

men. We stopped here to water our horses and inspect the mine, a more complete description of which will be given on our return. The road from here continues in a northerly direction, and we reach Middletown at 5 P. M.; distance 15 miles from Calistoga and 35 miles from Lakeport, the county seat of Lake County. Middletown is a thriving town, principally supported by the mining camps in the vicinity. The population numbers 207, 128 males and 79 females. It is pleasantly situated in Loconoma Valley, of which more will be said. The business portion of the town consists of three stores, three blacksmith shops, several saloons and one hotel. The latter is principally patronized by the travelers to and from the Springs. The absence of lawyers and doctors speaks volumes for the good health and equanimity of temper of the inhabitants of this locality.

Loconoma Valley covers an area of about 10,000 acres of timber and farming land. The principal products are wheat and hay. The wooded portion of the valley covers about 3,000 acres, and furnishes oak, pine and laurel. There is also considerable sheep-raising in this locality, and, we are informed, with lucrative results.

We now continue on the road in a north-westerly direction and reach Harbin Springs at 9 P. M.; distance 4 miles from Middletown, 16 miles from Calistoga, and 32 miles from Lakeport.

Being a little fatigued, we will here pass the night and describe this beautiful locality at our leisure in the morning. Harbin Springs were known to the Indians long before the settlement of the country by the Americans, and were taken possession of by Messrs. Richie and Harbin in 1852. Since then the property has changed hands several times and is now owned by Richard Williams, who made all the improvements on the premises.

To give our readers an idea of how cheap valuable property is sometimes disposed of when its real worth is unknown, we will state that in 1866 this property was sold for \$3,000; an offer of \$100,000 to-day would be rejected.

The water of these springs holds in solution, sulphur, iron, magnesia, and arsenic; has a temperature of from 120 degs. to 150 degs. Fahrenheit, and is highly recommended for the cure of rheumatism and diseases of the liver and kidneys.

The water is similar to that of the famous spring in the south of France called La Malou, where some of the most remarkable cures have been effected, especially in cases of disease of the spine.

The hotel is large and there are thirteen modern cottages surrounding it for the use of families who may prefer them; in all about 175 persons can be accommodated.

The grounds are well laid out in wide walks and flower beds with a sufficient number of shade trees judiciously distributed. For the persons who come with their conveyances and desire to camp in their own tents, a fine plat of ground has been provided and is kept for this purpose. The bathing facilities are very complete and convenient, there being also a very spacious plunge bath. The establishment is kept in perfect order.

The rooms of the hotel and cottages are spacious and well furnished, the dining room is very large and well ventilated, and the wine room, which contains a billiard table, is all that can be desired and fully sustains the other appointments of the premises.

The principal newspapers are received, and the mail from Calistoga arrives daily. This is a great convenience for tourists. Everything is done to make visitors feel at home; the fare is excellent, the servants are polite and accommodating, and the visitor immediately feels that he has found a first-class watering place, under the management of a gentleman who thoroughly understands the wants of the traveling public. Attached to the establishment is a very complete stable, where horses receive excellent care; the hostlers are competent and polite. Harbin Springs are situated in a nook, 1,700 feet above the sea level, almost entirely surrounded by mountains, some of which are 1,000 feet high. The view from the hotel is not of a very wide range, but from the top of one of the neighboring hills it is grand and picturesque. There are about 150 visitors here at present, some in search of pleasure, others for sanitary reasons; all seem to enjoy themselves. We will now leave Harbin, the Saratoga of the Pacific, and return to Middletown, whence we will make an excursion in another direction. We spent the day in the midst of very agreeable society, and are highly pleased with our visit. A very brilliant future awaits Lake County in general, and Harbin Springs in particular. When once the beautiful climate and sublime scenery, and the excellence of the waters become known in the Eastern States and Europe, tourists will flock hither in large numbers.

We leave Middletown at 5 A. M., taking the road in a northwesterly direction, and reach Cobb Valley at 7 A. M., distance 12 miles. Cobb Valley lies at an elevation of 2,500 feet above the level of the sea, and is one of the most prominent pleasure resorts of the Pacific Slope.

For those seeking pleasure or desiring to withdraw for a time from the noise of the city and the care of business, no place offers greater advantages. It is easy of access by good roads of light grade, and the scenery, ever changing in its nature, makes the trip interesting. The hotel and the cottages near it are owned by Messrs. Broadwell and Basset. The accommodations for visitors are perfect in every respect, everything being arranged with a view to comfort. The site upon which the establishment stands was