many rich gravel mines are in this vicinity, which, with the several lumber camps and sawmills, give a lively appearance.

Sierra Valley, an agricultural town, is 18 miles northeast of Sierra City, and has a population of 400.

Forest City is 7 miles south of Downieville, and 50 miles by stage from Marysville, and has a population of 625. Altitude 4,500 feet. The Bald Mountain and Bald Mountain Extension mines, located here, have yielded over $2,000,000.

TEHAMA.

Lying north of Colusa and Butte, south of Shasta, and extending across the Sacramento valley from Plumas on the east to Mendocino on the west. Its area is 3,125 square miles, embracing 2,000,000 acres of land. Tehama has been distinguished as one of the leading wheat-growing counties of the State, but it has also a variety of important industries. It embraces both valley and foothill lands, each section ranking high in point of fertility. That it is a county which offers superior inducements to immigrants is shown by the fact that but about 150,000 of its 2,000,000 acres is cultivated annually. Of course agriculture has been chiefly confined to the valley section, along the Sacramento, where transportation facilities have thus been best. Farming, or rather wheat-growing, is conducted on the same extensive scale that prevails in Colusa and a few other counties.

The lands of Tehama are thus divided: Valley lands, 170,000 acres; lower foothills, 1,280,000; higher foothills and Sierra Nevada, 270,000; Coast Range mountains, 240,000 acres.

There are several small valleys in the western portion of the county. Between the higher ranges of mountains and the valleys proper lies the foothill region. East of the Sacramento river, in the northern part of the county, the valley is narrow, widening out below Red Bluff into a broad expanse of valley land.

WATER COURSES.

There are several streams of water coursing through the county in addition to the Sacramento river. The North Fork of Cottonwood creek forms a part of the boundary line between Tehama and Shasta county, and is a splendid stream of living water. The South and Cold forks of Cottonwood creek, Red Bank and others which rise in the Shasta mountains, and which flow northeasterly into the Cottonwood, or southeasterly into the Sacramento, are dry for several months in the year—during midsummer. Battle, Dry, Antelope, Paynes, Mill, Deer, Chico, Butte and other creeks rise in the Sierra and drain the eastern portion of the county. These are all living streams. Good well water is obtainable most places at depths varying from 20 to 40 feet.

CLIMATE.

The climate of Tehama county compares favorably with that of any portion of the State. For about three months in summer the weather in the valley and lower foothills becomes quite hot at times, while in the higher altitudes it remains cool and delightful. The winters are mild in the former localities, but severe in the mountains. The rainfall begins often as early as September, and continues until May, the average fall being about 25 inches.

TIMBER.

The lumber business has been in the past an important industry in Tehama. The mountain sections of the county abound in splendid forests of pine, fir and oak. Until within a very few years the lumber business employed more men than any other in that county, but such is not now the case. The timber is floated down from the hills in streams and flumes. One company alone has, or did have, a flume forty miles in length through which upward of 140,000 feet of lumber per day could be floated down from the mills to Chico. The mills of Tehama county have turned out as high as 40,000,000 feet of lumber per year.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES.

The great fertility of soil and natural resources of Tehama county are now attracting much attention from immigration societies and newly-arrived persons in search of places to locate for the remainder of their lives. The rich valley lands of the county yield abundantly of all kinds of grain, and even fruit, while the foothills have been found to be especially adapted to fruit and grape culture. The hardier fruits have been successfully grown at an elevation of more than 5,000 feet. As a rule, irrigation is not essential to success in horticulture, although if desired an abundance of water can be had for that purpose, the foothill section being well supplied with ditches formerly used for mining. The soil of the valley generally is a reddish loam, while in the immediate vicinity of the river there is a strip of unusually rich bottom loam. In the months of May or June, to the eye of the traveler is presented a beautiful sight in this portion of the Sacramento valley. He sees before him an unbroken expanse of level land, some 40 miles long by 25 wide, covered with waving grain just putting on its golden hue. No person can witness this spectacle without being impressed with the fact that a section of country capable of producing so bountifully of breadstuffs has a great and prosperous future before it. On the west side of the valley the foothills are better adapted to fruit culture than on the east side. The soil is a light, reddish, gravelly loam. In every case where experiments have been tried in fruit culture the venture has proved a success. These foothill lands have a light growth of manzanita, chaparral, etc., and are cleared without great expense or labor.

VITICULTURE.

The recent venture of Senator Stanford, in establishing his great vineyard, comprising several thousand acres, in the vicinity of the town of Vina, has greatly stimulated the grape-growing industry in Tehama. The prospect is that, as years roll by and the county becomes more thickly settled, grape-growing in that section will become one of the leading industries.

THE WOOL PRODUCT.

The mountain and hill sections of Tehama have heretofore been largely devoted to the sheep industry, and the wool product of the county has been enormous. Owing to the fact that assessments for taxable purposes are now made throughout the State on the first Monday in March of each year, wool, like capital, seems to have found some method of evasion. The returns of the Assessor for 1885 report no wool on hand on the first Monday in March, although it is a well-known fact that Red Bluff is the most prominent wool market in the State outside San Francisco. It is too early, on the date mentioned, for the spring clip to be on hand, and that of the preceding fall seems to be usually disposed of long prior thereto. It is estimated, however, that the average yearly output of wool in Tehama county is something like 2,000,000 pounds.

LINES OF TRAVEL.

The Cali[illegible] and Oregon Railroad traverses the county north to south on the east side of the Sacramento river as far north as Tehama City. At this point it crosses to the west side and connects with the California Northern which runs on that side of the river. Every town in the county, of any importance, has either rail or stage communication.

CHIEF TOWNS.

Red Bluff is the county seat, and is the largest town in the county. It is at the head of navigation on the Sacramento, on the west side of which it is located. It is 135 miles north of Sacramento, and has an elevation of more than 300 feet above the sea level. It is an incorporated town, with a population of upward of 4,000. It is an enterprising community, and does a large trade with the northern section. In addition to the facilities afforded for education by the regular district schools, a higher course may be pursued at the Red Bluff Academy, which, as an institution of learning, is a credit to the town. The streets are wide and beautifully shaded; the residences are large and substantial. Among the public buildings are a large Court-house with handsome grounds, the Good Templars' Opera Hall, the Odd Fellows' block, and the Masonic building. The press is well represented, and both daily and weekly papers are published. It has factories and mills, gas works and water works, marble yards, banks, wagon and carriage factories, etc.

The second town in size and importance is Tehama, situated about twelve miles south of Red Bluff. It is a place of steady growth, and has many local advantages.

The other towns are Vina, Sesna, Corning and Paskenta, all of which are situated in the midst of rich agricultural districts.

GOVERNMENT LAND.

A pamphlet issued not long since by the California Immigration Association says, referring to Government lands in Tehama: "In this county thousands of acres of Government land awaits the new comer. Unimproved lands can be bought at from $5 to $20 an acre, and improved farms at from $20 to $40. Fruit-growing and grape-culture are in their infancy, but sufficient has been done to demonstrate that excellent fruit can be grown. One of the leading canning houses of the Pacific coast purchases its fruit here on account of its superior flavor. Wheat six feet high, yielding twenty-five bushels per acre, has been grown on land plowed but once."

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$8,062,321
Personal property	1,527,315
Head of cattle	6,230
Head of hogs	14,337
Head of horses	5,033
Head of mules	1,135
Head of sheep	185,781
Acres in wheat	120,000
Acres in barley	18,750
Acres in oats	7,385
Acres in corn	150
Acres in vines	4,528
Value of railroad property	$186,685

PLUMAS.

Plumas lies directly north of Sierra, and east of Tehama and Butte counties, and is chiefly a mountainous, rugged country, with a number of fertile localities capable of productiveness. The number of farms in the county at the present time is quite limited, and their product is consumed at home, the county being without railroad communication. These farms are mostly located in what is known as American valley, which also contains the town of Quincy, the county seat, a place of some 500 inhabitants. It has a weekly newspaper—the *Plumas National*, which receives good support from the people of the county—and a fine brick school-house with two departments, primary and grammar grade.

ELEVATED FARMING.

The altitude of American valley is about 4,000 feet, yet all the cereals, alfalfa, etc., yield abundantly. The winters are long and somewhat severe, and the summers brief but delightful. From July to October the climate of Plumas—especially in the greater altitudes—cannot be surpassed for salubrity. The Plumas Meadows embrace a section that is greatly prized by the people of the valley as a summer resort, and large numbers go there each season to camp, hunt and fish, and thus renew their health and energies.

GOLD YIELD.

In the earlier days of gold-seeking in California Plumas was a prominent mining section, and even at the present time the annual gold output amounts to nearly or quite $1,000,000.

FUTURE PROSPECTS.

There is reason to hope that Plumas will at a not distant day have the advantage of railroad communication, as there have been at least two such projects in contemplation, either one of which may yet develop into something tangible.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$2,174,829
Head of cattle	5,749
Head of hogs	1,222
Head of horses and mules	2,112
Head of sheep	520

LASSEN.

Situated almost in the extreme northeastern portion of the State—separated from the southern line of Oregon only by Modoc—is Lassen, one of the most picturesque counties in the State. It is essentially a stock-grazing county, and must remain as such for some time to come, owing to its lack of railroad communication with the Sacramento valley. And yet Lassen county contains a large number of sheltered and fertile valleys that are capable of affording homes for many additional thousands of people. With an area of 5,000 square miles, Lassen has a population of only between 6,000 and 7,000. The winters are quite severe in some portions of the county, but spring puts in an early appearance, with its

WEALTH OF FLOWERS

And glowing pastures. A correspondent of the RECORD-UNION, writing recently from Lassen, said: "Susanville, the county-seat, is 150 miles from Sacramento, and the altitude 4,078 feet greater. In this pure, light atmosphere there are no pulmonary nor malarial diseases. Within the county limits can be found as many changes of temperature as on a journey from Greenland to Florida. On summer's warmest days in the valleys one can go into shaded canyons, protected nooks, or ascend to the ice-clad mountain summits and experience many changes of climate within a few hours."

SOME ADVANTAGES.

Unlike many parts of the East and West in the same latitude, live stock are not required to be sheltered and fed for many months in the year. It is rarely that attention has to be paid to cattle for more than a month or six weeks in midwinter. As a rule, cattle, horses and sheep thrive out of doors all the winter through. Spring breaks in upon the monotony of winter early in April, and by the middle of May the people have many varieties of vegetables for table use, even including the delicate strawberry. Cherries, currants and other berries come in early in June. Indeed, there is scarcely any temperate fruit grown in central California that cannot be reproduced in Lassen. The advantages of the county in this respect would be more fully appreciated if wider known. There are thousands and thousands of families eking out precarious livelihoods in the East and North, where they are compelled to subsist for from six to eight months on the scanty proceeds of their labors during the remainder of the year. To this class of toilers Lassen would be as a paradise.

CATTLE, LANDS, ETC.

The annual export of beef cattle from Lassen is about 16,000 head. The Madeline plains consist of a broad plateau some 5,000 feet above the sea level, on which native grasses grow waist high. The best agricultural land in Lassen can be purchased at from $15 to $25 per acre, and hay grown on these lands can be readily sold at a profit. The sheep are sheared twice a year, as in central and southern California, and the wool is marketable at Red Bluff, Tehama county. Hogs thrive wonderfully in the soft tule lands about the lakes, where they feed upon bulbs and roots of the most nutritious character.

ATTRACTIONS FOR TOURISTS.

Lassen, like Shasta, Siskiyou and other northern mountain counties of California, possesses many attractions for tourists and those fond of summer camping and hunting. Wild game abounds in all parts of the county. Some years ago a railroad was projected to run from Reno up into the northeastern section of California and penetrate Plumas, Lassen and other districts. Some 35 miles of road was completed and stocked with cars, but litigation ensued and no further progress was made. With a railroad tapping that splendid section of country it could not fail to be rapidly settled.

A WOMAN'S PARADISE.

Lassen is said to offer excellent inducements to women. Those now there constitute but about one-third of the population, and are either wives or girls too young to wed. Housekeepers, dairymaids, etc., readily get employment at from $20 to $40 per month, but as a rule, they are soon sought in marriage by the well-to-do and lonely bachelors who so largely predominate. A lady writing from that women's paradise, remarks that "it is impossible to estimate the masculine sweetness that is going to waste on the desert air of Lassen."

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$1,900,395
Head of cattle [evidently an error]	16,568
Head of goats	1,664
Head of hogs	2,162
Head of horses and mules	7,769
Head of sheep	25,743
Acres in wheat	9,756
Acres in barley	11,005
Acres in oats	2,750
Tons of hay	5,891

SHASTA.

Shasta county, situated at and comprising the head of the Sacramento valley, is one of the largest and most sparsely-settled counties of the State. Since the days of '49 and '50 it has been famous for the richness of its placer mines, and the amount of wealth in gold taken from its streams, gulches and flats is inestimable. With the decline of its placers, the great resources of its mineral wealth in numerous and extensive deposits of precious metals in ledges and lodes began to attract the attention and are now rapidly engaging the devotion of capital and industry. Notable among latter discoveries is

IRON MOUNTAIN,

Which in reality is a mountain of silver, gold and copper-bearing ore, situated seven miles north from the town of Shasta, the county seat. The estimates of the value of the Iron Mountain mine, made by mining experts and by cautious and careful assayists, are simply fabulous. The discoverers, Messers. Camden & Magee, sold a portion of the claim in an undeveloped condition for $150,000 during the past year. The purchasers have a force of one hundred men at work preparing for operations on a large scale and erecting and placing mills and machinery. There are numerous other mines of known importance and richness, but capitalists have learned the necessity of careful procedure and cautious investment, and developments that require, in most cases, heavy outlays and expenditures are slowly promulgated—none the less surely. There is good reason to believe that in a few years this county will lead all others in mineral production.

A WORD TO HOME-SEEKERS.

With an area as large as that of some of the smaller States, the resources of the county are not comprised in its mineral deposits. Although for the greater part mountainous, it has thousands of acres of valley and bottom lands, a large portion of which is under prosperous and thrifty cultivation. Some of the best and largest tracts of such land are, of course, occupied, but there are many ample parcels in various nooks and mountain valleys, that need only a fair outlay of time and labor, by men of proper energy and thrift, to transform them into homes that should content and make happy the proudest of mankind. Here, as elsewhere over the world, homes are not made in a season or a year, but patience, energy and industry are offered no surer reward, go where they may.

THERE IS NO BETTER CLIMATE,

More healthful, pleasant or picturesque section, and yet in its infancy in comparison with the thickly-settled portions of the State. It has territory and means of support for ten times its present population.

The California and Oregon Railroad, recently extended through the county, makes accessible a section delightful for summer resort, and offers primal inducements to tourists and sportsmen. The territory traversed by the railroad, up the winding Sacramento almost to its source, is grand in rugged scenery, delightful in summer, under the white dome of Mount Shasta—a land of evergreen hills, glistening peaks, little valleys and tumbling, ice-cold trout streams.

THE TOWNS

Of the county are small and have been often described, and speak for themselves through local newspapers, of which there are seven in the county.

This sketch is directed more especially to the attention of mining capitalists and to searchers for homes; but, in the latter case, to people prepared to exercise a fair degree of patience, industry and economy, and not to those expecting rich returns in a few months or a year from faint-hearted efforts.

FUTURE PROSPECTS.

The one thing needed to insure the future growth and development of Shasta and the country north of there, is the completion of the railroad to the Oregon line. And, notwithstanding the opposition of a clique of malcontents who happen to control the organization of one of the political parties in the State, and who are strenuously urging Congress to forfeit the railroad land grant, there is reason to hope that the latter body will keep its faith with the people of the northern section of the State and place no impediment in the way of the company which desires to extend the road. This line completed, the tide of immigration, which has for the past two years been setting in that direction, will increase until the northern county shall be filled with happy and prosperous homes. The present terminus of the railroad is at Delta, some twenty miles north of Redding, although considerable work has been done beyond that point in the way of tunneling, grading, etc.

WATER SUPPLY.

Shasta is one of the best watered counties in the State, the annual rainfall being nearly 40 inches. Throughout the county are many streams of unfailing water supply, principal among them being the Sacramento river, which flows through the county from north to south. Besides this can be named Pitt and McCloud rivers—two of the boldest and most picturesque streams in the world, along the courses of which is scenery of the grandest description—the Cow creeks, Montgomery creeks, Hazel creek and many other smaller streams.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$3,699,584
Personal property	1,210,512
Head of cattle	12,985
Head of hogs	10,000
Head of goats	5,440
Head of horses	14,937
Head of mules	266
Head of sheep	25,295
Acres in wheat	6,746
Acres in barley	3,531
Acres in oats	3,820
Acres in clover and timothy	175
Acres in vines	150
Value of railroad property	$130,000

SISKIYOU.

This county is one of the northern tier, at the California and Oregon boundary, between Modoc and Del Norte counties, its northern boundary joining Shasta, Trinity and Humboldt. It contains a large area of farming, mining, desert, swamp, grazing and timber lands. The mining district comprises the western and southern sections; the agricultural is mainly in the center, and the grazing lands are mostly along the Oregon border, where, in the course of time, they will be converted into farms or fenced pastures.

WATER COURSES.

The principal river is the Klamath, which runs from the Klamath Lakes, at the Oregon boundary, across the country and down through portions of Del Norte and Humboldt counties, its watershed extending from Mount Shasta and the Trinity Range, on the east, and the Siskiyou and Coast Ranges on the west, into which flows the Shasta, Scott, Trinity and Salmon rivers, on the east side, and numerous smaller tributaries from both sides. The Sacramento river also rises in the southeastern portion of this county, near the headwaters of the Trinity, Scott and Shasta rivers. Most of the McCloud river, a tributary of the Sacramento, is also in this county. At the Oregon boundary Little Klamath Lake, some twenty miles in length, is mostly in this county, connected by Link river with Big Klamath Lake, in Oregon, which is over forty miles long.

The Oregon Legislature unanimously adopted a resolution asking Congress to build a lock for navigation between both lakes and Klamath river to the California line, bringing all of eastern Oregon nearer to the railroad now building toward this country.

CLIMATE, ETC.

The winter is mild, with but little frost, and the high altitude renders the summer delightful, with cool and pleasant evenings. The average temperature in winter is about 40°, and in summer about 65°. Siskiyou seldom has more than a few inches of snow in the valleys, which melts away in a day or two; but the high mountains are covered with considerable snow, to afford a good fountain for summer benefit in supplying an abundance of water for mining and agricultural purposes.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES.

Good crops of cereals are sure every season on both high and bottom land, with late spring rains and occasional summer showers, which render irrigation unnecessary during most years. Fruit and vegetables of a temperate climate also grow luxuriantly, and of the finest quality. The mountain meadows and hills also produce the most nutritious grasses for cattle, horses and sheep, while all the various ravines and gulches are well adapted for gardening and vine-growing by their shelter among the hills.

The market, however, is very limited, being confined to home consumption, as it does not pay to haul over mountain roads to the railroad.

Stock-raising is a leading industry, bringing great wealth from the great number of cattle and large amount of wool shipped off each year. Dairying also brings much wealth, for here are produced the finest butter and cheese to be found on the coast, great quantities of which are shipped to San Francisco every winter.

THE MINING INTERESTS

Are varied and very extensive, forming the richest mining district in northern California, and consist of quartz, river, creek, bank and high gulch claims, giving employment to a large number of people. Quartz mines abound along the Southern boundary of the county, adjoining the New River district of Trinity county; also, on Salmon river, further north, and all its tributaries, in which the noted Black Bear and Klamath mines have each a 32-stamp mill. On Scott river—from its junction at the Klamath to the mountains adjoining the Shasta and Trinity boundary—good quartz, placer, bank and hydraulic mines exist; also on Adams creek, Indian creek, Cherry creek and Deadwood, north of Scott valley. In the vicinity of Yreka quartz mines exist in the Humbug range, which is a continuation of the Salmon range, and continues to Cottonwood and Siskiyou mountains, several good ledges being located at Cottonwood. The Klamath river, about 15 to 16 miles north of this place, is also mined nearly its whole length in this county by means of wing-dams, with current wheels to work the derricks, pumps, electric lights, etc., while huge dip-wheels raise water for the sluices. In all these districts along the southern and western line of the county all other kinds of mining are carried on extensively. Besides the gold mines there are cinnabar, iron, coal and other mines; also quarries of superior marble, stone, onyx, etc.

EXTENSIVE FORESTS OF TIMBER

Of all kinds, principally sugar pine, fir, white and yellow pine, cedar, white and black oak, etc., exist in the valleys and on the mountains.

THE TOWNS.

Yreka is the county seat and the largest town in the county, while next in order are Fort Jones, Etna and Callahan's, in Scott valley; Sawyer's Bar, on Salmon river; Scott Bar, on Scott river; Oak Bar, Honolulu and Henley, on Klamath river; Little Shasta and Edgewood, in Shasta valley; Berryvale, in Strawberry valley, at the base of Mount Shasta, a noted summer resort.

MINERAL WATERS.

The county abounds in numerous mineral springs, the most noted being the Shovel Creek Springs, where rheumatics are cured; and Soda Springs, on the Sacramento, similar to the famed Congress water of Saratoga, New York.

SETTLING UP.

The near approach of the railroad has been increasing the population by newcomers from elsewhere; and when the road is finished we anticipate an immense immigration to settle up that sparsely-settled county, which is very large, and yet does not contain more than 10,000 population.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$4,067,021
Personal property	$1,703,639
Head of cattle	21,970
Head of goats	1,800
Head of hogs	5,260
Head of horses	6,783
Head of mules	670
Head of sheep	59,390
Acres in wheat	10,100
Acres in barley	6,000
Acres in oats	3,500
Acres in corn	150
Miles of mining ditches	250

TRINITY.

This county properly belongs to the class whose trade is directly tributary to the Sacramento valley. It adjoins Humboldt on the west, but draws its supplies chiefly through the railroad system that penetrates Shasta on the east. Its area in square miles is 2,625, and its acreage is 1,680,000. The population in 1880 was a little upward of 5,000, which has since been increased somewhat. Trinity has been something of a mining county in the past, and its present annual yield of gold is about $400,000. It is chiefly devoted to grazing, although there is

CONSIDERABLE AGRICULTURE

Carried on in the valleys. The county is mountainous, generally speaking, but has many fertile spots capable of sustaining a considerably increased population. The scenery of Trinity is bold and grand, and tourists find it a delightful region to visit in the summer months. The county-seat is Weaverville, a picturesque town of some 2,000 inhabitants. Trinity possesses a healthful climate, and its people are an enterprising, hospitable class.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$1,128,070
Head of cattle	4,049
Head of hogs	1,100
Head of horses and mules	1,303
Head of sheep	36,135
Acres in wheat	827
Acres in oats	68

MODOC.

This is one of the northernmost counties in California. It is bounded on the north and east by the States of Oregon and Nevada, on the south by Lassen, and on the west by Siskiyou. Much that is said elsewhere in relation to Lassen county applies also to Modoc. Like the latter, its development has been retarded by the lack of railroad facilities, but in due course of time there will doubtless be one or more lines of railroad penetrating Modoc and Lassen and opening up that section, now so full of undeveloped natural resources. The winters in Modoc, owing to its high altitude and distance from the warm breezes of the Pacific ocean, are more rigorous than in Lassen, but even there the snow season is of short duration. It is rarely that more than one or two weeks of sleighing can be enjoyed in a season, and live stock run at large with little protection during the winter months. Grazing is

THE CHIEF INDUSTRY

In the county. There are 5,500 square miles of territory within its borders, and the population is about 6,000. Within the past year a goodly number of immigrants have settled in Modoc, and the tide will increase each year in the future. The people there are contented and happy. Their wants are few, and are easily supplied, the soil yielding abundantly wherever properly cultivated. The Modoc country is well watered, and the hills and valleys afford the finest pasturage for stock. The summers are long and cool, compared to those of the middle counties, and all kinds of live stock thrive well.

WHAT MAY BE ACCOMPLISHED.

The early settlers have, it is said, all become wealthy, or comparatively so. As an evidence of what can be accomplished in that section by push and energy, coupled with business tact, may be mentioned the experience of a couple of young men who went there some years ago, as related by a correspondent of this paper: "In 1865 two young men met at Red Bluff, scraped together nearly $4,000 and began merchandising at Cedarville. One has led a life of strict integrity, so far as known. One took to politics and was sent to the Legislature, but afterwards reformed and became as honest as usual, and both enjoyed the entire confidence of the community. In fifteen years they put their mercantile business in other hands and retired to the more quiet business of banking. Now they aggregate $400,000, and wherever it is known the firm name, Cressler & Bonner, is as good as the greenbacks."

A SUMMER RESORT.

The chief towns are Alturas, Adin, Eagleville, Lake City and Cedarville. They are all progressive, busy communities, with churches and school-houses adequate to the demands of the people. Modoc is a delightful section to visit in summer. In Warm Spring valley are mineral springs the water of which will boil eggs in three minutes, and this at an altitude of nearly 6,000 feet. As before stated, the summers are cool and prolonged, the scenery rugged and grand. Thus a delightful summer resort is offered for those who, having a taste for the beauties of nature, also seek to evade the heat of the valleys in midsummer and secure a few weeks' rest from business cares.

TAXABLE WEALTH IN 1885.

Real estate and improvements	$2,602,787
Head of cattle	22,047
Head of goats	889
Head of hogs	5,448
Head of horses and mules	7,941
Head of sheep	18,736
Acres in wheat	4,970
Acres in barley	2,420