

# WHAT ONE MAN IS DOING FOR TUOLUMNE COUNTY

## CAPT. W. A. NEVILLS & HIS ENTERPRISES



SONORA, CAL., April 9.—The Hotel Victoria, the finest hostelry in Northern California, was thrown open to the public this week. Although the house is not fully completed, the main building is in fine running order, under the management of J. C. Morrison, formerly proprietor of the Southern Hotel of Bakersfield, with a well-trained and efficient staff of assistants.

The Victoria occupies a prominent position on the main street of the town, in the center of the business quarter. It is built of stone throughout, quarried from the hills of Tuolumne County. The main building is three stories high and contains, exclusive of office, dining-room, barroom, kitchen, parlors, etc., about thirty-six bedrooms.

The basement, which extends the full length and breadth of the building, is fitted up for wine and other storage rooms, ice chest, bakery, laundry, meatroom and similar purposes. A doorway from the office in the north leads to the reading-room, which also opens upon the street. In the rear of the office are the bar and billiard rooms, both handsomely equipped with attractive furnishings.

The porch, which will extend across the entire frontage of both the main building and annex, will be 100 feet in length, and from the upper story, especially, an exceedingly fine view can be obtained of the surrounding country.

The second and third floors are arranged almost exactly the same, so far as the disposition of floor space is concerned. Double parlors and fourteen sleeping rooms, en suite and single, are upon each floor. On the south side front of the building is the dining-room, 24x50 feet in its dimensions, directly in the rear of which is the kitchen, which opens into the kitchen.

A large wing by way of addition to the main building is now being rapidly built and when completed will contribute twelve more rooms, making a total of forty-eight bedrooms.

This annex will be 108 feet long, with a frontage of 36 feet. It will be two stories in height, the top one being used for sleeping-rooms. The ground floor will be divided into three rooms, the two in the rear being utilized as baggage and sample rooms, while that in front will be occupied by a bank or some other business enterprise.

The space between the main building and the annex will be converted into a court, in which flowers and tropical plants will be utilized to brighten the view and laden the air with their delightful fragrance.

know that the total cost of the Victoria, furnishings included, will foot up to the handsome sum of \$100,000, and the Call correspondent, after a visit to and inspection of the establishment, is inclined to think that no better possible investment could be found for that number of the golden dollars of the public-spirited owner of the famous Rawhide mine. The furniture is of curly birch and oak, of handsome design, while the carpets are mainly of velvet and heavy Brussels, of attractive pattern and varied colors.

Four weeks' heavily-laden teams have been arriving from Oakland, transferring from that point the furniture, carpets, fixtures and appointments for the hotel, and everything is in readiness for the opening tomorrow. The frescoing and delicate tinting of the parlors, dining-room, bar-room and halls, taken together with the more than handsome furnishings and fixtures, present under the hooding radiance of the electric light an effect so beautiful and so suggestive of luxury and art that it is difficult to realize that one is still in the little town far up in the hills of Tuolumne County. Then the noise of the mountain brook that runs through the town only a few steps from the hotel awakens one to the reality of his surroundings.

### HISTORY OF THE HOUSE.

The Victoria Passed Through Different Hands — A Happy Idea.

THE building in which the hotel is located has a somewhat unique history. Its construction was begun last summer by two Italians who designed the structure with a view of utilizing the ground floor for two storerooms and the two upper stories for a lodging-house. It was put up as solid as a fortress, the walls appearing of sufficient strength to successfully resist a ten-pound shot. Through the exact center of the building, running lengthwise of the structure, a solid stone wall was put up, extending from the basement to the roof. In this wall was but one door, connecting the two rooms on the ground floor.

The object which the owners had in view in constructing the building in this manner was explained by one of them by the statement that the wall provided for a possible emergency in which the two partners might disagree. In such an event all that it would be necessary to do would be to close up the connecting doorway on the ground floor and each man could take a half of the building, thus making practically two structures out of one.

Financial troubles came upon the original constructors, and it was at this juncture that Captain Nevills made a bid for the property and secured its control. Plans were rapidly drawn for converting it into a first-class hotel building, and the

work has been vigorously pressed up to the present time.

On the whole, Sonora may well be proud of its new hotel, which is not only a thing of beauty and use but a monument to the enterprise of W. A. Nevills, who thus sets an example which other California capitalists would do well to imitate by doing something practical toward building up the State which has so abundantly enriched them from her natural bounties. The rising young architect and builder, Hugh Braunt of Stockton, may also be justly proud of his work on the Victoria.

It was a happy idea on the part of Captain W. A. Nevills when he determined to erect in Sonora a hotel of which many cities ten times the size of Sonora might well be proud.

Sonora has been rather deficient in hotel accommodations. The two hotels in town have nearly every night been crowded to the roof, and frequently guests were compelled to seek sleeping accommodations elsewhere. This condition of affairs could naturally have but one effect. Many private families saw an opportunity to make an honest dollar by renting their spare rooms, and a number of lodging-houses

were erected for the same purpose. When it became known that a new hotel was to be opened all these interests—or many of them—made vigorous protest.

That the traveling public will appreciate the proffered relief from conditions which, raising, goes without saying, and the people of Sonora will awaken to a realization of the fact that the new enterprise is a substantial factor in the upbuilding of the business interests of the town. The Hotel Victoria will not only give more adequate accommodations to the public, but will stimulate a spirit of rivalry which is the forerunner of a higher degree of excellence.

The Victoria fills a want in this community and demonstrates the practicality of enjoying all the modern adjuncts and luxuries of civilization even in the fastness of the mountains far from railroads, steamships and the madding crowd of great cities. The furniture is equipped with facilities both for gas and electric lighting, baths, etc., while the cuisine will be under the management of an able and experienced chef.

### A LEADING MINER.

Captain Nevills in the Wonderful Rawhide Mine Sets a Good Example.

CAPTAIN W. A. NEVILLS enjoys the distinction of being one of the most successful and enterprising miners in California, who through his courage, skill and indomitable energy has become the owner of a mine justly celebrated for its marvelous richness. About five years ago he turned his attention to the quartz mines of Tuolumne County, at a time when mining



THE HOTEL VICTORIA, SONORA.

was at low ebb in that region. Every mine thereabout was closed, although many of the rich mines of the early days were lying idle, mines that have yielded from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 from twenty to thirty years ago.

The mines were closed because the owners could not proceed further with the means and appliances of those days, but recent developments have shown in five different cases near Sonora that many of those once famous mines are still rich and are again turning out their millions. Tuolumne County is very favorably situated for quartz mining, and so far as external indications and facilities may serve as guides, together with the official records of the output of the mines in that county, the presumptions are that it will be second to no other county in California in the production of quartz gold. Wood and water are abundant, the roads generally are good and the quartz veins are large, numerous and easily traced.

Still with such natural advantages the industry was dead, until one day it was rumored that the famous Rawhide mine had been purchased and would soon be operated with improved machinery on an extensive scale. Shortly afterward Captain W. A. Nevills, one of the new purchasers, and who is creditably known in mining and business circles the State over, appeared upon the ground, and from that day to the present the vicinity of the Rawhide has been marked by every evidence of enterprising development.

From what had been regarded as a worthless property the Rawhide mine was transformed into one of the most valuable in the mountains. Since then to the present time the material business conditions of this district have steadily improved. Other capitalists developed mines and values took a decided upward tendency. The man who owned a mining claim could once more figure that he was the possessor of a valuable asset, and public attention was directed toward the district which had for years received but little recognition from the outside world. And all this was made possible by the enterprising captain.

In the course of time Captain Nevills came to the conclusion that a foundry and machine-shop were needed at the mine and he erected these works some miles from the town of Sonora.

With every branch of the mine working in perfect order, the great crushing-mill, the ore-reducers or refiners, the machine-shops and foundry, he looked about him for another enterprise. The captain found that a competing stage line would be a boon for Sonora and forthwith he ordered the necessary coaches and appurtenances of a first-class, thoroughly equipped stage line.

### HIS MANY ENTERPRISES.

Captain Nevills a Benefactor to the People of the Town of Sonora.

PRIOR to the opening of the new line the fare was \$4 from Milton to Sonora, and if a passenger happened to carry with him a trunk, which it was found impossible to accommodate in the stage

upon which its owner took passage, the next stage which brought the article up also collected \$4 for its transportation. The fare is now \$2, and your trunk goes free, whether it accompany or follow you. The stages were put under the management of Dennis Guerin, an old resident of Sonora, and under his supervision travel becomes a luxury, the passengers riding in the finest coaches the money can buy behind some of the best and fastest stock in all Tuolumne.

The history of the Rawhide mine reads like a romance. It was opened, worked and finally abandoned only to be once more passed through a process of development in which gold poured from the bowels of the earth in a copious stream. The quartz ledge was first located in 1856 by Thomas Wills and his partner, Robert Turner, who owned the Rawhide rancheria and worked the placer deposits thereon. They subsequently sold the mine to four prospectors, who worked the ledge with little success until it attracted the attention of Colonel Edward Green, a wealthy capitalist, who bonded the property for the New York market in the early part of 1865.

Then trouble arose for the owners, who, after incorporating and making a deed to the mine, were unable to raise the \$80,000, on a better offer from the late John Gasweiler, sold the mine again to him, giving their individual debts. The New York company asserted its legal rights and Gasweiler caused the four owners to be arrested on a charge of obtaining money by false pretenses. The owners were acquitted, and in turn they sued their enemy and secured substantial damages against him.

After this was settled the Eastern company took a lease of the mine for three years at \$35,000 a year. The company extracted ore to the value of \$4500, and only then discovered it could not work the ore profitably.

Pressure was brought to bear upon the owners and the lease was annulled, Green and his associates paying the debts accrued, amounting to \$9000. About this time Professor Silliman was sent out to pass upon the ore, and together with Thomas Price elaborate tests were made in an endeavor to extract the gold, and a large shipment was made to Swansea. The Silliman report, a voluminous treatise on gold in connection with tellurium, is now in the archives of the company. After this the mine was closed down for nearly twenty years, and until the location of their original owners in Liverpool, who were able to pass a clear title to Cap-

tain W. A. Nevills and his associates, Messrs. Martin and Ballard.

And now, with improved appliances and a better knowledge of the treatment of ores, Captain Nevills and his partners, Messrs. Ballard and Martin, are enabled to extract a fortune from the mine. The new era of progress has dawned upon these mines in the Sierras, and upon none more brightly than the Rawhide of Sonora. This mine gives the appearance of a busy manufacturing settlement to the little valley where it sinks far down into the mountain. In all there are forty structures upon the property of the Rawhide, all designed for use in its actual operation or for the accommodation of the persons connected therewith. Among these is a pretty cottage in which Captain Nevills and Mrs. Nevills reside, and at the most convenient points are located all the other buildings usually found about a great mining plant.

### THE MOUNTAIN STAGE.

One of the Most Picturesque Features of Old Tuolumne's New Development.

TO reach Sonora or Jamestown, or any place in that region, the traveler has to abandon the railroad at Milton and take to the stage. And a stage ride in the Sierra foothills is something quite out of the ordinary routine of life is the vehicle of the old overland stage is the vehicle still used in Tuolumne. Six horses on a line leading the way down a mountain road would afford exhilaration in any drive, but with the vehicle—a fine, large, modern-built stage—that rocks and sways above a precipice at every turn in the road, there are some of the thrilling elements of a breakneck runaway and a bail-out accident.

Mr. Nevills has enlivened and improved the Tuolumne stage service by establishing competition, and his Jamestown route is popular with all the Californians who find delight in the pioneer's sturdy mode of traveling. The Jamestown route, from Milton to Sonora, is managed by Dennis Guerin, a brother of the respected Rev. P. Guerin. The manager is known to all the travelers in the country, and no man is more at home on the romantic stage roads than he is.

The Nevills stage line is splendidly equipped with new and commodious stages of the best make, and the horses, strong and fast horses. The ride

from Milton to Sonora, by way of Jamestown, is a genuine pleasure. This route avoids the heavy grades which make the ride to Sonora over other lines so tiresome. The route is through a most interesting stretch of country, famous in early California history.

Table Mountain is ever a glory to Bret Harte's readers, and on the stage line resides the man who has been described as the original 'Fruitful' James. The ferry across the Stanislaus is a feature of the stage ride, and that entire region is full of illustrations of the stories and poems of the early days of California mining.

Not the least attractive of the many quiet camps reached by aid of Mr. Nevills' stages is the old town of Columbia, the center of the hydraulic mining excitement when Harte and Twain were leading casually about the diggings. In those days Columbia had many thousands of people. The substantial brick and stone buildings erected at that time, as well as in Jamestown, before alluded to, attest the confidence of the gold diggers in these places. Columbia is another historic place, where immense amounts of gold were taken out.

All the country about there is white with the protruding rocks, from whose surfaces, for several feet, the red soil has been washed away. Away to the north and east are beautiful, undulating hills, rising to heights higher and higher until they become mountains of the Sierra Nevada range. They are fringed with green pine and fir, and the fragrance from them is as pleasant as it is health-giving.

Tuolumne is a most interesting county to visit. It is in Tuolumne that pocket-mining, as well as quartz and placer mining, is carried on. The former industry is very alluring to nomadic miners who desire to make a stake by merely following up stringers of gold rock till they lead to a common center, where the pocket is found. One of these gold is found in quantities reaching all the way from a few dollars to several thousand dollars. In "Roughing It" the author describes it as a "lazy man's most interesting occupation." It is conceded that the development of a section largely depends upon its roads and means of transportation of freight and passengers. Good roads and good stages in the mountainous counties are prime factors in increasing population and building up industries.

### IN THE LOWER LEVELS.

Great Stores of Golden Ore That Lie in the Bowels of the Earth.

IN the deeper levels of the Rawhide mine there is an abundance of golden ore in sight, and still beyond, miners say, for there are millions in reserve lying in wait the hand of man to tear them from the bowels of the earth.

Continuing his investigations on the 600 level, the expert found a vein 9 feet in width, giving an average assay of \$30 16, \$4 22 and \$6 03 a ton. Samples from the face of this stope assayed—gold \$32 50, silver \$2 05, total, \$34 55 a ton. The vein at this depth lies south of the shaft, but there are clear indications that it also extends northward. The seventh level, 700 feet from the surface, has been extended

the third level has been extended south and connected with the south or old shaft. Beyond certain points, however, the level is inaccessible on account of caves, and could not be entered from either the main shaft or the old shaft. No stopes have been opened between this and the second level. Samples of the quartz from the caved-in portions assay \$5 35 per ton, and an average sample from the level, extending from the shaft to the point where closed for a width of six feet, assayed \$12 per ton.

The crosscut from the shaft to the level is all in quartz of a width of fully thirty feet, and an average sample assayed \$4 94 per ton. The level extended north has not reached the quartz.

All of the quartz reserves now available and measurable is a block of quartz 90 feet by 100 feet. No crosscut has been made on the level to prove the width of this quartz, but the crosscut from the shaft has shown the width to be 30 feet, and the width was never much less than this on what is termed the footwall vein. With the average width assumed for the purposes of calculation, to be 20 feet, it is shown that there are at least 13,846 tons; and the average assay value of this ore is \$5 73 per ton.

It is not necessary to continue with the figures to show the richness of this great California mine, but the figures in the reports are of fascinating interest to the mining men of the State.

At a depth of 500 feet from the surface a crosscut was driven easterly and from its end the fifth level was extended southward for 200 feet. The face is in good ore, sample 49A from this point assaying gold, \$25 85; silver, \$1 50; total per ton, \$27 35.

The length of stoping has been 41 feet, and has extended nearly up to the fourth level. The width of material removed in stoping has been from 5 to 8 feet. All of the ground in the stopes and above the stope ground in the level south of the shaft is badly caved. The reserves left standing here consist of a block next the fourth level 155 feet long and 20 feet high, with an average width of 7 feet, and a similar block the shaft 30 feet long, 100 feet high and 7 feet wide. A third block of ground, however, is not immediately available, as time must be allowed for a sufficient settling of the ground. It should be remembered in this connection that sample 49A was obtained from the only point where these reserves were accessible on the fourth level, and that sample 41A, from the face of this level, where the vein is seven feet wide, assayed in gold and silver \$33 33 per ton.

North from the crosscut the fifth level has been driven over 500 feet, but the last 100 feet is in barren rock. At the crosscut the width of the quartz is quite thirty feet and sample 41, representing the average value. This sample assayed gold, \$6 20; silver, 61 cents; total per ton, \$6 81.

The most northerly crosscut on this level is in quartz, the footwall has not been reached. The value of the quartz at this point is represented by sample 39, taken from the face, and sample 40, taken from the roof, and which assayed, No. 39, \$11 90; No. 40, \$5 per ton.

Undoubtedly this body of quartz extends up to the surface, where the croppings are very wide, and the quartz of the same general character. Surface profile shows a very irregular surface, and this point clear. At no place south of the shaft, excepting on the second level, has any crosscut been driven into this footwall vein, but, judging from the surface croppings south of the main shaft, there can be no doubt but that the footwall vein lies under all the ground which has been stoped. As will be noted later on, the explorations north of the shaft on the levels below the 500 have been very limited, but there are abundant evidences of the continuance of the vein.

that south of all the explorations exist large blocks of ground which are practically unexplored, while north of the main shaft the whole of the ground is in the same condition, and the few points which have been explored show a great width of fissure continuing fully 400 feet north.

Bullion and ore returns from the property commenced to be received in October, 1892, the first yield being 666 pounds of ore from which was extracted gold of the value of \$3424. Between this time and October, 1893, a further sum of about \$45,000 was extracted from some 1071 tons of ore, which is a yield of \$42 per ton. This total of \$48,424 represents the product of the north shaft.

In October, 1893, returns began to be received from the work in the main shaft, and during the months of October, November and December of that year 1530 tons of ore were mined, producing the gross amount of \$26,141 29, which is at the rate of \$16 65 per ton. During 1894, 8515 tons of quartz were extracted from the stopes and levels from the main shaft, and yielded in the mill the gross amount of \$162,883 73, which is at the rate of \$19 29 per ton. The total product of the main shaft to the date of Mr. Price's report was \$509,372 12, which is a general average of \$21 83 per ton.

A well-known mining expert commenting on the mine, says: "As a result of my careful and searching examination of the Rawhide property I have no hesitation in stating that there exists within the patented lines a most interesting and valuable gold mine, holding out most assuring prospects that the fissure will carry gold and silver to a great depth as any gold mine in the State of California."

"Looking at the mine from every point of view and considering the extent of the ore shoots, the character and richness of the ore, the prospects for the future cannot be regarded as other than unusually brilliant."

The improvements consist of a well-built, substantial 40-stamp mill with self-feeders, copper plates and sixteen Frue vanners, constituting a thoroughly equipped, modern gold mill. The stamps weigh 850 pounds each and the crushing capacity of the mill, using the present fine screens, is two and a quarter tons a day per stamp. When running on lower grade ore, admitting of the use of coarser screens, fully three tons can be crushed.

Close to the mill is a well arranged assay office and a retorting and melting room for the treatment of the amalgam. A building 154 feet long and 32 1/2 feet wide contains the chlorination works, consisting of a reverberatory furnace 8 1/2 feet long by 12 feet wide; three leaching tubs, each 3 feet in diameter and 3 feet in depth; six 400-gallon precipitating tanks 3 feet in diameter and 3 feet deep; one settling tub of a capacity of 600 gallons and six lead chlorine generators. These works can treat three tons of concentrations in twenty-four hours.

The hoisting works contain a thirty horse-power engine, 16 feet by 16 feet boilers for operating the engine and a Dow steam pump. The size of the hoisting works building is 73 feet by 59 feet. The compressor building is 52 1/2 feet by 22 1/2 feet, containing a 20-horse-power engine operating a large Baker blower and a three-drill air compressor. A blacksmith shop, 40 feet by 36 feet, with a complete assortment of tools, is adapted to all the needs around the mine and mill. Over the main shaft is a strong gallow's frame.

In addition to these buildings there are a number of miners' cabins, a superintendent's house, a large boarding-house, a laundry, a reading room, storehouse, barns, stables and an office building.

Professor Price once wrote of the Rawhide mine: "It may be remarked, in passing, that in an experience of nearly thirty-five years, during which time I have visited every important mine in California, Nevada and Arizona, I have never seen a better arranged village than that which has been built on the Rawhide property. The climate here is equable, and mining and milling operations can be carried on continuously throughout the year."

### MONUMENTS TO ENTERPRISE.

Captain Nevills' Accomplishments Tell Their Own Impressive Story.

SUCH is the brief review of what one man is doing for Tuolumne County, and in every feature it is indeed a remarkable record. While Sonora was still dreaming of past greatness and grass was growing over the paths of the argonauts, Captain Nevills came upon the scene. The abandoned mining camps, marking the mother lode of the Sierras, lent a tinge of

### THE GREAT RAWHIDE.

Interesting Sketch of One of the Most Famous Mines in the Golden Range.

THE development of the great Rawhide mine and its success under Captain Nevills' management is a subject for constant comment among mining men. No room remains for doubt regarding the richness of the mine and its possibilities of creating wealth as now operated.

The mine has become one of the most famous in all California, and it is declared that as a gold-producer it stands unrivaled. Reports on this mine have been made by eminent authorities, and the entire mining world is well acquainted with the wealth stored there.

More than twenty-five years ago a shaft 310 feet deep was sunk at the southern end of the claim. One of the experts who during the period of the earliest workings made metallurgical investigations on the treatment of the ores reported that the samples assayed averaged as high as twenty-five ounces of gold per ton. Thomas Price at that time paid \$6000 for seventeen tons of ore that he purchased for shipment to Europe.

What is now known as the main shaft at the Rawhide mine has been sunk in the lode at an average angle of 63 degrees to the depth of 940 feet.

A crosscut was driven easterly from the shaft 200 feet from the surface. From the end of this crosscut the second level was extended southerly 155 feet. Here a width of fully thirty feet of ore was developed. An average sample of this whole mass of ore, which is of a grade less than the country rock, was taken, and found to assay \$5 35 per ton.

The crosscut from the shaft is all in quartz and the hanging wall has not yet been reached. The average quartz for the whole length was thoroughly sampled and assayed \$2 27 per ton. Following the level north the hanging wall is followed and the level shows quartz, slate and calciferous material. A crosscut was driven into the vein and an upraise twenty-five feet in length made, following the quartz. A sample from this point assayed \$4 08 per ton.

No stoping of quartz has been made on this level, but the vein is wide, averaging fully thirty feet at all points where explored.

The ore taken from this portion of the mine has assayed \$4 71 per ton.

Reserves of this value that are available are 300 feet in length and 200 feet high, and it has been estimated that the amount of ore here is 92,397 tons. This estimate is conservative.

As all the necessary dead work has already been performed such ore should be worked so as to leave a profit of quite \$1 per ton, with the possibility of a much richer material while extracting the low-grade ore. The possible profit of the available ore above the 200 level is, therefore, \$92,397.

In this figuring the average width is assumed to be only twenty feet, though that is much less than the actual average. With the length 300 feet and the height 200 feet the result is made 1,200,000 cubic feet of ore. A ton is estimated at thirteen cubic feet, and the result is 92,397 tons.

Three hundred feet from the surface

south, and presents a body of ore at least 7 feet in diameter. Average samples assayed \$6 57 a ton. The eighth level presents a vein of mixed quartz, slate, clay and calciferous, yielding from \$3 54 to \$5 91 a ton. Samples from the stopes, however, give as high as \$21 02 a ton. Here, also, the sections of the mine, is an immense reserve, estimated to have 5000 tons of ore, worth \$40,000. Another block of 2280 tons near by has been valued at \$11,415.

Down 900 feet the vein was encountered opposite the shaft. It had a width of 12 feet—a solid body of ore pressed in between mighty walls, affording an apparently illimitable source of supply, every ton which is estimated to yield \$11 70 to the mine-owners. At least 10,000 tons of quartz are expected from this region. In all the ninth level may give \$180,000.

The net profit from the mine as calculated from all parts is as follows:

Second level, 492,307; third level, 13,846; fourth level, —; fifth level, 230,954; sixth level, 1179,469; seventh level, 114,600; total of \$892,429.

There is not the slightest indication of any weakening of the vein as depth has been attained. In fact, as far as the work has progressed the fissure seems stronger in the bottom than in any other part of the mine. The chances are, therefore, favorable for a continuance of pay ore to great depth. Reference to the maps will show



CAPTAIN W. A. NEVILLS. [Reproduced from a photograph.]

eye in our cities and causes the lover of the artistic and beautiful to say harsh, even profane, things about the spirit of commercialism.

Inside the building the influence of art is still more in evidence, as the painting, frescoing, tinting, etc., have been in the hands of Blanchard & Shell of Stockton and under the direct supervision of Mrs. Nevills, wife of the proprietor, Captain W. A. Nevills. The woodwork has been given an attractive oil finish. The woodwork, by the way, is all of redwood, with the exception of the staircases, which are of mountain mahogany. Throughout the entire house fixtures have been put in for lighting by both gas and electricity, it being the intention to utilize the latter for the present, a special plan for which has been erected.

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MRS. W. A. NEVILLS. [Reproduced from a photograph.]

melancholy to the Tuolumne landscape. Seemingly the very life had gone out of this beautiful region. Sonora, the one settlement retaining vitality, appeared to be resting upon her laurels, achieved in the days of old and the days of gold.

And the science of the fields of mechanism and the gleam of hope for those castaway mines. And yet it required courage to pin one's faith to the new order of things and a fine insight of the conditions combined with more than ordinary energy and business acumen to make the trial. Singularly favored with these requirements Captain Nevills foresaw an opportunity and grasped it like a man.

What has happened since is already well known and industry is already busy with the development which all may see and admire. The development and wonderful success of Rawhide mine are not the least of the evidences of his presence in Tuolumne, for they have been a new source of wealth to the State and a beacon for other wealthy men.

The beautiful Hotel Victoria offers to the traveler a hostelry never before dreamed of in the Sierras, with all the comforts and luxuries of civilization. The new competing stage line has proved a boon to Tuolumne. And all these enterprises give employment to large numbers of men and distribute monthly thousands of dollars throughout the county.