

Correspondence.

SALT LAKE CITY, July 8th, 1870.

Editor News—As a patronizing friend of that fraternity of miners engaged in securing the mineral wealth of Cottonwood Canyon, permit me space to reply to a somewhat remarkable document published in Thursday's News. Your correspondent develops the cause of this letter within the first forty lines, and makes you a gratuitous advertiser of two claims, largely the property of his brother-in-law—puffs the "Lavinia" and "Flag-stuff" into undiminished prominence among the claims of the district; and then, setting on a mistaken philosophical principle—that no success can be attained save the foundation be laid upon the ruin of another, proceeds to decry the remaining interests of the Canyon. Probably no two claims in Cottonwood Canyon have been pushed with more dogged determination to develop wealth where bounteous nature seems not to have placed it, than in that same "Lavinia" and "Flag-stuff" the former working in on a good supply of ore, not quite rich enough to pay for taking out, and daily growing no better; the latter followed for one hundred and fifty feet without finding a streak thicker than a sheet of paper, of the argenteous desirable.

Little Cottonwood cannot as yet be called a failure, no single instance of desertion, where any amount of work has been done, can be spotted in the Canyon; and until some of them give it up, failure is not pronounced. In mining parlance, everything is "Wild Cat" until such development is reached, in precious metal as places a given claim upon the market with a fixed value attached.

Can it be possible that the "Emma" mine, whose teams daily file down our streets freighted with tons of rich ore, whose disbursements add fifteen thousand dollars monthly to the circulation, in the way of wages and freight alone, not counting the liberal personal disbursements of its owners, must stand in that shade which is cast down from the mountain heights of Cottonwood Canyon, by the "Wild Cat Flag-stuff?"

Are the claims of Woodhull, Bros., whose rock shipments to San Francisco, have engendered much of that excitement regarding the mineral wealth of Utah, entitled to no mention?

Is Brunner's "North Star," with its vast breast of rich mineral, to hide its diminished head, at the bare mention of the "Lavinia?"

Is Walker's "Creek Lodge," the "Revolution," the "Brass Key," and others, whose sacked rock, saleable on the dump at passing figures, already marks some success in Cottonwood, no encouragement to those seeking after wealth, whose daily sweat is freely given on prospects that have led to reward before?

That mining is a lottery all will admit. Have its votaries had less prizes in Utah than elsewhere? I think not. Besides the acknowledged claims mentioned above was the strike of Crissman, and the Eureka Company in Tintic, of Lincoln and others in East Canyon, and the end is not yet, as good prospects as any mentioned are being actively worked; and among the army of "great expectation capitalists" some will succeed, more will fail, but let us add no ill-wishes, such as your yesterday's whimsical correspondent indulges in.

Good God! If the miner's dollar is not "squarely earned" then indeed the curse on Adam, condemning man to "live by the sweat of his brow," has descended unevenly on poor humanity. Now sir, I am engaged on the "Patsey Marley." That no puffing may be charged please consider it "Wild Cat" until further developments are announced. Our company, having a blind faith in its indications, work day and night. My business calls me up to Little Cottonwood weekly. I have never yet seen a single drunken man in the Canyon. I have been in at miners' meetings, and upon all occasions; and must class all the workmen as gentlemen, rough perhaps, coarsely clothed, and in some instances poorly fed; and I may be pardoned if I assign personal motives, too obscure for me to fathom, instead of an honest representation of matters, as they really are, in Little Cottonwood mining district.

Yours, etc.,

CHAS. S. HAMMER.

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