

**J. M. Heiskell,
OF THE DRY CREEK DISTRICT**

J. M. Heiskell, of Dry Creek, has raised wheat for the last twenty-five years, and has steadily increased the area under cultivation until he now farms land owned and leased amounting to 2,530 acres.

Mr. Heiskell filed a pre-emption claim on the old home place in 1872, and subsequently homesteaded 160 acres on Big Dry Creek. He then purchased 320 acres adjoining the pre-emption, and subsequently acquired 1,300 acres west, and 160 acres east of the tract. In addition to farming his own land, he leases for wheat-growing purposes between 700 and 800 acres in the Bank of California tract.

SOME MINERAL LAND.

Adjoining the home place there is a tract of forty acres that was set aside by the government surveyors as mineral land. Several shafts have been sunk upon it, and in every instance but one, copper was found in sufficient quantity to seem to warrant working. The ore contained gold and silver also to the amount of \$4.65 per ton. The mine has been bonded to capitalists in San Francisco.

FRUIT LAND IN THE THERMAL BELT.

Mr. Heiskell has a large tract of land on the home place, of rich soil, where water may be found a depth of from ten to twelve feet. Fruit trees thrive here in a wonderful way, as the land is in the thermal belt of the foothills, where the frost is very light, and where citrus as well as deciduous fruits thrive. Here there is a small orchard of peaches, pears, apples, figs and orange that is very thrifty. The orange trees are bearing well, and there a large area that will eventually be devoted to the culture of citrus fruits.

The wires of the great San Joaquin Electric Light and Power Company pass within a few hundred yards of the house, and power for lights and the propelling of machinery may be had when needed at a very small cost for installation of plant.