

# THE STERLING COAL AND COKE COMPANY.

Utah is famous for her mining interests, but comparatively few people outside of the state are aware of the fact that it is not alone a producer of the precious metals that the great commonwealth is entitled to that distinction. The state possesses vast coal deposits, and the collieries of Utah are fast becoming recognized as the first in the west for the quality of their output, and the quality of their product. Some of the most extensive coal deposits known to exist in this state are part of the magnificent fields owned

of immense sums to place the properties on the dividend paying basis now reached. The veins, while producing a fair article of coal were so small that it made mining too expensive to enter into competition with the larger veins of the other companies mining throughout the state, and the locators determined to interest Salt Lake City capital in their discoveries, if possible.

## DEVELOPMENT COMMENCED.

About 1893, Col. Bruback, who was then president and general manager of

## The Story of the Successful Development of a Utah Coal Mine.

### THE VEIN ENCOUNTERED.

Colonel Bruback, with his indomitable courage not in the least daunted by this temporary failure of his fondly cherished plans, with characteristic de-

which is about eight by eight feet in the clear was driven a distance of 2060 feet before it encountered the vein, for which they had been driving. This was within less than 50 feet of the estimated distance calculated upon by Col. Bruback when the work began.

### SUCCESS ASSURED.

To anyone not familiar with mining, the discouragements and difficulties met and overcome in the construction of this gigantic enterprise, would have proved more than the most courageous nature could have withstood. In fact, when the contractors had penetrated to a depth of 1,800 feet they came to the colonel and stated that while it was none of their business, and they were receiving their pay for the work they had become fully convinced that the effort to cut the coal vein at this point would result in failure; that they feared he (the colonel) had made a mistake, and that the work would be useless. Indeed the stoutest heart might well have quailed for after months of expensive tunneling not a sign of the much sought for indications had been encountered. But Col. Bruback had the courage of his convictions, and was not idly guessing. The success of the project is the proof of the theory.

### IMMENSE EXPENDITURE.

As soon as the vein was reached and a station constructed, the company commenced drifting both north and south on the vein. They drifted north 1,200 feet, opening up many rooms in that distance in a small strata of coal which they had been following. Finally after running to the south for 700 feet, exploring the vein the entire distance, their efforts were rewarded by encountering the large vein formed by the junction of two of the smaller ones. All this work as a matter of course not only occupied a considerable length of time, but involved an immense expense, and at times it seemed as though

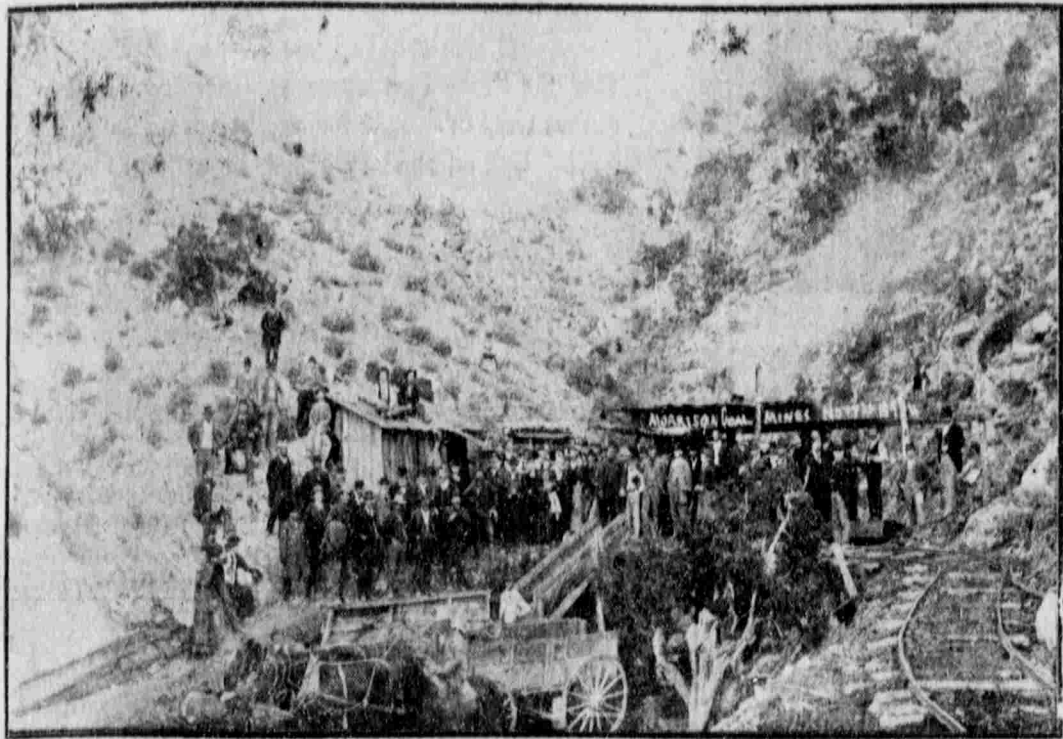
for the anthracite coal of Colorado for heating purposes. After ten days experiment with this coal in one particular furnace in this city he found no soot, the furnace being as clean as though nothing but wood had been used as fuel therein.

With increasing output there was increasing demand, and with the exceptional facilities the company enjoys, in the way of economy in mining and the proximity of the main line of the San Pete Valley Railway at the very mouth of the tunnel, the collieries are placed

### C. S. MARTIN.

Agent for the Sterling Coal and Coke Co. in This City.

The late merchant king, Alexander T. Stewart, of New York City, once said that he had made it a principle of his life to avoid association with the unfortunate, conceding that such a relationship must affect his opportunities and personal advancement. It may be a forceful way of stating the principle; yet it must be recognized that persons



FIRST OPENING OF THE STERLING MINES.

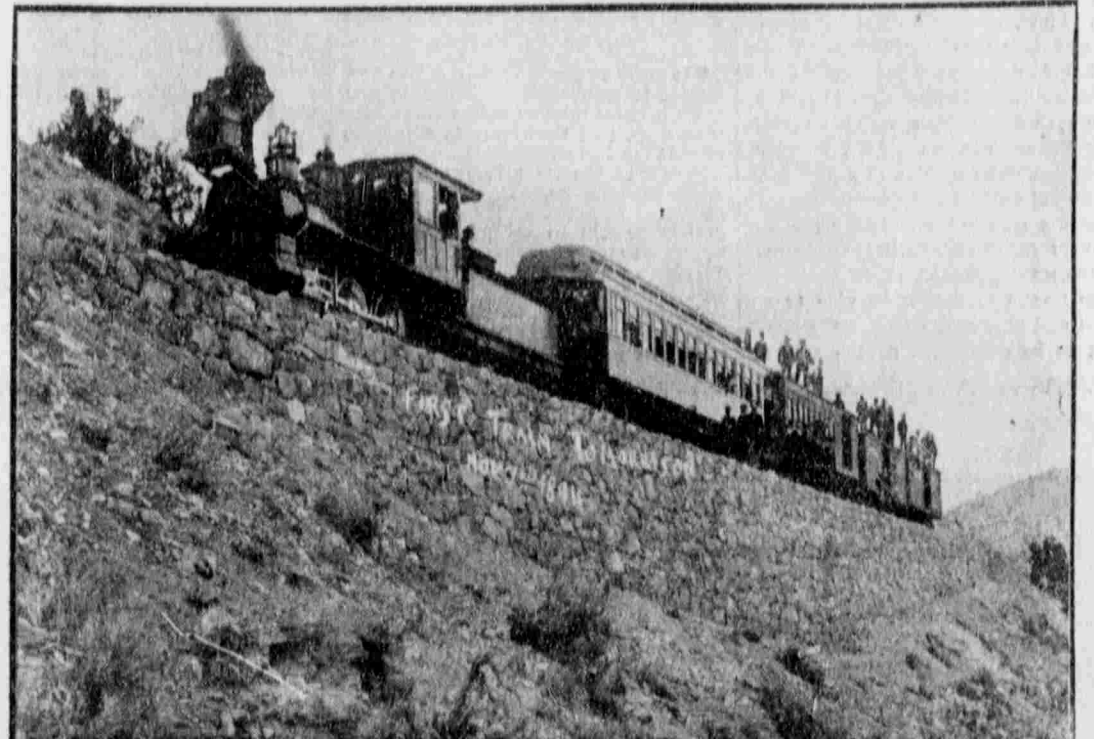
and operated by the above named company. Among the representative promoters of the industry in Utah and the west, none have a finer showing than that made by the Sterling Coal & Coke company, owned and operated by that well known financier, Col. Theodore Bruback.

### DISCOVERY OF THE MINES.

The property owned and operated by Col. Bruback consists of thousands of acres of valuable coal lands, located on Six Mile creek in San Pete county, at the terminus of the San Pete Valley railway, of which the colonel is president and general manager. The coal outcroppings were discovered in 1890, by

the San Pete Valley railway had his attention called to the property and after satisfying himself as to the possibilities purchased first the interest of Henry G. Thomas and later the interest of the successors to the Edmunds brothers, the original discoverers having disposed of their share of the mines a short time previous to the colonel's becoming the owner of Mr. Thomas' interest in the undeveloped prospect. As soon as he became the owner of this valuable property, Col. Bruback organized and incorporated the Sterling Coal & Coke Company and at once commenced to systematically develop the mine. After prospecting the vein

elation, immediately placed contracts for the driving of a tunnel that would strike the immense coal vein some 600 feet below the surface and permit him to extract the coal and drain the water off through the same tunnel without the enormous cost entailed by the expense necessary in maintaining a large pumping plant. In illustration No. 2, accompanying this article, a large stream of water is observed on the left coming from the mine, estimated to carry ten cubic feet of water per minute. This stream of



FIRST TRAIN TO MORRISON ON THE SAN PETE VALLEY RAILWAY, NOV. 7, 1894.

cellent, as many of our readers can testify, but it is the cleanest coal that ever entered the Utah market; being absolutely free from rock. One noticeable feature is the fact that while making an extremely hot fire it has those lasting qualities that appeal so forcibly to the economical housewife and large coal consumers as well. It is so free from sulphur and other deleterious substances that scarcely any soot is deposited in the stoves, the pipes, the chimneys

In direct communication with the coal markets of this state, Idaho, Nevada and Montana. The output of the mines had already won favor in the southern part of the state, and it became a standard coal in this city as soon as introduced by the C. S. Martin Coal Co., who act as agents in this city for the Sterling Coal & Coke company. The yards of this well known and long established firm are on the Oregon Short Line tracks, corner of Fourth West and North Temple streets, where they have more shed room than all the other coal dealers in the city combined.

who court the influence of successful men are proceeding along the line of worthy ambition.

C. S. Martin is a native son of the Golden West, having been born in Sacramento, California, in 1869. At an early age his parents moved to Utah, where young Martin was raised.

He has a practical education that he has put to good account and thereby made amends for the deficiency of his early schooling.

Mr. Martin established the C. S. Martin Coal Co., over seven years ago, and since that time has been one of the most active dealers in the city. His

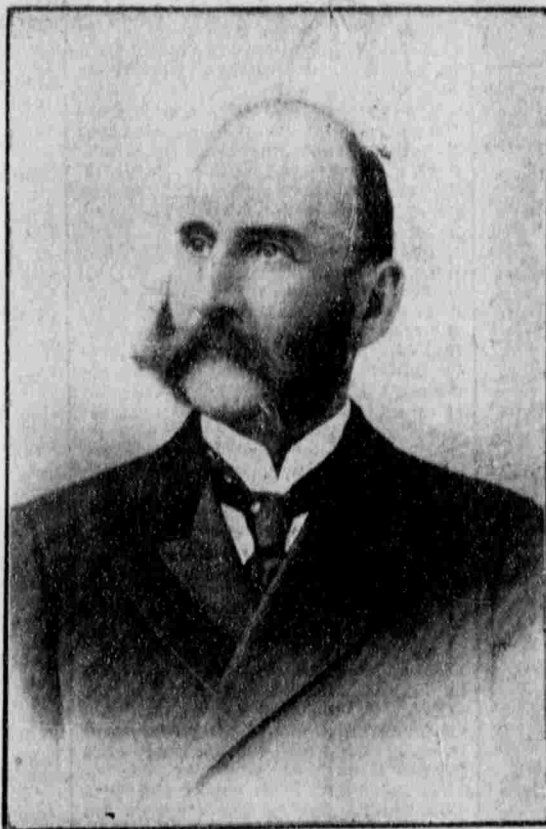
## A GLIMPSE OF THE MAN WHO MADE THE MINE.

While it is true that mines have made men, it is equally true that men have made mines—as an instance in point, we know of no more striking illustration than that of the Sterling mines at Morrison, Utah. Col. Theodore Bruback president and general manager of this magnificent property, has unaided brought an undeveloped coal prospect into prominence as a shipping mine, whose product is rated among the best upon the market. The indications are, however, that the property will handsomely repay the immense expense incurred in its development. Since its introduction in this field, Sterling coal has been accepted as a standard article, and the patronage that has been accorded the product, is the highest testimonial that could be desired by the management.

Henry G. Thomas and the Edmunds brothers, of Wales, Utah. Practical coal miners that they were, born and raised among the celebrated collieries of Wales, England, they at once recognized the valuable significance of their discoveries. They had no capital to put into developing the properties, but succeeded in opening up the veins sufficiently to demonstrate the possibilities that valuable coal deposits were lying dormant, although it has since developed that their discoveries were of only small veins, it required the expenditure

thoroughly, he decided that the best plan of operation would be to open the mines with an incline tunnel. Upon driving the tunnel for a distance of over 700 feet, such an immense body of water was encountered that the colonel was compelled to stop work, having been forced to the conclusion that the presence of water would prove an insurmountable obstacle to the successful completion of the work as at first outlined in opening the mines on this plan.

water is of great value for irrigation purposes and the company expects to derive a large revenue from this source alone. Any one who has had even a passing acquaintance with the difficulties and expense of pumping water from mines can see at a glance the great economy of a drainage tunnel that can be used for transportation purposes, has over the pumping system. The tunnel,



COL. THEODORE BRUBACK.  
President and General Manager of the Sterling Coal and Coke Company.

all the money invested in the enterprise would be lost. It would not be an exaggeration to state that the colonel was the only person who ever maintained an unflinching belief in the final success of the venture.

### SUPERIOR GRADE OF COAL.

The coal was found to be of a superior grade of bituminous, and the supply appears to be exhaustless. The vertical cross section of the vein varied from 7 to 9 feet, and its actual width was 6 feet. There is every reason to believe that within a few hundred feet more the vein will be increased in vertical depth by the uniting of another of the smaller veins with the main vein now being worked. There is no longer any speculation as to the wealth of the mine, and active operations are under way in extracting fuel. Owing to the method of mining, through the tunnel, the operating expenses are reduced to a minimum cost. Col. Pat Dolan, in an article descriptive of the Sterling Coal & Coke company's interests, that appeared in "The Utahman" in June, 1896, writes: "As the supply of coal is virtually inexhaustible, the value of the mine as years go by will be beyond computation. The area of the coal controlled by this company's mine would yield 2,000 tons per day for 7,000 years." Col. Pat Dolan's opinion has been duplicated by experts who have visited the property in the last year or so.

### OPINION OF EXPERTS.

It would be difficult to describe Col. Bruback's feelings, when he learned that the vein he had encountered was even larger than he had anticipated, and that his most sanguine expecta-

## UNDERGROUND WORK AT THE STERLING MINE.

The 2060 foot tunnel of the Sterling Coal & Coke company, which taps the vein 600 feet beneath the surface, is one of the finest pieces of tunnel work in the state. It is eight feet high and eight feet wide, and with sufficient grade to drain the mine in a most satisfactory manner. The draining box is laid beneath the track and planked the entire distance. At suitable points, side tracks have been built, for convenience in the rapid handling of coal cars.

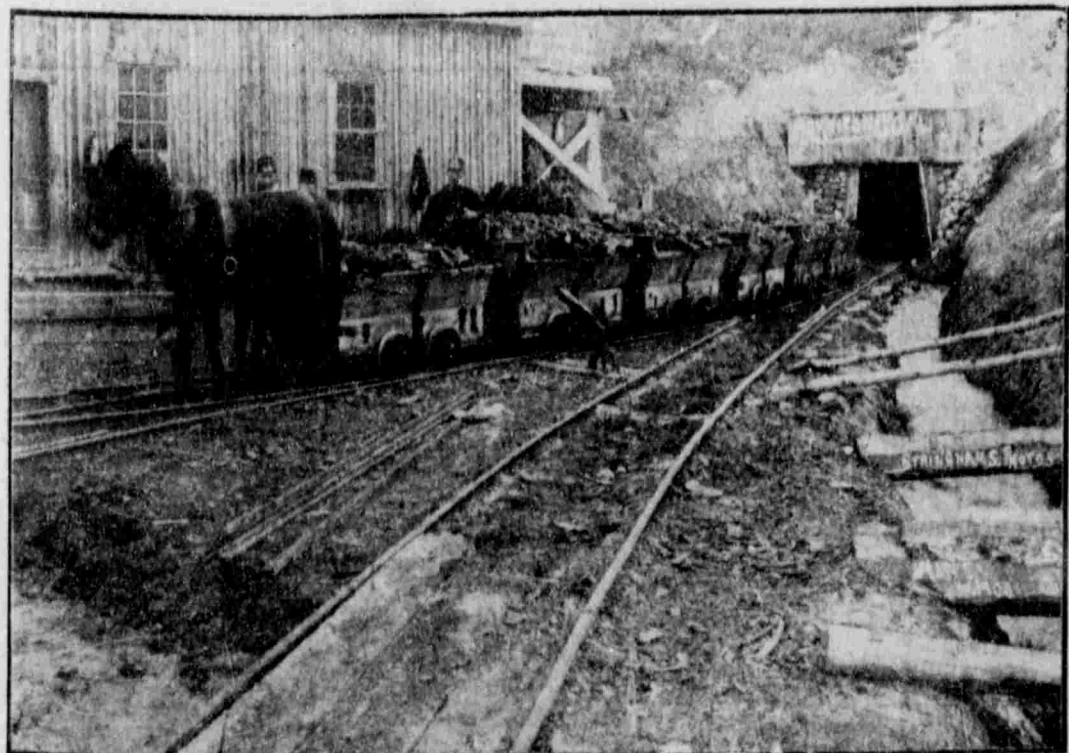
Many a railroad company would hesitate before incurring the expense of a 2060 foot tunnel, not so, however, with the management of this company, who, realizing the benefits to be derived upon its completion, pushed it with all possible dispatch to its present successful end.

or upon the countenances or raiment of those who might perchance be passing within a block of the house where the coal is being used.

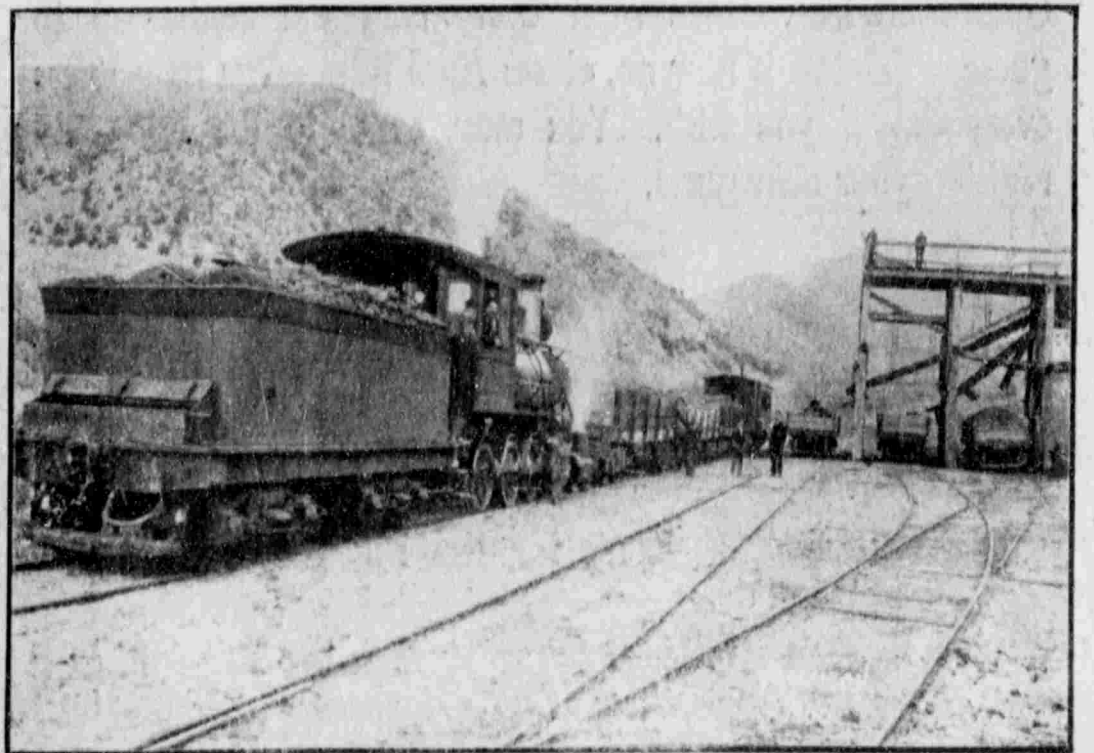
Outside of Salt Lake City and throughout the extensive territory that the company will cover, they have established or will establish agents in every city and town of any consequence. The home office presides over these representatives of the company, and retains the management of the interests that are constantly increasing.

Mr. U. U. Hickey, who is secretary and treasurer of the company, has been a resident of the city for the past 12 years, six of which have been spent with Col. Bruback.

business has met with the success that it deserves and is increasing with gratifying rapidity. He has employed during the past winter, an average of over twenty teams. This will be materially increased now that he is representative in this city for the Sterling Coal & Coke company. Mr. Martin has the most extensive coal sheds and trackage in the city, and with his enlarged supply will be in a position to meet all competition on either large or small orders, the company's local office is No. 4 West First South street, with Schramm, the druggist.



ENTRANCE TO THE PRESENT MINES OF THE STERLING COAL & COKE CO. THIS TUNNEL IS 2060 FT. IN LENGTH.



LOADING TIPPY OF THE STERLING COAL & COKE CO. MAIN LINE OF THE SAN PETE VALLEY RAILWAY.