

were received there. Experts in both cities reported that the specimens were genuine meerschaum, and Mr. Rogers and M. W. Neff, of Silver City, immediately located a claim. They brought in a specimen 4 inches thick, and about 3 feet wide by 5 feet long, which was cut into by a common hand-saw. Some imperfections were found in the block, but there is no difficulty in getting cubical blocks with faces 6 and 7 inches without imperfections, and it is believed the meerschaum will be of a better quality below the surface, where the elements have had less influence on it. The specimen brought in was an outcropping, and merely shows the nature of the deposit. It floats on water until it is saturated, when it becomes only slightly heavier than water. The deposit is on the Sapello creek, about twenty-five miles north of Sioux City, and only a short distance from the deposits of alum on the Gila River. There are several narrow veins on the claim, which have been located by Rogers and Neff, but the principal one, which runs the entire length of the location, 1,500 feet, is eight inches in width. This is believed to be one of the most valuable discoveries recently made in this country. The discovery was not looked for and has caused great excitement. Only a few months ago ricolite was brought to the notice of eastern capitalists as the finest ornamental stone ever discovered, and now the ricolite quarries in this country are being operated under a ninety-nine year lease, and large quantities of stone have been shipped to Chicago and other places and used for building stone where fine ornamental stone is required.—*Chicago Mining Review.*

THE NOBLE GOLD MILLING PROCESS.—A new process which bids fair to be of great importance in gold milling is about to be introduced by the Noble Mining and Milling Company, of New York, a company recently organized for its exploitation. The process, which is the invention of the late Mr. B. G. Noble, ex Governor of Wisconsin, an experienced chemist, who spent many years upon its development, is designed to save the very fine gold occurring in certain ores, much of which is lost as "float" in the ordinary process of plate amalgamation. This desideratum is accomplished by intermixing the pulp and mercury to a degree hitherto unattainable on account of the danger, and consequent loss, of flouing the mercury, this difficulty being overcome in the Noble process by the addition of a chemical which has the effect of coalescing the almost infinitesimally fine particles of floured mercury. A series of tests with the process, which have been conducted at the company's testing works, near New York, upon a working scale during the past six months, has given extremely successful results. By the Noble process the auriferous ore is ground so as to pass a 100-mesh sieve, a Fuller Mill having been used for this purpose at the experimental works. The pulp, with the necessary amount of mercury for amalgamation of its gold contents, is then run into a tub called the amalgamator, which is equipped with a stirrer suspended near the iron bottom of the vessel. The tub, which is 42 in. in diameter, has a capacity of ½ ton of pulp at a charge. The charge having been run into the amalgamator, the mercury coalescing chemical, the nature of which is kept a secret, is added, and the stirrer put in motion, rotating at 250 revolutions per minute, the presence of the chemical preventing the flouing of the mercury. During this operation, which lasts 15 minutes, the particles of pulp are brought into contact with those of mercury in the most thorough manner, and the amalgamation is effected. The pulp is then drawn off into a settler, little different from those of the ordinary type, and diluted, whence it is drawn into a second settler and further diluted, from which the tailings are allowed to run away. In the tests which have been made, various lots of ore, principally from North Carolina mines, have been run. Ore from one mine, which is now being regularly worked by plate amalgamation, furnished the best comparative results. It was a free milling ore, containing a very small amount of pyrite, assaying from \$2 to \$4 per ton. On the plates but 24 per cent. of the gold value was recovered, while by the Noble process as much as 93 per cent. was saved. Equally satisfactory results have been obtained from pyritous ores. The loss in mercury in experimental runs has been about ½ lb. per ton; in continuous runs this would, of course, be considered small. It is claimed that in a 25 ton plant the process can be worked for \$1 per ton.—*Engineering & Mining Journal*

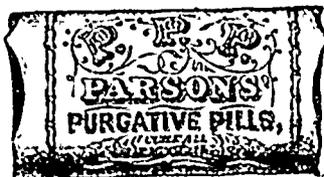
LONDON MINING MARKET.—Simply for the reason that we believe it is impossible for things mining to go any worse or any lower than they are now, we believe in a speedy improvement. Jobbers have not got a share of anything in their names, and it is perhaps even more difficult to buy at current quotations than to sell. Everything is perfectly nominal.

Supposing things do take a turn—what a "oner" it will be! Look at the list of shares in going concerns to be picked up at scarcely more than a few pence!! All we say is, got something at present figures, so as to be in the fray if it comes.—*The Weekly Bulletin.*

The Mount Morgan Gold Mining Company, of Australia, is the largest gold mine in the world at the present time. Its product for the half year ended with 31st May, 1891, aggregated \$1,770,000 at an expense of less than \$550,000. Moreover, the dividends paid for the period aggregated \$1,170,000, or more than 66 per cent. on the product, which, we must say, is a better achievement than is shown in the yearly reports of any American gold mine that we can recall at present. The output for the half year in question was less than that of the first half of the fiscal year by 22, 921 ounces. This mine has now produced 844,374 ounces of gold.

The South African Gold Product from the Witwatersrand District has aggregated 323,124 ounces for the half year ended with June 30th, 1891, or an average of 54,625 ounces per month. For the like six months last year the aggregate was but 224,214 ounces or 37,369 ounces per month. This shows a satisfactory increase of more than 44½ per cent.—*The Financial and Mining Record.*

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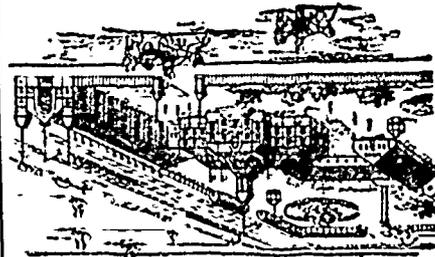
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