

1890

Picking Oranges in One of the Famous Groves at Riverside, California

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Picking Oranges in One of the Famous Groves at Riverside, California, Lucius Marion Lampton, MD
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(36)-5958 Picking oranges in one of the famous groves at
Riverside, Cal.

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This is one of the most famous garden-lands in the world, and it has actually been created by human skill out of a sun-baked plain in Southern California since 1870. When the first eastern colonists came here, there was no railroad within 400 miles, and only one town (San Bernardino) within the county limits. Large tracts of the apparently worthless land were bought for \$3.50 per acre by men who foresaw what could be done for the land by means of irrigation, and a canal was immediately constructed to bring water from the Santa Ana river for these new tracts.

In the early days of the enterprise, experiments were made with seedling oranges, lemons and limes, but these efforts were superseded by the cultivation of navel oranges. A Riverside man received from the agricultural department at Washington two orange trees of the seedless (navel) variety, from Bahia, Brazil, and buds from those trees were inserted in the stocks of growing orchards. The fruit borne by the budded trees was immensely superior to anything obtainable from seedlings. The variety was propagated more and more largely, and now it is the most extensively raised, most popular and most profitable variety produced in the United States.

At the present time, there are here about Riverside thousands of acres of land which were twenty-five years ago considered practically worthless, but which are now valued at \$2000 per acre.

A few years ago these orange groves were threatened with destruction by two insect pests, the red scale and the cottony white scale, but science was equal to the emergency and insect enemies of these pests were imported from Australia and colonized here, effectually protecting the valuable trees. The golden harvest that now hangs heavy here will amount to 4400 car-loads, valued at \$2,000,000, for Riverside alone.

Picking Oranges, Riverside, California.

Récoltant des Oranges, Riverside, Californie.

Das Pflücken der Orangen in Riverside, Californien.

Cosechando Naranjas, Riverside, California.

Apelsin-plockning, Riverside, Californien.

Обирая Апельсины Риверсейдъ, Калифорнія.