

THE EVENING NEWS.

Tuesday, Aug. 2, 1874.

PIOCHE NOTES.

From the Record, Aug. 28—
Night before last, about 12 o'clock, a heavy blast was put off in a mine that is being sunk from one of the lower levels of the Summit shaft (Meadow Valley). After the explosion one of the men, George Lovering, descended, but came up no rock and made no discovery; another went down and down to what was the mother. He, too, was perfectly silent, and for so long that the third, Thomas Stickle, descended to ascertain what was the cause of this unaccountable silence. This for a time was the idea of him; Stickle, however, after a short time, discovered that something was wrong and went down to the mine. On reaching the bottom all three men were found insensible. The alarm was given, and medical assistance sent for. The men were raised first to the level and then to the surface, where Dr. Bergatin was successful in reviving them. He was successful, but all three are still very sick, especially George Lovering, who was longer exposed to the deleterious gas than the others. The cause of the sudden asphyxiation of the miners is supposed to be going down too soon after the explosion, and before the toxicous vapor of the giant powder had been allowed to dissipate.

We read by the telegraphic dispatches that some post-office Muggins, of the usual thick-headed stamp of official appointments, reports to the Post-office Department that the mail service is satisfactory. Like most officials he says it is, we suppose, for pure cussedness, just because it is not. The condition of the route to this place, between Palisade and Eureka, is most unsatisfactory. Somebody got a contract for that service at a price that would seem to have been paid for the route and keep it in repair, and the result is that thousands of people in Eureka, Hamilton and Pioche are inconvenienced, annoyed and suffer loss just because the mail lettings are conducted in an absurd and ridiculous fashion, that would be a disgrace to any business-house and worse to the business-housemen. If they were too far gone for anything to have an effect upon them. No doubt they care very little about the convenience of communities living in an outlandish sagebrush country, but that very carelessness shows how unfit they are for their positions. We plead guilty, but cannot help it, in view of the annoyances caused by a parcel of red-tape gumpers who ought to be driving an ox team instead of finding positions at the national capital.

Bicycle Race.

On Monday last, says the London Times of Aug. 8th, the race for the captaincy and sub-captaincy of the Middlesex Bicycle Club took place from Bath to London—a distance of one hundred and six miles. The race was made from the front of the Abbey, and all the competitors were up to time. Mr. Spencer, who accompanied the race, started them at eight minutes past five o'clock, and, owing to the great number of people assembled, there was some difficulty in passing through the crowd. In a few moments, however, the race was very sharp. Walter and Tyne were leading. Some of the competitors had to dismount and walk up Box Hill. They all passed through Chippingham at the rate of fourteen miles an hour, and Caine, nineteen miles an hour, in less than a half hour. They passed through the following order: Walker, Leaver, True, Percy, Goulding, Spencer and Pearce. No stoppage was made until Marlborough was reached, (thirty-two miles.) Walker, Tyne, Leaver coming in together, the distance being got over in two and three-quarters hours. In second place Sparrow and Goulding from Marlborough to Newbury (eighteen miles) Walker and Tyne led the way. At Hungerford, Goulding's machine gave way through striking a large projecting stone while on a down hill. After attempting to repair it he got as far as Thatcham, where he was compelled to take the train to London. Walker and Tyne performed the journey from Bath to Newbury (fifty miles) in four and three-quarter hours. Leaver and Percy were making good time as far as Woolhampton, but soon after Leaver dropped behind, and was overtaken by Spencer at Reading. Walker soon after made a spurt, and Tyne saw no more of him. At Twyford Spencer overhauled Percy, and they had a smart race as far as Colnbrook, where Percy stopped to rest. The arrival at the club-room in Kentish Town, London, was at 12:45. True, 51½; Spencer, 51½; Percy, 65½; Leaver, 75. Walker was somewhat jaded at Hounslow, but, upon his arrival at the goal, he started, after a few minutes rest, to meet the remainder of the competitors. The time made by Walker is one hour less than the fastest time ever made in a bicycle race. The journey from London to Bath is also the best bicycle travelling on record, the pace of the winner exceeded ten and a half miles per hour, including stoppages. Mr. Spencer, the starter, although up and down for many years ago, followed the competitor on his bicycle and performed the whole journey in fifteen hours, including stoppages.

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