

hospitality and good living, since it has fallen into the hands of the administrators or agents of the government. The remains of a fine garden are also perceptible, where there is yet good fruit; and near by are extensive fields of Indian corn, which were formerly cultivated by irrigation.

The reception of our gentlemen was in keeping with the place, neither polite nor friendly. No civilities were tendered, no offers of accommodation made, although they brought a particular letter from Captain Suter. Our party were inclined to believe that this was owing, in part at least, to the condition of their wardrobe; their whole appearance, it must be admitted, was not much in their favour, dressed as they were in the deer-skins that had been worn on their journey, yet they thought that their characters might have been discovered through their buckskins.

The administrator told them there was no accommodation for their horses, and showed them none, except a miserable hole without any furniture. The letter of introduction bore the superscription of Don Jose Antonio Estrade. They met with the tailor to the establishment, Ephraim Travel, an American, of Philadelphia, who showed them the lions of the place with great politeness, and as far as in him lay, made amends for their otherwise cold reception. He took them round the gardens, through the churches, and told them that the Indians under the care of the mission were at the present time about six hundred, which was only one-third of the number they had two years before. In consequence, there was but little cultivation carried on, compared to what there had been formerly.

The harvest at the mission had been very small, from the great drought. No rain had fallen for upwards of a year. The vintage, however, had been very fine, and forty barrels of wine had been made, besides a large supply of grapes for the whole establishment. The two vineyards comprise about four acres, and beside vines, are filled with apple, pear, and other fruit trees. The buildings of the mission are all constructed of adobes, and covered with tile roofs.

Fortunately for the party, Mr. Forbes, the agent of the Hudson Bay Company, residing a few miles farther on, happened to be at the mission, and very kindly offered them accommodations, which they thankfully accepted. They found him lodged in a comfortable two-story adobe house, situated on the border of an extensive prairie, but without any trees or cultivation around it. He entertained them very hospitably.

The party visited Santa Clara the next day, where their reception was very courteous, and furnished a strong contrast to that at San