

Oroville Register

1-6-1887

Consolidated Gold Channel Mine.

This mine was originally patented by Geo. North and Henry Turner, some two years ago. Both of whom are experienced river miners.

During one of their exploring and prospecting expeditions on the North Fork of Feather River, they discovered that at one place—some eight miles above the mouth of the Big Bend Tunnel—the river was diverted from its direct course, by a high point of serpentine rock, pursuing a course at right angles to its general direction, for a distance of 800 feet or more, where it was again turned immediately back upon itself, forming a perfect loop of more than 2,000 feet in length. The last 1,500 feet of this loop has for ages been the receptacle of a large portion of the gold that has been washed down this branch of Feather River, and has accumulated with a large deposit of gravel and enormous boulders in that portion of the river, to such an extent that the lower part of this loop becomes an immense dam of auriferous gravel. This gravel deposit they endeavored to work by sinking holes therein, but the loose nature of the gravel permitting the inward flow of water so readily, prevented them from attaining to a greater depth than four feet, and at this depth it required constant bailing while prospecting, but in every instance they found very rich gold bearing gravel.

Feeling confident that there was from 25 to 35 feet of this auriferous, undisturbed gravel in the river bed at the loop. They have organized a joint stock company, for the purpose of draining the loop. The necessary surveys have been made, and disclose the fact that there is a fall of 28 feet in the loop. The accumulated auriferous gravel is in the lower 200 feet. The survey further shows that a tunnel of 445 feet in length will take the water of the river from the head of the loop and deposit it at the foot of the loop, draining the whole river bed for that distance (2,000 feet), and as much further down as it should be deemed expedient to carry the water of a flume along the river bank.

In conversation with T. W. Reece, C. E., who made the surveys, and who also made the first, or preliminary surveys for the "Big Bend Tunnel," he informs us, that in all his experience of 35 years in California, he has never seen so favorable a spot for the deposit and retaining of gold in a river bed. That in shape it more nearly resembles the old "Cape Claim," (from which \$1,000,000 was extracted in 57 days) than any place in a river he has ever seen.

Oroville Register

1-6-1887

Notice of Adjudication of Insolvency.

In the Superior Court of the said County of Butte
State of California.

In the matter of William W. Merithew an Insolvent Debtor.

William W. Merithew having filed in this Court his petition, schedule and inventory in Insolvency, from which it appears that he is an Insolvent Debtor, the said William W. Merithew is hereby declared to be insolvent.

The Sheriff of the said County of Butte is hereby directed to take possession of all the estate, real and personal, of the said William W. Merithew, Insolvent Debtor, except such as may be by law exempt from execution, and of all his deeds, vouchers, books of account, and papers, and to keep the same safely until the appointment of an Assignee of his estate. All persons are forbidden to pay any debts to the said Insolvent, or to deliver any property, belonging to such Insolvent, to him or to any person, firm, corporation or association for his use; and the said Debtor is hereby forbidden to transfer or deliver any property, until the further order of this Court, except as herein ordered.

It is further ordered, that all the creditors of said debtor be and appear before the Hon. L. D. Freer, Judge of the Superior Court of the said County of Butte, in open Court, at the Court Room of said Court, in the County of Butte, on the 24th day of January, 1887, at 10 o'clock A. M. of that day, to prove their debts and choose one or more Assignees of the estate of said Debtor.

It is further ordered, that the order be published in the Oroville Register, a newspaper of general circulation published in the said County of Butte, as often as the said paper is published, before the said day set for the meeting of Creditors.

And it is further ordered, that, in the meantime, all proceedings against the said insolvent be stayed.

L. D. FREER,

Judge of the Superior Court.

Dated December 20th, 1886.

Attest: a true copy.

[SEAL] C. L. STILSON, Clerk.

L. G. Granger and W. S. Riley,
Attorneys for Insolvent.

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Oroville Register

1-6-1887

Joe Fryte at the forks of Dry Creek between Pentz and Paradise has grown tobacco for years past, and parties who are good judges tell us that it is well cured and equal to any produced on the Atlantic coast.

Oroville Register

1-13-1887

The locomotive for the Big Bend Tunnel should be here this week. We learn that after being used in the tunnel till the latter is completed, it will be placed on a track extending along Feather river and haul lumber and other supplies when the company begin work in the bed of the stream.

The quartz mills at Oregon City are both running and the rock is paying as well as the owners expected. Water is needed to enable them to crush ore to the full capacity of the mill.

Oroville Register

1-20-1887

H. C. Bell has sold a half interest in the G. E. O. P. S., to Mr. Charles Waldeyer of Cherokee. These gentlemen have been associated for some years in the grocery business and have been very successful. They erected a fine and commodious brick store on Montgomery street at a cost of \$10,000 and have built up a large and lucrative trade. In their new enterprise they have the best wishes of hosts of friends and customers for a long continued and prosperous business career.

Oroville Register

2-3-1887

When Superintendent L. Glass took charge of the Spring Valley's mine at Cherokee three years ago, a big debt hung over it and this he has been gradually paying off. The majority of the stock is held in New York and the owners have drawn heavily on the mine leaving Glass at times cramped for coin to pay running expenses. Last week he telegraphed from San Francisco to Wm. H. Herbert at Cherokee, to take charge of the company's store and shut down on all supplies. He is waiting in the meantime to see what action the stockholders will take. The mine will continue to run for the present at least. The workingmen say that the change will help them, as they have only been paid once in six months and now they hope to be paid monthly. The Spring Valley has been and is a rich mine, and if Superintendent Glass can manage it as he would like to, it will be a paying property for many years. It gives employment to nearly two hundred men and affords a living indirectly to not less than 1,000 persons. It would be a dire calamity to Cherokee and a heavy blow to Oroville should the mine cease to be worked, but of this no fears are entertained.

Oroville Register

3-3-1887

Spring Valley Mine.

From the report of the State Mineralogist, Wm. Ireelan, Jr., we take the following items of interest connected with the Spring Valley mine at Cherokee; the expenditures of the mine from July, 1870 to July, 1886, were for reservoirs, ditches and pipes, \$510,820.50; mining plants and tunnels, \$199,780.55; mining ground purchased, \$419,396.18; land purchased \$461,435.87; cost of debris canal, \$270,821.48; mining expenses including care and repair of ditches, \$1,759,853.77, making a total of \$3,622,198.44. The value of the gold recovered for the same period was \$5,008,108.62, giving \$1,386,010.18 as the profits for the mine during the sixteen years. The same report estimates that prior to 1870, \$5,000,000 was taken from the same locality, making the amount of gold that the Cherokee mine have returned as \$10,000,000.

Oroville Register

3-17-1887

Fire at Cherokee.

On Sunday evening at half-past seven the Spring Valleys Company's hotel at Cherokee was discovered to be on fire. Strenuous efforts were made to put out the flames but without success, and the building was a total loss. The flames quickly spread to the barn owned by the same Company and this also was burned down. The hotel must have been set on fire as the fire was discovered at the back of the building and in two of the bedrooms. It was unoccupied, the gentleman to whom it was rented having moved out on Saturday, and no one was in the building at the time of the fire. The loss is about \$4,000, partially insured.

Oroville Register

3-17-1887

James Anderson of Oregon City has a prophetic eye to the future and believes this region destined to be one of the leading sections of California. He is familiar with all of the leading wine districts of our State and is satisfied that our soil and climate are admirably adapted to wine making. He has planted this spring 3,500 vines including Muscats, Flame Tokay and Zinfandels.

Wm. Mullen of Big Bend is clearing land and planting additional fruit trees to increase his present orchard. He is experimenting with a variety of fruits and demonstrating the capacity of the foothills at an elevation of over 2,000 feet.

Two quartz mills of ten stamps each are now pounding out the rich quartz of the Defiance ledge at Oregon City. McGrath & Matherson are proprietors of the mills and everything wears a promising look about the premises.

Daily Alta California

AND

San Francisco Times.

[Entered at the Post Office as Second Class Mail matter. Postage on Single Copies 7 cent.]

Alta California Publishing Company.

San Francisco Monday, March 21

MINING NOTES.

The Magalia gravel mining district, familiarly known as Dogtown, twenty-four miles from Oroville, on Little Butte creek, is again coming into notice. The town of Magalia consists of two hotels, two saloons, two stores, a feed stable and quite a number of comfortable residences. It is an old camp, but the mining was formerly confined to creeks and gulches. These deposits were very rich.

A nugget weighing 54 pounds was found in the creek below Magalia in the golden era of the past. The country is generally covered with sedimentary lava. The mining is now of the drift class in old river beds. The old Perchbaker mine began to be worked in 1856 and has been worked nearly all the time ever since. Last year an injunction was served on the mine and work suspended. The gold in this mine is all coarse, pieces worth as much as a thousand dollars being found; lumps weighing from one to five ounces are common.

The Aurora in the same district is a new mine worked by Eastern capitalists, and is superintended by a lady—Mrs. Church—who is as smart as a whip. She has invested a large amount of money in the mine and is pushing the work with commendable vigor with twelve men employed. The shaft is down ninety feet, from which a tunnel has been run five hundred feet. Gold has been found and hopes are entertained that the mine will be a great success.

The Golden drift, three miles from Magalia and distant a half mile from Eureka, across the Little Butte, has a tunnel in 1,600 feet. An upraise struck the gravel a few days since, and fine gold can plainly be seen in the gravel. The owners are Eastern people principally—the same who are engaged in the Big Bend tunnel. A great many mine owners here have been waiting for the developments in this mine, and will now commence work with confidence on their own claims.

Owing to the snow several other mines of value were not visited. We regard the Magalia gravel mining district as very promising.—[Miners' Advocate.]

Oroville Register

3-24-1887

West Branch Items.

W. M. Pentz, E. C. Chase, Harry Paul and Frank Davis are running a new tunnel on Conklin ravine to develop a mine which they believe to be rich.

Austin Parish and Ed Wilson have good pay gravel in their claim near Parish's place on the ridge above Pentz.

The Cape Horn claim or the George Henderson & Co's. claim has been bonded and work is being pushed ahead on the tunnel, which is now in a distance of 300 feet.

The Portugese claim adjoining the Henerson mine has also been bonded and a new tunnel is to be run upon that.

The Blue Hawk mine in this same neighborhood has lately been sold and the owners have struck good pay gravel.

Joe Curtis on the Pentz ridge is putting out a lot of choice olive trees.

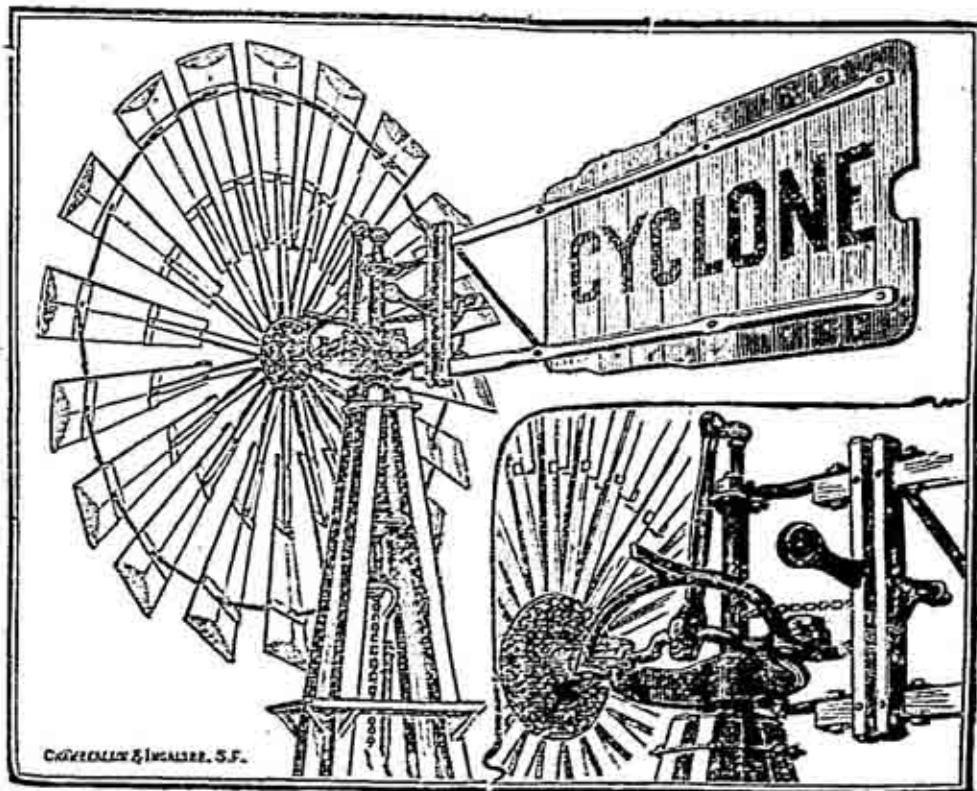
Oroville Register

4-7-1887

The Spring Valley mine at Cherokee began operations again on Friday last with Wm. Gregory as superintendent and James Doyle, John Thuey, James Dunevan and Thos. Vinton as mine bosses.

G. W. SOVEREIGN,

AGENT FOR OROVILLE AND VICINITY.



BEST IN THE WORLD.

Big Bend Tunnel.

Ideas of Some of the Old Miners.

We lately visited the Big Bend Mining Tunnel, and during the trip, as well as since then, we have talked with a number of miners about the chances and prospects of the river bed paying well when once drained. Some of these statements we thought of interest to take down in writing and have published them just as given. They show the reasonableness of thinking that the Big Bend mining scheme will be one of the most profitable in the world. Many more similar to the ones published could be given, but we have used enough of them to clearly show why Dr. Pierce and his associates should feel that they are attempting a legitimate undertaking, and may look forward with expectations of a grand success when the tunnel is completed.

Mr. North said that everybody who had worked any part of the Big Bend mining ground had a good opinion of it, as they did in all parts of the main river. All of the river had paid where it could be worked in any suitable manner. When we could get to the bed of the river it had all paid. It was, or is, rough to get into, but it prospects well and shows it will pay first-rate when it can be worked. Labor is cheap and so is giant powder and

provisions, so that the river can be worked very much cheaper now, than it used to be in an early day, and a claim that would pay anything then will make money fast now. Win. Farley, at Big Bar, which is just above the Big Bend, took out 500 ounces from a section of the river that he had drained with a wingdam, working about ten Chinese. Gramps Bros. on the same bar have taken out lots of money, though their claim is on the bank of the river rather than in the bed of it.

Mr. Thornton said he worked on Berry Creek Bar, which is a part of the Big Bend ground, and also on Schales Bar, above Island Bar, with a wingdam and it paid pretty well. The pay dirt was pretty good and I have seen dirt taken from Berry Creek Bar that would pay at the rate of \$1 to the pan. It would average that. The river bed is very deep and it was very hard for us to work it. We never got down to the best part of the pay gravel on account of the water we had to contend with. I think it would pay all along the river bed if it could be drained so as to work it conveniently. The dirt we washed, taking all of it we got out, would pay at the rate of \$8 to the man for a day. Some of it was very rich.

John Potter tells us that he and others put in a small wingdam where the West Branch and the North Fork come together. They could only work a small part of the channel. Their pump was too small to get out the water in time to work, and it was too late to make another. They got good

prospects but could not keep back the water. They saw plenty of gold, but could not get at the river for it was too deep. What gold was taken out was from the high bed rock, as it was impossible to get down where the crevices were. The claim paid however from \$15 to \$20 to the rocker where it was worked. If the river could be drained it would pay well, there are plenty of claims now in the Big Bend where it will pay just as well as there. Old man Doyle, who lives near the Big Bend, took out \$3,000 in a little crevice near the edge of the water, but could not get down to the bed of the river, where the richest part of the pay was.

Eli. Piper says that in 1857, he worked at Island Bar, which is now a part of the Big Bend claim, and they got in about the last of July and worked till nearly the first of November. They wingdammed the river and it paid for all the work that was done, including the time of the men in getting out the timbers and putting in dam and working the river at the rate of \$8 a day. There were twelve men at work. They were several weeks in getting ready. We had a part of only one side to work as the river could

only be drained as far as the wingdam would allow. Only worked a piece 160 feet long. Much depends on the bed rock, if the bed rock crosses the river so as to form natural riffles, then the gold will lodge, if not, then the gold will go on down the stream till it finds such a riffle. Many and

many a company worked river claims till they made money and then sold out or quit and went east. Sometimes the same ground was worked over and over, and paid well each time.

George Le Rossignal a resident of this town, worked in the North Fork in an early day and helped flume a section of it about 900 feet. It paid very rich, a man named Hubbard owned the claim and the men had to clean up the rockers twice a day. George says the amount was very great and that Hubbard had gold dust by the sackful—meaning the large canvas purses used by miners.

Both he and Mr. Martin, who are very familiar with the North Fork, say that if all the claims on the Big Bend were put together that have ever been worked even in an imperfect manner, the total distance would not be equal to one mile, but they would not hazard a guess as to the vast sums that had been taken out.

At the time this work was done wages and provisions were high. Flour was five dollar a hundred, beans eight cents a pound, shovels \$2.50 each and picks \$4.00 apiece.

D. G. Martin, a resident of Oroville, says he worked on the North Fork at Shield's Bar which is now a part of the Big Bend mine in 1854. He worked with a rocker on the bar itself and not in the river bed. He found the pay dirt was a thin streak at a depth of three feet and that it paid about five dollars to the bucketful. Shields, after whom the Bar was

named, took a great deal of gold from it. There was pretty good ground at the mouth of Berry Creek, and also at Latimer Bar which is on the company's ground.

At an elbow in the river just above Latimer Bar the banks and bar was very rich.

The mouth of French Creek paid well. Bloomer Bar about half mile above the mouth of west branch prospected well, but the flume was washed out before any work could be done in the river. Black Sand Bar and the Jackson claim were worked together and both were very rich. These are now on the Big Bend Company's ground.

H. S. Curtis worked in 1857 on the west branch, which empties into the North Fork just at the lower end of the Big Bend Mine, and help flume about 300 feet of the bed of the stream. On Nelson Bar the river paid about \$8 a day to each man that worked. A short distance below, at Oregon Bar, the river was very rich and a great deal of gold was taken out there. Oregon Bar has been worked three times over by white men, and twice by Chinamen, all working the same ground and in each instance it paid well. In the early time it was almost impossible to keep the water out and get down to the bed rock, so that in working the mines a second and a third time the pay was obtained by working down deeper and taking better care to save all the gold that was dug out. The methods of working

are now so much better that a mine that was too poor to pay in early days will pay well now to work.

J. V. Parks worked on Berry Creek Bar on Feather river in what is now a part of the Big Bend Claim in the summer of 1856. They only had a short time to work the river after they had their flume built, as the first rains came in September, before the middle, and broke down the flume. They could only work about three weeks after getting the river bed dry, had great difficulty in draining out the water or in pumping it out as there were deep holes where it was hard to pump out. They worked the gravel but not the bed rock as they could not get down to that on account of the water, only in small spots. If the bed rock could have been cleaned it would have paid well.

John J. Smith, who for fourteen years has been Postmaster of Oroville was asked about river mining. He said, I mined on Potter's Bar a short distance below Big Bend, in what was known as the Wisconsin Company, we flumed about 400 feet of the river, and mined about 100 feet of it taking out \$18,000.

Wm. James says he worked on Long's Bar, on the South Fork and on Potter's Bar on the main river. He worked in the Sailor's Claim, but did not know the amount taken out, but it was very large. The Pine Nut Claim was another very rich mine in the river. I have seen gold taken out almost by the bucket full from the river

bed when the pay gravel was being worked. The West Branch, just below the Big Bend Company's mine, was flumed and a good deal of gold taken out, but the amount I could not estimate. I do not think the West Branch was ever so good, however, as the main river.

Thibault Heintz, worked in the river bed near White Rock some miles below Big Bend. He says they worked under great disadvantages. That the river to-day if worked as it is proposed to work, the section of Big Bend would pay well, though a large part of it has been mined once. It was worked to such disadvantage however that much of the gold could not be obtained. In some places they could not get down to the bed-rock, in others the water drove them out. His company, like many others, got washed out about the time they were prepared to take out money. It would have paid well if they could only have got down to work the bed rock. Just above them was another claim that paid very rich.

Henry Bird worked on Potter's Bar in 1865 in what was known as the Pine Nut Claim, and it paid first-rate. It paid well, but it was poorly managed. The Black Sand Claim on the same bar paid well and the owner told me that he took out \$27,000 after all expenses were paid. I worked in the Rock Island Claim in 1854 and we were so late in getting into the river to mine that we only had ten days in which to work pay dirt. In one part of the claim sold to Chinamen \$30,000 was

taken out in 30 hours work, or at the rate of \$1,000 an hour. The next year we again flumed the river at the same place, and though a large amount of gold was taken out it did not pay the shareholders very much, as expenses were so high. We paid three trustees, a secretary and a superintendent all high salaries, and I as boss got an ounce a day, so that the profits were used up. When we were driven out of the claim by the first high water our Long Toms were returning us \$1,000 an hour. A sluice that we had set I threw a rope around and caught when the water was running over the dam and from that one box we took \$13,000. I have taken out from one pan of selected or picked dirt \$380

M. L. King, who helped flume several claims on Feather, says that if the miners got six weeks work in on the river they were in luck, for that was about the limit of work. In one claim where they only worked three days of actual mining they took out fifteen thousand dollars.

John P. Leonard was a book-keeper for A. S. Hart in 1857 and 1858, who had contracts for putting in four of the largest flumes that were used on Feather river. He tells us that lumber was then sold from forty to fifty dollars a thousand at the mill. None used in the flumes could have cost less than fifty dollars per thousand feet when ready for use on the bank of the river. Provisions were high and labor was worth from four to ten dollars a

day. The wages of the common miners, road graders and others was \$4 dollars while the bosses and superintendents got from six to ten dollars a day. The book-keeper received \$300 and the general superintendent \$500 a month, so that a claim had to be very rich to meet these expenses. The Cape Claim on Feather river some distance above Oroville paid at the rate of \$2 for every dollar that was invested. The shares cost about \$600 and returned about \$1100 each. They got into the claim on the 19th of September and were driven out on the 1st of November.

Wm. Greenleaf worked in an early day on the Yuba and the Feather river. The Feather river claim would have paid well if the company could have worked it, but they got their flumes washed out about the time they were ready to make money. One summer the company was only able to put in twenty-four hours work on bed rock cleaned, though they had been getting ready for some time, but in that twenty-four hours they took out \$40,000. There were very few claims but what would have paid well if they could have been worked in a manner so as to lay dry the bed of the stream. Just above us was a company that paid \$50,000 expenses to open their claim, and took out \$130,00, or \$80,000 more than the expenses. The great trouble was the short season in river mining, as it was late before the river was low enough to put in a flume,

and then by the time the flume was in, and the river bed ready to work, there was only a short time till the fall rains came. No work could be done till July or August.

From Oroville up for many miles the river paid well and a great deal of money was taken out. Where flumes were put in, it often happened that the head or foot dam or parts of the flume itself rested on the very richest bed rock crevices and these could not be worked at all.

Amos Light, who worked in the river bed at an early day, says he has seen from \$3,000 to \$5,000 taken out in a single half days work. In the famous Cape Claim he believes that in a space ten feet square and seven feet deep there was at least \$20,000. As labor was very high then and also lumber, the river could be worked very cheaply now to what it could when it was worked at an early day.

Mr. Monroe says that the Jones' claim above White Rock on the main river was very rich, it was worked in an early day and again five years afterward and paid well even the second time. The Jones' claim was sold to the Chinamen, and in the fall of the year when the first rains came, and the river was rising and began pouring over the head dam, men rushed in and gathered up the golden sands and stood there in the water panning out the gold though almost in peril of their lives, some of the men got \$80, some \$200, and one man who stood in the water till it was up to his shoulders diving down and gathering up the sand containing the gold, and washing it out,

came away with more than \$600. Several of the mines tried could not be worked as the river was too deep for a wingdam to turn the current of the stream. It was estimated that out of the Cape claim alone there were taken out 12,000 ounces of gold dust, while large amounts were known to have been stolen from the claim.

The waters of French Creek have been located and will furnish a cheap and economical power to run the pumps and derricks while the river is being worked and will also furnish power for producing the electric lights, and motors used in running the mine.

Dr. R. V. Pierce, who almost alone has carried on this operation did not rely exclusively upon his own judgment in the matter, but obtained the opinion and reports of the ablest miners on this Coast. Such gentlemen as Senator Hearst of this State and Senator Jones of Nevada and others who have had years of experience state without hesitation that this plan is feasible and that the river will undoubtedly repay well the promoters of the tunnel.

Prof. Thos. Price, one of the greatest mining experts that has ever lived on the Pacific Coast, went upon the ground of the Company and he with his assistants made numerous trials of the bars of the stream and all such other tests as could be made while the water remained in the stream. Prof. Price is a conservative man and his assertions can be relied upon as correct in every particular. He is an enthusiastic endorser of the tunnel plan of draining Feather river and says that no such vast extent of river bed has ever been opened up in any such thorough manner as the Big Bend Company are opening up their mine. John D. Barry in an elaborate report treats fully all the details of the Big Bend tunnel and heartily endorses the plan of mining the river. Mr. Barry is an experienced civil engineer and a capable judge of mining of all kinds.

We have gone more into detail than usual on this article as the time is near at hand for the completion of the tunnel. Within a few months at most the bed of Feather river will be laid bare, the water in the deep holes pumped out, flumes built and actual mining begun. Then will come the fulfilment of the plans projected and riches are certain to flow into the coffers of the lucky owners.

It would be a mere guess at most to estimate the amount of gold that will ultimately be taken from the Big Bend mine. It will undoubtedly be worked for the next twenty years and maybe twice that long, and we have every reason to believe that it will pay immensely for working. To us however rich and glorious as is the prospect of golden returns from the mine itself, another plan presents itself that proves the owners have a fortune that will be handed down to future generations. Not in gold mining but in carrying the water from the mouth of Dark Canyon across the West Branch and down along the hills to the vicinity of Oroville where the finest Citrus Belt of the world is found.

While the greater part of the water was passing through the tunnel, during the summer of 1886, the richness of the river bed was pretty thoroughly tested by the sinking of "prospect" or test holes and washing the gravel taken therefrom; while on account of the volume of water which still remained in the river channel and spread over nearly its whole surface, even when the tunnel was carrying its full capacity, it was difficult to sink these holes very deep, yet it was found that even the surface gravel prospected well, and whenever any considerable depth was reached, surprisingly rich results were obtained. Bed rock was reached in only a very few of these prospect or test holes, but whenever the in flowing water did not compel the abandonment

of the work, astonishingly rich prospects were found.

We believe that if all of the water could have been turned out of the river early in the season, that the gold taken from the river bed during the one summer, would have repaid the total outlay in putting through the tremendous undertaking. Tests, we say, were made in many places, in the river bars as well as in the bed of the stream, and all the prospects fully proved the faith placed in this grand mining operation was not misplaced by those who studied over the question long and well ere investing their money in trying to develop it.

Every foot of the river bed for the the whole fourteen miles covered by the Big Bend patents can be thoroughly worked. And when we come to consider the vast sums of gold taken from the short sections of the river; during brief periods of not more than six weeks at best, while great difficulty was experienced in keeping down the siepage water, we can but think with surprise and wonder of the immense quantities that will be taken from this long stretch of river channel when it is thoroughly drained and worked to the utmost advantage. One miner tells us he took \$360 from a single panful of the river gravel, another estimates that in a space ten feet square and seven feet deep there was \$20,000. What then must be the sums when this mighty canyon, fourteen miles in length is open to the labor of the miners, most of this is virgin river bed, for while parts of the stream have been slightly worked, yet the portions where the wealth lies, the deep bed rock crevices, have never been touched,

nor can they be, till the water is entirely taken from the bed of the stream.

In working this mine one thing should be taken into consideration, that is often overlooked, the mine can be worked more cheaply than any other river mine that has ever been attempted.

The Big Bend company own their own sawmill, and the timber is cut on their own lands, this will furnish all the lumber that can be used at less than one-fourth of the cost that men had to pay for it when working the river beds in early times in this State. Another advantage they have is that wages of miners is lower by fifty per cent than in former times, mining tools, powder, and all kinds of supplies will be bought by this company at less than one half the amount paid by companies organized for a single season, and who had no capital, but were dependent upon the local merchant for articles furnished at a high price.

When we consider that the water can all be taken from the bed of the river, that lumber and all other supplies will cost less than one half what they did in the days of river mining, and that labor is very much cheaper now than then, we can but believe the amounts this mine will pay to stock holders will be enormous.

The enlargement of the tunnel, which at one time was thought a drawback has one great advantage. The body of the water can now be carried both earlier and later in the season, than was at first contemplated, thus giving a much longer period for working the mine. Instead of six weeks, as in former years, operations can be carried on for at least six or eight months of the year.

It may be asked that if this river channel is so rich and has long been known to be so, why it has never been worked or some attempt made to drain the river. Our reply is that it is situated in a deep canyon, from 1,500 to 2,000 feet deep, and there has been no possible way of turning the river out of its channel, except by the great and expensive work of constructing this tunnel. The fact that it takes a very large tunnel, twelve by thirteen feet, with a grade of twenty-nine feet to the mile, sufficient to force the water through with great velocity, to insure carrying all the water of the immense stream during even half of the year, shows how thoroughly guarded the gold in the river bed has been during all of these years.

The simple fact is that this portion of Feather river has long been known to be rich, but there was no possibility of draining it or turning the channel. For many years it was not known that such a tunnel as the Big Bend could be built, for the locality had not been surveyed and it was not supposed that Dark Canyon was low enough to allow a tunnel to be built and so turn the river from its channel.

Indeed, after surveying was begun upon this work, the writer heard it often asserted that Feather river could never be taken from its channel and brought through the tunnel and into Dark Canyon and West branch, for it was thought these streams were higher than the main river itself. Had it been thought possible we

have no doubt the attempt would have been made ere the property fell into the hands of the present company, by some of the miners of an earlier day, though the vast expense of the undertaking, the great difficulty they would have encountered, and the length of time required ere returns would have been made, must have deterred almost any one unless he had the wealth of a Vanderbilt to back up his enterprise. It required a bold mind to conceive such an undertaking and great faith in the richness of the channel to expend the time, labor and money necessary to execute this gigantic mining enterprise.

We have it from one who made the survey, that the water can be taken about 300 feet above the mouth of the West Branch, and brought through an easy country in which to build a ditch down to the edge of the Sacramento valley. After the first three miles the water will cover a splendid foothill fruit country. The soil and climate are adapted not only to the ordinary fruits, but will produce the very finest table and raisin grapes, figs, oranges and lemons. When the ditch reaches a point above Longs Bar, with less than one half mile of pipe, the water can be taken across Feather river and carried along the hill so as to cover all that vast extent of country lying east and southeast of Oroville. This is the finest citrus fruit land in California, and evidently every gallon of water that can be spared from Feather river will be utilized in irrigating the

oranges, and vineyards that are certain to be planted in this region. In fact, the lack of water is the only reason that keeps many an acre from being set out at once.

The water can be taken to the magnificent red lands near Oroville, so finely adapted to the growing of the orange, the lemon and the olive, once there it will be used for irrigating purposes and from the sale of this water, for that purpose alone, the owners will have a fortune that will last for a century hence.

The country about Oroville is well adapted to the grape and the fig, as well as the semi-tropical fruits and is being rapidly settled up at the present time.

In a few years there will be large settlements of people, whose whole attention will be devoted to these fruits and great quantities of water will be used. For this one purpose the Big Bend Tunnel will be a profitable investment.

Injured at Big Bend.

Wm. McCloud, who works at the Big Bend tunnel, was unhitching the mule from the train of cars loaded with rock from the tunnel, on Monday morning, when he slipped and fell on the track. The weight of the whole eight cars crushed against him, breaking five ribs on the left side over the heart, the ends of one or more puncturing the lung. His left hip was fractured and his whole body was more or less bruised. As soon as possible the injured man was carried to the boarding house and a physician summoned. Dr. T. W. Serviss did all he could for McCloud and the latter was brought down to his parent's home at Cherokee where he is doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances.

Weekly Butte Record

4-30-1887

Louis Glass, for many years Superintendent of the big hydraulic mine at Cherokee, but not now connected with it, has, it is said, been engaged to take charge of an extensive enterprise on the island of Borneo, and will next fall go there to take up his abode.

Sacramento Daily Record Union
5-18-1887

THE BIG BEND MINING TUNNEL.—W. M. Bowers, of Oroville, passed through from San Francisco on his way home yesterday. He states among other things concerning that interesting section of our matchless citrus belt, that the work of enlarging the Big Bend mining tunnel, situated sixteen miles above Oroville, on the Feather river, is being pushed forward rapidly and will be completed some time in the approaching July. The capacity before the present work of enlargement was 100,000 miner's inches, which will now be more than doubled.

Quartz Mining in Butte.

During the past twenty years quartz mining in Butte never was so prosperous as it is to-day. Two new mills are in successful operation at Oregon City, and a third will be built this summer. One new mill is being built at Forbestown and a second will be put up ere fall. Parties near Enterprise are developing the richest mine in Butte. Near Buckeye, San Francisco parties have bonded three ledges and will prospect them thoroughly. Near Yankee Hill there are several rich ledges. On one of them we learn that a mill will shortly be built. At Bloomer Hill, at Magalia, and at or near Lovelock still other ledges are being prospected and developed.

Oroville Register

5-26-1887

On Thursday forenoon of last week, Snow & Kendall of KimsheW, cleaned up their sluice boxes and took out about \$2,500. This Mr. Snow hid under the bed in their KimsheW house, and in the afternoon all returned to the mine to resume work. Later on a Chinaman among the hands complained of being sick and went out of the mine to lie down. He did not come back and when the men went to the house at supper time they found the Chinamen had stolen the amalgam and left for parts unknown.

Oroville Register

5-26-1887

W. L. Herbert of Cherokee, has leased the Nimshew hotel and will move there with his family. He will do all in his power to make the hotel a popular summer resort, and there is no finer stopping place during the hot weather. The hotel is new and everything is nice and convenient about it.

Oroville Register

6-16-1887

Mr. G. W. Sovereign the undertaker allowed us to copy from his records this week the ages of 236 persons, who had been buried by him. These would fairly represent the ages as they were taken consecutively and the persons buried were brought from all sections of the eastern part of the county. We find 21 under 1 year old; 23 between 1 and 10; 10 between 10 and 20; 21 between 20 and 30; 20 between 30 and 40; 25 between 40 and 50; 41 between 50 and 60; 54 between 60 and 70; 15 between 70 and 80; 6 between 80 and 90. It will be observed that almost one-third of the deaths occurred after fifty years of age, while comparatively few deaths occurred among young children.

Oroville Register

6-23-1887

An attempt was made last week to burn the office and store house of the Spring Valley Company at Cherokee, but the fire was discovered in time, before any damage was done.

The Big Bend Tunnel is being driven ahead at the rate of 50 feet a day. This is exceedingly fast considering the vast amount of rock there is to handle and the distance it has to be hauled.

David Wilson of Cherokee has been engaged as principal of the schools of that place. Mr. Wilson graduated lately with high honors at the State Normal School at San Jose.

Oroville Register

6-23-1887

Mr. E. Harkness of Big Bend suggests to us the idea of forwarding to St. Louis a Butte county exhibit of fruits, grain, woods, ores, etc. In the latter part of September the Grand Army of the Republic will meet in St. Louis, following this and extending well into October comes the St. Louis Fair which is the greatest Fair held in the United States. The letter of Mr. Harkness is full of suggestive details concerning this plan of making a grand exhibit and the plan if carried out would be fruitful of much good. Since the letter was received we notice that the Spirit of the Times in San Francisco advances the same plan and says that this was the first step made by Los Angeles in starting her great boom. We shall present the letter referred to to the Board of Trade at its next regular meeting and hope a goodly number will be present at the meeting.

OROVILLE REGISTER.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1887.

The Ayers Bros. are running the Flea Valley saw mill this summer and are cutting a large amount of lumber.

Yankee Hill never fails to have a big turn out on the Fourth of July. That is Mike Well's special day. He makes things lively at Yankee Hill on the Fourth and everybody who has ever spent the day there had a good time. Many from Big Bend, Cherokee and other localities will be on hand this year.

Fryer's Abietene Ointment, a combination of gum abietene, vaseline, mutton tallow, carbolic acid, etc., guaranteed for catarrh, salt rheum, piles, old sores, etc. Why pay 50 cents or \$1 for a remedy when you can get something better for 25 cents.

The Fourth at Yankee Hill.

The ball at Yankee Hill on the Fourth was the finest thing in Butte on that day, there were a large number present from Chico, Oroville, Big Bend, Cherokee, Pentz, Magalia and Dayton. The outdoor platform was praised by every one for its fine floor, said by the dancers to be equal to any ball room floor in Butte. Music was furnished by the Cherokee string band and was excellent, while the supper gotten up under the personal supervision of Mrs. M. H. Wells, was superb. Everything was done by Mr. and Mrs. Wells to make the occasion a pleasant and memorable one to all present. Twelve sets were danced from early in the evening till late into the night. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Waldeyer of Cherokee, E. Harkness of Big Bend, and Misses Morrison, Friesleben and McSmith of Oroville. C. G. Marquis and wife, Fred Kirby and wife and Miss Hazel Wood of Concow, P. O'Hair and sister of Chico, E. B. Ward, M. E. Phares and Misses R. and G. McClellan of Oroville, Wm. Langwith and Miss Addie Saulsbury of Magalia, Messrs Wilson and Gilbert of Butte Creek, T. D. Slaven, R. McGregor, Carl Waldeyer, Geo. McGregor, Jas. Campbell, and Misses Waldeyer, Campbell, O'Tool, Bresnan and others from Cherokee, and a very large number of others.

Oroville Register

7-21-1887

Mr. C. Debock of Cherokee, has some very fine tobacco growing on his place. The plants are only three months old, but are very large and thrifty with magnificent leaves. Mr. Debock, so we are told by A. A. Carter, thinks there will be no trouble in growing a fine grade of tobacco in the foothills.

Concow Camp Convention.

The Trustees have deemed it advisable to not make arrangements for holding any regular formal series of public meetings on the grounds this year. They will be open, however, to all who desire to enjoy the delights of pure mountain air and water, with the privileges of boating, fishing, hunting, etc. Excellent hotel accommodations are at hand for all desiring them. Also pasture for horses. Several families are already on the grounds.

Daily Alta California

AND

San Francisco Times.

(Entered at the Post Office as Second Class Matter. Postage on Single Copies 1 cent.)

Alta California Publishing Company.

San Francisco, - - - Monday, July 25

MINING NOTES.

Below we give a summary of mining work being done in the counties of Butte, Trinity, Mariposa, San Bernardino, El Dorado and Nevada:

BUTTE COUNTY.—Mining excitement on the Magalia and Inskip ridge is still increasing. It is said that the Morgan and Salisbury mine yielded several thousand dollars in one day and a half last week. The woods are full of prospectors, and new developments are being made daily. The Eagle Point Gold and Silver Milling and Mining Company, situated a few miles above Pentz, on the West Branch of Feather river, is terribly mixed. It was originally owned by T. B. Jones, who sold a portion of it to San Joseans, and now Jones has secured judgment for a small sum against the company and will sell them out on the 13th day of August, unless a compromise is effected. The company is now advertising delinquent stock for sale. The *Mercury* is reliably informed that the Cherokee Mine is paying a handsome profit, and that at the next clean-up there will be about twenty thousand dollars applied in liquidation of the laborer's liens. It is very probable that the Pneumatic Mine will be reopened in a few weeks, but it is stated that the air machinery will be discarded for pumps. We are glad to hear this. No doubt the gravel there is rich, for Capt. Leonard prospected it sufficiently to discover very rich deposits. Superintendent Harris and Secretary Harkness, of the Big Bend Mine, were in town yesterday, and report satisfactory progress in the great mine.—[Oroville Mercury.]

Oroville Register

7-28-1887

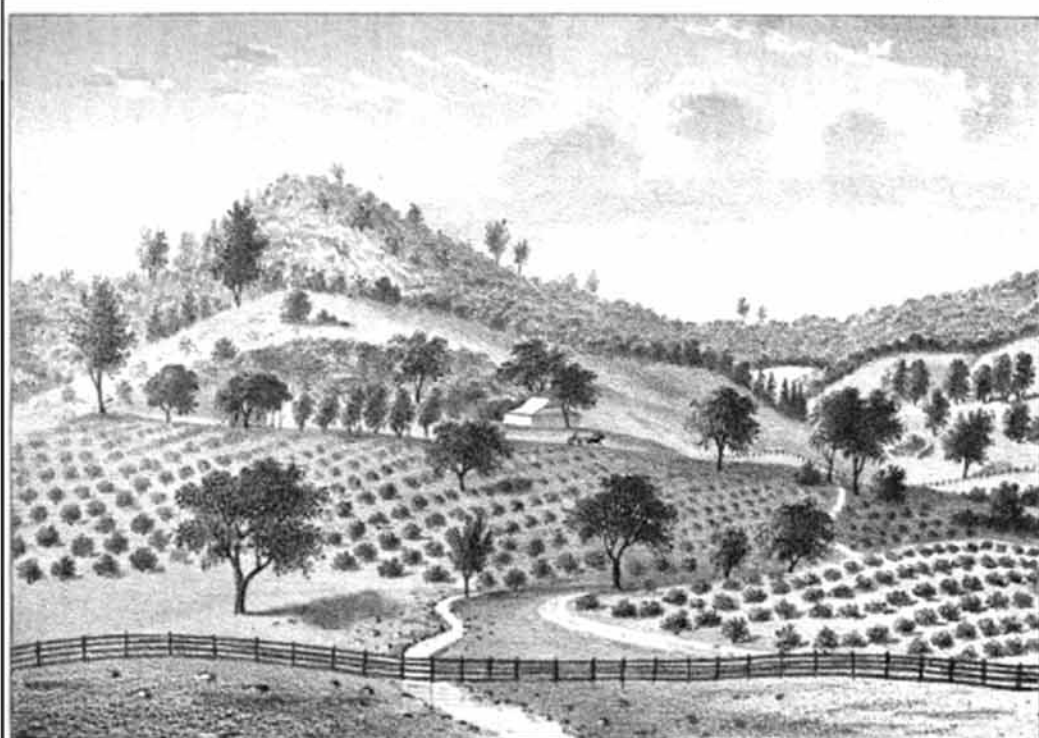
Oroville's Friend.

Major Frank McLaughlin of New York has been a true and faithful friend to Oroville. It was he who inaugurated and carried through the scheme of building the Miocene canal and bringing water to the claims on Thompson's Flat. Over three hundred thousand dollars were scattered among our citizens. The Court enjoined the mine, but the canal is supplying the orange groves with water. He next inaugurated the scheme of turning Feather river, and nearly two millions of dollars have been put into the hands of our citizens by that enterprise, and the work of taking out gold in almost fabulous quantities will go on for years, giving employment to a great number of our laboring men. He is now engaged in another gigantic mining enterprise that will bring in half a million dollars. He is the brain, soul and backbone of the Butte and Yuba Orange Belt Water Company, and for that reason alone it will be sure to succeed, for he never fails. He is also investing in orange lands largely, declaring this to be the finest spot on earth for their culture. Is it any wonder that the people of Oroville believe that anything he undertakes will succeed, or that they look upon him as a real benefactor.

Daily Mercury

8-10-1887

Rev. Jesse Wood, of Eyrie Villa, near Pentz, has put up several thousand cans of peaches, plums, apricots and prunes, and is still at it, intending to increase the number to about 8,000 cans. He is also drying large quantities, and his peddling wagon supplies the surrounding country with fruits and melons. His ranch is in the foothills near Pentz, and we mention these facts to show what can be done by intelligently directed labor on such a farm. His home is a paradise of fruits, and possesses many comforts and luxuries. Get a home in the foothills!



"EYRIE VILLA" HOMESTEAD OF REV. JESSE WOOD.
BUTTE CO. CAL.

Oroville Register 9-1-1887

Another Big Ditch !

Worth Millions to Oroville.

For the past two years our long headed business men have realized that water was worth here far more than land. Land without water could be had for \$10 an acre, but with water it would readily bring from \$50 to \$100. Along side of us flowed the broad and deep Feather with abundance of water. Only one thing had to be done to insure a tremendous increase in the value of land in this vicinity, bring in a ditch carrying a large volume of water. Some half a dozen of our leading business men set to work in good earnest, temporary estimates and surveys were made and the water rights secured. Then they set to work in good earnest and on Monday a force of men were placed in the field under a very competent surveyor W. G. Lovell and the line of ditch is now being surveyed. The water will be taken from the South and Middle Forks of Feather river and will be brought about sixteen miles.

The capacity of the ditch will be 5,000 inches and the water can be brought 140 feet higher than Bird street in Oroville. The ditch will afford water enough to irrigate 50,000 acres of land planted to any variety of fruit. This will be of the greatest possible benefit to Oroville and land on the south side of the river is bound to advance rapidly in value. The ultimate good resulting from this proposed ditch can hardly be over-estimated,

OROVILLE REGISTER.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 8, 1887.

Big Bend Tunnel.

The Big Bend Tunnel, the most stupendous mining enterprise that has ever been undertaken in Northern California, is nearly completed. Within the next three weeks the tunnel will be freed from rock and debris, the tracks will be taken up, the machinery all removed and every preparation made for turning the river. It is so late in the fall however, that but little work can be accomplished in the river bed as there are many things to be done after the river is turned, but such progress has been made that early next spring, the water will be taken out of the river, the bed laid dry, the flumes put in, wheels built, motors run to furnish electricity, and during the summer of 1888 we may expect to see the long canyon of Feather river one of the busiest places in the State. That the mine will prove enormously rich we have not the slightest doubt.

Oroville Register
9-8-1887

J. W. Patterson near Pentz, has sold his ranch to a Mrs. Cox of San Francisco. Patterson will start in a few days up north to take a look for stock lands.

It is rumored that Jesse Wood is about to purchase the Chico Record.

Oroville Register 9-8-1887

An Enterprising Citizen.

There are some men in every community who are constitutional growlers, who lack the tact and skill to succeed themselves, and are unwilling to see others do so. The very reverse of such, is Mr. E. W. Fogg, manager of the Bank of Rideout, Smith & Co. He is always looking on the progressive side, is ever at work helping things ahead. If a subscription of any kind is started to help the town in any manner Mr. Fogg is one of the first appealed to, and one of the most liberal to respond. He is interested in the water works of Oroville and was one of the earliest to plan out the system, to suggest the feasibility of it, and help carry it into execution. In the great movement that is now forcing Oroville ahead and placing her before the people of the world as the leading citrus fruit section of Northern California, Mr. Fogg has taken an active and a leading part. He was one of the first promoters of the Citrus Fairs held in Sacramento in January, 1886, and was quick to see the benefits that were certain to accrue to this section from that fair. On his return he urged and advised the formation of a citrus association here and helped the planting of the citrus grove by becoming a working member of the association. Realizing the great benefits that would result from a colony scheme, and knowing the immediate relation of the land and water here, he with Major Frank McLaughlin and Senator A. F. Jones, bought a 1760 acre tract of land with splendid

water right from Jenkin Morgan and then in company with these gentlemen and Mr. Ralph Rogers organized the Thermalito Company. Wonderful results have followed, the Citrus Associations have spent thousands of dollars but have a beautiful and promising orange grove to show for it, and in a year or two more will be reaping rich returns. The Thermalito Company have sold hundreds of acres, have erected a number of fine buildings and more are going up at the present time, have graded streets and piped in water and have done all other things possible to found a flourishing and successful colony. This winter 14,000 orange trees will be planted by purchasers of the land, and in a year or two more the whole tract will be covered with these trees. Great as these enterprises have been and much as they will do for our town Mr. Fogg is now engaged on a still more important undertaking. In company with Senator Jones and Major McLaughlin he has bought from E. H. Gould 10,000 acres of land lying southeast of Oroville and in a short time this will be surveyed, subdivided and placed on the market. Large land holdings without improvements have heretofore been the worst evil of the locality and Mr. Fogg deserves the thanks of our citizens for making a successful effort in breaking them up. That he is making money and getting rich is almost a matter of certainty, but as he is working with all his zeal, energy and determination in helping build up Oroville he deserves the thanks and commendation of every citizen in the community.

Weekly Butte Record
9-10-1887

Home Enterprise.

Jesse Wood of Pentz, this season purchased one of the Wheeler canneries and during the summer has put up several thousand cans of choice fruit. He this week purchased the peace crop of J. G. Curtis, and will continue canning fruit this fall as long as there is any to put up. This is what is needed, home canning establishments that will use every pound of fruit grown in the foothills.—Oroville Register.

Daily Alta California

AND

San Francisco Times.

(Entered at the Post Office as Second Class Mail matter. Postage on Single Copies 1 cent.)

Alta California Publishing Company.

San Francisco, - Saturday, September 10

MINING NOTES.

Among the important enterprises of Butte county, that will be placed in successful operation another spring, will be the extensive mining operations of the Big Bend Tunnel and Mining Company. The work of enlarging the tunnel from 9x16 feet to 12x16 has been completed, and the work of cleaning out the debris, removing railroad track and trucks is now in progress, and will be completed by October 1st. There are places in the tunnel requiring mason work to prevent damage by action of the water, although almost the entire length of the tunnel has been run through solid rock. The enlargement of three feet has been taken from the top, and it is thought there can be no question now of the capacity of the tunnel to carry the water of the river during the Summer months. Of course it would be impossible to carry the floods of Winter through the tunnel, only the canyon of the river is capable of confining that as it rushes with terrible velocity from the mountains. Nothing in the way of mining in the river will be attempted this Fall or Winter, but everything will be placed in readiness to commence operations on a big scale by the employment of a large number of hands at as early date in the coming Spring as practicable. From former attempts to force the water through the flume as first constructed (9x12), and careful measurement and calculation of the surplus that was carried in a flume, it is believed that no failure will occur, and that the bed of Feather River, for a distance of twelve miles, will be laid bare to successful

mining. The company will, we understand, construct extensive works for mining the bed of the river, and for this purpose will utilize the vast water power that the completion of the tunnel has placed at their command, in hoisting and removing from the bed of the river the rock which will be encountered in mining operations, and the gravel that must be lifted from the bed of the river into the sluices to be worked, and for driving pumps for draining the claim. By putting in a plant of waterwheels, and through the medium of dynamo-electric machines, converting the power obtained into electricity, it will be a simple and not very expensive undertaking to distribute the power to the different points on the river, where it may be utilized to great advantages. It is believed that such a plant as will enable the company to bring into its service the vast power at their command, and in such a portable and convenient form as to enable them to switch it off and employ it at any point desired, and to divide it up and use it at many different places, all at the same time, will greatly facilitate and cheapen the various processes necessary to the successful working of the extensive auriferous gravel deposits with which the river bed abounds. Competent electricians will be employed, to act in concert with the company's mining engineer, in devising the most practical plan of utilizing an ample amount of the water power in some such manner as above indicated, and unite Mining operations with the greatest economy as well as with the utmost despatch. It is the grandest mining scheme on earth, and with other operations will place Butte county the coming Spring in the foremost ranks of our State, and throw in the shade the advance made in the past year by Los Angeles county.

—[Butte Record.]

THE BIG BEND TUNNEL.

**It is Successfully Operated---
Rich Strikes Expected.**

OROVILLE, September 13.—The water has been successfully turned through the Big Bend Tunnel. This lays dry thirteen miles of the main Feather river never worked by miners and it is thought that the ground will be immensely rich. The tunnel is $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles long, is 13 by 16 in size and about 100,000 inches of water is flowing through it. A force of 100 men has been employed on this work, day and night, for four years and the cost exceeds \$1,000,000.

See photos in archives

BROCK & TABER,

Successors to J. M. BROCK

Montgomery Street, - - Oroville

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

HARDWARE,

MINING

BLACKSMITHS,

and Farmers

TOOLS

Iron, Steel, Nails, Stoves,

Crockery Glassware,

Woodenware, Cordage Etc. etc

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Constantly on hand a full line of

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oods,

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PLOWS AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

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Which we offer at San Francisco Wholesale Prices.

Price list furnished on application. Special inducements offered to cash buyers.

BROCK & TABER.

United States Livery Stable

MONTGOMERY STREET

OROVILLE.



CLEMENTS Proprietor.

I HAVE

A Large and Well ventilated Stable

Lighted throughout with Gas.

Carriages and Vehicles

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, AND

GENTLE TEAMS.

Am prepared to transfer passengers to any part of the mountains, on the shortest notice and at the lowest prices.

Horses and Wagons Bought and Sold.

Adjoining the stable I have

A HARNESS SHOP,

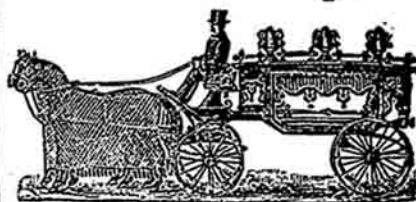
Where will be found everything pertaining to the business. Under my new management I am prepared to

Sell Cheaper than any other House IN OROVILLE.

I have a large assortment of Harness, Bridles, Robes, Saddle, Whips, Gloves, etc.

O. A. CLEMENTS.

G. W. Sovereign,



FUNERAL DIRECTOR,

OROVILLE.

Frames Made to Order.

Marble Work to Order.

mar22 Sewing Machines Repaired.

U. S. Hotel.

Montgomery St., Oroville.

LOUIS W. ROOPS, - Proprietor

The new three-story brick building has been completed and furnished throughout with new furniture and bedding, thus insuring clean rooms, free from anything offensive. Family rooms on the first floor. A bus will run to and from the cars daily, bringing passengers and baggage to the house free of charge. All the stages stop here, both on leaving and arriving.

BOARD AND LODGING, per month, \$22.00

Board, per month,..... 18.00

Single Rooms,.....\$6.00 to 8.00

The saloon is supplied with the choicest Wines and Liquors.

A share of public patronage is solicited. febl8-86

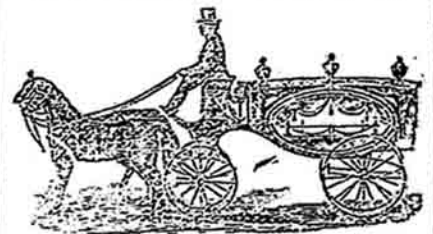
CONCOW HOUSE.

CALEB SCOTT, - - - Proprietor

THE FINEST AND MOST HEALTHFUL resort in the mountains of Butte. 25 miles from Oroville, and but a short distance from the Big Bend Tunnel. A good team for excursionists, good sail and row boats free to guests. Good hunting and fishing, climate the best. Board and Lodging \$8.00 per week, special rates to regular boarders. The camping facilities are the best, no red dust to contend with. Bring along your tents and make yourselves at home. June 9

Formerly Mullen's Hotel Concow

HENRY BIRD,



UNDERTAKER,

MONTGOMERY STREET,

OROVILLE.

Orders Promptly to Attended.

Cherokee Items.

EDITOR REGISTER:—Yes and verily the boom hath reached Cherokee, and all kinds of business is flourishing and increasing in consequence of it. Wm. Gregory, superintendent of the Spring Valley Mine is using strict economy in all departments of the mine. The flumes are running to their utmost capacity and the water supply all used to the best advantage, every man is at his post and particularly the Secretary James Osgood is always to be round at his office or in the mine attending strictly to business. Money is plenty and the people all seem to be happy and contented. Two weddings recently in town promise to add increased prosperity to the rising progress to our local institutions. An opposition butcher from Nelson is ringing his bell over the hills of Cherokee and displaying luscious meats of all kinds at prices that make the women smile. Mr. Goodday former merchant of Cherokee is prospecting the situation and talks of opening a store here again. Simon Hessel is also in town looking for the same, and Jas. O'Hair has his store rebuilt, and intends opening a grocery and dry goods store immediately. It takes two barbers to shave the people, and the Justice and Constable have to work for a living.

An opposition stage to Oroville is expected daily. But Sam Wooliver has the reins and intends to hold them.

The women are all busy drying and canning the rich fruits grown in Cherokee. Of the fertility of land and products of the soil in this section, shall tell you at some future time.

Thursday, September, 8th, after midnight the house of John Grant in Cherokee, was entered by a notorious thief who relieved Grant's pocket of some small change. He was heard walking through the house by some of the family who immediately gave the alarm and saw the thief run and make his escape through a back window, but before the general had time to shoulder arms and capture the vagrant thief, although his son Lincoln Ulysses sent three Winchester bullets flying through the air after his tracks, they did not catch him. This same thief is recognized as the boss Hybernate of an illicit still in the outskirts of Pine Grove, and suspected of petit robberies for some time.

On Saturday night about forty brave young men of Cherokee, called upon the General and tendered their services to remove the thief, the nest and the nuisance. The offer was gladly accepted and forthwith the brave volunteers marched to the Seraglio, confronting the thief who trembled with fervent guilt. After a few remarks by Grant, Williams, Holub, McGregor and others, the hoodlum and his paramour were notified to leave town next day at ten o'clock, never to return to Cherokee. This magnanimous action of the young gentlemen is highly applauded and speaks well for the moral progress, refined sentiments and virtuous proclivities of the young and rising generation of the town of Cherokee.

Oroville Register

9-15-1887

The M. E. College at Thermalito.

In regard to the M. E. College to be located at Thermalito it is well to remember that a Methodist college is not a sectarian, but is simply a Christian school under the management and care of the Church. The Church makes no appropriation, but assumes the responsibility of government, and every minister in the conference becomes its especial friend and advocate. The school is supported by subscription and endowment. The Church does not teach Methodism but it does teach a sound morality, and looks after all those things that go to make the Christian character.

The offer made by the Thermalito Colony is handsome and a good foundation for a first-class University in our midst. As an instance we mention the University of Southern California. Its beginning was a small rented building, two teachers and no endowment, which has grown to be one of the best institutions of learning in the State, with an endowment fund of over a million dollars. It has several branch schools, besides colleges of agriculture, medicine and theology, with a splendid gift from ex-Mayor Spence, President of the First National Bank of Los Angeles, for an observatory. It is the pride of Southern California, and everyone of its graduates is filling responsible positions in the professions.

Our college will start with money and property to the value of \$50,000, and in a short time will grow to a grand university which will be an honor to Butte county. Now let us encourage and heartily support this pioneer college, for, as a minister inferred last Sabbath, a boom to be a success must be planted in morality and in harmony with God, so let us have all educational facilities we can get. The fact is Oroville must have these things or the progressive cultured people of the East will pass us by, for schools, churches and hotels are indispensable if we wish to hold the best elements that will pour in upon us in the near future. I might add that Prof. L. D. Howard, who is presiding elder of the San Francisco District, was one of the managers of the Southern California University, and to his ability the college is greatly indebted, is very much interested and pleased with our plan here and is giving us a hearty support. He is also one of the Educational Committee and has interested himself in our behalf.

Oroville Register

9-22-1887

After serving Butte County faithfully for a third of a century, as the editor and publisher of the Butte County Record, Geo. H. Crosette, on Monday of this week retires from that position, and seeks the sylvan shade and quiet life of a fruit ranch.

Jesse Wood, his successor, has had some experience in journalism, as he at one time edited the Oroville Mercury, and for one year published and edited the Chico Enterprise. He will no doubt be as successful with the Record as he was with the other two journals. He will labor faithfully for the best interests of Butte County and all Northern California.

The residence of Fred Kirby at the lower end of Concow valley was totally destroyed by fire, with all its contents on Friday last. No one was at home except Mrs. Kirby and Mrs. France and they were unable to save anything from the burning dwelling.

A Gigantic Mining Enterprise.

Feather River Turned Out of its Bed.

Without doubt one of the greatest mining achievements of modern engineering is the completion of the Big Bend Tunnel on the Feather river, situated in this county.

It is well known, among gold miners, that the richest and most productive gold mines of California have been the beds of rivers, and the "Feather" stands pre-eminent as to richness wherever it has been possible to work it. In fact, old miners have known it for years under the name of "The Golden Feather."

Prof. Horace C. Burchard, late director of the United States Mint, in speaking of the gold-producing river beds of California, says: "They are the natural sluices of thousands of square miles of auriferous ground, the wash from which has been distributed on the beds, bars, and benches, where, by a natural process of concentration, the gold was redeposited in such manner that it was easily accessible to the early miners." The bars, which at low water are dry, are exposed to the operation of the miners, and from many places in the bed of the river—where it was possible to turn the river out of its channel by means of dams and canals, or flumes—the miner soon found the ways of abstracting the precious metal from the sand and gravel in which it rested. The Big Bend of Feather river, however, whose gravel deposits have been estimated in value from \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000, has hitherto baffled the skill of man to rob it of its treasure. This vast amount of wealth has been guarded and preserved for ages by the minimum constant flow of one hundred thousand miners' inches of water rushing through a narrow canyon of from 1,500 to 2,000 feet deep, which rendered it impossible to wing-dam or flume. Yet, while nature has thus seemingly placed impregnable barriers against man's encroachments, she provided, at one point at least, a way whereby these obstacles could be overcome through the intervention of modern engineering skill.

Oroville Register

9-22-1887

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There is a little stream running through Dark Canyon, which empties into the West Branch of the Feather and from there into the main Feather. Dark Canyon is several feet lower than the main bed of the main Feather, at the point where Big Bend begins. A tunnel was commenced in Dark Canyon, and a bore 12x16 feet drilled through a spur of Big Bend mountain a distance of 12,007 feet, or nearly two and one-third miles in length out to the mountain side of Feather river, at the upper end of the Bend. Just below where the upper end of the tunnel taps the river a dam was constructed which is to force the water through the tunnel into Dark Canyon, out of which it will flow into the West Branch and then into the main Feather again. This will leave about fourteen miles of the river bed exposed to sight during the season of low water, which is from seven to nine months in the year.

This stupendous work required the services of one hundred men, working night and day, for about five years, and has just recently been completed. At the head of the tunnel six gates of iron and steel, 4½ by 8 feet, will let the water in or keep it out. In times of high water the gates will be closed, and the river will be run along its old bed, to be turned out of its course and through the tunnel at low water.

The past yield from those parts of the Feather accessible to mining operations, is sufficient evidence that the most sanguine anticipations of the projectors of this grand enterprise will be fully realized. The famous old Cape Claim, below Big Bend, yielded \$680,000 in forty-two working days, and from 3,300 lineal feet of half-worked river bed. In fact the river channel, both above and below the Bend, has proven itself immensely rich.

Oroville Register

9-22-1887

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The president of the Big Bend Tunnel and Mining company, and the largest stockholder therein, is Dr. R. V. Pierce, who is, perhaps, of all others, most entitled to credit for the successful termination of this great undertaking. Being fully satisfied with the feasibility of the plan from its inception, he has with an unstinting hand supplied the funds for the prosecution of this enormously expensive work, and his confidence and liberality will soon meet its reward.

The doctor has been, and now is, connected with very many other important matters. In the fall of 1877, he was elected to a seat in the New York State Senate, and in 1878, he was placed in nomination for Congress, and was elected by a decisive majority.

He is president of the Buffalo Loan, Trust and Safe Deposit company, one of the foremost banking institutions in the city of Buffalo. But he is perhaps best known as president of the "World's Dispensary Medical Association and Invalid's Hotel and Surgical Institute." This institution is situated on Main and Washington streets, Buffalo, N. Y., having a frontage on both streets. The design of the Invalids' Hotel is to furnish a home to those desiring private treatment of the most skilled class, especially to those suffering from chronic and surgical diseases. It is not a hospital, but a pleasant, remedial home, furnished with every comfort, and the most approved sanitary, medical and surgical appliances, which study, experience, invention, and the most liberal expenditure of money can produce. There are eighteen skilled physicians and surgeons constantly at the hotel, and a corps of efficient and trained nurses. The doctor is also the inventor of several well-known medicines, which are compounded at the

World's Dispensary. The efficacy of these medicines is undoubtedly what led to the idea and ultimate establishment of the Invalids' Hotel. Very many who were using these remedies of Dr. Pierce's found them so beneficial that they began to send applications for personal treatment, and these appeals becoming so numerous, the doctor concluded to erect his Invalids' Hotel. The Big Bend Tunnel company is fortunate in having so progressive a man as Dr. Pierce as their president.

The money expended in the construction of the tunnel does not represent all the capital involved. Many claimants to mining grounds on the bars, banks and river bed had to be bought out in acquiring title to this vast extent of rich mining grounds. Boarding houses have been constructed along the river, roads and tracks have been built; a substantial bridge erected across the West Branch of the river, and what was an unbroken wilderness, around the vicinity of the tunnel, when the company commenced operations, is now a thriving village with good dwelling houses, a general store, a hotel, and a school house. A post office has also been established here, and a telephone line built to Oroville, sixteen miles distant.

9-22-1887

OROVILLE REGISTER.

VOL. XI.

OROVILLE, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER, 22, 1887.

No. 1

Lumber Industry.

Oroville is so situated at the base of the Sierras, and at the head of railroad communication, that it is the shipping point for a large quantity of sugar pine lumber. This brings a large number of teams here daily for six or eight months of the year and makes this town an excellent market for hay and grain.

The extent of Butte's forest belt is very great and will last for the next fifty years. From Oroville and Moore Station there were shipped over the Northern California Railroad during 1886, 490 cars of sugar pine lumber, about 4,500,000 feet; 42 car loads of doors and windows; 401 cars of common lumber, about 3,500,000 feet; 40 cars of box lumber, 340,000 feet; and 1,149 car loads of wood, about 17,000 cords. Mr. J. F. Rowell, co-partner and manager of the Merrimac and Lumpkin Mills Company, one of the most important concerns on the Pacific Coast, recently furnished the *Journal of Commerce*, the following list of mills in this part of Butte: "The Plaskett Mill saws 400,000 feet of lumber annually; the Mooretown Mill, 500,000 feet; the Berry Creek Mill, 250,000; Lathrop's Mill, 100,000; Burnham's Mill, 600,000; Rock Creek Mill, 1,000,000; Springer & Co.'s Mill, 3,000,000; Merrimac Mill, 4,000,000 and Lumpkin, Mill, 3,500,000."

The Merrimac Mill employs about 50 animals and 75 men, while 60 teams using 300 horses are employed in hauling the lumber to Oroville. Springer & Co. and the Lumpkin Mill each employ from 60 to 75 men and in proportion to the amount of lumber cut the same number of teams that are used at Merrimac.

Yellow pine lumber is cut at an altitude of from 2,000 to 6,000 feet, but that growing below 2,500 feet is not of the best quality. The best sugar pine is found from 3,500 to 5,000 feet altitude.

The distance of hauling to Oroville varies from the different mills, the nearest 20 miles and the furthest 35 miles. The amount paid for hauling averages about \$25,000 a month, six months in the year.

Butte cuts more sugar pine than any other county in the State and is second in the lumber business to only two or three of the coast counties where immense quantities of redwood are cut.

THE SHIRE TOWN OF BUTTE COUNTY.

The Citrus City of Northern California.

Oroville is connected with Marysville by the Northern California railroad, twenty-eight miles in length, over which there are two trains daily, and a new road is projected by way of Thermalito and Biggs, fourteen miles, thence to Willows in Colusa county. Marysville and Biggs are both on the California and Oregon railroad, while Willows is on a line running up the west side of the Sacramento Valley.

Oroville is the center from which diverge five stage lines, aggregating more than 380 miles in length. There is a daily line to Biggs, fourteen miles; Concow, twenty-eight miles; Cherokee, twelve miles; Big Bend, sixteen miles; Deadwood, twenty-three miles; and tri-weekly lines to Susanville, Lassen county, 110 miles; Quincy, Plumas county, sixty-five miles; Gibsonville, Sierra county, sixty miles, and to Lumpkin, thirty-three miles.

This is the leading shipping point for sugar pine lumber in Northern California and about 150 four and six horse teams are employed seven months in the year in hauling this lumber to Oroville for shipment.

Large quantities of wool, fruit and vegetables are also shipped from this point.

Oroville is connected with all important points by telegraph, while telephone lines run to most of the small towns in the county.

Oroville enjoys better drainage than any other town in the State owing to its gravelly soil and proximity to Feather river, this renders the streets dry within a few hours after the heaviest rains and to some extent accounts for the absence of scarlet fever and other diseases that all towns are more or less subject to.

The water supply is unsurpassed. A clear, pure, mountain stream is tapped high in the Sierras and the water is brought to Oroville in ditches and pipes. Twelve inch mains are laid in the principal streets and eight inch mains on the side streets, Forty hydrants are so placed that the water from these will reach any part of the town. In the business blocks at least three large streams can be turned upon any one building.

The town is compactly built and presents a favorable showing to strangers. Many, in fact, nearly all of the residences are embowered in little orange and lemon groves, while the climate is favorable to a profusion of handsome shrubs and beautiful flowers.

The Journal of Commerce for Aug. says: "One important point in connection with this region is the magnificent climate especially for persons suffering from pulmonary complaints. There is practically no winter in Oroville." The same paper speaking of our future prospects says: "Oroville is the center, not only of prospectively, the finest citrus region in the world, but of a comparatively rich mineral region and of one of the finest timber belts on the coast, and it does not require the eye of a prophet

to see that Oroville is destined to become a great industrial and commercial center."

Among the principal buildings of Oroville are the Court House, shaded by beautiful poplar, locust, elm, and orange trees, Union Hotel a large two story brick building, United States Hotel, a three-story brick, and two-story wooden building combined, the brick stores of Perkins & Wise, Bell & Waldeyer, Brock & Taber, Jas. C. Gray, E. A. Kusel & Son, D. F. Fryer, C. J. Smith, Chas. St. Sure, Samuel Ostroski, Bank of Rideout Smith & Co., R. M. Green, Odd Fellows Hall, Masonic Hall, Fireman's Hall, Congregational, Methodist and Catholic churches, a handsome two-story brick school house, a fine public hall and theater and a patent roller flour mill.

The town is supplied with gas works, and the usual number of shops of similar towns of its size. There is a planing mill, brewery, soda factory and a fine flouring mill, with the latest machinery for roller flour, with a capacity of 125 barrels each twenty-four hours.

From a business point of view Oroville has one of the best situations of any town in Northern California. It commands a good valley trade all the year round, and a very large summer trade with the mountain parts of Butte and the counties of Plumas and Sierra. There being no less than forty-eight towns and mining localities that either wholly or in part purchase their supplies here.

Several of the business houses are direct importers from eastern factories and from Europe, and the stocks carried are very heavy.

Oroville Register

9-22-1887

page 2 of 2

Daily Alta California

AND

San Francisco Times.

(Entered at the Post Office as Second Class Mail matter. Prepaid on Third Class & Post.)

San Francisco, - - Saturday, October 22

MINING STOCKS.

An Advance Takes Place in the Middle Stocks.

Telegrams received yesterday announced the battery assays in North Belle Isle for the last three days as \$322, \$352 and \$391. This is a little better than was expected, as it was the intention of the directors of the company to grade the ore so that it would run from \$250 to \$300 per ton.

Things are looking favorable for a settlement of the Como-Eureka affairs. The mine is a good one, and will no doubt prove a bonanza to its owners.

Several hundred men will be worked in the bed of the Feather river, where it is drained by the Big Bend tunnel, during the coming season.

THE DAILY MERCURY

TUESDAY EVENING.....NOV. 1, 1887

MESSILLA VALLEY.

Rolling Foothills With Sunny Slopes and
Productive Soil.

**An Abundance of Mountain Water and
a Healthy Climate.**

It is not generally known that one of the most charming valleys in Northern California, lies at the base of the Sierras just twelve miles north of Oroville. Messilla Valley, better known as Pentz, is about fourteen miles west of Chico, reaches within a mile or two of Chorokee and is twelve miles north of Oroville. It is in the midst of one of the finest sections of the famous foothills of Butte and produces in the greatest luxuriance every variety of citrus and deciduous fruits and every known vegetable is grown to the greatest perfection. Its water supply is limitless, as the West Branch of the Feather river commands the entire section, several large ditches flow above the valley on the way to the mines and for irrigating purposes South; while a beautiful stream flows through it. Mesilla Valley, proper, contains about two miles square and every acre of it is rich and easily cultivated. But the country for ten miles west, several north and five south naturally tributary to it, is of the same character and comparatively uncultivated.

The Daily Mercury

Nov 1, 1887

Every ten acre tract of land within the above mentioned radius and with this beautiful valley in the center, will support any industrious family in ease and affluence, as we shall endeavor to prove in a future article. Many hundred acres in this vicinity, that are now uncultivated, can be bought at far less than its real value; and a more healthy, salubrious, delightful and generally desirable locality for home making can not be found in the broad area of California.

This article is intended merely as an introduction and will be followed by others in which we shall go into detail concerning that section.

THE BIG BEND TUNNEL.

It is at Last Completed and a Rich Harvest is in View.

For five years past a company of New York capitalists have been engaged in the stupendous undertaking of turning Feather river from its bed at the Big Bend 16 miles above Oroville, in Butte county. Here a mountain spur has caused the river to make a detour which, following the trend of the mountain for 14 miles, returns to a spot not more than two and one-third miles from the point on the opposite side. For years the Yuba and Feather rivers have been noted for their richness in the early days of the State, and untold millions had been taken from their beds, but at this point the depth of the canon through which the river flowed coupled with the large volume of water made it impossible for the pioneer miners to extract the stores of wealth. It is this which attracted the attention of Dr. R. V. Pierce of Buffalo, New York, and he determined to associate a number of capitalists with himself and by tunneling the mountain spur at the Big Bend obtain the gold which had defied all other efforts to get it.

The work of tunneling the mountain was begun five years ago and has just been completed. The tunnel is 12,000 feet, or nearly two and one third miles in length. One hundred men have been engaged on it night and day, using the largest-sized Burleigh drills, driven by compressed air. The tunnel, as completed a year ago was nine by sixteen feet, but this was found too small for the volume of water, and the aperture has been increased to twelve by sixteen feet in size. On October

16th the river was turned through the tunnel, which was found of sufficient capacity, and the bed of the river bed was laid bare. Numerous prospect holes were sunk at various points, and gold was found in paying quantities, some of the places paying as high as fifty cents to the pan of dirt. Owing to the quantity of water coming through the gravel and the want of pumping machinery, but little can be done this season, but enough has been discovered to show the richness of the claim which will be thoroughly equipped with all necessary pumps for next season's work. The water of the river, as it comes from the tunnel, is at a height of 300 feet above the river below, and this tremendous fall will be utilized to generate electricity, which will be conveyed to the various pumps by copper wires, and again developed into force by the dynamos there. Dr. Pierce has brought a number of samples of gold nuggets and dust from the claim as an earnest of what is promised in the future. He is now stopping at the Palace hotel and is engaged in making contracts for his pumping machinery. This will be erected during the winter under the supervision of the superintendent, M. A. Harris, and all will be in readiness for next season's work. The cost of the tunnel has been nearly \$1,000,000. This expense has been borne by the Big Bend Tunnel company, whose capital stock is \$20,000,000.

Daily Mercury
11-10-1887

W. A. Cowan of Concow struck his wife, she had him arrested and Justice Bliss sentenced him to six months in jail and imposed a fine of \$500. It must be an extreme case of depravity on both sides when husband and wife engage in a fist fight.

The man Cowan, who beat his wife at Concow, will spend two years in the county jail to pay for his little round.

Oroville Register

11-17-1887

At Big Bend a ditch with a capacity of 5,000 inches is being dug from Dark Canyon to the mouth of the West Branch, a distance of two miles. This will afford water for running the electric plant soon to be placed in position. The survey will be continued to Oroville and those interested believe beyond a doubt that the ditch will be continued here next spring and summer. As the electric plant will require but two hundred inches, there is good foundation for confidently looking for a new ditch next year.

Nov 21, 1887

THE DAILY MERCURY

MONDAY EVENING.....NOV. 21, 1887

Another Rich Quartz Mine.

John Crawford and H. C. White, of Oregon City, about two weeks ago discovered a quartz ledge, near their cabin about three hundred yards from the Oregon City school house, that is proving to be the richest discovery ever made in Butte county quartz. D. F. Smith, who lives near, brought some of the rock to town this morning and it is the pure white quartz literally matted with gold. He said the samples shown us were not selected, but picked up carelessly from a pile. The men have followed the ledge sixty feet, and it is two feet in width and averages fifteen inches through. The ledge has been walked over for thirty years and much gold has been found in the vicinity. The lucky miners intend to continue prospecting until they discover the extent of the ledge and will then endeavor to get a mill put up. The rock shown us will go at least \$2,000 to the ton, and the ledge seems to be composed of just such rock, for they beat out \$100 in a little while with a mortar. Mr. Smith had some very rich rock that was taken from a ledge on his place and says he has any quantity of the rock. These facts simply go to prove what the MERCURY has long asserted and what all the practical miners know to be true, namely; that there are millions of gold in the quartz ledges about Oregon City, eight miles northeast of Oroville.

Weekly Chronicle Record
11-24-1887

Mr. Messer, of the Pentz, Cherokee and Deadwood stage line yesterday came over on his schedule time bringing two passengers. He then changed horses and immediately returned to Deadwood for the purpose of bringing over a sick man today. Rather a long days ride, but Messer is tough and has good teams to drive.

Nov 29, 1887
The Daily Mercury

Pence's Ranch.

Wat M. Pence, proprietor of the splendid ranch of that name in Mes-silla Valley, twelve miles north of Oroville, was in town yesterday. He has made extensive improve-ments on his fine property there during the past Summer and intends to make more this Winter. His land is reached on crossing the canal bridge, a mile south of the Pence Hotel, and bounds the road on both sides. A finer piece of foothill valley land can not be found in this State. In his beautiful grounds at the hotel are growing all kinds of citrus and deciduous fruits, and the oranges and lemons from his trees are wonders of beauty and excellence. Through the center of his domain flows a beautiful stream from which the majority of the ranch can be irrigated. The several hundred acres in the ranch constitute a magnificent principality in the heart of the citrus belt and would supply happy homes for fifty families.

The time will come when that land will be utilized for home mak-ing, for such a magnificent piece of land in such a charming valley can not long remain unused if attention is called to it.

Oroville Register

12-1-1887

The working men at the Cherokee mine, under the management of Wm. Gregory, have been paid the last cent of the back pay due them, and all wages up to the present time so that they feel in good spirits. Should Mr. Gregory retain his position, there is no doubt that inside of two years the mine will be entirely out of debt, and everything can be run on a cash basis.

Oroville Register 12-15-1887

The Gridley Herald's mathematician is badly mixed. His big ditch from Big Bend is to carry 90,000 inches, "and the intention is to have it carry three-fourths or four-fifths of the water of the North Fork, which varies from 50,000 to 80,000 inches." Four-fifths of either 50,000 or 80,000 lacks a good deal of being 90,000.

Daily Mercury
12-19-1887

The man, Cowan, who was sentenced to six months in jail and \$500 for abusing his wife, has been pardoned by Governor Waterman, the papers having arrived Saturday. Reardon & Freer don't let up until they get to the last notch.

List of Exhibitors.

VARIETIES OF FRUIT AND LOCALITIES WHERE GROWN..

BIG BEND.—S. Knowlton exhibits black walnuts, and 2 varieties of choice apples; L. Strover, mammoth potatoes.

CONCOW VALLEY.—Winter apples, Fred Kirby; potatoes, E. S. Stone; choice apples, almonds, and fine timothy, Caleb Scott; potatoes, E. D. Hendricks; pears, apples and vegetables, H. Wright.

YANKEE HILL.—Fine Winter pears, H. Duensing.

SPANISH TOWN.—Winter apples and pears, dried plums and peaches, E. R. Lunt.

CAEROKEE.—12 miles north of Oroville, altitude 1,100 feet. Fourteen exhibitors. John Grant, oranges, citrons and apples. Wm. James, oranges; Jenkin Morgan, 4 boxes oranges; Mrs. C. Bader, oranges; Geo. Medanich, lemons; Wm. Thunen, 6 boxes oranges, persimmons English walnuts, dried fruit, gypsum and asbestos; Jas. Laferty, five boxes oranges, pomegranates figs, preserved fruit; Miss Anna McGregor walnuts, figs, almonds; John Thomas, large display of tobacco in leaf and plug; Geo. Miller, apples and pomegranates; John Slissman, dried figs and plums; Mrs. J. L. Herbert, oranges; Mrs. M. Doon, oranges; A. Rapp; English and black walnuts, pears and pumpkins; Miss Lena Grant, walnuts, jars of fruit.

BIDWELL BAR.—I. Ketchum, 3 boxes oranges; Jas. Totman, quinces; C. W. Clinton, apples, 5 clusters oranges.

PENTZ.—12 miles northwest of Oroville, altitude 447 feet.

W. M. Pence, 15 boxes oranges, persimmons, pomegranates, English and black walnuts, almonds, 15 boxes lemons, sweet limes, dried and preserved fruits; C. L. Durban, lemons, large display of raisins, raisins grapes, canned and jelly, almonds and preserved fruits; C. L. Lee, oranges; Christman & Hilton, 18 varieties dried fruit almonds, chestnuts, olives, raisins, apples, pomegranates, figs, barley, preserved fruit.

Jesse Wood, oranges, lemons, nuts, pomegranates, limes, persimmons, raisins, 400 jars and cans of preserved and dried fruit; Adam Heckert, oranges, shaddocks, apples, almonds, preserved fruits, vegetables and flowers.

The Butte County Citrus Fair.

The Citrus Fair, whose happy opening in the spacious tent at Oroville we noted a week ago, appears to have quite fulfilled the high promise of its outset. Words of praise, pleasure and admiration only, make up the varied and voluminous reports, in both country and city papers. The abounding wealth of citrus and other fruits, with the completeness of the arrangements that had been made, and the taste evinced in placing the exhibits, combined to bring about a result that more than satisfied expectation.

The tent, it may be remembered, was 150 feet long by 50 feet wide, and all around this great room, from the floor to the eaves—16 feet vertically—were sloping piles of fruits, vegetables and other products, while the middle of the hall, saving an aisle on either side, was occupied with numerous and beautiful citrus designs.

Space had been assigned to every town in the county, and in some instances to individuals who desired to make separate showings.

The exhibitors numbered hundreds, and the displays included oranges, lemons, limes, shaddock, citrons, persimmons, pomegranates, olives, figs, apples, pears, quinces, plums, grapes and strawberries—all grown outdoors, and picked from the trees or vines since December 18th—besides almonds, walnuts, butternuts, pecans, chestnuts and peanuts. Then, too, there were cabbages, potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, squashes, pumpkins, water and muskmelons, beets, celery, artichokes, peas, castor beans and hops, with 49 varieties of wheat, in sheaf and jars, 10 of barley and 15 of corn, beside Egyptian pop and broom corn, sorghum and sugarcane.

It is, of course, impossible for us to attempt an enumeration of the exhibits, which came from Bangor, Berry Creek, Bidwell's Bar, Big Bend, Biggs, Bloomer Hill, Chico, Central House, Cherokee, Clear Creek, Concord, Enterprise, Forbestown, Gridley, Hurleton, Magalia, Messilla Valley, Morris Ravine, Mud Creek, Nimsheew, Oroville, Paradise, Spanishtown, Sundale, Thompson's Flat, Wyandotte, Wyman's Ravine and Yankee Hill; we can only notice a few of the more striking.

The Chico exhibit, stretching for about 80 feet from the northeast corner to the center of the north side, was the handsomest and most varied in the pavilion. The leading feature was a cottage front with two windows and a door, of full size, in which openings were placed mirrors which gave a fine effect. The house with all its panel-work and cornices was entirely covered with oranges and evergreen trimmings. Here too was the "golden candlestick," described in the books of Moses, represented in due form by gaspipe, hidden in oranges, with seven flaming tips—an ingenious and pleasing design, for which, as well as for the cottage, much praise was accorded to B. F. Allen, who planned them both.

The exhibit from Gen. Bidwell's ranch, tastefully arranged by H. H. Camper, was very elaborate and was thought to illustrate more fully than any other the scope of Butte county's producing capacity.

north of Oroville, at an altitude of over 2000 feet, came remarkably fine oranges, lemons, persimmons, pomegranates, nuts, vegetables and raisins. Among the exhibitors from this region was Jesse Wood of the *Chico Chronicle Record*, who calls his pretty place "Eyrice Villa," and had above his display a large brown eagle with wings outspread. Six years ago Mr. Wood went to the place that is now his home and made a homestead claim on 160 acres of Government land. It was covered with chaparral and timber, but energy and industry cleared 20 acres or more, a variety of fruits was planted, a house put up, and now from the 15 acres of orchard a marvelous number of products have been sent to the fair. In his exhibit was a chair representing "Comfort," made of oranges, lemons, persimmons, limes, apples, walnuts, almonds, olives and several kinds of grains and grasses, which looked delicious, if not comfortable. Another design emblematic of "Industry" was a plow, with share and point fashioned in apples, and the beam and handles of oranges. There was also a large display of roses and other flowers grown in the open air.

Jessie Wood Home

Just North of Messilla Valley Rd
and Pentz Rd intersection

12-31-1887 Pacific Rural Press

From Messilla valley, situated about 12 miles north of Oroville, at an altitude of over 2000 feet, came remarkably fine oranges, lemons, persimmons, pomegranates, nuts, vegetables and raisins. Among the exhibitors from this region was Jesse Wood of the *Chico Chronicle Record*, who calls his pretty place "Eyre Villa," and had above his display a large brown eagle with wings outspread. Six years ago Mr. Wood went to the place that is now his home and made a homestead claim on 160 acres of Government land. It was covered with chaparral and timber, but energy and industry cleared 20 acres or more, a variety of fruits was planted, a house put up, and now from the 15 acres of orchard a marvelous number of products have been sent to the fair. In his exhibit was a chair representing "Comfort," made of oranges, lemons, persimmons, limes, apples, walnuts, almonds, olives and several kinds of grains and grasses, which looked delicious, if not comfortable. Another design emblematic of "Industry" was a plow, with share and point fashioned in apples, and the beam and handles of oranges. There was also a large display of roses and other flowers grown in the open air.