

MINING IN THE BLACK HILLS

Workers in the Northern Section Keep Things Moving Rapidly.

SPEARFISH IS COMING TO THE FRONT

Extensive Electro-Cyanide Plant Planned for the Beautiful Little City—Rich Find in the Old Carbonate Camp.

LEAD, S. D., Aug. 6.—(Special)—Spearfish, the beautiful little city on the Burlington railroad extension which marks the point of prominence and population of the northern Hills towns, has splendid prospects of becoming a mining town of almost equal importance with Lead. If the plans now under way by progressive and successful capitalists materialize such will be the case. A number of the leading citizens of that place are planning for the establishment of a plant for the extraction of gold from the low grade siliceous ores which abound in that region. The men who are at the head of this enterprise are L. W. Valentine, Henry Kneeb and J. S. Summers. These are well known officials in the Black Hills; John Wessels, a prominent merchant; J. A. Crowell and J. E. McGowan, who are wealthy capitalists. In 1892 the Welcome Mining and Milling company erected a large chlorination mill, which is an immense building, complete in every detail, and almost perfect in the construction. The structure was erected at tremendous cost, as the whole gold hill in which it stands had to be excavated to the level of the mill. This mill found itself unable to operate it and it has since been abandoned. Now, however, the Spearfish capitalists propose to utilize it for the electro-cyanide process, a process which has proven to be the most successful for the extraction of gold from low grade siliceous ores. The country for miles in every direction from Spearfish contains vast quantities of sphalerite ore, which is low grade and runs at the rate of 25 to 35 per cent. This region is too far from any reduction works for the ore to be shipped at a profit, and consequently it is not worth shipping. With the establishment of this mill in the immediate vicinity of the property the ore could all be treated at a profit. It is claimed that the electro-cyanide process at no greater cost than the old process will produce an average in the vicinity of 30 per cent and it is reasonable to believe that it can be mined and shipped at advantage. The men who are at the head of this project are all interested in mining property themselves and the establishment of this mill would be doubly profitable to them. The mill would be largely drawn from the mining regions on Squaw Creek, Annie Creek, Iron Creek, Carbonate and Bear Gulch, besides the large territory on Spearfish. The men mentioned are all well known in the Black Hills, and in order not to defile the scenic view of the region, the mill will be located on the refuse water from the mill, when it is in operation, will be held in a series of settling tanks, and will be pumped out when the creek is swollen and murky as a result of storms, thus keeping the water in the creek clear except when it would be turbid by the ordinary run of the stream.

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POUND GUILTY IN SECOND DEGREE

Wamsley Gets Three Years in Penitentiary for Assaulting His Wife.

VERMILION, S. D., Aug. 6.—(Special Telegram)—The jury in the Wamsley case brought in a verdict of guilty as to Anna Wamsley and manslaughter in the second degree as to Marion Wamsley. The court pronounced judgment of three years at hard labor in the state penitentiary.

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