

-REPORT ON-

**THE NEWHOUSE TUNNEL
CLEAR CREEK COUNTY.**

For The Year 1895-97

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STATE BUREAU OF MINES.

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THE NEWHOUSE TUNNEL

The Newhouse Tunnel is located at Idaho Springs, Clear Creek County, thirty-eight (38) miles from Denver. Operations were begun on Jan. 1st, 1894 and at present the Tunnel is driven in 4,000 ft. The enterprise is being run by English capital, under the supervision of Mr. Samuel Newhouse. The Tunnel when completed will be four (4) miles long and terminate at the Eureka Mine, Central City. The Eureka shaft at present is being sunk and will connect with the Tunnel at a distance of seventeen hundred (1700) feet from surface. Deep mining in Gilpin County of late years has not brought the same profitable returns of former years at less depth, from the fact that improvements in machinery have not been instituted in that County to handle great quantities of mineral, the profit of which is minimum, and the facilities for handling ore are somewhat behind the times, therefore the necessity of the Newhouse Tunnel. At a distance of two (2) miles from the mouth, the tunnel will intersect some of the best paying gold properties in the Idaho Springs District and from that point on the Gilpin County producers will be encountered. On the line of the tunnel there are approximately speaking eleven hundred (1100) veins and one hundred and seventeen (117) known producers. From the head of Virginia Canon across to Nevadaville the producing mines can be worked through the Newhouse Tunnel by making connections. Royalty will be charged the owners of the properties working through the tunnel, which will form the Tunnel Company's greatest source of revenue. It is estimated that at a distance of two and one-quarter (2 $\frac{1}{4}$) miles there will be enough paying veins cut to make a daily out-put of three hundred (300) tons. The Government Report of 1870 states that the only correct method to be pursued in mining in Gilpin County, in the Russel Gulch and Nevadaville Districts, is through a tunnel from Idaho Springs which would tap the gold zone that exists in that locality. In 1895, \$2,780,000 in gold was produced along the Tunnel site. The line of the Tunnel is due North and South and the course of the veins is North-east and South-west. The Tunnel Company owns twenty-five (25) veins along the line or five thousand (5000) feet in length of Tunnel at the Idaho Springs end and the Eureka Mine at the Gilpin County end. The Tunnel is 12 by 12 in the clear, double tracks and an air-course 14 by 28 inches in the center on the tunnel. The Tunnel is being driven at the rate of 300 feet a month and from that estimate it will take five years more until it is completed. The practical part of the work is under the supervision of Thomas Hanahan, a miner of good, practical experience. The machinery consists of the following: Two air-compressors, one being held in reserve in case of accident; Two Leyner drills are kept going three shifts; One No. 11 Hyatt and Smith Fan, capacity seven thousand (7000) cubic feet of air per minute, operated by a twenty (20) horse-power engine.

A. C. Morrison

Mining Inspector.

March 3, 1896.