the amount brought by private hands, the greater part of which should be credited to California—since, by reason of its bulk, but little silver finds its way to San Francisco outside the regular channels—we shall have a total for California and Nevada of $36,849,375, for the first nine months of 1866. The total receipts from all sources during the year 1866, amount to $52,691,653.

The revival of the quartz interest in California, stimulated to greater energy by the recent brilliant success of so many mines on the Gold Belt, bids fair to cause the gold product from quartz to rival that produced from the washings.

SILVER.

The silver interests of the State of California have, as yet, attracted but little attention. The silver product of the Coast must be mainly credited to the State of Nevada—whose famous "Comstock" lode has already taken rank as one of the great silver bearers of the world.

Unlike the ores of Nevada, the greater part of the silver mines of California contain the precious metal in such complicated combinations as requires the aid of smelting for its extraction.

Amongst other varieties, we may enumerate Antimonial Silver, Ruby Silver, Argentiferous and Auriferous Galenas, Copper Glance and Fahlerz. Under the Mexican régime a small quantity of silver was extracted from a mine at a place called Alisal, in Monterey County, and made into plate; some pieces of which are still in the country. This is the only instance, as far as can be learned, of the occurrence of silver in the Coast Range. Along the western slopes of the Sierras, silver ore is found in small quantities on the line of the Gold Belt. Amongst other places, native silver may be seen in the Harpending claim, in Placer County; and silver ore has been found near Ophirville, in the same county, in the Columbus District of Tuolumne County, and in the Excelsior District of Nevada County, where the galena is auriferous as well as argentiferous.

The High Sierra and its eastern slopes are the only localities where we may look for the occurrence of silver ores in appreciable quantities. Some tons of valuable silver ores have been received from Shasta County. Traces of silver are found in Plumas County; and then again south in Alpine County, in the vicinity of the town of Monitor; thence passing along the eastern flanks of the Sierras, southwards, at various places in the counties of Mono and Inyo, including the mines of Owen's River; and again in the western portion of San Bernardino County, where the Slate Range silver mines are located. Excepting a shipment of $6,000 from a single claim in Alpine County, no considerable amount of bullion is reported from the silver mines of the State of California.

Furnaces for reducing the silver from its ores have been constructed in two or three localities, with only measurable success. The rebellious nature of the ores, the distance from the lines of easy communication, combined with the prevailing inexperience as to the proper methods of treatment, have hitherto very materially retarded the development of this interest.

QUICKSILVER.

The occurrence of the gold and silver of the Coast, mainly in such combinations as admit of reduction by means of amalgamation, rendered necessary a large supply of quicksilver. The production of the old world, derived chiefly from the old Almaden mine in Spain, and the Idria mines of Austria, was supplemented by the discovery of very extensive deposits of Cinnabar in the Coast Ranges of California. The supply from these sources has sufficed not only for all mining purposes at home, but also largely for export.

The ore of quicksilver is mostly in the form of a sulphuret; the method of its occurrence is not, properly speaking, in regular veins, but in irregular masses in the form of bunches, stringers, etc., and occupying a certain zone of impregnation. Traces of Cinnabar have been found in nearly all the counties of the Coast Range, from