

M. Talcott, located the vein and named it Poney.

As soon as it became known, prospectors flocked in, and the country was pretty thoroughly prospected during 1862 and 1863. Many veins were located, some of them proving very valuable. Mills were erected at different points, and from that time forward the district has been in a prosperous condition.

Austin contains a population of about 2,000, nearly all of whom are engaged in mining operations. The town has some extensive stores and does a very large business in the way of furnishing supplies for the mining camps surrounding it, for from 50 to 100 miles.

The *Reese River Reveille* is a live daily published here. To the south of Battle Mountain Station, about 20 miles, are several hot springs, strongly impregnated with sulphur and other minerals, but they attract no particular attention, being too common to excite curiosity.

Leaving the station we skirt the base of the mountains to the left, leaving the river far to our right over against the base of Battle Mountain. We are now in the widest part of the valley, about opposite the Big Bend of the Humboldt.

After passing the Palisades the river inclines to the south for about 30 miles, when it sweeps away to the north, along the base of Battle Mountain, for 30 miles further; then turning nearly due south, it follows that direction until it discharges its waters in Humboldt Lake, about 50 miles by the river course from the great elbow, forming a vast semi-circle, washed by its waters for three-fourths of the circumference. This vast area of land, or most of it, comprising many thousand acres of level upland, bordered by green meadows, is susceptible of cultivation when irrigated. The sagebrush grows luxuriantly, and where the alkali beds do not appear, the soil produces a good crop of bunch-grass. The road



TRUCKEE RIVER.

takes the short side of the semi-circle keeping close to the foot of the isolated Humboldt Spur. On the opposite side of the river, behind the Battle Mountain Range, are several valleys, watered by the mountain streams, and affording a large area of first-class farming land. Chief among these is QUINN'S VALLEY, watered by the river of that name. The arable portion of the valley is about 75 miles long, ranging in width from three to seven miles. It is a fine body of valley land, capable of producing luxuriant crops of grain, grass or vegetables. The hills which enclose it afford excellent pasturage. Timber of various qualities—spruce and pine predominating—is found in the gulches and ravines of the mountains.

QUINN'S RIVER, which flows through this valley, is a large stream rising in the St. Rosa Hills of the Owyhee range, about 150 miles distant. From its source the general course of the river is due south for about 80 miles, when it turns and runs due west until it reaches Mud Lake. During the summer but little, if any, of its waters reach that place, being absorbed by the barren plain which lies between the foothills and the Humboldt River. Near the