

GOLD MINING IN CALIFORNIA.

We are indebted to Mr. W. Van Norden, President of the Plymouth Consolidated Gold Mining Company, for a copy of the annual report of the company's operations from the time of its organization up to the close of 1884. The report is convincing evidence of what can be done with a good property under careful and proper management. This company was organized June 1st, 1883, by the consolidation of the *Empire*, the *Amador Pacific* and the *Plymouth companies*, since which time the production of bullion, up to January 1st, 1885, amounted to \$1,714,008.65. The report shows that during the period mentioned (19 months) the operating expenses were \$541,158.75, and that \$148,554.85 had been distributed on construction account. Up to the close of 1884 dividends had been paid aggregating \$950,000, leaving cash on hand on January 1st, 1885, \$74,295.06. Since the report was published the company has paid \$150,000 in dividends, making a total of \$1,100,000 paid in dividends in somewhat less than two years.

The property of the company is located in the town of Plymouth, Amador county, California. The principal mine consists of an immense chimney of ribbon quartz from thirty to fifty feet wide and 315 to 450 feet long. The ore mills freely and contains one to two per cent. of sulphurets; the average yield of gold being thirteen dollars to the ton. There are two mills on the property, located about 1,000 feet apart, having an aggregate of 120 stamps, one with eighty and the other forty, the latter being the heavier, weighing 900 lbs. each. Both mills are crushing about 250 tons of rock daily; they were run with regularity during the past year and crushed in the aggregate about 80,000 tons of ore. Connected with the mills are forty Frue concentrators for saving sulphurets. The company has recently constructed chlorination works, and every department is conducted with economy and exactness, which accounts, in a great measure, for the marked success attending the operations at this mine.

A New and Remarkable Gold Deposit.

Through the courtesy of Mr. John Musson, of Sydney, New South Wales, we have received the report of Mr. R. L. Jack, of the Queensland Geological Survey, on the Mount Morgan gold deposit.

Mount Morgan is only twenty-two miles from Rockhampton, on the Fitzroy river, and not more than half that distance from the Central railroad. It is an isolated cone, rising from the plain through which runs the river Dee, the plain being flanked east and west by bluffs of Mesozoic sandstone, out of which the valley has evidently been carved down to the level of the primitive stratified rocks that now form its floor. These old shales and quartzites are riven by dikes of rhyolite; and through them have evidently come to the surface geyser springs, the deposit from which has formed the cone of Mount Morgan. The water has, besides gold, carried in solution silica, iron, alumina, etc. But the gold seems to have been precipitated chiefly in the cup of the geyser, and to be rich in a large mass of iron ore, which, in the form of an inverted cone, forms the vertical axis of the mountain, and in the nodules of iron ore that occur in certain soft cellular siliceous layers. These alternate with more or less ferruginous layers, all of which radiate, like the leaves of a fan, from the base of the cone, and include the iron ore. Gold occurs in all the layers, except

in a siliceous earth, and therefore its association with iron is certainly not accidental.

Mining is conducted by quarrying down the apex of the cone, and from an open cut 100 feet below the summit. The yield of the rock is almost fabulous. Working returns are not given; but fair samples selected by Mr. Jack gave from a quarter of an ounce to 10 ounces per ton, and others sent to the Sydney mint to be experimented on gave 85 ounces per ton. Some of the rock in these samples was selected.

Prolonged amalgamation extracts only about half the gold; but during the few months the mine was worked, prior to the publication of the memoir, the Sydney mint had received 10,000 ounces. It differed from any other gold known to commerce in that it was unalloyed with silver, assaying 99.7 per cent. of pure gold, the 0.3 per cent. being copper and iron.

A few more such mines would relieve the financial world of the apprehension it seems to be labouring under of a scarcity of gold.

It is worthy of note that the report was mailed in Sydney on January 28th, and received here on February 28th.

As might be expected, the wildest estimates of the value of this gold deposit or hill are circulating. One that we have seen gives it at about \$135,000,000.—*Engineering and Mining Journal*, N. Y.

GOLD NOTES.

The gold product of the Province of Nova Scotia from 1862 to the close of 1884 has aggregated 366,995 ounces.

The value of the gold production of the Province of British Columbia from 1853 up to the close of 1884 amounts to \$48,626,963.

Since the discovery of gold in California in 1848 up to the present time the production of that State and of Australia has been as follows: California, 1848-1884, 37 years..... \$1,200,000,000 Australia, 1851-1884, 34 years..... 1,350,000,000

In February, 1851, gold was discovered on the Macquarie River, New South Wales. This led to the working of the vast gold fields of Australia. The maximum was reached in 1852 when the Australian placers yielded \$102,000,000.

In sinking an artesian well at Savannah, clay was struck at a depth of 110 feet that yielded a large percentage of gold. Fine specimens of crystal quartz are brought up daily. A large lump of ore was found about the size of a hen's egg and containing fully 75 per cent. of silver.

Estimated stock of gold coin in the world at the time of the discovery of America in the year 1492.....	\$ 140,000,000
Gold production of the world, 1493 to 1600.....	\$20,000,000
" " " 1601 to 1700.....	628,000,000
" " " 1701 to 1800.....	1,308,800,000
" " " 1801 to 1850.....	\$16,200,000
" " " 1851 to 1883.....	4,158,350,000
Total since discovery of America.....	\$7,571,950,000
Estimated stock of gold in the world at the present time.....	\$2,750,000,000

The El Callao Mine, of Venezuela, during 1884, shipped gold bullion to Barring Iron & Co., London, to the value of \$3,475,000, out of which the share-owners received in dividends \$36 per share of their holdings, aggregating \$1,800,000. In January, 1885, this famous mine produced 8,532½ ounces of gold and paid

a dividend of \$3.33½ per share, aggregating \$107,333. In January, 1884, 12,941 ounces of gold were shipped from this mine valued at \$233,000.

On the 19th of January, 1848, James W. Marshall, while engaged in digging a race for Sutter's sawmill, at Coloma, on the American fork of the Sacramento River, found some pieces of yellow metal which he supposed to be gold. This was the first installment of over twelve hundred millions of dollars which the placers and quartz mines of California have yielded to the world. The production reached its maximum in 1853, when \$65,000,000 was produced from placer mining.

Miscellaneous Notes.

Utah's mineral product in 1884 was \$7,389,836.

The State of Nevada produced \$7,000,000 of gold and silver in 1884.

The Russian platinum mines are said to be the most valuable mines in the world.

The Comstock mines, of Nevada, produced \$180,000,000 of silver and \$145,000,000 of gold in 20 years.

It is estimated that the gold product of Queensland during the past ten years has reached \$75,000,000.

The estimated amount of anthracite coal remaining in the fields of Pennsylvania is 23,300,000,000 tons.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1884, the export of precious metals from Mexico amounted to \$33,473,283 in value.

The official return of the exportation of rough and uncut diamonds exported from the Kimberly division of the Cape of Good Hope during November, 1884, states that their weight in carats was 212,098½, and their declared value £246,875.

ASSESSMENT DIRECTORY.

(N. Y. Mining Record.)

This table is prepared from the official advertisements published by the organ of the San Francisco Stock Exchange.

[Stocks are sold in New York with assessments paid fifteen days anterior to the date of delinquency at office of the Company, as given in the table below.]

COMPANY.	When levied.	Delinquency Board.	De linq. in office.	Day of Sale.	Am't.
Excelsior W. & M.	7 Sept	2	Mar 11	Mar 11	50
Bulwer Co.	1 Jan	13 Feb	13 Feb	21 Mar	20
Independence	14 Jan	21 Feb	21 Mar	21 Mar	15
California W.M.	15 Jan	22 Feb	22 Mar	21 Mar	15
Champion	18 Jan	25 Feb	25 Mar	21 Mar	10
Bate Creek Hyd.	18 Jan	25 Feb	25 Mar	21 Mar	10
Savage	22 Feb	2 Mar	2 Mar	21 Mar	50
Bodie Tunnel	20 Feb	10 Mar	10 Mar	21 Mar	20
Jewell's Steam Co.	2 Feb	4	Mar 5	21 Mar	20
Homeward Bound	2 Feb	4	Mar 5	21 Mar	15
Goldconda	11 Feb	11	Mar 12	21 Mar	60
Belmont	11 Feb	11	Mar 12	21 Mar	15
Union Com.	23 Feb	16 Mar	16 Mar	21 Mar	15
Opbir	23 Feb	16 Mar	16 Mar	21 Mar	15
Sierra Nevada	23 Feb	16 Mar	16 Mar	21 Mar	14
Cal. Paper Co.	1 Feb	15	Mar 20	21 Mar	50
Golden Channel	1 Feb	15	Mar 20	21 Mar	11
Mexican	22 Feb	12 Mar	12 Mar	21 Mar	10
Andes	22 Feb	12 Mar	12 Mar	21 Mar	10
Hale & Norcross	31 Mar	21 Apr	21 Apr	21 Apr	10
North Star	2 Mar	5	Apr 1	May 1	10
The Tower Co.	2 Mar	11	Apr 1	May 1	10
Alaska	1 Feb	15	Apr 1	May 1	10
Sulphur	3 Feb	17	Apr 1	June 1	50