lead furnaces, blacksmiths' and wagon makers' shops ; tobacco furnaces and iron works ; and the exports are more the natural productions of the country than manufactured goods. They consist principally of minerals, flour, cotton, tobacco, corned beef, meat, maize, wheat, rye, cattle, hogs, wool, cheese, fruits, &c.

## CALIFORNIA.

## Area, 188,881 square miles. Population, 864,686. Governor, G. C. PERKINS. Capital, Sacramento.

In giving a brief description of California, we cannot do better than take an extract from a lecture delivered in Carlow, Ireland, by Mr. W. G. Kingsbury, European agent of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Kingsbury said: "In reading descriptions of California, it would seem to me as though Nature, when making up the earth, made California last, and had kept back a full assortment of all the material ever used, even down to the fruit and flowers and mirrored fountains of the Garden of Eden, and finally used up the lot in finishing off the Pacific Coast. Books of 500 pages are written upon California, and the subject not half exhausted; at this late hour I can only detain you to mention a few of the marvels, and any of you desiring to investigate fully, will be supplied with books and maps by writing to my office, at 41, Finsbury Pavement, London.

"California has a rainy and dry season; it commences to rain slowly about the 1st of November, and closes in March, though there will be a few showers in April. The wheat is grown during the rainy season, but it never rains a drop during the entire time of harvest. Farmers never stack their wheat, but haul it to a central point where it is threshed in the open, and the sacks of wheat are kept standing upon the ground for weeks at a time without the least fear of their being damaged.

"Of fruits, California produces apples, peaches, apricots, oranges, lemons, limes, figs, olives, prunes, dates, plums, cherries, currants, gooseberries, straw berries, black and red raspberries, English walnuts, almonds, and pecans; all of these grow to perfection, and yield large returns. Oranges are said to be the most profitable. A ten-acre grove of bearing trees is a competency for any man, and will yield him a sure income of £2000 per annum, and more often exceed that sum than go under it; and yet the entire expense of planting and cultivating to maturity does not exceed £30 per acre. Accounts are given of an orange raised in San Diego county that measured 22 inches round, and, being pear-shaped, it was 25 inches the long way. It was of the pumlo variety and grew on a young tree only two inches in diameter. It was as large as a water-keg, and had to be supported by a network tied to the branches above. Grape culture for wine, brandy, and raisins is now, and will ever be, the lead-ing industry of the country. The average yield of grapes is about eight tons to the acre, though eleven tons is often reached. The value of the crop is from £50 to £80 per acre per annum. The total cost of buying the cuttings, ploughing, laying off and cultivating ten acres of grapes :- The first year is put down at a little less than £40; the second year at £20; the third at £22; fourth, £26; fifth, £25; sixth, £25; or a total of £155. The receipts the third year were £160; the fourth, £480; the fifth, £640; the sixth, £800; leaving a net profit on the ten acres of £2,225 in six years, and the vineyard just now at maturity, and will last for a hundred years or more. The above is given as the result of a raisen-grape vineyard, but the result is about the same when converted into wine.

"The canning of fruits, especially the apricot, peach, strawberries, and pear, is an immensely profitable industry in California, and gives employment to thousands of men, women, and children. Strawberries are ripe at Christmas and last into May, and with a little trouble may be had the year round. As to vegetables, every variety is grown there in great abundance. and all the

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