winter will be asked for an appropriation necessary to make a suitable showing. We believe our representatives fully realize the advantages to be derived and look with favor on the proposed exposition. The action of Nebraska will have great influence with the other transmississippi states. Let every citizen of Nebraska take a personal interest in this matter and do all they can to assist this great enterprise that means so much to her people.

Hastings Tribune: The Transmississippi Exposition, to be held at Omaha in 1898, bids fair to be one of the best exhibits of its kind ever attempted. All of the transmississippi states should, and probably will, participate in this exposition; and as for Nebraska, nothing could be more beneficial to her various interests than a successful consummation of the contemplated exposition. The people of this state, especially those who are financially interested, will make no mistake if generous support is given toward the carrying on of this work; and no citizen of Nebraska who is proud of his state will refuse or neglect to give the undertaking at least his moral support. The press of the state will no doubt do its full share in keeping the matter before the world by giving it the widest publicity possible. Sketches and letters descriptive of the various features of the exposition will appear in the columns of this paper later on and no doubt will prove interesting reading to our patrons.

Kearney Hub: Edward Rosewater, editor of The Omaha Bee, having been appointed manager of the department of publicity of the Transmississippi Exposition, issues a circular letter to the press inviting newspaper co-operation in making known the scope of the enterprise and the advantages that must accrue to the states west of the Mississippi through the holding of the exposition. Mr. Rosewater's request will have a hearty response. He is one of the best known men in the west, and one of the best fitted for the position, and the work that has been given over to his management and supervision will be well done in every particular. When it is understood that the country west of the Mississippi comprises about two-thirds of the area of the country, and that it possesses all the elements of wealth necessary to make it as nearly independent of any other section, as one country can be independent of another, it will be realized that there are great possibilities in the coming exposition, which will be more nearly national than any heretofore held in the United States, aside from the Centennial exposition and the World's fair.

O'Neill Frontier: Nebraska as a whole is justly proud of the efforts now being put forth in behalf of the Transmississippi Exposition, to be held at Omaha in 1898. The work of organization has been completed and perfected, congress has pledged a handsome government display to the amount of $200,000, the capital stock is being rapidly subscribed for, different states are making appropriations commensurate to the character of the exposition, and it now remains for the Nebraska legislature to make a handsome appropriation to help represent our great and varied industries, and the success of the show will be assured. What the World's Fair was to Chicago the Transmississippi Exposition will be to Omaha and Nebraska. A glance at the personnel of the men at the head of the enterprise alone guarantees its success, especially the department of publicity and promotion, which is presided over by Hon. E. Rosewater of The Bee. The success of The Omaha Bee is a striking example of the ability of Mr. Rosewater in this direction, which alone would insure the success of any enterprise with which he is associated.

York Times: Omaha people are making a great effort to make the Transmississippi Exposition a success. They are taking hold of the scheme with energy and great liberality. The entire west is concerned in the project, but Nebraska will be more immediately and directly benefited than any other state, and the people of the entire commonwealth should second the efforts of the metropolis with zeal and earnestness. Omaha should not hesitate to give the invitation to the state, and we believe the response will be all that could be asked. The impression should not be allowed to obtain that it is an Omaha project or that the entire management is to be in that city. Suitable men from all parts of the state should be at once called in to assist and should be aroused in as many localities as possible. An appropriation should be made by the legislature, not for Omaha, but for Nebraska, and the enterprising people of the state should see to it that it is as liberal as the times and the financial condition of the state will allow. Omaha is doing all it can of itself, and it only remains now for the people of that city to enlist immediately as many influential men in other parts of Nebraska as they possibly can. It's a good thing. Push it along.

Pawnee Press: The Transmississippi and International Exposition, to be held in Omaha from June to November, 1898, is an event in which all Nebraskans feel a keen interest. The success of the enterprise is an assured fact. Omaha people have subscribed liberally to the undertaking—in amount over $400,000—and congress has pledged not less than $200,000 for a government exhibit. Whatever tends to the upbuilding of Nebraska as a whole is worthy the undivided support of all our people. In this connection, therefore, it is a matter of congratulation to know that all citizens of the state are enlisting their co-operation in the important event. The coming legislature should be as liberal as possible with an appropriation for a creditable exhibition of the resources of Nebraska, which will be returned tenfold through the judicious advertising that will result from such exhibition. Sketches and letters descriptive of the various features of the exhibition will be published in the Press from time to time, in order that our readers may acquaint themselves with the scope of the enterprise and the advantages that will ultimately accrue to the states west of the Mississippi, and especially to Nebraska.

Lincoln Call: Through various kinds of adversity, no state in the union has lost more than Nebraska. One of the most substantial measures of restoring confidence among the people and in the resources of this state is the Transmississippi Exposition. Subscriptions to the amount of $400,000 have already been secured and congress has pledged not less than $200,000 for the government exhibit. In this connection it is urged that the coming session of the legislature do the proper thing so far as a state exhibit is concerned. It is well known that the several transmississippi states will vie with each other as to the exhibition of their resources, and that Nebraska, being the chief promoter and the present home of the exhibition, the center of all attractions during a considerable period of time, it becomes imperative that the Nebraska state exhibit be second to none, and that in every particular the legislature and the people be found wanting in nothing that will inspire all the west to make the Transmississippi Exposition one worthy of the genius and energy which has led the course of empire beyond the Father of Waters. It should be remembered that there are many owners of Nebraska property who no longer reside here who should, nevertheless, interest themselves in the successful representation of Nebraska and her interests at Omaha in '98. Besides, it is none too early for every traveler from this state and every social and business letter that leaves it to carry abroad some pleasurable information or solicitation relative to the exposition. No such opportunity has ever been given to stand by and to stand up for Nebraska. What are our people going to do about it?

Seward Reporter: The board of managers of the Transmississippi Exposition has been duly constituted, and efficient men have been put at the head of the various departments. These men have been selected from the leading business men of Omaha, men who have demonstrated their ability in business affairs requiring great capacity, and under such management there can be no doubt of the success of the exposition. Subscriptions have been received amounting to $400,000, and the government has pledged $200,000 to make a national exhibit. The great benefit which Nebraska will receive from this exposition can hardly be estimated. While it is not and will not be a Nebraska affair wholly, this state will be more largely benefited than any other part of the great northwest, which is interested in the exposition. It is much to be hoped that the Nebraska legislature will see this matter in its true light, and appreciate the importance of a liberal appropriation. Other states in the contiguous territory will be asked to participate, and in order to secure their hearty co-operation Nebraska must manifest her own interest in the matter. This is not a question of politics or partisanship, but a question of business for the state, and every member of the legislature should feel a personal interest in the exposition, and give his assistance in putting Nebraska in the right attitude. Beyond question every dollar spent by the state in the exposition will be returned many times, and a liberal appropriation will be a judicious investment. It is a matter in which every citizen of the state is interested. The success of the exposition will be of the greatest benefit to Nebraska, and Nebraska should ungrudgingly invest a sum of money sufficient, with the other guaranteed assistance, to make it a success.

Herman Review: Omaha, as the center of the coming Transmississippi Exposition, occupies a similar position which attended the building of the Columbian exposition. On the business men and people of that city the ultimate success of the Transmississippi Exposition depends and much depends in getting all sections of the United States interested in its behalf, so as to make Omaha worthy of the honor which she boldly aspires to, aided by the great Mississippi valley, in promoting so important an industrial exposition in which each and all may share a part in its history. A large amount of money has already been subscribed by the Omaha business men, and an appropriation has been made by congress for the purpose of helping to promote the affair. The name Transmississippi means more than a single state or two or three states; it means in reality not only the whole of the broad Mississippi valley, but likewise the far west, clear to the Pacific coast. To provide for the millions of people from such a vast scope of country who will visit the exposition in the season of 1898 must necessarily prompt the promoting at the start of wide special interest among exhibitors and concessionaires in order to make it attractive and of benefit to the public, as well as a financial success. Omaha is deserving of much credit for the effort it is thus early putting forth in this direction. In the election of its local board of directors, many of the strongest and most influential men have been chosen. The Transmississippi Exposition means a great deal in the near future for Omaha and its environments. In connection with the preliminary work which has just begun every laudable effort should also be made to impress the importance of the coming exposition on the mind of the public, and the incalculable benefit which must certainly accrue to the Mississippi valley and its tributaries in still further developing the richest agricultural and stock raising district on the North American continent. Splendid as have been the achievements of Omaha in the past in promoting enterprises of business and commercial value in this part of the west, the magnitude and conception of what the Transmississippi Exposition promises in the way of a display of the ingenuity of master minds is bound to surpass all former enterprises ever held in the United States, and in point of magnificent splendor take rank with the famed Columbian exposition of 1893.

A NEBRASKA FINANCIER.

The Beal Warehouse Scheme to Boost Silver.

Kansas City Star.

A Nebraska man has written to the governor of Colorado suggesting that public silver repositories be established, under the control of the state, where silver bullion may be deposited and certificates issued against it, to be put in general circulation for use as money. The only good reason why the plan should not be tried is that it would involve a useless expenditure of public money. It would serve one good purpose. It would prove that more money is not what the country wants at the present time. If there were a scarcity of currency such certificates might readily get into use in response to the demand for a circulation medium. But there is not the least need of any such addition to the money of the country, and, therefore, no one would use such silver certificates if they should be issued. The United States exports about $30,000,000 worth of silver per annum. If this much silver or any part of it should be kept at home and used as the basis of a circulating medium there would be exports of gold to make up for the silver kept in this country, so that such a scheme would not increase the net supply of money, even if it could be put into operation. The suggestion of plans of that sort simply illustrates the lack of intelligent comprehension of the subject of money among newly risen would-be financial reformers.

CHEERY CHAT.

Detroit Free Press: "What in the world did you strike Hotly for?"
"Ten dollars."

New York Ledger: Dora—Would you call fishing for compliments a kind of fly fishing?
Dick—I think it is rather an attempt to "worm" them out!

Puck: Clark (excitedly)—I tell you, sir, this town isn't big enough to hold us both!
Fuller (calmly)—Why don't you start a suburb?

New York Advertiser: Ethel—Yes, Mr. Lasso must have inherited his taste for cowboy life.
Mabel—How so?
Ethel—Why, I've heard it said that one of his ancestors came to this country in the steerage.

Chicago Record: Well, Scribbs has proved himself a genius after all."
"What has he done?"
"Quit writing poetry and opened a candy shop next to a school house."

Indianapolis Journal: Wayworn Watson—I wisht I had all the money I've spent foolish.
Perry Patettic: Me, too. Many is the good old nickel I've blowed for grub before I had mastered the free lunch system.

Detroit Journal: "They give the soubrette a kindly reception, however."
"Oh, yes. They'll be old themselves some time."

Cleveland Leader: Johnson—I've just seen the meanest man on earth.
Thompson—You don't tell me. Who is he?
Johnson—Old Skinner. He gave his boy a snow shovel for a Christmas present.

Indianapolis Journal: "Just thirty-three years ago today," said the old soldier, "the top of my head was grazed by a bullet."
"There isn't much grazing there now, is there, grandpa?" was the comment of the youngest grandchild, and as the old gentleman rubbed his bare poll he had to admit the correctness of the assertion.

Chicago Tribune: "I suppose," observed the caller, looking at the immense stock on hand, "that the world's supply of India rubber will be exhausted some day, and how will you make pneumatic tires then?"
"Some substitute probably will be found for rubber," replied the manufacturer, cheerfully, "and we shall always be able to furnish the wind."

Somerville Journal: Wiggles—People aren't so courteous now as they used to be. I've asked at least twenty people a courteous question today, and hardly a one of them has given me a civil answer.
Waggles—What was the question?
Wiggles—I asked them if they would lend me $200.

GOOD BYE, OLD BRIER ROOT.

Kansas City Star.

(Scene: A bachelor's den. Time: 11:30 p. m., December 31, 1896.)

Goodby, old brier root, goodby;
I quit you with the past,
My resolution's fixed—we part,
This pipeful is the last.
In half an hour the New Year dawns—
I lay my vices by,
Those glowing coals await you now—
Old brier root, goodby.

You've been a comfort, I must own,
I mind me of the night
When faithless Julia sent adrift
A wretched, loveless wight,
And here I sat with you and Grief—
We three—nor silence broke,
But banished Grief and Julia, too,
In curling clouds of smoke.

Such service cannot be forgot—
I will not lose you quite;
So, there upon the mantel rest
Within my grateful sight,
This pouch of Turkish, too, shall be
Remembrance of the hour
I found the courage to subdue—
And to forget, the power.

In token whereof, one more pipe—
The clock has not yet struck;
A wisp from that old letter there
Behind her picture stuck—
The letter as the picture hers—
I know the hand; 'tis well—
Turn down the one, the other burn—
A fitting last farewell.

The letter fresh? What trick is this?
The date six months ago—
I'll kill that servant—and she says:
"I grieve I acted so."
Strike on, old clock, till crack of doom!
What, though resolve be broke—
I'm bringing back my Julia's face
In curling clouds of somke.

Pulse of Western Progress.

Another sheep war is imminent in western Colorado, this time between Utah sheepmen and the residents of Garfield and Mesa counties, Colorado. Private information has reached the state veterinarian, says the Cheyenne Sun-Leader, to the effect that trouble was brewing.

He took prompt measures to repress it by obtaining the advice of Attorney General Carr on the rights of Utah division of the would-be belligerents in their controversy with the Colorado people, and a courier was at once sent to Thompson, Utah, with a mandate of the attorney general prohibiting them from trespassing with their flocks of sheep on the Colorado territory. There are between 30,000 and 50,000 Utah sheep, under charge of a strong force of sheepmen and herders, now gathered just over the Colorado line, close to Thompson, according to the reports received by Dr. Gresswell. It is said to be the intention of their owners to drive the animals into Colorado directly after Governor McIntire goes out of office on January 12. The Utah men believe they can evade the provisions of the state quarantine laws about the time the change in the office of governor occurs, and mean to take advantage of it. The seriousness of the situation can readily be seen when the scenes which occurred around the town of Debeeque, both in Mesa and Garfield counties, three years ago, are remembered. At that time sheep scab was virulent in all the sheep herds of Utah, and in fear of the contagion the Colorado sheepmen took the law into their own hands in keeping out trail sheep from Utah. They provided themselves with rifles and ammunition, and, taking posts on the trails, they turned back every flock of sheep that came over the Utah border. Not expecting hostility of this kind, the owners and herders of the alien sheep were unprepared to meet it. They were held up at the muzzles of Winchesters and escorted back to their original country. Much excitement attended the process of deportation, but none of the Utah men sustained injury, as they all took it with commendable meekness. As for the Utah sheep, the Coloradoans in their resentment of the invasion slaughtered them by the hundreds. Dead mutton lay along the trail for a great many miles. The episode was followed by a stormy time, as reprisals for what occurred were threatened upon the Utah side, and for a time it looked as if an interstate civilian war was likely to ensue.

NEW GOLD MECCA.

Deadwood is wild about rich gold fields in Ragged Top, says a Deadwood dispatch to the Sioux Falls Argus-Leader. Black Hills towns have been emptied by the rush of prospectors. Spearfish, Bear Gulch, Carbonate and St. Onge have taken to the mountain. There has not been such a scattering with ore pans, picks and stakes since Bald mountain and Ruby Basin put the miners into a fury. The diggers who first broke ground in the new field have been out but little more than a month, and it is estimated that a fortune a day has been the average. It has been a poor man's bonanza, the mineral appearing on the surface, and the assays of the quartz taken from the surface and sent to the smelters run from $80 to $100 a ton, with frequent fissures producing as high as $300 a ton. Ragged Top has been passed over time and again by all the men who came to Deadwood for speculation. It is in a region close to the town, which has not been considered productive of mineral wealth. It is in the limestone formation. A loitering miner, dreaming of riches, put in his time rambling over the precipitous cliffs overlooking the canyon to the east. There were open fissures and outcropping shales, and, picking out a favorable spot, he started a camp. He struck it rich. The word quickly passed that all the drift was full of gold, and two new towns have already sprung up in the camp. There was a crazy run of prospectors and surveys have now been made as far west as Bear Gulch and Nigger Hill, fifteen miles away.

Deadwood papers have daily items about the locations of rich new claims. Morris Ellenburg sold a fractional interest in one of his for $7,000 cash. It has been a paying proposition from the grass roots. There is more money than this in the face of the shaft, which is not down more than ten feet. Wildey, Hayes & Co. have struck a four-foot vein, the ores from which assay $100 to $200 a ton. The vein is widening and growing richer as the work progresses. The whole section is filled with stories of fabulous wealth and there are assays to prove that many of the claims are not beyond the expectations of those who have rushed into the new field.

NORTHERN PACIFIC EXTENSION.

It is authoritatively stated that the Northern Pacific will extend its line the coming summer from Edgerley to the Missouri river, traversing the country in a southwesterly direction, which is calculated to bring it to Kulm, Ashley and Eureka. The work, says an Aberdeen dispatch to the St. Paul Pioneer Press, will be pushed from Edgerley and will make that a lively town during the summer and fall. The building of this line is more than likely to result in the extension of the Great Northern west from Ellendale, the Soo from Kulm to Bismarck, and perhaps the Milwaukee from Edgerley, or Eureka, or both. It would seem to be not at all improbable that while the roads are at it the grade between this city and Leola and Ashley will be ironed and operated, probably by the Soo, which had Land Commissioner Hunt and other officials in that territory last summer and fall.

IRRIGATING IN SHOSHONE VALLEY.

E. R. Goodman of North Platte, a nephew of Colonel W. F. Cody, better known as "Buffalo Bill," is in the city, says the Denver News, in the interest of the Shoshone Irrigation company, of which Colonel Cody is the president and promoter, and which has started in to redeem the arid lands of the Shoshone valley, in Wyoming, under the Carey act. This is one of the greatest irrigation enterprises in the west now under way, and over 500,000 acres of land have been segregated to the company under the terms of the act. Already the company has 25,000 acres of the land under irrigation, and there is a rush of settlers to the new country in northwestern Wyoming. "We have had considerable inquiry from people around this section regarding lands near the town of Cody, on the Shoshone, and, as we are anxious to secure some practical irrigationists to educate the new settlers, we came to Colorado for them. The town of Cody was established last spring, and already has a population of about 150 or 200 people, and indications are that in the spring the country already under cultivation will be fully taken up, but the company is pushing right along with the ditch work, and will eventually have all of the valley, from Cody to the mouth of the Shoshone, on the Big Horn, under water. It is the finest land in that part of the country, and once the water is on it, it will raise anything. We expect either the B. & M. or the Northern Pacific to build in there in the near future, and as the country settles up the land will become very valuable."

MONTANA'S BIG WOOL CLIP.

According to reports of the commissioner of the Montana state bureau of labor, industry and agriculture, as well as statistics furnished by the American Wool Growers' association, Montana leads all the states and territories of the union in the number of her sheep and in the quantity of wool produced during the last year. In addition to this, says a Helena dispatch to the Minneapolis Times, the wool of Montana is pronounced to be of superior quality and higher grade than that produced by any other of the newly created western states. The number of sheep assessed throughout the state of Montana for the year 1896 was 2,812,829, which showed an increase of more than 210,500 over the number assessed in 1895. In former years, to get an approximate estimate of the total number of sheep in the state, 9 per cent was added to the assessed number, to cover the shearing sheep that were supposed to have escaped assessment. The only discouraging feature regarding the sale of the wool clip the present year was the low price paid to the pound and the large amounts of wool which the owners were compelled to consign to eastern houses for storage or for sale. While the sales of last year's wool aggregated nearly 200,000, the clip of this year, when all sold, will only aggregate $1,750,000. Approximately 25 per cent of the entire wool clip this year was sold at an average price of 8.01 cents a pound, being less by 2 or 3 cents than the average price of last year. The balance, about 75 per cent of the slip, was consigned to eastern houses, at an advance generally of 5 cents a pound, or less, on which interest has to be paid. These two causes combined have produced a loss of $500,000 to the wool growers of Montana. Since the election, however, there are indications of better times for the sheep and cattle industries of the state. The sheep men, who have been so discouraged by the low price of wool that they were ready to discontinue the business, are now feeling in much better spirits on account of the advance in mutton, and are very hopeful regarding the price of wool for the next year.

NEW ELDORADO IN UTAH.

In the Blue mountains in the southeastern part of Utah is being opened one of the richest gold mining districts probably yet discovered, says the Aztec, N. M., Index. The ore is free milling and of high grade. As work progresses, richer and larger bodies of ore are opened up, and confidence in the district has reached that degree which indicates that there will be an immense boom there in the next sixty days. There is abundant substance there to sustain a boom of any size and the stuff is in sight. In the early history of the district the immense amount of float in which free gold could be seen, attracted attention, and finally gold seekers began to prospect in the prophyry dykes, which are to be seen on every hand. Many experienced miners did not think it possible to find gold in any such formation, but it is there, nevertheless, and in large quantities. The richest lead yet found is in the Viking, from which five tons of ore were taken within ten feet of the grass roots that averaged $456 per ton. Picked samples assayed from $3,600 to $7,000 per ton. Captain Jackson has his five-stamp mill running on Dream ore of a very high grade, and a recent clean up was such that he at once decided to put in a twenty-stamp mill. The vein in the Dream is full seven feet wide, and Captain Jackson is trying to secure as much adjoining property as possible, which illustrates his opinion of the camp. The Gold Queen company has been operating on a ten-stamp prospecting mill, with such gratifying results that it has been decided to put in a forty-stamp mill at once. Notwithstanding the fact that the ore shows up such rich values at the surface, there is still a large territory which has not yet been located and is now the most inviting field for prospectors in the west. In a district like this the poor man is on an equality with the rich, for one may locate a prospect there that will make him rich in a day. That is a remarkable region in many respects. The mineral belt is large and the veins crop out prominently on the surface. The Rio Grande Southern officials have already looked out a route for a railroad into the camp, and the future of the place will be something immense.

REPAIRING MUIR TUNNEL.

Work of lining the great Muir tunnel with concrete throughout the entire portion not already protected by the solid rock through which a great part of the bore is constructed, is progressing from both ends, says a Bozeman special to the Minneapolis Journal. The walls of the tunnel are two feet thick and fourteen feet high, being sixteen feet apart and connected by a brick semi-circular arch, making the total height of the tunnel from track to roof twenty feet. It takes a gang of men as large as can work in the tunnel twenty-four hours to construct one foot of tunnel, and the cost will be something enormous. The part of the work requiring the greatest amount of time and care is not in the walls themselves, but in the filling in of the spaces above the arch. The large quantities of earth and rock were loosened by the fire, which for three months burned in the tunnel during the fall of 1895, left great gaps overhead, and all of the space has to be filled in with thousands of cords of rock in a careful and compact manner.

TRUNK FULL OF GOLD.

Some man has unearthed a trunk containing about $150,000 in gold in the vicinity of the cemetery, a mile east of town, says a Fresno dispatch to the San Francisco Call. Who he is cannot be learned, as only a few persons know of the discovery, and they are maintaining the greatest secrecy. The lucky finder and his friends believe they have made a big strike. There is no doubt that their story is true, but there is a lurking suspicion that they have found a quantity of counterfeit coin. J. G. Wofford, formerly a deputy constable in Fresno, is authority for the report of the discovery. To a Call correspondent he exhibited a couple of the bags in which the money was found in the trunk. The imprint of the coins could be seen plainly in the cloth, which was ready to fall apart from age. Mr. Wofford stated that the money was all in gold and amounted to about $150,000. He stated that in his opinion the treasure had been buried there years ago by Joaquin Murietta, the noted outlaw of the early days. The ex-officer believes that the money is the plunder of some big robbery by the daring brigand, and that Vasquez buried it on the plains for future use, or probably because it impeded his flight. According to Wofford's story, an old Mexican who died recently told the person who afterward discovered the treasure of its existence and the place where it could be found. By a streak of fortune the trunk was found in one of the first diggings for it. Mr. Wofford refuses to give any further particulars, and will not tell the names of the finders. The exact point at which the trunk was found cannot be learned. Wofford gives the place as being within a mile of the cemetery. Of course, there is a possibility that Wofford's friend has found a fortune, but it is more probable that he has discovered counterfeit coin. Deputy Sheriff Timmins stated that a convict whom he had taken to the state prison from this county had told him while en route to the penitentiary that he knew where a trunk containing a large amount of counterfeit coin was buried near this city. The prisoner said he would tell the officer where it was located when he should have served his time. Timmins refused to divulge the name of the convict. In all probability this was the trunk that Wofford's friend found.

GOULD-STREAKED BOULDER.

The finding of an immense boulder in the bed of Corral Hollow creek, in the eastern part of Alameda county, which shows rich streaks of gold, has created no end of excitement among the residents of that section, says a Livermore dispatch to the San Francisco Examiner.

The discovery was made by Henry Lake and J. Hurley, on the former's land, at a point where the creek divides the property. There are those who believe the boulder has been for ages in the exact spot where it was found, but from the fact that the owner of the property believes that he would have noticed it had it been there any length of time, partly upsets the theory. Another hypothesis, and one that appears quite probable, is that the boulder had its formation higher up in the mountains, or is probably the refuse of some worked-out claim, and during the season of high water has been forced from its lodgment down the stream. The boulder is so large and heavy that it could not be handled, and Messrs. Hurley and Lake commenced the operation of blasting. Their work reveals every evidence of a rich find, and to such an extent that they have decided to remain reticent. Prospectors are firm in the belief that a rich ledge will sooner or later be unearthed.

ANOTHER OIL GUSHER.

A fine flow of oil has been struck in the old Occidental tunnel in the Santa Ynez range, between Montecito and Carpinteria, where for many years public-spirited men have strained their bank accounts and buried their hopes in a vain effort to discover the fountain head of the apparently inexhaustible amount of crude oil that has filled the sandbeds at Summerland and persists in oozing out of the ground all along the coast in Santa Barbara county and in a number of places in the channel miles from shore, says a Santa Barbara dispatch to the San Francisco Examiner. When the report came to town that a twenty-barrel flow of fine light oil and a considerable quantity of water had been struck in the old tunnel it was almost universally discredited, because other flattering reports from the same source had always proved false. A stockholder was sent to the place to investigate. He returned and his report more than corroborated that of the miners. The tunnel is only about four feet in height and the roof and sides are composed of rough rocks, covered with grease. Near the farther end of the tunnel the roof is of solid blue sandstone, very hard and does not leak. In the lower left-hand corner, where the face and floor of the tunnel come together, the black water boils up from a crevice in the rock with tremendous force, making the stream whirl and slush around for some little distance before it runs smoothly enough for the oil to rise to the surface. The present intention of the company is to extend the tunnel entirely through the ledge and then run lateral chambers for the purpose of opening as many large fissures as possible. The fact that this oil is lighter and finer than any yet found elsewhere on the coast is significant and will have an important bearing on future operations. The strange feature is that the oil is found in fissures. Oil experts are at a loss to know what to make of it, but they cannot deny the fact that the oil is there in endless quantity and of an unusually high grade. It is thought by some to be an indication that the lighter oil has been forced up by pressure into the crevices, and that the main body of oil is still lower down. The territory controlled by the company covers the oil-bearing ledge a distance of over three miles.

GOLD NEAR OLYMPIA.

Olympia is in a fair way toward experiencing a genuine mining excitement. For several weeks, says the Tacoma Ledger, workmen have been blasting out rock from the cliffs at the head of the bay, near the lower Tumwater falls. The rock is a black basaltic formation, but the last few days the blasts have reached the seams of gold-bearing quartz and the basalt rock is becoming sprinkled with pyrites of iron. It is anticipated that as greater depth is reached the basalt rock will gradually disappear and the formation run into either a lead of free milling quartz or smelting ore carrying gold. The samples already obtained have been examined by experienced mining men and pronounced from all appearances to be the genuine article. No assays have as yet been made, but will be in a few days and Olympians are awaiting the result with a great deal of interest. Gold is found in nearly all of the streams flowing into the upper sound, and Captain Monroe, an old mining man, has always claimed that there was a strata of gold quartz underlying Olympia. The rock now being taken from the Tumwater cliffs is used for bulkheading in connection with the harbor improvement, but if the hopes of Olympians as to its gold-bearing properties are realized it will be put to a different use than that of filling the bay.

THE DAKOTAS.

Hay sells for $4 per ton at Aberdeen.

State Engineer Baldwin reports that there are 1,100 artesian wells of all classes in South Dakota. Brule county has taken the lead in the deep well section.

The young people of Aberdeen gave a Christmas hop which was rather unique at the supper end. A genuine opossum was served in all the glory and goodness of true southern style.

Judge Jones of the Sioux Falls circuit has rendered a decision that a whisky bill cannot be collected by process of law in South Dakota, because the sale is in violation of the prohibitory law.

A gang that has been operating at the forks of the Cheyenne has been placed under arrest by the authorities of Meade county. They have been stealing calves and putting the brand of one of the gang on the animals.

A party of Indiana Dunkards has been at Bangor and made arrangements for fifty families to settle in Walworth county in the spring. They have bargained for land enough to give each family from 160 to 320 acres. Other Dunkards are expected to follow.

Rumors and newspaper statements have it that the Vanderbilts are even now making arrangements to run through trains from Chicago to the Pacific coasts via the Northwestern and Northern Pacific. These trains would run by the way of Hawarden, Huron and Oakes to Jamestown, there combining with the overland Northern Pacific train from the Twin Cities, and run solid to Portland and other coast cities.

COLORADO.

Mrs. N. P. Coburn of Boston has donated $6,000 to the Pearson fund of Colorado college.

The road from Farmington to Durango, in Colorado, over which there is much traffic, is in bad condition across the Southern Ute reservation.

The owners of the Carpenter group of claims, at Tolifaro, have begun work on a tunnel to be 1,800 feet in length, cutting across all their lodes and attaining a depth of 600 feet.

Twenty-five loaded wagons and fifty to sixty people passed through Florissant the other day, going into the Puma City mining district, most of them coming from Cripple Creek and Gillett.

Plans for extensive placer operations in North park have been filed with the clerk of Larimer county. They include an immense reservoir near the headwaters of Big creek and a seventeen-mile ditch.

A big strike of tellurium ore has been made in the S and S mines at Sugar Loaf, at the bottom of the shaft, a distance of fifty-five feet. The pay streak runs all the way from one to eleven inches, and it is very rich.

Another new strike is reported from Whitehead gulch, in the Silverton district. The ore goes $500 to the ton and there is said to be plenty of it. Whitehead and Deer park will be stampeded again next summer by those prospectors who know tellurium rock when they see it.

Carson camp is not only noted for its great values in gold and silver, but also in copper, says the Lake City Phonograph. This is especially seen in the recent strike in the Superior mine. The entire vein, which shows from four to fifteen feet of vein matter, is thoroughly impregnated with copper.

Myers and Sullivan are opening up a fine property in the Hot Stuff on Ute mountain, above the California and the Lightning Striker, says the Lake City Phonograph. The vein is peculiar in carrying only an ore of copper, bearing gold and silver. A variety of cupreous ores are shown in black and brown oxides, green carbonate, blue bromide, yellow pyrite, gray and cuprite copper. Assays have been had of 133 ounces of silver and $6 in gold. The rich strike is six to eight inches solid laying in quartz, in a well defined vein two and one-half feet wide, with porphyry walls.

As a mining district Park Dale is attracting attention, prospectors are arriving daily and every few miles between Park Dale and Cripple Creek are found miners' camps, the distance between the two points is just nineteen miles. An air line covers the Freshwater and Cottonwood districts, where some important discoveries have been made.

F. C. Hitchcock write from Mosca that rich sylvanite has been found in the twelve-foot body of shale lying beside the ore body in the Plasa property in the new camp of Duncan in the Sangre de Christo range. The investigation which brought about the discovery was occasioned by recent high returns from this shale and the advice of a man named Whitney, who has had more than twenty years' experience in the mines of South Africa, Alaska and the western states, and says that the indications favor the expectation that tellurium will be found at lower depths in the shale.

WYOMING.

The Sandstone mine, near Saratoga, runs $3,185 in gold.

The town of Jackson Hole has 300 people—mostly stockraisers—and no saloon.

The discovery of a vein of anthracite coal is reported from Banner, Sheridan county.

The Fetterman canal, which covers 5,000 acres at Douglas, has obtained a large loan in New York.

The valuable Kindt coal mine, near Saratoga, is being operated, and the product marketed at Saratoga.

Two carloads of stamp mill machinery are lying at Wyoming station for the Cooper Hill district and will be removed at once. Buildings are now ready for this machinery.

Most encouraging reports continue to come from Crook county. Ores from claims in Spearfish canyon assay from $16 to $278 in gold per ton, and a strike on Ragged Top by the Kilpatricks assays $330 in gold.

The Union Pacific management will have the ice harvest for the season commenced before the end of this week. At Evanston 26,000 tons will be cut and stored in the houses of the company at that point, and 43,000 tons shipped to Ogden. Large quantities will also be cut and stored at Cheyenne and Laramie.

The Rawlins Electric Light and Fuel company is contemplating a change in its plant. The proposition now under consideration is to remove the plant from Rawlins to the company's coal mines, about three and one-half miles southwest of the city. Great saving in the cost of running the plant can be made by having it near the mines, in addition to having light for the mines, and power to operate the machinery.

OREGON.

Strange as it may seem in midwinter the bunchgrass is growing on Grant county's hills.

Cattle on the range in Grant county are looking thinner than ever at this time of the year.

The North Yamhill Labor exchange is going to buy 500 cords of wood and put the members at work cutting the wood up into stove lengths.

C. Fisher of Warner valley, Lake county, who is engaged in raising goats, received returns from his mohair a few days ago. It netted him $1,000 for the clip.

Engineer Dillman of the Astoria railway says that there are 400 men at work near Rainier and the Clatskanie, and that two big dredgers are being run night and day.

Fall grain that was sown on summer fallow is reported to be growing rapidly in the Tygh valley and around Kingsley, in Wasco county. Many farmers in that part of the county are preparing the ground for seeding.

Apples grown in New York state have been on sale in the Corvallis market for several days, says the Times. After being shipped from one side of the continent to the other, the fruit, of course, has a golden taste to the purchaser, who pays for it 5 cents per pound.

Last summer P. Boler, who lives in Springfield precinct, in Lane county, raised several hundred bushels of canary seed and sold it in Portland, Salem and Eugene. He received 4 cents per pound for the seed. It is better than the canary seed raised in California and the other states, weighing considerably more to the bushel.

C. M. Howard, a mining expert and engineer, who has been in Baboon several weeks, has consummated a deal for the purchase of the old Lane black sand mine, situated near Randolph, says the Recorder. He is associated with Captain W. M. Smith and four other San Francisco men, who will at once begin active operations. In testing the sand, Mr. Howard found it contained as much value in platinum as it does in gold. He is now at work on a process which, when completed, will save the platinum as well as the gold, which will cause the product to be doubly valuable.

Harold Parker has returned to Baker City from Omaha, after an absence of several months. Last spring Mr. Parker left Huntington with 13,600 sheep, the property of Guthrie, Foss & Co. of Omaha, to be driven overland to Clarks, a station near the metropolis of Nebraska. Although it took Mr. Parker four months or more to make the drive, he was so successful that he lost but ninety sheep.

Joseph Dysert's placer at the mouth of Jack's creek is proving of exceeding richness, says the Grant's Pass Courier. He is now piping on some very red earth, and the coarse gold glistens on the bedrock in chunks, from $2.50 to $10. All that rich red farming land on Jump-Off Joe and vicinity will eventually have to go before the pipe and giant of the gold digger. The Waldo placers are in the same pay streak. It is unfortunate that the best farming lands are also on the best placer mine locations.

WASHINGTON.

The Larner strike, near Marcus, runs $20 in gold. It is north of Spokane.

The Lummi Island Packing company has shipped about 5,000 cases of salmon to England.

The proposed route of the railroad from Pe Ell to the Columbia river has been surveyed.

The old railway from the coal mines, one mile east of Castle Rock, to the Cowlitz river is to be converted into a logging road. Work will be begun on the road at once.

Everybody has heard the saying about "taking a shingle off a man's house," but some slick fellows actually stole the roof off of John Bailey's house on the tide lands at Skamokawa lately, sawing it off just below the plates on which the rafters rest.

A careful and conservative estimate shows not less than 100,000,000 feet of fir now afloat in Puget sound. The Port Blakeley Mill company has nearly one-quarter of the whole amount, the Puget Mill company about one-fifth and the Tacoma Mill company nearly one-sixth.

Good horses must be a drug on the market when 1,100-pound matched teams sell for $4.50 a team and 1,000-pound horses broken to ride or drive bring $2.50 a head. These were the prices eighteen head of horses brought the other day at an auction sale of horses of the Northern Pacific Railway company at Tacoma.

Many of the ranchers along the North river, in Chehalis and Pacific counties, are preparing for logging operations, now that the jam is out and they can get their logs to market. There is a large amount of fine timber tributary to the river, which is described as the finest logging stream in the state. The stream is narrow, with high banks, and there are no low places or islands on which logs can be "hung up" after they are once started.

Eastern hog buyers are scouring the country in search of stock hogs to eat up the immense corn crop of Nebraska, says an Oakesdale correspondent of the Spokesman-Review. The railroads give them a rate of $200 to Chicago, and it is said the car is loaded with stock hogs and shipped to the desired point in Nebraska, where they are unloaded, ostensibly to be fed. After feeding, the car is again loaded, but not with the same hogs. Instead, fat hogs are loaded into the car and shipped to Chicago. Thus they get free transportation from Nebraska to Chicago. One man has shipped 6,000 head of stock hogs from Whitman county in this way, and is now after more.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Nevada claims that it now produces more gold than silver.

Eastern lumbermen are after the white pine lands of northern Idaho, but the state cannot give any title.

It is stated that the Wilson bill caused New Mexico an annual loss of $1,200,000 on 12,000,000 pounds of wool.

San Diego will raise a $15,000 subscription for the Japanese steamer line, 10 per cent payable every sixty days.

A bill of groceries bought in Deer Lodge, Mont., in 1863 for $13.60 can be duplicated in that town now for $2.50.

One thousand head of cattle will be purchased to feed on the pulp of the new beet sugar factory at Eddy, N. M.

Elko, Nev., is contemplating a big boom with the completion of the canals and ditches at the Island mountain placers.

Six Mexican ports of entry on the Pacific coast exported in one year merchandise and produce to the value of $6,558,641.

It is learned on good authority that the monthly returns from the Pearce gold mines near Wilcox, Ariz., have averaged $450,000 for the last six months.

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