



BIGGS, BUTTE CO., CAL.

This flourishing town is situated on the C. & O. Overland division of the S. P. R. R., 14 miles from Oroville, the county seat, 163 miles north of San Francisco and 73 miles north of Sacramento, the central shipping point for the vast fields which lie to the west.

The town contains about 1,000 inhabitants, and is aided by the newly developed orchard interests. There is east of the town about 4,000 acres of orchard now in full bearing, and several thousand acres in preparation for tree planting. Hundreds of carloads of green and dried fruit are now shipped yearly.

Many fine buildings now show the faith the citizens have in the future of the town. Two fine churches, well furnished, now draw large congregations every Sabbath. A school with four teachers and 280 scholars marks the present educational facilities. The Sacramento Valley Bank, a corporation with \$200,000 subscribed capital, is well established. A wide away newspaper, the *Biggs Argus*, edited by J. M. Coffman, keeps the rapidly advancing interests of Biggs and surrounding people before the world. There are good hotel accommodations. The Planters' Hotel, P. Grein, owner and manager, is well kept and has a livery attached.

Handsome residences, surrounded by orange trees loaded with golden fruit, deciduous fruit; shrubbery and flower beds, where beautiful bouquets are picked every month in the year, dot the residence portion of the town. For grain storage there have been erected three large buildings, brick 80x400 feet and two frame 40x400 feet each. There are three very large fruit shipping depots. From six to eight train passes through the town daily and a daily stage line to Oroville, the county seat.

KEY TO VIEW.

- 1 Sierra Nevada Range
- 2 Beckworth Pass
- 3 Table Mountain
- 4 Oroville
- 5 Palermo
- 6 S. P. R. R. to Oroville
- 7 Feather River
- 8 Road to Oroville
- 9 Marysville & Chico Road
- 10 Hamilton Park
- 11 School House
- 12 Farmers' Union Warehouse
- 13 Waterworks
- 14 Depot
- 15 Sacramento Valley Bank
- 16 Hamilton Hall

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Looking East, showing Rio Bonito Fruit District on the Feather River.

COMPLIMENTS OF

S. H. LA SHELLS

REAL ESTATE-INSURANCE AGENT

A SPECIALTY MADE OF CHOICE FRUIT LANDS

- 16 Railroad Livery
- 17 Argus Office
- 18 Odd Fellows' Block
- 19 Real Estate office S. H. La Shells
- 20 Planters' Hotel and Stable
- 21 Methodist Church
- 22 Baptist Church
- 23 Residence J. M. Hastings
- 24 " G. K. Smith
- 25 " Mrs. J. Bussey
- 26 " Mrs. A. A. Bradford
- 27 Residence J. M. Coffman
- 28 " C. A. Hiett
- 29 " John Arow
- 30 " H. S. Brink
- 31 Ranch Judge J. Beall
- 32 " Alexander & Hammon
- 33 " Hatch & Rock
- 34 " F. Preble

here by the most experienced orchardists in the State are too significant to admit of any doubt on this point. The fertility of the soil and its adaptability have been fully demonstrated in the great orchards. Very little irrigation is required and some orchards none. All these fruits, too, on account of the geographical situation and the evenness of the climate, night and day, ripen remarkably early, thus enabling the producers to get the benefit of the first markets.

Alexander & Hammon have about 400 acres in various kinds of fruits, including peaches, plums, pears, prunes, figs, olives, almonds, etc. To be appreciated, a personal inspection of this great orchard is necessary, and even then it is hard to believe the evidence of one's senses, when confronted with the surprising growth and immense yield. They also have a very extensive nursery of choice stock which they ship to all parts of the State.

Hatch & Rock have a large tract in fruit trees, comprising all the principal varieties of deciduous fruits. This is one of the largest general orchards in the world under one management. During the shipping and drying season these orchards employ hundreds of women and children to handle the immense amount of fruit produced.

Among the noted orchards is that of J. Beall, who has 80 acres, 45 of which is in fruit and vines. It is situated on the bank of Feather river and is an unequalled place for an orchard. Mr. Beall is one of the oldest and most successful fruit raisers of that section, and his first efforts demonstrated to others what could be done. Mr. Beall was born in Cambridge, Ohio, in 1819, and in 1849 crossed the plains to California with ox team; engaged in mining near Nevada City. In 1856 he located on the Feather river and engaged in farming. But he still has a gold mine or a gold mining claim on his farm. The claim, or bar, is successfully mined at the present time.