

pied the old Noah Corey House, which is mentioned above as being the first house erected in the town.

The business interests of the town of Nicasio are represented by one store, one blacksmith shop, one meat market, one livery stable, one hotel, and one boarding house. H. F. Taft is postmaster and Wells, Fargo & Co.'s agent. The post-office was established April 13, 1870, with Mr. Taft as postmaster.

CATHOLIC CHURCH.—The church at this place of the Catholic persuasion was for a number of years included in the Petaluma parish, and the resident priest of that place served the people here for some time before a church building was erected. In the Spring of 1867 a subscription was circulated and enough secured to proceed with the building. The body of the church is twenty-four by fifty, with a chancel at the rear which is twenty by twenty-four. It is neat and substantial in its construction, having hard finished walls. The work around the altar is of curled redwood nicely varnished, giving to it a very handsome appearance. It is stated that the cost of the building was three thousand dollars. Father Harrington was pastor at the time of the erection of the building. He was followed by Father Burningham. The church is now connected with the parish of Sonoma.

SCHOOLS.—There are two school districts in the township, viz: Nicasio and San Geronimo. The first school-house erected in the former was built in 1866, and was quite a small building. The demand for a larger building soon became pressing, and in 1871 a second and much larger structure was erected, being thirty-five by forty-five. This is probably the most substantial and handsome district school building in Marin county. It cost three thousand dollars when completed.

HOTEL.—A large and well furnished hotel was erected at this place in June, 1867, by Wm. J. Miller. The main building is thirty by sixty-six, three stories high, with a wing twenty-six by forty. It contains twenty-two rooms, beside bar, dining room, kitchen and parlor. It was completed and furnished at an expense of eleven thousand dollars.

SAW-MILLS.—The pioneer mill of this township was built by James Dixon and James Ross in 1862. It was located about one and a half miles easterly from the present site of the town of Nicasio. The capacity of the mill was about fifteen thousand feet of lumber per day. It was run till 1865, when Dixon bought the interest of Ross, and moved the mill to Fort Ross, Sonoma county. The next mill was built by Isaac Shaver and Jonathan Mitchner in 1866, and was located about one and a half miles southeast of Nicasio. It had a capacity of twenty thousand feet per day, and was run till 1872, when part of the machinery was taken to San Rafael and

put into a planing mill. In 1874 Isaac Shaver located a portable saw-mill on the White ranch, about a mile south of San Geronimo Station. It was run six months. In 1875 Isaac Shaver and Edmund and Samuel Kiler built a mill on the road between White's Hill and San Geronimo. Its capacity was twelve thousand feet daily, and was run for six months. In 1876 the same company built a mill about two miles west of San Geronimo, with a capacity of twenty thousand feet per day. They ran it about six months. The machinery is still there and in running order. In 1877 Robert Scott, Charles Sims, and — Parks had a shingle mill at the foot of Nicasio Hill, on the road from Nicasio to San Geronimo. It had a capacity of fifteen thousand shingles daily, and was run about one year.

SAN GERONIMO.—This is the name of the station on the North Pacific Coast Railroad, from which stages connect with Nicasio. It is a small village containing some half score houses, of which most are dwellings. The only business conducted at the place is a blacksmith shop.

GOLD MINES.—The San Geronimo gold mine is located about one half mile west of the station, and operations were begun in it in October, 1878. Since that time a shaft two hundred feet deep has been sunk, and a drift has been run to the northward a distance of two hundred and sixty feet, and a side drift from that a distance of sixty feet, also a drift to the westward has been run two hundred and seventy feet. It is proposed to run this drift some distance farther, when a shaft will be sunk connecting with it. The force engaged at present consists of fourteen men, who work in three shifts of eight hours each, with the exception of two engineers, who work twelve hours each. Assays of ore average from thirty to forty dollars per ton, although it has yielded as much as ninety dollars gold. The ore contains gold, silver, iron, manganese, antimony and tracings of nickel. The outcroppings of the lode extend for a long distance through that section of the country, and should gold in paying quantities be found it will prove a very extensive mine, and would add very much to the material interests of Marin county.

INDIANS.—The Nicasio Indians were at one time a very powerful tribe, numbering many thousands, and filling the whole valley, but they have vanished before the silent forces of civilization like the dew from off the grass beneath the ardent rays of a mid-summer sun. Dire contagion stalked through the land and claimed many tithings for the charnel house of death, and later the accursed "fire water" of the white man overcame and destroyed their sons, and the souls and bodies of their daughters were sold in prostitution and they ceased to bear children. And thus have their ranks been decimated until scarcely a score can be mustered, and the once populous village contains only eight wigwams now. What few remain of the