

The Mines.
(Jacksonville Sentinel February 20.)
The excitement is still at fever heat among our citizens, though efforts are of a more practical turn than heretofore. No new discoveries have been made public, though it is known that unusually good indications have been met with in various localities, which is kept quiet for prudential reasons until such times as definite result in exploration will warrant some statements which can be relied upon by parties in the distance. Confidence in what has been discovered is in no way abated, as each test proves their value more conclusively. We have no disposition to exaggerate or aid in producing excitement, and for that reason refrain from giving general publicity to mere rumors that are afloat, though many of them are apparently well authenticated, and to parties here acquainted, show no reason why they should not be true.
The news from the Galice creek region is of the most encouraging character, and results from ore sent abroad for tests are being received. From ore taken down from the Yank ledge by Mr. Chapman, of Chico we have the worth of that ledge demonstrated by the most practical method—a mill test. Two of these tests, of twenty-five pounds each, were from ore picked up at random on the ledge, and yield \$58 to the ton. Our information comes from Wm. Bilger, who is now in San Francisco and writes to his brother, John Bilger, that the two assays by mill process yielded \$38 and \$78 respectively, two parts silver and one part gold, averaging \$58 per ton, and that the ore is unusually easy to work. It contains a small portion of copper, which mill men say is a good indication of permanence and richness both. Mr. Bilger went to San Francisco with the intention of remaining there and engaging in business, but now he writes, "We have a big thing in the Yank and I will be in Jacksonville in a few days, and will go to work on the ledge myself in a few days more. I am now satisfied we have a fortune there."

Manure for Fruit Trees.
It is clear that animal manures are not what is wanted for fruit trees, including grape-vines, berries, etc. There may be benefit, and usually is at first, but the quality of the fruit will suffer, and the wood and foliage are not of that healthy character which is desired. This has been noticed by Liebiger and others. We have known prolific grape-vines to bear more fruit, but at an expense of quality, where the contents of the privy were freely used for manuring. We have always found the best success when the leaves, the windings of the garden, chip-manure and forest mould, either singly or combined, have been freely applied. These seem to contain the different materials in proper proportions, that is, the organic, the carbonaceous, and nitrogenous, the mineral needs to be supplied, and nothing does this so satisfactorily as wood ashes. It supplies largely potash, which is needed. The best success, and it has been fully achieved, which we ever attained, was by applying a coat of leaves in the fall, worked into the soil in the spring, followed by windings from the garden, clippings of the vine with other vegetable refuse, as a mulch, sprinkled over with wood ashes, leaching or unleaching; if the latter, more were required. This made a healthy, not excessive growth, and increased both in quality and quantity of the fruit. It makes a sounder and better keeping fruit. This was a variety of soils, but particularly a clay soil. There should be a good drainage and exposure to air, or else with a green mulch kept moist by the ashes there might be too much humidity. For grapes this will not do. Nor will it for fruit trees if there is a close, heavy top, reaching well down, holding thus the moisture which evaporates, and inviting parasitic lodgments, which will appear in masses, mildew, rusted fruit, etc. Herbaceous material and wood ashes, with occasional bone-dust, we have found the best application for fruit trees in general, for berries and for the grape. Apply yearly where the soil is not rich; and in the spring when the ground is dry enough to

spade it well. Use sparingly, if any the strong, nitrogenous manure—*Utica Herald.*
Householders.
Send in your names, and if you are unable to pay in advance we will send you the *INDEPENDENT* and wait on you a year. To clubs of five we will send the *INDEPENDENT* for one year for \$10; and for clubs of ten or more we will send the *INDEPENDENT* one year for \$20 00 with an extra number to the getter up of the club.

SOLDIERS' War Claim Agency
No. 34 MONTGOMERY SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
W. H. AIKEN, Attorney-at-law and Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic in California and Nevada, will give prompt attention to the collection of Additional Travel Pay, now due California and Nevada Volunteers discharged more than three hundred miles from home. Soldiers can depend on fair dealing. Information given free of charge. When writing enclose stamp for reply and state company and regiment and whether you have a discharge. Congress has extended the time for filing claims for additional Bounty under Act of July 28, 1866 to January 1875, so all such claims must be made before that time. Original Bounty of \$100 has been allowed all volunteers who enlisted before July 22d, 1861 for three years and not paid the same, when discharged. Land Warrants can be obtained for services rendered before 1865 but not for services in the late war. Pensions for late war and war of 1812 obtained and increased when allowed for less than disability warrants, but no pensions are allowed to Mexican and Florida war soldiers. State of Texas has granted Pensions to surviving veterans of the Texas Revolution, New Orleans and Mobile Prize Money is now due and being paid. W. H. Aiken also attends to General law and Collection Business.

Important Notice.
The *INDEPENDENT* has the sole right of publishing litigant printing for Washington county and contains all the news of our County Courts and all the home news, which no other paper publishes, therefore every man in the county needs the *INDEPENDENT* and should immediately subscribe for it.

Executor's Notice.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned has filed his final account as Executor of the last will and testament of H. B. Bones, Dec'd in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Washington County, and that THURSDAY after the first Monday in January, A. D. 1875, at 10 o'clock a. m. has been set for the final hearing of said matter.
S. A. HOLCOMB.

Notice of Administrator.
THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING BEEN appointed by the County Court of the State of Oregon for Washington County Administrator of the estate of G. M. Raymond deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them to the undersigned at the office of Thos. H. Tongue in Hillsboro, Washington county, Oregon, with the proper vouchers within six months from the date hereof.
THOMAS W. SAINES.
Hillsboro, Dec. 3d, 1874.

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The work originally published under the title of *The New American Cyclopaedia* was completed in 1863, since which time the wide circulation which it has attained in all parts of the United States, and the signal developments which have taken place in every branch of science, literature, and art, have induced the editors and publishers to submit it to an exact and thorough revision, and to issue a new edition entitled *THE AMERICAN CYCLOPEDIA*.
Within the last ten years the progress of discovery in every department of knowledge has made a new work of reference an imperative want.
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The great political revolutions of the last decade, with the natural result of the lapse of time, have brought into public view a multitude of new men, whose names are in every one's mouth, and of whose lives every one is curious to know the particulars. Great battles have been fought and important sieges maintained, of which the details are as yet preserved only in the newspapers or in the transient publications of the day, but which ought now to take their place in permanent and authentic history.
In preparing the present edition for the press, it has accordingly been the aim of the editors to bring down the information to the latest possible dates, and to furnish an accurate account of the most recent discoveries in science, of every fresh production in literature, and of the latest inventions in the practical arts, as well as to give succinct and original record of the progress of political and historical events.
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