

years scarcely anything had been attempted in agriculture. But the rate of progress since the abolition of the protective stock laws in 1874 has been marvellous. The wheat crop in 1874 was 200,000 cents, against 223 cents in 1869; more than 400,000 pounds of honey was exported in 1874, while the total production of the county in 1869 was but 1,500 pounds; the quantity of wool exported from the port in 1874 was over 1,500,000 pounds, against a total clip in 1869 of less than 25,000 pounds; the total number of sheep owned in the county in 1874 was over 250,000, against about 100,000 in 1869. The production of honey has become a very important industry, the advantages of climate, range, etc., being peculiar. The greater portion of the crop finds its market in the east, being shipped from San Diego by steamer to San Francisco, and thence by rail. A single beekeeper of this county forwarded several car-loads of comb honey in September and October, 1874. The farming interest is growing rapidly; not only the cereals, but every variety of fruit, are successfully cultivated. The area of cultivation has hitherto been almost wholly confined to the coast belt of country, but is now extending backward into the extensive valleys and plains of the great middle division, the development of the agricultural resources of that section, being stimulated by the opening of the gold mines in the mountains. These mines have drawn thither, since 1870, a considerable population, which is constantly increasing. That portion of the county lying between the coast mountains and the San Bernardino line is capable of sustaining a population of more than 100,000 souls. The rains of this section are most always sufficient to insure full crops, and the soils of exhaustless fertility. There are many thousands of acres of Government land open to settlement in this broad belt, than which there is no finer farming land in the world, while the forests of timber in the mountains will supply lumber and fuel for a century to come. If the Texas and Pacific Railroad is built to the Bay of San Diego upon its surveyed route through the San Geronio Pass, it will run through the heart of this section, and the development of the "back country" will proceed with wonderful rapidity. The mining interest of San Diego county merits more extended notice than can be given in a brief summary of this kind. As early as 1828 gold was shipped in considerable quantities from the Bay of San Diego, and the old inhabitants assert that it was taken from the earth at a distance of more than forty miles from the shore. Years before the discovery at Sutter's Fort, gold was known to exist in the mountain ranges of this county. In the year 1859 a gold-bearing quartz ledge was discovered on the "Esccondido," now known as the Wolfskill Rancho, some thirty-five miles northwest of the city, by a negro named Jesse, who for some time worked the ore in an arrastra. A Los Angeles company subsequently worked the ledge and took out over \$40,000. In 1861 the first quartz ledge in Southern California was erected on this mine, and the rock taken out during the two years the mill was run averaged thirty-three dollars per ton. Altogether upwards of \$100,000 was taken from the Esccondido mine. The failure of the company and final closing down of the works was caused by "want of capital and disagreement among the owners." Enough had been done to show that a good mining property exists there, and that with the necessary capital and proper machinery a prosperous mining camp would spring up on the Esccondido. The failure at that time, however, put an end to mining enterprise for some years. The population of the county then numbered but a few hundred souls. It was at a time when the great Santa Margarita Rancho, of 90,000 acres, was offered for \$20,000 without a purchaser, and the splendid San Bernardo Rancho was actually sold for \$4,000—an unfavorable time for development. In 1869, with the revival of the Southern Pacific Railroad enterprise brought population to the Bay of San Diego, a new spirit came over the land. In June, 1869, Mr. Edward Henck, a scientific miner, (then Deputy County Clerk, and now deceased), contributed a paper to the *San Diego Union*, giving the result of his observations on an exploring tour in the mountains of the county. He said: "The first metal I found, leaving the coast going west, was copper; the next silver, and the next gold, which extends up and across the range of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Between Warner's Rancho and the Desert I found the largest deposits of gold and silver. This tract extends from the foot of the San Bernardino mountains down to Lower California, and is full of rich minerals, including iron and mercury. It is well watered and timbered, and the climate is so uniform that work could be carried on every day of the year. It is in the range of country which I expect to see the best development of the precious metals. It will take time and labor here as every-

where else, but the minerals are there, and will come out when properly worked. Those here who are not profitably engaged can do no better than to prospect the country north and east of San Diego." It is worthy of note that the paying mines were subsequently found in the precise region indicated by Mr. Henck—"between Warner's Rancho and the Desert." In February, 1870, the discovery was made which led to the present development of the mining resources of this county. The first discovery was of placer gold in one of the gulches at the base of what is known as the "Sierra de Cuyamaca," near the headwaters of the San Diego River, and about 40 miles in an air line, northeast of the city. A few days later, on the 20th of February, the first quartz ledge—the "Washington"—was discovered on a quarter section of land owned by M. H. Julian, distant about 10 miles north of the highest of the three peaks of Cuyamaca. The great richness of the quartz taken from this ledge caused a great excitement; there was a rush to the mountains; locations were numerous. "Julian" Mining District was organized, and the settler, Julian, was elected the first Recorder of the District. A month later, March 22d, the "Stonewall" mine was discovered at the base of the high Cuyamaca peak, ten miles south-east of the first discovery; the lead was traced across the Cuyamaca Valley, which is narrow at this point, to the foothills opposite. Julian mining districts located upon a broad plateau, from which, on the east the descent is abrupt to the Colorado Desert through a deep cañon called San Felipe; and in this cañon, distant about five miles from Julian, the richest mines of that region were subsequently found, the first discovery there having been made nearly a year after the discoveries at Julian. A new district called "Banner" was organized in the cañon, and the chief mining industry is now (1875) going on in that district. From the first discovery at Julian, until a very recent period, the development of the mines has been retarded by a contest between the miners and the claimants of the Mexican grant called "Cuyamaca," concerning the boundaries of that grant. The claimants endeavored to include the mines within their lines, and litigation followed which has but just been finally settled by the decision of the Secretary of the Interior in favor of the miners, and a new survey in accordance therewith, which has been accepted by both parties. The present condition of the mining interest (November, 1874), may be briefly stated. There are now being worked in the Cuyamaca region twenty-three separate and well-defined gold mines, of which eleven have been fully demonstrated to be of immense value, justifying the erection of costly machinery, and the employment of large numbers of miners. Seventy-five stamps are running day and night in the different quartz mills, as follows: At the Charlott mill, 20 stamps; at the Ready Relief, Whitney Helvetia, Owens and Stonewall mills, ten stamps each, and at the Reynolds mill, five stamps. The leading bullion-producing mines at the present time are the Charlott, Ready Relief, Stonewall, Helvetia, Owens, Tom Scott and Big Blue. Several other mines which have shipped a great deal of bullion are at this date being improved and put in good working order, and will soon resume taking out ore for the mills. The population in and around the mining settlements, of Julian and Banner is now about fifty hundred. Two saw-mills, a shingle-mill and grist-mill are in operation at Julian. It should be added that all of this development has been accomplished in less than four years, without the aid of other capital than the gold taken from the mines themselves; for the recent investments of outside capital have been limited to the purchase of already largely-paying mines.

Officers: Thomas H. Bush, County Judge; A. S. Grant, Clerk, Recorder and Auditor; A. B. Hotchkiss, District Attorney; N. Hunsaker, Sheriff and Tax Collector; Jose G. Estudillo, Treasurer; M. P. Shaffer, Assessor; M. G. Wheeler, Surveyor; C. M. Penn, Coroner; P. P. Martin, Public Administrator; J. H. L. Jamison, Superintendent Public Schools.

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Bakersfield, 40 miles s e of Bakersfield
Barriello Simon, lumber merchandise
Frank & McGill, lumber manufacturers
Godey Alexander, stock raiser

San Felipe, Santa Clara Co, P O 40 miles
s e of San Jose
Abbott —, wagon maker
Harvey W E, postmaster, agent Wells, Fargo & Co,
hotel and general merchandise
Sutherland J A, blacksmith