

San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad.

The tourist or pleasure seeker, starting from San Francisco on the new and elegant steamer, James M. Donahue, the fastest and safest ever yet built on the Pacific Coast, glides rapidly through San Francisco and San Pablo Bay—in view, Alcatraz, Angel Island, Red Rock, the Brothers, and other points of interest ; until, winding up Petaluma Creek, he reaches the town of Donahue, 34 miles from San Francisco.

Here the Machine Shops, Round House, and Car Shops of this Company are situated, and the train passes swiftly through the yard, amidst the cheery ring of hammer and anvil, on its way to Cloverdale, 56 miles distant. Waving fields of grain, orchards and vineyards, with the most beautiful and diversified scenery known in California, are to be seen on every side. Passing rapidly through the towns of Petaluma and Santa Rosa, you reach Fulton, the junction of the Fulton and Guernville Railroad. Here you can change cars, and by a rapid run of 15 miles reach Kobell's Mills and Guernville ; where new wonders in the shape of immense redwood trees, are to be met with—groves of redwood trees standing so closely together as almost to exclude daylight, three hundred feet high, with a diameter averaging from 12 to 18 feet. The scenery is unsurpassed, Russian river flowing swiftly and clear in the midst ; and the awe with which one beholds it is only broken by the rapid swish of the saws, and shouts of the workmen in the adjoining mills. Returning, he again continues his journey north, passing Healdsburg, Lytton's and Geyserville, until he arrives at Cloverdale, the present terminus of this road. Close connection is here made with all stages ; but the center of attraction to the tourist are the great Geysers of California, only 15 miles distant. Starting with Van Arman or Kennedy, two of the most noted drivers of the Coast, in a comfortable and commodious stage, he rapidly ascends Sulphur Cañon. High, rugged-looking mountains, overlapping each other in tiers far into the distance ; the surging stream with its immense boulders far below ; the narrow, winding road, snake-like in its turns, make a truly grand and impressive scene, and one that will leave an indelible remembrance on the mind of the traveler. After a short ride the Geysers are reached, and here I take leave of the tourist, with the simple remark, that for accommodation and comfort the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad is the shortest, quickest and cheapest route to them and other points of interest in Sonoma County.