

## of Rails Causes Assigned.

For several days past it has been reported on the streets that work had been suspended on the extension of the Sumpter Valley road. The rumor has not genfact that the road is completed to within a lew miles of Whitney, the next end of thetrack townsite, which the company owns. It has been argued that a number of lots have been sold and buildings erected, or contracted for, on the theory that the new town would be an important shipping point this winter.

Wishing to get a straight story, THE MiNER telephoned to General Traffic Agent Barton Monday afternoon, regardis what he said, saving that he was reading it from a written statement, which he had prepared for publication:

The management of the Sumpler Val Jey railroad has decided that on account of the unexpected delay in getting track material for the completion of the Whitney extension, and also on account of the beavy fall of snow, making the handling of the heavy mountain engine, without proper track facilities, almost impractica- Rio Grande Western (Great Salt Lake ble, that work will be suspended until these difficulties can be overcome, and & P. and Illinois Central to Chicago, work continued under more favorable conditions."

#### Placer Mining in the Inland Empire.

The Inland Empire has in the past been more generally known as a placer mining region than a lode mining country. Of recent years the lode mines have become predominant in prominence, but neverthe- order at Henry Finger's.

S. V. WORK SUSPENDED less, placering is carried on to quite an extent. This is not so evident now adays because the output of the placers, instead of being nearly all marketed from Heavy Snow and Non-Arrival Baker City, now finds its way to the mints from several different points along the lines of railroads. It is therefore, also difficult to say what the output for 1900 will amount to. Information as to the product of placer mines is hard to get. For some reason or another placer miners are averse to telling the public what amount of gold dust they get out of the erally been given credence, owing to the gravels. It is understood, however, that the output for the reason just closed of the Winterville placers amounted to \$20, 000. Extensive modern improvements have been inaugurated in some of the diggings. At the Weatherby placers, a \$60,ooo dredger has been installed. Six hydraulic giants have operated in Rye Valley. Placer ground has been found in most of the gulches, which form the head drainage channels of the Blue mountains to the Burnt, Powder and John Day ing the authenticity of the report, and this rivers, but the taking up of the bottom lands for farming interfer's with liberal development of the placer fields.-Baker City correspondent of the San Francisco Mining and Engineering Journal.

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