

GEORGE WIEGAND'S LAST HOURS.

Letter From his Companion on the Trip
From Prescott to Los Angeles.

William Wiegand, brother of the late George Wiegand, has received a letter from Dr. James Ritchey, who accompanied deceased from Prescott, Arizona, to Los Angeles. The letter is dated at the latter place, June 1. It says, in part:

"He wanted me to stop off at San Bernardino and stay with him there a week, as he had heard that it was a great health resort, and I agreed to do so. His physician had predicted that he would collapse while passing over the mountain summit, which he did. He got along splendidly until we got on the highest point of the divide, when he broke out in a cold death sweat. I kept him alive with stimulants until we arrived at our destination, but he was so weak that he decided to go on to Los Angeles, and he would telegraph for his wife to come there.

"We arrived at Los Angeles at 8 a. m. I placed him in an invalid chair and left him at the depot until I could find a hotel to put him in. The conductor told me that I could not get him in any hotel in the city and I tried seven different places before I succeeded in engaging a room. It was just an hour and a half when I returned to him, and I saw that he could not live, and feared that he would die before I could get him to the hotel; but I got him a cup of coffee, which seemed to revive him. I put him in a carriage and he fainted away. I thought he was gone, but a stimulant again revived him, and when we reached the hotel, he walked to his room and laid down on the bed, remarking that he was pleased to be in bed once more.

"He went to sleep immediately and slept a half hour. When he awoke he looked so much better that I was surprised. I had feared it would be his last, long sleep. He said that he was feeling much improved and was very hungry. I secured him a good dinner and never saw any one seemingly enjoy a hearty meal more. He laughed and talked while eating and was more cheerful than I had seen him before. He asked for my opinion as to how long he could live, and I told him frankly that I thought it possible, but not probable that he might live to reach home. He then decided to telegraph for his wife and wait for her here. He talked of dying quite calmly and said, with a smile, that he would enter the great unknown hereafter with little dread.

"And he did. I was out of the room an hour and a half and when I returned he was dead, with the smile still on his manly face. He died as he had lived, game and confident. His greatest regret in quitting his successful life was the thought of the long separation from his wife and relatives."

The remainder of the letter pertains to business affairs.

Copper Found in Pleasant Valley.

A man named Pierce came in today from Pleasant valley bringing some specimens of what looked like copper-bearing quartz. The place where the find was made is situated about five miles from the O. R. & N. side track called Encina, and about five miles from Pleasant valley. Mr. Pierce stated that he had sunk a shaft seven feet in depth and had uncovered a ledge about three feet in width. As soon as the samples are assayed, the exact character of the rock will be known. It has every appearance of being a valuable copper ore.—Baker City Herald.

New Steel Process, Better Than Bessemer.

A press dispatch from Redding, California, of recent date, says that George C. Carson, an experienced mining man, and recently superintendent of a mine in that district, has applied for a patent on a new process for the manufacture of steel, which he claims to have perfected. Carson states that he has been approached by

a representative of a large eastern steel organization with an offer of \$600,000 for the secret, provided the patent is issued and tests are satisfactory. In order to fully test the claims made for the process, the agent making the offer to Carson agreed to establish a plant for the purpose near Chicago, where experiments may be carried out and the value of Carson's invention determined. Carson has accepted the conditional offer of \$600,000, and will leave in a few days for Chicago to complete his part of the agreement. By the use of the Carson process, the inventor claims that steel of a quality much superior to Bessemer steel can be produced.

Rich Specimens from the Uncle Dan.

Uncle Dan Cochrane came in today from the Uncle Dan mine, in the Virtue district, bringing some very rich specimens of free gold bearing quartz. The specimens are on exhibition at the store of Sage & Grace, and are attracting considerable attention. The rock is lousy with specks of free gold. Uncle Dan claims he has from 8 to 14 inches of a similar character of rock. Little is publicly known of his operations in the old Uncle Dan mine, but it is learned that he is steadily developing the rich property by means of an adit, and that the face of the tunnel appears like an Aladdin's cave. The mine is equipped with a Huntington mill, which is operated as occasion demands. Uncle Dan Cochrane pays himself regular dividends, and seems perfectly satisfied with his present operations, which are necessarily on a small scale.—Baker City Herald.

Increase in America's Mineral Products.

A chart published by the geological survey gives a summary of the mineral products of the United States for the past ten years. The aggregate values have increased more than one-half in that period, and the figures for 1899 are greater than in any previous year, footing up the enormous total of \$976,000,000. The value of the metallic products of the year is given at \$572,218,084 and of the non-metallic at \$447,790,862. The latter class, of course, includes the coals—\$168,000,000 in bituminous and \$88,000,000 in Pennsylvania anthracite—\$64,600,000 in petroleum, \$20,000,000 worth of natural gas and large value in stone, brick clay and cement, with various other materials. Of the metals our pig iron is worth almost as much as all others together, the value of the product in 1899 being given at \$245,000,000. Copper comes next with \$104,000,000, and the \$71,000,000 in gold is third. The market value of the silver produced in 1899 was about \$33,000,000 and the lead and zinc together were worth about as much. Quicksilver, aluminum, antimony, nickel and platinum are the other metals that figure in the table.—Western Miner and Investor.

MAP GIVEN AWAY.

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