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1874 - Report to the California Surveyor General from W. V. McGarvey, Monterey County Assessor

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SISKIYOU COUNTY.

GEORGE DURAND.....County Assessor.

YREKA, August 13th, 1874.

Hon. ROBERT GARDNER,
Surveyor General:

SIR: Herewith inclosed please find statistical report for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-three. It is full and complete in all respects, except as to the quantity of wool, and as I reported to the State Board of Equalization I report to you, that it is impossible to arrive at the quantity, as a very small proportion of the sheep are sheared in this county at the time the assessment is made. You will observe some few changes in the quantity of grain sown, etc.; not greater, however, than the exigencies of the season demand. I observe some typographical errors in my last report, which should have been corrected. For instance, one million of shingles are reported by the printed report, which should have been one hundred thousand; and some few minor errors which are of no consequence. I would, in this connection, call the attention of all interested in the matter of revenue, to an undeniable fact, that the period in which the assessment are to be made is not suitable for this portion of the State, and believe that the extension of time given me this year has added at least four hundred thousand dollars worth of property to the assessment roll.

Respectfully submitted.

Truly yours, etc.,

GEORGE DURAND,
County Assessor.

MONTEREY COUNTY.

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

SALINAS CITY, July 6th, 1875.

ROBERT GARDNER, ESQ.,
Surveyor General:

DEAR SIR: I herewith forward my statistical report for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-four-five. Since my last report, we have several valuable improvements to note in this county: the completion in fine condition of the Southern Pacific Railroad to

Soledad, affording increased facilities for the people living in that section; also, the narrow gauge railroad from Salinas City to Monterey. The latter was built by the farmers of Salinas Valley and Monterey, for which they certainly deserve much praise for their energy. Also, near Monterey there have been extensive coal beds discovered, which experts say is of good quality, and very well defined ledges.

Since the completion of the railroad to Monterey, so that people from San Francisco and other parts of the State can reach that place by rail, it has become quite a place of resort for pleasure seekers, which it well deserves, as Monterey is one of the finest watering places on the coast.

The Parriso Spring, near the ex-mission of Soledad, now owned by Messrs. Reeve & Find, since the Southern Pacific Railroad reached that point, is receiving much attention, and from the excellent properties of the water, and the high recommendation they have received from those who have visited the springs, they will soon become not only a very popular resort for invalids, bur for pleasure seekers, as the climate is unsurpassed, and the surroundings very interesting; it being selected by the founders of the ex-mission of Soledad as the place for their vineyard and orchard.

Our county is in a very prosperous condition, although the drought has seriously affected much of the southern portion of Salinas Valley; yet while we have such flattering prospects in the balance of the county, we claim to be doing pretty well. Pajaro Valley, and a good portion of Salinas Valley, is seldom affected by the drought. The yield of wheat for the present year falls much short of last, but the quality is very good. The people of this county have quit the raising of flax, as they have come to the conclusion, although flax being a very remunerative crop, it is very injurious to the soil.

You will notice that I report no wool, as sheep and wool are assessed together.

The population of this county has increased considerably in the last year; the City of Monterey has added several hundred to her population, Salinas City now numbers near four thousand, and the county has generally filled up with a good and industrious class of people.

At this date we are in the midst of harvest.

Very respectfully yours,

W. V. McGARVEY,
County Assessor, Monterey County.

NEVADA COUNTY.

JOHN T. MORGAN.....County Assessor.

NEVADA CITY, September 6th, 1875.

Hon. ROBERT GARDNER,