

THE EVENING NEWS.

Wednesday, February 25, 1912.

ARTESIAN WELLS.

WHY THEY ARE SO CALLED - HOW THEY ARE MADE - EXPERIMENTS IN CHICAGO.

[CONCLUDED.] Reporter.—Pulling teeth with nine pair of forceps a quarter of a mile long must be ticklish business. Foreman.—Yes; but we do it after we learn the trade well. Reporter.—How much does it cost to sink a well. Foreman.—About \$4 a foot for the first 500 feet, and fifty cents a foot advance for every fifty feet below that. Reporter.—Does it pay to sink wells? Foreman.—In distilleries where they pay \$300 a year for water, a well that costs from \$4,000 to \$5,000 pays for itself in two or three years. Even the deepest wells pay for themselves. The one at Lincoln Park is the deepest one in the city, being 1,255 feet deep, and yet it pays for itself by saving hydrant water for private consumers. Reporter.—You must make them much cheaper than they used to do. Foreman.—Yes. At first they only used seven-foot poles, but Malot, in the deep Paris well, used twenty-seven foot poles, while we use, as you see, thirty-six foot ones. Then we can get forty-five to fifty strokes per minute with poles, while the most we could get with cables was forty-one strokes. It takes a Yankee anyway to find how to do things cheaply. We are putting down wells cheaper, perhaps, considering everything, than any one else in the world, and manage to make our living at least by it.—Chicago Mail.

A BARE-DEVIL FEAT.

A few weeks ago Mr. O.—a gentleman of this city, well known in mining circles, visited Chinese Camp, Tuolumne county, for the purpose of inspecting a quartz mine which had been recently opened and proved to be very rich. He made a careful examination of the ledge, and was greatly impressed with its extent and richness. One of the owners, who was showing Mr. O. the ground, told him that in a day or two he was going to locate an extension on the Atlas (the original mine), and that his name should be put down as one of the locators if he desired. Mr. O. expressed his thanks for the offer, and said he would be pleased to accept it. Next day he started on his journey to this city, bringing with him several samples of ore from the Atlas mine. An assay proved them to be far richer than he had at first supposed, and he began to get anxious about the extension. He thought of the old saying, "Out of sight, out of mind," and became fearful that his friend at Chinese Camp might forget the promise to include him among the locators of the extension—or perhaps might neglect altogether to make the location. His sleep was troubled, and his appetite failed. In consequence of these apprehensions, and at last he resolved on active measures to insure against accident or neglect. He consulted with two or three friends and they advised sending a man, immediately to the scene of action, with instructions to make the location at once. L. P. Ward, the well known gymnastic typographical Olympian, was the man selected to carry out the design. A bargain was made with Ward by which he was to be included among the locators, his expenses paid, and other inducements offered to encourage him to make the location. He accepted the terms and started at once for Chinese Camp, where he met an old friend, Steve G.—a man who at once took him in charge. Ward was introduced to the Chinese Campers as "a capitalist from the Bay," and of course, attracted considerable attention from all who had "big things" on hand which they could develop properly. "Just for the want of a little ready cash," Ward and his friend elated together that night in the bar-room of the principal hotel, and of course they talked of the rich mine and the prospective value of the proposed extension. Ward having secretly confided to Steve the object of his visit. The conversation was overheard by an old miner who sat near by, and who suddenly arose and left the room. It appears that a number of the miners thereabouts had been for some time discussing the subject of locating an extension on the Atlas; but with characteristic carelessness had kept putting it off from day to day. The old chap who overheard the talk in the bar room was one of these, and he hastened at once to his association with the following startling announcement: "That the Atlas rock has bin assayed in 'Frisco, and it's turned out big, and that ere little chap with the all-fired long arms that Steve G.—has been a-bossing 'round here, he's bin sent up here to locate that ere northern extension that us fellers be's bin a talkin' about for a month, and we've got to get across the creek bright and early to-morrow and head him off, or we'll be left out in the cold." The mine is situated some miles from Chinese Camp, and between the two points runs a stream known as Curtis' Creek. In ordinary seasons this creek is easily forded, but about the time of which we write it had swollen to unusual dimensions—in fact, had become a roaring torrent as broad as Market street. Ward was in the morning for a point where he had been informed a bridge crossed the stream. On arriving there he found a party of miners standing on the bank—the same party which had resolved on "heading him off." The bridge had been washed away during the night, and the location party had come to a dead-lock, being unable to effect a crossing. During the preceding night the stream had raised higher than ever, and the mad waters dashing wildly by seemed to laugh defiantly in the face of those who dared attempt the perilous passage. Across the stream was stretched a wire rope, about an inch in diameter, which had been used to support the iron pipes for the hydraulic principle. The pipes had been removed, but the wire ropes still remained. As Ward came up to the party, one of them inquired in a sarcastic tone if he was "a-go-in" to make that there location? "Whereupon the others laughed heartily. Ward took the situation at a glance, and coolly remarked that he was "a-go-in" to make that there location." Those innocent countrymen had never seen Ward "do the Zampini," as he familiarly terms the terrific feat known as sample location. "Well, I reckon you won't do it to-day, from the looks of the creek," said one. "Wait a few days, mister," said another, "and we'll build a bridge for you." During these remarks, Ward had been carefully examining the fastenings of the wire cable. Finding it all secure, he turned to the astonished miners and remarked: "To be continued."

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