

both up and down the valley. The eastern horizon gradually assumed a roseate hue, which slowly changed to purple—the sun, encircled by golden clouds, appears like a king whose dominions are the immensity of space. His first rays reflect upon the mountain-tops and gradually descend to the hills, then into the valley. The shades of night have faded; the crow of the cock, the call of the quail, the plaintive notes of the turtle-dove, and the shrill cry of the Guinea-hen are heard in the distance; the silence of night is broken, to be followed by the life and bustle of day. The birds sing and depart for the valley, to seek their food. The smoke rising from the chimneys of the cottages below denotes that the morning meal is being prepared. In the distance the farmer is hitching horses to his wagon—his daily labor is about to commence. Nature smiles as if awakened from a dream, the air is balmy, and the morning breeze comes laden with the perfume of the numerous flower gardens in the valley. How edifying! Though lost in reverie, while contemplating and admiring the beauties of nature, we poor humans are continually reminded that we are mortal, and that we require nourishment to maintain us in this mundane sphere. My stomach, too, has awakened from a dream—the breakfast hour is come—I must retrace my steps to satisfy the cravings of my master. In descending to the valley I passed by a schoolhouse, built in a substantial manner, though of simple architectural design. It was but seven o'clock; a number of children had already assembled. Some were playing marbles, others at ball, while quite an assemblage was seated in the shade of a large oak, engaged in the rehearsal of lessons.

“On the following days I took several rides through the valley. The scenery on all sides is beautiful—views for the artist, both landscape and mountain—abundance of game for the hunter and sport for the angler. Highly delighted with my trip, I will now bid adieu to California, hoping soon to be enabled to settle permanently in the valley of Napa.”

We will now take a hasty tour through the County, visiting every point of note, and, if the reader will accompany us, we will endeavor to make the jaunt an interesting one. Leaving San Francisco at 7 A. M. by steamer, we reach Vallejo, in Solano County, at about 10 A. M. Here we take the cars of the California Pacific Railroad, reach Napa Junction at 10:30, our train is switched off on the Napa Valley line, and we arrive in Napa City at 11 A. M., sufficiently invigorated by the trip to partake of a hearty breakfast.

#### NAPA CITY,

the county seat of Napa County, is situated at the head of tidewater navigation on Napa river, distant about 44 miles from San Francisco, and 16 miles from Vallejo: it was founded in 1848 by Nathan Coombs. It is in daily communication with San Francisco by steamer, and twice daily, at 7 A. M. and at 4 P. M. by steamer to Vallejo, and thence by railroad. It is also in direct railroad and telegraphic communication with all parts of California and the East. It was incorporated as a town in the winter of 1871, and the first municipal election was held on the 6th of May, 1872. The town is built upon an almost level site, and has a population of 4,081, (2,283 males and 1,798 females) exclusive of Chinamen. The streets, macadamized and nearly all lined with shade trees, are wide and kept in fair order, having commodious sidewalks in good repair. The city is lighted by gas and abundantly supplied with excellent water. The climate compares favorably with that of the interior of the County, and the health of the city is generally good. The population is composed of nearly all nationalities—Americans, Irish, Germans, French, Portuguese, Mexicans, English and Scotch—all apparently well to do and energetically following their different callings.

**SCHOOLS.**—Besides the Public Schools there are the following private educational establishments:

The Female Seminary, with 125 pupils;  
 The Boys' College, with 125 pupils;  
 The Boys' School, with 23 pupils—and  
 The German School for Boys and Girls.

We will here add, that the County is divided into 38 School Districts, having together 38 Public Schools, classed as follows:

10 Schools of 1st Grade,  
 12 Schools of 2d Grade,  
 16 Schools of 3d Grade.

The pupils attending these schools number 1,682—say 922 males and 760 females.

**CHURCHES.**—There are in Napa City the following Churches: One Baptist Church, one Catholic, one Disciple, one Episcopal, one Presbyterian, one Advent, one Methodist Episcopal, one German Reformed, and one African.

Among the **SOCIETIES**, we note the following: Masons, Odd-Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Red Men, Good Templars and Grangers.

Napa is a lively business town; the streets are daily thronged with farmers' wagons, and a very heavy trade is done. In walking through the thoroughfares we see all classes of stores—Dry Goods, Millinery, Groceries, Drugs, Hardware, Clothing, and all other imaginable commodities are displayed in great variety. In the manufacturing line we notice Flouring Mills, Planing Mills, Lumber Yards, Cigar Factories, Whip