

Sacramento Daily Record Jan 9, 1877

.....Also, articles of incorporation of the Big Bar Hydraulic Gravel Company. Capital, \$2,000,000, in shares of \$100 each. Directors—Charles Waldeyer, B. P. Hutchinson, James C. Logan, J. M. Brock and John J. Smith. The principal place of business will be in Oroville.

Weekly Mercury

1-19-1877

Fire.

We learn that a fire destroyed the barn of Mr. Marquis, of Concow valley, on Saturday of last week. The barn contained a large amount of hay, several hundred sacks of potatoes, a four-horse team and a mule team. Everything was destroyed. The fire was too far advanced when first discovered to rescue anything from the flames. Mr. Marquis was part owner in the articles lost, and Jack Hunter owned the rest.

Weekly Mercury

1-26-1877

Arm Broken.

A little daughter of Rufus North, of Coneow valley, had her arm broken on Sunday last by being pushed off a porch by a dog with which she was playing. The arm was broken about half way between the elbow and wrist. A China physician reduced the fracture and the child is doing well.

Almost a Fatal Accident.

OREGON CITY, Jan. 31st.

ED. MERCURY:—On Tuesday last as Geo. Peters was driving on the Oregon tinclik road, and trying to pass at a certain place where the water and tailings come down from Chambers' diggings, he met with what might have been a fatal accident. The water came down the hill in torrents, and ploughed its way through the tailings that are constantly washed down from the mine above, making the road sideling and rough. As one of the lower wheels plunged into a hole, Peters was thrown out in a very irregular manner, falling in such a way that a wheel run over one of his legs and nearly broke it. His hat and whip, altogether worth some ten dollars were washed away. Being an active man, he succeeded in regaining his upright position, but not until he had been pretty well rolled about among the tailings by the force of the water. Peters says that if his memory serves him right, the road overseer of that district promised, before his election, that if the people would elect him to the office of road overseer, he would have all the roads in his district put in fine order, and that place in particular where Mr. Chambers washes tailings in the road. Now Mr. Bly being a "religious cuss," Peters says he naturally placed confidence in him, and took quite an active part in his election, but after this he will not support any candidate who deals in promises before the day of election.

C. M.

Weekly Mercury
2-9-1877

FROM PENCE'S RANCH.

PENCE'S RANCH, March 15th.

EDITOR MERCURY:—Our mountain country north of Mesilla Valley is looking very beautiful. Spring is with us in all its beauty, bidding this fair earth smile and bloom again; and indeed I think it never looked more fair since the time it was bequeathed to man as a heritage forever. Those grand old mountains, with their wealth of untold treasures; those venerable pines, whose lofty heads almost touch the blue sky; sloping hills shining brooks and fragrant meadows make a scene of surpassing beauty. The mind of the beholder is instructively filled with gratitude to the Author of all those blessings. But it is not nature alone that holds undisputed sway over this mountain scene. There are some grand and beautiful works of art in this region. The Flea Valley lumber flume, which crosses the river some three or four miles below Dogtown, is a grand piece of work. It can be seen wending its way gracefully around the bluff, running from fifty to a hundred thousand feet of lumber daily to enrich and beautify the country. Davis & Company's ditch, running parallel a few hundred feet above, is a splendid piece of work. It will carry an immense quantity of water, and will be completed in a short time. This ditch covers some very rich ground, owned by different parties, which will be worked the coming Summer. And far down the bluff can be seen the sparkling waters of Feather river. The bed of the river is supposed to be very rich, and will be extensively worked the present year, after the water has all been taken out.

JENNIE.

Weekly Mercury

3-23-1877

Cherokee.

A few days since, while at Cherokee, we took a few notes which we here give our readers. There are three towns called Upper, Middle and Lower Town, in all of which are some neat and comfortable dwellings, improved by well kept yards filled with beautiful trees, and sweet scented flowers. The town contains four hotels, viz: Eagle, Spring Valley, Willoughby's and Bagnall's. Also four saloons, the Capitol, by Harry Delf, Eureka, by George Medanich, Excelsior, by Watkin Morgan, and the Exchange by Mr. Derrick. There are also four well filled stores kept by Wolf, Goodday, Jones and Blackburn, The postoffice is under the charge of Mrs. O. Jones, a lady who discharges the duties faithfully and well. Mr. Bader has a brewery, and turns out a large number of gallons of beer each year. Crowds gather at his place night after night to quaff the foaming bowl. There is also a well filled drugstore kept by Dr. France, one of the best physicians in Butte county. Dr. David Powell, a young gentleman of fine literary attainments and an excellent physician, and is the only other physician living there. Mr. M. R. C. Pulliam is the only attorney at law and he does not follow the profession, being too abundantly supplied with this world's goods to dig and delve as lawyers usually do. Willoughby is the justice, who holds the scales equipoise. C. M. Durett, one of the Mexican war heroes, is Constable and keeps the place quiet. There are three schools under the charge of Prof. L. F. Norman and two able assistants.

Weekly Mercury

3-23-1877

Wind Mill.

We saw a lot of workmen making a wind-mill at the shop of Sparks & Co. On stepping in, we were informed that Washington Henshaw, of Gridley, had invented a new wind-mill. The shaft works directly up and down, and there is no lateral motion about it. As the wind turns the wheel, the shaft, by means of a peculiar kind of wheel, moves directly up and down, and it requires no more power to move the large wheel in one position than in any other. Mechanics declare that it is something wonderful, and will be greatly called for in other machinery.

Accident.

On Sunday the 18th, Daniel Morgan, of Cherokee, quite an old man, accidentally fell into a shaft by the side of the trail and dislocated his arm at the elbow. He was soon taken home and the injury attended to by Dr. Powell. We hear that he is now doing well.

Weekly Mercury

4-6-1877

Goes to Cherokee.

Dr. J. A. Dawson, for the last five months a resident of Oroville, will go to Cherokee to practice. Dr. Dawson has got a host of friends in Oroville who will be sorry of his departure. He stands at the head of his profession.

From Cherokee.

A correspondent writing from Cherokee says: A Chinese flume robber was killed by Mr. James Beatson, watchman on the upper flume of the Spring Valley Mining and Flume Company, on Wednesday morning last. The Company have been running in this flume for several weeks, and toward the head it was rich in amalgam. The robbers had evidently crept up under shadow of the large bowlders, with which the ground is covered, until they reached the flume, climbing over the side of which they were seen by Beatson, who cocked his gun. The Chinese heard the click, and the one nearest him gave a shout and turned toward him, evidently with belligerent intentions. Mr. Beatson thereupon fired, when the whole party, three in number, turned and ran past him down the flume. He then gave them the other charge, and also shot at them twice with a revolver. One Chinaman run about a hundred yards and pitched over an embankment, falling about ten feet on the hard bed-rock, and crushed his skull. The others escaped, but from the tracks of blood it is believed that one at least is badly wounded. Upon the Chinaman who was killed was found a complete "kit" of tools for flume robbery, and the Chinamen examined at the inquest testified that he had the reputation of being a bad character. An inquest was held by Justice Willoughby, and the verdict of the jury was in accordance with the above facts. The officers of the Company feel under many obligations to Mr. Beatson for his coolness and bravery, as this is the first victim of quite a number who have been engaged in this nefarious business.

Weekly Mercury

4-20-1877

BIG BAR MINE.

This claim was purchased by the present company about the first of last January, for the sum of \$10,000. Since that time two flumes have been laid, one thousand feet of iron pipe put on the claim and two chiefs set at work upon the gravel banks. The last chief has been at work but a few days. The first clean up will be made in the course of ten days. But the owners do not have to wait till they clean up before knowing that they have the best claim in the county of its size. All they need to do is to take a pan of dirt and wash it, and they find gold in large paying quantities. They have been offered a large sum of money for the controlling interest by parties below, but since they find they have a good piece of property they intend to keep it and make the money themselves.

Weekly Mercury

4-20-1877

Confirmed.

Last Sabbath evening Bishop Wingfield, of the Episcopal church, administered the rites of confirmation to Mrs. Louis Glass and Miss Lela France, of Cherokee. A very large number was in attendance, and the ceremonies were of a very impressive character.

Windmills.

The only real serviceable windmills in the county are those put up by Messrs Sparks & Greenleaf. They have a direct up and down motion and run smoothly and without friction or but very little of it. It is a new invention and one that our farmers claim is the best ever seen in the State. Call at their shop and look at it. It costs less than any other.

LOCALITY ITEMS.

CENTRAL HOUSE.

Half the farmers off to Oroville on the arson trials. Haying has just commenced, crops look fair. A rain would be of great benefit to the grain.

WYANDOTTE.

Everything quiet; fruit looks promising; not enough water this spring to make mining profitable. The public school closed on Friday last. Five of the pupils think of going before the County Board of Examiners for certificates at the next meeting of the Board.

MESILLA VALLEY.

Things here wear a promising look. The miners are doing well. A new planing mill soon to be erected by the Flea Valley Lumber Company bids fair to add to our business and population.

MOUNTAIN HOUSE.

Stages running through to Quincy three times a week makes things livelier than they were a short time since. Some of the families begin to come up from the valleys to their Summer retreat. Public school opened two weeks ago, with W. J. McMillan teacher. Mr. Braddock takes his place in a few weeks.

FORBESTOWN.

Things dull here just at present. Quartz mills seem to be on a stand-still. They will probably be in full operation again in a short time. Prof. O. T. Harvey is expected to take charge of our public schools when it opens.

NELSON STATION.

Base ball is all we hear. The Black Knats are in full practice. They expect to white wash, bulldoze and utterly annihilate the Intrepids at Oroville on the 26th.

CHEROKEE.

The mining ditch of Ed. Davis & Co., has just been completed. It has a capacity of 4,000 inches. This company is now engaged in extensive mining operation, and will no doubt reap a rich harvest of gold. The Spring Valley Mining Company are taking out large amounts of gold. The Flea Valley Flume and Lumber Company have completed their flume to within one mile of Cherokee. The public school will have a picnic on May day, and it promises to be the best one ever gotten up in Butte county. They expect a thousand people on the grounds.

Weekly Mercury

4-27-1877

Weekly Mercury

5-4-1877

Big Bar Claim.

On Saturday of last week, the trustees of the Big Bar claim, consisting of John J. Smith, J. M. Brock, Chas. Waldeyer, and J. M. Burt, took a trip up the North Fork to their claim, to see how matters were progressing. They are men who enter into mining business only because they can do so on a legitimate scale. That is, own the mine and run it in a systematic manner. They paid ten thousand dollars for it the first of January, and have expended some thirty-five hundred in fitting it up. They now have two chiefs and one thousand feet of good iron pipe, and fourteen hundred feet of flume. They have run but a short time, and everyting was new and worked with a good deal of friction. Some days ago they were offered thirty thousand dollars for their claim by parties below, but as they have a good thing, they propose to hold on to it for the present at least. On the clean-up the other day they were more than pleased, having got double the amount expected. They supposed if they got one thousand dollars out of the small piece of ground washed, they would be doing extremely well; but to get double that sum made them a happy set indeed. And this sum too came only from a few boxes at the head of the flume, leaving one thousand feet yet to be cleaned up, beside the bed rock yet to be picked up and washed.

Weekly Mercury

5-4-1877

From Yankee Hill.

YANKEE HILL, April 25, 1877.

ED. MERCURY:—Only imagine us the recipient of a beautiful bouquet way up here in the mountains, where the fleecy snow and pelting hail storms greet us, like April showers in lower altitudes.

“Flowers, but not wild wood flowers.”

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Pence, who always did have the choicest varieties of roses, geraniums, jessamine, pinks, lilacs, heliotropes and bridal wreaths, mingled with the feathery cypress and others too numerous to mention. So many hearts are made glad that she leaves few to waste their sweetness on the air. The fragrant azalies, adder tongue, Indian pinks and many others that have hitherto greeted us so early, dare not presume to lift their heads, lest their beauty will be marred, that they can never decorate the homes of the mountaineers. Little did we think that we were destined to spend a cold Winter in the “lap of spring.” How great the change and yet how agreeable. The conventionalities of city life are thrown aside and a sense of freedom is realized. Nature in all her charms, brings joy to our appreciative hearts, giving us that genuine satisfaction that none do or can experience in the crowded thoroughfares of a great and growing city.

AU REVOIR.

Gold.

A twenty-five thousand dollar bar of gold came down from Cherokee on Wednesday of this week.

Weekly Mercury

5-11-1877

What Does it Mean.

The readers of the MERCURY will remember that a few months ago a gentleman by the name of Poppe living at Cherokee Flat in this county applied for and obtained a Government patent to a large piece of valuable mining ground. Since that time he has been engaged in running a tunnel into it, so as to pierce north Table Mountain. He is in between three and four hundred feet. The rock is a kind of shale and lignite. Last Monday the dump pile was discovered to be very hot and smoking, and in a short time the whole tunnel was found to be on fire. It is as hot as a furnace, and a volume of dark smoke rushes out continuously. The air is strongly impregnated with sulphur, so much so that it is hard to breathe. No one seems to know what the matter is, and all are more or less frightened. Whether Poppe has tapped the infernal regions or not is a question hard to answer. It is certain that he cannot get near the tunnel. The people in the immediate vicinity do not propose to be suffocated, and they have stampeded. Chas. Waldeyer and family, B. P. Hutchinson and Dr. Dawson have come to Oroville. Large numbers are constantly visiting the place to look at the curiosity, but there is little to see except a volume of smoke rushing out of the tunnel.

Lumber.

Day after day large loads of Sugar pine lumber pass through town to the depot, to be shipped to San Francisco. It all comes from the "dump," near Pence's Ranch and belongs to the Sugar Pine Lumber, Flume and Mining Company. It is the best lot that we have seen for a long time and readily finds a market below at a good round figure.

Weekly Mercury

5-18-1877

Sherman's Stages.

Oroville can boast of the liveliest stage man in the country. We refer to Charles Sherman. Every improvement in the stage line that money will buy he gets. Always ready with extra teams for the convenience of his friends, he leaves no room for any one to complain. He has just got up a new stage, fitted up in nice style. It will seat eleven persons comfortably. We believe he intends to put it on the Cherokee route, under charge of Commodore Barlow.

Weekly Mercury

5-18-1877

Still Burning.

Last week, just before going to press, we learned that Poppe's tunnel, at Cherokee, was on fire. We supposed that our information was correct. Since that time we have been informed by parties that it is only the rock that has been dumped at the mouth of the tunnel and the mouth itself that is on fire. It should be borne in mind that not a single piece of wood is in the tunnel or at its mouth. All the fire and smoke come from the rocks or some substance contained in them. Any way the mouth of the tunnel is so hot that it is impossible for one to get near it so as to see in or to work. The smoke arising from the dump can be seen at Pence's ranch. The air is very strongly impregnated with the smell of sulphur. It certainly is something unusual, and for which no one has yet been able to account.

Weekly Butte Record

5-26-1877

Flea Valley Flume.

A new Turning and Rustic mill is in course of construction near the Dump of the above Company's works, not far from Pence's Ranch. It will doubtless help to build a little hamlet in that vicinity, as already some four or five new buildings are nearly completed. At the Dump is quite a stock of lumber, the result of shipments so far from the mills for this season.

Weekly Mercury

6-1-1877

Big Bar.

From the secretary of the Big Bar Company, we learn that work has been suspended on account of the lack of water. During ordinary seasons there would be an abundance of water except perhaps two months in they year. But this year with no snow in the mountains, the supply has been reduchd to three hundred inches, not enough to carry the rocks through the sluices, and the company thought best to shutdown until fall. The claim was purchased last January and put in running order, being completely fitted up with pipe, fumes, and two immense chiefs, and it has paid well. Already parties on the lookout for paying claims, are bidding for this, but as it is mostly owned in town, we hope it will not be sold. It is one of the best plices of property in this Strle.

Weekly Mercury

6-1-1877

At Work.

A company of men are at work under the charge of Daniel Hilton, changing the Bonner stable into a suitable building to receive manufactured lumber from the dump, near Pence's. When entirely completed it will be so changed that one would hardly know the place.

Sold Out.

Samuel Mullen, has disposed of his saloon to Daniel and J. S. Hilton. The name of the saloon has been changed. It is now called the American Exchange. The proprietors will repair things about the place generally, put in a stock of the very best wines, liquors and cigars, and make it one of the fashionable places of resort in Oroville.

6-1-1877

WEEKLY MERCURY

BY GRAY & DEMOTT.

FRIDAY.....JUNE 1, 1877.

Flea Valley Correspondence.

FLEA VALLEY, May 7, 1877.

ED. MERCURY:—What we are to-day enjoying, many would call a big snow storm, but when we consider had it been rain instead, we would only have called it one of April showers in May. Such a short time have the flakes been falling, and the ground is already covered with snow. The trees stand out in their garments of green, and the sun, even now, is peeping through the half opened clouds, and lighting up one of the most entrancing scenes that was ever delineated by nature's pencils. Should we withdraw our eyes from it, we fear it would melt away. We wish we had a Wm. Heith or an Edwin Dearkin here to give the true coloring on a canvass, or purchase a more refined painter, like Thomas Hill, since the perfect beauty blends in one common scene so quickly. The snow will not long remain with us, for the days are so "stretched out," it will melt ere we have time to gether sufficient for ice cream. We had our mouths all made up for some. The idea simply, will not satisfy us, but we have the cream without the ice. Cream and strawberries

too. Our intercourse with the valley below is such that we can be furnished with every luxury of the land. Camping out is not without its "living enjoyments. Our mail matter duly comes to us, and we read with interest the telegrams and cablegrams as well as what transpires within our own favored State. In our last, we read the death of one—an eminent lawyer of Oakland—a school mate in earlier years. Such talent as he then displayed was rare in one so young. His powers of elocution and quick comprehension, enabled him to stand first and foremost in all debates. However strong his opponents arguments, they were crushed with a vice like grasp and fell to nought. His was a giant intellect, and why he could never reach the "ultimatum" is known only to Him "who ruleth over all." r.

Weekly Butte Record

6-2-1877

LETTER FROM CHEROKEE.

CHEROKEE, May 24th.

EDITOR RECORD:—Although we are outsiders, claiming no rights that others are bound to respect, we beg permission to remind our fellow-citizens that we possess many advantages not enjoyed by the people of any other portion of Butte county. Our mines are second to none in the State. In addition to the extensive operations of the Spring Valley Company, Ed. Davis & Co. have, within the last year, completed a ditch costing \$80,000, and they are now working one of the best paying mines in California. Mr. Vinton is working a large force of men on St. Clair Flat. Mr. Beard is mining on an extensive scale north of the town.

The Flea Valley Company have established their dump within three miles of town, and are doing an immense business in lumber. Cherokee is said to be one of the healthiest towns in the State. Situated twelve hundred feet above the level of the Sacramento Valley, the inhabitants are free from the bilious diseases prevalent in the lowlands, and entirely exempt from the dread pneumonia so fatal to the residents of the Sierras.

In number, beauty and size the children of Cherokee excel. No less than twenty of our boys that were born and reside here will measure six feet two inches in their stockings. Our girls are not quite so tall, but in point of beauty and intelligence they are excelled by none.

Persons seeking a home will do well to visit Cherokee before making a final location. No part of the State offers greater inducements to those who wish to engage in farming on a small scale. Good land, well situated for irrigating, can be bought for from five to ten dollars per acre. During the last twenty years not a single failure of crops has occurred. None of our farmers have grown wealthy, but all have made a good living and something more. All the fruits that can be grown in any part of the State flourish here. While the people of many portions of the State are investing their all in irrigation schemes, we are blessed with a beautiful rainfall, sufficient to secure good crops, and in case of extreme dry seasons farmers can obtain a supply of water for irrigation from some of the many canals that traverse this section.

Again, while some of our neighbors are cursed with a surplus of Chinamen but few of the moon-eyed Celestials find employment here. We have as good a class of workmen as can be found in the United States. They are remarkable for sobriety and industry, most of them being men of families.

As an evidence of the refinement and good taste of our citizens, we may state that a first-class music teacher finds constant employment. We have two modest church edifices, a public school building capable of accommodating two hundred children. We can say without fear of contradiction that no town in California can boast of a more orderly and respectable class of citizens.

Weekly Mercury

6-15-1877

Sherman has sold the Cherokee Stage line to Sim. Garber. The line has good coaches and good stock. Patronize it.

Gone East.

S. M. Rider, wife and three children left for the old homestead, away down in the old State of Maine, on Thursday of this week. He is a son-in-law of P. Y. Oliver, of Cherokee, at which place he lived for many years, being employed in the mill of Mr. Waldyer. Mr. Rider has been an excellent citizen, and one that we can ill afford to loose. He goes to Bucksport, Maine, to live with his aged parents, who have been most urgent in their demands.

NEW, THIS WEEK.

APPLICATION NO. 13 FOR MINERAL LAND PATENT.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, }
MARYSVILLE, CAL., 12th June, 1877. }

Notice is hereby given that the Spring Valley Mining & Irrigating Company, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, whose postoffice address is at Cherokee, Butte County, California, has filed in this Land Office its application for a Government patent for the said Company's placer mine, located in and adjoining Cherokee Mining District, in Butte County, State of California, in townships 20 and 21 North, range 4 East, and described on the plat and field notes of the official survey thereof as follows:

Beginning at a stake marked "B. G. Co." No. 1, from which bears a stake near stump North 34 deg. 28 min. West, distance 2.06 $\frac{1}{4}$ chains. A live oak tree marked with three notches bears North 30 degs. East, distance 3.25 chains. Said tree is near the house of D. Daniels. A crooked pine that has been used for a flag staff on the Summit of the Sugar Loaf bears South 61.25 East; also the chimney of the hoisting works bears South 24 degs. 10 mins. East, about 6.00 chains distant. Thence variation 17 degs. 15 mins. East; South 30 degs. 53 mins. East, 13.42 chains, intersect section line between sections 29 and 32, South 89 degs. 31 mins. West, 24.20 chains, from section corner to sections 28, 29, 32 and 33, township 21 North, range 4 East, 22.58 chains to No. 2, stake marked B. G. Co. and S. V. M. & I. Co. Thence variation from 17 to 17 degs. 25 mins. East, South 21 degs. 41 minutes East, 6.47 chains, set post in mound of rocks for corner marked S. V. M. and I. Co. No. 3. Thence North 82 degs. 15 mins. East 7.30 chains set post in mound of rock for corner marked No. 4, S. V. M. & I. Co.; variation 17 degs. to 17 degs. 33 mins. East. Thence South 13 degs. 08 mins. East, 28.21 chains set post in mound for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 5.

Thence variation 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ degs. to 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ degs. East, South 77 degs. 33 mins. West to station and intersection of the Eastern line of the Blue Gravel Company's line at a point South 21 degs. 41 mins. East, 35.60 chains from Station, No. 2, of the Blue Gravel Company, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 6.

Thence variation 17 degs. 15 mins. East, South 21 degs. 41 mins. East, along East line of Blue Gravel Company's claim 4.38 chains to post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 7.

Thence variation 17 degs. 10 mins. East, North 80 degs. 40 mins. East 3.70 chains, intersect section line between sections 32 and 33, South 4.18 chains, from $\frac{1}{4}$ section corner 3.85 chains, to post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 8.

Thence variation 17 degs. 10 mins. East, South 29 degs. 52 mins. East, 6.82 chains, to post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 9.

Thence variation 17 degs. 10 mins. East, North 65 degs. East, 1.00 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Company No. 10.

Thence South 28 degs. 39 mins. East, 2.00 chs. set post in mound of rocks for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 11. No. 8.

Thence South 55 degs. West 1.10 chains to post for corner in mound of rocks marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 12.

Thence South 26 degs. 33 mins. East 6.20 chs. to post for corner marked S. V. M. & I Co. No. 13.

Thence variation 17 degrees 13 minutes East, South 17 degs. 45 mins. East 4.63 chains to post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 14.

Thence 17 degs. 12 mins. East, South 55 degs. 25 mins. West, 5.61 chains to post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 15.

Thence South 21 degs. 41 mins. East, 16.18 chs. Intersection stake on 4th standard line North; North 89 degs. 43 mins. East 10.59 chains, from section corner to sections 32 and 33, 16.89 chs. set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 16.

Thence variation 17 degrees 20 mins. East, North 72 degrees 47 mins. East, 1.85 chains, intersected 4th standard North, 23.50 chains set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 17.

Thence variation 17 degrees 12 minutes East; North 32 degs. 22 mins. West, 16.47 chains, to station at old stake for corner, set new post marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 18.

Thence variation 17 degs. 5 mins. East, North 3 degs. 15 mins. West 15.00 chains set post for corner, marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 19.

Thence 17 degs. 8 mins. East; North 58 degs. 30 mins. East 3.00 chains, set post for corner in mound of rocks marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 20.

Thence North 7 degs. 55 mins. East 16.29 chs. set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 21.

Thence variation 17 degs. 5 mins. East, North 84 degs. 50 mins. East 3.05 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 22.

Thence North 2 degs. 21 mins. East 12.86 chs. set stone 3x4, 20 in length, marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 23.

Thence North 5 degs. 30 mins. West 3.22 chs. set post in mound of rock for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 24.

Thence North 14 degs. 55 mins. West, 7.83 chs. set post in mound of rock for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 25.

Thence North 13 degs., West 2.23 chains. set post in mound of rocks for intersection corner marked I. S., 10.15 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 26.

Thence variation 17 degrees 10 minutes East, North 36 degs. 15 mins. East, 23.66 chains, set stone for corner 4x6, 20 inches in length, marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 27.

Thence variation 17 degrees 12 minutes East, North 31 degs. 30 mins. East, 9.58 chains, set post in mound of rocks for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 28.

Thence North 78 degs. 25 mins. West 11.00 chs. set post in mound of rocks for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 29.

Thence South 51 degs. 25 mins. West, 15.67 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Company No. 30.

Thence South 36 degs. 50 mins. West, 7.87 chs. set post in mound of rocks for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 31.

Thence variation 17 degrees 16 minutes East, South 2 degs. 50 mins. East, 5.80 chains, set post in mound of rocks for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 32.

Thence South 60 degs. 51 mins. West, 10.23 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 33.

Thence South 80 degs. West, 6.50 chains, intersect line between sections 28 and 29, set post in mound of rocks marked I. S., 6.80 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 34.

Thence North 61 degs. 25 mins. West, 3.57 chs. set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 34.

Thence North 81 degs. 20 mins. West, 2.08 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 36.

Thence 72 degs. 42 mins. West, 9.00 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 37.

Thence 79 degs. 40 mins. West, 6.61 chains, set post for corner marked S. V. M. & I. Co. No. 38.

Thence variation 17 degrees 15 minutes East, North 83 degs. 53 mins. West, 11.81 chains, to place of beginning, containing (gross area) 313.43-100 acres. Net area 334.05 acres.

From the exterior boundaries the Hendricks mine, claimed by W. C. Hendricks and the Kerr & Green and J. Whalen & Co's. mines, claimed by J. Whalen & Co. have been excluded by the following surveys, to-wit:

FIELD NOTES OF THE SURVEY OF THE HENDRICKS MINE:—Beginning at the Northeast corner at stake in rock marked H. No. 1; said rock is 2 feet in height, 1½ feet in length North and South and 2 feet in width, East and West, from which a black oak marked A and B. T. bears South 5 degs. 42 mins. East, distance 15 links.

Thence variation 17 degrees 12 minutes East, South 9 degs. 49 mins. East, 3.90 chains, to pine tree blazed on four sides, 3 feet in diameter, and marked H. No. 2.

Thence South 75 degs. 21 mins. West, 12.62 chains, set post for corner marked H. No. 3.

Thence North 9 degs. 49 mins. West, 3.00 chs., set post for witness corner to station over bank 250 feet deep, 4.55 chains to station on face of bank—not practicable to reach Station No. 4.

Went to the Northeast corner, place of beginning, and ran thence variation 17 degs. 12 mins. East, South 78 degs. 15 mins. West, following small ditch at 7.60 chains, set witness post in mound of rocks marked W. P. H. No. 4, at 12.62 chains, to corner on side of steep bank, not accessible to establish. This tract contains five thirty-one hundredth acres.

CONNECTION.—Commenced at Station No. 21 of the Spring Valley Mining & Irrigating Company's survey for patent, thence South 81 degs. West, 4.61 chains, thence North 47 degs. West, 5.00 chains; thence North 66½ degs. West, 2.82 chains; thence North 70 degs. 10 mins., West 6.80 chains, to the Northeast corner of the W. C. Hendricks claim. True course from Station No. 21 to the Northeast corner of said Hendricks claim, North 70 degs. 22 mins., West 18.24 chains distant.

FIELD NOTES OF SURVEY OF KERR & GREEN MINE.—Commencing at Station No. 20 of the S. V. M. & I. Co., mining claims and ran thence north 83 degs. 19 mins. west. 6.28 chains, to the northeast corner of the Kerr & Green mining claims at an oak stump marked K. & G. No. 1, and place of beginning; thence, variation 17 degs 8 mins. east. South 6 degs. 21 mins. west, 4.51 chains, set new post where old post was planted, said post marked K. & G. No. 2. Thence north 83 degs. 39 mins. W., 1.51 chain set post for corner marked K. & G. No. 3. Thence north 6 degs. 21 mins. east, 4.51 chains, to station on edge of deep bank, set post for corner marked K. & G. No. 4. Thence south 83 degs. 39 mins. east 4.51 chains to station and place of beginning, containing 2.06 acres.

FIELD NOTES OF JOHN WHALEN & Co's. MINE.—Beginning at Station No. 13 of the S. V. M. & I. Co., near Hunter's fence, thence south 17 degs. 45 mins. east, 1.52 chains, to station set post for corner marked W. & Co. No. 1, and place of beginning and at the northwest corner of said John Whalens & Co. claim. Thence variation 17 degs. 13 mins. east, north 59 degs. 15 mins. east, 1.60 chains, to station set post for corner marked W. & Co. No. 2. Thence south 27 degs. 13 mins. east, 4.45 chains, set post for corner marked W. & Co. No. 3. Thence variation 17 degs. 10 mins. east. North 51 degs. 47 mins. east, 3.75 chains to station at old stake marked same "W. & Co., No. 4." Thence south 31 degs. 50 mins. east, 1.80 chains set post for corner marked "W. & Co. No. 5." Thence south 76 degs. 5 mins. east, 2.20 chains, set post for corner marked W. & Co. No. 6. Thence variation 17 degs. 12 mins. east, south 1 deg. east, 1.80 chs. set post for corner marked W. & Co. No. 7.

Weekly Mercury

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Thence north 81 degs. west, 4.97 chains, set post for corner marked W. & C. No. 8. Thence variation 17 degs. 13 mins. east, north 75 degs. 40 mins. west, 4.00 chains, to station No. 14, S. V. M. I. Co. Thence north 17 degs. 45 mins. west, 3.11 chains to station and place of beginning, containing 2.01 acres.

The said Spring Valley Mining and Irrigation Co.'s mine is bounded on the west by the Cherokee Flat Blue Gravel's claims and others.

Applicants claim by purchase of the original locators of said mine, and the record of its claim is to be found in the office of the Recorder of Cherokee Mining District in the said county of Butte.

All persons holding any adverse claim thereto, are hereby required to present the same before the Land Office within sixty days from the first day of publication hereof.

CHAS. M. PATTERSON, Register.

Weekly Mercury

6-15-1877

Decided.

The case of Merrithew vs. Dr. David Powell, of Marysville, but formerly of Cherokee Flat, for damages, for malpractice, in not setting a broken arm right, came up in the District Court last Friday, and was given to the jury Saturday afternoon. After being out a few minutes the returned a verdict for the defendant. The case excited considerable interest. The doctor having been a resident of this county for a number of years, and being very popular in the part of the county where he resided, all very naturally felt an interest in his success. It was proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the bone was properly set, but it being a busy season of the year, Merrithew went to work in a few days and got it out of place again.

WEEKLY MERCURY

JOHN C. GRAY.....EDITOR.

FRIDAY.....JUNE 15, 1877

Arm Broken.

A son of Caleb Nix, of Cherokee, fell from a horse and had his arm broken. Dr. Dawson, of Cherokee, attended the little sufferer, and he is now doing well.

Tapped.

Dr. Burlingame was tapped by Dr. Miller on Friday of last week. and sixty-one pounds of water drawn off. The very hot weather coming on prostrated him very much, but now he is getting along quite comfortably.

Weekly Mercury

6-15-1877

New Track.

The railroad folks find that business has so increased this year as to render the present side tracks entirely inadequate to meet the wants of the increasing business. They have gone to work and put down new tracks, and greatly increased the number of their cars. About three times more business has been done this year than last. Lumber is the principal article sent below, and as it comes in large quantities from Lumpkin Mill and the Flea Valley Company, it makes business very lively. A large lot of freight comes up each week, much of it being castings for quartz and saw mills.

Sugar Pine Company.

"Where can I get good lumber," asked a farmer the other day. We sent him across the street to the office of the Sugar Pine Lumber Company, which constantly keeps on hand a large supply of all kinds of lumber. Our readers living near Biggs' and Gridley's Stations can get their fencing lumber here cheaper than at any other place in the State. Either call at their office here in town, or at the dump near Pence's ranch. In either case you will have to go to Pence's, for the lumber is piled up there in large quantities. Farmers buying of this company save the rough dusty roads to the mountains that usually takes three days longer than to go to this company's dump for a load.

Flea Valley Correspondence.

FLEA VALLEY, June 15, 1877.

ED. MERCURY:—There is an insect of the genus "Pulex" having two eyes and six feet, with thread-like feelers and rostrum armed with a sting. It makes rapid movements in fleeing away, hence the two words of different orthography become confounded. It is said where the "insect" abounds, a certain plant called "flea" vine grows spontaneously, and is instrumental in keeping them at a distance. As no such plant exists here, the inference is, no "fleas" ever did either, but the prevailing opinions of people, especially those who have never visited this section of the county, is, that our beautiful valley's name is an index to our sufferings. We would assure them that no such "pests" have ever troubled us here, but Indians called it "Flee Valley," and we accept that name since we fled from the hot regions to a more salubrious climate. It is not often we have to report a serious accident. Last week Henry Fairbanks had the end of his thumb crushed off. It was at first feared that it might have to be amputated. Necessity compelled him to take extra care of it, and it is doing well, but can never be a perfect thumb again. Now and then a Chinaman gets crippled, but there are always enough left to take their places without any inconvenience, and they have ample time to get strong again. The greatest days work the mills ever did, was on last Tuesday, when 45,000 feet of lumber was passed out to be disposed of in piles, or sent down the flume to the dump. Those who study causes might have had a theme on Thursday evening, about six o'clock. A big sugar pine laying on the ground, a quarter of a mile from the mills, was discovered to be on fire. Little excitement was manifested, and through the efficiency of the men, the fire was checked, and now it is conjectured "what might have been" had the wind blown, at the time as it did a few days ago. A miniature race occurred on the same day of the fire. A pair of oxen got loose from a logging team in the woods and rushed through the village at a speed that would eclipse many a noted race horse, followed by the driver and truck tender. Fortunately the oxen were brought to a standstill at the barn. A broken yoke, loss of breath by those in pursuit, and terror of those witnessing the race was all the damage done. Such doleful accounts come up from the valley, of people sweltering day after day, while the nights are scarcely cooler. That our enjoyable weather is fully appreciated. T.

Weekly Mercury

6-22-1877

Weekly Butte Record

6-23-1877

Decided.

Dr. Powell, of Cherokee, was sued some time ago by W. W. Merrithew for malpractice in not setting a broken arm properly. The jury returned a verdict for defendant, as it was proven that the plaintiff had used the arm before it had become firmly knit together.

Stage Line Bought.

S. Garber has purchased the Cherokee stage line lately owned by Chas. Sherman. Sim is a careful and experienced driver, and will do well now that he controls both lines.

WEEKLY MERCURY

FRIDAY.....JULY 6, 1877.

FATAL ACCIDENT.

Falling of the Flea Valley Flume—Two Men Instantly Killed, and two Others Wounded.

Last Tuesday afternoon at fifteen minutes past two o'clock, a fearful accident happened on the line of the Flea Valley Company's flume about two miles below the mill which resulted in the instant death of two men, and the severe wounding of two others. It seems that the company were sending down bunched lumber, which had formed a jam at the place of the accident. Patrick Bacon, Richard Watson, Charles Campbell, Stevens and a Chinaman were sent to break the jam. They had loosed about twenty bunches and were pushing on them, and moving them from side to side in order to float them along, when Watson cried out, "Run, boys, for God's sake, the flume is falling." No second invitation

was needed. His earnest, startling voice was enough to tell them of danger. Watson and the Chinaman ran up the flume, while the other three ran down stream. The flume stood about seventy feet in the air over the bed of a rocky stream, now dry. The Chinaman reached a place above the break, and did not receive any injuries. Campbell says that he heard the order to run and did so, but heard no crash, neither does he seem to know much about it, only that he suddenly found himself on the ground. On arising, the first person that he saw was Stevens attempting to walk but soon falling to the ground. He saw Bacon lying under some timbers, one arm broken in three places, the other badly crushed, and the lower part of his head badly crushed. He extricated him, and went to Watson who was dead, having been hit on the back of the head by a falling timber. Stevens is badly hurt about the back and shoulders. About two hundred yards of the flume fell. As soon as notice could be carried to the mill, parties were sent after the bodies and took them to the mill. They were brought to town Wednesday and buried on Thursday. Patrick Bacon was a native of Ireland, about 30 years of age, and a single man. Richard Watson was born in Kentucky, aged about 28 years, and leaves a widow and one child to mourn his loss. He has been in the State only a short time. He had acquaintances at Biggs' Station.

Weekly Mercury

7-20-1877

At a meeting of the delegates from Concow the following nominations were made; M. H. Wells and H. A. Fairbanks, Justices of the Peace; S. J. Wright and Lewis Geisse, Constables; L. A. Snow, Roadoverseer,

Weekly Mercury

7-27-1877

Nominated.

William Merrifield has been nominated for the office of Road Overseer in Oregon township. Mr. Merrifield is a young man of excellent judgment, a worker who will look after the roads himself, and in every way qualified to fill the the place.

Weekly Mercury

8-3-1877

Wedding Cake.

We received, just before going to press, a lot wedding cake from our young friend Simon Garber, who owns the stage line between this place and Cherokee. For this we return thanks. Our friend has entered upon a trip where he will need to keep a tight rein and his foot on the break as he drives adown the voyage of life.

Flee Valley Correspondence.

DEFIANCE MILLS, July 30, 1877.

ED. MERCURY—The warm days of July are great reminders of panting sufferers, every where in the valley. The fruit season too, brings its necessary labor, and canning fruit is never cool work, since it must be done just at the proper time. The excellent fruit received here proves the plentifulness of the crop, and if we do not can any, we will be sure of enough to eat elsewhere.

We have just returned from a trip to Rock creek mill and environs. The mill for the time being has superceded the mining. The claim has been worked year after year heretofore, while now the water is used for floating lumber, a more tangible substance than gold in the bank. The flume building to connect with this at Defiance mills, commences some two miles beyond and passes by on the side of the mountain about two hundred and fifty feet higher than the mill, and is connected by an inclined tramway of about a thousand feet. The lumber is placed upon the cars, from the saws, and they are drawn up by a wire rope, attached to a steam engine at the top. The lumber is piled all along the sides of the flume, convenient to be floated down as soon as it is completed. Walking up the tramway to the top behind a car load of lumbe, tested our lungs, but we were well repaid by the beauty of the location, and our ride down upon the car. Through the courtesy of those in Mendence, the rapidity of our descent was considerably less than the empty cars. Therefore we had ample time to take in and enjoy all our surroundings. We remember a similar ride down the incline at Niagara Falls in '49, only that was covered the whole length, and our view was shut out entirely, until we reached the surging waters beneath.

Our usual systematic routine was interrupted to-day by the cry of fire. All interest centered upon the mill which was set on fire by a spark from the smoke stack just over the gang edger. It was put out ere it had done any damage and only a few moments intervened before all were at their regular work again, and nearly fifty thousand feet of lumber were sawed when their day's work ended.

If we were in the habit of boasting we could tell of the big loads of logs drawn in day after day from five thousand and upwards. Last week George Gable brought in two logs at one load, measuring upwards of 6,400 feet, but Billy Moore carried of the palm when he landed upon the log way 7,517 feet. If the others do not beat him it will not be because they do not try.

T.

Weekly Mercury

8-10-1877

Weekly Mercury 8-17-1877

Lime.

All those who have use for lime should step into the United States hotel and see that used there that came from the Curtis' brothers on the West Branch at the Nelson Bar kiln. It makes the whitest and best finish that we have ever seen. But it will speak for itself if you will just step in and look at it.

Weekly Butte Record

8-18-1877

Fire.

From Watkins Morgan of Cherokee we learn that the old cannon house near Cherokee, was burned last Wednesday afternoon. The building was occupied by Thomas Davis and is a total loss. Mr. Davis did not save a thing from the flames. The loss is about \$1,500.

Weekly Mercury

8-31-1877

Letter From Concow.

CONCOW, August 20th, 1877.

ED. MERCURY—For of course the face of the MERCURY, as it arrives every week is very friendly indeed, and it adds so much to comfort up here to think how you are all sweltering down there in the valley. Not of course that we are glad of it, but you know it is always pleasure to know that you are better off than some one else.

The shades of the evening are closing down around us as I write, and the air is so cool that it seems necessary to close some of the doors and windows, and on the morrow as we wake from refreshing sleep and breathe the cool morning air, we will feel well able to withstand the heat of the day, even if the thermometer does rise to 80 or even 90 degrees.

Of course the news items here are not as plentiful as in some large places, like Yankee Hill or Flee Valley, but we make the most of what we see and hear. And we never get lonesome, for who could with the ever genial and jovial Joe Mullen for host and entertainer. And speaking of our friend Joe we must mention his commodious house, with his well set table, which is always full.

This week Mr. Mullen is absent on a hunt with his brother Will and Mr. Hufferd, from Cherokee. They have gone to Gravel Range. What a slaughter of the innocents there will be.

The reservoir is very low at present, but we still have our Sunday afternoon boat ride in the little boat just large enough for two but not for three.

We hardly know that Summer has come, for the hills look as green as in the Spring. The tall pines which cover the hills still lift up their green heads "in silent adoration." As for the teams which are passing continually, making our mountain road dusty carrying supplies to the mills, you hear of them from your other correspondents. And now lest I weary you I say good-bye, and if this finds its way to the waste basket, no one will be the less wise.

Weekly Mercury

8-31-1877

Letter from Defiance.

DEFIANCE MILL, August 22d, 1877.

ED. MERCURY—One who had passed three score years of life was asked why he did not marry. He replied, "I cannot afford to marry a wife and a Chinese cook too. Therefore I remain single." It seems as though the all important with him was a good cook. There are others similarly situated. Men must have food to eat who work, but we have never known of one instance where a man ever tried to live without, if he did not work—therefore cooks are necessary.

The subject of cooking seems to persons of large ideas a frivolous one, but when critically examined cannot be passed lightly by, for every generation has its epicures. Cooking ought to have kept pace with every other art and been reduced to a science ere this. So few take pride in becoming experts, that most people suffer from food improperly prepared. Cooks are scarce. One would not think so, however, had they happened around here during the four months just passed. China, France, Germany, Wales, Canada and our own country have furnished their sample. Of the merits of each we forbear to speak, since testimonials are seldom given where Chinamen hitherto have been in the ascendancy. Could machines be invented to turn out every variety of victuals, like every other branch of labor, we are sure professional cooks would find little to do. As it is since much is so necessary, many are compelled to make martyrs of themselves, who would otherwise cater to their own tastes and appetites. We have just now started under a second dispensation, which bids fair to continue unto the end, at least we hope so.

'Way in the future we read of events so preposterous, that real facts and experiences of to-day, counts for nought; and when the bare assertion of a fact is doubted, we can but realize that there are many doubting Thomases at the present day. We have never presumed to tell you that which could not be vouched for, neither have we told to the whole extent, for bigger loads of logs have been hauled by over a hundred feet. To satisfy the incredulous, they must be eye witnesses of the truth, but we are willing to trust those who have given us the figures, besides the lumber shows for itself that the logs must have been hauled to make it.

Those who have taken a flying trip up and down our ridge had no time to scan logs while looking after live voters. Regrets were expressed that so many names failed to be on the Great Register, that is if they would only vote the right ticket. Your worthy townsman, Dr. Green, the nominee for Clerk, with Mr. Crane, from Lassen, were here yesterday and enrolled a number of names, but there are others who failed to report themselves. Even these few non-voters may make all the difference. How many hearts are throbbing with anxiety at the final result. How many devices are used to win one vote. There are no "Norwegian babies" to kiss, but there are sweethearts to flatter and wives to please—while the worthy few go on just as they would have gone, had they never received the nomination.

Weekly Mercury

9-14-1877

Fire.

Last Tuesday night the dwelling house and store of A. Wolf at Cherokee Fiat were destroyed under circumstances that leave but little doubt that it was the work of an incendiary. Mr. Wolf was in San Francisco at the time, leaving his partner in charge of the premises. The insurance on the property was, we are informed, \$8,000. How much value there was to the property we have little or no means of knowing, except from report, which seems to think that the insurance will cover the entire loss. Nothing was saved. The parties were all asleep when the fire broke out at about 11 o'clock at night.

Weekly Mercury

9-21-1877

Gold Bar.

On Friday morning, about 5 o'clock, a cavalcade from Cherokee, all armed with double barrel shot guns, drove up in front of the express office and turned over to Billy Perkins a \$51,000 bar of gold to ship to the State Fair. These bars are getting to be so numerous from this mine that they excite but little attention.

Stabbing Affray.

From James McGann, County Surveyor elect, we learn that Mr. O'Donnell, of Cherokee Flat was stabbed in a horrible manner, by a man named Dooley, night before last. The culprit is under arrest. Mr. O'Donnell is not expected to recover.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

CHEROKEE, September 16.

Yesterday the inhabitants of our usually quiet burg was thrown into a state of excitement by the news that a man named Dooly had stabbed and killed Mr. O'Donnell, a miner, well and favorably known here. Your correspondent gained the following particulars from those who were in the neighborhood at the time. It seems that Dooley, who is generally disliked by all the law abiding citizens here was drunk on Sunday, and in the absence of Mr. O'Donnell, the brute undressed himself and chased the young daughter of O'Donnell around the house, while he was naked. When O'Donnell came home he heard of the part Dooley had played during the afternoon and chided him for it. Dooley answered by saying that O'Donnell had land fenced in that belonged to him (Dooley), O'Donnell denied the assertion, and said that the statement was not true. Dooley then struck at O'Donnell and the latter retaliated by knocking the villain down. When Dooley got up he pulled a knife and made a lunge at O'Donnell cutting him in several different places, but the worst cut is across the back and almost into the kidneys. Dooley was arrested and will have an examination, in all probability, today. The prisoner has not had a very enviable reputation, and narrowly escaped arresting some two years ago, when Wm. Williams' house was burgarized, and it was generally supposed that he or his family were implicated in it.

Weekly Butte Record
9-22-1877

Weekly Butte Record

10-13-1877

Fire.

Friday afternoon the stage stables owned by James Finnicum, five miles from St John were totaily destroyed by fire. From the driver, John Garrett we received the following information in relation to it: It seems that the hostler was the first one to smell the smoke while he was engaged in cleaning harness. Stepping outside he saw smoke issuing from a pile of straw which had been used for bedding. Hurriedly he procured water, and soon the fire was put out, so he says at any rate. Walking over to the saloon he talked rather roughly to some men who were there, as he thought they had set fire to the bedding to annoy him, but on their asserting that they had not been out of the saloon, he walked back to the stable and finished his work. He then went to the house of a neighbor who wanted some wood cut, and while chopping wood there, the flames burst out from the roof of the stable, and it was only through the utmost exertions that the horses and harness were saved. Mr. Finnicum had a full supply of hay and grain to last some time, the whole of which was destroyed. The loss is estimated at between three hundred and five hundred dollars.

Butte Record

10-26-1877

FRIDAY EVENING, OCT. 26.

Cherokee.

From a correspondent in Cherokee we learn that Wolf & Co. have taken possession of the Spring Valley Hotel and are making alterations. The hotel will be carried on as of old, but the old billiard and bar-room will be converted into a fine large store, wherein a general stock of merchandise will be kept. At present Mr. Wolfe is in San Francisco making his purchases.

The new officers of the Caucasian Camp are W. C. Williams, C.; W. Briggs, R. S.; J. D. Jones, C. C.; D. Williams, W.; Watkin Morgan, Treasurer; G. D. Griffith, S.; Phillip Cook, M. of O.; W. S. Bean, C. The officers of the Magalia Camp are R. Shipley, C.; E. Carlton, R. S.; W. B. Skidmore, C. C.; R. M. Coates, W.; J. H. Ensworth, C.

The Spring Valley Company are making their regular monthly clean up, and from present indications it is supposed that the amount will reach between \$50,000 and \$60,000.

Mr. Pense is kept busy all the time at the Pense ranch, and to accommodate his trade has had to build a nice new addition to his already large hotel. In close proximity Aaron Burt, the blacksmith, is unusually busy, as his first-class work has drawn around him the trade of the surrounding country. The F. V. Co.'s planing mill is running constantly and a number of men find steady work.

Weekly Butte Record
10-27-1877

M. H. Wells and J. V. Goode were chosen
Justices of the Peace in Concow Township.
Fifty votes were polled.

Weekly Mercury

11-30-1877

Big Bar.

J. C. Logan and a party from San Francisco, visited the Big Bar mining claim on the North Fork last Monday. Everything is in complete readiness to run as soon as they have a sufficient head of water. The gravel prospects well and they have an abundance of it before them. From two pans taken from near the bed rock they got about seven bits. The gravel in the immediate vicinity of where this was taken from is equally rich. How much of it there is, is a deeply interesting question to the owners, who are very anxious for the rains to come in order to fully test the claim. It may prove to be the best kind of a claim, and it may be a delusion as many another claim has proved.

Weekly Mercury

12-14-1877

The Killing at Cherokee.

CHEROKEE, December 10th, 1877.

ED. MERCURY—As quite an excitement has been created in regard to the killing of a man on the 8th instant, and in justice to myself and others, I will give you the facts as near as possible. On the 5th instant, as Mr. John Riley was returning from a hunt and about two miles from this place, near the west branch of Feather river, he saw a man behind a tree with a pistol leveled at him over a limb. Mr. Riley at the time had a Henry rifle but did not wish to kill the man, and got over a point of rocks and went away. It was then reported that a mad man was running through the woods, and on the 7th Justice Willoughby issued a warrant for the arrest of said man and placed the same in my hands. On the 8th I started out, after asking Mr. Riley to accompany me. He (Riley) declined at first, but after some persuasion on my part agreed to go, stating that he did not believe the man would be taken alive, and he would not like to take any part in the matter. At the upper end of town we met Mr. J. Patterson and he with my son concluded to go with us. We struck the west branch at the mouth of Spring Valley ravine, and then had some talk with a Chinaman who said there had been a bad man at their camp three days previous, and that he had no house but lived under the rocks. After searching an hour or so in Spring Valley canyon we crossed the west branch. Here we were joined by Mr. Phelan and George McGiger, who were hunting game. We had not gone far down the river when some one said there is smoke coming out of the point of rocks on the other side of the river. We went on down until we got abreast of it and could see a sort of cave in the rocks, and I remarked that I could see a Chinaman's head peak out of the cave or hole.

One of our party hallowed and a man came out without hat or boots on, stood up very straight and gave a terrible scream or laugh and then went back into the cave. We then recrossed the river and went up to the cave. We said, "Come out, we are hunting and very tired and hungry." The man came near the mouth of the cave and set partially down. I stepped in and set down as close as I could to him. The rest of the party were outside. He said "Are you hunting?" Mr. Patterson said "Yes; is there any game around here?" The man said "Yes; I often kill them one and one-half miles with my pistol." I said "Can you hit them so far?" He said "They run that far before they fall." He had a Colt's Navy pistol on his breast in a scabbard. I tried to get closer to him by changing my position, but he kept his eye on me very sharp. The cave at this place was about two feet high and one and one-half feet wide. The men outside kept talking about hunting to draw his attention. At this time he lifted his left arm to hide his pistol from me and commenced to draw it with his right hand. I then grappled with him. I said, "Give up the pistol; you shall not be harmed." He said, "You son of a bitch you shall have all you want of it." At this time we were both down struggling for the pistol. Mr. Patterson was trying to help me, but the place was so small he could do no good. It was now life or death with me. The cave was so small my friends could not help me. He was frothing at the mouth like a tiger. He got the pistol under my ear and pulled the trigger, but the back part of my hand received the hammer. There was a fire in the back part of the cave and he had me partially in it. I had lost my grip on the handle of the pistol but had hold of the barrel with my left hand and had his left hand with my right. I said, "Give up or I will kill you; we are your friends." He said "Never." He then gave the pistol a twist and as he thought had it against my heart. He then yelled, "You son of a bitch, I have you now; you are a dead man," and pulled the trigger. The ball took a small piece out of my left hand and passed over my shoulder and came near hitting Mr. Patterson, who was trying to get in to help me. I think he left the hole and we struggled on. I was now pretty well worn out, with my eyes full of ashes and my throat full of smoke. I heard some one outside say "shoot him," and I looked back and saw my son pointing a double-barreled shotgun in the hole. I said, "Don't shoot, or you will kill me." I then said, "Riley, if you cannot come to my relief this man will get me yet." Riley crawled in on his belly on top of both of us, and got hold of the pistol and tried to wrench it from him. Then I let go to get my head out of the ashes and fire. Riley said, "He is getting the pistol from me; if you don't kill him he will kill me." At this I tried to get a shot at his arms but could not without hitting Riley. I was partly on my back when I shot him. I aimed at his heart. He died without a struggle. Under similar circumstances I would do the same again, if it was the last act of my life.

If any proof is needed in regard to the correctness of this statement it can be had by calling on Jacob Patterson, John Riley, James Phelan, George McGiger and C. L. Duret, all of Cherokee. Respectfully,

C. M. DURET,
Constable of Oregon Township and Deputy
Sheriff of Butte county.

Weekly Mercury

12-14-1877

Man Shot,

In another column we give an account of the killing of one Jacob Krause, an insane man, by Constable Durett of Cherokee. It is an unfortunate affair, but one that under the circumstances seems to be justifiable. He had been for a number of years an inmate of the insane asylum, and was as insane at the time he was killed as ever he was.

Weekly Mercury

12-28-1877

Cold.

Joe Miller, the veteran cattle man and butcher of Butte county was in town last Wednesday. He reports that the cold was more severe last Tuesday night than at any previous time this year. In Concow township it was severe enough to prevent the snow from melting.

Thanks.

J. B. Mullen, of Concow Valley, will receive the thanks of the MERCURY office for a box of delicious mountain apples. Mr. Mullen has one of the finest Summer resorts in the State, the locality being noted for raising the choicest of fruit.

Weekly Butte Record

12-29-1877

MURDERED FOR MONEY.

Two Chico Indians Kill a Chinaman near Cherokee.

Last Thursday morning, a Chinaman named Lem Hoy, was found murdered at Sinclair Flat, close to Cherokee. Information was at once lodged with Judge Willoughby, and he sent officer Duret to ferret out the matter if possible and bring the perpetrators to justice. Duret left Cherokee and went to an Indian camp where he got into conversation with a squaw about the matter, and finally told her that Mountain Jim had done the deed, and that he felt certain she knew all about the murder and advised her to tell all she knew. Thinking he really did know, she told him that Mountain Jim had come to the camp last Tuesday and wanted some of the Indians to help kill Lem Hoy, telling that the white people did not like Chinese, and that if he was killed nobody would care, and that he had killed one a year ago on the West Branch, from whom he got a large lot of dust. The Indians refused to have anything to do with the matter, and he left their camp saying he would get his brother Frank to help him. Late on Wednesday night, Jim and Frank came to the cabin with three or four carpet sacks, and said they were going to their sister Kate's, who lives near Yankee Hill. Following the scent thus obtained, Duret came to Chico late last night, and sent for B. F. True and Lon Dolliver, to whom he told his errand, and said furthermore that it would not do for him to be seen by any Indian, as they knew that he had a commitment for Jim, the latter having escaped from Duret some months ago. True went to the Bidwell

Rancheria and found out that the two men wanted were there, so he, in company with Lon Dolliver, proceeded to the cabin where they were and took them both prisoners. While on the way up one of them threw away a knife, (afterwards found) which Mr. Duret recognizes as being the property of Lem Hoy. On their persons were several Chinese trinkets, and two pocket knives. After the prisoners were taken to the Town Hall, search was made for any property they might have and one carpet sack discovered in which were a lot of things supposed to have been stolen from Hoy's cabin. Mr. Duret wishes us to publicly thank Messrs. True and Dolliver for their assistance to him. This afternoon, the two men, who give their names as Frank and James Brza, were taken to Cherokee. Old Lem, as he was commonly called, has mined in and about Cherokee since 1854, and was well known to all in that section. The body was found to have a hole in the left breast as though from a rifle-bullet, and two deep cuts in the back.