

was a mission for the conversion of Indians, and the place of its foundation was called Popelouchom, which received the name of San Benito. The mission was given the name of San Juan Bautista, or St. John the Baptist. The mission was founded with the usual ceremony, the planting of a cross upon the place, and the performance of mass.

In 1803, June 13th, the corner stone of the present Church structure was laid. Some nine years elapsed, however, before the building was completed sufficiently to warrant a dedication to its work. In 1862 a Convent was established by the Sisters of Charity. This was also an Orphan Asylum, and remained under the control of the Sisters until June, 1870, since which time it has been subject to a Catholic organization calling itself "Nuns of the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

The Church has been improved from time to time, as repairs were rendered necessary. The belfry supports two bells, one cast in 1809, in Lima, Peru, the other cast during the present year, by W. T. Garratt, of San Francisco.

Adjoining the Church is an enclosed piece of land, containing scarcely an acre, in which, from the foundation of the mission up to the year 1864, nearly 4,000 bodies have been interred.

A new Cemetery is to be laid out in the northwestern part of the town. Let not the location of a new burial ground deter people from visiting the locality. The original pear trees, planted at the time of the founding of the Mission, still cumber the ground, and resemble lofty oaks or pines, to such an extent have they outgrown themselves.

San Juan is seven miles from Hollister, in a westerly direction, connected only by wagon road. There are some twenty business houses, embracing shops of all kinds, the business of the town being confined to the immediate neighborhood. The inhabitants number 500, and that some of them, in the late struggle, were arrayed against local option, is attested by the fact of the brewers' apparent thrift; and that two "Sample rooms" adorn every corner.

The Convent referred to above is located here; we believe a school is also connected with it.

SAN BENITO

Consists of a Hotel and Store, a seemingly unimportant place, but from its location in a sparsely settled district, it forms the trading post for a belt of country fifty miles in diameter. It is South-east from Hollister thirty-five miles, and contains only two families.

TRES PINOS

Occupies a site upon an elevated plain, and has the appearance of having been built over night, everything wears such an appearance of newness. This town has assumed the name formerly belonging to Paicines. It is the present terminus of the Southern Pacific Railroad, contains a population of 75 persons, and consists of two way houses, a store, blacksmith shop, tin shop, vegetable store and butcher shop. The saloons we were convinced were sufficiently plentiful, yet we regret to say we neglected to enumerate them.

PAICINES.

An old friend of this hamlet, might fail to recognize in the *Paicines* of to-day, the *Grogans* of yesterday, or the *Tres Pinos* of the day before, yet such it is, having undergone the changes mentioned above. Its welfare seems not to have been augmented by the assumption of new names, and one finds nothing to engage the eye save cross roads, graced by a hotel, store, saloon, and blacksmith shop.

Paicines is 12 miles South-east of Hollister, and has a population of twelve persons. It lies at the junction of the San Benito and Tres Pinos Rivers. This was the scene of the murderous outrage perpetrated by Tiburcio Vasquez, shortly before his capture. It was his last; is it too much to hope it may remain so?