

The Ohio-Idaho has installed a Giant drill on their property and will start it up before long. This is the first machine drill in the camp.

August Anderson, was here from Breakfast creek this week. Mr. Anderson is driving a tunnel in on a quartz property there which is showing up some very fine ore.

W. J. Sheehy, of the Fox drug firm, Smith & Sheehy, arrived in town from Orofino, Wednesday. Mr. Sheehy will bring his family in in about three weeks.

William Gaffney and William Sutherland went out Tuesday to the Silent Friend. They are going to run a crosscut tunnel. The Silent Friend is in the same vicinity as the Wild Rose.

Mr. A. Ellis was in from the Wild Rose Saturday. Mr. Ellis says that the shaft on the Wild Rose is down 95 feet and that the excavation for the last set of timbers makes the best showing that has yet been made. The last set yielded 151 sacks of first class ore.

Bring on your shekels now and give the MINER a lift. Subscribe for it and send it to your eastern friend. If you will only plunge up the \$2 you are at liberty to send it anywhere. If Prince Henry has any dear friend here we even condescend to put his name on our royal list. Prince and peasant, plutocrat and pauper—all coons look alike to us.

Smith & Sheehy have opened up their drug store and are now prepared to attend to your wants. They have their goods arranged in a very neat and attractive manner. The addition of this new firm to the Pierce business circle will prove both profitable and pleasing to the community. Both are young men of energy and enterprise. If you are wanting anything in their line be sure and call on them, and they will treat you right.

Last week a large party of men passed through Pierce on their way to Hide-away hole on the North Fork to locate the C. A. Jones property. Mr. Jones failed to do his assessment work last year and the property is now open to location. This is the property on which Mr. Jones picked up \$750.00 worth of nuggets in three days. Mr. Jones was so busily engaged with other mining ventures last year, that he did not have time to work his assessment. The property is valued at a \$100,000.00—more or less.

ENGLISH WASPS.

As a Rule They Are Not Vicious and Rarely Sting Each Other When They Become Aggressive.

The common wasp, as a rule, keeps its sting for self-defense, says the London Spectator. It will bite a fly in two with its jaws if it gets in its way on a window pane, but it does not use its sting even when trying to rob a beehive, and "tackled" by the bees. The latter will push a wasp away five or six times, hustling it off the foothold, without provoking it to sting. But if a bee endeavorers to sting the wasp, it then grapples with it and stings back, killing or benumbing the insect almost at once. British wasps are fussy and excitable, but not vicious, like many of the Indian wild bees. However crowded or uncomfortable they may be, they very rarely quarrel with or sting each other, as, for instance, when a number are on the same window pane, fretting and anxious to get out. Only when the entrance to their nest is threatened do they become actively aggressive, and then as a rule the attack is not begun till the person who excites their fear interposes between them and the entrance to the nest. A setter dog was noticed to turn and bite itself, whimpering with pain, just as the party were sitting down to a shooting luncheon by the side of a wood in Yorkshire. The dog, being tired, had lain down on the hole of a wasps' nest, and five or six of the yellow insects were stinging it at once; but they did not touch the persons sitting close by.

ABOUT THE WOODCHUCK.

The Animal Is a Cousin of the Squirrel—Sleeps All Through the Winter.

Perhaps no wild mammal is more familiar to country people than the woodchuck. Every hillside and meadow is dotted with the small piles of earth which mark the doorway to his home. The woodchuck prefers a hillside or a knoll in which to dig his hole, for here he can easily make the end of his den higher than the beginning, thus avoiding the danger of being drowned out.

What could be more unlike in general appearance than a woodchuck and a squirrel? Yet they are cousins, both belong to the same family of mammals. The trim body, sharp claws and agility of the squirrels make it possible for them to lead an arboreal life, jumping recklessly from branch to branch, while the flabby form and short legs of the woodchuck better adapt him for digging than for running or climbing.

The nature of the food of the woodchuck is such, says a writer in Country Life in America, that he cannot lay up stores as the chipmunks do, nor is it of such a kind that it can be obtained during the winter. The case of this creature during the winter seems to be, therefore, one of "sleep long and soundly or starve." During the winter's sleep or hibernation life processes go on very slowly. Breathing is reduced, and the heart-beats become so slow and feeble that they cannot be felt. They come from their winter's sleep about the 1st of March in New York.

A Fast Locomotive.

Batavia has been trying the American locomotive, and likes it, all except its "unearthly screech." Our engines are somewhat vociferous, but they need to be, in order to give fair warning of their swift approach. It was an American engineer who told of the exploit of a locomotive of which he once had charge—that it ran so fast that it reached the station ahead of the sound of its whistle, which came along a second or two after the train had stopped.—Troy Times.

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