

7-23-1897

The Black Range, 07-23-1897

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THE BLACK RANGE,

Published Every Friday at Chloride, Sierra County, New Mexico.

Friday, July 23rd, 1897.

A., T. & S. F. Time Table.

ENGLI.
No. 1 going south dep. 7:30 a. m.
No. 2 going east dep. 2:45 p. m.
E. J. WESTERVELT, Agt.

Chloride Post-Office.

Mail arrives 6:15 P. M. Departs, 5:30 A. M.
MARK O. THOMPSON, P. M.

METAL MARKET.

New York, July 21.—Silver, 59 3/4.
Lead, \$3.45. Copper castings, 10 1/2 c.

LOCAL NEWS.

Grasshoppers are unusually abundant this summer.

John Saucier is doing the lower portion of the county.

Mrs. Chas. Bishop visited at the McLaughan ranch this week.

Naverick branding is getting some people into trouble in Grant county.

Stockmen are gathering cattle to be delivered at the railroad next week.

Through the agency of copious rains mother earth is mantled with a beautiful coat of green.

Austin Crawford is in from San Marcial. He is doing assessment work on his mining claims in this district.

An eclipse of the sun is billed to occur July 20. The solar exhibition will commence at 6:15 and will last two hours.

It is reported that a cloud burst occurred below Grafton doing considerable damage to John Yapple's house. Fences and corrals were swept away by the flood.

The Case Bros. and Caldwell have taken a six months' lease on the Albatros owned by Mark Thompson and Lew Kruse. The boys are moving up to the property to-day.

Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Nattress and Train Dispatcher Leicham and wife, of San Marcial, arrived here the early part of this week. They have come to enjoy an outing of two or three weeks' duration.

"Prosperity" has arrived. That is, sometime between 12 o'clock Saturday night and Sunday morning, some enterprising person "opened up a grocery business" by plundering Dr. Wegmann's store and appropriating some thirty pounds of coffee, a quantity of sugar, one ham and a liberal amount of brandy. Entrance was gained by a window in the store-room. The doctor feels confident that he rightly suspicions the perpetrator of the deed.

The commissioners of Sierra and Grant counties refused to make appropriations for the New Mexico exhibit at the Tennessee exhibition, for the reason that the finances of the counties would not justify such appropriations. This is the first time in the history of Sierra and Grant that these counties have refused to liberally respond to financially aid the advertising of their products. Their failure to respond is a sad-eyed commentary of "prosperity" now being doled out to the people by the present goldite administration.

It is reliably reported that Indians have already commenced slaughtering game. Stockmen in from the plains report having seen Indians encamped in the Adobe ranch country with dead deer and antelope in their possession. There is a strict game law prohibiting the killing of wild game out of season and the white man who violates it is subject to severe punishment. The law should be applied to the law-breaking Indian. It is the duty of law-respecting citizens to see to it that the law is enforced.

A Phoenix, Arizona, dispatch of the 17th, says: James Stevens, the imprisoned miner, who was rescued from the Mammoth mine this morning after an imprisonment of fourteen days. At 7 o'clock this morning, at a depth of 125 feet, the miners broke into the drift where Stevens had been confined. Stevens was fearfully emaciated and had lost seventy pounds during his confinement, but his mind is clear. He had eaten lunch before the cave-in came and had since nothing to eat. Of water he had a gallon, which lasted three days. His candles lasted two days, during which he managed to open up connection with filled in stone, thus securing purer air.

Navajos Guard Their Treasures

Word comes from the northern part of the territory that the famous long sought for Adams diggings have been found. Two prospectors brought the news into Prescott, and claim to be the heroes of quite an exciting tale. The mine of fabled richness is said to be located on the Colorado and New Mexico border, and these two prospectors while traveling southward camped one night on the edge of the Navajo reservation. In the morning, while out hunting their horses, they found the partially burned remains of a cabin and stray bits of utensils and paraphernalia usually carried by wandering gold searchers. The ruins were situated on a level piece of ground near the mouth of a very deep canon, and in a northwesterly direction from a saddle shaped mountain. The character of rock in the vicinity led them to begin prospecting for gold and the result convinced them that they were at or near a marvelously rich ledge. Within the space of four hours they had washed out in a pan over four ounces of gold, some of the nuggets being as large as grains of corn.

The prospectors were preparing to begin operations on a larger scale when they were visited by four Navajo Indians, who quietly but firmly warned them not to proceed with their labors, but to leave the spot at once. The Indians then accompanied the prospectors to the limits of the reservation and bade them never to return, intimating that men had lost their lives in the past because they had disregarded this injunction. The prospectors came at once to the old Warm Springs reservation, where they exhibited their gold as proof of the story they related. A small party of prospectors is now being made up to push their way into the hospitable country, but the Indians will have the law on their side if the mine is found to be within the limits of the reservation.—Denver Ref.

SACRED PIGEONS OF VENICE.

Tons of Grain Required to Care for the Doves of St. Mark's Church.

It may be of interest, says the St. Louis Republic, to such the readers as like to sentimentalize on sacred subjects to know that the "Holy Pigeons of St. Mark's" have been recognized as such by the authorities of Venice for more than a thousand years—ever since the year 877. In olden times it was the custom of the sacristans of St. Mark's church to release doves and pigeons, fettered with paper, after the religious services of Palm Sunday. The paper fetters partially disabled the poor birds, and such of those as did not escape were caught by the people, who fattened them for Easter dinner. Sometimes one and sometimes a dozen of the poor, fluttering creatures would manage to break the paper thongs which bound wings and feet together, whereupon they almost invariably sought refuge on the roof and in the steeples of the historic old church. All of the escaped birds assumed a certain sacredness, and, it being against the law to kill or harm them in any way, increased to enormous numbers. During the time of the republic the "Sacred Pigeons of St. Mark's" became objects of national solicitude, tons of grain being annually supplied for their maintenance. After the fall of the republic thousands of them starved to death and all would have died but for provision made by a pious old lady, whose will perpetually provides for them.

A Breathing Well.

In San Luis Obispo county, Cal., there is a gas well whose strange conduct is described by a correspondent. The well is 6 inches in diameter and 350 feet deep. During settled weather it blows out gas for three hours, and then sucks in air for an equal period of time, and this regular breathing continues without interruption until a change of weather. Before a storm, when the barometer is falling, the time during which the well expires gas is greatly increased, and sometimes the outbreathing continues for 24 hours. After the passage of the storm, and with the barometer rising, the inhalation of air is similarly prolonged. If the air is shut off when an inhalation is about to take place, the gas afterward ceases to flow, so that the well must be allowed to perform its regular breathing in order to continue its yield of gas. An automatic valve has been placed at the mouth of the well to permit the ingress of air, and when the opening is restricted the inward suction causes a loud sound, as if the well served for nostrils to a subterranean monster afflicted with snoring.—Science.

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Yours Respectfully, P. H. MARRIOTT,

Pastor C. P. Church, Clayton, Ark.

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NEW YORK DISPATCH. EST. 1848. The largest and most interesting weekly newspaper published in the United States. Voted Fascinating Stories, Sketches, and Adventure, News, Gossip, and department articles relating to Masonic, Grand Army, and Fire Organizations. The New York Dispatch, in addition bears a popular weekly story and family newspaper claims to be the most aggressive in its political advocacy of pure and unadulterated American ideas in politics, and is the only newspaper published in New York City that has consistently and fearlessly advocated FREE AND UNLIMITED COINAGE OF SILVER. After the great bimetallic mass meeting held in New York, the chairman of a committee of arrangements sent the following letter to the Dispatch: New York, August 25, 1894. Editor New York Dispatch: DEAR SIR—The committee of arrangements who had charged of the mass meeting of bimetallicists, held at Cooper Union last evening, desire to express their appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the cause of bimetallicism by the New York Dispatch, and embraces this opportunity to thank you for your and your generous efforts to promote the public well being by advocating the cause of the money of the Constitution, which always has and always must be the money of the people. I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, yours, JOHN G. BOYD, Chairman. Yearly subscription \$2.50 Six months " 1.25 Three months " .65 Send postal card for sample copy and premium list. Sample copies mailed free of charge. Address, NEW YORK DISPATCH, 111 Nassau Street, New York.

Sierra County.

(Taken from Statistics Compiled by the Bureau of Immigration.)

Sierra county is situated in south central New Mexico, being bounded on the north and east by Socorro county (out of which it was mainly taken); on the south by Dona Ana county and on the west by Grant and Socorro counties. The principal meridian of New Mexico forms its eastern boundary for 48 miles. The summit of the Black Range is the western limit. If not very large in extent, averaging fifty-four miles from north to south, and about the same from east to west, 3,376 square miles, the county has a diversified topography. In the extreme east are large plains; then a system of mountain ranges, running from north to south, along the east bank of the Rio Grande (Sierra Fa Cristobal and Caballo) and at their western base that river, leaving about one-third of the area of the county on the eastern bank. On the west side plains, interrupted here and there by prominences extend to the foot hills of the Black Range for from twenty to thirty miles while finally that range occupies the westernmost portion. Sloping, not only from north to south, but also from the northeast to southwest, the drainage is well defined. With the exception of a few creeks, in the uttermost northwest corner, which flow westward into the Rio Gila, all streams flow southeast, into the Rio Grande. The beds of these streams, approaching their mouths, are worn deep into the plains.

Elevations, in the northern part of the county, vary from 1,484 (Fest's Ferry) to 5,177 (Alamosa), 6,540 (Canada Alamosa), to 8,045 (Nail's Pass, from the Rio Grande, to the western boundary in the northern part from 4,000 (Rio Grande, above Rincon), to 4,689 (above Nutt station), 5,224 (Hillsborough), 7,494 (Berrenda spring), to 7,574 (Hendrick's Peak). On the east side of the Rio Grande, the plains gradually descend from 4,720 (below Lava station) to 4,342 feet above Grama, in a distance of forty-eight miles. There are springs scattered over this eastern part of the country, and that water can be obtained by sinking tubular wells, there is no doubt. As a proof that water exists, the railroad well, at Upham station, (formerly Martin's well) may be mentioned. The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe road runs through the entire length of this part of the country, skirting it also around its southern limits, and making connection, at Nutt station, with Lake Valley, by a northerly branch of 13 miles.

Stage lines connect the country across the Rio Grande, starting from Engle station, to Cuchillo Negro, Chloride, Fairview and Grafton, or in the south from Lake Valley to Hillsborough, Kingston, Pearce City and Hermosa which latter, also, can be reached from Engle, via Cuchillo Negro.

The western part of the county is well watered by creeks and streams. In the northwest corner, eight or nine creeks empty into the Gila, on the west side of the Black Range. On the east side are, heading in the Black Range, Alamosa creek, having a south easterly course, with Alamosa (Monticello) the principal town.

Rio Cuchillo Negro; its upper course is formed by Poverty, Pine, Bear, Mineral, Dry and Chloride creeks and South Fork. There are, in the Range, the following towns: Grafton, Fairview, Chloride and Hermosa. Cuchillo Negro is in the lower valley.

Rio Palomas, Rio Seco and Rio Animas creeks are of the same origin and the same general course.

Rio Percha waters, with several heads, Percha City, Kingston and Hillsborough.

The county is well divided into the valley, mesa and mountain land embracing a considerable section of the Rio Grande valley, where agriculture is followed; wherever openings in the valleys of the different affluents afford room enough to do so, agricultural pursuits are followed.

Being well watered, the pasturage lands are fully available, and the stock interests are in good condition.

The main interests of Sierra county are centered in the mines.

The principal mining districts are: Apache, Black Range, Cuchillo Negro, Kingston, Hermosa, Animas, Hillsborough, Percha and Lake Valley.

The center of Apache mining district is Chloride; in Chloride gulch Fry creek, Mineral creek, Bear creek, and others, silver-bearing copper ores, bornites, occur, which are rich, \$100 per ton or more, and secure large returns to those who own and work their mines in a regulated manner. Igneous rocks are frequent; on the contact lines between them and other formations, shoshonites occur.

While the ores along the main portion of the Black Range most occur

on contact line, between limestone and porphyry and trachyte, argentiferous copper ores also occur between porphyry and lime, the ores being sulphides, oxides, and some iron.

Hermosa, Kingston, Percha, Hillsborough and Lake Valley ores are rich and easy to reduce.

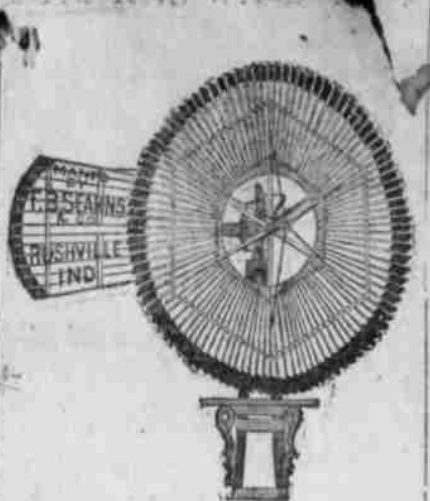
Hillsborough is the county seat; the principal towns are Kingston, Lake Valley, Chloride, Fairview, Hermosa, Grafton, Palomas, Cuchillo, and Monticello. The latter three are in the agricultural sections of the country, whereas the former are mostly supported by the mining industry.

Sierra, although one of the youngest counties in New Mexico, is a prosperous and progressive one. Magnificent chances for investment are offered there, the capitalist, the stock-grower, the miner, the farmer and the horse-seeker.

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