

WEEKLY MERCURY

FRIDAY, JAN. 11, 1878.

Letter from Cherokee.

CHEROKEE, January 7th, 1878.

ED. MERCURY—Presuming a few items from this place might be interesting to some of your readers I will give you a short account of the general progress of affairs here during this season.

The education of the young being the first and most important subject to all I shall speak of our school first, which is said to be one of the best in the county, and in better working order at present than any previous term. There are four departments in the school, with Mr. Norman as principal in the grammar department, and Mrs. Norman, Miss McGregor and Mrs. Pierson in the other rooms respectively. Each give universal satisfaction, being able and experienced teachers, Mrs. Norman, as a teacher, having no superior in the county. The pupils are advancing rapidly and understandingly, being really interested in their studies.

Next, our Sabbath school, always one of the most moralizing institutions in a town when properly conducted, is a model and largely attended. David Williams, the superintendent, Mrs. Merredith, J. D. Jones, Miss Jones and several others as teachers, exert every effort to promote the success of the school and the spiritual welfare of the attendants; the result is most satisfactory.

Several evenings during each week our ears are greeted by the clear notes of the brass band wafted forth by the gentle breeze in low, melodious strains of sweetest harmony. This band is composed of some of our most enterprising young gentlemen, who give promise of becoming very fine musicians.

The Spring Valley Hotel, formerly kept by George Parry, was purchased last Fall by A. Wolf & Co., who immediately converted the former saloon into a fine dry goods and grocery store, at once a great advantage and improvement. The hotel is kept in fine style by Mrs. Wolf, a most excellent housekeeper and affable hostess. The store is always well supplied and neatly kept by Mr. Wolf and his two accommodating young clerks.

The holidays passed by very pleasantly here. There were several turkey shootings but I did not ascertain who was the best marksman, but suppose it must be the best looking man in town.

Mr. Norman invited a number of the young gentlemen and ladies to spend Christmas night at his residence, where the evening was passed gaily in singing, music, games, etc. Mrs. Norman, a most accomplished musician, succeeded in imparting life and enthusiasm to the gay little party, and long will those present continue to reflect with feelings of pleasure upon that merry Christmas night.

New Year's night the Masons of this place gave a public installation and ball. The latter was largely attended by the fair and brave and was the largest as well as the most brilliant ball of the season.

The New Year has begun and many are the good resolutions passed, the sacred promises made, if only kept what a blessing to each and all.

Another year nearer to the grave. O, solemn thought. Another year nearer our home on high. O, blessed thought. Let us reflect and act. But the best of friends must part, so I will close.

VIOLA.

Weekly Mercury

1-11-1878

Severe Accident.

A severe accident took place at Cherokee last Wednesday morning. It seems that a man by the name of Reese Benjamin was in the act of carrying a charge of giant powder to the place where it was to be used, when by some means it exploded, tearing his left hand to pieces, and injuring him in the abdomen to such an extent that his recovery is doubtful. Drs Miller and Allen amputated his hand and part of the forearm. As we go to press he seems to be sinking, and probably will not live a great while. He has a large family depending on him for their support.

BUTTE COUNTY.

Among the many counties in this State there are few so greatly favored as the county of Butte. Situated on the east side of the Sacramento river, it extends from that river to the summit of the Sierras. A large part of it produces large crops of wheat and barley year after year. In fact the county stands fourth in rank in the yield of those kinds of grain. Corn and hay are also abundantly raised in this part of the county. Leaving this section and moving to the foot hills we find orchards of apple, pear, peach, orange and lemons, of various kinds of nuts, and also some of the best vineyards that are to be found in the State. Higher up in the mountains are to be found magnificent forests of sugar pine, the equal of which nowhere else can be seen. Every few miles one can hear the sound of the saw and the lumberman's ax engaged in the work of manufacturing these immense trees into lumber for the markets below. Over sixty millions of feet are manufactured yearly. The county occupies the third rank in this industry. Wherever a stream of water can be found, there also is to be found gold. No richer belt of land in this mineral is to be found in this State than that extending through Butte county. Our county occupies a front rank among the gold-producing counties of this State. Good roads have already been made, so that with but little difficulty the traveler can reach any point desired in the county. The county is also most fortunate in having already built and paid for all of the public buildings needed, if we except the infirmary, and the tax for that has already been paid in. We have over ten million dollars of assessable property and yearly increasing. Our rate of taxation is now only two cents on a dollar and within five years, if nothing unusual takes place, will reach a rate lower than that of any other county in the State. To this object should be directed the best efforts of each member of the Board of Supervisors. Our population exceeds 20,000, and is fast increasing. Crops are as sure as seed-time and harvest are to come.

Weekly Mercury

1-18-1878

The reputation of Butte among the other counties of the State, is such that the citizens may justly feel proud of it. Every favoring breeze seems to be wafted in on us. Nothing more can be asked for. Our people are indeed highly favored. What spot on earth can compare with it, take it all in all? Who is there so foolish as to make even an attempt to divide up this highly favored county? He who will attempt it has neither his own good nor that of his neighbors in view. Let it remain as it is. Every man must feel proud of the high position that it occupies. When we hear our less fortunate neighbors speak in terms of praise of some single excellence that belongs to their county, we rejoice with them, it is true, but we turn with all the greater pride and point to whole clusters of jewels that adorn the brow of Old Butte. Go where you will in this State, and our county is the one spoken of as leading the others in all that makes a place desirable. Excellent land, healthy climate, pure, cold water in abundance, rivers whose waters are sufficient to irrigate the entire Sacramento Valley, magnificent forests of pine, immense fields of gold bearing gravel, thousands of acres of land yet unclaimed that will grow better oranges and lemons than the far famed lands of Los Angeles, wheat fields that equal any others on the face of the globe—these are some of the prominent features of our county. Why should it be divided and thus sink into significance, and only be known as a county whose people were tax-ridden.

DRUG STORES.

SELLING LOW FOR CASH!

D. F. FRYER,

Montgomery Street,.....Groville,

Dealer in

Drugs and Chemicals,

Perfumery,

Fancy and Toilet Articles.

Paints, Oils, Varnish,

Alcohol, Turpentine,

Lamp Chimneys, etc.

Agent for Burnham's Abertine.

Prescriptions carefully Compounded, day and Night.

AT PARKER'S DRUG STORE

You will find a Large Stock of

Drugs, Medicines,

Paints, Oils, Turpentine,

Varnish, etc.,

Of the Best Quality. Also,

Perfumery, Cosmetics,

Hair, Tooth, Nail, Cloth & Paint Brushes,

Combs, Hair Oil,

Fancy Articles, in endless variety,

And all other articles usually kept in a

FIRST-CLASS DRUG STORE.

Prescriptions Carefully Compounded.

All hours, day or night.

None but Fresh and Reliable Drugs used.

RAIZEMOND PARKER,
Corner Montgomery and Myers St.,
Union Hotel Block.

O ROVILLE DRUG STORE!

Established 1855.

A. McDERMOTT,.....Proprietor.

A full and complete stock of

Drugs, Chemicals,

Patent Medicines,

Paints, Oils, etc.,

And everything usually found in a well ordered drug store, always on hand.

Prices Reasonable and Goods Warranted

Physicians' prescriptions and domestic remedies carefully compounded. Give me a call before going elsewhere.

Weekly Mercury
1-18-1878

HOLMAN'S CELEBRATED

LIVER PAD.

Cures without medicine. Indorsed by thousands. Physic not to be relied upon.

HOLMAN'S LIVER PAD

is honest, effective and harmless. For the cure of Fever and Ague, Dyspepsia, and all diseases arising from a morbid or diseased state of the Liver, it has no equal.

For sale at the Groville Soda Factory, Montgomery street.
E. HIGGINS,
Groville, December 19, 1877. 23-3m

Mesilla Valley School.

This pleasant little school has long taken a high standing among the schools of the county for the good deportment and refined manners of its pupils. There are, doubtless, but few schools where the play ground is marked by such uniform good nature and generous conduct of playmates toward each other, as in this school. This is, of course, attributable to the good breeding and examples of several older pupils, young ladies and young gentlemen, from well ordered homes, who set the example of politeness and good nature for the younger pupils. Bickerings and contentions are almost unknown among them. Below is the roll of honor for the past month taken from the daily record. The average standing in deportment was 87 per cent., in scholarship 89 per cent.: Ida Horn, Abbie Burt, Nora Knox, May Patterson, May Vintin, Mary Fairbanks, Nellie Patterson, Alice Gould, Ettie Esman, Wm. Elkins, David Vintin, George Vintin, Fay VanNess, Harry Horn, Mert. Knox, Willie Sewall, Willie Esman, Charles Willet, Albert Patterson, Fred Burt. Mrs. Curtis, teacher.

Weekly Mercury

1-18-1878

County School Money.

The following is the apportionment of the county school funds made January 15, 1878:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| Antelope..... | \$ 203 80 | Live Oak..... | \$ 203 80 |
| Bald Rock..... | 203 80 | Lone Tree..... | 203 80 |
| Bangor..... | 203 80 | Lovelocks..... | 203 80 |
| Beecher..... | 203 80 | Manzanita..... | 203 80 |
| Bidwell..... | 203 80 | Meadow..... | 122 28 |
| Butte..... | 203 80 | Meridian..... | 203 80 |
| Butte Valley.... | 203 80 | Mesilla Valley | 203 80 |
| Canon Creek... | 203 80 | Mooretown..... | 203 80 |
| Centerville..... | 203 80 | Morris Ravine.. | 203 80 |
| Central House.. | 203 80 | Mountain S..... | 203 80 |
| Cherokee..... | 611 44 | Mud Creek..... | 203 80 |
| Chico..... | 1,630 44 | Nelson..... | 203 80 |
| Clipper..... | 203 80 | Nimshew..... | 203 80 |
| Concow..... | 203 80 | Oregon..... | 203 80 |
| Cottonwood..... | 203 80 | Oroville..... | 815 24 |
| Dayton..... | 407 64 | Pine Creek..... | 203 80 |
| Delaplain..... | 203 80 | Powelton..... | 203 80 |
| Dockerty..... | 203 80 | Rio Seco..... | 203 80 |
| Eureka..... | 203 80 | River..... | 303 80 |
| Evansville..... | 122 28 | Roble..... | 203 80 |
| Fairview..... | 203 80 | Rock Creek..... | 203 30 |
| Floral..... | 203 80 | Salem..... | 203 80 |
| Forbestown..... | 203 80 | Stoneman..... | 203 80 |
| Gridley..... | 203 80 | Swan..... | 203 80 |
| Hamilton..... | 407 60 | Upham..... | 203 80 |
| Honcut..... | 203 80 | Union..... | 203 80 |
| Inskip..... | 203 80 | Webster..... | 203 80 |
| Kimshew..... | 203 80 | W. Liberty..... | 203 80 |
| Kunkle..... | 203 80 | Wyman's R..... | 203 80 |
| Landlow..... | 203 80 | York..... | 203 80 |
| Little Chico..... | 203 80 | Wyandotte..... | 203 80 |

A. McDERMOTT, Co. Superintendent.

Weekly Mercury

1-25-1878

The workman injured at Cherokee by the explosion of a charge of giant powder, some two weeks ago, is the father of twenty-two good looking children. Of course giant powder nor anything else can kill such a man as that. He will soon be out and around again, though with the loss of his arm, he cannot do any work for some time.

In Town.

J. McKinstry Smith was in town on Tuesday and Wednesday, and in conversation with him we learn that his hydraulic claim near Kimbrow bids fair to pay good the present winter. He will have plenty of water till sometime in August. There is no doubt that he has one of the richest claims in the State, and we are glad of it. We are always pleased to see fortune smile where it is deserving. We recollect him in the palmy days of Oroville, and we think it was Smith & Sparks that built the first telegraph line from Oroville to Marysville at their own expense. We want more men of this sort in Oroville. Men that won't pinch the pinfeathers off from the eagle on a half dollar.

Weekly Mercury

2-8-1878

New Suit.

The only new suit commenced this week is that of E. G. Wheeler vs. L. A. Snow, D. K. Perkins, J. C. Logan and George C. Perkins to foreclose a mortgage upon Snow's land. Hundley & Harrison for the plaintiff.

Bridges Gone.

We learn that the bridge across Dry creek, at Grant's ranch, was carried away by the late storm. It seems that the water came down in torrents, washing out the posts, and in a short time took out all but the first bent on this side and carried it down stream about 300 yards. The bridge cost some three or four thousand dollars, and was built for the county by the Pacific Bridge Company some five years ago.

Information also reaches us that the bridge on the West Branch, on the Yankee Hill road, has gone, and that it is impossible to cross. The river was very high and brought down large trees and a great quantity of drift wood. It will cost the county considerable to rebuild the two bridges. They are on important routes of travel and will claim the early attention of the Board of Supervisors.

Injured.

Constable C. M. Durett, of Cherokee, met with a painful accident a short time ago. He was out on official business when his horse made a misstep and fell with him, breaking his collar bone and otherwise injuring him. At present he is confined to his house and his injuries are very painful.

Weekly Butte Record

2-23-1878

Death of an Old Citizen.

Frank W. Day, for many years a citizen of Butte county, died at Pence's Ranch yesterday, after a lingering illness of several years. He had been for sometime employed in the capacity of a superintendent of the Flea Valley lumber yard at Pence's Ranch. He visited the Colusa springs about a year since, in hopes that their waters might be beneficial, but returned without hope to linger on until relieved by death. Mr. Day had been a prominent actor in the public affairs of the county, having filled the office of Sheriff for 4 years, and other positions, and always we believe, to the general satisfaction of his constituents. His first election as Sheriff was, as the Republican nominee in 1863, over the late lamented Dr. Phipps. He was re-elected on the Independent ticket in 1865 over the late B. F. Jones, of Oroville. He was assaulted by Chinamen in the lava beds of Oroville while collecting taxes in 1873, and beaten until he was insensible, which seemed to destroy his health and break down his robust constitution. He was a social, companionable man, and many a resident of Butte will pause in the rush and hurry of business to shed a tear to the memory of Frank Day.

Weekly Mercury
3-8-1878

QUARTZ MILL FOR SALE!

I offer for sale Cheap,
Four Mortars,
Four Pans, (complete,)
Eight Settlers,
Three Concentrators,
One Rock Breaker.

And all the fixtures for a Twenty-Stamp Quartz Mill, including shafting, pulleys, etc.

The above can be seen at the Dump, near Pence's Ranch.

J. M. BROCK.

Oroville, Nov. 1, 1877.

Weekly Mercury 4-26-1878

Bob. Smith, our telegraph operator, has a telephone, and concerts between Oroville and Cherokee are held nearly every evening.

Answer.

The Spring Valley Mining and Irrigating Company has filed an answer in the case against it, brought by Messrs. Green, Boyles & Evans for damage to lands west of Gridley. It denies everything almost, even that the plaintiffs are the owners of the land. It claims that it has owned the mine at Cherokee since 1850, and that it has always dumped into Saw Mill Ravine, and claims it as the natural outlet for its mine. The answer is a very lengthy one, covering some eleven pages of printed legal cap paper, and is signed by S. M. Wilson, J. K. Byrne and Belcher & Belcher as attorneys for defendant. As the case will come up this term of the District Court, a new Judge will be required to try it, Judge Hundley having been one of the attorneys in the case, is disqualified.

Mining Claims.

Again we call attention of our friends in the mining regions to the absolute necessity of having boundaries of their claims so well defined that a stranger searching for claims can find them. It will not do to locate a claim by defining it as the northeast quarter of section four. Lines must be marked upon ground so that those who run can see them and follow them from corner to corner. As case after case arises in court, we see this question brought up and discarded as we have set forth above. Then keep up your boundary lines.

Weekly Mercury

6-7-1878

\$21,000 Gold Bar.

In our issue of May 24th we spoke of having seen at Rideout, Smith & Co.'s bank a bar of gold, containing \$32,000, from the Spring Valley Mining and Irrigating Company, of Cherokee. On Wednesday this same company sent down to the bank a bar which contained \$21,000, making \$53,000 they have sent down within two weeks, which isn't bad.

Weekly Butte Record

6-13-1878

Nearer and More of It.

Reports from hostile Indians are coming thick and fast, and it seems that northern California may have a visit yet that will renew our Modoc war. Governor Irwin on Saturday received a dispatch from residents of Cedarville, Modoc county, asking for arms, as it was believed the Indians of that section were about to go on the warpath. The State has few arms except in the hands of the companies of the National Guard, having turned over to the General Government all the old style guns she had to as far as possible balance accounts with the Government and obtain breech-loading rifles for the military companies. Under this condition of affairs, the Governor, after receiving the dispatch, immediately telegraphed to Washington for an order directing Colonel McAllister at Benecia to deliver to him 250 stand of arms, and as soon as he possibly can he will furnish the residents of the northeastern part of the State with the assistance they desire. The Chico Guard will do well to scour up their muskets, and have them in readiness to carry to the front, and secure Dumas' carriages for honorary members to travel in.

Suspension of the Sierra Flume and Lumber Company.

For several days past rumors have been rife concerning the probable suspension of the Sierra Flume and Lumber Company. Gen. Chipman, the Superintendent, was in town yesterday, and inquiring of him concerning the matter we were informed that the Company was involved and short of ready money to meet the demands against them, but thought it possible that arrangements would be made to go ahead until better times after harvest should enable the Company to collect their outstanding accounts and discharge their indebtedness. This was not done, however, and yesterday evening an assignment was made to Mr. Charles Faulkner, of the Bank of Butte County, for the benefit of those who have been in their employ. Of course, all work at the numerous mills of the Company is suspended, and probably will remain suspended until the creditors take action in the matter and determine upon the course to be pursued. The accounts assigned are all against good men, and are ample to pay the hands employed by the Company, but the most of them cannot be collected until after the present crop of our farmers is marketed. So far as we can learn, the Chico Division of the Company's works is in good condition for work, and we trust the suspension will only be temporary. Of course, this suspension will throw many men out of employment, and we hope to see such arrangements made as will start their mills to running during the summer. There is too much capital invested to lie idle, and a large amount of property that will go to waste if not kept in working order. Gen. Chipman left for Red Bluff this morning.

Weekly Butte Record 6-13-1878

Crowds of laborers, recently employed by the Sierra Flume and Lumber Company, were assembled last evening in knots on our streets discussing the situation, generally with good humor, although many of them feel the need of the wages due them. One of them generously proposed to trade his scrip for an emigrant ticket to Omaha, offering to foot it from there on.

Weekly Mercury

6-14-1878

Rich Quartz Mine.

C. M. Durett, of Cherokee, came down on Tuesday and left at our office several specimens of the finest quartz we ever saw, which he took from his mine near Yankee Hill. The mine was located in March, and he has got down some 25 feet, the ledge being three feet wide. He has some 50 tons of rock on the dump, which, it is said by expert miners will average \$200 per ton. He also showed a rock not in the decomposed state which was just full of gold, and, which, old miners say, will average over \$200 per ton. The mine is owned by Messrs. Durett & McConnell, and those who have visited it say it is a very rich mine without a doubt. Mines in Butte county are all prosperous, and it seems the further the miners go the richer they get.

Weekly Mercury 6-21-1878

Waived Examination.

Jos. Denson, about whose arrest on suspicion of having been implicated in the burglary of a house at Cherokee some time ago, we had an item week before last, was taken before Judge Leonard, of this place, a few days ago for examination, but after two witnesses were examined, he concluded to waive further preliminary proceedings and let his case come up before the Grand Jury. He was committed to jail to await the action of that body.

WEEKLY MERCURY

FRIDAY.....JULY 5, 1878.

SHOOTING AT CHEROKEE FLAT.

Domestic Difficulties the Cause—A Mercury Reporter Interviews the Prisoner.

On Monday afternoon about three o'clock, a dispatch was received here stating that a shooting affray had occurred at Cherokee Flat, about 2 o'clock, in which John Campbell, an old resident of Cherokee Flat, had shot and probably killed Albert Fitz, a carpenter, who has also lived there for a number of years. Some time ago, Leon D. Freer, of this place, brought an action for a divorce for Campbell, who alleged in his complaint that his wife had had illicit intercourse with this man Fitz. Nothing more, however, was heard of the matter until the day of the shooting. Campbell was sitting on the porch of Goodday's store, and he had not been there long when Fitz came up and sat down in front of him, and began to look him straight in the face without saying a word. A few words finally passed between the parties, when Campbell jumped up, drew his revolver and shot Fitz. Constable Durett, of Cherokee, put Campbell under arrest, and in the evening brought him to Draville, where he is at present in jail. On Tuesday morning a MERCURY reporter was granted permission by the Sheriff to visit the cell of the prisoner and get his version of the affair. We found Mr. Campbell, who is an old man with grey hair and long grey whiskers, walking rather nervously and excitedly up and down his cell. We told him our mission, and he, with tears streaming down his wrinkled cheeks, related the circumstances about as follows: Fitz had been boarding at his house for some time, and was there during his (Campbell) absence in the mountains. After Campbell came home, he noticed that Fitz and his wife were quite intimate, and their actions led him to believe that the wife had proven untrue. One evening he was walking out towards a bridge near town, and he saw his wife and Fitz lying down near the bridge, and he then and there told his wife that he never wanted to see her in the company of Fitz again, and told Fitz that it was his desire that he (Fitz) should remove himself and effects from his

house forthwith, and never return. Mr. Campbell also says that Fitz told his (Campbell) son that his father was talking very disgracefully about his mother, and was accusing her of a crime of which she was not guilty, and tried to induce young Campbell to give his father a beating, promising to assist him if it was necessary. On several occasions, however, Fitz followed Campbell, and would stare him in the face, looking as if he was ferocious enough to "eat him up." On the day of the shooting Campbell asked Fitz what he was "dogging him around for," and one word brought on another, when, as Campbell says, Fitz put his hand behind him as if reaching for a pistol, and then Campbell drew his revolver and shot him in the back. We have heard from other sources that Fitz had not been near Campbell's house for a long time, but that the fight was brought about by outside parties who would carry stories to the two men, some having told Campbell that they had seen Fitz at his house during his absence, when in fact Fitz had not been there at all. How true this is we do not know. Dr. Miller was called to examine the wound of Fitz, and he found that the bullet had entered the upper portion of the left shoulder blade, traversing the left lung obliquely downward, and resting behind the seventh rib, about one inch below the apex of the heart. The doctor thinks that there is no immediate danger of death, but that four days will tell whether he can survive or not. Fitz was a married man at one time, but we believe his wife is dead. He has a young daughter who has been and is now stopping at Campbell's house. It is a very sad affair, but such affrays from such causes are being common.

From Saturday Daily.

The Indians.

We wish to issue our protest against the Indians coming any nearer Chico. Our feeble voice may not have the desired effect, however, as we find by the latest dispatches that the copper colored miscreants have left Stein mountain and are now away to the south of old camp C. F. Smith. We are not aware yet whether the main body has made this movement, or only a detached portion of them. The Chronicle's dispatch is as follows:

HORSE LAKE (Lassen county, Cal.), June 22, (via Reno, Nev., June 26 h.)—The Putes are depredating at Stein Mountain, and are now making for Surprise Valley, Modoc count. Captain Norvall, commanding at Fort Bidwell, anticipates an attack from the redskins within a few days. The families of Surprise Valley are leaving their homes and going to Susanville. Two families from Cold Springs have just arrived here, and confirm the news of threatened danger at Surprise. The settlers are arming.

If the Governor of this State fears any danger to the settlers in the northern part of the State, he will undoubtedly order out the Chico and Red Bluff Guards. We have heard the probabilities of his so doing argued this morning, the Indian trouble in fact being the subject of general street talk. If it becomes necessary to get assistance, we earnestly hope that Butte county will be given the privilege of raising a volunteer company, for we know of many old Indian fighters who would gladly shoulder their rifles and once more make the savages succumb to their unerring aim. Their old vim and fire comes back when they think a chance will be given them to once more put their backwroks cunning and shrewdness against that of the painted redskins. If the Putes come any farther south than they are at present, there is a chance of the Pitt Rivers, McLou's, Shastas and Mill Creeks joining in the general uprising, for it is a well known fact that a few days more and Captain Jack would have had heavy reinforcements from these tribes at the time he was captured during the Modoc war. That California has not seen the last of the Indian troubles cannot be doubted, and all calls for help must be answered freely and fearlessly.

Weekly Mercury

8-2-1878

Fire near Pence's.

On Friday morning last, about half past 4 o'clock, a fire was discovered in the barn of Francis O. Smith, near Pence's Ranch, in this county, and in a very short space of time it and its contents were destroyed. There were in the barn something in the neighborhood of 42 tons of hay, one or two saddles, harness, etc., and a horse, all of which, with the exception of the animal, were consumed by the devouring flames. The horse barely escaped, and was badly burned. The loss is estimated at \$1200, and no insurance. It is not known exactly how the fire originated, but it was presumably the work of an incendiary. This makes, we believe, the third barn that has been burned down at this place during the past several years.

Weekly Butte Record 8-3-1878

LUMBER! LUMBER!

—o—
C. H. Holbrook,

BEGS to inform the public that he is the
Lessee of the

Sugar Pine Lumber, Flume and Mining
Company's Property.

and that he manufactures and deals at whole-
sale and retail, in all kinds of

Lumber and Building Material,

COMMON LUMBER, RUSTIC, FLOORING,
CEILING, SIDING, SHINGLES,
SHAKES, etc.

DOORS, WINDOWS AND BLINDS.

For Sale at Lowest Market Rates.

Flume Dump, Pence's Ranch, Butte County,
Sept 26/78. **C. H. HOLBROOK**

SACRAMENTO
PLANING MILL,
SACRAMENTO, CAL.

MANUFACTURERS OF
DOORS, WINDOWS AND BLINDS,
FINISH OF ALL KINDS.

WINDOW FRAMES AND MOULDINGS

Of every description on hand and manufac-
tured at the shortest notice. Wood and Ivory
Turning, Bapisters, Newell's Hand Roll and
Mahogany Lumber. All orders promptly
filled.

HARTWELL, HOTCHKISS & STALKER,
PROPRIETORS,

m30-3mw Corner of Front and Q streets.

Weekly Butte Record 8-17-1878

Large Lumber Sales

C. H. Holbrook informs us that he has lately made some very large and advantageous sales of lumber, and he is confident of the season turning out a profitable one. Mr. Holbrook is the lessee of the Flee Valley Company's works, and knowing his energetic business qualifications, he is bound to make it pay. Charley is well known in the lumber business in Northern California, and we are pleased to note his present and prospective prosperity.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SIERRA FLUME & LUMBER COMPANY'S STORES.

THIS COMPANY HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED LARGE AND
WELL SELECTED STOCKS OF

General Merchandise,

AND OFFER THE SAME FOR CASH,

OR IN EXCHANGE FOR FARM PRODUCTS

At the Lowest Prices.

WE KEEP ALL STAPLES IN THE CLOTHING AND GROCERY
LINE.

To Employes.

To Ranchers.

It is the purpose of the Company to give special attention to the supply of employes and their families with all needed articles. Special attention also given to the supply of ranchers in exchange for farm produce.

Branch Stores are kept at Belmont Mill, Chico Division; Belle Mill
Sesma Division; Moscow Mill, Red Bluff Division.

PRINCIPAL STORES AND DEPOTS OF SUPPLIES

Chico Store, at Chico Yard. Red Bluff Store, at Red Bluff Yard

We Exchange Lumber for all Ranch Produce.

SIERRA FLUME AND LUMBER COMPANY.

Weekly Mercury

9-6-1878

Gone to Cherokee.

Dr. W. P. McDermott, with whom everybody in Butte county is well acquainted, has located at Cherokee Flat, and can henceforth be found, when not professionally engaged, at the drug store in that place. Dr. McDermott's reputation as a physician renders any praise from us out of place, and we very much regret to lose him from our town.

Weekly Mercury

9-13-1878

Letter from Yankee Hill.

YANKEE HILL, Sept 6, 1878.

ED. MERCURY—The norther just past reminds one of the South, where such storms of wind drive everything before it. After about three days of calm, the return storm comes back in the shape of wind, accompanied with rain, lasting an indefinite period of time. We have never had so severe a wind storm since the one three years ago, the relics of which are still remaining, although the one on Wednesday night was strong enough to level trees of considerable size.

It is unpropitious weather for invalids, and even effects those who have boasted of robust health. These higher altitudes develop malaria that has remained latent in the system while in the valley. Our invalids, just now are all convalescent—numbers of them have resorted to numerous remedies for their ills. None of those who have been here the whole season are the sufferers, proving that the first cause is not here. We are told that in particular localities in the valley, they are exempt of the present prevailing sickness. It may be true, as all our invalids came from nearly the same region and they may have been the only ones who would have been sick, had they remained through the season.

Murder, for robbery, has been practiced in many places, but here only thefts have been committed, seemingly in broad daylight. A \$20 piece was taken from George Gable's trunk. Soon after his silver watch and chain of considerable value were missed from its accustomed hanging place. One party was arrested and a \$20 piece was found in his trunk, stowed away in an unusual manner, but who could identify a gold piece unless they had taken especial pains to mark it? Certain individuals have been known to try to borrow

money, but failed to do so. Soon afterwards they have been flush. If money is so missed, it is naturally inferred who took it, but to prove it requires tangible evidence. Not many of us mountaineers have so many \$20 pieces that we would lose one without making an effort to find it. Whoever took the watch we hope will be joined to Sheriff Sprague's chain gang long enough to have time to reflect upon the truth of "honesty is the best policy."

Concow will soon be able to supply the whole region of country with as fine fish as can be found elsewhere. We were a little fearful that that "shower of fish" they had in a neighboring burg, were the identical ones that were brought from Marysville and put in Concow reservoir, but as they are all in a prospering condition, some other body of water must have suffered the loss. We have been an eye-witness to a shower of lizards in a country where no lizards abounded, or we might be as incredulous as some others in regard to the "fish storm."

Le Roy, the forger, is one of many instances where largeness of brain predominates over force of muscle; but his San Quentin life may develop his muscle to that extent that he may earn an honest living with it in after years.

The season has thus far been favorable to lumbering. The decade contractors move along harmoniously, and are doing good work.

T.

Weekly Butte Record 9-21-1878

Sierra Flume and Lumber Company.

Although reports to the contrary, have been circulated, the Lumber Company have a large force of men at work in the mills cutting up the logs which were prepared in the early part of the season, so that they may not go to waste, which would be the inevitable result if allowed to remain in their present state during the coming winter. When the assignees put the affair of the Company into bankruptcy, many thought that the mills would close again probably, but such has not been the case, and before long about 3,000,000 feet of new lumber will be ready for shipment.

Weekly Mercury

9-27-1878

Opposition Stage Line.

The veteran stage driver, Dave Quadlin, has put on an opposition stage line between here and Cherokee Flat. He has a new wagon, and the fare is cheap.

OUR MOUNTAIN SCHOOLS.

From the Clipper Mill, in the extreme south east, to the Butte Creek Meadows, in the extreme north, along the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas, we have, in Butte county, *seventeen* public schools, which are distinguished from the others in that they can be kept in session only during the warm season. I have thought that a short account of these would prove interesting to some of your readers.

In Oro township the schools are Clipper Mill and Forbestown, both with full attendance of pupils; in good houses, and well furnished. Forbestown is the largest of our mountain schools, and being in a village, sometimes continues its sessions all Winter.

Across the South Fork of Feather river, in Mountain Spring township, we have the Mooretown and Lumpkin schools. The former has an elegant little school house with most approved style of furniture. Curtains, new and neat, on the windows, and the teacher has tastefully decorated the walls and windows with her own handiwork. On the teacher's desk I saw the only spray of fuchsia I have seen in the county.

The Lumpkin district was formed last Spring. The school house stands six miles from Mooretown, further up the ridge, near the saw mill of Pratt, Alley & Co. It is a plain new building, but furnishes accommodation for thirty pupils. In this school I found several pupils between fifteen and seventeen years old who had never gone to school until this district was organized. The school is now in successful operation.

The Bidwell township also has two mountain schools, respectively situated at Berry creek, or the Bald Rock, and at Turner's mill, or the Mountain House. The former has a new house, nicely furnished and pleasantly located. It is a nice school. Since its formation, three years ago, Mrs. E. A. Halstead has spent her Summers here and taught the school. At the Mountain House the school is crowded by children who are found in the valley schools during the Winter.

Concow township is all one school district, the largest in the county. The school house is located two miles north of Yankee Hill. I was most agreeably surprised to find, in this far off border district, one of the best schools in the county, with a good frame building, painted, ceiled and handsomely furnished. Of the forty pupils, eleven are half-breed Indians. When I entered, at the time of my visit, the school was taking a lesson in *drawing*, and at the close of the afternoon exercises, sang creditably from the Golden Wreath. I examined the school more thoroughly than I usually do, and found it in most excellent training in grammar, arithmetic and other branches. The Indian boys seemed to be about as bright and ready as any. I need not add that I was pleased, as well as surprised.

In the Kimshew township there are nine districts, which may be termed mountain schools. The Kudklo district, half way between Pentz's and Magalia, is small, and has a poor house, but is a very pleasant little school of some fifteen pupils. Delaplain, or Paradise, four miles south-east of Magalia, is a district full of children. I found there a comfortable building, furnished in the most approved style, and a full school in good training. The Magalia school is one of the oldest in the county. The school house crowns the topmost hill of the town. Its floors are well worn with use, and many of the best teachers of the county have presided within its walls. The house is getting old, but will do very well for some years yet.

Nimshew is a new district, and has not yet built a new house. An old store, just opposite McClellan's hotel, affords ample and convenient accommodation for the school. Lovelock district has a new house, cosily situated in a beautiful, retired spot on the roadside. The house is elegantly furnished, has a fine globe, etc., and is one of the most delightful of our mountain schools.

Powellton is a new district, formed a year ago. The house is new, and the district has not yet been able to provide such facilities as are needed. Its affairs, however, are in good hands. I found there a full school, under good tuition, alive and at work.

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Some miles above Powelltown which brings us away up in the mountains, we come to Inskip. It is an old district, but has sadly lost by removal of its patrons. The school, however, is still maintained, and I found there pupils pursuing all branches, from high school to primary studies.

Still further up, and over the ridge, and down the steep mountain side, and I found myself at the hospitable Summer home of the Butte County Surveyor, James McGann. A half mile from his home, at the Baker Springs, in the midst of thickly clustering cottages, is the school house of the Meadow district. It stands near the margin of Butte creek, in a beautiful location. Here we are at the most northern school of the county. It was crowded with children, nearly all of them there only for the Summer. I was much pleased with my visit.

Down the Humboldt road, near the ranch of H. D. Wells, stands the school house of the Forest district. It is a new district, formed a few months ago. I have not yet visited it.

These are our mountain schools. There are a number of others in the foot hills, and considerably up in height; but so situated as to be able to run during Winter, if they choose. Of these, I may find opportunity to speak at some future time.

These mountain schools are much sought after by teachers, and therefore have the opportunity to secure, and have secured, the services of many of the best teachers in the county. They are all prospering.

JESSE WOOD.

Weekly Mercury

11-8-1878

Operations will be commenced Monday by the Oroville Gravel and Mining Company, with Fred Wellington as Superintendent.

My Lord, the Duke of Wellington, of Concow, arrived in the city yesterday with several fine-blooded game chickens, one of which he forwarded to the Record man, Alexander Philop Waugh. It is reported that Sam Daniels has a game chicken that is invincible. Ten to one that the Aleck fowl waugh(k)s into Daniels' cock.