2nd. Middle placers, 6,000 square miles, mainly gold washing;

3rd. Valley mines extending from north to south a linear distance of 250 miles equal to 6,000 square miles.

Hittel says: "The rich quartz veins of California extend from Kern River to the Siskiyou, are found on hills, in canons and in vales. They are at least two thousand feet above the level of the sea, and not more than ten thousand above it. Their course is generally from N. N. West to S. S. East, and they dip steeply to the Eastward, being sometimes nearly perpendicular. They differ in thickness from a line to sixty feet. Quartz veins are very numerous in most of the mining districts, so the task is not to find the veins, but rather to find those which are auriferous.

"Experience has not proved whether large or small veins are more likely to contain gold. It is found in both. The porous quartz, or that containing many cavities, is more frequently found auriferous than the very compact quartz. The best gold-bearing quartz veins are usually yellowish or brownish in tinge, near the surface at least, but very rich specimens are found in whitish or blueish white rock. Most quartz veins in California contain a little gold; the metal seems to have been distributed most lavishly, but unfortunately in nine-tenths of the veins the proportion of metal is too small to pay. Most of the large veins are supposed to run for miles; though they can rarely be traced on the surface clearly, for more than a furlong. The auriferous veins vary much in thickness. No vein is wrought for more than a few hundred feet; beyond that it is either too poor to pay or the vein is hidden. Sometimes a vein seems to spread out, and divide into a number of smaller veins, all of which afterwards unite again. These points of junction and the narrower portions of it, are usually richer than other