

Colony News

(Continued from page 492.)

Los Angeles, Feb. 24, 1896.

J. W. Wilson, Dear Sir: * * * * I was up at Fair Oaks last week; found things looking very promising. I have visited most of the leading cities and orange groves of Southern California this month, and after a careful summing up I am well pleased with my Fair Oaks investment and cannot see why Fair Oaks should not succeed as well as Riverside, Redlands or Pomona, with several advantages in favor of Fair Oaks. I was at Riverside three weeks ago. The citizens told me that perhaps there were 2,000 carloads of oranges that were on the ground that had been frozen. I saw nothing harmed at Orangevale. Mr. Studams has my land cleared and has it fenced two-thirds around with a solid wall of cordwood—over 300 cords. Yours very truly,
W. D. Clark.

These damaging frosts, which have in three years twice brought disaster to the orange growers of Southern California, have never been known in the American River District. Even though such a frost should visit this section the crop, on account of its earliness, would be harvested before the season of injurious frosts.

Some time ago we commented on a squib about Fair Oaks printed in the Pasadena Star. The latter now comes out frankly and speaks a good word for the colony as follows:

"Some time ago the Star published an item casting some doubt on the existence of Fair Oaks, but since it was written, indubitable evidence has been presented, showing that the colony is not only a flourishing reality, but that it is one of the most beautiful in all Northern California. It was carefully selected for its natural advantages, and it is in a fair way to become one of the most prosperous of Sacramento's suburbs. It is represented in Southern California by Mr. Robert H. Hawley and Mr. Chas. I. Hubbard, of 109½ South Broadway, Los Angeles, who are ready to prove by pictorial and printed evidence that the claims put forward for the colony are good."

The following is clipped from a theatre programme, published in Los Angeles:

"Frederick Sandford, formerly 'Happy Jack' of the Homestead Company, is spending a few days in the city. Mr. Sandford has fine orange groves in Fair Oaks and Orange Vale. He says raising orange groves is better than acting, which is saying a good deal for the Fair Oaks orange groves. Mr. Sandford, in connection with the Homestead Company, played in 1,762 performances, traveled about 100,000 miles and played to over 2,000,000 people in five years. The actor who can retrospect an aggregate of 2,000,000 people who have enjoyed the humor of 'Happy Jack' in the old Homestead must enjoy himself pleasant reflections."

HE FOUND GOLD.

We have frequently cautioned our people in going to California or any of our colonies not to expect to gather up gold dollars without labor. So far as California is concerned, we shall have to take that back. Mr. Renard, who went out with our last party, while examining the soil on a lot which he thought of buying, kicked up a \$20 gold piece. This settled the matter—he bought the lot and used the coin as part of the first payment. We knew there was plenty of gold around there, and there are plenty of other places in California where gold is found, but Fair Oaks is the only place where it can be dug up ready coined.

Mr. Jas. W. Wilson, Dear Sir: During Mr. Hawley's month at Los Angeles he

met Mr. George H. King, Assistant Passenger Agent of the Michigan Central, and besides Mrs. King and Mrs. Ruggles, the wife of the Passenger Agent of the same road, and Mrs. Cash, Mrs. Ruggles' sister, of St. Louis. These people went to Southern California for the purpose of purchasing land. Mr. Ruggles had selected 30 acres of Terra Benito, but upon the examination of the land by Mrs. Ruggles, she decided not to take it. Their transportation was back over the Southern road, but Mr. Hawley induced them to go to Sacramento, where they arrived Friday night. He took them back over the land, and they are highly pleased and have selected lots 2 and 4, block 24, Fair Oaks addition, subject to Mr. Ruggles' approval.

We have this day forwarded map showing wagon road and Electric car line to Mrs. Ruggles. Edwin K. Alstip.