

as in the other shafts. As already stated, this new shaft was 118 ft. deep, a greater depth by 8 ft. than had previously been reached. A tunnel was driven towards, and reached a point directly under, a part at least of the bottom of the "money pit." It was now the dinner hour, and the workmen had just come out for that meal. Before they had finished dinner, a great crash was heard in the direction of the works. Rushing back to the pit, they found that the bottom of the "money pit" had fallen into the tunnel that they had a short time before vacated and that the new shaft was fast filling with water. Subsequently it was found that 12 ft. of mud had been driven by the force of water from the old to the new shaft.

The funds of this company in the meantime having been exhausted nothing was practically done that we are aware of until 1863. In that year another effort was made to overcome the water and secure the long searched for treasure. On this occasion a powerful engine and pump were brought on the ground. The engine was placed in position with the pump in the 118 ft. shaft, and the work of clearing out the water and the 12 ft. of mud at the bottom of the shaft commenced. The object in view was to clear out the pit and the tunnel between it and the "money pit" where the treasure was supposed to have fallen when the cave-in above stated took place. The undertaking proved to be very difficult, as the flow of water was heavy; and on account of this and other obstacles little progress was made, but as the water on its way from the "money pit" to the pump had to pass through many feet of loose earth, it was possible to keep the water in the shaft below the 100 ft. level. But the most remarkable thing in connection with this company (and to which your particular attention is invited) is the fact that while the pumping was being continued the water in the pit down by the shore, (No. 5,) in which the tunnel had been struck, was kept at a much lower level than before or after, thus proving the existence of a subterranean water course.

About this time the men engaged in the underground work, one of whom was Mr. A. A. Tupper before mentioned, got the idea that the shaft was in danger of caving in and some of them refused to go into it. An expert examination was made of the shaft, and it was found to be in a very unsafe condition and was forthwith condemned. The pump was withdrawn and the shaft abandoned and work was suspended. The management were at their wits end