

Placer Mining.

The scene depicted on this page will bring to the minds of many of our readers recollections of the early days of mining in California when gold was easier to get at than at present. Claims were smaller, wages larger, gold more plentiful and times easier to the working miner than now, when capital makes more out of mining than labor. We see in the engraving a miner panning out some dust for a prospect; another working his rocker; others at the "long torn," and still others washing in sluices. Some of the miners are "drifting" into the hill, some working a shaft to bed rock and some working in an open cut and pitching the gravel into the "torn." Most of the diggings of this class are now worked out in California



or are now being reworked for the third or fourth time by Chinamen, who earn from \$1 to 2.50 per day in such ground. The gravel mines are now worked on a large scale, with tremendous heads of water, heavy expenses and by wealthy companies. The area of ground now owned by these companies would, in early times in California, have been large enough for 500 or 1,000 men to work on; but then of course it is a different class of ground and not near so rich as that worked by individual miners. The processes in mining shown in the engraving are so well known, that it is useless for us to go into details and describe them.

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