

-9-OLLER COCHITI.

At the present time many circumstances tend to show that considerable attention is being attracted to the Cochiti Mining District. That this should be so, is not in any way surprising to those familiar with its history. For an at present comparatively small, isolated, mineralized territory it most certainly has done exceedingly well. For what is generally supposed to be a low grade camp, it shipped, and returns were received for some large quantities of not medium but high grade ore. For a new and young camp it passed through many troubles. First:—Land Grant Claims threatened its existence, but for New Mexico's sake, these are happily for ever past. Next, it had to run the gauntlet of a crop of law suits, afterwards adventurers in the guise of promoters came in whose only aim was to tie up, ostensibly purchase, or otherwise obtain properties, stock them, sell stock, and after pocketing the greater portion of the proceeds, abandon them. Others fell down before reaching this point, but all were a detriment and were then and have been to this writing a hindrance to the camp, in that they prevented actual capital from coming to its aid in the discovery, development, and recovery of its immense riches for the benefit of our own citizens and mankind in general. They did not affect its deep buried values, nor change them one iota, but made history repeat itself, as its experience became similar to that of most of the great camps of the west, in passing through a vicissitude period of sober afterthought and preparation, leaving it ready for emergence into an atmosphere of production and opulence.

History repeats itself, and comparisons prove that the great Calumet and Hecla Mine was in its early existence condemned. I, myself, knew some of the original stockholders who had cold feet in its inception period and sold their original holdings for a song. Butte City, Montana, was in my remembrance and knowledge, a gold placer camp, next a silver camp, ultimately developing into one of the great copper camps of the world. Cripple Creek had its Mount Pisgah and other transitory excitements, all utter failures, many years previous to its being brought suddenly into accidental prominence. The United Verde Mine was a failure until W.A. Clark took hold of it, and expended large sums of money in development. Arizona Copper, Clifton, A.T. passed through a like experience, its stock in the late 80's could have been bought at the very lowest bargain prices. Copper Queen, and Cananea opened up as Lead Mines and had little or no value until capital had been expended upon them in prospecting for and proving their immense low grade Copper deposits. Nevada went through a similar experience of uncertainty, condemnation, and fortunate later discoveries by accident.

This list could be prolonged indefinitely, but a single recent peculiar instance must suffice. Under date of April 8th 1907 a statement is made that the President of a large Arizona copper mine has returned from an inspection of the companies property. "He said that the recent discovery on level 14 is one of the most remarkable in the south-west. The ground just above this level consists of broken quartz and gravel. The last issue of the U.S. Geological Survey, stated, that the ground below level 12 would run into lean ore, and this statement has been used as a bear argument hence it is interesting now that every part of level 14 runs better than the same ground in the level above. A similar argument was used as to some Cochiti veins, which I contested, and it is satisfactory to know that the argument has been refuted in actual practice elsewhere.

In the Cochiti District we find a system of large mineralized veins and spurs, equal and similar in their character to those of any of the great camps of the west, and fulfilling every requirement as laid down by the most eminent geological authorities. "Continuous well defined outcrops, and wide bodies of quartz are in general good indications of maintenance in depth.

Lodes seldom outcrop their entire length, usually they protrude at intervals along the strike, and occasionally only in one place." This lack of surface continuity determines nothing as to the horizontal extension of ore bodies in depth". Croppings are often misleading, in appearance, the least attractive ones sometimes prove to be the most remunerative".

All of these conditions apply to, and are most strikingly exemplified in the Cochiti District. Many other surface indications tend to prove that the continuity of the Cochiti Mother Vein is more than ordinary, in fact that it fills an extraordinary seismic, or other break or fissure that can be traced for many miles.

The ores are extremely siliceous in character, carrying generally 95 to 96 per cent Silica. Hence they are remarkably free from the basic elements Iron and Lime, and the inferior metals Lead and Copper. We have only the ever saleable Gold and Silver to deal with in their beneficiation. Tellurium has been recognised as a constituent, but it is not in sufficient quantity to be considered in the treatment.

Shipments of surface ore aggregating some thousands of tons have been made, of net values from \$100.00. down per ton of 2000lbs The Washington Mine shipped more than \$50,000.00. of ore to Pueblo Smelters. The Lone Star probably exceeded that sum, and the Crown Point near to \$40,000.00. All of this had to bear charges for smelting, hauling and mine expenses of near \$30.00. per ton before one cent could be expended in development or paid to owners. In the Washington case money was paid for outside expenses, that should have gone to development.

The ~~####~~ deeper and larger bodies of lower grade ore, and the accompanying high grade are intact, but the great bulk of this ore must be milled or beneficiated on the spot, or within easy reach of a good supply of water and cheap fuel. The higher grades of ore were as previously stated sold to the smelters, but with the present and recent improvements in Cyanide practice there is no question but that a very high per centage of the values can be saved with that treatment, in fact it is an ideal cyanide ore.

It must be plain and extremely clear to anyone intelligently, and thoroughly examining the surface indications, together with the recorded returns of actual shipments, that there is here a district worthy of special attention.

We do not, nor does any one claim, that its veins and spurs are continuously mineralized, with either pay or high grade ore, that would be expecting too much, but we do claim that with ~~####~~ its rich deposits and shoots, and its undoubted heavy mineralization at the intersections of the spurs with the mother vein, and elsewhere, it will with the expenditure of capital, which means work, be the equal, if not the superior of many of the present day bonanzas.

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