

## THE MONEY IS IN PROSPECTS

### Bonanza Mines Cost as Much As They Are Worth.

The prospect of today may be a mine tomorrow, for mines are made, not found. One often hears of a search being made by heavy capitalists for big producing mines, and yet, of late, the tendency is to make investments in promising prospects, with a view of developing them into paying propositions, and it has been demonstrated, time and time again, that more money is to be made by this method than in acquisition of a developed mine which already has produced its hundreds of thousands.

At one time the impression prevailed in this western country that the bonanzas already found and being worked comprised all the mines productive of the precious metals that ever could or ever would be found. Of late years, however, it has been proven that this is a mistaken idea, as, during almost every season, some wonderful finds are being made throughout the mining districts of this inter-mountain region. Utah camps have them by the score, and the reports of important finds in the mountains of adjoining states substantiate the claims often made that, as yet, we know nothing of what we actually possess in the way of mineral wealth.

Ten or fifteen years has wrought a wonderful change in the mining situation of this western country. At that time we were proud of our great dividend payers, honestly believing that time would not produce their equal, and yet, after so brief a period in our mining history, our old-time wonders have been more than duplicated by a large number of new mines, some of which overshadow the records made by our first great mines in a manner that gives increased confidence in the mining industry of the Rocky mountain region.

The success that has attended mining in all its branches during the past few years should have a stimulating effect upon the prospector and upon the owners of mining claims. As "tall trees from little acorns grow," so it is in mining affairs. The greatest dividend payers of today were, at one time, nothing more than prospects, and prospects are being developed into paying mines in almost every mining camp in the west. This being the case, the prospector should not become discouraged, nor should the owner of a promising mining claim desist in his efforts to develop the same because it is not a Silver King, a Daly West, a Horn Silver or a Highland Boy, which, at one time, were nothing but prospects.—Salt Lake Mining Review.

#### Big Money in Developing Mines.

The prospector has about as much advice given him as anybody. And considerable of it is worth just what it costs. There is advice enough on hand now to run him for a while. What he really needs more than good advice is good example. During 1902 he has been told, numerously, "Develop your claims." Might it not be well to bestow a little such admonition on the investor. Ordinarily the only thing that keeps a prospector from developing his claims is lack of money. Sometimes the man who buys the prospect for a very little and makes a mine out of it tells the prospector he was foolish to sell so cheap, which is adding insult to injury. In such a paper as this it is never of any use to point out a defect or want, without proffering a remedy or aid for its need. In this case the most likely benefit would

be to interest the probable investor, not so much in buying a mine—a "going mine," as our European friends would say—as in developing mines. There is really more in it for capital in making a mine for itself than in paying big money for a property already developed and paying. For this reason this paper views with favor the organization of development companies that have ample money to invest, knowledge enough to invest it sensibly, and business patience enough to not be in too big a hurry for returns. Good mines can be made in the way indicated. There are plenty good prospects that deserve development, but it is little use to tell the prospector "Develop your claims." He has done pretty well to discover them. If he had the money to develop his claims, probably he wouldn't be a prospector. He is trying hard enough to develop them, but the way indicated would be more in the line of good business.—Mining and Scientific Press.

#### About That Sale of Victor Group.

THE SUMPTER MINER, of Wednesday last, says: "Seymour H. Bell today bought for W. H. Tibbals and other Salt Lake people the Victor group of six claims, in the Red Boy district. Roy Miller represented the owners and made the sale. The full details of the transaction could not be learned. A cash payment of about \$3,000 was made this afternoon, just before THE MINER went to press. This amount is reported to be ten per cent of the purchase price, the remainder of which will be paid at an early day." When his attention was called to the above item yesterday, Prof. Tibbals admitted that in the main it was correct. The property, he said, had been recommended as a good buy some time ago, and, after investigating its merits thoroughly, he and an eastern investor, whose identity he did not care to disclose at this time, had decided to take the property over, and Mr. Bell was authorized to close the deal. The mine, he said, was located about two miles west of the famous Red Boy. It had been opened with two tunnels, a shaft and several open cuts along the ledge, and the sampling had been perfectly satisfactory. The ore is productive of gold and silver values, about equally divided. A batch of nine samples had disclosed an average value of \$66.93; two samples from another point had disclosed a value of \$143; five from another went \$76, while the average of a sackful of the ore taken from all parts of the mine and sent here for assay a few days ago gave returns of 210.7 ounces of silver and \$101.60 in gold per ton. In addition to the other reports on the property, J. H. Robbins, manager of the Golconda and mayor of Sumpter, had recommended its purchase, while W. W. Robbins, of the Red Boy, had declared it to be a good property. The purchasers are now in possession of the mine, and work upon it will begin at once. It is expected to be a money-maker from the start.—Salt Lake Tribune.

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