

Davisville.

"Cities and towns, the varied haunts of men,
Require the pencil, they defy the pen."

Thus spake one of England's great poets, when he essayed to describe a small hamlet in his native land; and everyone who undertakes a like task, will heartily indorse the words of the poet. It is easy enough to give the names of the streets, when they are placed at every corner, or to locate a house by its number and street, when the number is on the door; but it is altogether another task when the streets are not named, and the houses are unnumbered. Thus it is with the Junction town of Davisville. But to the task:

LOCATION AND POPULATION.

Davisville is situated on the banks of the Putah creek, just within the southern borders of Yolo county, nine miles by rail south of Woodland, the county seat, and the same distance north of Dixon, and fourteen miles by rail south and westerly from Sacramento, the capital of the State. The Vallejo and Marysville, and the Vallejo and Sacramento branches of the California Pacific Railroad form a junction here, and the town owes its existence to the railroad, and its name to the original proprietor of the site on which it is built. Its present population is about five hundred.

CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND BUSINESS.

Davisville boasts of having three churches—two of them not yet completed—and one public school. It has three resident pastors, and two school teachers. Denominationally the churches may be classed as follows: Presbyterian, South Methodist and Roman Catholic. The business of the place may be summed up thus: Three general merchandise, and one hardware stores; two hotels, nine liquor saloons, two livery stables, one bowling alley, one barber shop, one drug store, one meat market, two boot and shoe shops, four grain warehouses—with aggregate capacity of 20,000 tons; one lumber yard, one paint store, one photograph gallery, one restaurant, post-office, express office, etc., and one steam mill for grinding feed. It is one of the heaviest grain marts in Yolo county, and also one of the best lumber depots in that part of the country. The aggregate shipment of wheat from this place exceeds 20,000 tons, and in lumber 2,500,000 feet annually. Dresbach & Banc are the

principal dealers in grain, and their immense stock of general merchandise is, perhaps, equal to any house in the county. The hotels are well kept, and reflect credit upon the town. The Marden House contains thirty-five elegant rooms. In short, Davisville is a live town, and aspires to be the leading town of Yolo county.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Davisville is by no means a finished town. It has plenty of room to spread itself, and judging from the character and number of new structures in course of erection, it will soon double its present population and size. Among the noted improvements now looming up, we may well mention the new Methodist Church South, with its beautiful tapering spire seventy-five feet high. This church is nearly completed, and will be dedicated on the 20th inst. In size it is 46x36 feet, with sittings for about 200 persons, and will cost \$2,600. It is the handsomest, as well as the best built church in this part of the State. The new Roman Catholic church is to be finished and dedicated about Christmas. It is 56x38 feet, with spire 65 feet high above the foundation. It will seat about 250 persons, and will cost over \$3,000. Among the private residences going up, we must mention the palatial mansion of Mr. Dresbach, of the firm of Dresbach, Banc & Co. It is a massive two-story wooden house, comely in exterior appearance, and perfectly gorgeous in its inside finish. Our own young artists, Stewart & Hamilton, are there now, converting pine doors and trimmings, into black walnut, laurel, oak, etc. The house contains nine rooms, besides closets, bath room, etc., and will cost, perhaps, about \$7,000. In addition to this fine dwelling, we noticed that our old friend, Ike Steel, is building him a fine nine-room cottage, at a cost of some \$2,000. Other improvements are visible, and still others in contemplation. Among the latter is a beet sugaric. This last is a necessity, from the fact that more beets are raised in and around Davisville, than the producers are able to send off, and are now storing them away. In conclusion, we ought to say that the town and country around are so healthy, that but one physician can eke out a meagre support in the place.