AMONG THE MINES

All Is Activity, Owing to Recent Rich Strikes in Utah and Elsewhere.

TRADE DOLLAR A CUCKOO,

Its Profits the Past Month Being Beyond Expectations.

COLORADO MINERS IN A FEVER,

The New Utah Fields Claiming About All of Their Attention.

RAILROADS WANT SOME OF THE PROFITS

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

TUCSON, Dec. 25.—The excitement over the placer grounds at the mouth of San Juan river has been increased during the past week, and all kind of stories are in circulation as to the fabulous richness of that section. About 150 seekers after gold are now on the road to the new field. Messrs. Lesser and Sawyer, merchants from Flagstaff who returned this week, say the placers are the richest ever discovered on the coast. Pay dirt is taken from the top. About 200 locations have been made, and a mining district organized, and everyone who has located a claim is working it. A mining camp of no mean proportions will be built upon the banks of the San Juan within the next 30 days.

A fact which further proves the existence of gold in quantities is that men who went from here 30 days ago have not returned, although it was their intention to return as soon as the trip could be made. The location is an isolated one, and no communication can be had except by special messenger. In the meantime people are flocking to the placers. The location is some 90 miles from the nearest railroad point. It will be well for those who contemplate going there to make provision for a hard, tedious trip, with cold weather and many hardships.

The Colorado is down 400 feet, with levels at every 100 feet. The capacity of the mine is almost equal to any demand that may be made upon it, and the only trouble has been to get teams and cars to handle the ore. The Grand Central mill of ten stamps is running, and it is paying expenses. At the old Trinidad mine, 210 miles from Torres, Sonora, Roundtree & Sons, of San Francisco, are shipping 50 tons of plumbago per month to Michigan.

A wonderful deposit of silver has been found in the Colon mine, 30 miles east of the Trinidad, on the Yecora river, a branch of the Yaqui. The deposit is large and is 70 per cent silver.

The slump in silver has had the effect of shutting down the Silver Belt mine and mill. The owners seem to prefer to wait for higher prices rather than sacrifice their output in paying excessive freights, treatment rates, and standing the discount.

Charles Dussard, who was in from the Pioneer district this week, reports that many chloriders of that camp are doing well.

COLORADO IN A FEVER.

The Recent Strikes in Utah Rouse Everybody to a High Pitch.

DENVER, Dec. 25.—[*Special.*]—Colorado has once again caught the gold fever, and the excitement is unprecedented since the days of Leadville's great discoveries. Hundreds are leaving almost daily for the scene, which is in southeastern Utah, both in the Henry Mountains and from the mouth of the San Juan River, 40 miles from the Arizona line, 50 miles up the course of the stream. It is 59 miles west of Durango.

A wagon road has been built and freighters are said to be coining money, their prices being as exorbitant as in the days of early mining booms. Dispatches intimate that the Denver and Rio Grande is surveying a railroad into the new Eldorado, while the Rio Grande Western has arranged to run a steamboat down Green river, within 30 miles of the place. It is said that over 3,000 men are already on the scene, with hundreds starting daily from various points in Colorado, Utah and New Mexico.

An Excellent Winter Camp.

The new territory is a good winter camp, with but little cold weather and no snow. It has an altitude of about 3,000 feet. The claims already located lie in a deep canon, 2,500 feet below the general surface of the country, and there is at present but one trail by which goods are packed down to the camp. It costs ten cents a pound to get freight hauled in and about $35 for the privilege of riding on a lumber wagon, with the condition attached of walking up hills. One company is said to have sufficient confidence to invest $500,000 in placing proper machinery; it claims this is for working on a scale commensurate with the extent and value of its claims.

Creede continues to keep up its reputation as a first-class camp. A five-foot vein of amethyst quartz carrying native silver has been struck in the Yellow Jacket. Assays average from 250 to 375 ounces. A new vein has been opened in Sparlodes. It is five feet of quartz, assaying from 40 to 60 ounces. Cleopatra has made another strike of high grade ore, and the property is rapidly meeting with as much success as has characterized the Amethyst, Holy Moses and Last Chance.

Some Very High Grade Struck.

The Little Maid and Kreutzer Sonata struck some high grade ore during the week, and operations are being actively prosecuted. Prospectors have struck a vein of hematite and manganese running 85 per cent in iron. A five-foot vein of amethyst has been struck between the Eclat and Nancy Hanks.

Cripple Creek is agitated over a project to tunnel Bull mountain by an electric tramway. If carried into operation, this enterprise would pierce the richest portion of the camp at a depth of 1,200 feet from the summit. The Thespian mine at Leadville, that has been closed for several weeks, has resumed operations.

The Scotia strike has exceeded expectations. Samples of it show a value of $10,000 per ton. A new tunnel is to be built into the mountains near Idaho Springs. The company has been incorporated for $5,000,000, and proposes to cut through Seaton's richest veins into Nevadaville.

LIVELY TIMES IN NEW MEXICO.

Plenty of Water at Silver City and Operations Are Progressing.

SILVER CITY, N. M., Dec. 25.—[*Special.*]—The Pacific Gold Company is making preparations to start up the Pacific mill again. There is plenty of water here now, and the Pacific mill will be running in a few days. The company will continue to operate the Mountain Key mill under a lease, the output of the mill being sufficient to keep both mills running. The capacity of both mills is 90 to 95 tons of ore a day. The output of the Silver Creek district is larger now than it has ever been before. There has been shipped from the Maud S. mill considerably over a ton of bullion within the past two months. The bullion produced is gold and silver, in the proportion of about $2 in silver to $1 in gold.

Shipments of ore have been commenced again from Tres Hermanas district, but the production of the mines there is not large, and shipments are mostly confined to small lots of high grade ore, which are shipped to the smelters.

Since the decline in the price of lead the shipments of ore from Cook's Peak, the largest lead-producing camp in New Mexico, have fallen off considerably. The new concentrator at the Stephenson-Bennett mine in the Organ mountains is nearly completed, and will be ready for operation in the early part of January. There is a large amount of ore already for treatment. It will be concentrated at the rate of 50 tons a day. The output of the Hillsborough gold mine is now over 400 tons a week, and a still further increase in the amount of ore produced is looked for. Next to Pinos Altos and White Oaks this is the largest gold producing camp in New Mexico. The Silver Creek district is not far behind, but it has not been so steady a producer as Hillsborough. At Kingston there are more men at work than there were last year at this time, and work is to be resumed on some of the leading properties there in a few weeks. The construction of a new quartz mill will soon be commenced near Animas Peak, about two miles from the Homestake mine.

GOOD REPORTS FROM IDAHO.

The Trade Dollar the Best Paying Mine in the State.

IDAHO CITY, IDAHO, Dec., 25.—[*Special.*]—The Red Cloud mine on Wood river has been obliged to close down temporarily on account of lack of fuel. Two storms in succession so filled the road with snow that it is impossible to get wood to the mine until they are opened. The mines on Wood river have done very well this year, notwithstanding the low price of silver. The reports of the sampling works show an increase of 1,100 tons over that of last year. The Red Cloud and Caledonian mines, near Hailey, are both sinking their shafts at the rate of 1½ feet per day. The ore from the Star mine is shipped direct to Salt Lake. They have the concentrators running and have opened up two very large rich ore bodies. The French group on Deer creek is showing up splendidly. The North Star, owned by the Philadelphia Company, is yielding large quantities of ore, and the smelters will be blown in on January 20. The Helena and 'Frisco Mining Company, operating in Shoshone county, has filed with the Board of County Commissioners a claim of upward of $50,000 on account of damages in the destruction of the mill in the riots at Jomm in July last. Many other mining companies lost heavily on account of the riots, but whether any other suits will be instituted against the counties or State is not known. The Mountain Queen mine and 20-stamp mill at Pioneer have closed down until spring.

The Trade Dollar at Silver City is one of the best paying mines in the State. For the month of November the profits were $44,181. Owners of new prospects on Castle creek are busy developing them. Machinery has been ordered and work will commence soon on a smelter and concentrator for the Idaho Mining Company at Wardner.

DELAYED BY THE STORM.

Ft. Wayne Suburban Patrons Want the Depots Kept Open at Night—The Heavy Snowfall Delays Trains—Not Many Persons Traveling on Christmas Day.

The trains on the Pennsylvania road were badly knocked out again last evening. The St. Louis express was about an hour late, and the Columbia, from New York, was behind about two hours. The trains from Cleveland and Chicago were on time. The snowstorm was responsible for the trouble. It was noticed that travel was light. The Pullman sleepers came in almost empty, and went out with few passengers. Nobody was traveling except those who had to, and it will be cold and dreary for the porters this morning who will look in vain for extra Christmas trips.

Complaints are also made about the suburban trains on the Ft. Wayne running behind schedule time. Last evening the Leetsdale accommodation, with a clear track, lost about 25 minutes in making the trip to the city. The snow at many of the stations had drifted on the platforms, and patrons growled because the depot men had not removed it. It isn't pleasant to wade in snow knee deep to reach the trains. At many of the small stations between the city and Sewickley the agents are in the habit of locking up the waiting room early and going to bed. Passengers for the late trains are compelled to face the nipping wind that sweeps along the river, and when the accommodations are 30 minutes late, as they have been many times recently, they are nearly frozen by the time the train arrives. As the stations are made to house people while waiting for trains, the public feels that the waiting rooms should be kept open until the last suburban trains in the evening have passed.

THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY.

Smoky City Panes Show Fantastic Faces in a Western Church.

Letters received from Canton, Minn., to a local manufacturer explain the so-called miraculous faces visible in a certain window of a Canton church. Since last August the people of that place have been amazed by the appearances of mysterious shadows, but clearly visible faces on the church window panes. The faithful became impressed, and the strange window was known as the "miracle corner."

The panes of this window are of a smoky character, and under certain oblique rays of the sun the smoky forms clearly outline faces that seem to peer from within. As the sun's rays increase and the light falls on the window from another direction, those faces change in expression, but continue to stare at the passers by, so the wonder of the people grew until a glass expert made an examination. He found that the images on the panes were a peculiarity of their formation. Instead of purchasing finely finished glass from the Pittsburg house the pastor of the church had bought the cheapest grade of unpolished, wavy, smoky glass. As a result the fantastic faces were only woven in the mind's eye of the people by the smoky waves falling into certain lines. The expert washed the glass with alcohol and defied even the most faithful to find the faces which, of course, they could not do until the alcohol had dried, when they reappeared, but forever shorn of any idea of Divine origin.

Fire in a Livery Stable.

An alarm from box 36, at 9:45 last night, was caused by a fire in the stables of Kleber & Bro., in the rear of the county jail. Eight head of horses, which were in the building, were taken out in safety although it was reported that four had been burned to death. Considerable difficulty was experienced in fighting the fire, owing to frozen plugs, and it was fully ten minutes before a stream was turned on. The loss will be about $500, fully insured.

It Wasn't Sheriff Martin.

BEAVER FALLS, Dec. 25.—[*Special.*]—The reports from Darlington last night stated that Sheriff Imbrie Martin had been struck by a train, and was dying. The message should have read Powers Martin, instead of Imbrie Martin. Mr. Martin died about midnight. He was 62 years of age, and leaves a family of eight children. Mr. Martin was highly respected, and was well-known throughout this vicinity.

A Fireman Seriously Hurt.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Dec. 25.—Fireman George W. McNeil was seriously, if not fatally, injured to-day while driving the chemical to a fire by the engine overturning at a steep embankment and crushing him under it. His shoulder was torn and dislocated and serious internal injuries were sustained.

A MISSION MISSING.

Speculation in Official Circles Over the Argentinians,

WHO HAVE A MATTER TO SETTLE,

And in Which President Harrison is to Act as Arbitrator.

HISTORY OF THE QUESTION IN DISPUTE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Some speculation is going on in official circles over the whereabouts of the Commissioners of the Argentine Republic, appointed to represent that country in the matter of the settlement of the Missiones boundary, which is in controversy with Brazil. The Brazilian commissioners have arrived in New York and are awaiting the appearance of the Argentine delegation, which has been expected for some time. News of their leaving Buenos Ayres reached the United States some time ago, and it is supposed they are spending the holiday season in Europe. When they come, arrangements will be made for presenting the merits of the controversy to the President of the United States, to whom the two countries have referred it for decision.

This case is the direct outgrowth of sessions of the Pan-American Congress of 1889-90. After that body adopted resolutions in favor of compulsory arbitration as an expedient in averting war, Brazil was almost the first State to act upon the high moral policy which had been proclaimed. It not only exerted its influence strongly in favor of the negotiation of arbitration treaties which should have binding force upon American States, but also in its new Constitution it expressly prohibits wars of conquest.

Memories of the Spanish Conquest.

The Missiones question revives memories of the Spanish conquest. For 150 years the Jesuits enjoyed undisputed ascendency in Paraguay. They reduced the Indian language to a written idiom, taught the natives the rudiments of wood carving and European agriculture, planted orange groves, cultivated yerba tea, built model villages and governed the country on humane principles.

No more wonderful work was ever done by Christian missionaries than that of the Jesuits in the Upper Parana and in the region now known as the Missiones. When the expulsion of the Jesuits was decreed they offered no resistance, but quietly left the country which they had governed for so long a time. In the course of a single generation a population of 150,000 employed in various industries abandoned the plantations and relapsed into barbarism. Then followed the reign of The Monster and a war of extermination. In a heart-rending struggle against three stronger States a simple-minded people endured manifold sufferings for the sake of a tyrant who had murdered his mother, brothers, rivals and allies. They fought for the oppressor until he himself was dead in the forests and three-fourths of their heroic warriors were slain.

A Frontier Question to Settle.

The victorious coalition, including Brazil, the Argentine Republic and Uruguay, retired from the old Jesuit mission ground with an unsettled frontier question which has continued to excite suspicion and jealousy during years of secret intrigue.

The establishment of the Brazilian Republic was followed by an era of good feeling. President Feodora's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bacayuva, went to Montevideo and Buenos Ayres on a mission of peace, and while the convention which he made was subsequently condemned by the Brazilian Congress, the question has been finally submitted to the President of the United States for arbitration.

A memorial of a former exercise of similar offices existed in the opposite quarter of Paraguay, where one of the cities is named Villa Hayes in honor of the American President who acted as arbitrator in dividing the Gran Chaco between disputing powers. His successor now has the responsible office of adjudicating national titles to the working fields of the historic Jesuits and the battle grounds of one of the strangest wars in history.

COMFORTS FOR CHILDREN.

Distribution of Shoes and Clothing in Homestead This Morning.

At 9 o'clock this morning, in the rooms of 355 Sixth avenue, corner of McClure avenue, Homstead, the further distribution of goods from THE DISPATCH fund will be continued. Nothing but necessities for children will be given away in the shape of clothing, shoes, etc., and parochial and district teachers will be present to see that the most needy children receive their dues.

SHOT HIS BROTHER.

But Lon Law Did It Defending His Mother From Abuse.

SHELBYVILLE, IND., Dec. 25.—Late this evening Lon Law, who resides with his father, James Law, at Marietta, this county, came to the city and surrendered to the Sheriff, stating that he had shot his brother Frank with a rifle.

He claims that the brother had been abusing his mother, and he had warned him that unless he desisted he would kill him. The bullet took effect in the groin and is probably fatal.