

## WHAT DIAMOND DID FOR LEADVILLE

It was to the skillful employment of the diamond drill that the new discoveries of the past year made in the Leadville, Colorado, district. Although mining has been carried on there since 1887 in the leading silver ore bodies, it is only within the past four or five years that the fact that the ore bodies have a distinct trend, much the same as in veins and deposits elsewhere, has attracted attention. If the ore-bearing strata of the district were undisturbed and had a uniform dip, doubtless the approach to uniformity in the distribution of the ore shoots would have been noticed soon after the development of the camp commenced; but the structural conditions are such as to have a tendency to destroy any appearance of uniformity of occurrence, which really exists.

The sedimentary series was deposited in a position essentially horizontal on the floor of an ancient ocean. Later these sediments, sandstone and limestone, were intruded by eruptive rocks—porphyries of various kinds, differing in composition and, to some extent, in age. The first and larger intrusions were of laccolithic type; the latter ones of lesser magnitude but of vaster importance, as related to the formation of the ore bodies. Then followed the ore deposition. The sandstones became quartzites, the limestones became marble in part and were in part replaced by sulphide ores. Then occurred the faulting and uplifting of the strata into dome-like laccoliths, and the ore bodies of Leadville with their surrounding rocks were divided into a series of irregularly shaped blocks of gigantic size. The faults were not parallel, though approximately so in the greater number of instances. There are also cross-faults at various angles and the entire region is thus broken up into independent blocks, the bounding planes of which have broken the continuity of the ore shoots and made a puzzling complex from the originally simple condition.

The faults vary from a few feet displacement to several thousand. To add to the perplexities of the situation, the entire district was planed off by a glacier and a lake formed, covering a large portion of the district, on the floor of which was accumulated a vast quantity of gravel. Subsequent erosion resulted in the formation of the present gulches and the exposure of the few outcrops of ore which exist in the district. In consideration of these conditions, it is not strange that the extension of the knowledge of the mineral zone beyond certain limits has been shown. In addition to the "blind" prospecting, which was generally carried on through shafts or underground drifts and crosscuts, there was usually large volumes of water to contend with, and the result of the expenditure of large sums of money was often discouraging. In the early history of the camp some of the most fortunate discoveries on record were made.

On Fryer hill, the Little Pittsburgh or body, which yielded several millions, was the result of the fortuitous location of a prospector's shaft in the gravel of the glacial drift. At 30 feet from the surface a mass of iron ore, rich in horn

silver, was struck, and it was subsequently proven that this was at the point of nearest approach of the ore body to the surface. A few hundred feet distant another shaft was sunk similarly in gravel on the chrysoilite claim. The gravel was passed through, but in place of ore the prospector struck barren porphyry. Disgusted with his luck, the prospector salted his claim, and sold it for a few thousands dollars and decamped. The purchaser of the claim, upon discovering the deceit, continued his shaft ten feet deeper, and struck a million dollar ore body. But these things are of the past, and the miner in Leadville today must work systematically in his endeavor to find new ore bodies, but the results accomplished by the intelligent use of the diamond drill in the discovery of new and large ore deposits has opened up a new era of possibilities in the Leadville field, and it affords a striking object lesson to miners elsewhere, who may well profit by the experience of the energetic Leadville operators.—Mining and Scientific Press.

## HOW ROGERS TRIED TO SQUARE GREEN

It is an interesting story they tell about the manner in which the promoters of the Amalgamated Copper company just missed procuring control of Greene Consolidated Copper. According to the reported facts, it was an attempt on the part of Henry G. Rogers to grind W. C. Greene down to a low figure, taking advantage of the latter's misfortunes, that lost Mr. Rogers the opportunity of seizing the Sonora copper properties, incorporated in Mr. Greene's name.

During the recent raid on coppers in New York, under the guidance of Thomas W. Lawson, Greene Consolidated Copper was one of the stocks that suffered. Mr. Greene stepped into the breach, but it is stated that in seeking to check the decline, he bought 135,000 shares that he was unable to pay for. The story runs that Mr. Greene went to Henry H. Rogers and explained the situation, asking the father of Amalgamated to come to his relief. Mr. Rogers turned the matter over to an associate, and the latter showed so strong a disposition to haggle over the price of the stock that the Sonora mining man withdrew from the conference. Shortly afterward he fixed up an agreement with the American Metal company that brought him relief and at the same time cut the Amalgamated people out of his considerations. The 135,000 shares, thus transferred, would have given Mr. Rogers control of the Greene Consolidated.

This story is related not so much for the moral it contains, as for the bearing which it may have in the future upon the metal market. Under Mr. Greene's reported agreement with the American Metal company the latter will succeed to the copper market contracts of the Sonora company May 1, 1906—the date when the present contract of the United Metal Selling company expires. The output of the Greene properties in 1903 was about 45,000,000 pounds, and in 1904, according to the estimates of Horace J. Stevens, it amounted to 55,000,000 pounds. This is about half of the copper output of Mexico and it is equal to the copper output of Utah. The American Metal company is said to

represent foreign interests and it stands in the attitude of an independent toward the imagined copper trust. From which it may be judged that the change in the Greene contract will add to this company's power and conduce to greater freedom in the market, strengthening the weaker and independent elements at the expense of the stronger.

The future of the copper situation is a subject that is engaging the attention of the best experts in the country. The steadily growing demand for the red metal is a well recognized element, but the question of supply is more difficult to consider. The United Metals Selling company is known to stand for the policy of secrecy and it is the institution through which the dark influence of the Amalgamated Copper company work. A strong competitive force, designed to split some of the present influence in the copper market, may prove salutary.—Daily Mining Record.

## CLARK TABER AND HIS PIPE IN TOWN

Among today's arrivals in Sumpter were Clark Tabor and his pipe. The eastern Oregonian who professes no acquaintance with Clark Tabor and his pipe, admits his ignorance of two of the most unique figures in Web-foot mining history, and a gentleman of whom no evil can be said. A few years ago Mr. Tabor was part owner of the celebrated Red Boy mine, when that property was yielding gold bullion at the rate of about \$25,000 every thirty days. He and E. J. Godfrey and Oscar Benson picked up the Red Boy as a prospect of doubtful value. They were poor men, and yet in five years they equipped their mine with one of the most complete 20-stamp mills in the west, spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in development of the famous 1000-foot Monarch and Red Boy payshoot; and later installed a deep sinking plant, which cost, when completed, \$150,000. A consolidation was effected with the Concord mine, a merger corporation being capitalized at \$3,000,000, of which two and a quarter million dollars represented the Red Boy end of the deal. Treachery among stockholders, a slicky stock market, war among factions in the company, and a variety of causes conspired to bring about a serious state of financial affairs in the merger, which finally culminated in a cessation of operations, the appointment of a receiver, a sale of the entire property under the hammer, and a general reorganization of affairs under the corporate name of The Red Boy Mines company, capital one million. Just what interest Godfrey & Tabor retain in the new company is not known. However, they were both moving spirits in the reorganization, and undoubtedly will continue to be prominently identified with the famous mine, which is again in operation, although on a comparatively small scale, owing to the absence in the east of Manager Thomson.

Mr. Tabor's mission in Sumpter at this time relates to private business.

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