

MINES AND MINING.

SAXE CREEK QUARTZ MINES.
As there is nothing doing in the placer mines at present, I will give particulars about prospecting work going on in the quartz mines here-about.

Messrs. Young & Kerman have been running tunnels in their ledges the past several months, with good indications of developing some good mines.

The Sugar Loaf has a tunnel in about eighty feet most of the distance in hard rock, but two miners were able to make that distance in about one month's time. As the ledge had pitched to the east, and not knowing how much further they would have to run to strike it, work was discontinued for the present. They then commenced work on the Caledonia, another of their ledges, which is now in about seventy-five feet. The tunnel is thirty feet from the surface. The west wall is an immense body of gold bearing porphyry, a portion of which is rich in free gold. The width of the porphyry ledge is about forty feet. The adjoining formation is quartz, the ledge being about four feet wide. The gold in the quartz is colored tellurium and not affected by acid, and must be smelted to get its natural color. A fine prospect is panned out in every mortar crushed, and must run high in gold. The next formation east is a strata of slate, and then serpentine. The owners intend to run a working tunnel in the near future to strike the ledge at a depth of 150 feet. It will be about 200 feet in length. This mine, if it continues as rich as it does at present, promises to be an Oregon bonanza, equaled by none yet discovered in this part of the state. Another tunnel has been run on the Tennessee ledge, about sixty feet which will be continued during the present summer. It is on a line with the Caledonia, further south, but resembles it on the surface. Upon two of their other ledges shafts, thirty feet in depth, have been sunk, which prospect well. These ledges all contain free milling ore. We expect ere long to have lively times here, when quartz mills are erected to pound out the wealth contained in the ore. Saxe creek mines will then be known through out the land, and will awake from the Rip Van Winkle dreams of past years to become more lively and progressive.

J. C. KERNAN.

Parties are said to be working in the old black and sand beach some six miles from tide-water, near Port Oxford, with sluices; no rifles, merely a solution unknown to any one but themselves, applied to the bottom of their sluices, to which the flour gold adheres. If this is the case, it will revolutionize silver plates for mining.—Grants Pass Courier.

The Tolo Mining company are not working on their placer proposition this week, owing to repairs which are being made on their pipe line. They are, however, working on the new quartz ledge lately discovered. C. A. White has retired from the superintending of the mine and is succeeded by M. M. Miller, formerly treasurer and general manager.

John B. Griffin of Woodville, was in Medford the first of the week. He informs us that himself and Chas. White have just completed a tunnel tapping their rich ledge which was struck, near Woodville, by them some time ago. They are now ready to take out milling quartz, and have made arrangements to have a lot of it milled at Ashland. The rock will be shipped to Ashland by train, the charge for which is \$8.40 per car of twelve tons. The ore is quite rich and will well pay the expense of hauling to the Ashland mill.

Fast Locomotives.

It has been claimed that the celebrated Empire world's fair express made 112 miles an hour, but the statement fails entirely of authentication. The figure of 102.7 miles per hour for short distances appears to be nearer the mark, and even if there were an error of a second the rate would still have been 100 miles an hour. Between Jersey City and Philadelphia it is a common occurrence for the engines hauling the Blue Line trains to reach 90 miles an hour. Speeds of over 84 miles an hour are often made by the Philadelphia & Reading and Central New Jersey flyers. In England a Great Northern train has made 84.1 miles an hour; while a Midland train between London and Scotland has run up to the same speed. The London & North-western has gone up to 81.8. The continent of Europe does not appear to afford any examples at all approximating the American and English records, a fact attributable to the conservative dislike of the government officials to high speed rather than to actual inability.

Travelers find a safe companion in De Witt's Colic and Cholera Cure. A change in drinking water and in diet often causes severe and dangerous complaints. This medicine always cures them. Geo. H. Haskins, druggist.

PACIFIC COAST ITEMS.

NEWS NUGGETS PICKED UP WEST OF THE SIERRAS.

Bonds Required of Conductors—A Chinese Accuses a Postmaster—Mining Troubles in Idaho—Judge Wallace's Severity on Criminals.

Vallejo (Cal.) is to have a fine new school building.
A crematory has been completed at the Odd Fellows' cemetery, San Francisco.

The Seattle Shippers' association is boycotting the Northern Pacific railroad.
The Chinese have been expelled from the orchards at Orangevale, Cal.

The cut worm is doing considerable damage to crops in the upper San Joaquin valley.

Amalie Reinelt committed suicide at San Jose by sending two bullets into her head.

San Francisco will celebrate one of the greatest Fourth of July celebrations this year ever held on the Coast.
Thomas S. Lottitt, the aged father of ex-Congressman James A. Lottitt of Stockton, is dead. The deceased was a pioneer and made a fortune in early days by forging mining picks.

A force of graders will be put to work soon to construct the roadbed of the Stockton and Lodi Terminal railway. The grading will be done by the company itself, no contracts being let.

The Stockton Commercial association has decided to offer the Corral Hollow railroad rights of way and a franchise to the city. The railroad's application for a terminal site has been refused.

Kate Flood, the notorious confidence operator, now in jail at San Francisco, has been operating in San Jose, where she stole a ring from Maggie Olsen and defrauded Mollie Hirsch out of \$14.

The big wheat fields just south and west of Moreno, Cal., have been badly damaged by rust and the crop output from that section will be considerably reduced.

Conductors employed by the Southern Pacific company have been notified that after July 1 they will be required to furnish bonds of \$2,000 each. The conductors kick at this new regulation.

G. J. Cowan, a representative of the Pittsburg Coal Mining company, is in Stockton looking for a suitable water front site on which his corporation may erect coal bunkers.

Instructions have been received in Portland to take an appeal from so much of Judge Gilbert's order in the Oregon Short Line railroad case as provides for the issuance of receivers' certificates.

The second trial in the famous contest brought by Mrs. Kate C. Carriger of Sonoma to break the will of her husband, William W. Carriger, came to an end at Santa Rosa with a victory for Mrs. Carriger on every issue.

The city council of Stockton has passed an ordinance giving the San Joaquin Valley railroad the right of way through the city. The company can now begin the work of construction in the city.

George A. Sturtevant, district attorney of Mendocino county, has been arrested on a charge of voting illegally at a local election. He is accused of voting in a precinct in which he did not reside.

Governor McGraw of Washington has pardoned Samuel B. Dusenberre, ex-cashier of the Bank of Puyallup, who was convicted of embezzlement in the fall of 1893 and sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

There is trouble brewing in the Cœur d'Alene mining district, in Northern Idaho, between the Miners' union and the law and order men in that section who have organized to protect the men who wish to work and the mine owners.

Whisky is exterminating the Indians on the mainland of British Columbia. Recently Chief George of the Capitanos was found drowned and later Chief George of the Seymour creek Indians met his death in the same way.

The Santa Clara town trustees have awarded the contract for constructing the municipal water works to a San Francisco company. The price is \$42,000, including the cost of a steel tower.

The Epworth League of Cyclers of the First Methodist church at San Jose will no longer be known as such. The majority of the members of the league, at a recent meeting, voted the cycling annex out of existence. Bloomers were the cause of the split.

Vincent Ross, postmaster at Hattie, B. C., has been arrested for tampering with the mails. A Chinese alleges that he mailed a marked \$5 bill to Victoria and that he received the same bill in change in Ross' store a few days later. Ross has been released on \$2,000 bail.

The man who made a foolhardy attempt to rob the Silver Bow (Mont.) National bank has been identified as an old Leadville gambler named Tom Hudson. He was once an inmate of a Colorado asylum and is a confirmed morphine fiend.

The San Francisco grand jury, which has been investigating all sorts of things for six months, has presented its final report. Election frauds and the escape of the perpetrators thereof is the subject receiving the greatest attention. The courts are censured for not bringing the ballot box manipulators to justice. Police Judge Campbell is hauled over the coals for accepting straw bonds for the release of swindlers.

Thomas Hennessy, a young man convicted of highway robbery, was sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge Wallace of San Francisco. There was a prior conviction against Hennessy which and because of that fact the judge gave him the severest penalty of the law. Judge Wallace for several years has made it a practice to give footpads the full limit of the statutes. Twenty years is the sentence he gives all the robbers convicted in his court.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

Victims Acts of Lawbreakers and Losses by Fire and Accidents.

Greenville (O.) had a \$150,000 fire the other night.

Mike Ryan, a ward politician of Denver, has been convicted of stealing \$5,000 from a Norwegian.

John Anderson, a prisoner in the Sacramento county jail, escaped by cutting a hole in the brick wall of his cell.

William Benson, an Englishman, aged 25, was attacked by footpads at Santa Cruz and beaten so severely that death followed.

William Pickler, accused of stealing bullion from the Carson (Nev.) mint has been held to await the action of the grand jury.

A cyclone struck Hartford, Kan., the other day. Several persons were badly injured and much property was damaged. Twelve houses were destroyed.

The boilers at the water works plant at Union City, Tenn., exploded some days ago. Engineer Carman was instantly killed and it is thought others were badly hurt.

Race track gambling is stopped in Illinois. The legislature adjourned without passing a bill proposed by poolsters and the law prohibiting betting at race tracks is still in force.

J. Marcarini, a prominent Swiss dairymen of Sonoma valley, residing at Sears Point, Cal., was fatally injured by falling under a mowing machine. A wheel came off and threw him under the machine.

A. S. Moore, formerly an employe of Inman, Swane & Co., cotton brokers at New York, has been arrested for forgery. He had put out \$100,000 worth of worthless paper. Moore was superintendent of the Harlem Sunday school.

The British ship Enoch, from San Francisco March 2, lately arrived at Queenstown and reported that on June 3, 300 miles south of Western Island, she passed the American schooner Alma Cummings, the vessel being water-logged and dismantled.

Three distinct attempts were made on a recent night to burn the grocery store of Jonathan Merrifield at Victoria, B. C., but firemen put out the fire each time. The third attempt was made with three firemen and a policeman on watch. No arrests have been made.

Miss Londonderry, the globe-circling cyclist, met with an accident after leaving Colton, Cal. Her wheel broke and she had to walk a long distance in the hot sand, with the thermometer registering 112 degrees. She arrived at Walters station completely exhausted.

Donata Merga, a young Italian farm laborer, died at Petaluma, Cal., from injuries received from a mowing machine. He stepped in front of the cutter to adjust something when the horses started. His left leg was cut off at the knee and his left wrist was nearly severed.

Two hundred strikers at the United Slate works at Cleveland, O., went to the plant a few days ago armed with clubs and compelled those at work to quit. The strikers demand an increase in wages of 50 cents a day. The works are guarded by police. Any attempt to put new men at work will be likely to cause serious trouble.

A young man named Gifford of Fruitvale, Alameda county, while working on the Stanislaus river at Copperopolis, was drowned. He and two others were working in a boat which upset. The three men landed safely on a rock, but Gifford undertook to reach the shore by swimming and the current carried him down stream.

The trial of Will Tabor for the murder of James P. Medlin in Cajon pass last March will begin Thursday at San Bernardino. Tabor's lawyers will make a novel defense, inasmuch as they will put forth the theory that the wound caused by Tabor's gun would not have been fatal had proper care been administered to Medlin in bandaging the arm so as not to let him bleed to death. Nothing has yet been heard of Witness Holt, who knows considerable about the killing.

E. W. Dawson, a white man, shot and killed his negro paranoir, Fred Macklin, overseer of the Natchez Island (Miss.) plantation, and Robert Carter, a colored boy. The negro left Dawson and he went to her cabin on the plantation to "persuade" her to return to him. The overseer went to her assistance and he was shot. Dawson then started for the swamp. A posse, headed by Magistrate Brady, overtook him and riddled him with bullets. Brady then held an inquest on the spot and Dawson was buried in the swamp.

An agreement has been reached between the friends of absconding State Treasurer Taylor of South Dakota and Attorney General Crawford. Taylor returned to Pierre Tuesday and surrendered. He will pay over all the money he has on hand, about \$45,000, and also his personal property, which is to be assessed at a liberal valuation. Taylor will then plead guilty and Judge Gaffney has agreed to call a special term of court and sentence him to the penitentiary for two years. It is further agreed that before the expiration of this sentence the governor will pardon him and thus save his citizenship.

At Bessemer, Ala., Bert Rockett, a former clerk, called at the wholesale liquor store of Albert Benson and demanded back salary which he said Benson owed him. A quarrel followed, resulting in Rockett drawing a big jack-knife and driving Benson from his own store. Benson told Rockett he would see him again. Later the men met on the most prominent street in town and renewed the quarrel, Rockett suggesting that they fight it out and asked Benson if he was armed. Benson said he was ready and both drew pistols and began firing. They emptied their revolvers, after which Benson proposed to finish the fight with his fists. As Rockett stepped forward he fell dead, having been shot just below the heart. Benson, who was unhurt, was jailed.

HORSES FASCINATED BY FIRE.

The Animals Seized with a Strange Madness When in Peril.

The panic that is inspired in the minds of horses by a phenomenon so strange as fire can be understood only by those who have witnessed a fire in a large stable where numbers of horses are kept, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The scene that ensues is one of the most frightful that can be conceived. The horses are rescued from the burning building with the utmost difficulty and only with the most serious peril to the lives and limbs of the rescuers. The animals go mad with fright, rear, kick and dash from side to side so wildly as to make an attempt at rescue as perilous as an adventure on a hostile battery. When rescued they will often break away from those who hold them and charge back at full speed into the burning building, there to perish in the flames. They resist every attempt to take them out. They have been known to tear their rescuers with their teeth, to throw them to the ground and trample on them, to kick out their brains. As the fury of the flames increases so does the panic of the unfortunate animals. They scream out in their agony as the fire reaches their bodies, yet will they not for all that seek safety in the open air. They are crazed with fear, and yet remain to be burned to death when a ten seconds' run would carry them to liberty. But they never make the run, and as a rule, are burned alive in their stalls, where alone they seem to fancy they can find security. There is but one way to get them out and that is to blind them with some convenient cover, such as a coat or a blanket, and thus, unable to see the dangers about them, trembling in every limb, apparently ready to fall to the earth with fear, they may be led out. But the cover must not be too quickly removed from their eyes; in fact, it should not be taken off until the animals are out of sight of the burning building, otherwise they will break away from the persons leading them and, in spite of the stoutest efforts at restraint, will dash back to perish in the flames.

Vastness of Some of the Greater Stars of the Pleiades.

If our sun were removed to the Pleiades it would hardly be visible in an opera glass with which nearly 100 stars can be seen in the cluster. Sixty or seventy Pleiades surpass our sun in brilliancy. Alcyon being 1,000 times more brilliant. Electra 500 times and Maia nearly 400, says Longman's Magazine. Sirius itself takes a subordinate rank when compared with the five most brilliant members of a group the real magnificence of which we can thus in some degree apprehend. If we seek to know the dimensions, not of the individual stars, but of the cluster itself, we are met with many difficulties, but, on the assumption that it is approximately spherical in shape, we can calculate its diameter to be over 40,000,000,000 miles. If we think of the dimensions of our solar system by themselves or in relation to terrestrial matter they appear stupendously enormous. Neptune, the most distant known member, has an orbit over 5,000,000,000 miles across, but the solar system is to the Pleiades but a Lilliputian to a Brobdingnagian—is but a microbe to a mountain—for a sphere the size of the solar system would, if it were spherical and its diameter that of the orbit of Neptune, be relatively so minute that it could be contained more than 400,000,000,000 times in a sphere the size of the Pleiades; in other words, the limits of the Pleiades could contain 150 solar systems as many times over as there are miles between Neptune and the sun. It must not be forgotten that though there are 2,300 stars in the cluster, yet with such dimensions for the entire group vast distances must separate the stars from one another. In fact, 2,300 spheres, each with a diameter of 3,000,000,000 miles, could be contained in the limits assigned to the group, and assuming equal distribution of the stars in the group, each would be at the center of a sphere 3,000,000,000 miles across, and therefore a light journey of 187 days from its nearest neighbor.



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Maine's Floating Islands.

In some of the lakes of northern Maine there are floating islands. Along the shore roots of trees push into the water, bushes grow among them, moss fills the chinks and in time a kind of platform of vegetation is thrown out along the surface of the water. The dense network of roots makes it safe to walk upon and deer paths are often found running across the surface. The surface is covered with deep moss, cranberry vines, pitcher plants and the like. When one jumps the bog shakes for rods around and water is always bubbling up around one's ankles. In a high wind pieces of the bog are torn off and they are the floating islands. They generally drift to shore and tie up by the roots again.

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