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ELKO COUNTY
TUSCARORA DISTRICT

BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE STATE MINERALOGIST OF THE
STATE OF NEVADA, H. R. WHITEHILL
FOR 1877 and 1878, pp. 17-21

GRAND PRIZE: After the Grand Prize Co. was incorporated, systematic work was soon begun and at a depth of 40' a large body of rich ore was found. Substantial hoisting works and a 20-stamp mill were erected, and soon the shipments of bullion were commenced. During 1877, 251 tons of ore were extracted giving a gross yield of \$888,714.20. The bullion yield up to the present time has been about \$1,600,000. The ore from which this bullion was extracted was taken chiefly from above the 320' level. Concerning the present condition of the mine, the following is from the Times-Review of Nov. 12. In the east drift (320' level) for the distance of 150', the ledge is continuous and from 15-18" in width, but most of the ore is of low grade; would mill probably from \$50-70 per ton. At the distance above mentioned there is a slight disturbance of the strata, of hardly sufficient magnitude, however, to be designated a "fault" or "cross-head", as it barely severs the ledge. From this point to the place where the big cross-head commences is perhaps 50'. The ledge is about the same size, but of a better quality of ore than east of the first break. From this point the drift runs northeast 75' through a chaotic mass of broken ground, which was evidently mixed and thrown together in one of nature's eccentric moods. At the eastern termination of this jumbled mass the ledge comes in again, but the ground continues more or less broken, and the lode correspondingly irregular both in size and quality for another 50', where solid ground is struck, and with it a distinct and compact vein of rich ore, which continues to increase in size and quality to the Argenta line, a distance of 80' where, at the bottom of the drift it is nearly 3' in width. At this point the two companies have

combined in the sinking a joint winze, which yesterday forenoon, when the the reporter visited the mine, had been sunk about 12'. The pitch of the footwall in the winze is 57° , while that of the hanging wall is about 45. Both are ~~as~~ smooth and well defined. The difference in the pitch has, in the distance sunk, increased the width of the ledge from 3-10', and as the walls continue to run at the same angle the entire distance, the indications point almost positively to a corresponding widening of the lode for a considerable distance below. The ore is mostly sulphuret with a little ruby intermixed, and scarcely any quartz. The lode dips to the NW and the ore chimney directly to the west. The distance from the old shaft to the winze, on the boundaries of the two claims, is 380' and if the chimney continues to its present dip, its western boundary cannot be more than 130' from the shaft at the 400' level. The east drift from that level has already been extended 115'. Nothing is being done in the works west of the shaft at the 320' level. The winze in the west drift had been sunk to the depth of 24' and at the bottom there was a solid ledge 3' wide of \$200 ore.

INDEPENDENCE: was originally located as the Young American North; has 1500' on the vein. During the past year nearly 3,000 tons of ore from this mine have been worked at the Grand Prize and Independence Mills, the bullion yeild from which was \$178,651.57. This company owns, in connection with the Navajo Co., a 10 stamp mill with a White's roasting furnace. A double compartment shaft has been sunk over 200', over which has been erected substantial steam hoisting works. The cost to this company of the mill and furnace was \$31,000 and of the hoisting works \$10,000. Four shafts have been sunk at different points on this company's mine. At a depth of 100' in No. 1 shaft a level has been run to the southern boundary line of the claim and one north a distance of 140'. At 500' north of Shaft #1, another shaft has been sunk 175'. It is well timbered. Shafts #3, #4, are only prospecting shafts which were sunk with a windlass. There is a great amount of ore in sight in this mine which yields at the mill \$50 per ton. Vein is from 4-8' in width.