

crop himself it is safe to say he would have netted at least \$500 per acre.

Our January Party to Fair Oaks

To accommodate the many interested friends who intend investigating the many advantages enjoyed by Fair Oaks immediately after the holidays we are arranging for a special party to leave Chicago via the Chicago and Northwestern and Union Pacific and Central Pacific at 6:00 p. m., Thursday, January 13, 1898. We will arrive at Sacramento on Sunday afternoon after a delightful ride down the western slope of the Sierras enjoying the natural beauty and artificial attractions of this famous fruit district—the Heart of California.

The railway fare one way from Chicago will be \$52.50, from Omaha, \$40.00; Minneapolis and St. Paul, \$47.50, Des Moines, Ia., \$44.25, with corresponding rates from other points. The round trip rate good for nine months, with stop-overs in any part of California, good to go out by one route and return by another, from Chicago \$110, Omaha or Kansas City \$90, Des Moines \$98.50, other points at corresponding rates according to distance. As usual our sleeping and other accommodations will be the best. The party will be in charge of Mr. George R. Morrell, our experienced excursion manager, and everything which long experience can suggest will be done to further the pleasure and comfort of our passengers.

The price for a double berth in the sleeping car will be \$6.00 from Chicago, Omaha \$5.00, corresponding rates from other points.

Let us hear from you at once if you will join the party. It is important for us to know if you will go so that we can reserve you accommodations and measure up the company. It would also be pleasant and add much to your enjoyment on the trip to get a friend or two to accompany you. Two can occupy one double berth at the same price.

California Fruits in 1897

At the recent convention of the State Fruit Growers' Association held in Sacramento, Col. H. Weinstock, of that city, in a report on the deciduous fruit shipping for 1897 up to November 12 stated that we had shipped 5,288 cars as against 4,047 cars in 1896, a gain of 30 per cent, or 1,221 cars. This refers to deciduous fruits only. After further statistics, Col. Weinstock continued: "It can be seen that California fruit has much to contend with in the eastern markets, yet despite this fact and despite the further fact that the northwestern states and territories, including Oregon and Washington, shipped 700 carloads of fruit to eastern markets as against, I am told, less than 100 carloads last year, and despite the still further fact that California shipped 1,221 carloads, or 30 per cent more than last year, it is gratifying to know that the net returns realized by the California growers have been from 15 to 25 per cent greater than last year. There are other individual cases where the increase over last year's prices, notably on pears, and for several weeks on peaches, were all the way from 50 to 100 per cent higher, but from all that I can learn a gain of from 15 to 25 per cent is a fair average increase in prices for the year's shipments as a whole. This speaks most favorably for our methods of marketing and indicates that we have made important strides in that direction."

This year special attention was paid to the packing and marketing of their products by the California fruit growers, and the results above indicated should spur them on to greater efforts the coming year.

It is interesting to know that 75 per cent of the above fruit was raised within a radius of sixty miles of Fair Oaks.

The Magic Rivulet

A very interesting and instructive article on irrigation appears in the December number of that delightful magazine, "The Land of Sunshine," under the above title. The author, Chas. F. Lumms, in closing, says:

"The farmer of California and the southwest is the most independent, the least slavish farmer in North America. In California he can work out of doors every day in the year. He can have several harvests, sure, instead of one maybe. He does not have to watch the hopeless fight for moisture between plant and soil; for when the plant is thirsty, he simply gives it a drink. Here, as the motto of the National Irrigation Congress well puts it, farming is 'Science, not Chance.' Elsewhere, the rainfall is czar; but in California we are our own Jupiter Pluvius, and that fact is more fundamental to all human happiness and security than all the triumphs of steam and electricity—as our food supply is of more intimate importance than our luxuries. Our whole economic fabric, after all, rests on the man who makes the soil produce; and all the gold mines in history have not yielded so much wealth to humanity as the simple turning of a rivulet upon the desert."

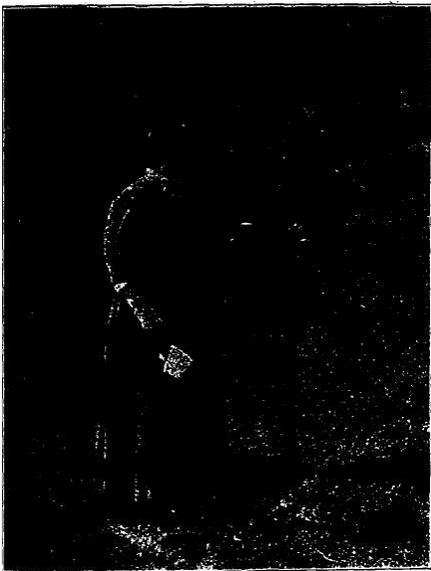
With a high pressure, underground, steel pipe system, such as is used at Fair Oaks, the careful, intelligent fruit grower is indeed master of the soil.

—The best thing about Adam was his rib and that was removed to make a woman.

Miscellany

Orange Growing at Fair Oaks

It is astonishing what a season's growth will do at Fair Oaks. The growth attained by the young orange tree shown herewith in seven short months is even more surprising to the experienced horticulturist than to the layman but the fact remains that only last May this beautiful little tree was transplanted from the nursery bed to the soft, rich alluvial soil of Fair



ORANGE TREE AT FAIR OAKS SEVEN MONTHS OLD.

Oaks together with many hundreds of others—like a lot of walking sticks—causing the gently rolling hills to resemble fields of short stubby bean poles more than anything else, but soon the soil, sun and balmy breezes with plenty of pure soft water from our splendid irrigation system changed the ugly cutting to a shapely tree. Next year will bring the beautiful blossoms and great golden oranges, and first-year oranges are generally very large, but your good horticulturist will harden his heart and nip the lovely fruit before maturity so that the vigor of the young tree may go into the wood where it is so much needed; before long, however, it will not be necessary to be so heartless. Three short years will have passed and then the owner of such a ranch will reap the reward of the patient and industrious man of at least a half a box of oranges to the tree.

Fifty-two boxes of clean, healthy golden fruit ripening, as our oranges do, in November and December—weeks before the southern grower markets his fruit—placed on a home market at from \$7 to \$2.50 per box will net the careful packer and shipper at least \$100 per acre.

Friend—Can you think of a more delightful way, a more profitable way, to realize an income and enjoy a home free from the rigors and disagreeable features of our eastern climate, especially the winters, than by living under your own vine and fig tree, at Fair Oaks. Write, enclosing 10 cents, for the Heart of California, and learn all about it for yourself.

Profits on Early Oranges

Recent letters inform us that Mr. Kellogg, of Orangevale, adjoining Fair Oaks on the north, has sold the entire crop from his ten acres of eight-year-old naved oranges, for \$3,500, on the trees, to Porter Bros. Had Mr. Kellogg handled this