

THE OIL FIELDS OF EASTERN UTAH.

Price, Utah, Dec. 17.—The great oil excitement which has swept over Utah during the past year has been confined mainly to two localities, corresponding to the two so-called "oil horizons." The principal of these oil horizons is of cretaceous age, and may be said, approximately, to lie south of the Book Cliffs and east of the Wasatch mountains. It forms the lower Green River and Colorado basins, and in it are situated the so-called Green River oil fields, the San Rafael oil fields, the Clark Valley oil fields and the Castle Valley oil fields, besides others covering an area of about one hundred by two hundred miles, and extending easterly into Colorado.

In this tract an immense amount of erosion has taken place, which has removed the upper cretaceous measures and left the cretaceous shales (the so-called blue shales) everywhere exposed. These "oil fields" again correspond with certain geological features, called "anticlines," uplifts which have well defined crests running in definite directions, producing slopes in opposite directions. Hence the name "anticline."

The other prominent horizon is of tertiary age, which is of much younger or newer formation. It is situated on top of the colossal coal measures of Utah. The cretaceous oil horizon lies immediately under or beneath them. It corresponds with the upper and middle Green River basin and extends also into Colorado and Wyoming. In it are situated the Soldier Summit, Emma's Park, Nine Mile, Argyle, Ashley and the Uintah reservation oil fields. It presents geologically the most interesting features, for with it are intimately associated the gilsonite (Uintahite, the elastite, wurtzite and ozokerite), and other similar deposits, which will some time yet be the source of great wealth in Utah.

In this horizon also occur the so-called lime asphalt, which are so valuable for paving purposes. These latter are very extensive and have, so far, been but very little prospected. They are the richest and most extensive on the Uintah Indian reservation, being intimately connected with the elastite.

OIL DEVELOPMENT.

So far the results from attempts at development have been small, though not necessarily discouraging. The fact of the matter is that new countries always present new conditions—new obstacles to be met and overcome. Forgings have been attempted in both of these oil horizons, small flows of oil have been encountered in each, but the "great gusher" has not yet made its appearance. Whether it will or not the future alone can tell. All the necessary conditions as far as known are here, and there is no doubt in the writer's mind but that when our "fields" are once systematically and scientifically prospected the big flow will be sure to come.

WHAT IS DOING.

From Soldier Summit on the west to the Colorado line east, and beyond and well into the Centennial state, most of all of the lands have been located during the past year for oil. The original discoverers of the eastern Utah oil fields have been people from outside the state. Unlike gold and silver and copper prospectors, they have been men of money, having the capital or knowledge where they could put hands on it sufficient to carry out the work of development on a large scale, until today there are between Price and Grand

Junction no less than a dozen boring plants on the ground, either already at work or ready to begin operations.

WHO THEY ARE.

In the Soldier Summit, some sixty-five miles south of Price, the San Rafael Oil and Mining company took in a plant of first class style about six months ago. The company is composed principally of Salt Lake City and Price capitalists with a large number of eastern stockholders. At this writing the bore has attained a depth of quite fifteen hundred feet, while the outlook for a fine flow of lubricating stuff was never better anywhere, according to experts and drillers, than here. At the 1500-foot mark a light flow of oil was gone into and still another at 1,200 feet. The manager of the company, A. J. Davis, has had large experience in the Pennsylvania and Ohio territory and believes he will get what he is looking for at about 1,800 feet, though there is no doubt in the minds of many that he already has a paying proposition at the 1,200-foot strike.

ANOTHER PLANT COMING.

Mr. Davis is also manager of the Western Oil company which has a large acreage adjoining and he has ordered machinery for a well on these grounds. It is now on route and by the first of the year will be in operation. This move is taken to mean that the conditions at the original well are completely satisfactory. In fact, there must be something more than a hole in the ground at the first scene of operations to warrant the second expenditure. Around these two propositions are thousands of claims, awaiting to see what comes of the work mentioned before an expenditure of money on plants. Adjoining is the Goldberg Oil company, financed by Hermann Hill of Salt Lake City. Machinery is soon to go on this property, a standard rig.

AROUND GREEN RIVER.

The California-Utah Oil company, composed of California capitalists, have lately installed a standard rig nine miles south of the town of Green River, where boring has begun within the last week or ten days. It is of standard pattern and would have been working two or three weeks ago but for the fact that some parts were left behind by the manufacturer when loaded on the cars. This property is well situated on the anticline and its promoters are confident of striking a good flow at less than two thousand feet. The men behind it have been working the Halcro, Cal. oil fields for two to four years. They are selling no stock, but are putting their own funds into the work. Their acreage is counted by the hundreds of sections instead of claims. They have Don C. Robbins in charge of the work on the ground as superintendent, while the main affairs of the corporation are conducted from the Salt Lake City offices. One of the chief promoters is Clarence Berry, the "Klondike King."

BETTYS IS ACTIVE.

Several thousands of locations have been leased by the California crowd to other parties, chief of whom is L. L. Betty of San Francisco, who is not alone a man of money, but an expert whose opinion is sought and well paid for by those seeking expert information. Mr. Betty is now on the Pacific coast supervising the construction of two excellent drilling outfits, which are to go in during the next thirty days between Green River and Price. Under his contract wells have to be sunk to certain depths, and from unquestionable sources your correspondent

ascertains that he is bonded to expend not less than thirty thousand dollars to exploit these leases, which for the greater part lie in Emery county. Near Mr. Betty's holdings are the lands of

THE EL VERDE RIO.

This company has been incorporated in the East, principally New York stockholders, we believe. It had two weeks ago from the sale of treasury stock, \$45,000 in its treasury, and this sum and much more will be expended on lands between Price and Grand Junction. Two rigs are already here and one of them has been started up near Solitude, a station on the line of the Rio Grande Western. Several Denver and Colorado and Wyoming men are becoming interested in Green River and from unauthenticated sources comes the information that two or three plants and the way there for work the present winter. The Walker Bros. are also the holders of large tracts of land in the Green River belt but they have not as yet done anything of a substantial nature.

AROUND SUNNYSIDE.

Here every available foot of ground has been taken—located. The Price Oil company, in which such well known men as Representative Joe Sharp of Carbon county, Dr. A. W. Dewell and others, are promoting this company. They have had a small rig at work for two months or more, and are really testing their holdings for larger machinery than is now employed. Their lands are also valuable aside from oil for the gilsonite and asphaltum deposits. Offers have been received to buy and lease but up to this time all have been turned down. Lying between these localities and the city limits of Price there are something like thirty-eight sections of land belonging to the Price Home Oil company, which will be intelligently prospected between now and next spring. There are other large holdings to the north.

THE COLORADO LINE.

South of Vernal and on the Colorado line in Grand and Utah counties in Utah, two boring outfits have gone in from Cresco, the nearest railroad point, the past few weeks and wells are down to a considerable depth. One of these is that of the Colorado-Utah Oil company, headed by Vernal and Salt Lake capital. Here is a good grade of oil flows from a seepage into the Grand river. It is of good lubricating quality, may be dipped up with a bucket and has been in practical use for years by the ranchmen of Utah county, especially those of the Ashley valley, for lubricating purposes. On Willow creek, near the Wasatch and Carbon county line, a well down to the depth of five hundred feet has been drilled and a new bore started. Here the flow is estimated at five barrels a day, already a paying proposition, it is said.

CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATES.

Experts who have this fall and winter thoroughly explored the oil fields of eastern Utah, say they are conservative in their statements when they say that this section is destined to become the greatest producer of lubricants in the world. There are few if any of the booming methods employed elsewhere, and what looks best to people hereabouts is that those from a distance, men who have operated and done well in other fields are putting their own money in. There has been an absence of "wild-cat" mining, and up to date the residents of the country, farmers and merchants, and business men generally, have reaped substantial

benefits. Price is the outfitting point for most of the companies and thousands of dollars have been spent here for supplies the past year that would otherwise not have come.

INCREASING THE MARKETS.

The men working about these boring plants have to live and in consequence there is an increased market in all the valleys of eastern Utah for whatever is raised, and at better prices, too, than have in years before prevailed. The hotels and boarding houses of almost every town in this section are filled and many are the instances of mining men and others being turned away for the lack of accommodations. The farmer generally has a market at his own door, without hauling it to the stores, for everything he can raise, and it will be better, too, next year than for the past twelve months, for the interest in this section and the work that is planned for the future has not as yet fairly begun.

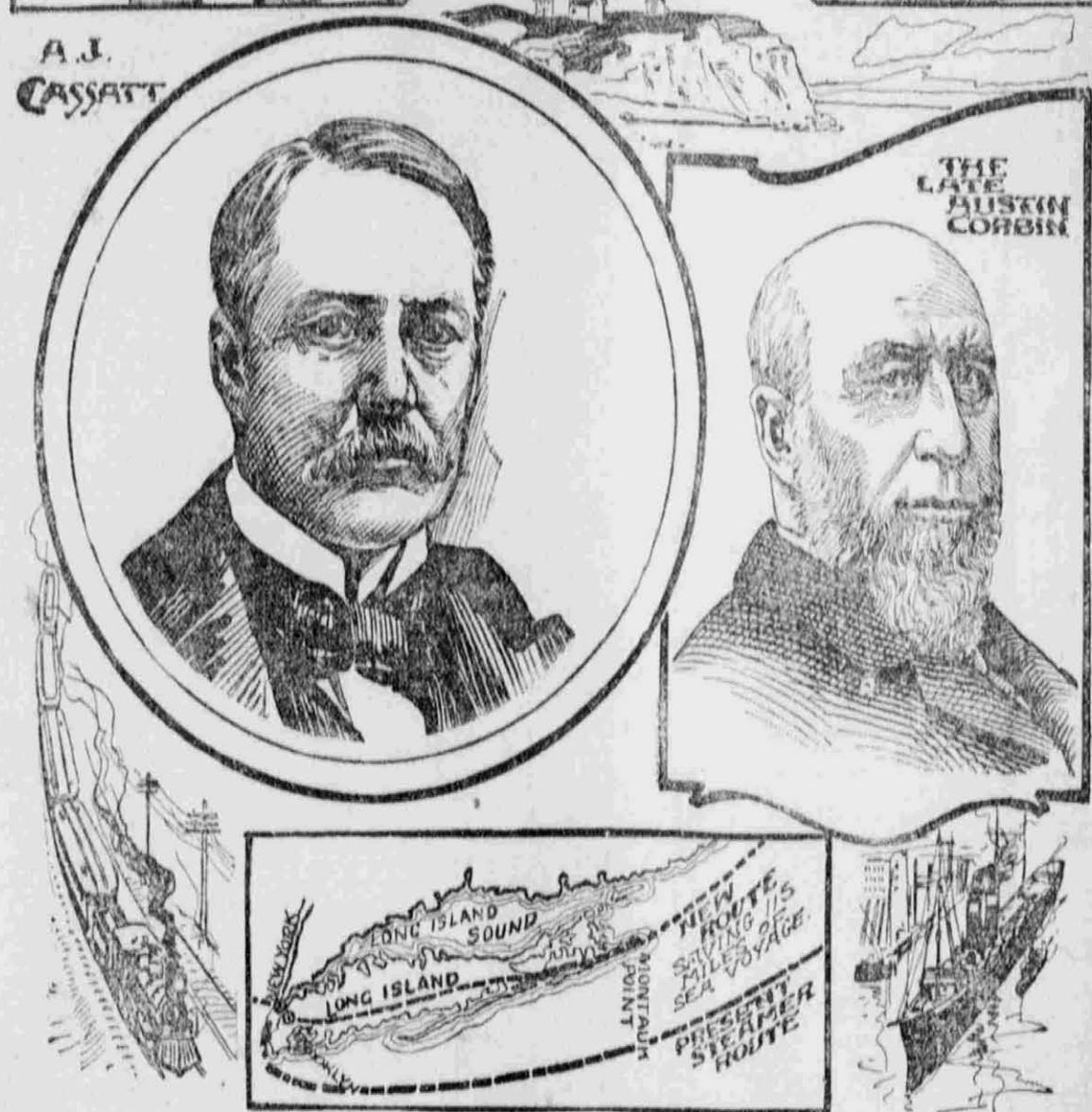
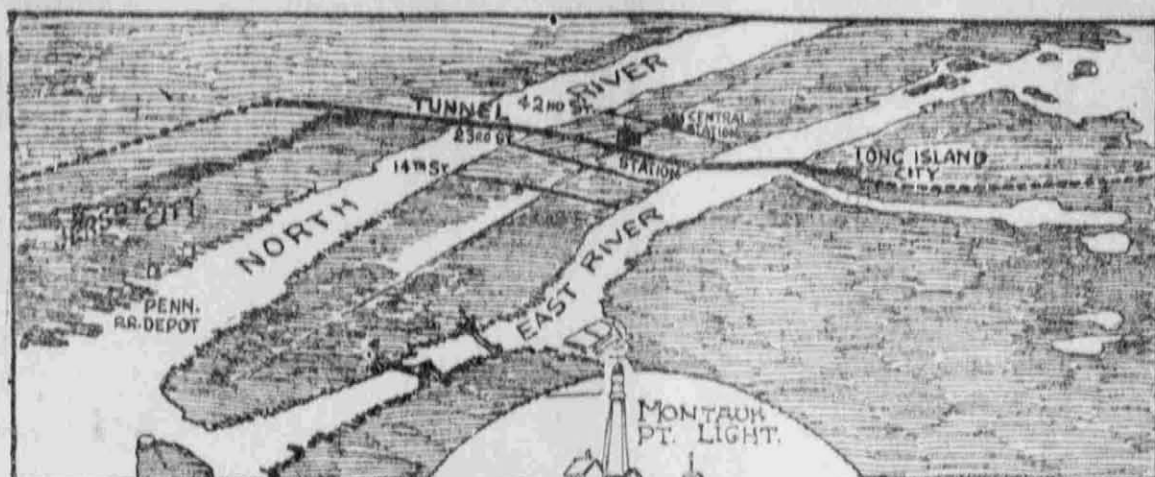
OIL IN SAN JUAN.

Considerable interest has been occasioned here during the past week by the report which comes from Bluff City in San Juan county, which is to the effect that the San Juan Oil company has encountered a flow of oil of excellent paraffin quality at a depth of 300 feet. The well is said to be flowing an average of twenty-five barrels a day, and has not yet been shot. The report is not positively confirmed, but there is no question as to its reliability among those who are familiar with the country and conditions down that way. There are two other companies in the same field and their machinery has been on the way for several weeks. The San Juan fields are on the south end of the horizon alluded to in the first paragraph of this article.

VEST ON THE DOG.

The Famous Senator's Tribute to the Faithful Animal.

One of the most eloquent tributes ever paid to the dog was delivered by Senator Vest of Missouri some years ago. He was attending court in a country town, and while waiting for the trial of a case in which he was interested he was urged by the attorneys in a dog case to help them. He was paid a fee of \$25 by the plaintiff. Voluminous evidence was introduced to show that the defendant had shot the dog in malice, while other evidence went to show that the dog had attacked the defendant. Vest took no part in the trial and was not disposed to speak. The attorneys, however, urged him to make a speech, and their client would not think he had gained his fee being thus urged, he arose, scanned the face of each jurymen for a moment, and said: "Gentlemen of the jury, the best friend a man has in the world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or daughter that he has reared with loving care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name, may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has he may lose. It flies away from him, perhaps, when he needs it most. A man's reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill-considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honor when success is with us may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads. The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous is his dog. A man's dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground, where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if only he may be near his master's side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer. He will guard the sleep of his master as if he were a prince, when all other friends desert, he remains. When riches take wings and reputation falls to pieces, he is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens. If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him, to guard him against danger, to fight against his enemies. And when the last scene of all comes, and death takes the master in its embrace, and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by the graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad, but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even in death."



PRESIDENT CASSATT'S PLAN TO SHORTEN THE OCEAN VOYAGE BETWEEN NEW YORK AND EUROPE.

THE late Austin Corbin's scheme by which ocean travelers bound for New York were to land at Montauk Point, the eastern end of Long Island, 115 miles from the city, and thus shorten the voyage materially, is about to be carried out by President Cassatt of the Pennsylvania railroad, which company also owns the Long Island railroad. A station will be constructed near Herald square, New York, and from it tunnels will run westward under the city and under the North river to Jersey City and eastward under the city and the East river to Long Island City, from which point the Long Island railroad will carry passengers to Montauk Point.

to offer. He will guard the sleep of his master as if he were a prince, when all other friends desert, he remains. When riches take wings and reputation falls to pieces, he is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens. If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him, to guard him against danger, to fight against his enemies. And when the last scene of all comes, and death takes the master in its embrace, and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by the graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad, but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even in death."

CENTER OF ATTRACTION

JUST NOW

AND ALL THE TIME

For
Genuine
Money-Back Diamonds.

For
Guaranteed
Watches and Clocks.

Is at
The Store of

LYON & CO.

Manufacturing Jewelers,
143 Main St.

Artistic Jewelry
Of Highest
Merit.

CUT GLASSWARE
In Elegant
Designs.

For
Exquisite
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

For
The Most
REASONABLE PRICES.