



THE SUMPTER MINER

ENTERED LARGE ORE BODY AT STANDARD.

Cut 16-Foot Porphyry Dyke With Veins of Good Ore on Either Wall.

Dr. Ed W. Mueller, general manager of the Standard, accompanied by Mrs. Mueller, returned from a visit to the property yesterday morning. Things are looking pretty good at the Standard, Dr. Mueller says, and development work, since his last trip, has been attended with the usual good results.

The crosscut to the south from Standard drift No. 1, he says, has passed through a sixteen-foot quartz porphyry dyke. Beyond the quartz porphyry formation the crosscut is now passing into an immense body of low grade concentrating ore, carrying copper, gold and silver values. This body has been entered for a distance of twenty-one feet and there is still ore in the face. Its width is, therefore, unknown. On either wall of the quartz porphyry dyke, veins of good ore were cut. The presence of porphyry is regarded as a highly favorable indication

among mining men, as nearly all large deposits of base ore are associated with porphyritic intrusions. Drifting along the dyke into the mountain is being continued with good ore in the face.

In the Cleveland drift the rock is hardening, but considering this fact good headway is being made. The regular shifts are being worked and 100 feet a month are being driven.

A load of supplies will be sent out to the mine tomorrow.

The snow, Dr. Mueller says, beyond Flynn's station, is all gone from the roads. Around the Standard on southern exposures also there is much bare ground. In proof of his statement, he exhibited to a Miner man some buttercups which he and Mrs. Mueller picked from patches where the snow had melted off. The evidences of spring, he says, are rapidly making their appearance in that vicinity.

MORTAR MAKING AND METALLURGY

It was probably known to nearly every Roman citizen how the mortar which cemented the stones of their buildings was made, just as it is now known to the majority of people what the principal ingredients of our mortar are. But the knowledge being general, nobody wrote it down, and in time, as the Romans shifted their buildings upon slaves and foreigners, the recipe of their mortar was lost. So far it has not been discovered, though the secret of it would be immensely valuable, for the cement outlasts the very stones which it joins. India once possessed similar secrets. In Lahore there is, or was, a massive building made only of brick and mortar, but the builders who erected it in about

320 B. C., understood their business so well that the fabric defied the engineering efforts of four successive governments to remove it.

India, too, can show plastered buildings white and shiny like marble and as smooth and polished as glass. Whether India learned her building arts from Egypt or Egypt hers from India is not yet ascertained. But whichever it was, Egypt excelled in this art. The imperishable mortar they had, of course.

They performed feats of engineering which we could not accomplish at the present time—for example, the building of the Pyramids—and they could carve hieroglyphics upon granite which can nowadays only be touched by jewels.

But steel has been made which could probably carve this granite. Japan had this secret once, but has lost it now. A drill was on exhibit some time back, made from this Japanese steel, which went easily through a standard file, and was not dulled in the process. India also was in possession of a steel secret

once, which is lost now. This was the inlaying with gold of steel blades in such a manner that the strength of the blades was not impaired nor its temper spoiled.

Many secrets in metallurgy have been lost in addition to those mentioned above. Nobody has found out how the old brass of the ancients was made—that brass which does not tarnish with exposure to the weather, and which can only be distinguished from gold by the application of acids or by testing its specific gravity.

Hard copper—as hard as steel—has also been made, yet analysis shows it to be practically pure metal, the impurities being exactly the same as those found in ordinary copper. It was that wonderful people, the Aztecs, exterminated, or nearly so, by Cortez, which possessed this art. Electricians feel themselves at liberty to curse Cortez for being the probable cause of this process being lost to the world. To them copper as hard as steel would mean almost as much as a perfect insulator capable of standing heat for an indefinite period and impermeable to moisture.—Exchange.

PROGRESS OF WORK AT THE STORM KING

Manager Tom J. Costello has just come in from the Storm King and reports everything moving along nicely in the different workings. The weather of the past few days, although severe on the divide, was hardly noticed down at the mine.

The shaft on the Jessie and Golden Rule is going down at a good clip, as owing to the total absence of water the men can work to the greatest advantage; the character of the ore is showing a material change for the better, which change gives evidence that the same kind of ore will be found in this ledge as in the Storm King and Honest Dollar.

The work in the Storm King crosscut is rapidly showing up a fine body of ore, and as the drift is continued, it becomes apparent the ore will increase in width, and as its values, proven by assays, are increasing as the work progresses, it only remains a matter of time when this ledge will justify the erection of a mill.

The work in the Honest Dollar drift is going steadily forward, gaining depth at a most encouraging rate, and showing a most beautiful body of galeus ore, similar to that uncovered in the tunnel and shaft on the Enreka end of the Honest Dollar, so all in all, the management is highly pleased with the splendid values which are being rapidly brought to view.

OPERATIONS IN THE SUSANVILLE DISTRICT.

Susanville, March 14.—(Special)—Despite the hard winter and deep snow this section experienced this season, there has been an unusual amount of underground development work done, while others have taken advantage of the good snow roads and hauled in quite a considerable amount of machinery.

Messrs. Simpson and Stevenson have erected a thirty ton capacity mill on Elk creek with which they intend working over the old tailings of the Cooper claim and also do custom work, which will be quite a help to this section, as owing to the enormous expense of getting the ore to the smelters a great many prospects which show values from \$10 to \$20 per ton, are per force lying idle and only assessment work is being done.

The Badger company's mill was shut down the most part of the fall and winter, but its ore is so rich that it was shipped to the smelters at Tacoma during the winter.

The Blue Channel Gold Placer Mining company, on Big Creek, is also one of those which has taken advantage of the good sleighing and is hauling in machinery for its deep drifting works, which is an old river channel, carrying a blue gravel similar to the famous Blue lode of California. Its gold is very coarse and rich, goes over \$18 to the ounce. This company owns about 530 acres of placer ground, part of which is patented. This ground has been known to be very rich ever since its discovery, and quite a good many fortunes have been taken out, but owing to the antagonistic feeling of the various owners, no work to any amount could be done. While one owned the water right, another owned the dump and in that way one embarrassed the other, but the present owners, who are New York gentlemen, bought up all the desirable land and water right and are preparing to work the ground to its best advantage. Last fall they sunk a shaft of 115 feet to bedrock, on which they are now installing a steam boiler, pump and hoist with which to handle the pay gravel from the old channel. They have also now on the ground two giants of the latest improved pattern, with about 2,000 feet of hydraulic pipe, which they will install as soon as the weather permits. Everybody looks forward for them to make a fine clean up this summer, thereby adding considerable to the credit of this section and state.

Ribbons. All colors and widths, the very latest effects.
C. J. JOHNS.