

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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W. W. BOOTH, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
KENNETH J. BOOTH Associate Editor.

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A SELF-INFLICTED FATE.

"The fate of the desert camp." This is an expression that has long since become axiomatic with old Nevadans, especially those who have traveled about the state and observed.

But, unlike the self evident verities of mathematics, this is an axiom that is to the uninitiated a word of explanation is needed and the explanation will probably rob the axiom of its truth.

Desert camps are unlike those of timbered regions where erosion is less and where treasure chambers are more deeply buried and more cleverly concealed by jealous nature.

In this portion of the far west it requires about two thousand feet above the mean elevation plane to conserve the winters snow until the season when moisture is necessary for the preservation of aboreal life.

This is a general rule, but does not universally apply, particularly to isolated eminences such as Mounts Davidson and Odie.

Erosion at the bases of both these peaks kindly removed the concealed capping and laid bare the treasure weighted quartz.

If trees and other vegetation depending upon moisture had covered the sites of these ore bodies, they might never have been discovered, and if they had, it would have been only by following scant indications.

Thus desert camps, or those in treeless, cloudburst gashed regions, have usually bonanza values on the surface, due to the softer upper stratum having been washed away.

For a few years, sometime only for a few months, these camps have been tremendous producers, attracting multitudes of people and creating wild excitement.

Then came usually the fat of the desert camp. The superficial ore measure, with its values often reckoned by the pound instead of by the ton, was exhausted and beneath it appeared a seeming intrusion of country rock, cutting off the original walls. Narrow fingers of the ore still pointed downward, but they were usually deemed of little significance and not followed, the theory being that they emanated from the superficial ore chamber rather than from the other bodies beneath.

Then the mines, which had enriched their owners at shallow development, were deserted and the coyotes howled through the brush grown streets of the abandoned desert camp.

It seems strange; it is strange, that mining men are so prone to be guided by their own theories rather than accept the experiences of others.

The Imperial Comstock would never have waved its jeweled scepter above a tottering fiscal system; it would never have restored the wavering confidence in the nation's financial integrity and would have become a typical desert camp if a knife blade stringer, at times almost microscopic in width, had not been painstaking and vigilantly followed for hundreds of feet until its source, the "big bonanza," was reached and its hundreds million dollar pent up flood of gold and silver poured forth.

"Tonopah is a 'has been,'" was the wall that went up when the dacite intrusion was encountered at a depth of a few hundred feet. As the wall went up, stocks went down. People glanced at Tonopah's magnificent five story structures of brick and stone and sighed commiserate for the unfortunate investors who had reared these costly piles.

But there were some wise men in Tonopah who were operating the mines and there were wise men in the east who directed their efforts.

When the dacite intrusion did not prove a myth it was found to be but a flimsy barrier, beneath which lay the ore bodies extending to unmeasured depths.

As the diamond drills, shafts and winzes went down stocks went up, for there was a reason.

Tonopah had escaped "the fate of the desert camp."

It was not idle chance that wrought deliverance. It was because the men who owned the mines recalled the "big bonanza" and how it was found.

Goldfield is a typical desert camp, or would be if some one could find a few others worthy to possess such a type.

Two years ago Goldfield, proudly conscious of having broken all lease records, of having conquered adverse nature, of having shipped the richest car of ore in the world and of having set the peg just a notch higher, than Cripple Creek or Creeds in the matter of wild speculation and of creating the midnight noon—Goldfield suddenly found itself out of breath, halted, took a step backward.

There were faint hearts there as there were in Tonopah. One recent arrival who had walked in and who was lifting up his \$5,000 car preparatory to riding out, lamented over "boasted, boosted, busted" Goldfield.

He did not remember the manner of the finding of the "big bonanza" but he dreaded "the fate of the desert camp," as some people fear comets and with equal reason.

He departed with his goods and chattels and hundreds of his ilk went with him. Before departing one of them took a farewell glance at the \$350,000 Goldfield hotel building and sadly murmured: "Too bad that in a couple of years the jack rabbits will be playing tag in the foyer of that magnificent hostelry."

But it is twice telling the tale to relate how Goldfield escaped "the fate of the desert camp." The knotty problems of intricate faults and the vagaries of primary, secondary and even tertiary enrichment were solved at last, but merely upon paper.

The companies kept their shieve wheels turning. Station after station was cut in the shafts and laterals were thrown out at hundred foot intervals. Still the ore bodies continued and they maintained their size and wealth. Goldfield, if not another foot of vertical development work is done, will for many years retain the high honor of possessing the richest gold mine in the world, even as Tonopah will continue to have the richest silver mine.

But Goldfield would have more than tempted "the fate of the desert camp" if the mine owners had been satisfied with cul-

ing the superficial strata of gold on the Jumbo, Combination, Red Top, Florence, Simmerone, Kendall and Sandstorm. The mighty Mohawk's chest of gold was found with less to guide than the "big bonanza" afforded.

The moral of this extended legend is or should be palpable A MINE CANNOT BE WORKED OUT UNTIL IT IS WORKED IN.

The richer and bigger the superficial deposit, the greater the assurance that values go to great depth.

Tracing of fault planes and break lines is now an exact science and costly hap hazard work is no longer successfully practiced.

Never take your eye from the rusty streak, even though only the thickness of tissue paper, for it is the index finger pointing toward the vein.

The patient discoverers of "the big bonanza" were the prototypes of the modern Jim Butler, who, in the leasing days of Tonopah, was approached by an eastern "expert" who had been sent out to examine the Mizpah and purchase it for the lowest possible price.

"Jim," he began, "I have spent an entire day here and have thoroughly examined your ledges. I find they don't go down."

Butler turned disgustedly on his heel, snorting: "Well, by G—d, they don't go up."—Reno Gazette.

STOCK MARKET

The following quotations are furnished by the reliable brokerage firm of H. E. Epstine:

Tonopah District.	
Tonopah Mining	\$8.60
Montana	.95 1.00
Tonopah Ex.	.93 .94
MacNamara	.26 .27
Midway	.25 .27
Belmont	3.75 3.80
North Star	.07 .08
West End	.44 .46
Rescue	.04 .05
Jim Butler	.26 .27
Mizpah Ex.	.17
Goldfield District.	
Goldfield Con.	\$4.75 8.50
Booth	.13 .14
Atlanta	.13 .14
Florence	2.45 2.47 1/2
Comb. Frac.	.51 .52
Keweenaw	.06 .07
Jumbo Ex.	.19 .23
Miscellaneous.	
Pittsburg-Silver Pk.	.70
Manhattan Con.	.05 .06
Manhattan Dex.	.05 .06

Morning Sales.

500 Midway, 26.	
300 Belmont, \$3.77 1/2.	
1,000 West End, 45.	
2,000 Jim Butler, 26.	
2,000 Rescue, 05.	
500 Mizpah Ex., 18.	
Afternoon	
100 Montana, 95.	
5,000 MacNamara	
3,000 Midway, 20.	
200 Belmont, \$3.75.	
1,000 North Star, 7.	
1,500 Rescue, 5.	
2,000 West End, 45.	

TIME EXTENDED FOR REORGANIZATION

MONTGOMERY MOUNTAIN MINING CO. ALLOW STOCKHOLDERS TO JUNE 15.

The reorganization committee of the Montgomery Mountain Mining company has for the benefit of stockholders of the old company extended the time for subscribing for the stock of the new company, that is now being formed, until June 15, 1910. This is to be the final limit and those who desire to exchange their stock in the old company for shares in the new Montgomery Mines corporation are requested to send in their old at once, with three cents a share, to the depository of the company, the Utah National bank of Ogden, Utah, to which checks should be made payable. Unsubscribed stock will remain in the treasury for the future development of the property. The reorganization committee, that consists of Samuel Newhouse, M. M.

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