

and beautiful cascades; large rivers, and tiny sparkling creeks; dark and gloomy gorges, and fruit-laden orchards; old placer diggings, new diggings, and immense quartz mines. But come along, and take a look. The train stands just on the south side of the depot at Colfax, and leaves on the arrival of the overland train.

Passing along to the eastward, we gradually descend the canyon with the track of the C. P. road away above us on the left, and again to the right, where it curves around Cape Horn, a beautiful view of which is obtained. Following on up, we pass *under* the high bridge of the Central, one and a-half miles from Colfax, and reach the Divide, where the waters run to the north, to Bear River—which we soon reach and cross on a bridge 750 feet long, and 97 feet high; amid towering pine and spruce trees and the most romantic scenery—then, 4.5 miles from Colfax, we come to the side-track station of

YOU BET—the town of which is four miles to the east—heretofore described. We now come to the Greenhorn. Following it up through a 350-foot tunnel, we cross that creek on a trestle and bridge 700 feet long; on, up and over another 450 feet trestle, along the side of the mountain, overlooking the Greenhorn, around the great "S" curve, on a grade of 105 feet to the mile; through heavy rock cuts, almost doubling back on our route.

STORMS—another side-track, by a great saw-mill, is four miles further, but the trains stop only on signal. The mountains on the route up to this station are covered with pines, spruce and oaks. The chasms are fearfully grand in places on the left.

BUENA VISTA—another side-track, in the Noonday Valley, is four miles from Storms, from whence, continuing on up two miles, we reach

KRESS SUMMIT—with an altitude of 2,851 feet. From the summit the descent is rapid, 151 feet to the mile; the mountains are here covered with small pines and manzanitas, the big timber that once covered them having long since been cut off, and used to a great extent in the mines at Grass Valley. On the road down, we pass many evidences of placer mining, and, doubtless, will see some Chinamen working over the old placers near Union Hill. On the left are several old mills, and just before reaching Grass Valley, away to the right, across a low place in the ridge, can

be seen two great Quartz Mills—the Idaho and Eureka. Those mills, although now on our *right*, will be on our *left* after we pass the next station. The distance across from track to track is 1,200 feet; around, it is three miles.

GRASS VALLEY—This is an old and still a thriving mining town of full 7,500 inhabitants. It is situated 17 miles from Colfax, 35 miles east of Marysville, and five and a-half miles west of Nevada; on the sides of the hills, along the ravines, with comfortable little residences scattered about the nooks and gulches promiscuously. It contains some good business blocks, and some fine private residences. The private dwellings, generally, are enclosed in fine orchards and gardens, which give them an air of comfort and home-like beauty. The town derives its prominence from the quartz mines in and around it. No town in the State has produced an equal amount of gold from quartz, and none has added more real wealth to the State at large.

In September, 1850, a miner picked up a piece of gold-bearing quartz on Gold Hill. From this, prospecting commenced, and soon several valuable mines were opened. In 1851, the first quartz mill was erected in Boston Ravine, now one of the most populous portions of the town.

Grass Valley now contains 19 quartz mills, aggregating 305 stamps, besides three large de-sulphurising works. The city is illuminated with gas, has two good hotels—the Exchange and the Wisconsin, one daily newspaper, the *Grass Valley Union*, and the *Foothill Tidings*, a weekly. Of the quartz mills, one is worthy of special note—the Idaho. Up to January, 1877, this mill had never failed to pay a dividend for 100 months in succession, varying from \$5 to \$25 per share. There are 3,100 shares of a par value of \$100; and these shares have sold as high as \$750 each. The total receipts for nine years were \$4,589,255; dividends paid, \$2,270,750.

Stages leave Grass Valley for Marysville, west 35 miles. Leaving the depot, which is on the south side and overlooking the town, we turn east, leaving the Idaho mill and the old Eureka mill, (now abandoned), on our left, and follow up through a section of country where are long flumes, and many signs of placer mining, as well as old washed out diggings. We pass some orchards of fruit, a little meadowland, cross Wolff Creek, see the Chinamen