

course, its waters escaping through the bogs of the valley.

Sometimes for hours these springs are inactive, then come little puffs of steam, then long and frequent jets, which often shoot 30 feet high. The waters are very hot. Woe to the unlucky hombre who gets near and to the windward of one of these springs, where it sends forth a column of spray, steam and muddy sulphur water from 20 to 30 feet in height. He will need a change of clothes, some simple cerate, a few days' rest, and the prayers of his friends—as well as of the congregation. There are over 100 of these spurting, bubbling, sulphuric curiosities around the hills in this vicinity. The general character of all are about the same.

There are a great many theories regarding these springs—what causes the heat, etc. Some contend that the water escapes from the regions of eternal fires, which are supposed to be ever burning in the center of the globe. Others assert that it is mineral in solution with the water which causes the heat. Again, irreverent persons suggest that this part of the country is but the roof of a peculiar place to which they may well fear their wicked deeds may doom them in the future.

Shoshone—is ten miles west of Be-o-wa-we; elevation 4,636 feet. Across the river to the right is Battle Mountain, which rises up clear and sharp from the river's brink. It seems near, but between us and its southern base is a wide bottom land and the river, which here really "spreads itself." We saw the same point when emerging from Be-o-wa-we, or "the gate," and it will continue in sight for many miles.

This mountain derives its name from an Indian fight, the particulars of which will be related hereafter. There are several ranges near by, all bearing the same general name. This range being the most prominent, deserves a passing notice. It lies north of the river, between the Owyhee Range on the north and the Reese River Mountains on the south. Its base is washed by the river its entire length—from 50 to 75 miles. It presents an almost unbroken surface and even altitude the entire distance. In places it rises in bold bluffs, in others it slopes away from base to summit, but in each case the same altitude is reached. It is about 1,500 feet high, the top or summit appearing to be table-land. Silver and copper mines have

been prospected with good results.

Behind this range are wide valleys, which slope away to the river at either end of the range, leaving it comparatively isolated.

Opposite to Shoshone, Rock Creek empties its waters into the Humboldt. It rises about 40 miles to the northward, and is bordered by a beautiful valley about four miles wide. The stream is well stocked with fish, among which are the mountain trout. In the country around the headwaters of the stream is found plenty of game of various kinds, including deer and bear.

Copper mines of vast size and great richness are found in the valley of Rock Creek, and among the adjoining hills. Whenever the copper interest becomes of sufficient importance to warrant the opening of these mines, this section will prove one of great importance.

Leaving Shoshone, we pursue our way down the river, the road leading back from the meadow land and passing along an upland, covered with sage-brush. The hills on our left are smooth and covered with a good coat of bunch-grass, affording most excellent pasturage for stock, summer and winter.

Argenta—is 11.1 miles further west. This was formerly a regular eating station and the distributing point for Austin and the Reese River country; but is *now* a simple side-track. Paradise Valley lies on the north side of the river, nearly opposite this station. It is about 60 miles long by eight wide, very fertile and thickly settled. Eden Valley, the northern part of Paradise Valley, is about 20 miles long and five wide. In general features it resembles the lower portion, the whole, comprising one of the richest farming sections in the State. Camp Scott and Santa Rosa are situated in the head of the valley, and other small towns have sprung up at other points.

Paradise Creek is a clear, cold mountain stream, upon which are a number of grist and saw mills. It rises in the Owyhee Mountains and flows through these valleys to the Humboldt River. Salmon trout of enormous size are found in the stream and its tributaries. Bears, deer, silver-gray foxes, and other game, abound on the hills which border the valley.

These valleys—the Humboldt for 50 miles east and west, and the adjoining mountains—are the stock-raisers' paradise.