

### The Great Blue Gravel Company.

This company was incorporated a short time ago with a capital of \$5,000,000. The central location of the works is at Pinkham Hill [Peckham Hill?], some two and a half miles from the United States ranch of Peyton Powell, some sixteen miles from here, on the Forest Hill divide. The company have bonded the following gravel mining tracts of land: These claims are known as the Rough and Ready claims of Wiley & Co., the Big Channel Company's claims, the Wiley & Seifer claims and the Spring Garden claims of H. S. Bryan; making from 900 to 1,000 acres, and extending along the gravel channel of an old dead river some two miles, which is about 1,500 feet between the rim rocks, as determined by actual prospecting, for a full mile and a half. Many tunnels have penetrated the channel, and found good paying gravel, but they were all too high to drain the basin or permit the small companies to fathom the bottom or determine the depth and value of the deposit to and on the bed-rock. It is the firm belief of old miners that this channel, as defined by the rim rock which has been cut and traced for the above distance, is the bed of what Hittel calls the Big Blue, one of the dead rivers of California. Indeed, at one point on this ground a shaft has been sunk 160 feet deep, through pay streaks of gravel, encountering driftwood that showed plainly that it is the bed of some old river of greater magnitude than any of the living streams in these mountains of to-day. All this ground the company propose to drain by the aid of hoisting works and pumps, propelled by a powerful engine, or at least to run an incline shaft to the bottom from the end of the tunnel at Pinkham Hill, and determine the depth and character of the deposit down to the bed-rock. The machinery and engine is nearly completed, at the Miners' Foundry, in San Francisco, and will be on the ground and at work in a few weeks. Wm. Higby is President and Charles Dewey, Treasurer, both of San Francisco where the stock is chiefly owned, and Peyton Powell, of this county, is Superintendent. We take a deep interest in this enterprise, as should all our people, and will try to keep our readers posted on the developments as the work progresses. If it should prove a success it will be almost to a certainty the pioneer of still vaster developments of the kind on that divide. —  
Auburn Herald.

*Mining and Scientific Press, V 25, 7/13/1872, p 89*