

Weekly Butte Record  
2-12-1876

**FOR SALE!**

**A** DRUG STORE, doing a good business, and capable of being greatly increased. Enquire of G. W. FRANCE, Cherokee, Butte county.  
Jan 28 Im

# Plumas National-Bulletin

## 2-19-1876

**Workman & Archer--Mining claim** situated on Long Bar. Water flume leading water to the above claim. Saw-mill on Yellow creek. Tax, 16 80; tax due on personal property, 42 cts.; 5 per cent, 86 cts.; costs, 2-00. Total, 20 dolls. 8 cents.

# Sacramento Daily Union 5-20-1876

Last week Dr. Stearns, with the assistance of one man, took out of the celebrated Willard quartz claim, Butte county, \$1,200, and the probability is he has struck another pocket or chimney, which may, like the old one formerly worked, lead to fortune, if not to glory.

McConnell & Carrick have built a little house and set men at work on the coal mine about three miles south of Yreka. The Superintendent of the work, F. Manifold, who is an experienced coal miner, is very much encouraged in finding a good coal bed, from the indications so far presented, in a few days working.

A severe hail-storm passed over the upper part of Butte county last Monday night. About Pence's the hail fell to the depth of two or three inches, some of the stones being as large as marbles. Considerable damage was done to fruit trees and gardens.

John Hollingsworth, just east of Woodland, has a small field of wheat in which he estimates that one quarter of the heads are smut. It looks fine at a little distance. The cause of this is, doubtless, that the usual practice of soaking the seed in vitriol solution—a sure preventive of smut—was not complied with. The consequence is, it will not amount to much.

The Federal Point Mining Company, in Nimbshew township, Butte county, are at work driving a tunnel of 600 feet, by which they expect to fully open up their claim. Already they have met with several good paying streaks of gravel, but do not intend to commence working them until the claim is fully opened. They are now in 300 feet, and are pushing forward as fast as possible.

A gang of Chinamen that are at work on Farnham & Co.'s claim, near the depot at Oroville, are taking out \$500 worth of dust each week. They have put up an engine, and gone down about forty feet. Soon the company will put up the proper works, and work it on their own accord, when we may expect to hear of larger returns being made.

# Weekly Mercury

## 7-14-1876

### **Flea Valley Company.**

From Daniel Hilton, one of the directors of the Flea Valley Company, we learn that about 100 men are at work on the ditch. The company's saw mill is located in Flea Valley, beyond Yankee Hill. A V flume is being built from there to the west branch of the North Fork, and will be fifteen miles in length. A large part of it has been completed. From there to Pence's, a ditch capable of carrying three thousand inches of water is being dug. And on this ditch are the hundred men at work with a prospect of being done about the first of November. It will be seven miles from where the water is taken out to the place where the dump will be. This water will be of no small value at this point, as it is in the vicinity of several very valuable mines that greatly need it to carry on operations. Situated as the mill is, in one of the best timbered sections of Butte county, this piece of property is one of the most valuable in the State. It has a very large country to supply with timber, and will save to the farmers a distance of twenty miles travel over a rough and hilly country.

*Chico Weekly Butte Record 9-23-76*

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NEW THIS WEEK.

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**SIERRA**

**Flume and Lumber Company.**

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Manufacturers and Dealers in

**SASH,**

**DOORS,**

**BLINDS**

And all kinds of

**Spruce Fir and Pine Lumber**

AND

**BUILDING MATERIAL**

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**SUGAR PINE A SPECIALTY.**

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**Factories at Chico & Red Bluff.**

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## **Sierra. Flume and Lumber Company.**

A person who now goes for the first time on a visit to this Company's new works, wonders how it is possible that so much has been done in such a short time. Having gone down two weeks ago yesterday, we concluded to go again and see how they were getting on. It immediately brought to our minds the old story from the "Arabian Nights," when buildings went up in a night. The new factory is almost completed, and the machinery is being rapidly placed in position. Wednesday the boiler was tested at 150 pounds to the square inch, which was satisfactory to the company. The railroad through Ninth Street is already graded 1200 feet, one of the necessary bridges built, and it will be but a short time until the cars are running up Ninth Street to the dump. For several weeks lumber has been received at the rate of 900,000 feet a week, and is shipped off as fast as the company can get transportation. Having heard some complaints made that they were hiring Chinamen to do all the yard work, we made inquiries and were informed that the Chinese crew only handle the lumber from the flume to the piles, and that as soon as possible only white labor will be employed by the company; but there were so many things to do, that it was impossible to make all the necessary changes at once. To-day all the labor that can be procured will be put on the grading, so that the road may be finished before the rainy season sets in. We are obliged to Major Turner for information and courtesies shown us while taking notes.

11-3-1876

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**The "Chronicle" and its Hendricks Story Squelched—The Truth About the Morris Ravine Mines—Governor Hendricks and His Connection With Them—What the Officers of the Company and Geo. C. Perkins Say.**

On Sunday last the San Francisco Chronicle published what purported to be an account of the connection of Governor Hendricks, of Indiana, with a mining company in Butte county. The article charged that Governor Hendricks had come to this coast a year or two ago, had visited that section of country, had seen an opportunity to rob "poor German miners" out of their claims in Morris Ravine, had gone home, organized a company, sent his nephew out here to represent it, and had by the power of his money and the influence of his name, succeeded in "seizing" these poor people's property and forcing them into the courts to protect it.

Now all this is a campaign lie, gotten up with the meanest of motives and published with the basest of ends.

#### THE FACTS

Are simply these: Some years ago W. C. Hendricks, of Butte county, late Senator in the Legislature from Butte, Plumas and Lassen counties, purchased on his own account a number of claims in Morris Ravine, four miles from Oroville. The ravine was dry, and though rich in places, could only be worked about twenty days in the year from lack of water. To get water would require the expenditure of a large amount of money, and as Hendricks could not command the capital, he went East to interest his friends in the project. He met with success. His friends, relatives and others that he was enabled to interest in the scheme, organized a company, incorporated it under the laws of Indiana and went to work to bring water into the ravine. Every square inch of ground that they claim in the ravine they bought and paid a liberal price for. They have now expended nearly \$400,000 on their ditches, flumes and other works, and will soon be in a position to realize something on their investment. The only interest that Governor Hendricks has in the enterprise is \$10,000 worth of stock which he purchased partly to aid his relative, Mr. W. C. Hendricks, and partly to reap a fair profit, if profit should come of it. He has no control over the company, is not President nor other officer, and has no more to do with the management of the business than has the smallest holder of Consolidated Virginia any control in the business of Flood & O'Brien.

#### WHO STARTED THE LIE.

From what follows, it is easy to determine from whom the Chronicle got its story. When the Gulch Gold Mining Company took hold of this Morris Ravine property, and showed a determination to push the work to a profitable basis, a number of small claimants cropped up. Men who had old claims, who had long ago sold or abandoned them, and who now saw that they were likely to prove valuable, wanted to get them back. They threw obstacles in the way of the work, in the way of the company's getting a patent to their lands, and by other means sought to throw difficulty in the path of the company. Some of them engaged a law firm in this city, known as Hoyt, Sears and McKee, to bring their claim into court, promising an enormous contingent fee in the hopeless hope of success. It was from this firm, one of whom is the President of the Hayes Invincibles, and the other a howling dervish for Republicanism, temperance, woman's rights—anything for notoriety—that the Chronicle obtained the material for its silly sensation. The following statement of the officers of the mining company on this coast speaks for itself:

#### WHAT THE OFFICERS SAY.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 20, 1876.

We, the officers of the Oregon Gulch Gold Mining Company, incorporated under the laws of the State of Indiana, desire to make the following statement in reply to the charges of the San Francisco Chronicle, with reference to certain mining operations being conducted in Butte county, with which that paper connects the name of Governor Thomas A. Hendricks of Indiana.

First—We state that Governor Thomas A. Hendricks is not President of the Oregon Gulch Gold Mining Company, better known as the Hendricks Mining Company, nor was he ever President of any mining or other company in this State.

Second—That the ground in Butte county, known as the claims in Morris Ravine, and with which his name is connected, was purchased in or about 1866—years before Governor Hendricks ever came to this coast.

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Third—That application was made in February, 1873, through W. C. Hendricks, and under the laws of the United States, for a patent to the ground, etc., purchased, without any consultation with Governor Hendricks, and without his knowledge; that the officers of the Land Office at Marysville, against the protest of the company, and against the protest of our legal adviser, Mr. P. O. Hundley, of Oroville, sent the application to the General Land Office, and not, as is stated, at the request and instance of the company.

Fourth—That a firm of attorneys in San Francisco, known as Hoyt, Sears & McKee, acting for our opponents, brought suit in the District Court to prevent the issuance of our title, and while this suit was pending these papers were arbitrarily sent to the General Land Office from the Land Office in Marysville.

Fifth—That after the papers had so been sent arbitrarily to the General Land Office, Governor Hendricks, at the request of W. C. Hendricks, an officer of the company, went to the General Land Office and there learned from Willis Drummond, the then Commissioner, that no action could be taken in the matter until the District Court of California had decided the suit brought for the claimant by Hoyt, Sears & McKee.

Sixth—That a final decision has not yet been reached in that Court, and therefore the whole matter remains unsettled.

Seventh and Last—That Governor Hendricks has nothing whatever to do in conducting the affairs of this company. A relative of his is a stockholder and officer, and certain friends and acquaintances of his are stockholders, but the Governor himself has nothing whatever to do with conducting the company; has given no special instructions with reference to its affairs, and should not be held responsible in any way for its workings.

E. S. ALVORD, President.

W. C. HENDRICKS, Agent and Supt.

## MORE TESTIMONY.

Ex-Senator George C. Perkins, for many years a resident of Butte county, and entirely conversant with all the facts in the case, has contributed the following unsolicited testimony. Senator Perkins is a man of probity, of honor and of distinguished character, and—what is singular with these qualities—is a Republican. He is an old merchant and banker of Butte county, and is now managing director of the Goodall-Nelson line of steamers. We presume his word will be taken without question. Here is what Mr. Perkins says:

## EX-SENATOR PERKINS' DENIAL.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 30, 1876.

To the Editor of the Herald: I have read the above statement of E. S. Alvord, Esq., and Hon. W. C. Hendricks, also the article published in the Chronicle to which the above relates, and I make this statement entirely unsolicited, actuated simply by a sense of justice. I am an old citizen of Butte county, having resided at Oroville, within four miles of the above named mining locality, for about twenty years. I am personally acquainted with Governor T. A. Hendricks and E. S. Alvord, Esq., and intimately acquainted with the Hon. W. C. Hendricks and all his operations connected with the location and management of the above mentioned mining enterprise, and I most unhesitatingly indorse the above statement of Messrs. Alvord and Hendricks, and pronounce the article published in the Chronicle of yesterday and to-day as incorrect, unjust and calculated to produce impressions entirely at variance with truth and facts. Believing and knowing to my own satisfaction that W. C. Hendricks purchased and paid liberally and generously for all the rights his company claim, and never thought or attempted to take the advantage of a single person who had prior rights. I also know of my own knowledge that Governor T. A. Hendricks first came to this State long after the purchases were made, and the mine in operation, and then came as a visitor and tourist to our favored State and not as a planner or manager in getting up a scheme. Much as I desire the election of Hayes and Wheeler, I cannot remain silent and consent to see their success aided by false statements.

Respectfully yours,

GEO. C. PERKINS.

OROVILLE, November 1, 1876.

ED. MERCURY: Trusting to your profound sense of justice, I send you this communication and request its publication for the purpose of vindicating the course pursued by Hon. W. C. Hendricks and Hon. T. A. Hendricks in the matter of the Morris Ravine claims, and application for a patent to mining claims in that District. The articles published in the "Chronicle" and "Marysville Appeal" in all of their coloring is false in every particular; for one grain of truth there is any amount of false and deceptive coloring, so that such truth as may exist is hid in the garb of falsehood and defamation. In justice to these gentlemen, we ask that the foregoing statement have a place in your Independent columns as published in the San Francisco Herald of the 31st ultimo. Too much praise cannot be accorded to Hon. George C. Perkins for the honorable and independent stand he has taken in this matter. He rises above the malgining politician, and speaks the words that honor prompts, and stands by the exalted and eternal principles of truth, in these degenerate days, such conduct deserves and should receive the highest meed of praise.

The Hendricks' matter, pertaining to the ownership and right to possess these mining claims, will shortly be adjudicated, and the truth developed; if the parties contesting are right, they will succeed; but politics has nothing to do with such matters, and its publication at this time is only intended for political effect. In conclusion, I have to state, that I indorse the article copied from the Herald in all matters relating to the facts stated.

P. O. HUNDLEY.



# Weekly Mercury

11-3-1876

## THE STORM.

The storm that came on last week was one of the most severe that ever visited this part of the State at so early a period in the season. In fact many of the old residents claim it to have been the severest they ever knew in the month of October. The river rose quite rapidly, and all day Friday large pieces of the Centennial Company's flume were seen floating down its muddy waters. We learn that the banks of the Spring Valley Company's canal were broken in several places in Hamilton Township, and the waters spread out over the ranches giving it the appearance of a vast sea. Whether or not any damages were done to the ranches we have not learned. The mountain roads in many places were rendered impassable and will have to remain so until the Spring opens unless a long spell of dry weather intervenes. On the Concow road bridges were washed away, and teams are delayed in the mountains until such time as extensive repairs can be made to enable them to cross the West Branch. All work is stopped on ranches until it dries off. Many fences were blown down and washed away, and considerable loss of property in this respect has fallen upon men not well able to bear it. However the bright warm sun has again made its appearance, and the trees are looking clean and bright as if it were already Springtime, while the fields are green with new grass and freshly growing grain. Many herds of cattle are coming from the mountains looking fat and sleek, and fit for the butcher's knife. The delay will give the farmers an opportunity to fit up their implements of husbandry for the great work before them of putting in the new crop.

B. F. Allen and Daniel Hilton, two of the solid men belonging to the Flea Valley Mining Company, were in town the past week. They report that little or no damage was done to the flume and ditch by the late storm.

# Weekly Mercury

11-10-1876

## **Flea Valley Company.**

The Flea Valley Company has the most extensive region of pine timber to be found in Butte county. It is in a part of the county where the axe of the lumberman had not been heard prior to the time of the formation of this company, and the pitch hunter, that pirate of the pine forest—never visited this beautiful tract of country. Much money and time has been spent in getting things into proper shape for the manufacture of lumber, and exporting it to the plains below where teams can load without drawing miles over high hills. One of the best mills to be found in the State has been erected, and it works to a charm. A V flume has been built that runs to and across the West Branch where it empties into a large ditch, through both of which lumber is floated nearly to Pence's ranch, and to a place where teams can go and load without meeting a single hill of any size. Better lumber never came from a mill, and the coming season will prove to be one of great profit to the owners of this piece of property.

## **New Line.**

We learn that Peter Woolaver, of Magalia, intends putting on a line of stages to run regularly between Oroville and that place via Pence's ranch during the coming Winter. We hope to see it well patronized so as to become a source of profit to its enterprising owner.

### Ghost Story.

Ex-County Surveyor McGann left this office a few ago to go to Cherokee to do some surveying for the Spring Valley Mining Company. We were much surprised to see him back so soon, and still more surprised at his wild, haggard and distracted appearance. Though looking you full in the face, he seemed not to see you but appeared to be looking for something away beyond in the distance. For a time he refused to talk, and hardly touched his victuals. At length the charm or spell broke and the cause was speedily revealed to the gaping throng that stood around him. It will be remembered that some weeks ago Mr. Effinger, the excellent Superintendent of the Spring Valley Company's mine, died quite suddenly. A notice of the time and place of probating his will is published in another column. It seems that a couple of miners who were working in a tunnel were suddenly startled by the well known step of their late Superintendent. On looking up there he stood in all the majesty of life doing just what would be usual for him to do, examining the work that was being done. To say that Mr. Daniels and Mr. Reese were not a little frightened would be putting it very light. The ghost or whatever it was took up the lighted candle, broke off a part of the clay into which it was stuck, and threw it at Mr. Daniels hitting him under the eye so severely as to turn it black. It took the men but a little time to reach the surface and neither has been back, nor will go for any sum of money. We also saw Mr. Louis Glass, the secretary of the company who states that the report which we have given above are current among the people of Cherokee, but the more intelligent portion pay no attention to them. He says though that if there was a place on earth that Mr. Effinger would visit, could he again return to earth, it would be the mines at Cherokee. That the people are considerably frightened is true; and that naughty boys and girls no longer roam the streets after dark is also true. We have an idea that it will be sometime before they get our surveying friend to remain with them over night, for while he fears neither man, woman nor the devil so long as they remain in the flesh, his legs will not permit him to be gazed at by those who have no business out of the tomb until the arch angel's trumpet shall sound to call them forth.

Weekly Mercury  
11-17-1876