

TOMBSTONE EPITAPH.

REPPY & PEOK, Publishers. Fourth Street, between Fremont and Allen Tombstone, Cochise County, Arizona.

A BLACKMAILING OUTFIT. For the past few days the Tombstone Prospector has been running "squibs," threatening to publish something "rich, rare and racy."

The following are the points: The Tortilita mines are on the mesa between the Tortilita and Owl's Head mountains, about thirty-five miles north-westerly from Tucson and fifteen miles from the Southern Pacific railway.

On arriving at Tucson I found no mining excitement whatever; indeed, many people had never heard of the "famous Tortilita mines." Inquiry at the Surveyor General's office and the United States Land Office failed to elicit any official knowledge of them; indeed neither of these offices had ever heard of them except in the most casual manner.

The main facts show this to be as plain and unvarnished a case of blackmail as ever was known. The grand jury, which meets here in a few days, cannot help taking cognizance of the matter, and the result will probably be that J. J. Nash will have to stand trial for the crime (if he does not skip in the meantime), and if convicted will land in Yuma, where he belongs.

Section 810. Every person who extorts any money or other property from another under circumstances not amounting to robbery, by means of force or any threat such as is mentioned in the preceding section, is punishable by imprisonment in the Territorial prison not exceeding five years.

Who knows but that "counterfeit bill" may have been greasing the wheels of the Prospector for several weeks? Another subject for the grand jury.

Wouldn't it be a good idea for the Florence, Tucson and Tombstone editors, who prostituted the columns of their papers to the advocacy of the Tortilita swindle, to go out into the hills for a few days until the thing blows over?

Medical authorities say that when the brains are out the thing must die, and yet since Ridgeley Tilden left it the Prospector continues to drag its slow length along in its weak, imbecile, moribund manner. Doctors don't know everything.

The EPITAPH prides itself upon its record in being the first newspaper in America to ventilate the notorious fraud known as the Tortilita Mining Company. It has called down upon its devoted head abuse and vituperation from the paid advocates of the swindle, but has not hesitated in performing what it considered to be its duty.

The principal workings have centered about points where the ledge has been greatly disturbed, where, instead of main trending itself as a ridge above the plain, it has disintegrated and merged into the general level.

In closing its editorial comments upon the Tortilita swindle, the Herald says: "Bunco schemes will injure honest business and will give their great Territory a doubtful reputation. There is but one way to deal with these frauds—expose them as we do with this special fraud in this morning's Herald."

A BUSTED BUBBLE.

THE TORTILITA MINING COMPANY. Report of General Sayr, One of the Leading Experts of the Country, Which Confirms What the Epitaph Previously Said.

General Hal Sayr, of Denver, Col., who has been the "court expert" in some of the biggest mining cases in the West, is a very conservative man. He visited the Tortilita for the New York Herald, and now reports on what he found there.

Some of these mountains are granite, others porphyritic in general character. The plains—or as they are locally termed, mesas—are alluvial, showing deposits of twenty-five to 400 feet of alluvial matter.

Next visited the mines. The mill, office, assay building and a dozen cooper-tizes occupied by the Mexican laborers, are located in a little gulch which heads in the Tortilita mountains. An examination of this gulch for a long distance above the camp showed no water at the surface except in one place where a stagnant pool in a rock was fed by a very small stream trickling from a crack in an adjacent ledge.

An examination of the mill, made by permission of Mr. Elmore, the superintendent, showed the usual machinery for crushing and treatment of ores by raw amalgamation. A five-stamp battery had the accompanying pans and rotating mullers, together with the necessary boiler and engine for driving them.

We were shown the Golden Eagle mine, said to be a gold mine, the only one of the group which is claimed such. It is in a granite formation, shows a defined vein of quartz from six to ten inches thick, dipping to the south at an angle of about 80 degrees from horizontal.

The shaft is said to be eighty feet deep. No drifting or stopping has been done. The material taken from the shaft remains where it has been dumped. It is said to carry \$9 in gold and \$5 in silver to the ton.

The By Chance Extension and Lone Will silver mines extend over a surface about one thousand by two hundred feet. They are of all depths from a mere pit to 180 feet. They dip in various directions and show neither unity nor continuity.

The great value has been demonstrated by new and continuous discoveries of vast bodies of ore. The shares are an absolute security, as they are based on property worth many times what they call for.

The ore bodies in each of these mines have been worked out to the water level—forty to fifty feet—whereas in the case of the By Chance and Lone Will they are said to be "concentrated." In following these are bodies—or rather the openings left by working out the ore bodies—were found to terminate in a soft clayey material having no appearance of a lode, nor is there a defined ledge developed in any of these workings either at the surface or at the bottom.

Judging from small pieces of the ores picked up in the abandoned workings they were composed of sulphides of iron, lead and silver. These, by the action of the air, were changed to oxides and sulphures, with some chloride, becoming thereby in a measure a free milling ore.

From the assays it may be seen that very rich ores were found here and mined in some quantity, but notwithstanding this richness of ores, the "concentration" claimed below water level, and the natural decrease of water acknowledged by Mr. McGovern, the foreman, this property is and has been idle for a long time, while work is being prosecuted on the low grade ores of the By Chance and Lone Will, assays from which were given above.

After visiting the other mines and giving a detailed account of the character and output of each mine, General Sayr sums up as follows: THE VERDICT OF THE TORTILITA. Mr. Elmore stated that the property was no more than paying running expenses.

From all that I could learn I doubt if the monthly shipment of bullion reaches this amount. The company's advertisement shows one shipment of 2,400 ounces, but claim it as the result of 15 days' work. If this were the case Mr. Elmore could not only easily pay current expenses, but would soon accumulate sufficient surplus with which to erect the needed mill capacity and hoister.

In a conversation one of the most intelligent employes said that the property was looked upon by all of them as a "prospect," that he had repeatedly urged its systematic development instead of the present desultory work, and if it were his he would at once prove its character and consequent value or abandon it.

The engineer who accompanied me in the examination expressed himself as surprised that the property should be called a mine or mines, and doubted if the shares could be sold at Tucson at twenty-five cents, or even at any price.

From my examination, the assays here-in given and the general knowledge attained by the property, I arrived at the following conclusions: First—That some very good ore is found in the Tortilitas, but nothing that would warrant their greatly overestimated productive value.

"A well known gentleman from the East" is made to report as follows: "We then returned and went down fifty feet further, and there measured a breast of ore forty two and a half feet wide, from which I took samples to the mill and saw worked, yielding an average of \$50 per ton. Here water was encountered and in three places along the line of this vein below ore has been uncovered and the vein shown to be four feet wide and of unknown length and depth. This demonstrates the great value of this property, for as all mining men know the concentration below the water level proves the permanency and value of a mine."

Here is richness. After measuring 42 1/2 feet width of ore, that gave a working average of \$50 per ton, he finds at water level a vein of 4 feet and thereat exclaims that "this demonstrates the great value of the property." That's a demonstration with a vengeance; a contraction from 42 1/2 feet to 4 feet; and just here where the ore body has suffered this remarkable contraction and where all, by his own statement, is covered by water, he "could see thousands of tons of ore in his sight."

The above reward will be paid for the arrest and conviction of any person or persons unlawfully handling any of my stock. Brand H.G. on left hip. H. W. HASSELGREN, Charleston, A.T. 10-29-87

gentleman from the East," who asserts that its value is demonstrated by "the concentration of the ore below the water level," and places that value at from \$10,000,000 to \$50,000,000; or upon those of Governor Price, of New Jersey, who probably knows nothing of these mines and who asserts that the value is demonstrated "by the concentration of the ore below the water level," or upon those of a "well-known mining operator" who was surprised to find "that investors were not invited to go it blind," and gives it as his opinion that the property is worth \$15,000,000; or upon the statements of Mr. Joseph H. Reall, "whose name is prominently mentioned for Vice President of the United States," and whose life occupation has evidently been that of a farmer, it is time for farmers, at least, whose money is evidently being looked after, to tighten their hold on the hard earned dollars and give a scheme of that character a thorough scrutiny before investing.

Can any sane man believe for a moment that if the owners of the "famous Tortilitas" had the millions in sight which they claim, that they would be offering the property or any part of it at the rate of \$1,000,000? or that they would be advertising at a cost of \$700 to \$800 for each insertion the sale of shares sufficient to erect a twenty or forty stamp mill and a hoister? The whole scheme is too transparent to deceive any but those wholly unacquainted with mining operations, and to this class of people the promoters of the "Tortilitas" scheme are evidently looking for the money to pay their advertising bills and possibly to erect a mill and hoister.

I am asked by the Herald if after my examination of this property I would risk the erection of a larger mill for the treatment of the ores. My reply is no. The only additional machinery that the outlook would warrant is a hoister of sufficient capacity to take care of the water during the prosecution of such deeper work as would be required to demonstrate whether there is any continuity of the ore in paying quantities below water level, which I very much doubt.

HAL SAYR, Mining Engineer. DENVER, Colo., Oct. 11, 1887.

New Store. Paul Bahn is offering to the people of Tombstone and the county in general, some of the best bargains in groceries and liquors ever offered in this county. His stock is new fresh and desirable canned goods, wines, caddles, in fact every thing sold in a first class grocery store is being sold by him at Fairbank prices.

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To the Public. Having purchased the entire interest of Jos. Pascholy in the undertaking business in this city, I will hereafter devote my special attention to said business. Embalming and the preparing of bodies for removal a specialty. Orders filled in any part of the county.

NOTICE. To the delinquent members of Rescue Hose Company No. 1. All members in arrears are hereby notified that on the 10th of November next, a list of members exempt from jury duty must be filed with the Clerk of the District Court. At that time all members who are in arrears will be stricken from the roll of the company. By order of Company. C. N. THOMAS, Secretary.

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