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The Woodruff Shaft.

In 1877 a shaft (J-47) was put down on the Woodruff farm, Mill creek, Union district, N. 1° E., one mile from Angerona, for the purpose of testing for silver.

Several years before a well had been drilled for salt water to a depth of 200 to 400 feet, and it was reported that some silver ore was found. In fact, some of the ore reported as occurring in the well (but more probably dropped into it surreptitiously) was sent away for analysis and found by the chemist to be rich in silver; hence a company was organized with Pittsburgh capital and this shaft was sunk. The depth of the shaft was about 500 feet and it started near the top of the Lower Marietta sandstone. It is reported by Mr. Thomas Cunningham of Angerona, that at a depth of 430 feet a thin seam of coal was found from 3 to 4 inches in thickness, which correlates with the Pittsburgh bed. No silver was found in the shaft and it was finally abandoned.

The Shinn Shaft.

Another shaft (J-49) was put down on a farm owned by Albert Shinn on Cow creek, Union district, S. 45° E., one mile and a half from Angerona. This shaft was sunk about the same time as the Woodruff shaft and to a depth of about 350 feet. As no silver was found, this shaft, too, was abandoned.

Records of Oil Wells in Mason County.

Several wells have been drilled in Mason county in search of oil and gas, but up to the present time very little oil or gas has been found. Dr. I. C. White has the following to say in regard to Mason county in Volume I (A), page 479:

"Geological structure and conditions are very similar in Mason to those in Jackson, and hence no productive wells of either gas or oil have yet been found, although some oil and gas occur in every well drilled, along with abundance of salt water, which has long been utilized near Hartford on the

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