

Amador County
Descriptive Article

Amador county comprises an area of 548 square miles. It lies on the western slope of Sierra Nevada mountains, and embraces within its territory all the diversity of valley, foothill, and high mountainous lands.

Climate.—The climate of the populous portions of the county is as genial and healthful as can be found anywhere in California. As climate is one of the most valuable assets of this favored state in attracting population, Amador stands second to no county in this regard. It should, and no doubt will in time, when its climatic advantages are more thoroughly understood and appreciated, become a health resort not only for those in less favored states, but for the residents of other parts of California. The temperature alone the central portion rarely falls below 30 degrees above zero in winter, and as rarely rises to 100 degrees in the summer. Snow seldom falls in the settled districts, and never remains on the ground for more than a few hours. Of course, in the high mountain regions of eastern Amador the snowfall is very heavy—which is characteristic of the entire Sierra Nevada range. The summer season is always accompanied with cool nights; permitting of sound, refreshing slumber. Fogs are rare, cyclones are unknown, thunderstorms are infrequent.

Gold Mining.—The county, although rich in other sources of wealth, comparatively untouched, is noted principally for her quartz mines. The deepest gold mines in America are located here. The Kennedy mine is now taking gold in liberal quantities from quartz extracted from a depth of over 2000 feet below the surface, with every indication that the pay-ore extends to a much greater depth. Since the discovery of gold, the county has contributed fully \$100,000,000 to the world's supply of the precious metal. The mines are still yielding at the rate of about two million dollars annually. Nearly all of this wealth is produced by eight or ten mines operating on what is called the "mother lode," stretching clear across the county in a north-easterly direction a distance of twenty miles. The mines aggregate between 400 and 500 stamps, and furnish employment for over 1000 miners. This industry is still in its infancy. The unexplored territory, even along the main gold belt, is far in excess of the ground that has actually been worked or prospected. The county offers today one of the most inviting fields to be found anywhere in the world for the investment of capital in the fascinating business of gold mining, not alone along the mother lode, but also in the almost untouched mineralized country of the east belt, some ten or twelve miles from the main lode.

Besides gold, we have copper, deposits of pottery, coal, marble, slate, limestone, granite, and soapstone or talc—all undeveloped.

Agricultural Capabilities.—The agricultural possibilities equal, if not excel, the mineral riches. The valley lands will produce anything that can be grown in the most favored sections. In the foothill lands all kinds of deciduous fruits thrive; also all kinds of vegetable are raised where irrigation is practicable along the numerous water courses. Further up in the mountains, at an altitude of 2000 to 2500 feet, the soil is admirably adapted for apples and potatoes. A ready market for many times the quantity now raised of these commodities can be found in the various mining towns.

Grape culture and winemaking are becoming important industries, both the grapes and wine commanding a better price than the product of the lowland.

Land is cheap compared with other California lands. Improved farms may be secured for one-fourth the price current in some places. Unimproved lands can be had from \$5 to \$10 per acre. It does not require a fortune to buy a small ranch. There is room for a large addition to our agricultural population. Vast tracts now devoted to cattle ranges might be made the homes of hundreds of prosperous farmers.

Amador has a population of less than 1200. Three fourths of this is concentrated in a strip of three miles above and below the mineral belt.

Jackson, the county seat, has about 2500 inhabitants, and is an incorporated city of the sixth class. Other towns are Sutter Creek, Amador City, Drytown, Plymouth, Volcano, Pine Grove and Oleta. Ione City is the metropolis of the valley section, a thriving town of 1000 inhabitants.

The community is law-abiding. Educational facilities are excellent. A schoolhouse is within easy reach of nearly every family. There is one high school, located at Ione.

The assessment roll for 1907 is \$5,000,793, and the tax rate for both state and county purposes \$2 on the \$100.

The Southern Pacific has a branch railroad running to Ione. From this point the Ione and Eastern railroad extends 14 miles further to the mining town.

The various religious denominations and fraternal organizations are well represented.

A power plant of the Standard Oil Co.—one of the largest in the West—located four miles from Jack-

GOT HIS SHIRTS.

Comical Prank a Princeton Student Played Upon a Tutor.

In "Princeton—Old and New," by James W. Alexander, is the following story:

"The mode of life was simpler in those days than now, but the same humor which still makes collegians so comic effervesced in the old days. When, for example, William Pennington, son of a former governor of New Jersey and himself afterward speaker of the national house of representatives, roomed next door to Senior Tutor Topping it was the custom for each man to hang on the outside knob of his door the bag containing his soiled clothes for the laundry.

"Pennington stuffed his own skirts one day in Tutor Topping's bag and waited for the day when the clean linen was returned and laid out on Topping's bed. Then, knowing that two of the younger tutors were in Topping's room, Pennington knocked at his door. On entering he put on an embarrassed air, as if hesitating to speak in the presence of the other tutors.

"Topping in a lofty way said: 'These gentlemen are my friends. I have no secrets from them. Say what you wish.' Pennington still hemmed and hawed, but, again urged to speak, blurted out: 'It is not my fault, Mr. Topping. I did not want to say anything about it now, but as you insist I must ask you to please return the skirts I lent you, as I am in need of them.'

"Topping's rage and horror at being thus addressed before the younger tutors, who looked up to him as a Magnus Apollo, may well be imagined. He began to upbraid Pennington, who interrupted him by saying: 'It's no use, Mr. Topping, trying to deny the fact. I see the shirts there on the bed with your own things.' The tutor stood aghast, but Pennington stepped to the bed and picked out his own shirts, marked with his name."

ST. LOUIS' GOLD MINE.

Traces of the Metal Once Found Within the City Limits.

St. Louis has never been known as a gold mining center, but there was once a gold mine within the limits of the city, and, what is more, it yielded gold, which is more than a great many gold mines in the Rockies have done.

In the sixties of the last century there was a well dug on a hill just east of Carondelet park, and the well diggers, noticing some bright, sparkling yellow particles in the clay at the bottom, did a little washing on their own account and found several grains of gold in the pan. The news soon got abroad, and two ex-miners from the west who were living in the neighborhood quickly got the idea that there was money to be made in St. Louis gold mining, so they sank a shaft not far from the well, fully expecting rich returns from their work. They did actually find gold, but in quantities so small that they estimated a yield of about 15 cents per ton of clay, so they filled up the hole and gave up the undertaking in that place as a bad job.

But they had all the miner's enthusiasm, and the fact that they found gold at all merely stimulated their zeal to try in another place, so they went to the side of a hill where the Glazie creek had washed away the earth and made a clay precipice. They dug a hole there, where they also found traces of the precious metal, but in no greater quantities than before. Then they went up the creek about a quarter of a mile and sank another shaft, with no better result. They spent the whole spring and summer digging holes around in the neighborhood of the park, but the only benefit they realized from their work was the sobriquet "two lunatics," and people laughed at them so much that both left and went back west, where digging holes in the search for gold was taken more seriously than in St. Louis.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Theater Seats.

The seats were in the orchestra on the theater's left. "The left side of the house always sells out first," said the box office man. "Everybody seems to prefer it to the right. I don't know why. Boxes especially—we can sell two left to one right box every time. Nobody takes the right side for choice. And there is no reason for this. As much goes on in the right extremity of the stage as in the left—we proprietors always look after that—and you see just as much from the right as from the left side. Why, then, is the left side always at a premium?"—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

The Name Bismarck.

Few people know how Bismarck and his ancestors got their name. Bismarck is the name of one of those ancient castles a short distance from Stendal, on the road from Cologne to Berlin, in the center of the old mark of Brandenburg. The castle had this name because it defended the "marca," or the line where the river Biese formed a boundary in former times or mark of defense against intruders; hence the name of Bismarck.

When Greek Meets Greek.

"Gracious, my dear," said the first society belle, "I do hope you're not ill; you look so much older tonight."

"I'm quite well, thank you, dear," replied the other. "And you—how wonderfully improved you are! You look positively young."—Philadelphia Press.

Facts are God's arguments. We should be careful never to misunderstand or pervert them.—Edwards.

Nothing is so new as what has long been forgotten.—German Proverb.

A FOOL QUESTION.

Asked in a Railway Station, It Won a Caustic Reply.

He stood at the ticket window slowly unrolling an old fashioned leather bag, while a dozen men stood behind him, driven to madness by the shouting of the gatemen calling their trains. After he got about a yard and a half of bag unrolled he suddenly stopped and said to the ticket clerk:

"Is that clock right?"

"No, sir."

"Tain't?" shouted the startled passenger, stooping down and making a sudden clutch at a lean and hungry carpetbag. "Tain't right? Well, what 'n the name of common sense do ye have it stuck up there for, then?"

"To fool people," calmly replied the clerk. "That's what we're here for—to fool people and misdirect them."

"Great Scott!" said the passenger, hurriedly rolling up his bag. "I've missed my train. I'll report you, I will!"

"Won't do any good. It's the company's orders. They pay a man to go round every morning to mix and muddle up all the clocks, so that not one of them will be right and no two of them alike."

The passenger gasped twice or thrice, but could not say anything. The ticket clerk went on:

"It's the superintendent's idea. He is fond of fun, enjoys a joke, and it does him good to see a man jump about and hear him jaw when he buys a ticket and then finds his train has been gone two hours."

"Which way is this clock wrong?" the passenger asked in despairing accents—"fast or slow?"

"Don't know. That's part of the fun not to let anybody in the building know anything about the right time. All I know is that it's about ninety minutes wrong one way or the other."

With a hollow groan the passenger grabbed his bag and made a rush for the door, upsetting any man who got in his way. In about two minutes he came back, crestfallen and meek, and took his place at the end of the line. When once more he walked up to the window he said, as he named his station and bought his ticket like a sane man:

"What made you talk to me like you did?"

"What made you ask questions like a fool?"—San Francisco Chronicle.

PLEASANT JAILS.

The Way Prisoners in Montenegro Are Treated.

When I paid a visit to the Cetinje jail I found that all the prisoners were out for a walk. For two hours every morning and again for two hours in the afternoon they are allowed to wander about on the green before the prison. There is nothing, indeed, but their own sense of honor to prevent their going farther afield unless they be murderers, in which case they wear chains. The authorities provide them with housing, of course, and with clothes—not uniform—also with a fire at which to cook their food, and they give them fourpence a day each to buy it. The prisoners cater for themselves. Two of them go to the market every morning to buy provisions for the day. They are not required to work unless they choose, and they are classified not according to the seriousness of their offense, but according to their standard of life and general behavior. If a man of education and refinement is sent to prison, care is taken to lodge him, so far as possible, in a room where the other occupants belong to his own rank in life. I found on one bed a beautiful counterpane and a pillow covered with delicate embroidery. "Yes, poor fellow, that's his wife's handiwork," the governor of the jail remarked casually as we passed. In one prison life was made so easy and pleasant that on leaving it I ventured to remark that to be there was no punishment, it seemed to me.

"No punishment!" the official who was with me exclaimed in surprise. "But think of the disgrace of being here. Is not that in itself punishment enough?"

I had and still have doubts on the subject, for I had just seen a cheery old fellow who, although the time for which he was sentenced had expired, stoutly refused to quit the prison.—Edith Sellers in Fortnightly Review.

White Africans.

The Berbers, who, although African, are as white as Europeans, are the oldest white race on record, says an explorer. They are supposed to have come from the south of Europe in ancient days, the Dundee Advertiser says, and, although their language and customs are entirely different from ours and their religion Mohammedan, they are probably closely akin by descent. Blue eyes and fair hair are not at all uncommon among the Berbers, and many of them have rosy cheeks and features so like our own that were they dressed in British fashion they would easily pass as natives of the British Isles.

Equality.

Uncle—Hello! Dot got a new doll? Little Miss Dot—Hush, uncle; don't speak too loud! She is not one of my own, but belonged to Mille Simpson, who was cruel to her and abandoned her, so I have 'dopted her, but I don't want her to know, because I mean to make no difference between her and my own dollies.—London Tit-Bits.

What It Was.

"These deceitful women are so ridiculous!" said Miss Passay. "As for me, I was never afraid to tell what my age was."

"No woman," replied Miss Wise, "ever minds telling what her age was."—London Answers.



GOOD COOKS

say CLEVELAND'S—Ask a GOOD cook the kind of baking powder to use and she will say CLEVELAND'S.

It is the baking powder of experts—the baking powder used by those who have tried them all.

Cooks who have used CLEVELAND'S and tried others always come back to

CLEVELAND'S
SUPERIOR
BAKING POWDER

Made from a Superior grade of Pure Cream of Tartar.

ITEMS WORTHY
OF PERUSAL.

Hundreds of women are employed in the secret service of Germany.

The rebuilding of San Francisco has been hampered greatly by the exorbitant wage schedule. The rates exceed by a dollar per day the maximum scale in New York.

Austrian mines are provided with rescue chambers at convenient locations underground. They are equipped with food and conveniences for miners in case of accident.

Experiments made by German scientists show that butter keeps best when preserved with from 3 to 5 per cent of salt. If the proportion of salt is higher than that the results are less satisfactory.

Of the world's population there are 64 to the million who are blind.

The founder is said to deposit 7,000,000 eggs in the course of a year. Germany sends 29,000,000 feathers per year to England for millinery purposes.

The growth of girls is greatest in their fifteenth year; of boys in their seventeenth.

Squares, triangles and similar implements used by draughtsmen are now made of glass.

The floor space of St. Peter's, Rome, is 227,000 square feet, the greatest of any cathedral in the world.

The swiftest river in the world is the Sutlej, of British India, which in 180 miles has a descent of 12,000 feet.

Savings banks are established in 228 schools in Scotland. There are 35,712 depositors, with \$48,990 to their credit.

When the herring fishery season is at its height something like 5000 or 6000 miles of nets are set nightly in the North Sea.

Some European savants have discovered that one-half grain of silver fluoride in a quart of water effects complete sterilization. Experiments were made with complete success on sewage water infected with various injurious micro-organisms, including those of typhoid.

Punctuation marks were first used in 1490.

The charge on the Congo Railroad is higher than that of any other railroad. It is one hundred dollars for a 250-mile journey.

Centipedes are eaten in some parts of South America.

Over 70 per cent of the natives of India till the land; hence the population is scattered, and their power of co-operation is greatly lessened.

It is estimated that there are 2,500,000 dogs in Great Britain.

Vanilla comes from a genus of climbing orchid which grows plentifully in the tropics.

The difficulties of sending wireless messages during the hours of daylight have been overcome to a great extent.

Harvard leads all American colleges in point of number of students.

The output of all the vineyards of the world is estimated to be 3,554,416,000 gallons.

There are nineteen American colleges with an enrollment of more than 3000 students each.

The "Peacock Throne" of Persia is the most extravagant thing of the kind in the world. Its value is estimated between ten and fifteen million dollars.

What is said to be the largest telegraph circuit in the world is that between London and Teheran, the capital of Persia. It is 4000 miles long and is divided into twelve sections.

Cost of Raisin Boxes Oppressive to California Packers.

The California raisin packers and fruit growers are hard hit by the excessive and increasing cost of wooden packing boxes. They have not yet found a satisfactory substitute for wood, suitable grades of which are becoming scarcer each year.

The chief market for raisins is thousands of miles away, and packing cases must be strong. Paper has been tried but has been only partially successful because it is injured by dampness, and even when dry it is not strong enough except for small parcels. Besides, paper is only another form of wood and its cost climbs with lumber as timber scarcity increases. The far western fruit shippers see little promise of relief from excessive cost of the lumber they use.

The burden which the packing boxes lay upon the California fruit industry is apparent when it is stated that the boxes for a carload of raisins cost \$100. When used once they become a dead loss. The California orange grower, apple grower, lemon grower, and the growers of nearly all fruits which go to eastern markets, are hurt in the same way. From 20 to 30 per cent of the retail price of many fruits is due to the cost of the boxes which contain them. In some instances, it is said the box costs more than the fruit packed in it.

There is no hope that wood for boxes will ever be much cheaper. In past years the raisin packers' ideal lumber was choice sugar pine—light in weight—white in color, and so free from pitch that no flavor was imparted to the fruit packed within. Little box mills in the Sierra Nevada pineries culled the finest of the sugar pine trees for the raisin men. The "tray shakes" on which the grapes were spread in the sun to dry, the "sweat boxes" in which they were hauled to packing houses, and the boxes in which they were sent to market were all of the same material—the prime timber of the California forests. But the sugar pine is running short. It is going as the white pine of the East went. Those who are able and willing to pay for it may still have it, but many prefer to get along with fir, lodgepole pine, poplar, or other cheaper wood. These have been substituted to some extent, for sugar pine in box making, but scarcity is striking all along the line, and prices have gone up until the purchase of box lumber of any kind has become an excessive burden upon the fruit growers of the Pacific slope, and upon the purchasing public.

Soothers itching skin, Heals cuts or turns without a scar. Cures piles, eczema, salt rheum, any itching. Doan's Ointment. Your druggist sells it.

King Edward VI celebrated his sixty-sixth birthday November 9. The event was made the occasion of the presentation of a diamond valued at \$750,000 by the executive council of Transvaal.

"Three was a crowd, and there were three, The girl, the parlor lamp and he; Two is company, and no doubt, That's why the parlor lamp went out."—Ex.

NIGHTS OF UNREST.

No Sleep, No Rest, No Peace for the Sufferers from Kidney Troubles.

No peace for the kidney sufferer— Pain and distress from morn to night. Get up with a lame back, Twinges of backache bother you all day,

Dull aching breaks your rest at night, Urinary disorder add to your misery. Get at the cause—cure the kidneys. Doan's Kidney Pills will work the cure.

The're for the kidneys only— Have made great cures in Jackson.

Ben. Gilbert, living in Jackson, Cal, says: "I have used Doan's Kidney Pills and they proved of great benefit to me. I suffered from backache for a long time and the trouble gradually grew worse in spite of the different remedies I used. I got so that I could not do my work and at night was so tired and played out that I could not sleep. A friend finally advised me to give Doan's Kidney Pills a trial and I procured a box at the City Pharmacy. I felt their good effect immediately and I continued taking them until I was cured. Whenever I have felt any symptom returning, I always applied Doan's Kidney Pills and they always gave the satisfactory result."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agent for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—take no other.

Royal House.

4th and Howard Sts.—San Francisco, F. L. Turpin, Prop. European Plan. Rates same as Old Royal House before the fire, 50c, 75c, \$1 and \$1.50 per day. Special weekly rates. 200 room reinforced concrete building containing all Modern Conveniences, Reading room, Ladies Parlor, etc. 2 blocks from 4th and Market. From the ferry take Mission street or Market street cars to Fourth. From Third and Townsend the Fourth street cars pass the door.

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