

tains, is not a good land for farmers, for in most of it nothing useful can grow ; and as the larger rivers flow through deep cañons, instead of fertile valleys, there are not many good places for cities. You would suppose people here could find nothing to do, and would have nothing to live on. But this is not so. In the mountains on the table-land, as well as in the Rocky Mountains, there are veins of gold and silver. Thus even this part of our country is good for something.

10. Men go to the mines to dig the gold and silver from the earth ; others go to sell food and clothing to the miners ; and so, after a time, a large number of people gather, and villages or cities spring up where we would not have supposed anybody could possibly live. These places are not very pleasant to live in. Some are far from any railroad ; and most of the food for the people must be brought, with great difficulty, over this wild, dreary country, in wagons, or on the backs of mules traveling in long trains.

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### XVIII. — IN CALIFORNIA.

Cal-i-for'-ni-a.

ran-che'-ro [-cha'-].

San Fran-cis'-co.

vine'-yard [vin'-].

Los An'-gel-es.

[Loce An'-hel-ez].

1. WHEN we have passed over the great table-land, we reach *California*, a part of our country of which, I have no doubt, you have often heard. It has, in the central part, the high wall of the Sierra Nevada, with peaks reaching up into the clouds and covered with snow and ice.