

Platinum, and its associate metals, are known to exist, and two or three small diamonds have been discovered.

CONCLUSION.

A State which numbers amongst her productions an annual yield of \$25,000,000, and upwards, in gold; nearly 50,000 flasks of quicksilver; between eighty and ninety thousand tons of coal; twenty-five to thirty thousand tons of copper ore; six hundred tons of borax, and two thousand five hundred tons of sulphur, with capacity for great expansion—to say nothing of the production of asphaltum, petroleum, clays, etc.—needs no rhetoric to embellish the brilliant array of her mineral resources. They speak the irrefragable logic of facts, and bear living witness, not only to the wealth of her prolific bosom, but also to the energy and enterprise of her population.

From 1848 to 1866, a period of only eighteen years, there has been a gratifying increase in the products of the stable mineral industries. The year 1853 saw the greatest yield from the superficial placers, which are now, in the older counties, pretty thoroughly exhausted. Naturally, there is required a longer time to build up the machinery, sink the shafts, and prepare the quartz mines for a production comparable to that of the placers. But, once constructed and set to work with becoming energy, skill, and prudence, a permanent annual yield of \$25,000,000 from this source profits the State far more than the fitful yield of far greater sums from repositories which must inevitably very soon become dried up.

That mining investments, under proper supervision as to location of mine, management, etc., are not to be considered a precarious source of revenue, let us examine the results obtained from a careful calculation of the profits from legitimate mining enterprises, as compared with those derived from railways, canals, water works, navigation, gas, dock, and land companies, held in the City of London.* It was found that the average annual returns from the latter class of investments were three and seven-eighths per cent. on the average selling price, while the three hundred and fifty mines in the Mining Share List, including copper, lead, and tin, divided annually thirteen and one-half per cent., thus showing that sound mining adventures pay, on the average, more than three times as much as is derived from all other species of investments.

However gratifying may be the exhibit of the mineral productions of the State in the past, it is to be looked upon only as an earnest for the future. With denser population, cheaper labor, more secure title, and extension of the means of easy communication, we may confidently anticipate a still better, because safer, field of enterprise for capital, and a vigorous and healthful development of all our resources.

QUARTZ MILLS.

The number of quartz mills in operation in this State in April, 1857, was one hundred and thirty-eight, with an aggregate of fifteen hundred and twenty-one stamps; the cost of erection of which was one million seven hundred and sixty-three thousand dollars. The number in operation, November, 1858, was two hundred and seventy-nine, with an average of two thousand six hundred and ten stamps; the cost of erection of which was three million two hundred and seventy thousand dollars. The number in operation, January 1st, 1867, is four hundred and eleven, of which two hundred and seven are propelled by steam, one hundred and eighty-six by water, and eighteen by steam and water. The cost of machinery is estimated at five million nine hundred thousand dollars. In addition to the stamps here enumerated, there are employed four hundred and nineteen arrastras, of which three hundred and fifty are connected with different quartz mills, and the remainder are employed in different sections of the quartz region. Included in this estimate are thirty-five cement mills, viz: in El Dorado County, six; in Nevada County, twenty; and in Placer County, nine—which are distinguished in the table by an asterisk. (*)

* London Mining Journal, August 11th, 1866.

WITH

ALP
Marklee
Silver M

AMAD
Amador

Gilston.

Drytown

Fiddletov
Jackson.

Lower Ra
Pine Grov
Rancheria
Sutter Cr

Volcano..

BUTTE
Cherokee I
Jordan...
Oregon Cl
Oregon Gu
Virginia..
Yankee Hi

CALAVERA
Altaville..
Angels Car

Angel Croc
Camp Flor
Carson Cro

* In estimate
or the amount