

and the Feather rivers, as there is not in its bed sufficient room to discharge so large a quantity of water. This valley will be presently spoken of in connexion with its survey.

The San Joachim does not pass through the Tula Lake as laid down by Coulter; its sources are in the Californian Range. The Tula Lake is called by the Indians, Chintache Lake, it is for the most part separated from the channel of the river, but when full join it.

There are many small streams that flow through the different valleys, and afford partial opportunities for irrigating the land; but there are none of them navigable, except the Sacramento.

Upper California may boast of one of the finest, if not the very best harbour in the world, that of San Francisco, as before described. Few are more extensive or could be as readily defended as it; while the combined fleets of all the naval powers of Europe might moor in it. This is, however, the only really good harbour which this country possesses; for the others so called may be frequented only during the fine season, being nothing more than roadsteads, affording little safety and but few supplies to vessels.

Among these bays are that of Monterey, the capital of Upper California, and that of Santa Barbara and San Pedro. The two last are partly protected from the swell of the Pacific Ocean by the islands that cover them. They are, however, but seldom used, there being comparatively little trade upon all this coast; for the hides and tallow which formerly abounded and made the business profitable for vessels, are no longer to be procured. The destruction of the missions, and the onerous laws, duties, and prohibitions, have nearly destroyed the little traffic that once existed, and it is now all transferred to the bay of San Francisco. There a few hulks may be seen lying, furnished with every needful article: these keep up an illicit intercourse by the connivance of the officers of the customs, by whose cupidity the revenue laws are openly infringed, and what of right belongs to the government, goes to enrich the governor and his officers.

The principal articles imported, are cotton cloths, velvet, silks, brandies, wines, teas, &c.; in return for which they receive hides and tallow, skins, wheat, and salmon. The attention of the inhabitants has been principally directed to the raising of cattle, and the greater part of the wealth of California may be considered as consisting in live-stock. The exportations, on the average of years, is about one hundred and fifty thousand hides and two hundred thousand arrobas of tallow. The