

September 2018

# 1872 - Report to the California Surveyor General from W. V. McGarvey, Monterey County Assessor

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in accordance with an Act of Legislature of March thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight.

The Pacific Railroad has been completed through out county since the last report, and already we have realized incalculable advantages and benefits from its construction. The Town of Merced, located near the center of the county, on the railroad, surrounded by the best agricultural lands, has been built within the past six months, and now contains about five hundred souls and eighty buildings – most of which buildings are good and substantial – thereby showing the enterprise of our people and their confidence in the continued productiveness of our soil.

The county, comparatively speaking, is in its infancy – only about one fourth of the land in cultivation. We has many advantages not yet fully appreciated, which time alone will manifest and develop.

Since the last report, the Merced Falls Woolen manufacturing Company’s mill has burned, which is a heavy loss to our county and to this portion of the State. The water power is sufficient, nine months of the year, to drive every spindle in the State. It is owned, jointly, by said company and Nelson & Son. There is sufficient water, at lowest stage, to run a grist mill and four set woolen mill. The dam was built by Mr. Nelson, in eighteen hundred and fifty-four, and has not cost an average of one hundred dollars per year to keep in repair – a good investment for capitalists. It is situated six miles above Snelling, on the Merced River, and twenty-two miles from the railroad Town of Merced.

It is due the Assessor, in consequence of his delay of report, to offer as his excuse the illness of his wife and extreme and continued illness of his mother, which called him away from the office.

H. F. BLACKWELL,  
Assessor of Merced County.

By JNO. A. KENDRICK, Deputy.

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**MONTEREY COUNTY.**

W. V. McGARVEY.....County Assessor.

SALINAS CITY, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1873.

Hon. ROBERT GARDNER,  
Surveyor General:

SIR: According to law, I hereby forward to you my statistical report for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

The number of acres of land returned in the statistical table as cultivated in eithen hundred and seventy-two, may not be quite correct, as the copy of report to

your office of eighteen hundred and seventy-two, which I kept for reference, was misplaced during the removal of the county records, etc., from Monterey to Salinas City, last Winter, and I was compelled to refer to the original Assessors; blanks, which in some instances were partly destroyed, but I am not far from the mark.

Our county is in a prosperous condition, considerable more land has been sown this year than last, and our valleys are filling up with good practical farmers.

The yield of wheat for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-three is not large, but the quality is very good; the yield of barley is somewhat heavier; most of all the flax sown in this county is cut for seed, and I have failed to report correctly upon that product.

Hops, heretofore, have yielded quite well, and the quality good; but from the present appearances that crop, for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-three, will be very light.

Tobacco has been planted quite extensively in the eastern portion of the county, on the San Felipe Ranch, by Messrs. Kulp, Parrott, and others, the yield is large, and I learn the quality is very good; said to be equal to the best Havana tobacco. The company I learn are erecting large and commodious buildings, and anticipate going into the business extensively.

We have seventy-one miles of railroad in our county, which has developed our county, increased our population and property, and has added several millions of dollars to the assessment rolls of this county.

The western branch or main trunk of the Southern Pacific Railroad, which runs through the Salinas Valley now, as far as the ex-Mission of Soledad, has opened up a large field to the plow, that heretofore has been used entirely for grazing purposes.

The Town of Salinas has grown from a country cross roads to quite a city, and it is now a very thriving place, and many very substantial buildings are in course of construction; also, we have a bank in expectancy; it is in good hands and can't fail.

The eastern branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad runs through some of the finest land in the State, and has opened up much good country near the Town of Hollister, which is a very prosperous town. The dairy product is shipped away as fast as they make it, which accounts for the small amount returned in the statistical table. The wool I generally assess with the sheep; or, in other words, treat the wool as a growing crop, unless it is wool of the year previous, or purchased with capital that has not previously been assessed for the year.

The dairy business has been very prosperous in the county for the past year, and I think we have some as fine and well regulated dairies as there are in the State. We have also quite an addition and improvement to our breed of cattle and sheep during the past year. Mr. J. D. Carr has imported from Kentucky, some very fine cattle during this Summer, which is said to compare with, if not excel, any cattle in the State.

The whale fisheries on the Bay of Monterey have been quite successful this year.

The public lands of this county have been settled upon everywhere, and almost every available spot has been taken up by preemption or entered under the State laws.

Your obedient servant,

W. V. McGARVEY,

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY.

LEVI ROSNER.....County Assessor.

SAN FRANCISCO, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1872.

Hon. ROBERT GARDNER,  
Surveyor General:

SIR: Annexed please find my annual report of statistics of the manufacturing and mechanical industries of the City and County of San Francisco for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

In compiling this report I have experienced great difficulty, owing to the reluctance of manufactures to give data concerning the result and prospect of their business, thus rendering this report necessarily incomplete.

LEVI ROSNER,  
Assessor of the City and County of San Francisco.

<i>Axle Grease Manufactories.</i>	
Manufactories.....	3
Men employed.....	15
Rosin consumed yearly, barrels.....	12,000
Butter consumed yearly, pounds.....	15,000
Tallow oil made yearly, gallons.....	19,000
Aggregate value of manufactures.....	\$55,000
<i>Bed Spring Manufactories.</i>	
Manufactories.....	2
Men employed.....	4
Aggregate value of manufactures.....	\$8,600
<i>Bedstead Manufactory.</i>	
Manufactory.....	1
Men employed.....	5
Aggregate value of manufactures.....	\$12,000