

polished arms of an army, presented a spectacle of activity never to be forgotten. But I am going into a diversion, and will return to the subject of this paragraph.

The town of Bannock was constructed of pine lumber, with the exception of two or three brick buildings, and many of the hotels and lodging houses were two and three stories high. The streets were narrow, and as the miners advanced their work the buildings were propped up on standards, and after the ground under them was mined the vacancies were filled in with tailings. Houses that were constructed before the location of the ground were propped up at the expense of the

and Sue Getzler. Each theatre kept in its employ, in addition to the orchestra, a good brass band.

The circulating medium (dust) was not to be used without considerable annoyance and loss to those who received it from various sources. Bogus dust operators became very numerous, and the spurious article put into circulation by many of them so closely resembled the genuine dust taken from the placers of the basin that the most skilled expert was not seldom at a loss to detect the difference. In cases of doubt acid was used, which at length found a place on every counter. "Bummer hill" sand was even more dangerous, as it was nearly of the same specific gravity and of the



ELK HORN, FIRST QUARTZ MILL ERRECTED IN IDAHO, NEAR IDAHO CITY.

(From the original sketch made by Charles Ostroff, in 1865.)

miner, but for those that were built on located ground the miner was not responsible. Numerous dance houses and scores of saloons never closed their doors. The largest saloon in the town—"Miners' Exchange"—paid John Kelly, a violinist well known all over the Pacific coast, \$100 per night to lead its orchestra for the entertainment of its numerous patrons for one year. The contract was fulfilled, and every night at twelve, when the orchestra ceased playing, the \$100 was paid. Two theatres were constructed—one by S. G. Rosenbaum, now of San Francisco—and some professionals of great reputation were engaged to entertain lovers of the stage, among whom were Julia Dean

and Sue Getzler. Each theatre kept in its employ, in addition to the orchestra, a good brass band. The circulating medium (dust) was not to be used without considerable annoyance and loss to those who received it from various sources. Bogus dust operators became very numerous, and the spurious article put into circulation by many of them so closely resembled the genuine dust taken from the placers of the basin that the most skilled expert was not seldom at a loss to detect the difference. In cases of doubt acid was used, which at length found a place on every counter. "Bummer hill" sand was even more dangerous, as it was nearly of the same specific gravity and of the

same color as gold. As acid had no effect on it, thousands of dollars of this worthless production of Bummer hill, at Centerville, were passed. While shoveling dirt into sluices on Kelly's claim, between Main and Montgomery streets, Idaho City, in 1867, the men were very much surprised and pleased on seeing the yellow dust rapidly accumulating in the bottom of the boxes. Half a bushel of dust was cleaned up for the work done from morning till the middle of the afternoon. Kelly was exceedingly jubilant when he saw the clean-up, and cried out: "Boys, knock off for to-day! I have all the money I want!" The boys all quit work, and the beer was ordered.