

1848

1915

First Nugget

found in

California

by

James W. Marshall

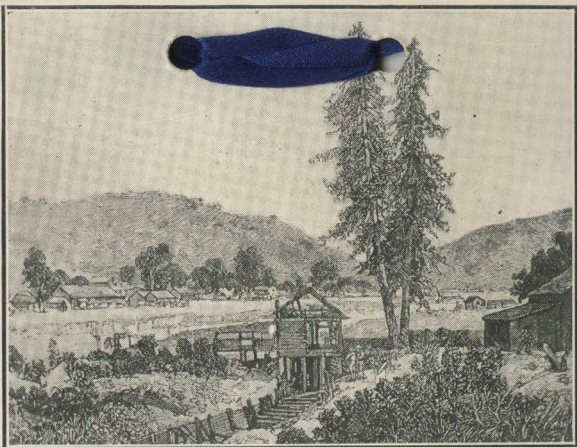
*Though battered and old,
Our hearts are bold,
Yet oft do we repine
For the days of Old,
For the days of Gold,
For the days of Forty-nine.*

WE, the undersigned, hereby certify that the above nugget is a true and exact facsimile of the original Marshall Nugget found in California on January 24th, 1848.

JAMES ROLPH, JR., Mayor of San Francisco

WM. IRELAN, JR., E. M., Ex-State Mineralogist

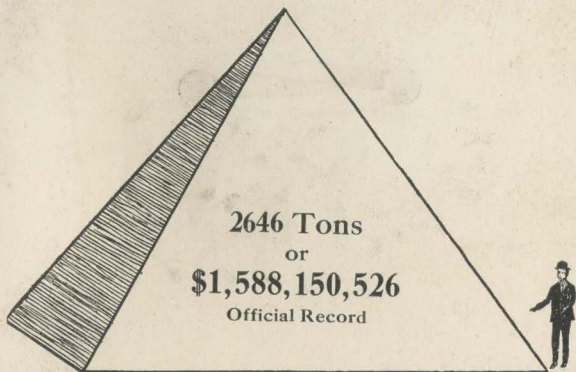
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Sutter's Mill, Eldorado County, Where Gold Was
First Discovered.

The following is Marshall's own story of the famous discovery that set the world aflame with excitement and caused the greatest stampede in history.

"On a cold clear morning, January 24th, 1848, I was taking my usual walk along the mill race. After shutting off the water my eye was caught with a glimpse of something shining in the bottom of the ditch. There was about a foot of water running there. I reached my hand down and picked it up, it made my heart thump for I was certain it was gold. After taking it out I sat down and began to think right hard and wondered how I could prove my find. I happened to think of Mrs. Wimmer, wife of one of my men, who was from the placer mines in Georgia, and I took it to her and asked her to boil it in her soap kettle, which crude test proved to my satisfaction that it was truly gold."

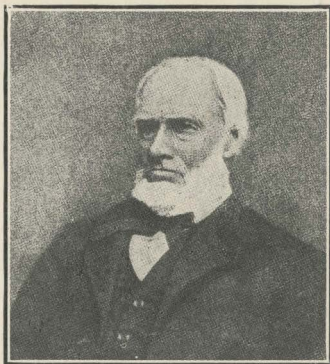


Showing comparison of an average man, with the bulk of gold produced in California.

In 1848, \$245,301.00 was produced.

In 1852, the banner year, produced \$81,294,700.00

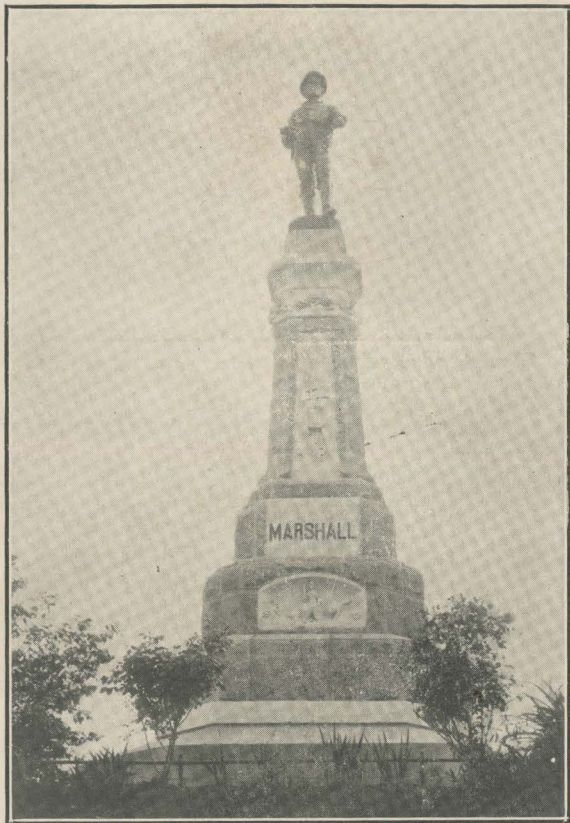
Many millions of dollars in gold have been taken out of California without having been recorded.



James W. Marshall was born in New Jersey in 1812. He came to California in 1846, where in company with John A. Sutter, started a saw mill which is still in existence.

Gold was discovered by Marshall in 1848.

Due to his excessive generosity, Marshall died a pauper in the year 1885 at the town of Kelsey, Cal. near Coloma. A beautiful bronze monument marks the last resting place of the man who discovered California's greatest asset.



Monument at Coloma, Cal., dedicated to the memory of
James W. Marshall by the Native Sons of
the Golden West.

This monument represents Marshall standing with his left hand pointing to the spot in the mill race where the discovery was made, his right holding the precious metal. With lips apart he seems to utter "Eureka!" meaning "I have found it."