

SANFORD'S STATION,

About seven and one-half miles Southeast from Aptos, affords a momentary rest for stage passengers, it being a relay station for the change of horses. The two saloons keep fresh buckets of water conveniently disposed for insides and outsides, but, though every one gets out here, ostensibly for the purpose of stretching his legs, and though with a wonderful unanimity of feeling they all stretch them in the direction of the aforesaid saloons, the contents of the buckets seem never to be disturbed. One can never detect a ripple upon their glassy surface. We imagine the water must be bad; we longed to test it, but for sanitary reasons denied ourselves the pleasure, and tried ——— "suthin'" else.

Two and one-half miles Southeast of this station is the settlement of

WHISKEY HILL,

An euphonious name, not likely to be forgotten by one weak enough to proceed from its contemplation to an analysis of that article from which it is derived. We have heard ascribed to it, by an undoubted authority in these matters, the fiery quality of that far-reaching "Jersey Lightning," and a flavor similar to a concentrated extract of "bug juice." He states it, furthermore, to be instantaneously fatal to any, save the "agua diente"-loving Mexican, and, in substantiation of this statement, related a little tale of an Indian who once ventured upon it, and became a sudden martyr to the doctrines of cremation.

Here are two general stores, two blacksmith and wagon shops, two saloons and a market.

Two miles from Whiskey Hill, or Poteen Hummock, is the town of

WATSONVILLE,

Which is situated in the centre of the Pajaro Valley, upon the Northwestern bank of the river of the same name. It contains a population verging closely upon two thousand, and has been an incorporated town for seven years, the legislature having made the necessary enactment in 1867. A plaza, well shaded and laid out, enclosed by a tasty fence, marks the central portion of the town. The town bears the name of one of its early and most respected inhabitants, Judge Watson.

It is well shaded, the streets are mostly regular, and this, together with the fine appearance of the buildings, impresses strangers very favorably.

Watsonville is well provided with schools. District school No. 1 is a substantial building, erected at a cost of four thousand dollars. It is divided into grammar, intermediate, and primary departments, and is furnished with all modern improvements.

Gas works have been established, and the town is supplied with an article made from gasoline.

Watsonville has four churches, viz., a Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian, Latter Day Saints, and Roman Catholic. These places of worship are substantial, small, not inellegant in appearance, and are furnished to ensure the comfort of worshippers.

The town has several secret organizations, and the wives of the Benedicts, in that community, are never obliged to hunt about for a "causa belli." A night passed at the club or lodge, rouses their indignation, and Mrs. Caudle rides rampant upon an opportunity.

Watsonville has a large number of fine brick blocks, very many beautiful private residences, and several fine hotel buildings, the largest and most commodious of which is the Mansion House. The building is ninety feet by one hundred and ten, is situated on Pajaro Street, and from the upper windows is obtained a fine view of the entire valley. It has sixty-five rooms, all of which are supplied with gas and water. The building is three stories in height, with a mansard roof. A. W. Billings, the proprietor, supervises all its affairs, is a very popular gentleman, and under his management the hotel has achieved an enviable reputation extending throughout the State.

The Central Hotel was erected last year by Mr. J. C. Syme, who is now conducting it. The building is a wooden one, two stories in height. The furniture is all new; all the rooms are furnished with gas.

The Livery Stable of Morgan & Kennedy adjoins the above-named house, where is kept a good stock of horses, carriages, etc. The Washington Hotel is also situated on Pajaro Street.