

Weekly Butte Record

1-3-1874

ANOTHER BRICK.—Another fine gold brick came down from Cherokee on Monday, valued at about forty thousand dollars. They have cleaned up only a portion of the head flume the present month. The Spring Valley Company is running six or eight hydraulic chiefs or little giants, and on some general clean up will scarcely fail to produce a larger golden brick than ever.

1-17-1874

CONFLICT OF MINING AND AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

At a late meeting of the people of Biggs' Station and vicinity, the following preamble and resolutions were passed:

First—That the Spring Valley Mining Company, taking the waters of Butte Creek and Feather river and throwing the same into the "lost" channel of Dry Creek, are violating the law of our State.

Second—That the channel of said Dry Creek being insufficient to carry the volume of waters that are forced along it, we are made to bear a general inundation.

Third—That they have spoiled our roads.

Fourth—That they have flooded our fields.

Fifth—That they have ruined our crops.

Six—That they have impoverished the weak.

Seventh—That, judging from the past, they are inclined to continue by the use of might.

Eighth—That these are the common grievances of all; therefore be it

Resolved, First—That we, exercising the rights of American citizens and amenable to the law, will seek, by all available means, proper redress of all grievances, and also to obviate in the future any and all encroachments upon our rights.

Second—That though wronged, we entertain no ill will toward the Spring Valley Mining Company but only appeal for *justice*.

Third—That we as the aggrieved are one, and shall so continue until justice is attained.

Fourth—That we the undersigned farmers and owners of land in Hamilton township, Butte county, State of California, are hereby united for the purpose of protecting our crops and land from water and the deposit of sediments from the mines, and do hereby organize ourselves into an association or body for the purpose of devising means to prevent further damage from such deposit, and to test the legality of right of miners and mining companies to divert the water from the natural channel and destroying a large district of the best agricultural land in the State; and further, that the organization is called The Hamilton Township Reclamation Company.

Fifth—That the Secretary be instructed to forward a copy of the proceedings of this meeting to the following papers: The Northern Enterprise, Butte County RECORD Sacramento Union.

ROUND VALLEY.

A Large Reservation for a Small Band of Indians—The Settlers in the Northern Part of the Valley to be Removed—A Lease of the Reservation Applied For—An Appraisal of the Improvements—Proposition to Assess the Expense of Removal on the Southern Part of the Valley—Vigilant Eyes Watching the Matter.

[FROM THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE ALTA.]

WASHINGTON, January 11th, 1874.

Official conundrums in the various departments of Washington are not rare, though to the casual observer, or the negligent correspondent of the press, they may appear to be of the class that "no fellow can find out." The latest *denouement* of journalistic inquiry has been made apparent through the assiduous labor of the agent of the Pacific Press Association.

THE ROUND VALLEY RESERVATION.

How the officers of the Government have attempted, under the plea of establishing an Indian Reservation, to dispossess a large number of settlers in order to create and monopolize for one man a sheep ranch of 60,000 acres and more, making the actual settlers in other parts pay for the cost of doing it, is shown by the investigation of the papers in the office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The details of such a transaction are interesting, as showing to "Bill Nye" an answer to the question of "Truthful James"—

"Can such things be?"

This is all an official romance about the Round Valley Indian Reservation of Mendocino county, California.

A SMALL BAND OF INDIANS

Have for many years occupied Round Valley, a fertile piece of land, surrounded by high mountains, stock ranges and timber lands. White settlers mixed freely among these Indians and established productive farms with undisputed possession and prospects of prosperity and earthly comfort.

Under the management of Indian affairs this valley was set apart for the use and occupation of the Indians, and was denominated the Round Valley Indian Reservation. Finally J. L. Burchard was appointed Indian Agent, and still continues to hold that office. What use there was for an Indian Agent at that time is not shown.

In the course of time, however, it became apparent that the settlers would not always consent to

LIVING BY SUFFERANCE

Among the Indians. Their farms were well tilled, fenced and stocked. Disputes as to boundaries had arisen among them, and they had amicably adjusted their claims by purchasing from each other. To acquire absolute title they had not been permitted on account of the Reservation; but they lived on, confident that sooner or later the Government would restore the lands to the public domain, and provide for their rights as *bona fide* settlers. They were not a small community, preying upon the Indians, but a large community of practical and honestly-disposed farmers.

The Indians found occupation and the means of earning a living in working for the farmers and herding their stock.

Last Winter a change was made. A bill was passed in Congress

RESTORING TO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

The southern half of the valley, on which most of the whites were settled, and granting these settlers the right of preferred preemption of the lands actually occupied and improved by them at the Government price of \$1 25 per acre. It provided also for the appointment of a Commission to proceed to the valley, appraise the value of the improvements of settlers on the portion of the Reservation not restored, with a view to removing them so as to leave the land free to the Indians, and to report on the proposition of extending the Reservation over a portion of the mountains to the north, so as to include a stock range and fishing grounds.

This Commission, consisting of General B. B. Cowen, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and General J. P. C. Shanks, member of Congress from Indiana, visited the ground, looked about considerably, and have returned, making their report to the Secretary of the Interior last Friday.

Meanwhile, under the provisions of the Act of the last Congress, the settlers in the southern portion, which was restored to the public domain, have employed attorneys, and have prosecuted their claims in the Land Office. Many, or most of them, as your correspondent is informed, have actually paid their money into the hands of the officer of the Government, and are now legally and justly entitled to receive their patents for their homes, which they have occupied for so many years.

A few days ago it came to the ears of your correspondent that

THE AGENT OF THE RESERVATION HAD BEEN NEGOTIATING FOR A LEASE

Of the new Reservation, or a large portion of it, to a wealthy stock raiser, and that in order to give him the control of a large range of country a large number of settlers would be ousted; and that also the Commissioners would recommend an amendment to the Act of last Winter, so as to raise the price of the lands restored to the public domain, so as to create a fund for the extinguishment of settlers' titles on the new Reservation without asking an appropriation from Congress. It appeared that not only an act of

bad faith toward the settlers was contemplated, but also the machinery of the despotic power of the Indian Department was to be manipulated for the benefit of one man. Nothing definite was known about it, and it was with some difficulty that your correspondent arrived at the facts, not knowing at first exactly how to proceed.

THE COMMISSIONER INVESTIGATES.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs knew nothing of the proposed lease, and the report of the Commissioner had not been made. He, however, interested himself in looking the matter up, and found that there had been correspondence between his office and Burchard, the Indian Agent, relative to the proposed lease. The letters were submitted freely to your correspondent for his information. From them it appeared that Jacob Updegraff had proposed to lease the stock range of the new Reservation, to stock it with sheep and to give one-half of the increase to the Reservation, provided that the agency would provide for the care of the flocks with Indian herders, etc.

FIVE YEARS' LEASE.

In one of the letters from the Agent he writes for instructions as to how long a term he shall grant in the lease, adding that Updegraff desired five years, which he, the Agent, thought just, because Updegraff would be put to a great expense in purchasing sheep, and in less than five years he could not get his money back. It was suggested that at the beginning of the fourth year one-third of the sheep-range should be given up, at the beginning of the fifth another third, and at the expiration of the fifth the whole. It was suggested, however, that the contract could not be entered into until the settlers were dispossessed, so that possession might be given to Updegraff.

Further than this examination, the Commissioner was unable to throw any light on the transaction, which was being worked up without his knowledge. Your correspondent then broached the matter to Assistant Secretary Cowen, and stated what he had learned. Mr. Cowen acknowledged full cognizance of the matter and fully endorsed it; saying, however, that the contract had not yet been entered into because the settlers were not yet removed. He thought it was a fine opportunity to get the Reservation stocked, and said that Updegraff has one of the finest stock-ranches he ever saw, on the new Reservation—ranging a flock of over six thousand sheep. This statement somewhat differs from the idea conveyed to the Department by the Agent Burchard, who recommends a five-year lease in order to give Updegraff an opportunity to remunerate himself for the great outlay incident on purchasing stock, etc.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

These various reports and ideas caused your correspondent to watch for the forthcoming report of the Commissioners, which was soon to be filed. It was filed on the 8th inst., and immediately examined thoroughly, the following being a careful abstract:

The Commissioners commenced their work on the 2d of June last. As a preliminary proceeding toward establishing a new Reservation, they declared the lines to be extended on the north, east and west, so as to include all the lands north of the southern boundary, as fixed by the Act of last Winter, and surrounded by the circuitous flow of Kcl river and its North and Middle Fork, or an area of about 60,000 acres, though the same could only be estimated, the land being unsurveyed. The report does not mention, even approximately, the area of the land enclosed. The area of the old Reservation was 31,683 acres, of which about 14,000 acres only are included in the new Reservation, the extension being therefore made over

ABOUT FORTY-SIX THOUSAND ACRES.

This new area is described in the report as being mountainous on the north, some of which is 5,000 feet in altitude, and covered with heavy timber, suitable for lumber. The hills are a first-class range for stock, the report saying that it will provide grazing for at least 30,000 head of sheep, beside all the cattle and horses that the agent can manage. "If well stocked and cared for, the agency could be made self-sustaining in a very few years."

The report says nothing whatever of the proposition to lease the range to any person, and does not show any facts to determine the question as to how much land the Indians require for their support, not even giving the number of Indians to be provided for. There are no reasons for the adoption of the report in this respect except the authority of the Commissioners.

With the report is submitted

AN APPRAISEMENT OF THE IMPROVEMENTS

On the new Reservation, which the Government will have to pay before the settlers are ejected. It foots up, according to their figures, in the sum of \$32,669 78. To illustrate how this is made out, the following is a copy of the appraised value of the improvements of Jacob Updegraff, who, it appears, is an applicant for indemnity, as well as for the lease of the premises: "Shake shanty, \$250; small store-house, \$150; shake stable, \$500; shake barn, \$500; fencing, \$100; corral, \$200; eight small cabins and corrals, \$1,200. Total, \$2,900."

Besides these improvements, the Commissioners, without stating the number of such settlers, say, in general terms, that in the portion of the new Reservation over which they have extended it, there may be, and probably are a number of parties, who have

BOUGHT THEIR LANDS FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

And have title therefor; also, others who are "only squatters" and have no title whatever. By "only squatters," they probably mean actual settlers on unsurveyed land, who have not yet had an opportunity to pre-empt their lands and thus protect themselves from speculators in Indian Reservations. But they show that the number must be considerable, when they add to the estimated expense of establishing the new Reservation \$20,000 for extinguishing the title of those who have such titles by purchase from the Government. Indeed, it appears,

1-22-1874

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from a casual study, that there are as many whites as Indians interested in this matter, and certainly their rights should not be buried up in the parchments of the Indian Department. It is thus shown that it is estimated that, to clear the Reservation, so that Mr. Updegraff can have an undisturbed range of 60,000 acres.

IT WILL COST \$52,669,

Besides expenses of Commissioners, etc.

Now, to accomplish this, the Commissioners go outside of their duty and instructions, and propose to levy the expense on the lands which were restored to the public domain in the southern part of the valley, utterly disregarding rights that have accrued under the Act of last Winter. They submit with their report a copy of the assessment roll of Mendocino county, showing the areas and assessed valuations of the several claims of the occupants of the valley, who are entitled to enter their lands as preferred preemption as to the extent of their actual occupation. In general terms the Commissioners say that the lands are assessed generally at almost \$10 per acre, and deducting the value which tillage and the work of the farmers have given them, they are actually worth, for the most part, \$5 per acre.

They also complain because a number of the claims exceed one hundred and sixty acres.

LIST OF THOSE IN EXCESS OF 160 ACRES.

Your correspondent has copied the following list of the names of those whose claims, as assessed by the Assessor, are more than 160 acres, together with the assessed value of the land, without the improvements:

Names.	Acres.	Value.
F. M. and D. Asbell.....	320	\$ 3,200
Benj. Bishop.....	320	1,320
M. C. Barnes.....	320	750
W. T. Brown.....	240	2,000
D. C. Dorman.....	640	4,475
Phil & DeWitt.....	320	3,200
Dingman & Squires.....	320	320
C. A. Edsall.....	640	800
J. H. Griffin.....	320	3,100
Issac Grist.....	320	1,400
E. S. Gibson.....	320	3,200
Andrew Gray.....	640	1,280
Whit. Henly and G. W. Henly....	1,680	17,300
S. Housbrook.....	320	2,800
Hardy & Sheppard.....	320	1,075
G. W. & F. M. Hughes.....	480	1,840
O. Hendrick.....	320	3,200
Antoine Leger.....	800	1,000
D. Lacock.....	320	400
G. W. Morrison.....	320	2,900
Moore & Lockhart.....	640	800
T. O. Moore.....	640	800
A. E. McComb.....	200	725
W. P. Melendez.....	880	8,800
Wm. Pullen.....	200	2,600
Moses Pannell.....	400	500
Nathan Parrington.....	480	250
F. A. Redwine.....	320	400
L. W. Redwine.....	320	400
J. G. Short.....	240	2,250
Saml. Simmerly.....	320	3,200
J. Sullivan.....	640	800

This statement shows

ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE CLAIMANTS ONLY.

The rest holding claims of 160 acres or less, down to 45 acres. The total number of the above list of individuals is thirty-eight, holding an aggregate of 14,540 acres, valued at an aggregate of \$77,385, which will be an average of about 390 acres each, valued at a little more than \$5 per acre. Analyzing the report still further, it is seen that a large portion of these claims, as assessed, must be for grazing lands outside the limits of the old Reservation, as, in the aggregate, they sum up more land than is to be disposed of under the Act. Also deducting the value which they have added to the land, and, for those holding in excess of 160 acres, the value would be reduced to about Government price, on the average.

Again, the Commissioners offer or suggest

A VOLUNTARY APPRAISEMENT.

Of the value of the lands to be disposed of, recommending that the law be amended so as to raise the price accordingly. They appraise as follows:

Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 29, 30, of Townships 22, North Range, 12 West, or 8,960 acres, at \$5 per acre—\$44,800.

East half Section 1. Section 12. East half Section 13. East half Section 24, Township 23, North Range, 13 West., 1,600 acres at \$5 per acre—\$8,000.

West half Section 13. West half Section 24, Township 23, North Range, 13 W., 640 acres at \$2 50 per acre—\$1,600.

Total, 11,200 acres—\$54,400.

This shows, itself, that the amount to be disposed of is much less than the amount exhibited from the assessment roll, the above thirty-eight parties alone claiming over 14,000 acres; and yet they assume to base further legislative action on their exhibit of facts, deducting arguments from a false exhibit, which they have evidently failed to study themselves.

NOW COMES THE MOST UNJUST PROPOSITION:

They submit the draft of a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior (Assistant Secretary Cowen?) to appraise the lands restored to the public domain at their actual value, and to so amend the present law that actual settlers shall have the preferred right to purchase at such appraised value, not exceeding 160 acres, that of the rest of the land, the settlers on the new Reservation, who are to be dispossessed for the benefit of Mr. Updegraff, shall have the second preferred right of preemption of not exceeding 160 acres; the balance after that to be publicly sold. In this way it is proposed to rob Peter to pay Paul, and get a friend to purchase a stock ranch for Mr. Updegraff under the plea of protecting the "poor Indian," who will be farmed out to take care of Mr. Updegraff's sheep!

It is proposed, also, in the new bill, to continue this farce of a Commission by leaving the exterior boundaries of the new Reservation still unsettled, and

APPOINTING A NEW COMMISSION,

(Expenses \$5,000,) to fix definitely the northern boundary. Meanwhile, the President is to be asked to withdraw the 60,000 acres from the public domain; and the work of dispossessing the settlers is to go on as rapidly as possible, so that Mr. Updegraff can get possession.

However, this whole matter has been thoroughly ventilated by your correspondent, and called to the attention of the delegation from California, who will act promptly in the matter, and the settlers may be assured that

THEIR RIGHTS WILL NOT BE SUFFERED TO BE IGNORED

As long as the journalist's eyes are open and his quill is sharpened to command public attention and prick the official conscience. Mr. Cowen and General Shanks, who make this ill-advised report, must have been grossly deceived, for they are undoubtedly men of high character and honesty of purpose. It is evident that they have suffered some one else to dictate their report, trusting in his judgment. The tenor of these facts must show that the Agent, Burchard, has some explanation to make for his connection in the matter.

The plain facts are that

THE INDIANS DO NOT REQUIRE A LARGE RESERVATION,

That the portion of the old Reservation still retained is sufficient for them, that the settlers have acquired legal rights under the law of last Winter, and that the leasing of the Reservation as proposed would only open the way for possible fraud and mismanagement, besides establishing a bad precedent for the future. It is not necessary to show how easily Mr. Updegraff could, after obtaining possession of a large

GOVERNMENT SHEEP RANGE,

Evade the apparent intention of his contract by keeping a small band of sheep himself, the increase of which he could account for, and suffer the range to be used by others, who, unless objection were made, would enjoy the benefits without accounting at all. It is not assumed that such would be the case, yet there are few stockmen who would not jump at the chance to get into Updegraff's proposed plan, which your correspondent predicts will now fail of accomplishment.

C. A. W.


The recent meeting at Biggs' Station, in Hamilton township, the proceedings of which were published a week or so ago, shows the earnestness with which the farmers interested have gone to work to protect their land from being overflowed by sand washed down from the Cherokee mines, and the destruction of their crops. They have not set themselves to work with violent feelings against the mining interest in the State, for they recognize its importance almost as much as the Spring Valley Company, which is supposed to be the principal cause of the trouble. They are proceeding like sensible men, who desire to prevent the destruction of their homes without injuring the business of others. Several meetings have been held, the last one we believe, being on Saturday last. These meetings and conferences with the principal mining companies at Cherokee, have given rise to a proposition for a canal which shall carry the tailings of the mining company through the lands which they are now overflowing to Butte Creek and thence into the tules in Sutter county; where the gravel, sand, sediment and slickings, are required to reclaim the tule swamps. It is understood that the mining company will contribute liberally to this enterprise, and it is thought it will be found effectual in preventing the destruction of agricultural land, so justly complained of by the farmers.

It is known that the case of Crum vs. the Spring Valley Canal and Mining Company was tried in our District Court last Winter and excited so much attention, although won by the Mining Company, was yet considered so uncertain as to induce the Mining Company to purchase the ranches of Messrs. Crum, Clymer and others, with a view to avoid further lawsuits and trouble. It is believed therefore, that by the construction of two or three dams, one after another at favorable points along Dry Creek on the ranches thus purchased, that the sediment can be allowed to settle, and the water run off through a canal without damage. The proposition certainly looks feasible, and it is probable that it will be adopted as a way out of what promises, otherwise, to be a serious and complicated difficulty. The expense of constructing a canal of sufficient capacity to accomplish the purpose desired, we have not heard estimated, and we presume anything like a proper estimate of its cost cannot be made until surveys are first had and the route de-

termined. It is thought by some that the water can be taken up at a point on Dry Creek, and carried into a slough that debouches into Feather river near Hamilton. Of course, we would not set up an opinion against that of a competent surveyor and engineer, should such a route be recommended, but we should nevertheless entertain grave doubts of its being anything but a temporary relief that would annually overflow, destroying other lands than those now damaged and still find its way back to the present places of deposit in the low lands. We should suppose the best and safest way would be to make a canal following the present line of Dry Creek when practicable, to a point where the deposit will be of more benefit than damage. A broad canal on such a line, with a proper termination, would effectually contain and conduct the waters of Dry Creek beyond the point where damage would result from the deposit. It would be necessary, however, that the canal should be constructed of sufficient capacity to contain the flood water of the rainy seasons, and so that the canal might be annually cleared of the sediment deposited therein by means of teams and scrapers or steam paddys, or the canal itself would soon fill up, as from the nature of the ground, there could be but little fall and a slow and sluggish current. Keeping it cleaned out, however, would raise the banks on either side, and effectually confine the flood water to the channel. It is understood that the Mining Company will pay liberally towards this project for preventing the overflow of agricultural lands along Dry Creek. Its cost, however, cannot be ascertained until surveys and estimates are made. We are inclined to the opinion that it will be found an expensive job, and one that to be rendered effectual, will require a heavy annual outlay in removing the deposit from its bed that it may not fill up. However, with many, the project is feasible, and is a thousand times preferable to the endless litigation that must ensue if something is not done to prevent the overflow of agricultural land and the destruction of crops.

**Oroville, Quincy, Greenville
AND TAYLORVILLE
STAGE LINE.**

SUMMER ARRANGEMENT.

FROM AND AFTER  this date until further notice, stages for the above places will leave Oroville on **MONDAYS, TUESDAYS** and **FRIDAYS** at 6 A. M. Returning, will leave Greenville, Taylorville and Quincy on alternate days.

Every arrangement possible has been made for the accommodation of Summer travel, and the endeavor will be to make regular try-weekly trips. Extra teams always in readiness for those who do not wish to await the departure of the regular line.

Jyl7-tf

C. SHERMAN,
Proprietor.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

OROVILLE AND CHEROKEE

JOHN LEWIS. PROPRIETOR.

THE UNDERSIGNED WOULD RESPECTFULLY announce to the citizens of Cherokee and surrounding country, that he has a daily Stage Line between Cherokee and Oroville, and will hereafter run a fine Concord Coach over the above line daily.

Parties wishing to leave Cherokee in the morning in time to connect at Oroville with the cars for San Francisco, can be accommodated by leaving their orders at the hotel early in the evening.

Leaves Oroville every Saturday after the arrival of the cars for Susanville.

I solicit a liberal share of the traveling public.

Cherokee, July 1st, 1873.

Jyl7-tf

Weekly Butte Record

2-21-1874

ANOTHER CLEAN UP.—The Spring Valley Company at Cherokee have made another clean up, and have sent below three bricks valued at something over \$73,000. This is a very comfortable clean up for a month's run. And the beauty of it is, it is liable to continue, as the company has secured a monopoly of the waters of the West Branch, in addition to their former rights to Butte Breck waters and those of Concow Valley, which will give the company a constant supply of fluid when Jupiter Pluvius ceases to govern the clouds. They also own by purchase a good portion of the valley lying along the line of Dry Creek which is being used for a dump. The Cherokee mines are among the best in the State, and we are glad to note that those who have labored so long, are in the enjoyment of their harvest. There is just a little cloud on the horizon of the company along the borders of Dry Creek, but a month's run will settle all that when the company say the word.

Weekly Butte Record

3-28-1874

Lands Along Dry Creek.

A recent conversation with Mr. Lathrop, of the Spring Valley Mining Company with regard to the use and final disposal of the lands along Dry Creek, which have been purchased for the purpose of enabling the company to work their claims at Cherokee, has given us an idea or two, not previously entertained in regard to the ultimate effect of sending their tailings over the fertile valley of Dry creek. The general idea of the farmers along the stream has been that the lands would be ruined, and with this view they have contested the right of the company to tail into Dry Creek, and have finally, many of them, sold to the company, thus turning over their farms as a place of deposit for the sand washed from the mines. Several theories were discussed as to the use that could be made of the lands, while the process of mining was going on, after mining operations should have ceased. In the first place it was thought that a series of dams might be made, one after another, each succeeding one being lower than the one above it, which would enable the water to settle, and be run off in a comparatively clear condition. The first of these dams in Messilla Valley, it is expected, will be about 18 feet in height. It is thought that the settling of the water in this way, will form a good soil at the bottom, that may ultimately be used for corn land, or for the production of cereals. Each succeeding dam will be some 4 or 5 feet lower than the preceding one and when the fall is thus exhaust-

ed, a canal will carry the settled water to the tules, or Butte creek, where any deposits that may escape from the dams will be swept into the lowlands where it is required to prevent them from overflow. In the meantime, while work is progressing in the mines, it is thought that the lands purchased by the Company, may be rented to farmers, on terms that will pay interest on their cost, thus making the investment a good one, independent of the convenience of mining afforded by their purchase. On lands that may be overflowed by the sand and sediment from the mines, it is believed that cranberries can be grown, as well as on the artificial marshes of Massachusetts. Should this be found practicable, it is believed the land would be rendered more valuable per acre than our best wheat land. Another idea is that of utilizing the overflowed portion of the land by planting the Eucalyptus, a tree of rapid growth, where it has a supply of water, and said to be valuable timber for most purposes. These theories show that the company are not purchasing these lands for the mere purpose of destroying them, by burying their alluvial soil beneath the blistering sand washed down from their mines, although the incentive to purchase may have been to enable them to work out their rich mines at the upper end of Table mountain. There is much of the productive land purchased by the company that may be cultivated for years if nothing was did to prevent its overflow, and if practicable to utilize the overflowed land, as above intimated, the company will lose nothing by purchasing them; but will really make the lands along Dry Creek sustain one hundred

fold more population than they do now. We understand surveyors soon be at work to determine the practicability of such a series of dams as we have spoken of and if practicable to locate them. There can be no mistake about increasing the value of these lands if it shall be found practicable to irrigate them with waters from the mines that have been settled by such means. And thus may the mines of Cherokee be made to serve the double of purpose of pouring their mineral wealth into the channels of commerce, and causing comparatively valueless land to teem with the productions of the farm.

Weekly Butte Record

4-11-1874

THE Masquerade party given at Excelsior Hall, Cherokee, on Wednesday evening, April 1st was a decided success. This being the first one ever given in Cherokee, the crowd began to assemble at an early hour to witness the characters represented. The music was excellent. Dancing was kept up until the "wee sma'" hours of morning, when all returned to their homes satisfied with their evening's pleasure.

Weekly Butte Record

5-16-1874

HOTEL BURNED.—The large and commodious hotel at Cherokee Flat, in this county, was burned to the ground about two o'clock, Monday morning, together with the furniture. It is supposed that the fire originated from starting a fire in the kitchen preparatory to cooking breakfast. No other buildings were burned, although Odd Fellows Hall stood directly across the street, and the barn attached to the hotel stood within sixty or seventy feet of the hotel, in another direction. Fortunately there was no wind stirring, and the flames from the burning building exhausted themselves in the air. The building had usually carried an insurance of \$6,000, for which amount we understand, it was insured at the time of the fire, although a change had recently been made from one insurance company to another. Mr. Chambers, the proprietor of the hotel, had been its landlord for the past six or seven years, but had recently rented it to Mr. John Knowles, who loses heavily. The loss is also a severe one to Mr. Chambers.

June 5, 1874

Union Hotel,

JOS. I. STEWARD, Prop'r.,

(Successor to B. F. Allen.)

HAVING purchased the entire interest of B. F. Allen in the Union Hotel of Chico, I am now in possession of the same, and prepared to accommodate the public in all respects appertaining to a

First Class Hotel.

An old resident of this County, I am known to almost everybody, and no particular promise is necessary from me to furnish assurance that I will do my utmost to make the Union a First Class Hotel.

My Table

Shall be furnished with all the delicacies our markets can supply.

My Bar

Shall be supplied with the best brands of Liquors, Wines and Cigars.

My Rooms

Shall be nicely and cleanly kept, with Good Beds, Ample Covering—all of the best and latest improved styles used in the best houses of the State.

Obliging and civil attendants always ready to wait upon customers. Indeed, nothing shall be wanting on my part to render my guests comfortable and satisfied. I invite old friends of Butte and the public generally to give me a trial.

JOS. I. STEWARD.

Chico, Dec. 13th, 1872.

J.I. Steward first owned a store in Frenchtown, Butte County in 1854

Weekly Butte Record

6-27-1874

MAIL ROUTES.—We understand that Capt. Lewis, so long the popular proprietor of the Cherokee and State Line, has secured the mail and express line between Georgetown and Michigan Bluff, and will stock and run the route after July 1st. We do understand that he is to give up the Cherokee line.

It is understood that N. R. Stryker of Dogtown has secured the Susanville and Oroville Stage Line, from the original contractor, and will run the route after the 1st prox.

Charles Sherman, Esq., has been awarded the contract for the La Porte and Oroville line, and will run a daily mail to La Porte and thence to Quincy in Plumas county.

IMPORTANT

.....TO THE.....

**WORKING MAN, MECHANIC,
DRAYMAN
AND MINER.**

BUY LEVI STRAUSS & CO.'S

CELEBRATED

PATENT RIVITED DUCK

.....AND.....

DENIM OVERALLS.

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april-5mk

Weekly Butte Record
8-15-1874

SCHOOL ROLL.—The following is the Roll of Honor of the Oregon City School for the month ending August 7th: Mary Lynch, Lucius Cannon, Emma Grummet, Katie Bottjer, Hettie Grummet, Gordon Nisbet, Isabel Grummet, Willie Strang, Alice Jones, Hettie Morrison, Fosie Fitts.—O. E. Swain, Teacher.

Weekly Butte Record

9-12-1874

LETTER FROM KIMSHEW.

FLEA VALLEY, Sept. 6th, 1874.

ED. RECORD: Thinking a few items from this cool and healthful region might be interesting, I conclude to send them. This is the land of milk and honey—the woods are full of bees. Mr. A. B. Clark has a band of sheep ranging on Big KimsheW where he has cut down several bee-trees, one a large yellow pine, the bees going in at the root. After feeling the tree he discovered an enormous quantity of honey, the cone extending some 8 feet up the butt; he filled every vessel he could obtain, and then, left ever so much go to waste. The cone broke and the honey run down the hill in sluice heads, to big Big KimsheW creek, and now the waters thereof is good metheglin from there to Dogtown (how is that for high?), and if any one can beat that they will have to go a little higher up the mountain.

Messrs. Budd and Tegrundy, a few nights since, caught a large brown bear in a pen, and they have eat thereof until they growl somewhat like that ferocious beast.

Mr. Tegrundy has got two nice pet fawns—a buck and doe. Oh, such pretty, antic little things. The woods are alive with deer and bear, and one has to carry a gun or some sort of a weapon to keep the bear from raising his scalp and the deer from butting him over.

Now come the Sugar Pine Lumbering Company, situated two miles above Flea Valley in the heart of a good lumbering country. They have the largest mill perhaps in Butte county. The engine is 125 horse power; the saws are 64 and 74 respectively. They have just started up the saws, and make splendid lumber. There is no telling how much they could cut if they had the number of hands sufficient to take care of the lumber. The trees are from four to ten feet through at the stump, and it takes two looks to see tops of some of them (now thar)!