

self in September of 1862 from William Creek, and published in the "Missouri Republican" newspaper, which letter is of value as referring to the theory which then obtained of the bedrock and land slides, and that this idea is neither a new nor a novel one.

"In September, 1862, I wrote from William Creek for publication as follows:—"The gold found here on William Creek has evidently been deposited from the hills, or more properly as they are here designated the Cariboo, or spurs of the Rocky Mountains. The richest deposits have been found in the bed and not in the present channel of the creek, but where, perhaps ages since, this or other creeks coursed.

In places, this channel is found to be only from six to twelve feet from the present bed, whilst in other places, a depth of fifty and even one hundred feet makes the gold more inaccessible, still handsomely remunerative.

"This variation is here attributed to the land slides, of which we have undoubted evidence in the geological formation of those hills which have been over and under mined. A particular case by way of illustration and very interesting from its yield, is the Point claim, adjacent to and joining on the lower stake of the Steele claim, so designated as the Point from its peculiar prominence.

"The lead—as the deposit of gold is called—was found above and below the Point claim last year, 1861 and the owners of the Point worked around it and found only remunerative diggings, which at that time implied from \$25 to \$50 to the hand per diem, but often times much less. This year, [1862] they [the owners] were induced to probe the hill or slide, and during my stay on the creek I have had the gratification of seeing as the result of a single day's work 210 ounces from a dozen men working under ground, 60 feet from the mouth of the tunnel, and in two weeks the Company divided \$30,000, there being four full shares. I cite this (says the letter) particular case, as it proves the theory of extensive land slides having occurred at times, and diverted the creek from its primitive channel. The Steele Co. of 8 interests, 900 ft., one interest sold for \$25,000. This Company took out in 1861, \$100,000 from the first 100 feet, and in 1862 the same amount, but this 100 feet is the richest part of their claim. (Here the lead of William Creek was lost.—K.)"