

is level, and the growth of timber is very light; one spur of a mountain range is crossed which exposes much heavy timber. All this section of country is used almost exclusively for stock-raising.

Ten miles S. E. of San Antonio station is the town of

JOLON.

This village, which does not impart any new dignity to the name of town, through its being thus characterized, has a store and hotel, a saloon, stable and smithy. The most noticeable building of the collection belongs to a day long since passed, it being an "adobe," and a wonderfully old settler at that. The hotel and store are twin institutions under this one roof.

PLEITO STATION

Is a small collection of buildings, which, by a stretch of courtesy, might be called a town. It has its site upon an old Spanish grant, called the Pleito Grant.

The present ranch of the same name comprises three leagues.

It is nearly 90 miles South-east from Salinas City.

The hotel at this place is a very comfortable, home-like place, whose wholesome and substantial fare is refreshing and sustaining.

The store is at present closed, but will be re-stocked and opened in the Spring by the enterprising hotel proprietors.

The Stage Company has a large and complete stable here.

This is the last town or village in the southern extremity of the County.

A party of forty-three persons recently reached here from Kentucky; many of them immediately purchased land, and all expect to settle in this vicinity.

Six miles West of Pleito is Harris Valley, a very fine tract of land, used for grazing purposes mostly, yet some very fine grain is produced. In the summer season it is quite hot, but there is perfect immunity from wind and fog.

Three miles to the West this opens into Sapaque Valley, containing about 1,000 acres, used in part for the production of grain, and in part for grazing. There are but three families living in this valley.

Ten miles North-west of Jolon there is much prospecting for quicksilver, and some little prospecting and actual mining for gold. This, however, is on the most primitive scale, and by the oldest-known method in California, the ancient rocker being used.

But by far the largest mining developments are progressing some six miles NE. from Soledad, and thirty-six miles East from Salinas City, near the little town of

ROOTVILLE.

This town is yet an infant, having come into being only very recently. Its future is rather problematical, it being subjected to the vicissitudes concomitant upon a location in a mining district.

Rootville has a population of thirty-two—nineteen males and thirteen females. The town is thought to be in quite a prosperous condition, and it is confidently expected that good paying mines will be developed in the vicinity. In this event, the growth of the town, the rapid increase of property, and its permanent prosperity are assured.

Mr. Saml. Brannan and a Mr. H. Higgins, are said to have spent a large amount of money here mining for gold. The precious metal was found, but not in paying quantities; silver is the metal which is now most sought.

Some of the tunnels run into the hills for a distance of three hundred feet. Three companies are at work at the present time. The Robert Emmett has a well defined ledge, which can be traced for miles though they have proceeded with their shaft only fifty feet. This mine was discovered during the year just passed by a Mr. Root.

The "Comet" is thought to have a still better ledge, but not sufficient work has yet been done at either mine to fully demonstrate the fact.

The "Bambridge" is a claim upon which work has scarcely more than commenced.

Five miles North of Rootville, we came upon a sight, a trifle different in character from any