

## APPENDIX C

### HASLAM'S REPORT OF 1861

The following is a copy of part of a State Department of Education publication of 1861, giving the report of D. J. Haslam, then serving as Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools, on the state of this county's four-year-old public school system:

#### SANTA CRUZ COUNTY.

D. J. HASLAM.....Superintendent.

In compliance with instructions from your Department, I have to report as follows:

*School Lands.—Number of Sixteenth and Thirty-Sixth Sections Surveyed in the County.*—I have no record to refer to in this matter. All the Sections surveyed are claimed under grants. The whole number in the county will be about twenty or twenty-five. Some will be worth little or nothing, and others (those that fall on timbered land) very valuable.

*School Sections Settled on before Survey.*—Ten.

*School Sections covered by Mexican Grants.*—Ten.

*Probable Number of Additional School Sections to which County would be entitled if United States Survey were completed.*—Twelve.

*School Sections Worthless, by reason of falling on Mountainous, Marshy, or Desert Lands.*—Probably five.

*School Sections upon which waste has been or is being committed, and the nature and extent of such waste.*—One Section in Oak Grove School District, which was well timbered, has had the most of the good timber taken off it, which has reduced the value of it full two thirds.

*Number of School-houses in County.*—Seven.

*Description of each School-house.*—Pescadero—Built of redwood; two rooms; twenty-six feet long, fourteen feet wide, and nine feet from floor to ceiling. The furniture belonging to this School is very ordinary. The average of daily attendance is twenty, which is very good.

Santa Cruz, No. 1—Of redwood, with large wing; two rooms; main building fifty-four feet long, twenty-eight feet wide, and fourteen feet high; wing twenty-six feet long, twenty feet wide, and fourteen feet high. This School-house is very well ventilated, and the furniture of a very good kind. The average daily attendance is fifty-eight.

Santa Cruz, No. 2—Of redwood; one room, twenty-four feet long, twenty feet wide, and twelve feet high. The furniture fair. The average daily attendance, twenty.

Soquel—Of redwood; thirty-three by twenty-two, and twelve feet high; a good School-house, well furnished, and well ventilated. The average daily attendance, twenty-four and thirty-seven two-hundredths.

San Andres, (new District)—Of redwood; sixteen feet by twenty feet; ten feet high; not very well furnished; average daily attendance, ten.

Oak Grove—Redwood; sixteen by twenty-two, and ten feet high, and twenty by twenty, and ten feet high. The furniture of this District is fair, and the School-house well ventilated. The average number in daily attendance, thirty-five.

Pujaro—This District rent the second story of a dwelling house for holding their School; it is twenty-six feet long by twenty-four wide, about nine feet high. The people of this District do not care to spend any money to build a School-house; they have just refused to be taxed to build one. No furniture belonging to the District. Average daily attendance, thirty-two.

*Attendance at School.*—The attendance at School in all the Districts is very small, in proportion to the number of scholars enrolled, or those who draw money. Some Districts are very large. Santa Cruz, No. 1, is eighteen miles in length and twelve wide. If the population were more

condensed, the attendance would be much better; many find it impossible to send, not being able to pay board bills for their children.

*Graded Schools.*—Santa Cruz, No. 1, is graded—the only one in the county where there is a sufficient number of scholars. The funds will not admit of it.

*Age of Teachers.*—From twenty-three to forty-seven.

*Teaching.*—Only two design to make teaching a permanent profession. It does not pay very well in this county to teach School, and those who have followed no other occupation do not intend to continue teaching any longer than they can help. If it paid as well as in large cities, most of them prefer the profession.

*Capacity of Teachers.*—All the Teachers employed this year give full satisfaction.

*Experience in Teaching.*—From three months to twelve years.

*Examinations, etc.*—Most of the Schools have had several examinations. Some of the scholars are visited regularly by parents and those taking an interest in Education.

*Number of Months each School was kept Open.*—Pescadero, eight months; Santa Cruz, No. 1, eight months; Santa Cruz, No. 2, seven months; Soquel, ten months; San Andres, (new District,) three months; Oak Grove, three and ten months; Pajaro, seven months and fifteen days.

*Remarks on the Finances of the Schools.*—The County and State Fund pay about one fourth of the expenses of the Schools; in most of the Districts the Fund is raised by rate-bills. In Santa Cruz District, No. 1, the Schools have been kept open by subscription; those willing to aid the Schools, donate per month, and are regularly waited on by the Trustees when pay-day comes.

Very few people have any very great propensity to pay taxes; but a general dislike is evidenced by all to pay a poll tax. Why, I cannot determine, unless it is, that the most of people escape paying it. In a voting population in this county, of fourteen hundred, about five hundred are collected. Now, if it were to be applied directly to the County School Fund, I have no doubt but double that number could be collected.

*How Trustees Perform their Duties.*—Generally very well; some complaints, that two have to do all the work.

*Improvements Needed.*—A uniformity of text-books would be a great benefit; and all Schools should be graded, and supplied with a library and apparatus; and some plan should be adopted to compel the attendance of children who are idling their time around the streets, without occupation.

*Number of Private or Independent Schools—Academies and Colleges in County.*—One; attendance, forty-three.

*Average number of Pupils to each.*—Forty-three.

*General Remarks upon Education.*—One District has been added to our list this year. The number of children between four and eighteen years of age has increased two hundred and thirty-one. There is no report of any deaf or dumb person in this county. Our number of Teachers has increased two during the last year.

The total number of children in the county is one thousand three hundred and twelve, and enrolled, three hundred and ninety-five, leaving nearly one thousand that are not enrolled, or short of one in four; this is accounted for, as I stated before—the extent of country, and of those enrolled. The average daily attendance is one hundred and ninety-nine, or about one half; this certainly should be remedied, if possible, but certainly cannot be done until School-houses are more numerous.