

ABOUT HOLES IN THE GROUND.

Recent News About Southern California Mines.

What is Being Done in San Diego County and the Peninsula.

Notes About the Carga Muchacho Placers—San Bernardino County Mines—Perris and Its Promising Prospects.

San Diego: Reports from mining camps in this county and Lower California show a steady development and more expenditure of money than usual. It is true that some camps, like Alamo and Julian, are doing very little, but their inactivity is more than made up by the opening of new camps like that of Juarez, and the great increase of work at Calmali, Picochaco district and others. By far the greatest development is going on in Lower California, the results of which are felt in this city. In gold mining the most work on the peninsula tributary to San Diego is being done at Calmali and Juarez. The operations in the former camp were reported in the Union a few days ago. Superintendent M. G. Rhodes, who went south on the steamer Pacheco last week, confirmed the reports of rich strikes in the latter group, and added that, in his opinion, the mines would become famous as gold producers.

Much placer mining is being done at Juarez and Campo Nacional. Forty-five Chinese lately moved to the latter from Alamo, which has been almost totally abandoned. At Juarez two hydraulic plants are at work extracting gold with good results.

The development of the New Pedraza onyx quarries and the increased work at Calmali and Pedro Island have made necessary a larger steamer to ply between the peninsula ports and San Diego, and the work soon to be commenced at the great iron mines near San Isidro will add to the volume of exports from this port. Prospecting is continuing in the unexplored interior of the peninsula, which has been demonstrated to be remarkably rich in many classes of mineral. Onyx beds equal to those of New Pedraza have been located, and are being investigated by capitalists, and the same may be said of locations of iron ledges near those of the Tepanute company at San Isidro. Manuel Riveroll, Hon. Anthony Godbe, J. M. Gonzalez and W. H. Rodda are interested in the discoveries of iron, and are awaiting the construction of a wharf by the United States people to organize and develop their properties.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY.

San Diego Union: It is reported that the rich placers known to exist in the vicinity of Dalzura will be developed by a company which will work on a large scale. The Mount Tecate water enterprise will be depended upon to furnish water for hydraulic mining. Several promising ledges are also being developed by Irving L. Carl and others.

Locations of prospects in the Picochaco district are continually received at the county house from the California Picochaco Gold Mining company, which is operating in the eastern portion of San Diego county. Not much is heard of the mining operations of that region, separated as it is by the Colorado desert from the coast.

At Julian some finds have recently been made that promise to redeem the fortunes of that camp. Work has lately been resumed on the old Ella mine by the owner, S. W. Wilcox, and an extensive vein of rich mining ore was discovered. The Ella is located on the contact vein, four miles northwest of the famous Golden Chariot mine, which turned out an immense amount of bullion during the early days of mining in the Julian district. The body of ore lately discovered in the Ella mine is one of the richest that has ever been found in the Julian gold belt, and promises rich returns to the fortunate owner. The first ore from this newly uncovered vein was recently milled at the Ready Relief mill, and sent eight days ago to the coast, where it was sold for \$7000. Besides the Ella, the Wilcox brothers also own the California, Golden Gate, Pegleg and Extension mines, all on the same contact vein and all very promising properties.

A number of Pacific coast mining men, consisting of William Johns of Alameda, William M. James and ex-Gov. H. G. Blaisdel of Nevada, arrived in Perris Tuesday and on Wednesday inspected the Good Hope and Rosalia mines, on which they have had their eyes for some time. The gentlemen represent quite a syndicate of mining capitalists, and it is probable a deal will be made.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY.

San Bernardino Courier: The following, taken from the Register and City Hall Record, in Chicago, shows of what a portion of our great mineral wealth consists. It is a record to be proud of, and the Courier speaks of it with pride:

The following are the San Bernardino county, California, properties: No. 18, Jenny Lind—Vanderbilt mining district. One-half mile west of Briggs' ranch and one-half mile east of Keytone springs. It is a big, strong ledge, and samples from the center of the ledge and surface were assayed, showing gold.

No. 19, Daisy—New York mining district. One mile west of Briggs' ranch; one-fourth mile east of High Peak; three-fourths of a mile from the New York company's large mines, employing 100 men. The Daisy is well up the east side of a rugged mountain, one streak cropping out six inches at the top, and gradually widening as it goes down. Sample for assay, three feet from the surface, show gold, silver, copper and lead. The president says that he thinks this a good piece of property, and would like to see some work done in the claim.

No. 20, Lucky Cuss—Madison hill, Providence range. One cropping out on surface, from 6 to 12 inches; free gold. Assay from samples secured at different places along the ledge, in a surface as follows: Copper, 1.75 per cent; 35 per cent lead; 54 ounces silver and 6 ounces gold to the ton. Value of assay per ton of gold and silver, \$154.

No. 21, Savannah—Madison hill, Providence range. Parallels the Lucky Cuss, 500 feet distant and a little to the northwest. One streak two feet wide were opened and a sample was obtained two feet from the surface which assays as follows: 5.76 per cent copper, 10 per cent lead, 20.70 ounces silver and 1.50 ounces gold to the ton. Value of assay, \$67.70 to the ton.

No. 22, Beckford—Thousand feet east of Old Dutch peak. Three miles north of High Peak in Providence range. One

half mile southeast of Lucky Cuss. Ore streak ranging from 6 to 14 inches, cropping out of the surface. Samples from surface assayed 2 per cent copper, 3.50 per cent lead, 10.50 ounces silver and 1.20 ounces gold to the ton. Value of assay per ton, \$34.50.

No. 23, Elenora—One-half mile east of Old Dutch spring, in the Madison hill, Providence range, three-fourths of a mile southeast of the Lucky Cuss and 630 feet from Beckford. Ore streaks crop out from 4 to 12 inches in width and show the same character of ore as the Lucky Cuss. Samples from the surface for assay show gold and silver.

No. 24, Ironclad—Three-fourths of a mile northwest of the High Peaks of Providence mountain. It lies three miles south of the Savannah; the ledge crops out 60 feet wide and 10 to 20 feet high, pure and solid, just as the samples assayed, which shows 52.40 per cent copper, 10.50 ounces silver and 1.20 ounces gold to the ton. There are 50,000 tons in sight, and this mine appears to be inexhaustible. It is the most valuable ore for steel, and can be used for fluxing in a section where such ores are rarely found and difficult to obtain. It is not far from the cap of a large mineral deposit. A quartz bearing ledge, showing rich gold, runs at right angles with the Ironclad, disappearing when it comes in contact with the iron and coming out immediately on the other side. It is in this section that the Ironclad King mine is located, and from which several million dollars have been taken out, and which is still estimated to be worth over \$2,000,000.

There is plenty of wood on the ground, water is obtainable by sinking and a railroad is being surveyed within five miles of the mine. It is 18 miles from the railroad from Goff to New York and Vanderbilt mining districts and Goodie springs.

Carga Muchacho Placers.

Yuma (A. T.) Times: We are indebted to Henry Dunn for some further information regarding the placer ground at Carga Muchacho which has been in dispute. Mr. Dunn says that much that has got into print is not exactly correct.

The claim was originally located by Charles Olsen, who sold it to F. H. Mathison. All the work done on it by Olsen did not amount to \$10.

After Dunn and Darling began work on the ground, Mathison transferred his claim to a man named Cassidy, who keeps a saloon in San Diego. He swore out a complaint against Dunn, charging him with grand larceny in taking gold from his claim. Bonds were given in \$1000 by the accused and the trial was set for 20 days thereafter. Five days before the time set for trial the case was dismissed as the district attorney said the charge of grand larceny could not be sustained.

Mr. Dunn is now no charge against him. No attempt has been made by Cassidy and Mathison to dispossess Dunn and Darling.

Since locating the ground the present owners have put down ten shafts to bedrock, varying in depth from 32 to 43 feet. The shafts were made in a double row, and the pay dirt by means of the rocker. As before stated, the gold is coarse, and the largest nugget found weighed exactly \$41.00. The total amount taken out so far is over \$4000. The claim of Dunn & Darling is ten acres in the vicinity, but the actual work has not amounted to much heretofore.

A few Mexicans, Americans and one Italian miner are at work on their claims, but none of them have struck it very rich as yet.

The Vanderbilt Country.

San Bernardino Times-Index: Latest advices from the Needles are to the effect that work on the Nevada Southern is being rapidly pushed forward and that the contract for another section will shortly be let. The first section of the road is now about completed, and when it shall have been formally opened, the several important mining towns will spring up on an intelligent scale will begin. It will then be possible to carry building material to erect houses and to get towns under way, the location of which will of course depend largely on the railway authorities.

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The mining properties now being developed in this section by Flood, Mackey and other enormously wealthy mining men improve constantly, and there is little doubt that one of the biggest camps in the history of the coast will be established in the Vanderbilt country. As the mines are gold-bearing, the camp will not be affected by the slump in silver.

Developments of the Other Gold Mines.

Riverside Enterprise: Ex-Governor H. G. Blaisdel of Nevada, now a resident of Oakland, is preparing to begin work on a roll mine (the Rosalia) in the Good Hope mining district in the vicinity of Perris. He is heavily interested in mining in Nevada and other portions of the country. In fact this is his business, and he has made a success of it, and the public are assured that there is a promise of something handsome in the mines of that section of the Riverside county, else the governor would not touch it. Arrangements are being made with the Esinora coal mine for a supply of 35 tons of coal per month to be used in the development of Governor Blaisdel's mine. To meet other engagements the governor went north yesterday, and during his absence his interests will be in the hands of E. J. Rawson.

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This beautiful publication printed on the finest book paper, is now on hand by all the news dealers and at the Herald business office. It contains 48 pages of information about Southern California and over 50 illustrations. As a publication to send to eastern friends it has never been equalled. Price 15 cents in wrappers.

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AS TO LIBRARY BENEFACTIONS.

A Thesis on the Subject by Miss Helen A. Nevin.

A Subject of General Interest to Friends of Education.

The Immense Amount of Money Which Has Been Given to the Public Libraries—What Ought to Be Done in This City.

[At the recent examination of public library pupils for certificates the thesis of Miss Helen A. Nevin, given below, received, with that of Miss Darlow, the highest marking allowed by the rules of the committee. The subject upon which it treats is one of general interest, and especially so to the friends of education who desire to see the usefulness of the public library extended on a much larger basis than is possible even with the assistance of the full amount of the fund that the law allows the city council to appropriate for that purpose. Library benefactions by private individuals have been so numerous and so munificent in the older settled communities, and it has become such a recognized thing among rich people of philanthropic inclinations to devote some of their wealth to the support of public libraries, that it would seem to be only in the natural order of things that this wave of generosity should strike Southern California soon. The support of libraries is one of those things that a generally disposed person can do in life as easily as to provide for a bequest. The need for a separate library and museum building for Los Angeles is a crying one; and while it does not appear likely that for the present any appropriation can be made for the general body of taxpayers, the necessity is all the more urgent for the assistance of some wealthy person who may thus do good to thousands and found a name that will be preserved in after years.]

The nineteenth century is eminently the century of progress, not merely in things material, but also in things intellectual. And while the chief boast of our age is the unparalleled advancement of applied science in its various phases of manufactures, intercommunication and transportation, yet prominent among the factors of this twofold progression of the material and the intellectual, and the co-ordinate in its far reaching influence with the schools and colleges of the country, is the public library of our day. It is not only a source of what has already been accomplished. Here it is that the public library intervenes by opening up to the seekers after new inventions and improved methods the records of our past progress. And while it constitutes so large a factor in this phase of development and improvement, the public library is no less a factor, but on the other hand, is a far nobler agent in social amelioration, or popular uplifting.

It is the realization of these facts and the profound conviction of their truthfulness that have of recent years turned the channels of philanthropy so powerfully in the direction of the public library, that \$25,000,000 have flowed forth from the munificence of private citizens for the founding and endowing of public libraries in the United States alone. Instances of this liberality could be quoted almost without limit, but time is not at our disposal for an enumeration of the names of the donors and the sums they have given. To the well informed mind it is needless to specify such names as Astor, Pratt, Newberry, Carnegie, Tilden, Strout, Orer—a galaxy of names among library benefactors.

The spread of the public library in the United States has been something phenomenal. According to the report of the commissioner of education, the number of public libraries in our country less than a decade ago approximated 6000, ranging from the great national library of over 600,000 volumes, down to the little but none the less proportionately useful village library of 300 volumes. Their distribution is such that while there is on an average about one library to every 10,000 persons, in New Hampshire, to one for each 50,000 in Arkansas. In this connection it is of interest to know that our own state is well to the front in the list, "curiously enough" as an esteemed eastern newspaper ("Inquirer") stated, "with only 188 public libraries, being an average of one to every 4600 persons.

In the growth and present condition of our home library, Los Angeles has not only contributed towards the furthering and maintaining of the present high rank of our city, but by its efforts, as we saw in the development and high standing of her public library in recent years, the spirit and genius of the vaunted nineteenth century.

Founded in 1872 under the title of the "Los Angeles Library association," with a small stock of books obtained in part from monthly dues and in part from membership fees, it came in April of 1878 into the possession and under the control of the city council, and then assumed its present title of the "Los Angeles Public Library." With sundry fluctuations, changes of librarians and alterations of liberal and parsimonious policies in its management, it has finally come into its present estate, furnished throughout with library fittings and arrangements of the most improved design, equipped with the best library cataloguing devices in library economy, and located in what were until recently considered spacious and airy rooms. In addition to all this and above all, a public interest has been created, fostered and ably maintained in the development and well-being of the library. A better confirmation of this can be required than the mere circumstance that irrespective of the size of the population or the number of volumes deposited on the shelves of their public libraries, Los Angeles ranks sixth among the cities of the United States in the number of volumes actually taken out for home use in the course of a single year! To such a point indeed has the arousal of the interest of the public

come, and to such a pitch has its demands for assistance in all the departments of library restoration and study arrived, that what but recently were ample quarters and noble equipment, have retrograded into crowded shelves, cramped apartments and insufficient space on every hand.

Wary then of a wide door of opportunity open to him who will but enter in and avail himself of the privilege of extending a helping hand. While it has been urged by some that our city, as a measure of relief to our overcrowded library, should by the issuance of bonds provide for the erection of a large, substantial and suitable library building, it cannot be forgotten that the recent and repeated issue of bonds for internal improvements have already burdened the city with a large bonded indebtedness, a circumstance which cannot help but militate strongly against this scheme of success.

In this crisis, then, may we not look for the emergency to develop for us the liberal giver who shall devote for the liberal things? With abundance of suitable sites already in the possession of the city, will not the benefactor arise who shall provide our chosen city with an ornate structure which shall be at once library, art gallery, museum and lecture hall, a place of recreation for the masses in the midst, and a source of lasting good to ourselves and generations yet to come? Reserving to ourselves, as the people, the privilege of maintaining and developing the library, yet its home so provided will be to the donor a liberal thing? With abundance of suitable sites already in the possession of the city, will not the benefactor arise who shall provide our chosen city with an ornate structure which shall be at once library, art gallery, museum and lecture hall, a place of recreation for the masses in the midst, and a source of lasting good to ourselves and generations yet to come? 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