

## ARIZONA COPPER MINES.

## The New York Commercial is Quoted on the Subject.

From the Tucson Star.

During October last Charles M. Shannon, ex-collector of U. S. revenue for Arizona and New Mexico, made a sale near Clifton, and the following from the Commercial relative to this matter and other copper interests in Arizona will prove of interest. Mr. S. has disposed of this fine property and the parties who bought will turn it to account and thus extend operations in Arizona. The article is here presented:

"W. B. Thompson has just returned from the copper districts of Arizona where he closed the sale of the Hughes-Shannon copper mines, at Clifton, to the Thompson investment company of Butte City, Montana, and New York City. The consideration was \$500,000. N. B. Holter, of Helena, Montana, is one of the purchasing parties.

"Speaking of the future of copper mining in the territory of Arizona, Mr. Thompson said:

"I agree with the statement of Jas. A. Murray, a banker and mine owner of Butte, Montana. He has inspected the copper districts of Arizona and says that the territory has more copper than can be mined in 500 years. They have copper there, he says, for the coming millions.

"Arizona, from what I observed, has a brighter future than Butte, Montana. It is simply a question of the country, the development of which has been neglected. While a great number of properties are being opened, the output of the copper districts could be increased ten times over.

"The principal mines are work-

ing full time. The Arizona Copper company's mines, at Clifton, are among the active ones, and will produce in the neighborhood of 20,000,000 pounds of copper this year. The Hughes-Shannon mines, which are adjacent to those of the A. C. Co., will be in operation soon.

"The Metcalf mine of the latter company, is working in open cuts six hundred feet wide. The top has been virtually taken off the mountain where the mine is located. One man does the blasting for four hundred shovelers.

"There are only four districts in Arizona where copper is mined but the production, as compared with the limited under development, is immense. The growth of the copper mining industry in that territory is shown by a comparison of the production of the leading mines during the years '93 and '98.

"The A. C. Co. produced in 1893 7,871,819 pounds, and in 1898 18,169,099 pounds. The production of the Copper Queen in 1893 was 13,795,618 pounds, and in 1898 33,749,390 pounds. The Detroit produced 4,942,728 pounds in 1893 and 11,428,992 in 1898. The production of the United Verde in '93 was 9,121,146 pounds and in the year '98 42,328,928 pounds."

The total production of copper during the period mentioned increased from 43,773,675 pounds to 110,823,864 pounds. This year the production is expected to reach 140,000,000.

Knockers should not be tolerated. That blacksmithing proclamation issued June 19, 1899, by the governor of Arizona, was a damnable document. Mining is the leading enterprise and industry of this territory. Those who would prevent the investment of capital in mines, or who demand a commission on

sales, should not be tolerated. Men should not be required to have a license before investing in mines.—Phoenix Enterprise.

Within two years, at the present rapid rate of increase in copper mining in Arizona, this territory will take first rank.

The richest private soldier in the service of the United States is said to be Roscoe W. Davis, of the 33rd U. S. volunteers, who owns a big ranch and thousands of head of cattle near Marfa, Texas.

The El Paso Times says that Rastus, their colored janitor, attended a fancy dress ball given by the colored people recently, and wore a white necktie, a black derby hat and a chrysanthemum.

The Copper Era, a young but hardy paper published at Clifton, Arizona, announces that its prior editor, C. E. Bull, who edited a bully paper, had formed a partnership with J. D. Lea, and would make some speedy improvements. Success to Messrs. Bull & Lea. They are sure to succeed for they are in a good town.—Jerome, Ariz., Hustler.

Any miner who has a blow pipe, alcohol lamp, and a few drops of sulphuric acid can, in a few minutes, determine whether tellurium is present in ores. All that is necessary is to break off a small piece of the ore, place it in a porcelain dish, previously warmed so as to avoid breaking, apply the blower until the ore is at an oxidizing heat, then put one or two drops of sulphuric acid on the porcelain dish and allow to mix with the ore. The reaction will immediately follow if tellurium is present by beautiful carmine and purple colors.—Mining and Scientific Press.