

covered with oats and clover, but sparsely timbered.

The Napa River enters the bay about a mile and a half from the city tract. The tide runs up the stream about 25 miles. On the east a very fertile valley commences within one mile of the mouth, extending about 45 miles to the head of the valley, including both sides of the river, from 3 to 6 miles wide, crossed by a number of constant streams of good fresh water; settlers mostly foreigners and Americans. Two saw mills are now in operation, and two others nearly completed; two grist mills are now in operation and one other which will be ready for the next harvest all propelled by the water of the Napa. The mountains on both sides, and much of the valley is covered with pine, red-wood, oak and various other timber.

Wheat, barley, beans, peas, pumpkins, melons, peaches, pears, grapes, and all kinds of garden vegetables grow to great perfection. There are many large crops of wheat which promise an abundant crop for the present season.

Messrs Grigsby and Combs have laid off a town at the upper Napa landing. This is a beautiful location, and must soon become a flourishing town, as the produce of this splendid valley will be shipped at that point for other parts of the Bay.

**SUISUN VALLEY**; this is, probably, one of the most beautiful valleys west of the Rocky Mountains; very productive and susceptible of the highest cultivation.— There are about eight leagues of land in the valley proper, much of which is already surveyed, and for sale in sections by Gen. M. G. Vallejo, a very liberal and high minded Californian, who is disposed to afford every facility to actual settlers. This valley commences within about five miles of Benecia City, and at the other end opening into the great valley on the west side of the Sacramento River, making a fine and level road, for near 175 miles, through a very fertile country, crossed by three large streams and numerous small ones, suitable for navigation and machinery.

**CLEAR LAKE**: this is a fresh water lake, about 75 miles long, and 8 or 9 wide. It is on the top of the

range of mountains between the sea coast and the Sacramento, about one thousand feet above the level of the sea, about sixty miles north of Benicia City.— There is a wide and very fertile valley extending entirely around this lake, covered with the largest bur oak and other timber, while the hills are covered with the best pine and red-wood. The valley around this lake, is thought to be abundantly sufficient to supply, at least, ten thousand inhabitants; at present, unoccupied, except by Indians, who are entirely inoffensive, and would, if properly treated, perform much of the labor of opening farms. There are many streams emptying into this lake, which will afford the finest water power, for manufacturing lumber, flour, &c. A number of specimens of lead, copper, sulphur and copperas ores, have been shown, which were found in the mountains near the lake.

On the south side of the Bay, opposite Benicia City, are high rolling hills, covered with timber, which widens off into an immense number of large vallies and plains very fertile, and well watered. One of these vallies extend, in almost a direct line to the Mission of San Jose, making a firm and level road from Benicia City to Monterey, with the exception of the gap of San Juan mountain, within thirty miles of Monterey.

The Ferry across the Straits, was established about the first of May last, and the present proprietor informs us, that the income has been about one hundred and fifty dollars per month. This is, no doubt, the best property in California, but the proprietors have made a donation of the whole proceeds, and a number of lots in the city, for the exclusive benefit of *schools*, which will always afford sufficient funds, for the education of all who may settle in the city. The land on the north side of the Bay, is held by large Mexican grants, but most of the holders, Californians and foreigners, are disposed to sell in small tracts, on liberal terms to actual settlers, so that there need be no fear of persons who may be pleased to stop here, being able to secure land.