

Correspondence.

SALT LAKE CITY,
July 16th, 1870.

Editor News.—In accordance with the expressed wish of the public generally, I give through your columns, the true statistics of the mining interest of Little Cottonwood. Starting out with the proposition, that judging from the geological as well as mineralogical form of the great basin that forms the Territory of Utah, it is utterly and physically impossible that gold or silver can exist here in any great quantities; the mining interest, to the contrary notwithstanding. This portion of our common country, must at some period of its existence, have been one vast chryseion of molten matter. For illustration suppose we take a quantity of the ore, taken from Cottonwood, and reduce it to a liquid state, we find that its ingredients are gold, silver, lead, iron, copper, &c. Gold and silver being precipitate in their nature, we have as a result the outer edges, the crevices, and distant portions of our boiling pot or chryseion, filled and encrusted with the two last named precious metals, while lead, iron and copper find resting place nearer the center. Now in my judgment Utah has been in the past one vast boiling pot, and from its center has been driven, by their own force, gold and silver, and they have found a lodgment in the gulches and crevices of Nevada, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming and Idaho, while in our midst have been left, the by far most precious metals in the shape of iron, lead, copper, &c. In proof of the above gold and silver can be found in a lateral position to Utah, on every hand, showing evidently and plainly, the forcing process that has left our Territory, in a manner destitute of the last named metals. Men argue that if Montana, Nevada, Idaho, Arizona and Wyoming are gold and silver producing, why not Utah? A moment's thought, coupled with a little information regarding the geological formation of the Rocky Mountains, and especially of this portion of the country should convince any reasoning mind that my position is the true one, and if any doubts existed yet in regard to their non-existence, the repeated failures of mining efforts are sufficient to convince the most skeptical, leaving out the failure of Little Cottonwood, the most complete of all, the nearest to nothing, the most barefaced of all the "lottery" schemes that have forced their way into public notice, through the influence of speculating claim owners, who trust to reap a golden harvest by sale of feet, that contains what every other canon, gulch and mountain side in all Utah contain, i.e. lead and iron. By the simplest process imaginable, we may ascertain that gold and silver do not exist, in paying quantities, even in the far famed "Emma" lode. Take ore from the paying districts of Nevada, and in a pulverized state with the naked eye the silver can be discovered. This ore assays \$54, to the ton, while from the "Emma" ore in a pulverized state we can only discover the faintest "stain." The predominant element, proving themselves to be lead and iron. Still Cottonwood ore is valued at \$100 per ton. Why, I am unable to say, unless for reasons previously mentioned. A very nice sugar-coated pill, for the good folks of Utah to swallow, in the shape of mining statistics, was published recently in your local columns, to the effect that mining in Little Cottonwood had netted to Utah \$50,000, in the shape of teaming, day labor and in the shape of goods, but the statistician, whoever he may have been, dare not give the figures as to whether mining paid or no, but simply contented himself with a nice little side show, to keep attention from the real facts of the case at issue, whether or no Cottonwood mines pay? I propose to be as fair as fair can be in the following table of statistics, which I have gathered from reliable sources and from disinterested parties. I will lay aside the vast amount of means heretofore sunk in endeavoring to develop the mineral resources of Little Cottonwood and only give the true cost, that the owners of the best paying lode in the canyon have been to place 600 tons in the market, and we will take their valuation of it, their figures as regards the cost of shipping, their figures as to cost of smelting, separating, etc., and then submit to what the figures show to be the real facts. Facts and figures are stubborn things to deal with, as will probably be ascertained by those interested in \$100,000 claims in Cottonwood, ere they finish. I take it for granted that 600 tons of ore have been shipped and sold. We find that the following table of expenditures shows what the cost amounts to:

Tunneling and shafting, (12 mo.)	\$ 5,838 00
Board of lode, (12 mo.)	4,000 00
Raising ore from shaft	1,200 00
Teaming	12,000 00
Freight	12,000 00
Cost of sacks and sacking	3,000 00
Drayage and handling	3,000 00
Smelting, separating, etc.	24,000 00
Tools	1,000 00
Incidental expenses	1,000 00

Total cost of 600 tons of ore, \$67,038 00
Valued at \$50 per ton, - - 30,000 00

Loss on above amount, - \$ 7,038 00

I should judge that it would not be long before another 30 feet, or one-sixth portion would have to be sold, to keep the machine work in motion. Little Cottonwood mining claims may be valued at \$100,000, but it seems to me the more one is possessed of the worse he is off, and to judge from the above, it is not the amount of money made, but like the old lady at the apple stand selling below cost, it is the amount of business done, that sustains Cottonwood. All hail and farewell to the once grand and brilliant prospects of the vast army of "Great expectation capitalists" to the half million claims that studded, the rough and jagged cliffs of Little Cottonwood, and to the financial prospects of those who in their mind's eye, dwell in marble halls, and whose pathetic lags of gold and silver, rivalled in weight and dimensions the expected possessions of Jno. Law, of South Sea notoriety! The figures I have given are only partial; at the proper time, the finishing report of this nice little mining operation will be

gone through with, for the edification of all concerned.

One more item. I take it for granted that a one-sixth of the leading lode has been disposed of for \$30,000, consequently the entire claim must be valued at \$180,000, which is the amount the company has invested in the business at the present writing, as I am informed that that amount has been offered for it. Interest on \$180,000 at 12 per cent for twelve months amount to the pleasant little sum of \$21,600, thus it can be readily seen that the possessor of a claim valued at \$180,000, loses that amount of interest annually, so long as his money is so invested.

I have not in the foregoing statistics taken into consideration the repeated failures of previous efforts made to develop the resources of the canon, but simply their best paying lode, paying no attention to deserted tunnels, shafts, smelting works, &c., that line the canon, nor to that other side of the picture that presents to our view men broken in spirit, reckless through disappointment, careless of the comforts of home and its associations, and brought to this condition by the wild mania for mining, that at present exists, to some extent, in our midst, but which I am thankful to see rapidly dying out. Let resident citizens and thinking men generally, take earnestly into consideration the true nature of the question at issue. The mines have, in the past, as they will in the future, proven a failure, and only for the report of interested parties would to-day be practically abandoned. Shall we then allow these few to open the door for the influx into our midst of the vilest scum that has been washed through the social sewers of the entire west, throwing our own hearthstones within the reach of the usual influence of a mining region, of which Cottonwood is a fair sample. Any commodity, I care not what it is, always finds its own market. A grain-consuming town is filled with grain, a cotton-consuming town with cotton, a wool-consuming town with wool, and a whiskey-consuming town with whiskey. Six whiskey shops to supply the wants of 200 men, is certainly the best commentary that can be found on the morals of Little Cottonwood. No need to say anything more in relation to the matter. That of itself is *prima facie* evidence sufficient, without further testimony. Are our citizens anxious to see every canon with such material? If so, allow to go abroad the scottish reports of unlimited mineral wealth, and the work will go bravely forward. Let the floating population of the surrounding Territories once come to the conclusion that Utah is possessed of great mineral wealth, in the shape of gold and silver, and the eyes of the quiet, sober citizen of Utah will be greeted with a repetition of "Wacoocooming town, Salmon River, Sweetwater, White Pine and Pahrangat stampedes. Our young men will have held before their eyes the dazzling temptation of suddenly acquired wealth, which unites them for the true work of life, renders them useless members of society, and binds their hands for all future good; while in exchange for the above, we obtain only the information that is self-evident, that Utah mines will not pay.

The past is an unsealed book that the most ignorant can peruse, and it is filled with the record of failure after failure, and disappointment after disappointment in the endeavor to develop gold and silver in our Territory. Its pages are replete with wise and sage counsel to the thoughtless, and with words of wisdom to those who to-day have gone mad over the wild phantasy of the brain that urges them on to renewed efforts, with only failure staring them in the face, with the evidence before them of broken fortunes, ruined health, and morals contaminated of the many who have preceded them in this wild "Will of the Wisp" chase for gold. The workshop no longer presents attractions, its erstwhile cheerful walls are now dark and gloomy in comparison to the towering imagination of the millions that are hid away in the bowels of the earth. The humble cottage no longer retains its freshness and beauty, but has become insignificant and contemptible in comparison with the stately halls and gilded cornice of the future. The daily toil has become tedious and income and wearying to the mind and body in contemplation of the ease and leisure to be purchased in the future by the untold riches that fortune is ready to pour into his hands. Strange and astonishing delusion that thus holds within its meshes those whom we consider sound in judgment otherwise! This is a subject well worthy the consideration of our citizens. Look around you, reader, and know for yourself whether or no my words come to you with a meaning, the ruined, dismantled wrecks in human shape that we meet every day, are solemn testimonies to us, of the danger we must needs pass through, and of the shoals upon which they were cast away. Let us not by the encouragement of a certain class of emigrants, open the way for those who hold most near and dear, the youth of our common country to follow in their footsteps. There is a work for every one to do, and let no idle hands be found, but let the true mining statistics of the Territory be made public; let all know what has been the result of mining heretofore, both financially and morally, let our young men be convinced of the actual state of affairs and then we shall have our workshops alive with the busy hum of business, we shall have a currency that will build up our country, that will settle the waste and arid spots of the desert and cause them to "bloom and blossom as the rose;" mother earth will team with the choicest fruits of the field and the vineyard, there will be no more imaginary castles in the air, and the vine embowered cottage will be the heaven on earth that the working man deserves.

Respectfully,
J. MORGAN.

THE undersigned wishes this community to call on him and get their TEETH Cleaned and Repaired.

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