

**SACRAMENTO VALLEY  
AND FOOTHILL COUNTIES  
OF CALIFORNIA**

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Sacramento Valley and Foothill Counties of California by John H. Miller & Emmett Phillips

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**JOHN H. MILLER & EMMETT PHILLIPS**

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**CALIFORNIA**

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# Sacramento Valley and Foothill Counties of California

An Illustrated Description  
of all the Counties  
Embraced in this Richly  
Productive Geographical  
Subdivision of the  
Golden State



COMPILED AND EDITED BY  
EMMETT PHILLIPS  
AND  
JOHN H. MILLER

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*January, 1915*



# THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY AND FOOTHILLS OF CALIFORNIA



CALIFORNIA contains one vast valley lying between the Sierra Nevada mountains on the east and the Coast Range mountains on the west. It is the upper end of this extensive fertile section of the State that is designated the Sacramento Valley. It lies directly north and east of San Francisco bay and extends to the converging point of the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range mountains in Shasta County not far from the northern boundary line of the State.

The Sacramento Valley is drained by the Sacramento River, which is the largest stream in the State and fourth in tonnage importance in the United States. It is navigable from San Francisco bay to the city of Red Bluff, in Tehama County, a distance of 200 miles.

The largest city of the Sacramento Valley is Sacramento, capital of the State. It has a population of 75,000 and is a thoroughly modern and rapidly expanding municipality.

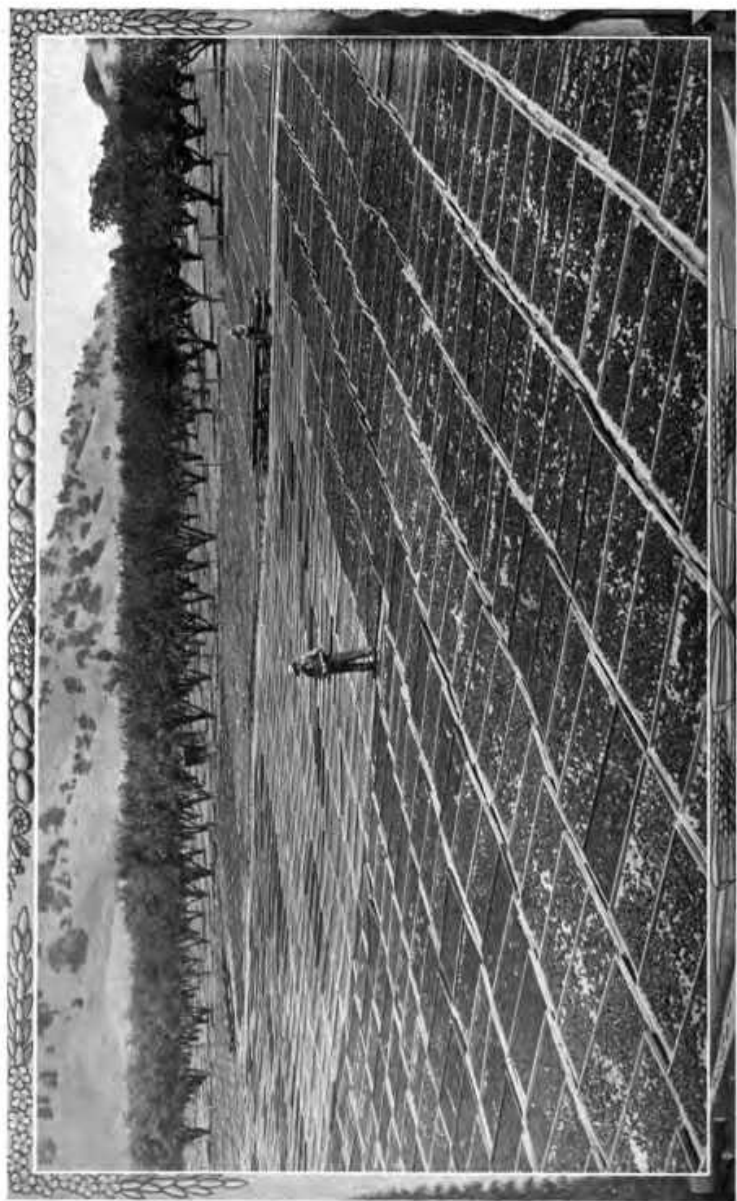
Everything that has distinguished California throughout the world is produced in that geographical subdivision of the Golden State known as the Sacramento Valley and adjacent foothill regions. It is a conservative statement to say that there is no like area anywhere that is so intense in productive capacity or so rich in the variety and quality of products yielded as this great agricultural and mineral empire.

On the floor of the Valley the lands are free from brush or stone and are ever ready for cultivation. There is no considerable growth of timber on the lowlands except willow and cottonwood. But in all counties of this Valley may be found scattered groves of wide spreading oaks, giving a parklike aspect to the landscape, and at the same time presenting mute testimony to the genuine richness of the soil.

That this was a land of unusual attractiveness because of a wonderfully equable climate and great soil productivity, was evidenced at an early day by the location in this Valley of great ranches, and in our day, of a Plant Introduction Garden by the United States Government and of an extensive University Farm for the practical use of the California State Agricultural College.

The plain or floor area of the Sacramento Valley is about 3,000,000 acres. The total area of the Valley including the adjacent foothills is 12,000,000 acres. The Valley, including the lower foothill reaches, is 200 miles long and 50 miles wide. The population reported in the official federal census of 1910 was 225,910. Thus it will readily be seen that this vast productive area is not likely, on account of con-





DRYING FRUIT IN THE SUNSHINE, SACRAMENTO VALLEY.

gestion, to be lacking in opportunity for some time for men and women who desire to prosper in rural occupations where a glorious measure of success can be attained with less expenditure of energy than in any other place on earth.

There are many flourishing cities and towns in the Sacramento Valley with churches of all denominations, elementary and advanced public schools, steam and electric railroad transportation, electric lighting and power, water transportation, and all things essential for the prosperity and comfort of the human family.

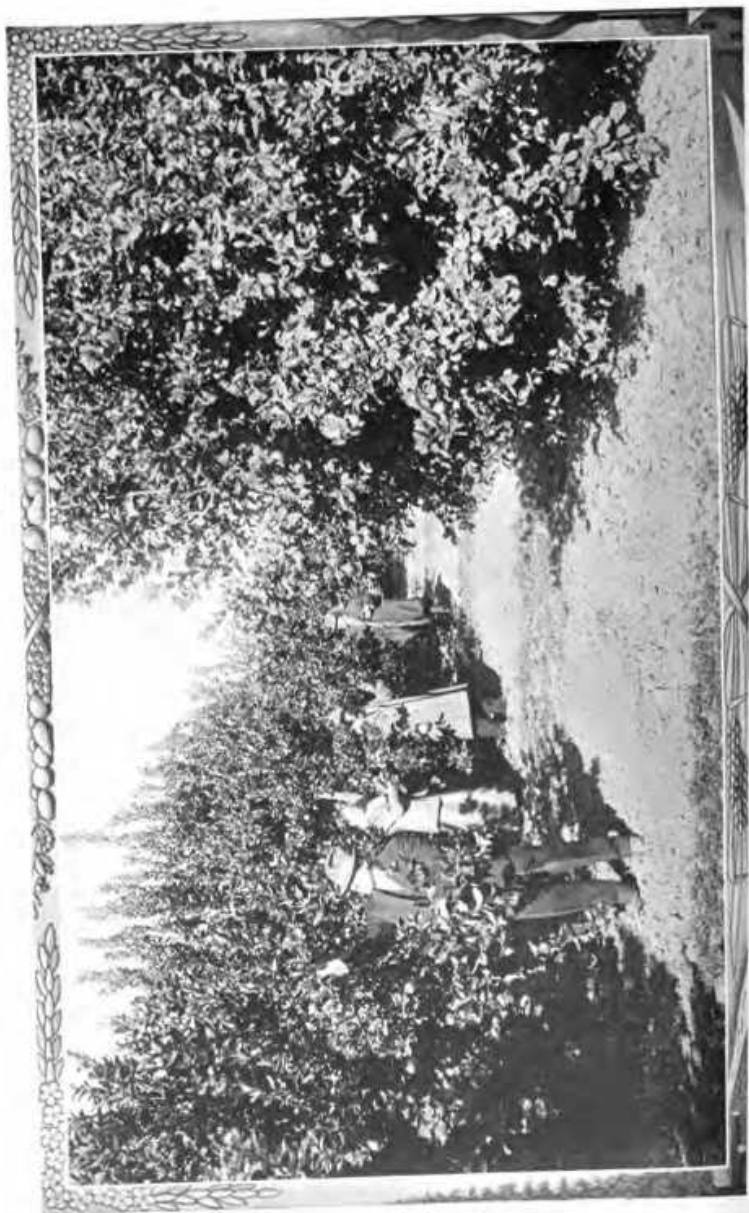
The following paragraphs contain much information in detail on the Sacramento Valley that cannot fail to prove interesting to hundreds of thousands of industrious men and women who know little of the unlimited opportunities afforded them for the achievement of health, happiness and prosperity in this wonderland in the heart of California. The reader will find in the following pages of this booklet a condensed but accurate description of each county of the Sacramento Valley and foothills region, together with a brief and uncolored statement of its resources.

Every county of the Sacramento Valley is easily accessible by railway connection with all cities in the State and it would be a journey replete with pleasure and instruction to visit this fertile Valley where deciduous fruit gardens blossom in the foothills and on the river banks, where orange blossoms perfume the breezes of Summer, where gold is taken from the hidden recesses of the eternal hills, where happiness and prosperity are the distinguishing features of every home, and where the warm hand of fellowship and hospitality is ever extended to the stranger.

**Climate the Chief Factor** Climate in California is a magic word because it means so much for the prosperity, happiness and comfort of the people. It is probably the most precious asset in the Golden State because it is the chief factor that has to do with making California the most wonderful producing State on the American continent.

Climatic conditions in the Sacramento Valley are ideal. The average rainfall is about 26 inches. This rainfall is distributed through four months of the year and is always ample to assure abundant cereal crops. In the Summer or "dry season," as it is called, the temperature is never oppressive because of the low percentage of humidity in the atmosphere. Work in the fields is never suspended because of high temperature nor is there ever danger of sunstroke. In the Sacramento Valley the evenings are invariably cool and the nights balmy and delightful. There is no such thing as perspiring through the night and awakening in the morning thoroughly enervated and exhausted. Each afternoon during the Summer season, the Pacific trade winds blow landward from the Pacific Ocean and towards evening they lower the atmospheric temperature of the Sacramento Valley, which is situated about fifty miles inland from the ocean shore.

The coast trend of the State being northwest and southeast, presents a right angle front to the Japan Current, that ever comes up from the southwest to lave its shores. It is this warm current that gives California its temperature and equable climate.



TOURISTS VISITING AN ORANGE GROVE IN THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY.