

## THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

### THE MINES OF UTAH.

The vitality of the mining industry of this State must be very great, or it would not continue as it has been and is doing under circumstances as unfavorable as hostile laws made the most of by conscienceless jockeys can make them. Not only does it continue the face of these discouragements, but it constantly exhibits a marked increase. The reports from the mining districts, with but a few exceptions, show a steady advance all along the line; the output increases, the character of the ores improves, new finds are of daily occurrence, and all this with but one of the standard metals that is not subjected to a steady downward tendency—gold.

Utah's mineral wealth cannot at this time be computed. There is but a small fraction of her mines which have as yet been developed sufficiently to show just how extensive and how rich they are. It should be remembered while considering the subject that the best mines are the deep ones; that nature has guarded her treasures in such a manner that few of them indeed are found lying near the surface or in pleasant places; and that the more difficulty encountered in exposing the metal-bearing ores to the light of day and dragging them from their primeval hiding places, the more extensive and more profitable they are likely to be. Keeping this in view, and considering that great development here is the exception many degrees removed from the rule, a reiteration of the statement is admissible that the wealth contained in Utah's mines is not to be computed; more, it is not even to be guessed at for the double reason that owing to the situation referred to—want of development—there is no basis upon which to predicate even an approximation, and the undoubted fact that but a small percentage of the ledges or deposits bearing mineral wealth have yet been discovered.

In many places within our border are groups of locations showing well in minerals with development running all the way from a rabbit's burrow to an excavation of a hundred feet or such a matter. In nearly every case these are owned by men who are unable to carry on the work, this not because there is nothing to work on that will yield returns, but principally because holes in the ground cannot be made to a considerable depth without the aid of machinery, this meaning in turn capital in hand, not prospectively; in other words it takes money to get money. Even then, there is not much gained unless the work is carried on by or under the direction of men of experience and good judgment. Most of the failures that occur in the mining business are owing to one or another, sometimes to all, of the causes previously set out, and but rarely to the inadequacy of nature to compensate the worker. With the necessary ability which comes of training in the proper channels, a barren or unprofitable lead will not be

followed at all, so that when one is followed with the necessary backing, successes would be more frequent and failures much fewer.

A brisk mining season is looked for this year. Not only, as stated, are new finds being made, but properties which have been in a state of desuetude for years are to be operated vigorously. This is promised particularly in Lincoln district, Beaver county, a mention of which attracts attention for the reason that it is the first ever organized in Utah and contains the pioneer mine of the whole commonwealth—the Rollins Lead mine, of later years renamed the Lincoln. In this district are shafts and tunnels from which millions of dollars' worth of the precious metals have been extracted and where, according to the testimony of those who claim to know whereof they speak, many times more can be taken out. Misfortunes are noted for coming in squads, and in this case the whole series seems to have beleaguered old Lincoln district for a long time past. Mismanagement, bad work, ignorance, extravagance, poverty, litigation, water here, impenetrable dykes there—everything but lack of necessary veins and deposits, which are abundant and contain of the best—have been the portion of that afflicted section. But the end of all this is now foreshadowed; capital is promised, and with capital will come intelligent, persistent, systematic work.

What is true of Lincoln is doubtless true of other districts, and it is a hope that all will receive the needed attention. Those stores of precious metals were not placed in the ribs and caverns of the everlasting hills for the purpose of having them remain there; let them then be made to subserve the aim and end of their creation—the comforting and adorning of the family of man.

### THE FAITH WHICH HEALS.

The Medical Record, in its latest issue to hand, discusses editorially "The Faith which Heals." It takes up the recent republication to the Progress Medical of one of the last of Charcot's essays, and says that in it the question of faith healing as a legitimate therapeutic measure is discussed calmly and judiciously; that the aim of the physician being the cure of disease, anything by means of which this end can be reached is worthy of scientific study; that the fact, which admits of no doubt, that many persons, condemned by competent physicians to a life of incurable suffering, have been cured by means of prayer, led Charcot to investigate the subject, with the view of determining if possible the extent and limitations of the therapeutic miracle; that he does not pretend that science is yet in position to explain all the puzzling facts embraced under the general term miraculous, but he holds that the frontiers of the supernatural in the therapeutic miracle are steadily receding, and he doubts not that eventually the complete

evolution of what but a few years ago was one unfathomable mystery will be reached.

The Record then cites some remarkable cases where physicians have failed to give relief or stay the progress of virulent diseases, some of them of many years' standing, but where the exercise of faith in the patient and by others has accomplished the cure which medical skill could not reach. It is admitted that "the more we investigate the facts of faith healing, the more evident it is that this mode of cure obeys natural laws;" also that, "in suitable subjects the influence of the mind on the body is sufficiently powerful to bring about recovery from maladies which, but a short time ago, owing to our ignorance of their nature, were regarded as incurable. But even though we are unable to accept a supernatural explanation of such cures, we must acknowledge their existence, and ought, as conscientious physicians, to avail ourselves of them when the other resources of our art fail us."

Notwithstanding the assertion of inability to accept a supernatural explanation of such cures, the writer in question does accept it, according to his own expression that the influence of the mind on the body is sufficiently powerful to bring about curative results in suitable subjects; for what is a supernatural accomplishment but that which is attained by the communion and influence of the mind with the higher or spiritual laws of nature? The supernatural is not unnatural; it is the application of spiritual forces to the control of the natural or temporal elements, and both spiritual and temporal obey natural laws in the broader sense of that term. The mind or intelligence of man dominates and controls his body, commonly termed his material tabernacle, and the forces connected therewith; also, in suitable subjects—those who conform to the laws that operate therein—the mind controls the psychical forces in their influence upon the material elements. In the order of existence the supernatural is superior in power to and wields a controlling influence over that commonly called natural. It is the rule of mind over matter.

So far as the science of therapeutics is concerned, there is no good reason why conscientious physicians should not avail themselves, as the Record suggests, of "the faith which heals," when the other resources of their art fail them, or indeed at all times. But their efforts in that line should not be in a haphazard, uncertain way; they should be directed, as the conscientious physician directs them in the practice of his art, in a keenly intelligent, methodical, reverential way which insures accuracy to the full limit of his powers. For what capable physician is not reverential to his art, or does not comprehend the aptness of a higher reverence for the still higher powers of the spiritual world that control the faith that heals, in the broader development of the same healing art?

The exercise of such faith is in the commanding power of the mind, which brings into play those spiritual forces that combine the necessary elements for the healing powers. It is the ultimate use of means as tangible