

ANOTHER GOLD MINE DISCOVERED!!

Mr. Shaw.—The discovery of gold seems to engross almost exclusively the public attention, and the late success in Habersham county has produced such a spirit of research that the most valuable results may be confidently expected. Noticing in your last paper, that you have given an account of "Cap's Gold Mine," I send you the description of one lately found under the State House, in the town of Milledgeville. It is said to be rich and inexhaustible; differing materially from all others, in this, that it actually fills up as fast as it is taken out.

This mine belongs to an old maiden lady, the youngest of thirteen daughters, which an old gentleman, I think they call him 'UNCLE SAM,' had by his first marriage. She is a very credulous old body, easily imposed upon, and has farmed out her mine to certain persons, who cajole her just as they please. She is a litigious old creature, very much engaged in law all over the State, and such is her exclusive and constant concern about her business, like all other weak-minded suitors, that any one, no matter what his turn or talents, who offers his services, and God knows there is no lack of advisers, is sure to be retained. You would laugh to see some of her counsellors. In this way, she has now actually 230 *stornics* working her mine, and who pay her for the privilege nothing but right down *broad-tack*, and that not much to the point. She, good easy soul, sets by, looking over her spectacles, and thinks they are doing wonders, but in truth they are turning out her gold for themselves, in high style, according to the slang of the country.

It has been somewhat difficult to account for this mine, for there is nothing about the place where it is found, that bespeaks any of the usual signs of such a valuable mineral. It is thought that the spot whence they dig it is a perfect sink, and that it has been washed there from the surrounding country by hard and severe showers, and covered over by the dirt and trash which generally settle in hollow places. There is another theory on the subject, rendered somewhat plausible from the peculiar manner in which they find the gold combined with other things. It is not dug out from a white flint ridge, but from a white paper bed, and it is so curiously mixed up with this substance, and adheres so closely to it, that some have supposed that it is artfully folded up, and glued into a fine but firm kind of wrapper. If so, it requires the exercise of no little ingenuity to ascertain how the gold dust is concealed in the covering. Now my own belief is that this metal has been found and collected by a people who well knew its value, and deposited there by them, in former times, and who intended to return some day or other to reclaim it for useful purposes as their wants and necessities might require. But the old lady, above mentioned, has, some how or other, set up a title to it, and having gotten the possession of it, has subjected it to the ravaging operations of the *aforsaid* hands. They make the old body believe that when they are not talking they are making out interrogatories for her, and to see them employed in the business you would think they were actually writing, but upon close examination you see it is the peculiar manner of getting out the gold.

It is done principally by a singular process of scratching the bed where it lies, and inserting a sharp instrument into it, not unlike picking a pocket, which instrument, at a distance, very much resembles a goose quill, and is filled with mercury.* Upon drawing it out, which is done very cautiously, and somewhat sily, the gold dust is found sticking to the mercury.

The hands engaged, are divided into two parties, very nearly equal, and except when laughing and joking with each other at the manner in which they are playing upon the old lady's credulity, they are quarrelling with each other about the division of their spoils. They have no other good reason for their disputes but the distribution of the gold. They give out, however, that their wrangling proceeds entirely from their great veneration for the fair owner of the mine, and that they are watching each other for the alone protection of her interest. But this is fudge. Whenever their own interest can be served you will find these very contenders uniting to hide the dust, and if they can secure a good share of it the old lady may go to the d—l. There are a great many visitors to this mine, and their chief object is to beg or hire themselves out for a few of these shiners. The regular miners have a use for a number of servants and messengers, to send through the country to make the old lady believe they are preparing and carrying on her law business, and to these, they give occasionally, the privilege of picking out a small quantity of the precious metal which they leave behind, for it is but two months in the year they can work the mine. All the applicants cannot be employed, perhaps not more than one in a hundred, and it is very amusing to see how they will dance attendance upon the miners to procure a little of the yellow, and how the miners will wink and nod at them, at the same time throwing out by hints and signs, that they shall all have some. But by and by when the day comes to see who shall get, one or two lucky souls are permitted to dive into the quarry and the balance are found trudging home on every road leading from the mine, with empty pockets.

The present hands engaged, except what little they occasionally take for immediate use, will not wash out, as it is called, until about Christmas, at which time the season of gold finding for them at that mine, comes to an end, and then it is confidently believed that each hand will average FOUR DOLLARS per day! Indeed, it is said that some of the overseers and principal managers will make *art—!* Be this as it may, I have no doubt that this is the richest mine for some people, that has ever been found in GEORGIA.

BOXER.

* Not quicksilver, but what the ancients called the "essence of cunning."