

the crest was picked off instantly. A portion of the band escaped in another direction, leaving their dead comrades on the field. The Sioux were so badly whipped that from that time forward they have had little use for the Utes.

NORTH PLATTE RIVER—We gave a short description of this river from where we first crossed it, near North Platte City, to Fort Steele, so we will now trace it from this station to its source.

From Fort Steele to the head waters of the Platte is about 150 to 200 miles. It rises in the mountains of the North Park, its waters being supplied by many tributaries, which, at present, are mostly nameless. The course of the river, from its source to this point, is nearly due north.

About twenty-five miles above the fort, is the Platte Ferry, on the old overland stage road.

Good bottom lands are found along the stream at intervals. About 100 miles further up, the tributaries of the river begin to empty their waters into the main stream, and the timber land commences.

Douglas Creek and French Creek are tributaries of the Platte, and run through heavy timbered valleys. Gold mines and gulch diggings were discovered here, but not prospected to any great extent. On the west side of the river, Monument and Big creeks empty their waters into the Platte, nearly opposite the creeks first named.

Big Creek rises in a beautiful lake, about three miles long by half a mile wide. A half-mile above this lies another lake, but little smaller. This ground is disputed territory between the Sioux and Utes, rendering it very unsafe for small parties.

Eight miles from Douglas Creek coal is found in abundance, and farther on, fine-looking quartz veins crop out on the hillside. Near here are sulphur springs, seven in number, and very hot; while, along side of

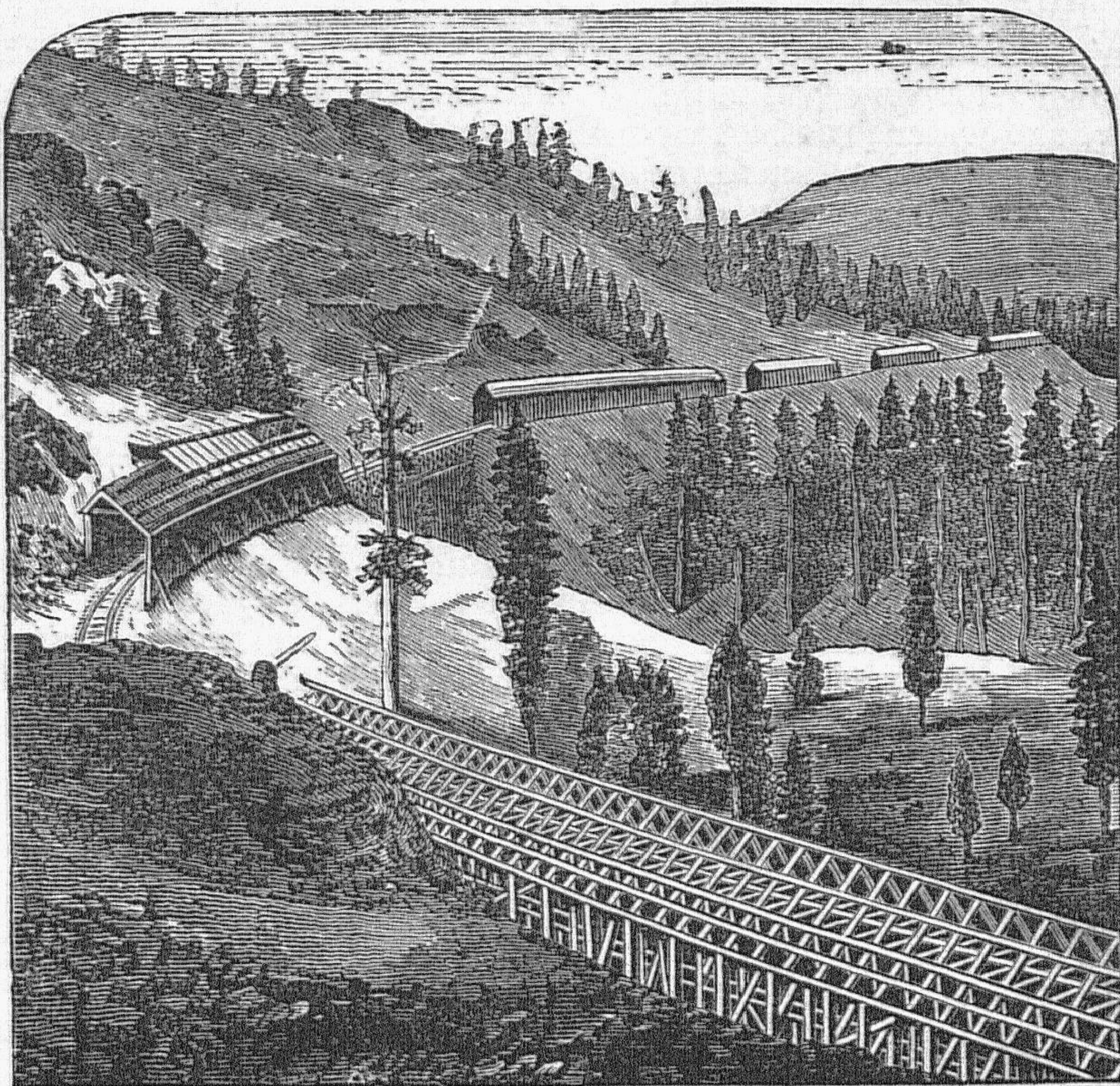
them rises a clear, sparkling spring of ice-cold water, and we opine that the time is not far distant when these springs will be taken up, a *narrow gauge* railroad laid down, hotels built, and one of the finest "watering places" in the world opened to the public.

Fish of many kinds, and beavers, are abundant in the streams; the beavers erecting dams often six feet high. The mountains and forests are full of game, and in them and the open valleys can be found elk, deer, antelope, bears, mountain sheep and lions, and, occasionally, the bison or mountain buffalo.

The forests are dense and large in extent; from which, during the building of the road, large quantities of ties were cut and floated down the river to Fort Steele. The valleys are fertile and large, and all in all, it is a grand, wild country, where the tourist could enjoy life to his heart's content, in hunting, fishing, and *fighting* the Indians.

Grenville—is a small side-track station 8 4-10 miles west of Fort Steele, and it is seven miles further to

Rawlins—(usually called Rawling Springs). This place contains a population of about 800. The Railroad Company



SNOW GALLERIES, SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS.