

Mohave County Miner.

VOL. XVIII.

KINGMAN, ARIZONA, DECEMBER 23, 1899

NO. 11.

General Mining News

Under an order of the court the Sundance mine was sold yesterday at trustees' sale. The purchaser was J. H. Wilkerson, of Chicago, and the purchase price 50,000. The property is equipped with a first class mill and under systematic and intelligent business management can be made to pay handsome profits.—Journal Miner.

The following telegram from Denver will be read with interest by all mining men: The Omaha and Grant smelter has received one car load of ore from the Isabella mine at Cripple Creek that carries values in gold of \$2,000 a ton, or a total of 200,000. A second car gave returns in excess of 50,000.

Capt. Nicholson and Messrs. Lily and Flaherty sold on Friday last the Olympia group of mines for 50,000 and another group for 35,000, both located in the strip. The sale was made to eastern parties and the money has been paid. Judge Blake is preparing to ship a carload of ore from his mines in the strip, located near the ones referred to.—Graham Guardian.

The Dos Cabezas Consolidated Copper company has been organized, with a capital stock of 2,000,000, and has purchased the Emersy group of thirty copper mines at Dos Cabezas, near Wilcox. The company will immediately begin development work, also the erection of a reduction plant. Joseph Schwertner of Wilcox is superintending the development work now in progress.—Prospector.

Shields & Price have been having considerable difficulty in getting enough teams to handle the immense amount of freight going forward to the Rye mines. There are now some thirty big outfits on the road, and before the end of next week there will be ten more, including Jack Shultz' teams and several from Silver Bell. There will be at least twenty tons of freight daily to be hauled at Casa Grande for Mineral Creek.—Tribune.

In the bed of Pine creek near Nugget Point, a ledge of free milling quartz about four feet wide has been discovered and it is reported that the Lord Hamilton syndicate has bonded it. A sample of the quartz weighing 100 pounds is now at the Bank of British North America, and it is said the stuff assays 1.008 to the ton. The ledge has been worn down by the stream and it is believed that much of the placer gold in Pine creek came from this source.—Alaska Truth.

It is stated by Col. Trumbo of the Golden Cross mines, near Yuma, that a part of the 1000 ton cyanide battery now being erected at these mines will be in operation about the first of February. The estimated cost of the reduction of the tailings is 65 cents a ton, and the estimated returns are 2.458 a ton. As there are about 700,000 tons of tailings to be worked over, the net profits are estimated at 1,350,000. It is said that the Southern Pacific Company will build a spur to the mines from Cactus Station, a distance of three and a half miles, and that it will be completed within the next three months.—Yuma Sentinel.

H. B. Clifford reports another important discovery in the Lone Pine mine. At a depth of 225 feet a cross cut has been run which cut an ore body twenty-seven feet in width, making a total of ore bodies now opened up in the property of fifty-two feet. This latest ore discovered has the appearance of being the apex of an ore body, the depth of which cannot be determined. While there are streaks in it which assay 25 per cent in copper the average clear across it is 6 per cent in copper and 88 per ton in gold. Mr. Clifford still believes that the Lone Pine is second only to the United Verde, and if he continues discovering new bodies of rich ore it will not be long until it is a very close second.—Journal Miner.

William Melcher left for New York last evening in answer to a telegram from Professor G. A. Treadwell, calling him to that place to conclude the sale of the Copito mine, owned by the Mel-

zer brothers, Joseph of Los Angeles, and William of Phenix. Hardwick was one of the original owners, and the Melzer brothers acquired a two-thirds interest about a year and a half ago for 3,000. The ore is said to run about 15 per cent copper and a large per cent gold. Besides the original claim the Copito mine proper, the Melzer brothers and Hardwick acquired by purchase about forty adjoining claims, all supposed to be of equal richness. It is this entire property which is reported to have been sold for 4,500,000.—Citizen.

The sale of the famous Mountain Key mine, in Grant county, New Mexico, to Chicago capitalists, has been confirmed. The consideration is not given, but it is known to be a very considerable sum. The mine has produced more gold and silver than any other mine in the territory. It was first worked by a St. Louis company, and between 1889 and 1892 it is claimed over 600,000 of ore was taken out. Trouble between the owners brought on litigation, and since that time it has been in the courts. The St. Louis people constructed a 15-stamp mill and kept it running for about three years, working over 20,000 tons. It is understood here that the new owners will begin operations on the old mine at once.—Denver Record.

John W. Gates of Chicago, president of the American Steel and Wire Company, and William Edeburn of New York, have closed negotiations with J. W. Drape & Co. of Pittsburg for the purchase of 6,000 acres of ore land for a new organization known as the United States Mining Company. The cash price for the property is 1,000,000. It lies on the border line between Alabama and Tennessee, and is underlaid with a heavy vein of iron ore. The United States Mining Company is said to be a part of the American Steel and Wire Company, and its organization is believed to be another step of the combination toward independence from outside concerns in the manufacture of its products. The same men recently bought 80,000 acres of coal land in the Connellsville region for the purpose of manufacturing coke for their plants.—Mines and Minerals.

There are few mines in the world which produce large quantities of silver in the native state—that is to say, in white flakes or wires, just as it is used in commerce or for coinage. In 99 cases out of a hundred silver ore would not be recognized by a person not possessing any mining knowledge to contain silver at all, says the Los Angeles Times. Probably the most remarkable of the mines yielding native silver is that of Batopilas, in Chihuahua, celebrated as the property of A. R. Shepard, who did so much to beautify Washington City. Mr. Shepard spent an immense amount of money in opening up these great mines, and he has been amply repaid for his enterprise. Since 1880, when he first acquired the property, over 9,000,000 has been taken out, although only the high grade ore has been worked. Over 1,000 men are employed at the mine. It takes a pretty rich silver mine to pay operating expenses at the present price of silver.

B. H. Smith has returned from the Henrietta group of mines, now known as the American Flag group, consisting of four claims—the American Flag, Yankee Girl, Invincible and Silverton. The claims are 22 miles southeast of Prescott, and are located on Bigbug creek. This group has a splendid record as producers of shipping ore. There is over a mile of development work, which has been done principally upon the Invincible and American Flag mines. The mines have a well defined ledge of two feet in width. The properties are now being operated by B. H. Smith and Ben Belcher and Messrs. Hanna and Spear. They have eleven men at work in the mine, and a large shipment of the ore is now being loaded for transportation to the Bigbug smelter, the latter being operated by the Eastern and Montana company. B. H. Smith brought in a block of ore from the mines, which can be seen at the Cabinet saloon; it weighs 190

pounds and came from the 240 foot level of the American Flag. The ore is said to carry 758 per ton gold and copper, and certainly has every appearance of high grade ore.—Courier.

One of the biggest quartz mines in southern Oregon is the Greenback on Grave creek in Josephine county, owned by Moffat & Smith of Denver. The mine is situated just above the Hampton and Lewis, placer mines, which have been the biggest early yielders on the coast. They were probably fed from the rich Greenback ledge. 60,000 was paid to Browning & Hanum for the mine when a mere prospect. It is now equipped with a ten stamp mill which is running night and day. The drills are operated by air compressors. The deepest workings are at 350 feet, but at that depth the owners are assured of a permanence of values as high as from 300 to 400 per ton in a ledge varying from two to five feet in width. It is estimated from the work already done, that there is in sight 1,000,000 of high grade rock. Frank Sutherland is superintendent.—Mining & Engineering Review.

C. M. Gorin, who is in Prescott from his mines in the Black Canyon district, has just bonded his Hidden Treasure mine in that district to Messrs. Gilchrist & Dawson, of New Mexico, for 25,000, payable at the end of one year. Messrs. Gilchrist & Dawson have put a small force of men at work and within three weeks will have a large force at work on the mine. The Hidden Treasure is a high grade gold property; 35 tons of ore shipped from this mine yielded 1408 per ton gold. The ledge ranges from two to twelve feet wide. The mine is well developed. There is on the mine a shaft 87 feet deep, from the bottom of which there is a 35 foot drift; 70 feet north of the main shaft is another shaft down 40 feet, and for a distance of 600 feet along the ledge there are several 10-foot holes—all in gold bearing ore. The property is located four miles west of Richenbar and is in the same district with the Eighty-eight mine, which recently passed under the management of the Cliffords. Black Canyon district is the scene of considerable mining activity just now, and is noted for its high grade gold ores.—Courier.

Good reports continue to come from the Ash Peak mining district, and a visit there last week of Mr. Twomey, of Pearce shows that the district is attracting the attention of a desirable class of experts. Mr. B. B. Adams, of Solomonville, who owns a half interest in the Little Ollie and Barbara Ann are being worked by Philips Bros. & Howard on a lease, they being half owners. On the Little Ollie a shaft has been sunk fifty feet deep from which fifteen tons of good shipping ore has been taken. At the bottom of shaft a drift has been started and some of the best ore seen in the camp was encountered in this drift as it pierced the present depth. At this point the entire ledge will be cut by a tunnel each way. This will require at least 35 feet of work, which is the estimated width of the ledge. On the opposite side of the ledge from the present shaft near the foot wall proper, a distance of 25 feet, rich ore was recently discovered by Mr. Philips, and it is the opinion that the best ore in the mine will be encountered near the foot wall. After the ledge has been crosscut drifts will be run both ways on the best ore. It is the intention of the leasers to make a shipment soon as they now have about twenty tons of ore on the dump.—Bulletin.

An important question has been decided by Commissioner Hermann of the General Land Office. The Commissioner decides that tide lands in the district of Alaska are not public lands, subject to disposal to individuals, under any of the existing land laws of the United States, and that the department has no statutory authority to make concessions to individuals of any mining rights pertaining to such tide lands. A citation is made by the Commissioner to the case of Stively vs. Boalby, decided by the United States Supreme Court, in which it was held that the United States, upon acquiring

a territory, whether by cession from one of the states or by treaty with a foreign country, or by discovery and settlement, takes the title and the dominion of lands below high water mark or tide waters for the benefit of the whole people and in trust for the future states to be created out of the territory, and it was further held that Congress had not undertaken by general laws to dispose of lands below high-water mark of tide waters in a territory, but, unless in case of some international duty or public exigency, has left the administration and disposition of the sovereign rights in such waters and lands to the control of the states, respectively, when admitted into the Union.—M. & S. Press.

The Copper Era says the great concentrating plant of the Detroit Copper Mining Company, on the north side, which will be started up about January first, will be the largest of the kind in America, and probably the largest in the world. To start with, there are five levels or stories, to the building in which the machinery is being placed. The works are about half a mile north of the smelter on the opposite side of the mountain. All of the machinery is made of the very finest rolled steel. The main shafts are set in solid masonry, the level hanging being made in the side of the mountain where the incline is about 45 degrees. Six large gas engines of 100 horse power each will furnish the power to run the mill proper. The engines will be on the fourth level from the bottom. There are also two 25 horse power gas engines on the fifth level which will run the crushers. There will be 28 large vanners and 32 jigs. The company will manufacture its own gas, and the large gas mains are now in position throughout the works, as are also the water mains. The company has put in a new battery of boilers at the pumping station on the San Francisco river, six miles distant, for the purpose of increasing the water supply. The Moroni water company will furnish the necessary water for fire protection and drinking purposes. Hydrants with hose connected have been put in at proper distances throughout the works as precautionary measures against fire, and the pressure will be 20 pounds to the square inch. A walk has been built along every shaft so that any part of the mill can be conveniently reached. All the wooden floors are double, with B & B. roofing between. The plant is supplied with seven pumps, four of which will be running all the time, keeping in circulation 1400 gallons of water. The capacity of the mill will be 600 tons and from 200 to 250 tons of ore will be running constantly.

Some Mining Information.

A lack of knowledge of the lines bounding the mill site or claim lines is the misfortune of the claim owner, who is supposed to know where his lines are.

In shaft measurement and mine surveying generally an iron plummet is liable under certain circumstances to cause error, which may in all cases be obviated by the use of a brass plummet.

The non-use of a water right is not an abandonment, though long continuance of such non-use argues an intention to abandon. Abandonment is a question of intention, and whatever clearly shows that intent is fair evidence either way.

Work done on a patented claim for the benefit or development of adjoining claims (unpatented) may apply as assessment work on such adjoining claims—1008 worth of work on improvements being made on the patented claim for each unpatented claim in the group.

The idea that a mineral vein must be a "true fissure," having "well-defined walls," with "gouge seams," and lie "between walls of different character," is disappearing, and anything that contains pay ore is considered to be the vein, whether the walls are in evidence or not.

Probably the "cheapest hydraulic mining ever reported" was that at the North Bloomfield, Nevada county, Cal., some years ago, where, according to

the superintendent's statement, the entire cost averaged 2 cents per cubic yard of material removed—about 1 cent per ton.

Nearly every establishment furnishing mining machinery has one or more trusted, experienced men, practical mining engineers, who know what is needed in special cases or general requirements, and who can see that anything needed, large or small from a stamp shoe to a complete plant, is properly furnished. Such men can install any required machinery, and their advice and aid are of value, and in all cases where a mine needs machinery of any kind those in charge of the mine would do well to have a talk with such a man.

When an ore deposit occurs in a massive rock like granite, porphyry of any kind, felsite, andesite, etc., and there is found an extensive crushing of the country rock along and including the vein, cross-cuts are of utmost importance, for the best defined wall often proves to be merely a plane of fracture within the mineralized zone, beyond which pay ore may be again found; and because a cross-cut in one portion of the mine is without result, should not deter the management from making others elsewhere. Cross-cutting should be carried on systematically in view of this condition.—Industrial Record.

The Census Investigation of Irrigation.

A special effort will be made by the Division of Agriculture of the Twelfth Census of the United States to collect and tabulate important data relating to irrigation in the arid and semihumid regions of the United States. A preliminary schedule has been prepared and will soon be sent out to obtain the names of corporations and individuals owning canals or ditches. This is one of the essential steps for securing desired information regarding the extent and value of the canals and ditches used for irrigation, and their sources of water supply.

In the preliminary schedule a request is made for the names of the principal canals or ditches in their order down stream, the ditches to the right (looking down stream) being arranged on the first page of the list, and those heading to the left on the last page. Request is also made for the name and post office address of some person who can give detailed information concerning each ditch.

The principal schedule now in course of preparation will be mailed to the addresses thus obtained calling for further data, which will be supplemented by detailed statistics gathered by the census enumerators.

It should be noted by all interested in the subject that these various inquiries of the Census office in no way conflict with, or duplicate the work, with reference to irrigation which is being conducted by any other department of state. The most nearly related inquiry is that of the geological survey, which, like that of the census, is under the more immediate direction of Mr. F. H. Newell, the special agent for irrigation in the Eleventh Census, and hydrographer of the Geological Survey. The fact that Mr. Newell has supervision of this work in the Twelfth Census guarantees its efficiency and its value to the arid and semi-humid regions.

It will be readily apparent that the volume and value of these statistics will depend very largely upon the attention and interest shown therein by those engaged in irrigation and it is earnestly hoped that all to whom the schedules are addressed will appreciate the importance of the request and make prompt and careful reply. In this way only will it be possible to make the information concerning irrigation full and complete.

In order to obtain a full understanding and an intelligent appreciation of the possible development of the arid and semihumid regions of the west, a general knowledge of the progress actually made is of vital importance. An accurate Census of Irrigation will impart such general knowledge, and will be of great benefit to all those concerned in redeeming arid lands. The future development of this vast portion of our domain will be greatly advanced by a comprehensive compilation of facts relating to its irrigation such as contemplated by the Twelfth Census.