

LEADVILLE.

Ten Thousand Feet Above the Level of the Land.

An Interesting Description of the Magic City of the Mountains.

With its Mineral Harvest of \$1,200,000 Per Month.

To the Editor of THE BEE:

LEADVILLE, Col., August 5, 1881.—I drop you a few lines from this Magic City of the mountains. This is one of the highest cities in the world, and the most health producing for its size ever known.

Some people are wonderfully stimulated by this mountain air; to others it is a pain to stop here. It is so with myself, I pant for breath, my head swims and I have the sensation that my ears may burst out, but by easy staves I climb about 500 feet above the city, among the shafts and the puffing engines I survey the scene below.

Yonder is the grave yard, where so many were carried who died with their boots on. I look back for only a short time when the money madness seized the people, and they rushed in before buildings were erected, and many of them down to die like sheep.

We fell in with one Rev. Paddock, of the Congregational church. He boards himself, takes care of his own church, which is a comfortable edifice and publishes a monthly paper. He is opening a reading room on his own responsibility, and seems to be on good terms with the boys, and on a tramp he is no "tender foot."

Speaking of the air reminds us that it is cold up here, while in your office you are so oppressed with heat you have serious thoughts of calling in a dog to loll for you. I am shivering. Leadville is over 10,000 feet above the sea, and the cold mountain peaks are 14,000 feet high, and the breezes which come down, and hit us as rain, snows make you think that you are living in an everlasting thaw.

But I am introduced to the superintendent, who tells me that this pile yields \$20 to the ton, another \$70, and another \$150 per ton and so on, and they are turning out 180 tons per day. Any kind of earth has a rain to correspond with its products. We go below and see the harvest of this poor hungry looking earth and stone, and there under the huge furnace is a silver spring into which the the bullion runs as it is melted, and then it is ladled out into moulds and comes out in the form of massive bricks.

It is also necessary to have lead and iron to separate the mineral from the slag. Here is a man filling a furnace. He first puts in a quantity of charcoal then coke, then some slag and lime

rock, then the ore. A tremendous fire is kindled and the whole mass is turned to liquid. The mineral being the heaviest runs out at the bottom into the silver spring to be ladled out, and the slag is run out into huge iron pots, built into a wheel borrow. These are left to cool, when they are dumped out, several accidents have occurred to visitors intent with other things falling into them. A few days before a man carelessly backed up and sat down into a slag kettle filled with fiery molten liquid. The superintendent kindly furnished me with several specimens of ore, and I learned that the mineral harvest of Leadville for the month of June, was 1,200,000 a sum absolutely astonishing. Over a million dollars a month, and over twelve millions a year for course the winter months cannot produce as well as the summer months, and this for a city only four years old. Reports have gone out that Leadville was declining; that the mines were giving out. Be that as it may it yields only \$1,200,000 per month we won't worry about them. Everything is enormously high, and Nebraska products should find their way here. Some other time I may describe the route from Pueblo here; probably there is no other such route on earth.

Creameries in Pennsylvania.

The creamery question is just now the prominent one among the farmers of York county, as well as those of other sections of southern Pennsylvania. Some creameries are operated by joint stock companies and others by private firms. In the first instance the farmers are the stockholders in proportion to how many cows they own, and, of course, the shareholder has to take his risk as to profit and loss. The creameries owned by private firms buy the milk outright from the farmers and the firms take all the risks. The Hanover creamery is one of the latter class, and is owned by a firm of four or five persons. There is another creamery near Hanover Junction. One was started near the city of York, the present month, another is in operation at Ennysville, York county, and one or two others are under way or about to start. Gettysburg is talking loud for a creamery and will probably soon have one. The creamery business in York county is in its infancy and does not yet compare with Bucks county, where there are 38 establishments, all co-operative except four.

This section of country in its agricultural features is not unlike Carroll, Washington, Frederick and some other counties of Maryland, where, without doubt, creameries could be operated as successfully as those of Pennsylvania. That the business is satisfactory in this state seems to be proved beyond cavil by the rapid increase of creameries in Bucks county from 16 a year ago to 38 now.

As a matter which should be interesting to Western Maryland farmers especially a description of the mode of operating a creamery may be given. The co-operative and private concerns are identical, so far as the work of manufacturing the products is concerned. The Hanover creamery, therefore, will be an example of any or all the others. The building is a new and substantial two-and-a-half story wooden structure in the suburbs, where springs furnish pure water, not for mixing with, but for cooling the milk, cleaning the vats, etc. It has a daily working capacity for 10,000 pounds of milk, counted at 8 1/2 pounds to the gallon, and cost, with a six-horse power engine and the machinery, \$6,000.

The price paid for milk at this time is ten cents a gallon, delivered at the creamery by 9 a. m., and the milk from about 600 cows is taken daily. The delivery includes the milking of the evening before and that of the morning following, and many wagons are required for the hauling. Creamery wagons are sent after some of the milk, and it is bought in small as well as large quantities. The milk in cans is hoisted into the second story by an elevator, then poured into a metal receptacle, where it is weighed after being tested by the lactometer, if the surreptitious introduction of water is suspected. Next it is carried by pipes into three wooden vats lined, each vat holding about 350 gallons. Ice water is continually pumped through tin cylinders in these vats for four hours to force the cream to the top. It is then found that there are about three inches of good cream on the top of the milk in each vat. Now the milk is drawn off with some of the cream, and poured through pipes into huge tin-lined cheese-vats on the lower floor. The cream is put into a cream-vat in the butter-room until next morning, when it is placed in a large horizontal barrel-shaped churn. A belt is attached to the end of the revolving dasher, and the cream is whirled around by steam for half an hour, when the butter is made. It is taken out, salted, and put in a refrigerator until next morning. Then it is reworked, printed on a hand machine, boxed in ice-chests, and is sent to Baltimore or other markets, which it reaches in a fresh and sweet condition.

The milk in the cheese-vats is heated by steam pipes, and coloring matter and rennet are put in the latter to produce coagulation. After the mass has been worked for five hours or so the cheese curd is dipped out and put upon racks. When salted the curd is put in iron moulds, and the twelve or fifteen moulds turned out daily are pressed for sixteen hours in a powerful screw. The cheeses, weighing thirty-two to forty-two pounds each, are now considered made and are put in the loft for thirty days to dry or cure, when they are boxed and sent to market. A lot of 5000 pounds of cheese was shipped on Thursday.

The Hanover creamery at present makes from 30 to 100 gallons of ice-cream daily, all by steam, which product requires cream that would otherwise go into butter. If all went into butter, that yield would be about 250 pounds a day, which is at present sought after by dealers in the cities at 28 cents a pound. The cheese yield of 500 pounds daily brings, as stated, 8 to 18 cents a pound.

creamery supplies them with whey to 3 cents for 10 gallons. Some half-dozen hands are employed inside, including a New York cheese-maker, that state being looked to for experts in that line. The creamery will soon make its own cheese boxes on the premises. The ice item is considerable, but enough ice can be housed almost any winter here.

A Man Who Hit a Woman.

Two nights ago, on the 7 o'clock boat from Station Island, a well-dressed Irish woman of robust frame, calmly removed a camp stool from beneath the extended legs of a rubicund German and put her own feet thereon. The German's feet came down to the dock with a heartrending crash as he walked from an incipient nap, and he gazed around for the stool. When he saw where it had gone he deliberately walked over to the woman, jerked the stool away and gave her a hearty slap in the face. In an instant she was around his neck with one arm and boxing his head around with the free hand in a most interesting way. The German shook her off, but she made another grab and caught him by the face. Her hand grasped several features, and unfortunately for her, a finger came too close to his mouth, and he bit vigorously. She loosed her hold and tried to get at him again, but the bystanders interfered. "He hit me. He hit a woman," she panted.

"Now, madam," said one of the two deck-hands who held her, "you take a fool's advice and let him alone."

He was afflicted with a lame back and general debility, he was recommended THOMAS' ELECTRIC OIL, which cured him at once. This famous specific is a positive remedy for bodily pain.

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THROUGH TRAIN TO ST. PAUL. On and after July 11th, 1881, the Sioux City & Pacific train will leave the U. P. transfer at 7:15 p. m., running through to St. Paul, via Sioux City route.

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