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SACRAMENTO DAILY RECORD-UNION.

The Thirteenth and Fourteenth Special Articles, upon the Resources of Central and Northern California, given in this issue.

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WOODLAND.

A Thriving, Prosperous and Growing Inland City.

SOME OF ITS ATTRACTIVE FEATURES.

Advantages Which Surround it and Tend to its Rapid and Permanent Upbuilding—Industries, Resources, Etc.

Recently the RECORD-UNION presented an illustrated article on the subject of Yolo county, and the advantages therein presented to those who seek homes and happiness on the Pacific coast. To-day additional facts are presented, which are supplemental to those already given to the public. Of a great county and its important towns, of the attendant advantages and present evidences of prosperity, too much cannot be said, when the writer adheres strictly to the truth. The public is ever solicitous for just such information.

YOLO'S WEALTH.

An examination of the Assessor's books for the present year discloses the following important statistical information. The report has been made with unusual care by Deputy F. M. Brown, and is entirely reliable:

Real estate and improvements thereon	$12,657,992
City and town lots and improvements	1,742,857
Telegraph and telephone lines	3,375
Improvements on lands of others	45,010
Irrigation ditches	2,900
Total value real estate and impro'mts	$14,478,234
Money and solvent credits	350,884
Other personal property	1,946,831
Total value of all property	$16,775,949
PERSONAL PROPERTY.	
Calves, number of	3,095
Cattle, beef, number of	237
Cattle and stock, number of	4,191
Colts, number of	3,695
Cows, thoroughbred, number of	20
Cows, American, number of	4,520
Firearms	3,045
Hay, tons	1,408
Wheat, centals	122,220
Barley, centals	19,600
Hogs, number of	10,134
Horses, thoroughbred, number of	46
Horses, American, number of	4,500
Jacks and jennies	24
Mules	2,064
Poultry, dozens	2,503
Sheep, imported	1,356
Sheep, common	44,556
Wagons	1,925
Wood, cords	2,432
IRRIGATING DITCHES.	
Moore's, number of miles	50
Cottonwood	10
Adams'	20
Clear Lake Water Works	10
Total miles of ditch	90
Wheat, acres	140,000
Barley, acres	100,000
Corn, acres	400
Grapevines, acres	3,200
Fruit trees	125,474

From a pamphlet entitled "Resources, Advantages and Prospects of Yolo County," recently issued by the County Board of Trade, much of the following is extracted:

CACHE CREEK FRUIT BELT.

This section of Yolo county occupies about 10x15 miles, and is principally west and north from Woodland. It is properly Cache creek delta, as some eight well-defined channels can be traced. These have been filled by the wash from the mountains, forming a gray loam and some sandy and gravelly soil which is from 10 to 30 feet deep. No better fruit land exists than this delta soil; it does not pack nor bake in the sun, is easily cultivated and does not require irrigation, as it will retain moisture during the entire summer.

TREE FRUIT.

James Moore planted a fifteen-acre orchard in 1858, near Cacheville. In 1860 E. Bynum planted five acres near Mr. Moore. In 1861 Messrs. Sutton & Diggs planted five acres, and the same year John Laugenour set out four acres of trees. These were the pioneer experiments in Yolo county fruit-culture. The varieties were poor, and in many instances proved to be seedlings. The varieties were apple, pear, nectarine, plum, fig, almond and peach. These orchards were not generally irrigated; the peaches lasted fifteen years and bore well where no irrigation was used, and only five years where water was used freely. The plums did well for fifteen or twenty years. All other varieties are still living and doing well. The fig, apple, pear and almond were never known to fail to produce a good crop. The fig trees have grown to an enormous size, some being two feet through the trunk and forty feet high. Many small orchards were planted for family use, but not until recent years did the profits of fruit-culture become apparent, and planting of trees and vines begin in earnest. Six years ago J. E. Card, four and a half miles from Cacheville, began planting sixty acres, and now has 7,000 trees, 900 Lawton blackberries, 500 Blackcap raspberries, 1,200 raspberries, nine acres strawberries, six acres are now bearing. Samuel Nutting has fifteen acres planted to peach, pear and prune trees. Aaron Harley has ten acres in Bartlett pears. Benjamin Peart, three miles north of Woodland, has 40 acres in trees and twenty in vines. Loomis, Sherman and Dexter all have thriving young orchards near Mr. Peart. J. R. Springer has 20 acres near Mr. Card, well set to trees of choice varieties. Otto Schluer and F. Martinelli each have fifteen acres to orchard and vines, on the creek, about one mile from Mr. Peart. These orchards are young, having been planted within the last five or six years. It is worthy of note, that trees on Peart's, Springer's, Dexter's and Yerby's places, bore quite well the second year. It is estimated that Mr. Card will have 75 tons of apricots this year. Mr. Nutting 20 tons, and Mr. Peart 30 tons.

BERRIES.

Small fruit can be grown anywhere on the delta. These require irrigation, but water is abundant and can be placed where required at small cost by means of horse-power and steam-pumps. Five years ago J. E. Card planted 1½ acres of strawberries, and the second year harvested 1½ tons. That year he increased the "patch" to 3¾ acres, and the following year harvested 20 tons. This year from six acres, up to June 15th, he has marketed 15 tons, and the vines will continue to bear until September.

In December, 1885, Baker & Martin planted 1½ acres, and the following spring gathered 2,650 pounds. This year to June 15th, they have picked six tons. There are now 33 acres in berries in Mr. Card's neighborhood. A ready sale is found for all the fruit raised.

Lusk & Son, of Oakland, have land adjoining Mr. Card, and this spring planted sixteen acres in strawberries, and twelve acres each in blackberries and raspberries. The next two or three years will note a wonderful advance in berry culture.

VEGETABLES.

In this same section vegetables grow to perfection, and many kinds, such as tomatoes, potatoes, peas, beans, pumpkins, squash, melons and early corn do not require irrigation. An orchardist can, on this land, raise his living among the trees while they are coming to maturity. The facilities of marketing Yolo fruit are inducing others to engage in this culture. W. M. Coward recently subdivided a tract of 250 acres of this bottom land. He sold several small pieces at $100 per acre, and finally Messrs. Treat & Allison, of San Francisco, purchased the remaining 160 acres, intending to plant an almond orchard. Other large tracts are to be divided and sold at prices ranging from $80 to $100 per acre. Yolo county has room for twenty persons where she has one now, and the dividing of large holdings is the proper course to develop her resources and advantages. A gentleman engaged in fruit culture gives the following as the yield in this section: Apricots 300 pounds, peaches 300 pounds, pears 400 pounds, plums 100 pounds, prunes 200 pounds; figs, when fifteen years old, 1,000 pounds; grapes, from eight to sixteen tons per acre. In making estimates it is customary to figure 108 trees to the acre. The longevity of trees is estimated as follows: Apricot 30, pear 200, plum 30, peach 15 years. Most other fruit-bearing trees live from 12 to 25 years.

RAMIE CULTURE.

Much attention is being attracted to the cultivation of this plant recently because it is designed to take the place of imported silks, and possibly may prove a product of the heretofore waste land. J. T. McMahon, of Winters, is testing ramie culture in Yolo, and expresses great satisfaction at the results attained so far. He says ramie is similar to jute, but the fiber has greater strength, and possesses a lustre only equaled by that of silk. It is used extensively as a substitute for silk. The finest satin and silk laces from Europe contain over 60 per cent. of ramie. It takes dye perfectly. The Western Fiber Company, of San Francisco, will pay five cents a pound for ramie, and an acre will produce 2,000 pounds, which would be $100 per acre. In Louisiana the cost of cultivation is said to be $40 or $50, thus leaving a fair margin or profit.

Professor Hilgard, of the State University, is authority for the statement that ramie is grown successfully on the alkali lands of San Joaquin county. Mr. Darby, of Bakersfield, has several acres growing in swamp land somewhat similar to Yolo tule land. The plants are perennial, and are said to live and produce for fifteen years. The estimate made by Mr. McMahon of 2,000 pounds per acre must be taken as the minimum, as other experiments do not hesitate in placing the product of an acre at from 2,000 to 8,000 pounds. If, as estimated, ramie can be cultivated on Yolo swamp lands, it would prove an unexpected source of profit and wealth that would add greatly to the remunerative industries of Yolo county.

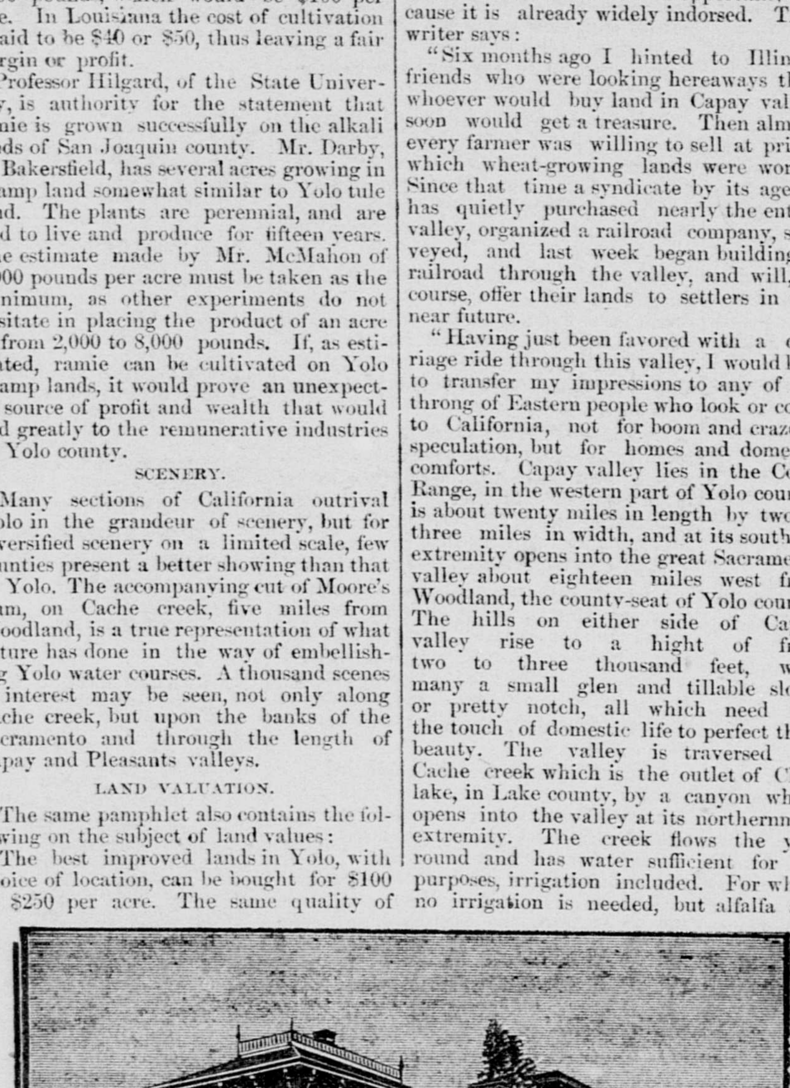
SCENERY.

Many sections of California outrival Yolo in the grandeur of scenery, but for diversified scenery on a limited scale, few counties present a better showing than that of Yolo. The accompanying cut of Moore's Dam, on Cache creek, five miles from Woodland, is a true representation of what nature has done in the way of embellishing Yolo water courses. A thousand scenes of interest may be seen, not only along Cache creek, but upon the banks of the Sacramento and through the length of Capay and Pleasants valleys.

LAND VALUATION.

The same pamphlet also contains the following on the subject of land values:

The best improved lands in Yolo, with choice of location, can be bought for $100 to $250 per acre. The same quality of



RESIDENCE OF G. A. PIERCE, WOODLAND.

land five miles from Woodland, sells at $50 and $75 per acre. Good berry and vegetable land along Cache creek deltas, sells for $75 and $85. The lands in the foothills range from $10 to $50; stock ranges vary from $3 to $15, owing to location.

The same quality of soil that sells here for $50 to $100, is reported in Santa Clara and Los Angeles counties at $250 and $500 per acre.

If the home-seeker will come to Yolo county and examine the broad wheat fields, the beautiful orchards and the extensive vineyards; if he will test the quality of our wheat, barley, strawberries, raisins, almonds, oranges, walnuts and green fruits; if he will observe the stately church edifices, and the numerous and imposing school buildings; if he will inquire and find that Yolo county is never subject to epidemic diseases, that malaria has departed with the advent of a high state of cultivation; if he will observe that the best of society exists, both in the country and village, he will see no valid reason why he should go elsewhere, when the advantages are no better, and invest money, paying two or three times as much as is asked here for land. If he will notice that Yolo is near the central markets of California; that our products are the earliest to mature, that the quality is nowhere excelled, he will find further reason why he should locate in our section, instead of going south. If he will compare the dry, light atmosphere, when the temperature is 100°, with the damp, sultry and oppressive atmosphere, with a temperature of 90°, he will observe how the former invigorates and the latter depresses the system; if he will observe the almost total absence of frost, the entire freedom from snow and sleet, and the average rainfall, he will find further inducements for investing money in Yolo's cheap and productive tands.

THRIFTY FARMERS.

The man who travels from one confine of Yolo county to the other is thoroughly impressed with the thrift and prosperity that appears outlined in fine farms and costly farm-residences. That the wheat-grower and the stock-raiser have prospered in the past is proven in a thousand little evidences that the observer gleans from dwellings, barns, fences, orchards, water ditches and thrifty vineyards. It would be useless to attempt a description of a thousand homes whose plenty and happiness are embowered together in this favored land. The residence of George A. Pearce, which is herewith presented, is a typical farmer's home. The owner has 320 acres of land southwest of Woodland. By energy and perseverance he has farmed this land, and by reasonable economy and frugality has laid up from his earnings to establish himself well in the goods of this world. The visitor to Yolo county will do well to visit this farm-residence and see what an industrious family may do in a few years. Such farms are common to every section of Yolo county. Even along the borders of the foothills, cottages nestle by the roadside that would do credit to prominent streets in some of our most pretentious towns.

Good farm buildings and farms well improved speak volumes for the intelligence of the husbandmen of the county.

RAISIN-MAKING.

The cultivation of the grape in California was an assured success long before the idea developed that this climate was suited to the work of raisin-making. This industry is now no longer a matter of doubt or experiment, because our raisins, which compare favorably with the famed Malaga production, are to be found both East and West and command good prices. This evidence is conclusive. The grapes usually grown for raisins are the seedless Sultana, Muscat of Alexandria, the Raisin de Malaga and the Uva Salamanca. It must be remembered that Yolo county lies in the same latitude as the famous raisin region of Spain. The soil is adapted to the production of the finest varieties. Several thousand acres are devoted in the county to the culture of raisins, wine and table grapes, and nobody has cause to regret their investment. Every part of Yolo will produce fine grapes. As evidence of which we refer the reader or visitor to the vineyards that dot the plains, the woodlands, the foothills and river bottoms. The culture is no experiment. The plethoric bank accounts of such producers attest that grape culture is a financial success. Among those who are prominently engaged in raisin-making we refer with pleasure to R. B. Blowers, of Woodland, the pioneer in the business; Henry Bros., of Blacks; G. G. Briggs, of Woodland; D. A. Jackson and N. Wyckoff, of Woodland. These, and many others, are engaged extensively in the production of raisins, having vineyards containing from 10 to 320 acres of vines, that neither the old nor new world can excel.

A VALUABLE VALLEY.

From a recent issue of the *Valley Chronicle*, published at St. Charles, Ill., the following interesting extract is taken. It is from the pen of Rev. S. D. Belt, and may be regarded as the opinion in great part of a disinterested spectator. At any rate, the idea therein advanced is opportune, because it is already widely indorsed. This writer says:

"Six months ago I hinted to Illinois friends who were looking hereaways that whoever would buy land in Capay valley soon would get a treasure. Then almost every farmer was willing to sell at prices which wheat-growing lands were worth. Since that time a syndicate by its agents has quietly purchased nearly the entire valley, organized a railroad company, surveyed, and last week began building, a railroad through the valley, and will, of course, offer their lands to settlers in the near future.

"Having just been favored with a carriage ride through this valley, I would like to transfer my impressions to any of the throng of Eastern people who look or come to California, not for boom and craze of speculation, but for homes and domestic comforts. Capay valley lies in the Coast Range, in the western part of Yolo county, is about twenty miles in length by two to three miles in width, and at its southern extremity opens into the great Sacramento valley about eighteen miles west from Woodland, the county-seat of Yolo county. The hills on either side of Capay valley rise to a hight of from two to three thousand feet, with many a small glen and tillable slope, or pretty notch, all which need but the touch of domestic life to perfect their beauty. The valley is traversed by Cache creek which is the outlet of Clear lake, in Lake county, by a canyon which opens into the valley at its northernmost extremity. The creek flows the year round and has water sufficient for all purposes, irrigation included. For wheat no irrigation is needed, but alfalfa and some fruits require artificial watering in this region. The climate of Capay valley is much like that of this whole region of the State, and is favorable to all fruits grown anywhere in the State. It is not unlikely that when the various exposures and slopes and dells surrounding Capay valley are set in fruits, the very earliest fruits of the season may come from this spot. At least this is prophesied by some, not unwise in these matters. The company who have bought the valley and are building the railroad are said to be largely Southern Pacific railroad men, whose line of road now ends at Madison, twelve miles west of Woodland, and about six miles east of the mouth of the Capay valley. The new road is to start from Madison and, passing through the valley, run up the canyon to Clear lake, a body of water about ten miles wide and thirty miles long, already a noted summer resort, and destined to become vastly popular from its natural attractions, thence on into the great redwood forests. From these limits the importance of this enterprise may be at once seen. It is expected that later on the new road will extend east from Madison to Woodland, connecting here with the company's San Francisco and Oregon trunk line. From the great redwood lumber regions of Lake and Mendocino counties this road will have a continuous and easy down grade to Woodland and Sacramento, distributing points for a large region. I am impressed that Capay valley is a garden spot, a place to make homes and rear families; that it will presently be offered at prices to induce a multitude of settlers; that it will become perpetually beautiful, as its soil will be perpetually rich and its landscapes varied and picturesque. There is now an area of about 300 acres, all in fruits. On one farm may be seen the orange, the lemon, the Italian chestnut, and white winter Pearman apples. How is that for climate? From one vineyard of Zinfandel vines of three years old was produced last year seven and a half tons of grapes to the acre, actual weight. How is that for soil and climate? The valleys of Santa Clara, Sonoma, Napa, Vaca and others are well known and deservedly famous throughout the land, and presently this little valley of Capay will be as famous. I do not write in the interest of crazy speculation, nor to induce your readers to go wild over California, but to say to any one determined to come, 'just look a leedle oudt' for a home in Capay valley."

YOLO'S WANTS.

Now that we have briefly set forth the resources and some of the advantages pertaining to a home in Yolo county, it may not be out of place to state some things which the Yolo people say are needed to add to their general prosperity.

First—We want a steady increase of thrifty, industrious, energetic settlers who will assist in developing our resources. We want a class of people who come realizing that labor is necessary to the development of a profitable industry.

Second—We want men to come here who have means with which to secure a small piece of land, and when that is done to have a store of energy, patience and industry to till the soil and avail the profitable harvest.

Third—We want men of good habits and progressive ideas, who will assist in building up our schools, churches and public institutions.

Fourth—We want men capable and willing to assist in building up manufacturing industries. No better opening can be found than in Woodland for building a woolen mill, a tannery, a machine shop, a foundry, a carriage factory and a cannery. All these industries are neglected, not for the lack of money, but because more of spirit and enterprise, as well as of money, are necessary to build up such enterprises successfully.

Fifth—The market for fine stock is ever a good one. Fine horses, cows and sheep can be raised here at good profit, and yet but few persons attempt to profit by engaging in this business.

Sixth—We want colonists; men of families, of some little means who are willing to undertake the task of developing the hill and mountain lands, or who will buy large tracts of valley lands and

THE MOORE'S DAM, YOLO COUNTY.

subdivide the same. In short, we want every class of good citizens, those who are in earnest about making homes, and we will assure all such a hearty welcome to this hospitable portion of the Pacific coast.

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY.

This institution was recently established in Woodland, Yolo county, Cal., under the care of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, from the celebrated convent of St. Mary's Notre Dame, Indiana, so noted for its thoroughly equipped and successful collegiate institution of education for young ladies. This academy is beautifully located in this healthy and pleasant town of Woodland. The building is large and well supplied with all the modern improvements, and no expense or effort has been spared to meet all the requirements that may contribute to the advancement, health and comfort of the pupils. A cut of the building appears in the RECORD-UNION to-day. The structure itself ranks well among the most imposing buildings in Woodland, and is both ornamental and useful.

HESPERIAN COLLEGE.

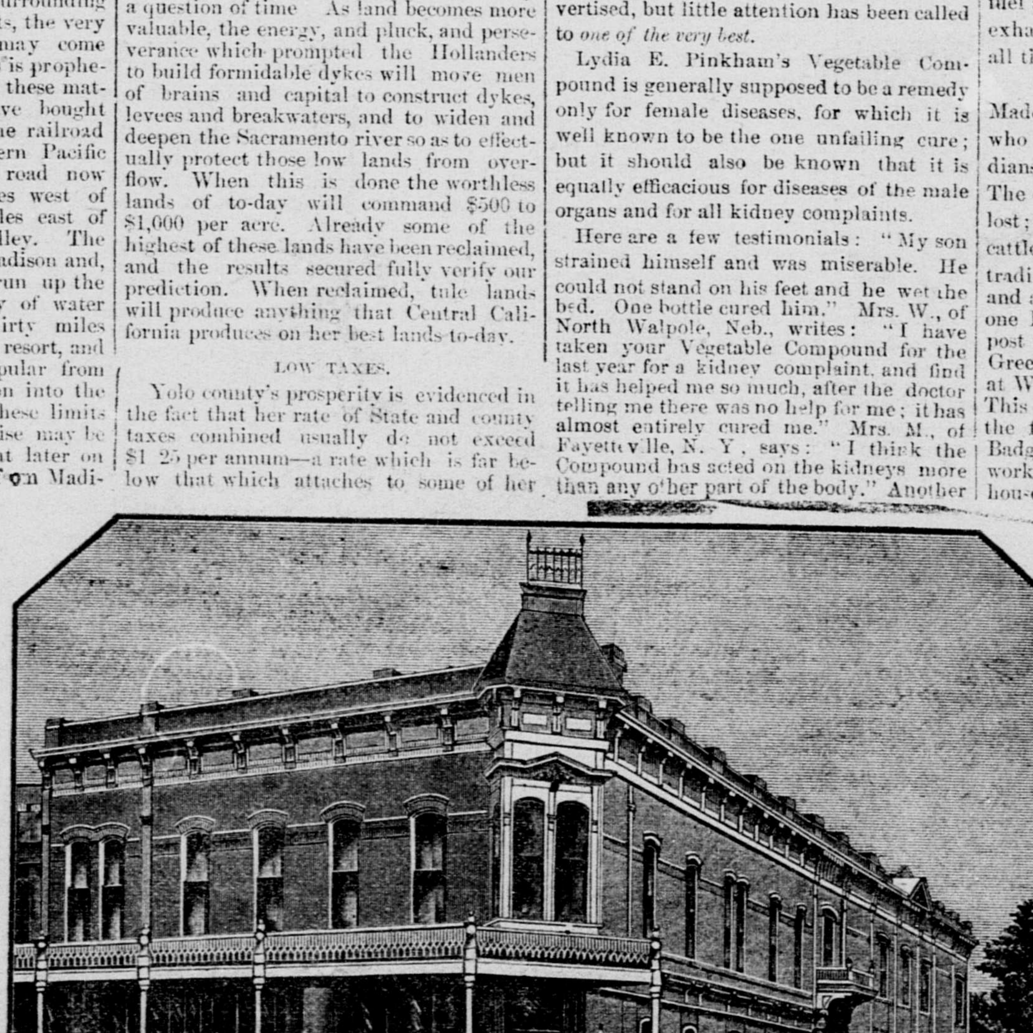
Another institution of learning—one of the oldest colleges in the State—is located in Woodland, and has for years enjoyed a liberal patronage. Recently the old buildings were sold, and a new and commodious building is to be built and equipped for the term beginning next January. Woodland, and in fact Yolo county, takes great pride in her educational institutions; an essential pride, because the new comer, when spying out the land, makes first inquiry regarding the chances of educating the boys and girls. The school-house and the college are important adjuncts of civilization, and speak unmistakably of the existence of a moral sentiment that is always desired by those who would find homes wherein to spend declining years.

RECLAMATION.

As a considerable part of Yolo county is classed as swamp or tule land, to wit, 40,000 acres, it is of interest to know something of this land and the probability that it will ever be reclaimed. To all this there is but one reasonable reply: This land is all sedimentary, the richest of light and dark loam, frequently extending to a depth of ten or twenty feet. Whenever cultivated it produces the most surprising results. The instances are not infrequent where fifty to seventy-five bushels of wheat have been produced to the acre; on it corn grows fifteen feet high. The uncertainty of overflows renders farming these lands doubtful investments. With all this richness of soil in view the reclaiming is only a question of time. As land becomes more valuable, the energy, and pluck, and perseverance which prompted the Hollanders to build formidable dykes will move men of brains and capital to construct dykes, levees and breakwaters, and to widen and deepen the Sacramento river so as to effectually protect those low lands from overflow. When this is done the worthless lands of to-day will command $500 to $1,000 per acre. Already some of the highest of these lands have been reclaimed, and the results secured fully verify our prediction. When reclaimed, tule lands will produce anything that Central California produces on her best lands to-day.

LOW TAXES.

Yolo county's prosperity is evidenced in the fact that her rate of State and county taxes combined usually do not exceed $1 25 per annum—a rate which is far below that which attaches to some of her



THE OPERA HOUSE BLOCK, WOODLAND.

prosperous neighbors. This rate is maintained by economical administration of county affairs, because the roads are kept in good condition, a commodious Court-house, jail and park cared for, and a county infirmary supported from this rate and kept in perfect order. Remember, Yolo is classed with those counties having the lowest rate of taxation.

TREES AND SHRUBBERY.

Our wonder-working climate is everywhere visible in the presence of diversified forest tree growth. The locust, the elm and maple grow side by side; the walnut, the eucalyptus and cottonwood adorn many highways and streets. The pepper, mulberry and pine ornament hundreds of door-yards, while hundreds of poplars and more familiar trees may be seen on every side. So rapid is tree growth here that a new cottage can be embowered in trees in the space of three or four years. All kinds of shrubbery grow profusely, the tropical and semi-tropical, and no reference is ever made to hot-houses. A land above the frost line needs no artificial protection. Flowering shrubs are grown in variety, and twelve months in the year shed their blooming fragrance. Here the rose is a perpetual bloomer. The garden is a poor one, indeed, if you cannot enter it in the dreariest days of winter or the hottest in summer and gather a bouquet of choicest flowers of great variety. To those accustomed to snow and ice and frozen ground, all this may seem a fairy tale; it is but an evidence of climatic difference. If men desire a home in such a country, they will do well to visit Yolo county before they have made a settlement.

A MARINE MONSTER.

Capture of a Turtle that Weighed 1,430 Pounds.

A Portland (Me.) dispatch says: "Look there, the sea-serpent, by mighty!" exclaimed one of Captain C. H. Griffin's crew yesterday afternoon. "Great Scott! he's going to board us!" said the Captain. Right ahead the long wake proclaimed the presence of some marine monster, and there was a very snake-like head to be seen above the top of the water. Captain Griffin caught up a harpoon and said: I'll have him, by gosh!" "Don't strike, Cap'n," yelled his man. The warning came too late. The iron was already shooting through the air with lightning speed, and, before the Captain had more than time to say "Look out!" it was caught and held fast. For a moment it lay on the water. Then it started off seaward, going at a rate too rapid to be described in landsmen's terms.

Captain Griffin is of the opinion that his boat beat the time of the Mayflower. The rope attached to the harpoon was a very long one, and was "paid out" as far as possible. What he had struck the Captain didn't know; but he did know that he was being taken along off shore at a most fearful rate.

For miles the boat was carried along, and then the propelling power stopped, seemed to hesitate, and then started inshore. Tired out at last, it came to the surface, revealing the outlines of the largest turtle they had ever seen. The monster was got at after a long struggle, and it was tied to a schooner over night. It concluded to go back to sea, and actually was running away with the schooner when it was captured for the second time and taken back. It was hoisted on shore this morning, and was found to weigh 1,430 pounds.

Captain Griffin sold his catch to W. H. Dugan and C. U. Trefethen, who found that the turtle is the largest ever seen in these waters. Captain B. F. Willard, who is one of the oldest Captains here, says that fifty years ago a vessel having on board ten Southern turtles was wrecked on the Maine coast, and it is thought that the specimen captured yesterday is one of them. The turtle is supposed to have been seen frequently for the past two or three years, and to have given a foundation, so to speak, for the numerous sea-serpent experiences of which some very thrilling accounts have been written.

TO-MORROW IS, OR WILL BE?

The Former is Proper, for when it Comes it is Not To-morrow, but To-day.

Never put off till to-morrow what you should do to-day, and then you will be free from the task of closing up yesterday's business. There are thousands of cases of sickness that if "taken in time" can be averted. Many special remedies for Bright's disease and other kidney troubles are advertised, but little attention has been called to *one of the very best*.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is generally supposed to be a remedy only for female diseases, for which it is well known to be the one unfailing cure; but it should also be known that it is equally efficacious for diseases of the male organs and for all kidney complaints.

Here are a few testimonials: "My son strained himself and was miserable. He could not stand on his feet and he wet the bed. One bottle cured him." Mrs. W., of North Walpole, Neb., writes: "I have taken your Vegetable Compound for the last year for a kidney complaint, and find it has helped me so much, after the doctor telling me there was no help for me; it has almost entirely cured me." Mrs. M., of Fayetteville, N. Y., says: "I think the Compound has acted on the kidneys more than any other part of the body." Another lady says: "My little girl has not wet the bed since I gave her the first dose; the first time in three or four years."

COMPULSORY SANITATION OF HOUSES. According to the London *Times*, Mr. Dixon-Hartland's bill proposing a new Sanitary Board for London, now before Parliament, provides, in effect, for the compulsory sanitary inspection and registration of all buildings of whatever nature. If a building is found not in a sanitary condition the defects must be amended within three months. When a building is found to be in a sanitary condition the surveyor will certify this for a fee of a guinea, and without such a certificate no house is in future to be let. We should expect enough common sense in the British Parliament to expunge such a dangerous corruption clause as the latter, in a sanitary measure, of all others!

When a man shows by the changefulness of his plans that he has no confidence in himself, he must not complain if his friends lose confidence in him.

NEVADA COUNTY.

A Magnificent, Rich and Fertile Section Described.

CLIMATE—WATER RIGHTS—MINERALS.

Grape Culture—The Pear County—Raisins—Grazing—Stock Raising—Timber—Soils—Apples—Etc—Etc.

[The RECORD-UNION has already published one paper upon Nevada county from the pen of A. V. Hoffman, one of its special representatives engaged in writing expositions of the central and northern counties of California. It now presents the second paper on Nevada county, from the pen of the same representative, who writes only after close examination, personal observation and verification of all statements of fact. This constitutes the fourteenth of the RECORD-UNION'S series of papers on the resources of Central and Northern California. It will be followed by a third paper on Nevada county by the same writer before he leaves that section to examine other counties.]

Nevada county lies in the extreme north central part of the State, contains 670,000 acres of land, and from an elevation of less than 700 feet rises gradually to an elevation of 8,000 feet. From the broad, level fields of the southwestern part the land rises, hill upon hill and valley above valley, till the summit of the Sierras, with their green forests of pine, spruce, fir and cedar, are passed. Between its northwestern boundary and that of the east can be found every variety of climate, from the salubrious temperature of the citrus belt, with its orange, lime and lemon trees, ever blooming shrubs and flowers and broad fields, to the cold and icy air of the Sierra Nevada peaks, with their great forests of gigantic and spicy pines, where the snow, in secluded nooks, lies unmelted throughout the year. Nevada county is a succession of hills. They rise one above another, and vary from the rolling, thinly timbered knolls of the lowest foothills to the rough, wild and precipitous crags, where the bear, the deer and the puma have their haunts. But over all this land

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY, WOODLAND.

are the homes of a prosperous and happy people, for Nevada county is rich in all that man requires for his happiness. Gold, silver, copper, grain, timber, flowers, wool, fuel and one of the greatest and most inexhaustible water systems in the world are all the natural productions of this county.

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

Made in this county was by John Rose, who was engaged in trading with the Indians and supplying the mines with meat. The exact date of this settlement has been lost; but early in 1849 Mr. Rose built a cattle corral near Anthony House. A trading post was finally established there and an adobe house was built. Still later one Findlay, of Oregon, opened a trading post on Bear river, near the mouth of Greenhorn creek. A store was also opened at White Oak springs by David Bovyer. This was in September, 1849. Later in the fall of that year Boston Ravine and Badger Hill were settled. At Gold Run work was begun, and Dr. Caldwell built a house upon the present site of Nevada City. From this time the settlement of the county was rapid. Miners poured into the county; they were camped along all the streams and in the little valleys and upon the hills. Nevada City, Centerville (now Grass Valley), Rough and Ready, Newtown, Boston Ravine, Washington, Eureka and many other lively camps sprang into existence as if by magic, and the hum and bustle of mining life was heard on every hand. As early as 1850 saw-mills were erected to supply lumber for the mines and settlers, and the pine forests rang with the whir of saws. About this time some trouble was had with the Indians, and a regular outbreak of all the tribes in that region was threatened. Several miners were killed, and it was found necessary to march against the Indians with volunteer troops and punish them severely; the result was a treaty which was signed at Kearny, Yuba county, by Thomas J. Green, Major-General First Division, California Militia, and the belligerent chiefs of the several tribes. It may not be out of place at this point to mention that Kearney has long ceased to exist. Like Oro, which was a magnificently planned city, consisting of one house, it is now only a memory.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY.

Nevada county was organized in 1851, and Nevada City became the seat of justice. Rich diggings had been discovered all through that section, and at Grass Valley the discovery of quartz ledges bearing gold created a great deal of excitement. Other camps became thriving towns, and from that time the prosperity of the county was insured.

Passing over the years which followed this interesting period in its history, we will look at

THE NEVADA COUNTY OF TO-DAY.

The advantages which this county possesses over many of her sister counties are as follows: A climate unsurpassed for healthfulness; all degrees of scenery, from the low rolling land of the foothills to the wild, the grand, the majestic; from the cot of the rancher to the Sierra Nevadas, with their snowy summits glistening in the sun; an inexhaustible water supply, and canals for distributing it all over the land; an abundance of fuel; a region famous for its fine timber; fertile lands, whose soil is not easily worn out; quartz and placer mines that have yielded, and continue to yield, thousands of dollars annually; gravel mines which may be worked by drifting, and a broad and very productive field for the agriculturists, the horticulturist, the general farmer, the stock-raiser and those who are seeking homes or a place to build homes and rest from their labors, surrounded by a social, healthy, thriving class of people.

THE CLIMATE.

The climate of Nevada county is unsurpassed for healthfulness. The summers are, in the foothills, not unpleasantly warm, and the hottest days rarely possess that sultriness which is peculiar to many southern counties. In the mountains it is generally pleasant and the nights cool and bracing, while upon the extreme summit of the Sierras the air is cool in summer and very cold in winter, when snow falls to a great depth, and in some secluded nooks remains throughout the year. The resinous odor of the pines and the peculiar perfume of the "squirrel timber," or, as it is often called, "tar-weed," add to the bracing qualities of the atmosphere, and make it one of the greatest panaceas in the world. As a

HEALTH RESORT

This region cannot be too highly praised. Clear, cold, sparkling water, often holding beneficial minerals in solution, a bracing atmosphere, delicious fruits, pleasant and stirring scenery and the best of accommodations at a reasonable price, are features which claim the attention of all who desire a change of habitation and perfect health. Of course there are diseases which no change or climate will benefit, but to those who have pulmonary troubles, have worn themselves out at their business, who are not naturally strong and desire to rest and recuperate, or change their work, the spicy climate of Nevada county is a veritable boon. At Nevada City is a spring which, according to the analysis of a learned German doctor who visited this region several years ago, is of great benefit to those who are afflicted with kidney troubles. Residents who have tested the waters of this spring claim to have received great benefit. The spring is owned by parties who have not made its qualities known as they should have done, but will probably do so in the near future, when they more fully awaken to a knowledge of its value.

MAGNIFICENT SCENERY.

Little need be said of the scenery of this region, it is so varied, and in many places of striking grandeur. The general view is pleasing; hills rising upon hills, with the lofty summits of the "rock-ribbed" Sierras overlooking all, and, like grim, silent sentinels, guarding the peaceful, happy homes of the people who dwell below them. Quiet little valleys succeed wild and awful gorges; streams tumble through canyons deep and rock-walled, and glide into dreamy, romantic glades, and the traveler sees passing before him a natural panorama of wondrous beauty.

THE WATER SYSTEM.

During the time when hydraulic mining was the principal industry of this county, and many wealthy companies owned and operated great mines, it was found necessary to construct many large reservoirs and many miles of ditches to hold and convey to the mines the large amount of water required to wash the gold-bearing gravel and free its precious particles. The following table will show the immensity of this great water supply:

RESERVOIRS AND DITCHES.

The corporations owning water rights and the cubic capacity of reservoirs are as follows:

Owners.	Cubic Feet.
North Bloomfield Company	1,050,000,000
Milton Company	650,000,000
Eureka Lake Company	1,130,000,000
Yuba Water and Mining Company	1,800,000,000
Omega and Blue Tent Company	300,000,000

The length and capacity of the main ditches in connection with these reservoirs and lakes are as follows:

Owners.	Length, miles	Capacity, inches.	Grade per mile, feet	Dimensions, ft. Top	Bottom	Depth
North Bloomfield	157	3,200	12 to 16	8⅔	5	3½
South Yuba Water and Mining Company	123	7,000	8 to 13	6	4	4½
Milton	80	3,000	12 to 25	6	4	3½
Eureka Lake	163	5,800	....	8	6	4
Excelsior	100	5,000	9	8	5	4

The cost of construction of the ditches was as follows: North Bloomfield, $708,841; South Yuba W. and M., $2,000,000; Milton, $391,579; Eureka Lake, $723,342; Excelsior, $1,000,000.

Since the above table was compiled much work has been done in extending some of these ditches, digging branch canals, etc., and now the ramifications of the water system of Nevada county extend to nearly every part of the county lying south of and below the reservoirs and lakes, and where there is land to be irrigated the water can, in nearly all cases, be supplied by one or more of these companies. Much of the land can, however, be made to grow profitable orchards and vineyards

WITHOUT IRRIGATION,

And this on several varieties of soils. This has been tried many times, and with uniform success. Thorough cultivation and care is enough to assure success in many, in fact in all parts of the county, where the clayey nature of the soil keeps it moist throughout the year. The water supply of this region is undoubtedly far ahead of any other.

THE TIMBER SUPPLY.

In a well-timbered region such as this is fuel is an item over which the settler does not worry. Oak, pine, spruce, fir, cedar—all the woods used for fuel—grow upon the higher lands, and in the lower foothills oak and pine are plentiful. In the towns wood can be obtained at a fair and reasonable price, the price varying with the kind and length of the wood. This suggests the timber supply, of which a short notice is enough, for it has already been referred to more than once in this article. But it can be truthfully said that it is practically inexhaustible, the heavy forests of the mountains having apparently suffered very little from the ax of the woodman and the saw-mill owner. Lumber is abundant and held at a fair price. Oak, however, though plentiful in the foothill sections, disappears in the higher altitudes.

QUALITIES OF SOIL.

The soil of Nevada county varies, as its character depends much upon the formation of the bedrock and the topography of the country. Much of it, where the granite bedrock is near the surface, looks sterile, but experience has demonstrated that it is rich in chemical elements which are essential to the healthy growth of trees and vines. The soil may be divided into four varieties:

First—A soil composed of granite and alluvial soil, and having the qualities mentioned above.

Second—The loamy soil of the hillsides, which, in its original state, is covered by trees and chaparral. When cleared and cultivated it yields largely, and is specially adapted to the wants of the orchardists, being easily tilled and free from stones.

Third—Same as the foregoing, with a mixture of bowlders and loose rock, but when properly worked becomes valuable land, and orchards planted in this soil attain a healthy and vigorous growth.

Fourth—Good soil for the vineyardist, having a slaty formation and bedrock. Even the barren bedrock of the worked-out gravel mines can be made to sustain plant and tree growths and yield handsome returns.

AGRICULTURE.

About 25,000 acres are adapted to agriculture and horticulture. For the general farmer the foothill region or "belt" possesses many attractions. The diversity of the soil is an advantage which should not be overlooked, as it enables the farmer to adapt it to the growing of different crops, the principal crop, however, being hay, for which there is a ready market at from $18 to $25 per ton, according to the kind and quality. Oat, rye and wheat hay yield from two to four tons per acre, without any irrigation being required. A great deal of red clover, timothy, and alfalfa hay is grown on irrigated lands, and are the most marketable hays produced.

THREE CROPS ARE CUT ANNUALLY,

And the yield is enormous, going as high as seven and eight tons to the acre. In some localities, where the water supply is ample and the soil rich, the yield has often been greater, and, as before stated; the soil *is* rich and the water supply *is* ample.

STOCK RAISING.

The grazing lands of Nevada county comprise 200,000 acres. Among the foothills there is an abundance of water, large tracts for pasturage, an abundance of grass, mild winters, and the stock-raiser finds that little protection for his cattle, sheep and horses are required; a shed generally being all that is needed except in exceptional seasons. In summer large herds are driven into the higher mountains, near Cisco and Emigrant Gap, and thrive there till autumn. Choice breeds of cattle have been introduced in many localities, and this tendency is increasing. The Seventeenth District Agricultural Fair, which is held in September of each year at Glenbrook, between Nevada City and Grass Valley, has done much to aid in this direction. Potatoes, corn, squashes, pumpkins, and small fruits yield well, and the horticulturist cannot do better than settle in this region.

MARKET ADVANTAGES.

There is a steady and growing demand for all fruits raised in this county; owing to the excellence of the fruit, and its good transporting qualities, it has become famous throughout the South and East. Bartlett years shipped from this county to Chicago, New York and other distant points have been received in a perfect state of preservation, and sold at an advanced rate. The Bartlett pears grown in this county are unexcelled for size, flavor and shipping qualities, and many large orchards are successfully grown. Other pears do as well, but the Bartlett is, without dispute, the king of pears in this section. Apples grown in the middle or snow belt are of good flavor, and large consignments to Eastern dealers are made yearly. Prunes, peaches and other fruits, and all vegetables, thrive and reach maturity with unequaled excellence. P[illegible] and most lucrative crop w[illegible] grown is the potato, as t[illegible] mand is always far ahead of the supply. The soil is, in many places, adapted to the cultivation and growth of the potato, and those who have undertaken the cultivation of this staple article of food have met with uniform success, and there is no reason why potato culture cannot be made one of the most profitable of all ventures by the general farmer.

GRAPE CULTURE

Thrives in the foothill and snow horticultural belt, and is never attacked by phylloxera, the red spider and black scale. The adaptability of the soil and climate to the grape has been repeatedly tested for many years, and now the business of vine-growing bids fair to become one of the, if not *the*, principal industry of the county. Every farm has its vineyard, some of them being very large, and producing yearly large quantities of excellent wine. H. L. Hatch, of Indian Springs, harvests annually from eight to ten tons of grapes per acre and produces a first-class article of wine. Mildew is the only "pest" which the vineyardist has to contend with, and a light application of sulphur to the vines is generally sufficient to stop its ravages in an effectual manner.

RAISIN MAKING.

For those who object to wine-making there are localities in the foothill belt which are adapted to the growing and curing of grapes for raisins, and these raisins find a ready market. As an illustration of what is being done in this line a visit to the farm of Niles & Marsh, two miles above Mooney Flat, will be worth the attention of the traveler who wishes to engage in this business. There are several large and well stocked nurseries in Nevada county, the most noted being that of Felix Gillet, of Nevada City, and generally known as Barren Hill nursery, a description of which will be given in another letter. The nursery of J. T. Bogue at Grass Valley, is also a valuable property and is known as the Ophir Hill Nursery. Allison's orchard is also a valuable property.

MINING INDUSTRIES.

Nevada county has been, and still is, famous for its mineral wealth. Countless beds of auriferous gravel and a still larger number of gold-bearing quartz ledges have made the name of this county a synonym for all that expresses richness in gold. Nowhere else within the State has there been found a region as abounding in the precious mineral as Nevada county. From the time of the discovery of gold upon the Yuba river by Jonas Spect, and upon Deer creek by James W. Marshall, in 1849, till a few years ago, gold mining was the principal industry of the county. The primitive pan was followed by the rocker, the ground-sluice, the long-tom, the sluice, and at last the powerful and obedient monitor came into use, and the great beds of rich gravel were torn open and the golden sand rescued from the imprisonment of ages to become the broad, shining coin of the realm, and bring happiness to many a home throughout the world. This change from the pan to the "little giant," the long stone or block-paved sluice and ponderous, complicated machinery of the present time was the result of necessity and enterprise. Then quartz mining began to attract attention, and from the first rude wooden-stem mills of the early years the complicated

PERFECT MACHINERY OF THE PRESENT QUARTZ MILL

Was evolved, and the air now throbs with the thud of countless stamps and the rattle of myriads of concentrators and the roar of machinery used for hoisting, pumping, etc. Quartz mining, since the cessation of hydraulic mining a few years ago, has received more attention from mining men, and the result is that this great industry has received a new impetus. Old mines which were supposed to be worked out have been reopened and found to be still valuable properties, new mines have been discovered, new machinery invented, and new blood and energy has been put into the field. The result has proved that the

[CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE.]