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PRESCOTT LODGE No. 230, meets First and Third Wednesdays of each month. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to attend.

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ZUNI TRIBE No. 6, of Prescott, Arizona. Regular councils of this tribe at Masonic Hall on the Third Sleep of each Seven Suns, 7th Run, 30th Breath. Visiting chiefs in good standing fraternally invited to attend.

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The Public is invited to inspect

IN AND AROUND MAYER

An Historical Locality That is Holding its Own as an Active Industrial Center.

Like in Pioneer Days it Remains in the Saddle and Has a Bright Future Ahead.

Probably in all Arizona there is no section more familiarly or agreeably known to the masses than can be said of the old station of Mayer. In the earlier days of staging from Prescott to Phenix it was regarded as a luxury when the wild mustangs pulled up at the place, and after leaving it the universal verdict was that in hospitality and accommodations it savored of the delightful and refreshing indeed. So famous had this center become in the annals of overland travel, that the monotony of riding on the hurricane deck of a prairie schooner was more or less of a pleasant anticipation after one had partaken there of the rough and ready generosity, to await him at every turn. With the decline of the stage coach and the building of the railroad, however, one would naturally believe that the old landmark of the "fast and furious" was to be supplanted by a delicacy of regard that the tenderfoot era was sure to unravel, or, in other words, the place was to lose its old-time identity and charm. But such is not the case.

The railroad has been laid to the very door of the old station, and while it is true the methods are somewhat changed in so far as transportation facilities go, and the tediousness of a long and trying journey is somewhat dispelled, and more people are going in to see and be seen, the characteristics and traditions of the place are nevertheless preserved, and still go on as of yore. In short, Mayer of old is still the same, but, as the boys say, on a bigger scale. It is a peculiar place in Arizona, and so solidified is it in the regard of the people who today, as of old, still cling to and around it and cherish its past, that we doubt if a score of railroads would materially alter the scene. This belief is based on the fact of a personal regard for the founder of the place—Joe Mayer—who probably is as well known today as any living Arizonan. For nearly a quarter of a century he has been at his post, and from a "hand-out" up to "staking" the nomadic prospector, not to mention such events as "going broke" himself on various mining enterprises, we doubt if there is a mortal in the territory whose career has been as variegated as his has been. Unlike the skeptical and uncertain, Mr. Mayer has held the fort, as it were, and in the language of Colonel Sellars has "taken his medicine" like a man, no matter whether it was sweet or bitter. Thousands of admirers whispered to him that the railroad would wipe him out of existence, and that his fate would be told in the vernacular of the Hassayampa "has beens." This is not so, however. On the contrary, the railroad has brought hundreds where the stage coach carried one, and with the change the country in and around that place has been more benefited and placed in better light than could have been possibly accredited to any other channel. With the change Mr. Mayer has kept pace with the times, and we are pleased to state also that as the avenues in mining progress widened, so has he, in a great measure, been likewise benefitted. Through all the long years he has been a resident of that particular section his citizenship has been of the highest order—a benefactor, in short—and nothing good should be denied him.

As an industrial center Mayer is handsomely located. It supplies Big Bug, up and down, while for Bumblebee, Black Canyon, Agua Fria, the Bradshaws and other districts it is an ideal location as a distributing point.

THE ONYX FIELDS.

Within talking distance of Mayer lays one of the greatest and most beautiful deposits of onyx in all the known world. So much prominence in the past has been given this particular industry in so far as the magnificence of its beds go, and the sale thereof a few years ago for a vast sum, that the future of the same will be mentioned again, and likewise will the uncovering of additional and new ground be lightly spoken of. It is stated on reliable authority that the Arizona Onyx company has lately decided to resume work at once, and for the purpose of successfully operating and carrying out the object of the work outlined some months ago, will erect new buildings equipped with modern machinery to handle the product, in sawing and polishing the same. The cost of the plant is said to be over $50,000. When under headway a large force will be maintained, and in consequence will Mayer correspondingly prosper. The ground covered by this company is of great area, some 300 acres, and averages in depth of onyx over thirty feet.

In line with this industry may also be mentioned the recent discovery in adjoining ground of another onyx deposit of some 120 acres in extent, by Daniel Bowen, that is creating a great deal of interest in the variety and quality of the deposits uncovered. On claim No. 1, which adjoins the original location, and laying below, down the hill, concealed under the grass roots and soft loam, some of the most beautiful and variegated stone ever placed before the eye is being quarried. Experts pronounce the product here to be the finest on the mesa, and samples on exhibition certainly bear out this assertion. On claim No. 2 another specie of onyx has also been recently uncovered of an African or bandit grain, as it is called. Nothing but this variety has been uncovered on this claim. On claim No. 4 another surprise meets one in one's rambles in beholding a distinctive type of the wonderful doings of nature, in the shape of block onyx, that is as bewildering as it is beautiful. Many who have seen this particular stone seem to have a decided preference for it over all others. Mr. Bowen, who with Bert Mayer is interested in these claims, has done thousands of feet of development work, and so much so is he a recognized authority on this new industry in Yavapai, and the manner of handling the same, that he is becomingly referred to as the "Daddy of the Onyx." At any rate, Mr. Bowen has very valuable possessions, and no doubt is expressed but what the future will reward him handsomely. The ground under which the onyx lies can be driven over in a buggy, and if not familiar with the formation, and the fact that under the soft dirt lays the onyx in gigantic slabs, a stranger would certainly be in ignorance of the existence of the product, so smooth and soft is the soil.

MINING NOTES.

About three miles below Mayer's, in the malpai foot hills, a remarkable discovery has just been made in a placer find. Arnold & Alexander are the lucky ones and are said to be startling that neighborhood. The former is rated as an expert dry washer, and the fact of that character of formation being so productive is creating some excitement. The above people are said to be clearing up $16 daily.

A new discovery within one mile of Mayer is creating considerable talk, from the fact of copper being developed and the good showing that is being made as work progresses. It is the property of Bowen, Centerlusk and others, and is being worked by Judge R. E. Sloan, who has a force of seven men under John Hudgens. A depth of forty feet has been reached, and for that amount of work given, and the character of the ore changing for the better with every foot uncovered, together with greater values, it is certainly very encouraging to push ahead the work.

A novel proposition in placer mining is that of Swartz & Neese, about a mile from Mayer. The deposits lay about one-half a mile from Big Bug creek on a mesa and on a comparatively smooth stretch of country. To handle the product the above people utilize the principles that go in farming, viz., harness four, six or eight animals together, attach a gang plow to them, and in this manner the ground is plowed up until a rocky formation is reached, the average depth of the work being about six feet. The soil that is dug up is free of boulders and is hauled in wagons to sluice boxes on the creek. In many instances as high as $10 to the wagon load has been given. Mr. Swartz is an experienced miner and for seven years has been working that ground in the manner described.

In Daniel gulch more activity is in evidence than for years past, and the discovery of a copper belt running through that section has brought in many. A group worthy of mention is that of Nellis & Sheldon, who have work well under way. They have out for shipment a carload of good looking rock and feel decidedly jubilant over the showing their claims make.

At Copper mountain there is an air of activity prevailing and the place is again to assume its old-time animation. A large force of men is at work and new machinery is said to be on the road, in addition to a new hoist being in operation. This property is the pioneer copper proposition of northern Arizona, and a great deal of interest is attached to it from the fact of its being in the zone of the famous United Verde. In fact, authorities on mineralogical conditions have time and again advanced the argument that the copper chain from Jerome to the Buster is a clear and distinctive one, and that the Binghampton, Copper Mountain, Blue Bell, the Daisy group, the Euster and others are unquestionably linked together as one. The work now going on is of especial interest to this community, and when carried out on the plans outlined the belief of many practical miners is that it will be undoubtedly a steady and profitable producer. Hon. I. T. Stoddard is the owner of the above and is personally on the ground superintending the work.

MORE ABOUT THE GREAT BELCHER MINE

Since publishing a recent article in the JOURNAL-MINER on the Great Belcher property, in Big Bug, which is being operated by the Cliffords, the following additional information concerning this property has been received from a correspondent. "The Cliffords, who are operating this property, are nervy miners who know the value of the property they have been fortunate in acquiring. The old Belcher is a land mark in Arizona. In the early days when Indians and high prices kept the majority of mines from being worked the Great Belcher was extensively explored, and it is claimed that $700,000 was extracted from the oxides found at the surface. This mine has done a great deal to add fame to Yavapai county, and now that it has fallen into the hands of the most skillful and courageous mining financiers, much may be expected of its future.

"The Great Belcher is a very large vein, carrying gold and copper with a small amount of silver. These metals are carried in a sulphide and in places the mine shows fifteen feet of solid ore of a value of about $20 per ton. The mine is being magnificently equipped with the most modern machinery so economical extraction will play an important part in its future.

"There is being erected a large shaft house of the latest design. A powerful gasoline hoisting plant is now in place, called by the local miners "Jumbo." Air compressors and air drills are en route. A large milling and concentrating plant of 500 tons daily capacity has been bought to work the Belcher and the other Clifford ores, and a narrow gauge railroad company has been incorporated called the Gold Belt railway to transport the Belcher ore to the big mill, as it is claimed that within one year the daily product of the Belcher will exceed 500 tons per day, a tonnage beyond the power of wagon freighters to haul the same. The Belcher is a patented mine and its title is perfect. It is rumored that the Great Belcher is to be made a feature on the New York stock exchange."

The first thing that the country knows Mr. Bryan will get after the sea serpent. He has chased octopuses until he is tired out.

"How long will prosperity last?" As long as the republicans remain in power.

BIG BUG IN GENERAL!

A NET WORK OF PROPERTIES IN SUCCESSFUL OPERATION THES D AYS.

A District Admirably Situated---It is the Center of Active Mining Life--A Great Future Ahead.

Of the many successful mining enterprises in operation today along Big Bug, that of the Red Rock company impresses one in a decidedly favorable manner. From the beginning of work on the same and up to the present the development has been steady, practical and in earnest, reflecting creditably on W. T. Little, its manager. The claims belong to the earlier period of mining in Arizona, but have only entered the channel of an active and productive career since the above gentleman assumed charge. The development of them in the past two years shows extensive openings and in addition a mill is in daily operation. Over 3000 feet has been opened up in drifts and cross-cuts and the like. The main shaft is over 300 feet in depth and is a double compartment one. From the various stations levels have been run, and it is said that the ore chute on the 200 is the longest and strongest of any property on the creek. Like all mines in that zone, the ore from the Red Rock is a sulphide and is treated by concentration, later being shipped. The plant is a mechanical beauty, is of the steam stamp order, and is doing excellent service. The ore is of a high grade, carrying from 9 to 11 per cent copper and from $40 to $70 gold. The last returns netted the company $72 per ton.

The operation of the Red Rock has renewed interest in mining circles and establishes the belief that it is on a wealthy belt that cuts through that country, and when greater depth is given it, as well as other locations, its prominence will be only the better known and appreciated. In addition to this mine being unquestionably one of the wonderful properties in Arizona, there is another fact in connection with its development not generally known or considered, and that is that on the 300 level a body of ore five feet across has been struck, carrying a copper sulphide that will run alone in the latter metal 12 per cent, besides the gold values, which latter are richer than ever before encountered. Take the Red Rock as a whole, we doubt very much if there is another mine in Arizona to equal it, for the amount of work done and the depth given it.

The work on the Sterling is progressing systematically, and it is one of the enterprises in Yavapai that commends itself to the legitimate and practical. It is simply being run on the idea of development, and the question of a mill or any other plant is not to be considered until there is enough work done below to justify the erection of reduction works. The sterling, too, is an old one of the Hassayamper period, but is being handled today under new principles, and successfully so at that. The old original workings to the west of the present base have been cleaned out and abandoned, and a more desirable point selected. On the new shaft a depth of 218 feet has been reached, and 300 feet more will be sunk before additional openings will be made. An ore dump is already in evidence to substantiate the merits of the property, while in the mine a good strong lead of from 4 to 5 feet across gives one an idea of the magnitude of the property. Samples from this mine give from 18 to 20 per cent in copper, $20 in silver and $4 in gold. But one carload has been shipped from the Sterling, the returns being in line with the above values. A new station pump is en route to facilitate work. The hoist in operation today is one of the finest to be seen anywhere, while altogether around the works there is an air of stability and interest that gives one an earnest regard for the project. The Sterling is under the superintendency of J. C. Leavitt, while James Breslin is the foreman.

A property that is creating a great deal of interest, and from its good showing in copper has somewhat knocked out old established ideas in formation belts and other orthodox mining principles of the past, is the Daisy group, owned by Foran & Mormon, lying three miles below Mayer on the creek. Three shafts have been sunk, 100, 50 and 50 feet respectively, and in each, and also in the drifts, the showing is decidedly flattering. A slate and lime formation has been run into, and as depth is reached in the same a good sulphide ore is to be seen. Samples from the bottom of the deepest shaft go 15 per cent copper, and several who have lately visited the place advanced the belief that an excellent piece of ground is being uncovered, and with development no doubt is expressed as to the outcome. The Daisy lays along a new copper belt, and in that region interest is shown to secure locations.

The Butternut group of copper claims is owned by T. W. Boggs, but their sale is pending to Van Zandt & Owens, and is about to be closed for a sum running up into the thousands. This property has been held by Mr. Boggs for a generation, but owing to lack of transportation facilities, together with the low price of copper, the development of the the group has been limited and restricted by these conditions. Since Messrs. Van Zandt & Owens have taken possession, however, the mines have been thorougaly opened up and prospected, and in general circulation is the report that the showing is a big and surprising one. A new hoist is en route, and on its arrival a force of miners will be put to work. Three carloads of ore have been shipped to Silver City and returns just received gave a return of 17 per cent in copper per ton. A peculiar and striking feature of this mine is this, that in its development so far not a pound of powder has been used. The existence of a distinct copper belt in this locality is also causing some talk, the Butternut being within a half mile of the P. & E. railroad and not over a mile from the Big Bug postoffice.

To keep pace with the spirit of the times in mining affairs, Fred Reif has resumed work on his Bordeaux mine, and has let a contrrct on tunnel work. In the early working of this claim a shaft was sunk on the vein, but was abandoned on account of water. Later he ran a tunnel 105 feet in length, and the work now is for the purpose of continuing the same and to reach the main ore chutes. The Bordeaux is a fine looking piece of ground, and, located as it is, can be handled easily in transportation channels, having also a bountiful supply of water as an inducement for the erection of any machinery. The lead is also a strong one, ranging from one foot to three feet in width, carrying a sulphide ore that gives from $60 to $100 in gold, 25 to 45 per cent in lead, and from 25 to 35 ounces in silver, per ton.

Among new locations made near the head of the creek, spoken well of in work so far given them, is a group of six claims owned by Murphy & Owens. Careful samples taken from one claim give a valuation of $25 in gold, while in another 10 per cent copper and $2 in gold are shown. This group is an extension of the Poland-Hamilton and supports a 5-foot ledge. These people have done considerable work and feel very much encouraged as to the outcome. They have also an abundance of wood and water, elements which go to make mining a profitable investment.

An old property that has been laying idle for years, but is now in line with the progressive tendency of the times, is the Mammoth, owned by Kelly & Johns. This claim is on the northeast extension of the Belcher, and on it a contract has been let to run a 200-foot tunnel. A good grade of ore is in sight, and from the prominence of that particular locality the outcome of the work is eagerly awaited.

MINES AND MINING

Frank Raymond has started work again on his Pittsburg group of mines near McCabe. He has over 500 feet of development and shows veins of sulphide ore that will easily measure one foot. Thirty assays gave $33 a ton.

Henry Stoddard, who is soon to commence work on the 97 mine, has in that property a good showing. It is the southeast extension of the American Flag and carries a big vein of low grade sulphide ore. A shaft over 40 feet deep has been sunk and other work given to demonstrate its merits.

The smelter of the Arizona, Eastern & Montana Company on Big Bug is being repaired and generally remodeled, suggesting an active life soon. This company has secured the Lone Pine, Governor Teddy and the Easy Boss mines and will soon it is said start up work on all and handle the ores at their smelter.

Charley Kingsley and Frank Thornton are working on the Examiner and Mineral Hill within a quarter of a mile of Huron station and are developing some remarkable ground. They have reached a depth of 60 feet on the Examiner and 40 feet on the Mineral Hill. Samples show 43 per cent copper and $30 in gold per ton. They have made a shipment of ore and will continue development.

Good reports reach us of development work on the Rebel mine, one-half mile southwest of the McCabe and like all old time and heretofore neglected claims a little money and practical experience is giving the usual result. The Rebel is now 182 feet deep and a body of sulphide ore five feet across has been developed. It is the intention to sink 200 feet further and the probabilities are the property will be then a heavy and steady producer. The Rebel location is an old one and until it was taken hold of by the Cliffords has been like many others an obscure and undeveloped claim. George Rohpeter is in charge of it and feels enthusiastic over the showing made.

A project which gives great prominence to this section as a mineral one is the news that the greater portion of the machinery of the Spenazuma plant in Southern Arizona has been purchased by Henry B. Clifford & Co. and is now en route to Prescott. It will be placed on the Agua Fria and is to be operated on ores from mines owned by the above company. The principal machinery en route is a 250-horse power engine, three large boilers, two rock breakers, two Cornish rolls and other lesser machines. Clifton Lewis, the well known Chaparral miner, is personally superintending the shipment.

At the present time considerable mining talk is being indulged in over the discovery of a new belt of copper and gold that cuts through from Copper Mountain to Crazy Basin, and so earnest is the miner to secure a foothold that new finds are coming to the surface daily. In addition that section is being overrun by investors and prospectors, so favorably is it regarded. The big showing that the Blue Bell has uncovered, which unquestionably is the greatest ever made in copper mining in Arizona for depth or development, together with other claims, serves as a stimulant to the industry. The building of the railroad to Crowned King would run through the heart of this new field of great possibilities and do more to promote its development than anything else. This section has a decidedly bright outlook and is coming to the front in a rapid manner.

Arrangements are being made to resume work on the Gopher mine near McCabe and by the first of April it will again be the center of activity. This property enjoys a very good name and no doubt is expressed that when again taken hold of it will be operated on principles that will make its career a profitable one. On the Gopher are two hoisting plants, while development work shows two shafts—200 and 150 feet each—and in addition the mine is well opened in drifts and stopes. The ore carries gold and silver. The Gopher vein is a continuation of the American Flag or old Henrietta, which gives it prominence as being on a clear and well defined belt that cuts through that country for miles and at many points is being opened and is producing handsomely. Considerable interest in mining circles is manifested to see work again started at this point. L. A. Spear will have personal supervision over the Gopher and about thirty miners will be employed.

The road in the vicinity of Colenso is said to be strewn with the dead bodies of dead men and animals, lying mutilated and putrifying in the trenches formerly occupied by the Boers. The air is filled with a sickening stench.

BIG BUG MURMURINGS

The Old Reliable District is Keeping Pace in the Lock Step of Mining Progress in Yavapai.

The Fruits of Steady Development are Showing up Many Big and Promising Claims.

If one half of what is currently in circulation these days is true of the early production of gold in Big Bug district, there must have been in existence in the early '60's a decidedly prosperous era. From the lips of men who claim to have been on the ground in those remote days, together with the indisputable evidence the country backs them up with in the line of gigantic doings in placer excavations, there is but little room left to doubt the veracity of any one, so far as the production of the yellow metal goes. Big Bug has to its credit the distinction of being not only the oldest regularly established mining camp in the north, but it likewise ranks first and foremost in Arizona in the production of placer dust and successful quartz mining, with the possible exception of Rich Hill. It may be stretching the "raw hide too tight to hold water," but from Hassayampers who were on the ground in 1864, and some of whom are still there, the assertion is freely and voluntarily made that along that historical stream no less than four thousand people were at one time engaged in the pursuit of mining, and generally speaking the gulch came up to the expectations of all. Another instance of the popularity of that section as a gold region is that one of the first quartz mills erected in Arizona was placed in position to handle the "free" of the Favorite mine, now known as the Belcher. T. W. Boggs, who in 1864 resided on the creek and today occupies the identical spot he did then, was the owner of the Favorite. In recalling the methods pursued then, linked with the "new fangled" system of the present, this veteran of Yavapai pioneers is decidedly an interesting if not a fascinating subject to converse with. Like many others he has a big volume of reminiscences, also, and so imbued was he with the regard of his adopted section of so long ago that for nearly forty years he has been incessantly at his post, and will probably remain steadfast to the end.

Big Bug district is, however, an exact counterpart of other rich gold localities of other days long gone by in Arizona, and the mining element especially will coincide with the statement when it is brought home to them, and particularly so in a broad view. Attending quartz operations in these early periods, so long as the ordinary arastra or the copper plate was capable of handling the free ore, universal success followed every enterprise. But as has been repeatedly proved in the last few years as development progresses on the old "free" claims, as well as on the new ones, a rebellious ore is invariably the result in depth. In the early days this prevailed in Big Bug as well as elsewhere, and in consequence gold mining progress remained at a standstill, if not altogether checked, simply from the lack of a mechanical knowledge to handle the output. Another obstacle to face gold mining in this immediate neighborhood has been the regard of the mining element to favor the white metal under any and all conditions. When the latter collapsed, however, Yavapai was at a standstill, and by way of a coincidence the industry had to support another boom when Big Bug again, in 1894, came to the front as a wonderful producer in gold quartz. Since then a decided impetus has been given the calling, until today it has spread to every section, and that, too, to where gold had never before been known to exist. So rapid has been the progress of gold mining along Big Bug under the new order that in a radius of two miles four quartz mills are in daily operation, with two more projected, while the claims on which development progresses are so many in number that not a foot of ground is open for location in a radius of two miles wide by six long. Elements that go to make mining a success in Arizona are an abundance of wood and water. In this respect this district is bountiously provided with both, and is demonstrating this during the universally dry period we have been in for so long. Some of the active claims in operation today on somewhat of an order out of the ordinary are the following:

THE BELCHER.

The history of this mine runs hand in hand with that of many others that came into prominence in early days as a gold producer. It was the biggest thing that laid out of doors and seems to have been the basis of initial work in quartz mining along the creek, yielding over $70,000 in less than a year in free, when operations were suspended by ores of a rebellious character being run onto. The product of this mine was handled in a crudely built mill and had the appliances been such then as they are today, this property would have given probably an excellent account of its operations. But with the Belcher as with many other claims the property was abandoned until a change in conditions of mining came along and in consequence when the free milling ore changed in depth to a sulphide the only logical recourse was to hang up the stamps. The Belcher has for a generation been the center of a deep regard in mining channels and when the section of which it is the pivotal claim assumed an active life but five years ago, it again came into prominence and today is regarded by the keen and practical miner as one of the best propositions on the creek to favor with any amount of development work. Experts who in late years have gone up the hill to examine the claim more out of a desire to see the old workings that yielded so richly, rather than a desire to become interested, speak in words of praise of the property and are struck by the fact that comparatively speaking it would while under operation be one of the cheapest mines in Arizona or elsewhere to handle. This is due to the ground being what miners term a loose formation, although this may change with depth. The resumption of work on this claim and the incorporation of it by Henry B. Clifford & Co. into the Great Belcher company is after all but a strong indication that the foresight of Mr. Clifford is accurately directed and in common with many we believe the property under any favorable condition in future work given it will hold its fame as a steady and profitable producer. Various openings are being made on the mine today under the superintendency of Geo. Rohpeter, and as far as the work has progressed the showing is flattering indeed. A gasoline hoist is in operation day and night, and with a large force of miners all openings are being run in full blast. The Belcher is one of the first mines patented in Arizona, a feature of its past rating which carries great weight. It is said that extensive machinery is en route to handle its output, and that the Annie mill has been leased and will for the present be run on ore from it. All in all there is an energetic spirit in evidence on this old claim, and there is no reason but what the Belcher should enter the avenues of prosperity under the conditions outlined by the new regime.

ORIENTAL COMPANY.

Where the mineral vein upon which the McCabe, Gladstone, Gopher and American Flag are located crosses Big Bug creek, it enters upon the long line of claims owned by the Oriental Mining company. These claims, nine in number, extend along this vein for 2½ miles until the lead disappears under the Black Mesa. Beginning at Wood gulch, which is about in the center of the group, the Oriental company is running a tunnel which as a piece of development work, promises to be one of the most extensive in Yavapai county. It is already 1500 feet long and has traversed only one claim. It will pass under the length of four others, the third of which is the well known Lottie. During all this distance the course will be along the ledge. There will be from 600 to 900 and at one point 1100 feet of stoping ground over the tunnel thus opening up enormous and seemingly inexhaustible bodies of ore. In character this tunnel work is of the best. An air compressing plant and three Ingersoll drills are at hand for hard rock. New track of 16-pound rail is being laid and new rolling stock of the most improved pattern is being provided. The company will soon erect near the mouth of the tunnel large mills and reduction works which in arrangement and design shall be as admirably adapted to the economical handling of large quantities of ore as skill and money can make them.

In the meantime while the tunnel is being driven other work is also going on, chiefly in the Lottie claim. There levels have been opened up to the depth of 400 feet and nearly 2000 feet of drifts run. Very little stoping has been done. The upper levels are now being worked under lease by the Arizona Eastern & Montana company, which is taking out about 20 tons per day of excellent ore, a part of which is concentrated in the Oriental company's 15-stamp mill, the balance being taken directly to the Big Bug smelter. About 30 men are employed by the Arizona Eastern company in this work. C. Wade Stickney, M. E., is superintendent. The lower levels are being opened by the Oriental company in harmony with the proposed tunnel which will pass under these workings 250 feet beneath the lowest of the present drifts. The ledge, which is from 15 to 30 feet wide, is of a very loose character and easily worked. It is the source of large quantities of water, the amount now being pumped from the shaft with that which flows from the tunnel being sufficient to supply 100 stamps. This is in marked contrast to most Arizona properties which suffer from lack of water for milling purposes. The quantity of water and the oppenness of the ledge perhaps account for the depth of oxidation which here reaches 400 feet. In the lowest level, however, sulphide ore has been reached within the last fortnight. The ore as found is of excellent character, carrying nearly 20 per cent of copper in addition to good gold and silver values. It is the company's intention to put in at once a new and larger hoist, install an electric lighting plant and push development as rapidly as possible.

Besides the property already described the Oriental company owns eight claims known as the Postmaster group. Upon these a shaft 238 feet deep has been sunk and 1000 feet of levels run. Very rich ore has been taken from these claims but work has been at a standstill for two years through divided ownership. Since March 1st the company has purchased the only outstanding interest and will now equip the property with the necessary machinery for rapid development.

The Oriental Mining company has its main office in Jamestown, N. Y., where the majority of its stockholders reside. Interests are held, however, in and near Warren, Pa., in Pittsburg and in New England. It may be called one of the pioneers in the Big Bug district. Starting four years ago with one it now owns twenty-three claims. For the front rank that the Big Bug district is taking as a mineral field, this company should receive no small share of the credit as it surely will of the rewards. L. A. F. Kent and J. B. Ross of Jamestown, N. Y., are respectively its president and vice-president. The local management is in the hands of W. A. and L. B. Kent. N. L. Carpenter is the superintendent of mining.

Beside Big Bug creek and nearly up to the Poland-Hamilton mine is the Toughnut, formerly the property of Wm. Curran and Jos. Britton. This with three other claims was bought last summer by the Dartmouth Mining company and is now being developed. Shafts are being sunk and drifts run. Already two chutes of ore have been found. Gold, silver and copper values are found in the ore which averages about $25. With development this property promises to be one of the best in the district. The Dartmouth company is composed jointly of New England capitalists and the Oriental Mining company.

AMERICAN FLAG.

With the change of ownership there has wisely followed a change of name, and the Henrietta is simply superseded by the above. However, this makes but little difference and is of no concern in rating a property on the merits of its title. But with the transfer of the property there is one indisputable fact coupled with the new order, and that is the period of monotony in idleness has been set aside and the property is again under development on a scale that is methodical and practical, and from the character of the work to be seen today there is every indication that the mine is to be given for once an opportunity to submit to a thorough test, and will unquestionably be all if not more than has been claimed for it in mining annals. The American Flag lays in a commanding position and has all the advantages in a mineralogical sense that go with successful mining. Besides this, it has in E. A. Haggott a zealous and practical man back of it, and the statement is advanced that the showing which he is making today after but a few weeks of operation guarantees the success of the enterprise. In the old workings of the property the new order is already in evidence, and from the chloriding system of the past that the mine has been subject to, a regard is shown to develop in a bona fide sense, or, in short, give the mine a chance. The old workings are being cleaned out, and cross-cutting and drifting is in order. In about a week the work of sinking will be inaugurated and the old tunnel extended to connect with the 400 level. In the upper workings of this mine the ore is of an oxidized character, but in lower depths runs into a sulphide carrying copper and gold. A 20-stamp is on this property undergoing repairs and will start up on a steady run in a few days, ore being in abundance. The resumption of work on this mine is of special significance, and the legitimate methods in evidence is also welcomed. Supporting Mr. Haggott, one of the best mine and mill crews in Arizona is employed. Ed Foltz is foreman of the mine, a guarantee that experienced and careful work will be inaugurated henceforth; while in the mill Ed Howard, formerly of the Crowned King, who has had years of experience to guide him, will have charge, assisted by Jim McDonald as amalgamator, and W. S. Conant and S. R. McAllister as engineers. Frank Giroux has also wrapped himself in the folds of the American Flag and will be its assayer, and last but not least, J. M. Elder, an agreeable young man, who will be the company's accountant.

MINES AND MINING!

C. C. Stukey, who has been developing some mining property at Hillside, says they are opening up in a very satisfactory manner. N. R. Noble is interested with Mr. Stukey in the claims.

In the advertising columns of this issue will be found an advertisement of a great bargain in a mill. The mill is complete in every respect, and like many other good mills was erected on a property where such expenditure was not justifiable. The parties are now willing to sell it for less than half of what they are out on it, and the man or company who has a property that will justify putting a mill on can get the benefit of their bad judgment.

Jules Baumann was in town today from his mining camp. He has just completed arrangements whereby he will commence active work on his group of mines. The property has been worked recently under lease, and the lessees opened up a fine body of ore in drifting. Drifts were run in both directions from the shaft and good ore was found in both of them. Mr. Baumann will put four men to work and will take out ore for shipment. This property has already achieved a good reputation, and like many others which make a good showing with the amount of development, needs capital to thoroughly develop it and put up a plant for the reduction of ore.

The Zonia Copper company, of this county, whose properties are tributary to Kirkland station, on the S. F. P. & P. railroad, is figuring on putting in a $100,000 leaching plant to work the ores of their mine. These ores are taken from an immense deposit or body of low grade copper ore, which ore body is said to be 100 feet wide at its narrowest point. There is over 2000 tons of ore in sight which carries six per cent copper and a small percentage of gold. This ore, it is claimed, is too low grade to smelt, but can be treated profitably if handled on a large scale by leaching process. In this connection, it is stated that copper ore which carries only two per cent copper is successfully and profitably treated at Clifton.

John H. Hise has interested Cincinnati capital in some mining properties at Placeritas. So far as known Mr. Hise is the first man who has succeeded in securing capital from there for investment in Arizona, and if this enterprise proves successful it will mean other large investments in mining here by capitalists from that city. The base of Mr. Hise's operations is on claims formerly owned by Hon. A. W. Callen, more familiarly known as "Old Grizzly." Mr. Callen staid by them for years and never for an instant wavered in his saith of their merits, but did not possess the capital to develop them as required to put them on a paying basis. He put forth every effort possible to enlist capital in the enterprise, but failed in this also except on one or two occasions, and the parties who became interested, not being familiar with the mining business, became discouraged and quit. Mr. Hise is a thor