

through the grating by a stream of water into ripple troughs containing mercury, extending along both sides of the battery, and thence over some twenty-four feet of blanketing; the material collected by this process is conveyed into revolving barrels, with half its weight of quicksilver, sufficient for proper amalgamation. Heat is then applied, the mercury evaporated, and from the residue is collected the gold, which is afterwards taken to the bank or assay-house. The working manager was very communicative, and from him I ascertained that the mine occupied the principal portion of the Black Hill, and contains about forty acres. Tunnels, nine feet high by seven wide, had been excavated at different levels, amounting in length to over 3000 feet; these tunnels are connected at several points with the open workings at the top of the hill.

Mining operations were in a depressed state at the time of my visit, but a few years before they were crushing here their 2000 tons of quartz per week, yielding, on an average, about fifty grains of gold per ton of quartz. \* \* \* From here drove for a couple of miles, reaching the scene of the Winter's Freehold Mining Company; and having an introduction from Mr. J. Morrison, the manager, there was no difficulty in seeing everything of interest. At first I was struck by the appearance of the surroundings, from which I was led to imagine (from the tumble-down appearance, &c., of every-