

English walnut, and other varieties of nuts. Of apples and pears, it is not uncommon in some localities, to find two, and even three crops produced in a single season. The oranges grown in the vicinity of Los Angeles, and in other portions of southern California, are an abundant crop, and of a quality superior to those imported from abroad; while the almonds, of which considerable quantities of the soft-shelled variety are raised, are fully equal to the best qualities imported from Languedoc, and other districts in the south of France. The cultivation of the best varieties of the fig has largely increased within the past few years, and when the requisite care is devoted to the preparation of this fruit the imported article will be driven from the market. Californian raisins are already a staple article of trade; and as the growth of the grape in this region is nowhere surpassed in the world, the time is not far distant when this article will, like her extraordinary wine product, take a high rank as an article of trade. The peanuts grown in California, of which the crop of last year amounted to 200 tons, are of quality, in point of size and flavor, far superior to any imported from abroad. The number of fruit trees in the State, exclusive of the grape and other vines, is estimated at about 4,500,000, of which 2,500,000 are peach, 1,250,000 apple, and the balance of different varieties. Value of the fruit raised during the year 1865 is estimated at \$1,625,000.*

OLIVES.—In the establishment of the Missions, in the early history of California, great attention was devoted to the cultivation of the olive, from which considerable quantities of oil were manufactured. Although these establishments have mostly gone to ruin, yet the large orchards, still remaining, show the extent of their cultivation in former times. The trees bear abundantly, and the olives put up for the market are of a superior quality.

LIVE STOCK.

Prior to the discovery of gold in California, and the rush of immigration to these shores, almost the entire pursuits of the native population were confined to the raising of horses and cattle, with sparse flocks of sheep. The fertile plains of this then pastoral region were dotted with immense bands of horses and herds of cattle, and the annual *rodéos*, when the rancheros met to identify and brand their stock with their peculiar individual brands, were seasons of festivity and excitement. The staple exports from this coast in those days of primeval simplicity were confined solely to hides and tallow—Monterey, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and San Diego constituting the principal ports from whence these articles were shipped. Along with immense droves of elk and herds of antelope, bands of mustangs, or wild horses, were found on the plains in great numbers, and until within a few years were still to be found in portions of the great Tulare Valley. In those days, with all these countless herds of cattle, those products of the dairy, milk, butter and cheese, were almost entirely unknown. Since the taking possession of this country by the Americans, stock of all kinds has largely increased, and the breeds vastly improved. Instead of the untamed mustang, or almost equally wild Spanish horse, we have the thorough-bred American—a cross between which and the native produces a quality of saddle-horse nowhere surpassed. The character of the California roadster stands deservedly high, and the carriage and draft horses raised here are also a superior race. The best breeds of the short-horned Durhams, imported from the Atlantic States and Europe—unsurpassed either for milking qualities or for beef—have entirely driven out the lank, long-horned natives of the country; and the fine-wooled Merino, Leicester, and Cotswold, with the heavy-bodied Southdown, have taken the place of the coarse-haired flocks of former days. The earliest improvements in this department were from the importations of the Hudson's Bay Company, since which time valuable additions have been made from abroad. Number of Horses in the State, 185,033; Sheep, 983,886; Cattle, including cows, 500,000; Hogs, 212,101. Value of cattle, hogs, and sheep slaughtered during the year 1865 is estimated at about \$6,000,000.

POULTRY.—Number of Poultry of all kinds in the State, 850,000. Eggs produced per annum, 2,500,000 dozens.

WOOL AND HIDES.—Notwithstanding the general opinion which prevailed for several years after the settlement of the State that the business of wool growing could never be profitably pursued in California, the results of the past few years, and the extensive and increasing manufactures here, have forever set that question at rest. The first flocks were composed entirely of the native or New Mexican sheep; shortly after the commencement of the first immigration to these shores, herds of sheep from the Western States were driven here across the plains; and the best breeds belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company, together with others from Australia, were introduced here about the year 1854. Since that time the herds of sheep have been still further improved by the addition of the finest varieties of thorough-bred stock from Vermont, New York, and other States, until the quality of the wool produced here will compare favorably with that produced abroad. Owing to the favorable influences of the climate and abundant feed, the sheep raised here produce a heavier fleece than is the case in other countries, and, owing to the same causes, they increase far more rapidly than elsewhere. With some varieties five lambs are produced at a birth, and with

* *Date of Appearance of Fruits at San Francisco.*—Apples, June and throughout the year; apricots, May to June 15; blackberries, June and July; cherries, June and July; figs, July to November; gooseberries, May and June; grapes, July to December 15; limes, November to January; nectarines, July 15 to August; oranges, November to March; peaches, June to November; pears, July to December; plums, June to August; quinces, September to January; raspberries, May 20 to August 15; strawberries, January to December.

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