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Free from Reserves or Royalties.

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A Hand-drilling Contest.—A drilling
contest at Veegreen Lakes, near Leadville,
Colo., on 29th ulto., between N. Meyer and
John Ahern, resulted in the former drilling a
drive back hole in granite 20¾ inches in fifteen
minutes, and the latter 17¼ inches in the same
space of time.

Miners' Hospitals.—A sum of \$60,000
has been appropriated by the State for three
cottage hospitals for miners in the bituminous
coal regions of Pennsylvania. The hospitals
are to cost \$20,000 each. One will probably
be located in Connellsville; another will go to
the Mercer coal fields, while Clearfield will get
the third. They will be large enough for,
perhaps, thirty beds.

New Electric Drill.—An electric drill
weighing 100 pounds, and that makes a hole
three feet deep in hard anthracite in 30 seconds,
and one six feet deep in 1½ minutes, is the latest
thing in electric drilling machines. It is design-
ed by Mr. W. M. Schlessinger, and made by the
Union Electric Company of Philadelphia.

The Profits of a Great Mine.—As an
example of how profitable mining investments
may be, we give the magnificent example of the
celebrated Calumet and Hecla mines. The
original assessments were \$15 a share on the
Calumet and \$25 a share on the Hecla, each of
which had 20,000 shares. This would account
for only \$300,000 paid in, but it is generally
stated that the total amount of money paid in
on the consolidated stock was \$1,200,000.
The mine has paid in dividends no less than
\$30,850,000, or about \$25 for every \$1 paid in,
or about \$1.20 a year on \$1 invested. This,
however, is not all; out of surplus earnings im-
mense sums have been invested in additional
property, and in gigantic (though in great part
unsuitable or unnecessary) machinery. So that
the property to-day is selling at the rate of
about \$30,000,000, which would represent at
least another \$25 on the \$1 invested. An in-
vestor who contributed to the original assess-
ments, held his stock until the present time,
and sold out this week, would therefore have
received \$50 for every dollar he originally paid
in.

Securite—The new famous explosive, emits
a spark in exploding, but this spark is harmless,
not possessing sufficient energy to explode
inflammable gases or coal dust. By the action of
the organic salt the spark is almost instantly
extinguished. In the tests mentioned, the
flameless "securite" was exploded in vessels
containing the most highly explosive mixture of
gas and air, and, in some cases, this combined
with coal dust, but, while gunpowder invariably
causes their explosion, the flameless "securite"
did not ignite the gas, or the coal dust, and it
was demonstrated to be safe, even under more
severe tests and conditions than are ever
present in mining operations.