

Los Angeles News:

“Coso Mines,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, February 15, 1861, 2:1:

This week, Corbitt & Barker sent two large teams, heavily loaded with merchandise, provisions, and other goods, to the miners in the Coso district. Parties from the north will find the route through Los Angeles the most closer and most feasible; the road is open all year. “. . . Quite a large number of miners are now at work at Coso, and numbers are going there. All are doing well,”

“Coso Mines,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, February 27, 1861, 2:1:

The editor calls attention to an advertisement [2:3], in which James Hitchens offers stock or the company’s notes in exchange for wagons, mules, and jacks. Hitchens, who is the president and superintendent of the company, also has shares to sell. Hitchens will proceed to the mines along the route from Los Angeles, which he considers the most feasible one.

Ad., L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, February 27, 1861, 2:1:

James Hitchens wants a 4- or 6-mule team, an oxen team, or 25 pack mules and 25 jacks, in exchange for stock of the Coso Silver Mining Co. or the company’s note, for 4 months.

[Untitled], L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, March 22, 1861, 2:1:

...
The Coso silver mines are still attracting great attention. Many miners for Coso have recently outfitted themselves in Los Angeles.

[Untitled], L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, April 12, 1861, 2:1:

“Our city is beginning to assume the appearance of a mining town. Almost every day teams are loaded with provisions, mining tools, etc., and leave for the destination; miners are constantly arriving here from the mines, bringing in the precious dust and exchanging it for coin and supplies. Every steamer and overland stage, brings a large number of the sturdy miners of the North to aid in the development of our boundless mineral resources. We say to all that there is plenty of room, but do not expect to realize a fortune in a ‘jiffy.’ Hard and unceasing labor is required; money is necessary to develop successfully the hidden wealth of centuries. To make money, it is sometimes essential to have a little to commence with.”

“Mails,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, April 19, 1861, 2:1:

The Overland mail along the Tejon route has been discontinued. From now on, all mail will go by the coast route, via Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, San Juan, and Monterey, to

Gilroy, and then to San Francisco. A mail is prepared in Los Angeles for the coastal towns. The mail will leave Los Angeles on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The new schedule will allow the residents of Los Angeles to receive their letters and newspapers with little delay in San Francisco.

The editor believes that it's intended to run a triweekly mail from Gilroy to Visalia. So far, however, Los Angeles has no mail service to San Diego.

"New Paper," L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, May 8, 1861, 2:1:

The editor overlooked mentioning last week that Edwin A. Sherman had bought the material and of the San Bernardino *Herald* and had begun publishing *The Patriot*, also published in San Bernardino. The editor has received the second issue and was "much gratified with its Union tone. Captain you're sound."

[Untitled], L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, July 24, 1861, 2:1. [Bailey lead.]

"The Bailey Lead," L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, July 26, 1861, 2:2: [Bailey lead.]

"From Coso," L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 13, 1861, 2:1:

Quartz operations are being conducted. [More to come.]

[Untitled], L. A. Semi-Weekly News, November 11, 1861, 2:1:

The Visalia *Sun* has been discontinued and its business transferred to the *Delta*. ". . . The Union [paper] could not be supported in a McConnell county."

"Losses by Flood," L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, February 12, 1862, 2:2:

An informant arrived in Los Angeles on Feb. 8, directly from the Kern River; he assures the editor that his news is correct.

ON KERN RIVER

The mill of Joseph Caldwell, consisting of four arrastras, has been a complete loss, amounting to \$2,000.

The damage to the mill of D. B. Laborde, of 4 stamps, amounts to \$1,500.

The damage to the mill of A. T. Lightner, of 4 stamps, amounts to \$1,500.

The damage to the mill of W. Marsh & Co., of 4 stamps, amounts to \$2,000.

The three mills stood together on a high bar. The bar and mills were swept away.

The flood carried away the toll bridge across the Kern River, owned by W. Marsh & Co. and J. W. Truman [Freeman]. The water stands 30 feet above the bridge. The loss amounts to \$1,000.

The mill owned by M. Erskine & Son, consisting of 8 stamps and 4 arrastras, was completely swept away. The loss amounts to \$10,000.

The arrastra mill of Redfield & Son, lying almost in the bed of the river, escaped with the slight loss of sheds, etc.; 20 feet of sand covered the machinery.

The family of M. Coombs, living on the south fork of Kern River, barely escaped with their lives; they lost considerable household furniture and other property.

ON GREENHORN MOUNTAIN

[Check diameter:] The storm greatly damaged the 6-stamp mill of W. Marsh & Co.; the overshot waterwheel, 45-foot in diameter, and the reservoir were carried away. The loss amounted to \$2,000.

IN LINN'S VALLEY

The Linn Valley Flouring Mill, owned by W. Marsh & Co. & S. Peppers, was damaged, though the loss cannot be determined, for 30 feet of sand covers the site.

As much as 5 or 6 feet of sand and *debris* cover the finest sections of many of the farms. Many fences were swept away.

ON WHITE RIVER

The mills of Rupard[?], Keyes, and M. M. Sexton were greatly damaged. The losses are not known.

A party arrived at White River on January 26[?] with the news that the rise of January 22[?] had flooded Visalia by 5 or 6 feet; that all the brick and adobe buildings had fallen; and that the residents had moved to higher ground, at the Catholic cemetery. [] Thomas had thrown open his lumber hard, and the residents were able to build boats and seek a safe place.

As far as heard from, no lives had been lost in Tulare County.

At Keyesville, no mail had arrived from Visalia in 6 weeks.

The residents of the "Linn Settlement," on the sloughs of the Kern River, barely escaped with their lives. All their fences and improvements were carried away.

The ferry of Cameron & Green, at the lower crossing of the Kern River, has been destroyed. The loss amounts to \$1,000.

One of the old settlers of Los Angeles—David W. Alexander—had a narrow escape. [More to come.]

"From Owens' River Valley," L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, July 25, 1862, 2:2:

Early in the week, [] Whipple arrived in Los Angeles from the Owens' River country. [More to come.]

"New Discovery," L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News. August 13, 1862, 2:3:

Another silver lode has been discovered, as the editor learns, this side of the Slate Range, about 40 miles from Tehachape. Experienced miners call the lode the richest struck in the district.

"Extension on the 'Slate Range,[']" L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News. August 13, 1862,

2:3:

Rich discoveries have been made for 10 miles on several lodes in the Slate Range.

"Census of Nevada Territory," L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 3, 1862, 2:2:

The following are the figures of population of Nevada Territory, including an estimated 1,985 in Esmeralda County.

“For Coso and Owen’s River,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 3, 1862, 2:1:

The editor learns that many miners and others with interests in the Coso and Owens Valley region arrived by steamer yesterday.

“Off,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 10, 1862, 2:1:

[] Searls [Searles] left Los Angeles on Monday with many miners and others with interests in the Slate Range. They will begin work at once.

“Road,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 10, 1862, 2:1:

The waterspout that recently fell in the San Francisco Cañon greatly damaged the road through it. [More to come.]

“Road to Owen’s River,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 19, 1862, 2:2:

“From Owen’s River,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 9, 1862, 2:1:

Considerable goods seem to be “pouring into” the Owen’s River Valley, perhaps at least 100 tons of merchandise, according to recent arrivals in Los Angeles. According to Judge [Russell] Sackett, who arrived in Los Angeles on Monday evening, all was quiet in the valley when he left. Mining was “progressing rapidly” and the results were satisfactory. Sackett met Colonel [George] Evans at Oak Creek, on his way to join his command. Evans was “in good health and fine spirits.”

[Untitled], L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 19, 1862, 2:1:

The returns from Mono County show that no votes were cast in Big Springs, from which 500 votes were fraudulently cast last year.

“Trail to Coso,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, Sept. 19, 1862, 2:2:

“More Gold from San Francisquito Mines,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 19, 1862, 2:2:

“Yet in the Union,” L. A. Semi-Weekly Southern News, September 19, 1862, 2:1:

It’s stated that the precinct in the Owens River Valley, in Tulare County, gave a large majority for the Union ticket, in the recent election.

“For Coso,” L. A. News, October 12, 1862, 2:1:

Miners seem to be pouring into the Coso district. Large shipments of goods are being sent out each week. At one or two points, the road greatly needs repairs. Unless some repairs were made, all transportation from Los Angeles, except for pack trains, would have to cease during the winter. In such cases, all transportation to Coso would have to come from Visalia, for the residents there had spent considerable money to blaze a trail across the mountains.

“Discontinued,” L. A. News, October 24, 1862, 2:1:

The post office at Fort Tejon has been discontinued. No mail has been prepared for the fort for a year.

“From the ‘Slate Range,’” L. A. News, October 29, 1862, 2:1:

Some rich ore from the Slate Range arrived in Los Angeles last week for shipment. P. Banning forwarded a 500- or 600-pound piece to San Francisco by steamer.

Several fine specimens of gold and silver ore were on exhibition at the express office on Monday. A thorough opening of the mines containing the above ore has begun.

“For the ‘Slate Range,’” L. A. News, October 31, 1862, 2:1:

The editor has heard of several parties who have left for the Slate Range during the past 2 weeks. A company, the editor has learned, has been organized in Los Angeles during this week; it has an assessment of \$1,200, which is to be spent in prospecting upon ‘the Range.’”

[Check date:]

“Road to Coso,” L. A. News, November 2, 1862, 2:1: [Later.]

“For the ‘Slate Range,’” Los Angeles News, November 5, 1862, 2:1:

Several parties have left Los Angeles this week to prospect in the ‘Range.’

“Auction Sale To-day,” L. A. News, November 5, 1862, 2:1:

G. F. Lamson will auction the valuable building lots of M. Keller today on the premises, on Aliso Street.

“Road to the ‘Slate Range,’” L. A. News, November 7, 1862, p. 2:

Although the subject of building and repairing roads to the Slate Range and districts in the Owens Valley has often been “formally laid before the Board of Supervisors,” nothing has been done. If the merchants will improve the roads, the merchants will “no doubt subscribe liberally.” The route over the San Fernando Pass remains poor, and unless the road through San Francisquito Cañon is improved, the approaching rains will make it wholly impassable.

“Supplies for the ‘Slate Range’ and Coso Mines,” L. A. News, November 12, 1862, 2:1:

Considerable freight is on its way to the Slate Range and Coso districts. The demand for transportation there is increasing. At San Pedro, the arrival of every steamer and sailing vessel brings heavy machinery, supplies, and other goods for the districts.

“Contrast,” L. A. News, November 12, 1862, 2:1:

“The special correspondent of the San Francisco *Morning Call*, describes Los Angeles and its vicinity, to be the Garden of Eden—a Paradise, &c., and concludes his letter with an account of three murders. All true—what a contrast.”

“Miners,” L. A. News, November 19, 1862, 2:1:

“A large number of miners, some of them destined for Coso, Slate Range, and others for the Colorado [River], and other mining districts in this section, came down on the Senator on Monday last.”

“El Paso Mining District,” L. A. News, December 5, 1862, 2:1:

This morning, at the office of P. D. Green, the editor saw two “fine specimens” of silver-bearing ore from the El Paso Mining District, about 50 miles from the Slate Range, toward Los Angeles. The specimens, one of which is gray and the other of which shows red precipitates, seem to be very rich. Hornsilver has also been found in the area.

“Our Mines,” Los Angeles News, December 12, 1862, 2:1:

Parties continue to leave nearly daily for the Soledad, Slate Range, Coso, and other mining districts. A large party of miners with a full outfit left Los Angeles on Wednesday.

“From Coso,” Los Angeles News, December 12, 1862, p. 2:

Men who have arrived from Coso during the past day or two report “everything quiet,” mining operations prosperous, and discoveries continue.

Tehachepe was very cold; at least 3 feet of snow had fallen. An unusual amount of snow was lying in the mountains there.

“Holcomb Valley,” *Los Angeles News*, January 19, 1863, 2:1:

“At last accounts from the Holcomb Valley mines the snow was some six feet in depth. Mining operations in the Valley had sometimes since been suspended for the winter.”

“Amargosa,” *Los Angeles News*, January 19, 1863, 2:1:

“We learn that a company have taken a controllng [controlling] interests in the Amargosa quarter lead and will commence working the mine immediately. A party of men left here for that locality during last week.”

[See:]

“Progress in Coso and Slate Range,” Los Angeles News, January 19, 1863:

“It is less than one year, we believe, since the first crushing mill was put into operation in the Coso mining region. . . . [Jesse W.] Wadleigh furnishes details on the mills, etc. They show how “the rapid progress which has been made in that mining locality in less than 12 months. . . .” Wadeigh’s company “has a fine mill already in success operation; about the 20th Dec., a large lot of additional machinery, comprising a number of the Smith & Dewey Pans, arastras, &c., passed through this place on the way for the mines. The machinery will be immediately added, which will complete an expenditure, by the Lotta Mill Co., of over thirty thousand dollars; when finished will comprise batteries, twelve stamps, eight pans and four twelve twelve foot arastras; propelled by an engine of thirty horse power. . . .” Wadleigh & Holcomb are working the Josephine lode and have hired [--] Smith, one of the inventors of the Smith & Dewey Pan, “which have proved so successful in the silver mines of Washoe,” to supervise their work. The company employed 40 men and has gone down 120 feet on the vein., where it is 2 feet wide. It increases in width and richness with depth. The mill can crush 10 tons of rock a day. The ore that they are working today yields \$150 a ton.

Four other mills are in operation in the area.

Hitchens & Munroe built the first mill in the Coso district. It contains two batteries, five pans, and a complete apparatus for saving silver and gold.

The Union Mill also contains 10 stamps and 5 pans.

The Bosworth Mill contains 12 stamps and 10 pans, with a 40-horsepower engine and complete other apparatus.

The Coso Company’s mill contains 8 stamps and 10 pans, with full fixtures.

[Incomplete: more to come.]

“Mail Line to Coso,” Los Angeles News, January 21, 1863, 2:2:

Mail service between Los Angeles to the Coso district, by way of Tehachape and the Slate Range, is “greatly needed.” A large and increasing population as far as the Owens Valley receives its mail in Los Angeles. Letters to the mining districts have to await the departure from Los Angeles of freight teams or pack trains. The editor has heard repeatedly that Wells, Fargo & Co. will establish an express from L. A. to the mining districts; but even then, a weekly or semiweekly mail will be needed.

“For the Mines,” Los Angeles News, January 26, 1863, 2:2:

Many passengers arrived in Los Angeles by the last steamer *Senator*. Many of them were miners headed for the mining districts. S. P. Whipple will ship about 100 tons of mining machinery for the Slate Range.

Advertisement, Los Angeles News, January 26, 1863, p. 2:

The Slate Range Gold and Silver Mining companies, San Francisco, Jan. 21, 1863: The stockholders of the Albany, New York, Slate Range, Cattaraugus, Philadelphia, and Rochester companies will hold their annual meeting, in San Francisco, on February 9. A. H. Clarke, secretary. Ad. dated Jan. 26, 1863,

“Tejon Reservation,” *Los Angeles News*, February 18, 1863, 2:1:

“Mr. J. P. H. Wentworth, Indian Superintendent for the Southern District of California, returned here from Tejon, on Monday. Mr. W. found everything quiet as the reservation. As yet there had not been a single case of smallpox among the Indians; this malady had not made its appearance any where in that part of the country or its vicinity, as great care had been taken to have all persons residing in that locality, as well as all Indians, promptly vaccinated. The grain—about four hundred and fifty acres, consisting of wheat and barley—which had been previously sown, was up and looked thrifty, promising a full yield the coming harvest. Mr. Wentworth says that about fifty acres of land will be planted in corn, beans, etc., for which preparations have already been made. Stock of all kinds were looking fine; there had been most bountiful rains and the grass was unusually far advanced for the season of the year.”

“For the Mines,” *Los Angeles News*, February 23, 1863, 2:1:

[Excerpt:]

Many passengers who arrived in Los Angeles on Friday evening {Feb. 20}, on the *Senator*, are miners on their way to the Coso, Slate Range, El Dorado Cañon, and districts east of the Colorado River. A great deal of mining freight for the districts also was landed.

“Accommodation,” *Los Angeles News*, February 25, 1863, 2:2:

“Wells, Fargo & Co.’s Express office in this city is decidedly an accommodating institution. San Francisco papers are furnished by the press of that city to the Express for the press of this city, by every overland stage, but for ourselves we can say, that with the exception of a few instances we have never received any papers from the Express, by overland. Our paper has been regularly furnished the Express, every issue, for the press of San Francisco, and occasionally we can obtain the ‘loan’ of a paper from the Express office, on condition that we return it, and as a particular favor, and then never of the latest dates, which latter are reserved for the ‘patronizers’ of the Express office. As a general thing, Mr. W. G. Still has furnished us with newspapers, for a long time past, but occasionally the paper mail does not come to hand, and then we are ‘out and injured.’”

“From El Paso District,” *Los Angeles News*, April 13, 1863, 2:1:

[Incomplete:]

Last Saturday, the editor was shown some specimens of gold quartz from the Tucker lead, in the El Paso district; the specimens seem to be very rich. “. . . Plenty of the ‘oro’ can be seen without the aid of a glass,” though most of it is found in small pockets.” [Last sentence to be added.]

“A Look into the ‘Veins’ of the Soledad Mines,” *Los Angeles News*, April 24, 1863, 2:1:

[Excerpt:]

The San Fernando Hill is the only obstacle on the route. The citizens have tried to get around it and, in a way, have crept over the summit. They must go through it; otherwise,

the mining public will never submit to tolls that may be levied under the franchise now held.

“For Owen’s River,” *Los Angeles News*, April 24, 1863, 2:2:

Several wagons belonging to P. Banning left Los Angeles yesterday, loaded with barley for the troops in the Owens River Valley. Twenty soldiers guarded the train. On their return, the wagons will stop in the El Paso district and load up with ore, which is to be shipped to San Francisco to be crushed.

“More Incorporations,” *Los Angeles News*, July 6, 1863, 2:2:

[Excerpt:]

On July 1, 1863, the Express Mining Company, in the Russ district, filed its certificate of incorporation. Its capital stock is \$600,000, divided into 1,320 shares.

“Newport Silver Mining Co.” (advertisement), *Los Angeles News*, July 20, 1863, p. 2:

At a meeting held on July 17, 1863, the Newport Silver Mining Company, in the El Paso district, levied an assessment of 5¢ a foot, payable to William Perry, by August 1. S. Lazard, secretary. Dated July 20, 1863

“From Amargosa,” *Los Angeles News*, July 20, 1863, p. 2:

“Mr. St. C. Biedeman, Superintendent of the Amargosa Mining Company, arrived here on Friday last, making the trip in about three days. Their mill and machinery had arrived at the point where it is now in progress of erection. Mr. Biedeman took passage for San Francisco, on board the steamer Senator which sailed yesterday, whither he goes on business connected with a speedy start of their mill. Mr. B. reports that a very rich strike has been made in the company’s mine; a quantity of the rock or ores of which is *en route* for Los Angeles, where it will arrive in time for shipment to San Francisco by the next steamer. The head miner of the above named company, arrived here per steamer with a crew of six practiced miners, and left on yesterday for their destination.”

“Contract,” *L. A. Tri-Weekly News*, January 29, 1864, 2:3:

The “feet” owners in the Ophir lode, in the El Paso Mining District, have let a contract to drive a tunnel to reach the lode, 200 feet from the surface; the work will begin as soon as the supplies and tools can be delivered.

“Dismissed,” *L. A. Tri-Weekly News*, February 5, 1864, 2:3:

A court-martial has found Captain M. A. McLaughlin, of Company D, Second Cavalry, guilty of committing frauds in the Quartermaster’s Department and has been sentenced to dismissal from the army. It is alleged that the frauds were committed while Co. D was stationed at Visalia and the vicinity.

Ad., [Russell] Sackett's Feed Stable, in Los Angeles, Los Angeles Tri-Weekly News, February 10, 1864, 4:3: Advertisement dated August 21, 1863.

Ad., Union Primary Election, L. A. Tri-Weekly News, February 12, 1864, 2:3:
Green Meadows precinct named. [More to come.]

"More Cotton," L. A. Tri-Weekly News, February 22, 1864, 2:1:

"From the White Mountain District," L. A. Tri-Weekly, March 11, 1864, 2:1:

L. Cohn, of Los Angeles, has received a letter from a friend in the White Mountain Mining District, to the east of Owens River. According to the letter, the mines are "rich almost beyond description." The Mineral Hill Company has struck a lode of gold, of which 'there is more gold than quartz.' About 2 tons of the ore are being shipped to Los Angeles.

"Contract," L. A. Tri-Weekly News, March 21, 1864, 2:1:

O. W. Childs, as the lowest bidder, has received the contract to build a canal to water the plains west of Los Angeles; the canal is already under construction. The cost is estimated at about \$3,000.

"Incorporated," L. A. Tri-Weekly News, March 23, 1864, 2:2:

On March 19, the Rochester Consolidated Gold and Silver Mining Company, in the Slate Range Mining District, San Bernardino County, was incorporated. It is capitalized at \$1,050,000, in 4,200 shares worth \$250 each.

"The 'Newport,' " L. A. Tri-Weekly News, March 28, 1864, 2:2:

This mining company, of the El Paso district, incorporated on Feb. 16, received a full set of books on the last steamer. They were manufactured under the supervision of J. H. Lander, the secretary of the company. They "surpass anything in that line." A San Francisco company has bought heavily in the Newport; work will begin at once. On Saturday, the editor saw some ore recently extracted from the lode; it can be worked in a smelter.

"The Mines to be Fenced In," L. A. Tri-Weekly News, March 30, 1864, 2:1:

Prospectors report that surveying parties are found in nearly every mountain pass, looking for places to establish toll roads by "thieving monopolies." A tollgate has recently been placed in the San Fernando Pass. This toll road increases freight rates to the mining districts north of Los Angeles. ". . . It is stated that the ascent and descent of the San Fernando Hill are not materially changed by the 'improvement.' "

“Rich Silver Ore,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, April 6, 1864, 2:2:

The editor has seen samples recently taken from the Newport lode, in the El Paso district. The ore is studded throughout with native silver. The Newport also contains a copper-bearing vein, in which the silver and copper are easily seen.

Ad., L. A. Tri-Weekly News, April 8, 1864. 2:3:

The Newport Gold and Silver Mining Company, in the El Paso district, Los Angeles County, will meet in Los Angeles, on May 9, to elect trustees and conduct general business. James H. Lander, secretary. Dated April 8 1864.

Ad., L. A. Tri-Weekly News, April 8, 1864. 2:3:

The Newport Gold and Silver Mining Company, of El Paso district, that, at a meeting held on April 7, the trustees levied an assessment of \$1.40 on each share of capital stock, payable, in coin, immediately to James H. Lander, secretary. This is assessment no. 1. Ad dated April 8.

“More about Dividends,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, April 11, 1864, 2:1:

“Appointed,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, April 13, 1864, 2:2:

A message from Sacramento, on April 7, reported that the governor has appointed George S. Evans adjutant-general, replacing [] Kibbe, who has been removed. “. . . No better appointment could have been made. Col. Evans was formerly commander of the Second Cavalry; resigned, went home and the people elected him Senator from Mono and Tuolumne counties. He drew the long term.”

“Arrived,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, April 15, 1864, 2:2:

[More to come.]

“Good Result,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, April 18, 1864, 2:1:

The editor has learned that an assay of between 500 and 600 pounds of silver ore from the Newport claim, in El Paso district, yielded \$102 in silver. The assay was made in San Francisco.

“From the White Mountain District,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, April 25, 1864, 2:1:

The editor has seen samples of very rich gold quartz and silver ore from several lodes on Mineral Hill, in the White Mountain district. Today, the steamer *Senator* will depart from San Pedro for San Francisco, where “a working test” will be made on several thousand pounds of the ore.

“From Kern River,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, May 4, 1864, 2:2:

A former resident of Los Angeles County, who has moved to the Kern River, writes the editor that is “well satisfied with the change. The farmers there are in the best of spirits”:

they have good land and plenty of water, obtained from the melting snow in the mountains. They will raise plenty of corn this year. Settlers are gradually arriving, and there is room for many more.

“From the ‘Newport,’ ” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, May 4, 1864, 2:2:

The first of several 100-pound shipments of fine ore from the Newport lode, El Paso district, arrived in Los Angeles last week. Work has begun on the lode, and regular shipments of ore will follow.

“Newport Mining Company,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, May 12, 1864, 2:1:

At a meeting of the company, held on May 9, William H. Perry, S. Lazard, W. H. Peterson, N. A. Potter, and T. G. Hunter were elected trustees. At a later meeting, Perry was elected president, James H. Lander secretary, and Solomon Lazard treasurer.

The Newport ledge lies in the El Paso district; it is one of the first discoveries. It has proved to be very rich and is probably the most extensive lode in the area.

The company has a “full outfit,” an experienced superintendent, and a crew of “practical miners.” The company is pushing work directly upon the vein, upon which ore has been received in Los Angeles; further shipments are on their way. According to recent information, rich ore is being rapidly extracted and grows richer as the lode is penetrated.

“From El Paso,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, June 9, 1864, 2:1:

Captain William Moore, who has been opening up the San Francisco ledge, arrived in Los Angeles, from the El Paso district, on Tuesday evening. According to Moore, a shaft has been sunk 40 feet on the San Francisco ledge, which is 7 feet wide. A shipment of fine ore is expected to arrive in Los Angeles in a day or two.

“Improvement at Wilmington,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, June 14, 1864, 2:2::

Yesterday, a train of six or eight 4- to 5-ton wagons passed through Los Angeles, laden with brick for use in the construction of buildings in Wilmington. At least three of these trains of 10- and 12-mule wagons have passed through Los Angeles within the past few days.

“Ore from the ‘San Francisco,’ ” L. A., Tri-Weekly News, June 14, 1864, 2:2:

A shipment of rich copper and silver ore from the San Francisco lode, in the El Paso district, arrived in Los Angeles last week. The lode is well defined and extensive. Work is being vigorously carried on.

“From El Paso,” July 7, 1864, 3:1:

According to recent information from the El Paso district, rich ore has been found in the Swansea, Venus, and Peter lodes, all of which are copper. Ore is being taken out of the Peter lode, which assays 80%[?] copper and \$105.65 in silver per ton. The Yarbrough

company, working three shifts, has driven a 150-foot tunnel; it's expected that the company will reach the Manzanillo ledge within 50 or 60 feet more.

[Untitled], L. A. Tri-Weekly News, July 14, 1864, 2:1:

The Owen's River *Herald* is the name of a new semimonthly newspaper, published at Bend City, in the Owen's River Valley.

“Struck It,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, July 26, 1864, 2:1:

The Newport Mining Company, in El Paso district, has struck rich ore in the Newport ledge. A shipment of ore is on its way to Los Angeles.

[Untitled], L. A. Tri-Weekly News, January 23, 1864, 2:1:

On August 15, \$10,000 in treasure was sent from Esmeralda, by Wells, Fargo & Company.

[Untitled], L. A. Tri-Weekly News, August 27 [25?], p. 2[?]:

J. W. Tucker, the noted jeweler of San Francisco, has petitioned the county court for the benefit of the insolvent act; his liabilities are said to be \$400,000 and available assets about \$50,000.

“Gone Up,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, August 27, 1864, 2:1:

John W. Tucker, the jeweler, has petitioned to take the benefit of the insolvent law, in the San Francisco County Court.

“Shot at,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, Aug. 27, 1864, 2:1:

“Reported Death of Mr. Yarbrough,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, August 30, 1864, 2:1:

Information reached Los Angeles yesterday that Indians had killed [George] Yarbrough, the superintendent of the Yarbrough Mining Company, in the El Paso district; the killing took place last week, at Mesquite Springs, halfway between Desert Springs and the mine. It seems that Yarbrough had been in Desert Springs on business and was returning to the mine when he lost his life. Since last week, several conflicting reports were received, but [] Brown arrived directly from El Paso yesterday, confirming the reports of the death.

“Discovered,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, September 3, 1864, 2:1:

According to a dispatch, dated in Visalia on August 26, the bones and skull of Thomas M. Heston, who was believed to have been murdered about 14 months ago, were found near the south fork of the Kern River; the identity was made from some papers and four false teeth, which were set upon a gold plate.

“Murder of Mr. George Yarbrough,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, September 3, 1864, 2:2:

An investigation leading to the discovery of the body of George Yarbrough, at Mesquite Springs, showed that white men, not Indians, as was first believed, committed “the foul deed.” The body, stripped of all clothing, was found in a gulch away from the scene of the murder. His clothing was found in two or three parcels, covered up with stones and sagebrush; his gold watch, jacket, and any money were carried away. The footprints of the killers at first seemed to have been made by moccasins, but when traced for some distance, over hard ground, they turned out to have been made by boots or shoes. According to informants, who had obtained full details, highwaymen lying in wait for the Slate Range Express, which was carrying bullion, missed the express. They probably thought that Yarbrough was taking out money to pay the workers at the mine and ambushed him instead.

“Sold,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, September 29, 1864, 2:2: [L. A. Star.]

“Our Own Mines Coming up—Encouraging to ‘Feet’ Owners,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, September 29, 1864:

“For Litel Creek,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, October 13, 1864, 2:1:

It’s reported that miners are “flocking into the gold placers at Litel Creek, San Bernardino county. Soledad—Ravena City, as we learn, has been almost depopulated; all are leaving for the new mines above mentioned. A large proportion of the miners also left the El Paso, and other mining districts north of this place. . . .”

“Election Proclamation,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, October 22, 1864, 2:5-3:2:

The county supervisors called a special election for Oct. 15, 1864. Precincts listed:

Soledad: Polling place at the house of John Freeman.

Tehachape: Store of Bishop & Rison. Inspector: E. B. Tyler. Judges: Baily Tungate and James Youree[?].

Tejon: House of Samuel A. Bishop. Inspector: Samuel A. Bishop. Judges: Jesse Stark and P. Halpin.

Green Meadows precinct abolished.

Santa Catalina (new precinct): House of F. A. Gregory.

“Los Angeles County Election Returns,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, Nov.ember12, 1864, 2:1:

“Vote of Los Angeles County,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, November 19, 1864, 2:3: [Tehachapi, Soledad.]

“Died,” L. A. Tri-Weekly News, November 22, 1864, 1:2:

“Another Copperhead paper, the *Aurora Times*, gave up the ghost on election day. Thus they go to the grave with their party.”

[Letter to O. W. Childs], *L. A. Tri-Weekly News*, December 10, 1869, 2:1:

“New Discovery,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, July 3, 1869, p. 2:1:

NEW DISCOVERY.—A party of gentlemen, named Moss (discoverer of the Moss lead on the Colorado)[,] McGuire and Beecher, have made a discovery of rich ore, while prospecting the country between White Pine and the head of navigation on the Colorado river. The *Visalia Delta* of June 23d says:

They have made some of the richest discoveries ever made on the coast, their ore running from the hundreds up into the thousands [dollars?], and ledges from three to thirty feet width, with an abundance of wood, water, and grass; within a very few miles are immense forests of yellow pine, and that of the best quality for lumber. Being short of supplies they could not remain a sufficient length of time to prospect the district as they wishes, but will start out again in a day or two. The ore they bring with them is equal to any we have ever seen—the Eberhardt not exempted. We have compared it with the “Antrim” rock, of which Slate Range notoriety, and know that it is richer than any ore that ever came out of Slate Range—many tons of which has [have?] been shipped to San Francisco that yielded a thousand dollars to the ton.

“Letter From Virginia City,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, Aug. 28, 1869, 2:1 (Virginia City, Nevada, Aug. 22, 1869):

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

VIRGINIA CITY, NEV., Aug. 22d, '89.

EDITOR NEWS: Perhaps there may be, in Los Angeles, some poor devil, soured against all mankind—which of course means womankind—who may have occasion to try the route from Owen’s Lake to this point. Such a one will undoubtedly be morose and uncongenial enough to set out alone.

“Rich Mine,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, July 14, 1869, 2:1:

RICH MINE.—Mr. Lloyd arrived in this city yesterday with two thousand five hundred pounds of argentiferous galena, which yields upon an average seven hundred dollars in silver per ton, taken from the Alabama lode in the Yellow Pine District, situated about one hundred and thirty miles north-east of Camp Cady, and supposed to be in Lincoln county[,] Nevada, and thirty-five miles north-east of the Colorado river, and in the vicinity of Eldorado Cañon[?]. There are several prospecting parties in the immediate district that have made rich discoveries, and from the assays made by Mr. L., the district promises to be one of the richest on the Pacific coast. The Alabama lode is about fifty feet in width and can be traced upon the surface for three or four miles. The company propose reducing the ore at the mine, as the facilities for so doing are abundant, plenty of wood and water being at a convenient distance from the mines; the ore being worth not less than eight hundred dollars per ton, and transportation to San Francisco, via Los Angeles, being four cents per pound, a handsome margin will be left the miner after paying the expenses. The district

contains three distinct belts or ranges of metal—one of copper, of the most superior quality, running north-west and south-east, and about twenty feet wide; another belt or range contains argentiferous galena, which runs in about the same direction but has the appearance of being much wider than the copper, another and third belt or range contains iron, mixed with silver, and runs in the same direction, and has about the same width of the other belts. The surrounding country has the appearance of being a limestone, similar to that of White Pine, the underlaying of which is a strata [stratum] of metamorphic rock of the green sandstone series, the whole of which appears to be a compact bed of mineral.

“Later From Virginia City,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, Sept. 2, 1869, 2:2-3 (Virginia City, Nev., Aug. 22, 1869):

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

VIRGINIA CITY, NEV., AUG. 22d, '69.

EDITOR NEWS.—At the close of my last letter I had just arrived at Aurora. If ever there was a paradoxical term, it is Aurora, as a name for such a town. Although it rose, flourished, and fell, Aurora is quite unlike Roman, but the seven hills are there. Some reader of this may have been in Aurora when its name appeared more appropriate than at present; now, desolation reigns complete, and one night in the town will be sure to bring an ungodly fit of the blues, even to the jolliest boy in the land. To see extensive and substantial brick mills, embodying whole fortunes, blocks of buildings, stores, and hotels, all deserted, is a sorry sight, though it conveys an excellent lesson concerning mining excitements. There, as at Hot Springs, one small mill is running slowly as it half inclined to stop outright. We rode up to a hotel, a three story brick structure, which once fed a tide of rushing humanity—if a hungry man can be termed human. It was just at the hour of twilight, as all good novels lay the scene; not a light was visible in the hotel, the doors stood open revealing a great office and bar room, but as destitute of human element as was the bar of anything of everything to stimulate poor humanity. A single specimen of Aurora's *Romans*, a thin cadaverous looking individual was leaning against the building, probably to support him, as he was the proprietor, and that was evidently the only manner of support afforded him by that piece of property. How we chuckled over the eagerness with which he took us in and done for us; considering that we were the fortunate possessor of only two bits and a short bit, we looked upon the idea of occupying a whole hotel as a rather presumptuous affair. Having yet a twinge or two of conscientious feeling left, we informed the proprietor of our financial condition. The good soul—in spite of his thin, hungry, anxious look, assured us that it was all right. Like the old maid who learned to smoke because if left an air of having a man around, so this good hotelist was delighted to entertain a guest once more, “without money and without price.” We were the only guest of the house, so we accomplished what was never done before, and doubtless never will be again, that is, we run a three story hotel brick hotel for a day upon the strength of two bits and a short bit. Any one could do it with money, but show us the man who could accomplish the feat in first class style with less coin. You may now have an idea of the desolation which is apparent throughout the once red-hot town of Aurora.

Leaving Aurora, we travel over a good road through a broken country, but the route, like the town just left[,] is almost deserted. One may ride for a whole day without meeting a human being journeying along the road, except it be the post-boy or the state, which comes along semi-occasionally. Now and then we find a small and beautiful agricultural valley where there may be one or more large and well kept ranches, but many old ranch

buildings located in less favorable spots, during the flush times of Aurora and Hot Springs, are now abandoned.

At Walker River, fifty miles from Aurora, we find a neat hotel; cool refreshing breezes stealing down from the snow fields of the Sierras, a glorious thunder storm and beautiful sunset, and last, but by no means least, our piscatorial longings were satiated by a fine string of trout, caught within a few rods of the hotel. In the morn we rode away with a stomach full of trout and a mind filled with longings for a week's sporting in this region, with headquarters at this first really neat that has fallen in our way for many a week.

Naught occurs to break our lonely meditations until the broad and fertile Carson valley appears to view, near the end of another long ride, and nearly one hundred miles from Aurora. It is scarcely necessary to state that Carson Valley is well settled, and comprises the flower of Nevada's agricultural land, as in fact it does the bulk thereof.

Carson City, its new mint, just upon the eve of commencing operations, Virginia City, the mines and other matters of interest in this vicinity may claim our attention in another letter. Just now, all I have to say is, take with poor company rather than travel alone over this dreary sage-brush country. Even the devil's company is preferable to one's own cursed thinking.

Emerson said a good thing when he told us that "Nowhere else is a man so much above the corporeal things of this world as when mounted upon a good horse and alone." Let him try a mustang for a ride of four hundred miles, through sage-brush and over rugged mountains. Also, gentle Anna Dickenson, who discourses learnedly concerning babies and loafers, tells us of the "noble red man." They would all speak more to the point after a little of 'old experience."

"San Bernardino Items," *Los Angeles Daily News*.

"San Bernardino Items," *Los Angeles Daily News*, September 15, 1869, 2:3 (*Guardian*, Sept. 11):

...

The *Guardian's* Hardyville correspondent writes as follows, concerning the new mines:

Discoveries of some importance to the people of Southern California have quite recently been made. A party of six miners, headed by John Moss, after visiting White Pine, came to the conclusion that a formation quite similar might be found to the north of this place. A few days since one of them was in to this place for provisions, and informed me that they had found a second White Pine and quite as extensive.

The locality as described by this miner is about sixty miles in a northerly direction from here, in a low range of mountains—in fact they have found several localities, within fifty to eight miles, that bid fair to prove rich. It has been understood that a very troublesome and hostile band of Indians called the Amargosa, held possession of this country; and it is these Indians who have come from time to time made raids on the San Bernardino and Mojave road. The miners went prepared to conciliate them, taking several mule loads of goods such as Indians fancy, and have succeeded in buying the good will of the Indians, who have commenced to bring into camp samples of rock, and in fact they led to all the rich discoveries.

A party of ten or fifteen Indians were also persuaded by the miners to come in and reports themselves to the commander of the post at Camp Mojave. By this we hope that no more depredations will be committed upon the north side of the Colorado River.

“Local Intelligence,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, November 9, 1869, 3:1:

YELLOW PINE.—Since the discovery of Yellow Pine and Clarke Districts by Capt. J. Moss and companions, in September last[,] considerable excitement has been manifested by the mining population of this state, and a good deal of inquiry has been made as to the whereabouts of these districts. For their information we copy a table of distances from Laurel Hill to the mines.

“Local Intelligence,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, November 9, 1869, 3:1:

PROSPECTING PARTY.—The prospecting party for Death Valley, mentioned in the NEWS of Sunday, was composed of William Engle, Dennis Searles, J. F. McDonald and Oliver Stearns. The party has one of the finest of outfits, being prepared with an ample supply of everything which an old prospector could wish.

“Local Intelligence,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, November 16, 1869, 3:1:

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.—Saturday night Mr. Ward, a resident of Willow Springs, had one of the fingers of his left hand shot off by the accidental discharge of his pistol. It was dressed by Dr. Orme.

“Local Intelligence,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, November 18, 1869, 3:1:

RICH ORE.—Yesterday a seventy-five pound specimen of argentiferous galena, rich enough to make a man wish he had “feet” in the mine which produced it, was deposited in the NEWS office by Mr. Chas. Austin. It is from the Comet mine, in Yellow Pine District. The supply of similar ore is inexhaustible. The specimens before us would probably assay nine per cent. of lead and silver. The mine is owned by Mr. Chas. Austin and six other parties, three of the company being from the Los Angeles county. One of the partners is now in San Francisco, with a ton or two of the ore, for the purpose of securing a reliable and satisfactory assay. Smelting works are to be erected immediately and the ledge faithfully worked. In this mine the partners feel confident that they have a fortune.

“Local Intelligence,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, December 17, 1869, 3:1:

FOR YELLOW PINE.—A party of gentlemen [will?] leave this city for Yellow Pine mining district to-day, intending to locate permanently in that quarter.

“Local Intelligence,” *Los Angeles Daily News*, December 28, 1869, 3:1:

NEW SILVER MINE.—Some rich specimens of silver-bearing rock have been brought here for assay, which are claimed to have been taken from a newly discovered mine, near Camp Cady, about half way between San Bernardino and the Colorado river. The alleged discoverer is Mr. L. [—]lekan.

MORE TIN.—From San Bernardino comes [a] report of the discovery of a new tine mine, by J. J. Atkins, at Swartstout Canon [Cañon?], Little Rock Creek, some forty miles north of San Bernardino. Ore sent to Dr. Gelcich for assay, he reports as containing some thirty per cent. tin. If this be correct, the ore will rival or surpass in richness that from the San Jacinto mine. The ledge is well defined, and the discoverers are jubilant over their prospects.