



THE COMPASS AND THE COMPASS

ARIZONA AS IT IS;

OR,

THE COMING COUNTRY.

COMPILED FROM

NOTES OF TRAVEL DURING THE YEARS
1874, 1875, AND 1876.

BY

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Four miles west of the Copper Peaks, are some mines owned by Messrs. Tully, Ochoa, & Co., whose locations are also very rich in copper. They have taken out considerable quantities of ore, some of which they have had smelted in a common Mexican furnace with good results.

When the Texas Pacific, or Thirty-second Parallel Railroad is completed, all of these rich mines will become very valuable. Good water for drinking purposes is found near them, and a fair supply of wood.

The Picacho Mine, a very rich silver lode, is about seventy-five miles west from Tucson, and was discovered in 1860. It was worked successfully for several years, and produced a large amount of bullion. Work was relinquished when the water line was reached, as at the time there was no means by which pumps or other machinery could be obtained for working it. This mine was worked by Mexican labor, and for months before work was stopped, the water that entered the shafts and drifts was packed out by the Mexicans in rawhide buckets. The ore was worked by the Pateo process. It is known that two hundred and forty thousand ounces of silver was taken from this mine, and a large amount was supposed to have been carried away by the Mexican workmen which was never accounted for. The vein is from two to six feet wide, and paid by the Pateo process from \$200 to \$1,500 per ton. There are sev-

eral lateral veins, or feeders, which enter the main lode, all of which are very rich. One of these lateral veins is rich in gold, as well as in silver.

This valuable mine is now the property of Don L. J. F. Jaeger of Yuma, who has lately offered it for sale at a low figure.

The Trench Mine is in the Patagonia Mountains, about seventy miles east of south from Tucson. The owners are Messrs. Archibald, Gardiner, & Hopkins of Tucson. It is an immense vein of low grade argentiferous galena ore, excellent for smelting, and easily mined. The lode is from four to ten feet wide and carries from \$30 to \$100 per ton of silver. Selected specimens assay as high as \$600 per ton. The ore yields from thirty to eighty per cent. lead. Parallel veins of nearly equal width are within a short distance of the main lode. This is one of the few prominent mines in the Territory which have an east and west trend. Most others run north and south with slight variations. There is perhaps no better mine in the Territory of like character.

The lode has been traced and located a distance of over twenty thousand feet.

The Trench Mine, being the original discovery on this great lode, is now being worked successfully, and fifty men are in the employ of the company. Four smelting furnaces are in successful operation.

The work on the mine includes several shafts from forty to one hundred and twenty feet, and two tunnels of two hundred and three hundred feet each. Wood and water are abundant and of good quality. Iron ore is abundant and of the right quality to form a proper flux in smelting.

The old Mowry Mine, now owned by Fish, Bennet, & Co., has quite a history. It is in the southern spurs of the Patagonia Mountains, five miles south of the Trench Mine, seventy-five miles from Tucson, and three or four miles north of the Sonora line. It carries a splendid quality of argentiferous galena and carbonate ores, in a formation of limestone, ironstone, and manganese inclosed in a granitic primary formation.

It was discovered in 1857 by a Mexican herder, who sold it to Captain Ewell, afterwards General Ewell of the Confederate army, and Messrs. Brevoort, Douglass, and Johnson, who gave the Mexican a pony and some other traps for the location. In 1859, Colonel Titus and Brevoort became the owners by purchase, and in 1860 they sold it to Lieutenant Sylvester Mowry for \$25,000. Lieutenant Mowry associated other parties with him, erected buildings, furnaces, machinery, etc., and worked it successfully until 1862, when he was arrested by order of General Carleton, who was then in command of the Union forces in the Territory, was taken to San Francisco,

but was never tried on the charges of disloyalty preferred by General Carleton. There was much indignation among the people of the Territory against General Carleton for the arrest of Lieutenant Mowry, and it was then charged, and is yet, that the arrest was without cause, and was made on account of previous jealousies and ill feelings between Carleton and Mowry, when they were in the service in former years. Be this so or not, the result of the arrest of Mowry was the ruin of all his hopes of fortune and affluence. After his release he went to London for the purpose of selling his mine, was taken sick and died in poverty.

After the death of Mowry, his heirs, who reside in Connecticut, being either ignorant of the mining laws, or too poor to fulfill the requirements, neglected to maintain their title, and on the first day of January, 1875, Messrs. Fish & Bennet of Tucson relocated it and now hold possession. A patent has been applied for and soon the occupants will become the owners in fee simple.

The present location includes three thousand feet in length by six hundred feet in width, or over forty acres of land.

The workings now include several shafts, the deepest of which is two hundred and sixty feet, and numerous tunnels and drifts.

There are several lateral veins running into the

main lode, some of which are splendid carbonate ores. The lode, like the Trench mine, has an east and west trend, and several extensions have been located on it to the east.

The argentiferous ores work from \$60 to \$400 per ton in silver, and the carbonate ores from \$30 to \$60 per ton. Both kinds carry from thirty to sixty per cent. of lead. Much of the ore is found in great pockets, or caves, which present the appearance of having been filled by injections of the mineral from below, some of these pockets or caves being sixty feet across, all filled with mineral. A few of the caves near the surface are only partially filled with the mineral, and in them are found beautiful stalactites. The altitude at the surface of the mine is six thousand feet.

After the arrest of Lieutenant Mowry, Mexicans from Sonora carried away much of his valuable machinery, and also gouged out and took away a large amount of valuable ore, and seriously injured the mine, requiring a large expenditure of money to timber up and make it secure for working.

There are many other good mines in the Patagonia Mountains, consisting of gold, silver, and lead, and some paying gold placers.

Another rich mineral range of mountains is the Santa Ritas, west of the Patagonia Range, and divided from them by the rich and beautiful Sonoita

Valley. The Santa Ritas are twenty miles long north and south, with a width of three to six miles, and they seem to be filled with lodes of gold, silver, and lead, in its whole extent.

The district embraced in the old Santa Rita mining district, is in the southern declivity of the mountains, twelve miles east from the old Tumacacari mission church, and sixty-five miles south from Tucson.

Some of the mines in this district give evidence of having been worked a century or more since, and from traditions now current, much silver was mined here by the old Jesuit Fathers, who employed large numbers of Mexicans and Indians in the work. From 1856 to 1861, the mines here were worked by an eastern company, but owing to the continued and determined hostility of the Indians, who killed many of the employees, Superintendent Wrightson and others, with other causes combined, work was wholly discontinued. Messrs. Wrightson, Grosvenor, and Hopkins, all leading men in the enterprise, were murdered by the Apaches between 1858 and 1861. In January, 1875, the mines were relocated under the superintendence of Col. William G. Boyle, one of the best informed mining men on the Pacific Coast. Considerable work has been done since their relocation, but until suitable machinery is erected for properly working them, and mills erected for treating the