

three men now embraces about a hundred and fifty acres. Harnan had been working for some time on his little city lot claim, while Burns and Doyle had staked out a claim a little further up the mountain. Their claim was rather close to the Independence. They had worked at it for some time and yet discovered nothing. Harnan had been doing some prospecting for Stratton. He had been down in the Independence mine, and he knew its wonderful riches. He thought that Burns and Doyle had a good thing, and he asked them how much they would give him if he would take the claim and show that it was worth something. They replied they would give him a third interest. He at once went to work and soon struck "pay rock," which was wonderfully valuable. For some time they tried to keep the fact a secret, for they knew that if Dave Moffat and the other capitalists who were working about them should learn of the value of the property they would buy all the claims about it. So they got their ore out in secret and carried it down from the mine at night in sacks on their backs.

As the ore got richer the sacks were not large enough to carry all they wanted. So one night they took a wagon up to the mine and prepared to haul it away by the wagon load. They overloaded their wagon, however, and it broke down just as they were about to leave the mine. The next day the ore was found on the side of the hill with the broken wagon near it. This showed the value of the mine and from that time on they hauled their ore out. They had, however, to fight for their rights. Other miners tried to jump their claim and Burns took a shot gun and drove them out at the point of it. They had forty-seven lawsuits about their title, but their ore was so valuable that they were able to pay for the best legal talent and held their own. They got Stratton to go in with them and they added the Anna Lee and other mines to their property until it is now one of the most valuable in the world. President Burns estimates that their average output is worth \$70 a ton, and he says that there is one streak of ore in the mine that is worth about \$38,000 a ton, the rock running nineteen ounces of gold to the ton. At the selling value of the Portland stock, the property is worth between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000, and I venture you could not buy it for \$6,000,000. They paid last year more than \$480,000 in dividends, and until last year they were paying 3 cents a share in dividends every month. They have given a pledge to their stockholders that they will pay 36 per cent in dividends this year, and they claim that they have not begun to get near the end of their wonderful gold treasure. The mine has now, it is said, five miles of workings, and its machinery is some of the finest known.

Many of the best mines here have no stock on the market. The oldest miners of Colorado say that Cripple Creek will last for fifty years, and all kinds of fabulous estimates are made as to the amount of gold which will be turned out. Governor Grant, the manager of Grant and Omaha smelters at Denver, is reported as saying that in seventeen years Cripple Creek will produce \$500,000,000 worth of gold.

The result of this belief is that the owners of the mines hold their property very high. There are mere holes in the

ground here which have so far produced nothing, but rather are capitalized for millions. One rather sanguine operator tells me that he does not believe you could buy all the mines of this region today for \$100,000,000 cash, and the man who expects to come to Cripple Creek and get something for nothing will go away sorrowful. One property which promises well is the Doctor mine. It is situated on Raven Hill, and is as yet barely more than a prospect, but its owners, I am told, would not take a million for it. It is the property of two men who came to the Rockies with a little money and bought the Chief mine and the Doctor mine, two claims which lay side by side on Raven Hill. They spent their first money on the Chief. It failed to pay, and they at last got \$40,000 in the hole. They then gave the work up for a time in disgust. Shortly after this a miner came to them and offered to lease the mines and give them a portion of the profits. They acquiesced, and he went to work. Within a few weeks he had taken out \$80,000 from a single great lode which he discovered. He struck crystallized gold in the quartz by shooting down the sides of their old workings with dynamite, and the result is that the Doctor is now a valuable property.

It is generally known that a large part of the Cripple Creek ore is of a very low grade. Much of it has to be reduced by the cyanide process in order to pay, but there are spots in nearly every mine where large amounts of high grade gold have been found. The high grade ore of the Victor mine averages about \$200 a ton, and the average value of the shipments of Cripple Creek ore last year is estimated at \$60 a ton. Now and then a rick pocket is struck, however, which will pay a thousand dollars and upward a ton, and such places are in the mines are carefully watched, for fear the miners will carry away the gold. The manager of one of the biggest gold mines told me that he often had the miners searched before they left the mine, and in certain parts of the mine they were always required to change their clothes upon coming in and going out. Not long ago a miner was suspected of stealing ore. His cabin was searched, and more than \$1,500 worth of rich gold-bearing rock was found. He had carried out the richest pieces from time to time in his pockets, and altogether had taken out ninety-nine pounds, which was worth \$16 a pound, or \$1,536 worth of ore.

Speaking of the leasing of the Doctor mine, the custom of leasing mines is very common here. Men will take mines and work them for a certain time for a fixed price, or for a portion of the gold gotten out. There are many men who have good prospects who have not the money to work them, and one with a moderate amount of capital can either get a lease on such prospect or buy a share in them. Take, for instance, the Anchoria Leland mine, the stock of which was selling for four cents a share about a year or so ago. It has this year sold for \$3 a share, and it is practically not for sale in the exchanges. This mine was opened up by a lease. It was not considered worth much until a man named Maloney from Dakota came through Cripple Creek on his way to Leadville. He looked at the mine and leased it. He spent \$7,500 in

opening it up, and in one year, I am told, he took \$400,000 worth of gold out of it. His lease has now expired, and the mines will be worked by the stockholders.

I could give numerous other instances of fortune making in mines. I could find perhaps ten thousand times as many instances of men losing in mines, but mining is in reality a legitimate business, and I believe if followed with the same care, investigation and business ability as are required to give success in other businesses, the chances of making money are good. Here, for instance, is a list of the millionaires of Cripple Creek, as given by an old miner. I do not vouch for the truth of his estimates:

W. S. Stratton was worth nothing, is now worth \$10,000,000.

James F. Burns, James Doyle and John Harrison, each worth more than a million, made out of the Portland and other properties.

James R. McKinnie, a friend of Stratton and one of his advisers, has made a million.

David H. Moffat, long a millionaire, has easily made two or more millions out of Cripple Creek. He owns the Florence and Cripple Creek railroad, which cost a million, but which paid for itself in six months, and is still making money.

Irving Howbart of Colorado Springs, the owner of the Anchoria Leland, has made a million.

Eben Smith, Moffat's partner, has also made a fortune out of Cripple Creek.

J. F. Maynard of Utica, New York, paid \$1,000 for the Moose mine on Raven Hill. This mine is said to produce now from six to eighteen thousand dollars a month. An offer of \$600,000 has been refused for it, but Maynard and his partner asks \$2,000,000.

R. C. Shannon, who beat Amos Cummings for Congress, is said to have made a quarter of a million out of the Anchoria Leland and the Portland, and the El Paso Gold King mine, which cost its owner \$300, is said to be worth nearly a million.

In short, there are about ten men who have made something like a million dollars out of Cripple Creek. There are one hundred men who have made more than \$50,000 apiece and there are perhaps one thousand men who have made \$20,000 apiece. Nearly all of this money has gone to Colorado people, though the French are now investing largely and have some of the best properties here.

Frank G. Carpenter

MORMONS IN LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA:

[The following report of the recent labors of the Elders in Lynchburg, Virginia, was made to Elder Elias S. Kimball, President of the mission, and by him handed to the News for publication.]

Lynchburg, Virginia, May 18th, 1896—In compliance with your request we take pleasure in giving an account of our labors from the time we were called to labor in the city of Lynchburg to the completion of its canvass. Well do we remember the day when you put to the test the faith of each Elder, by asking