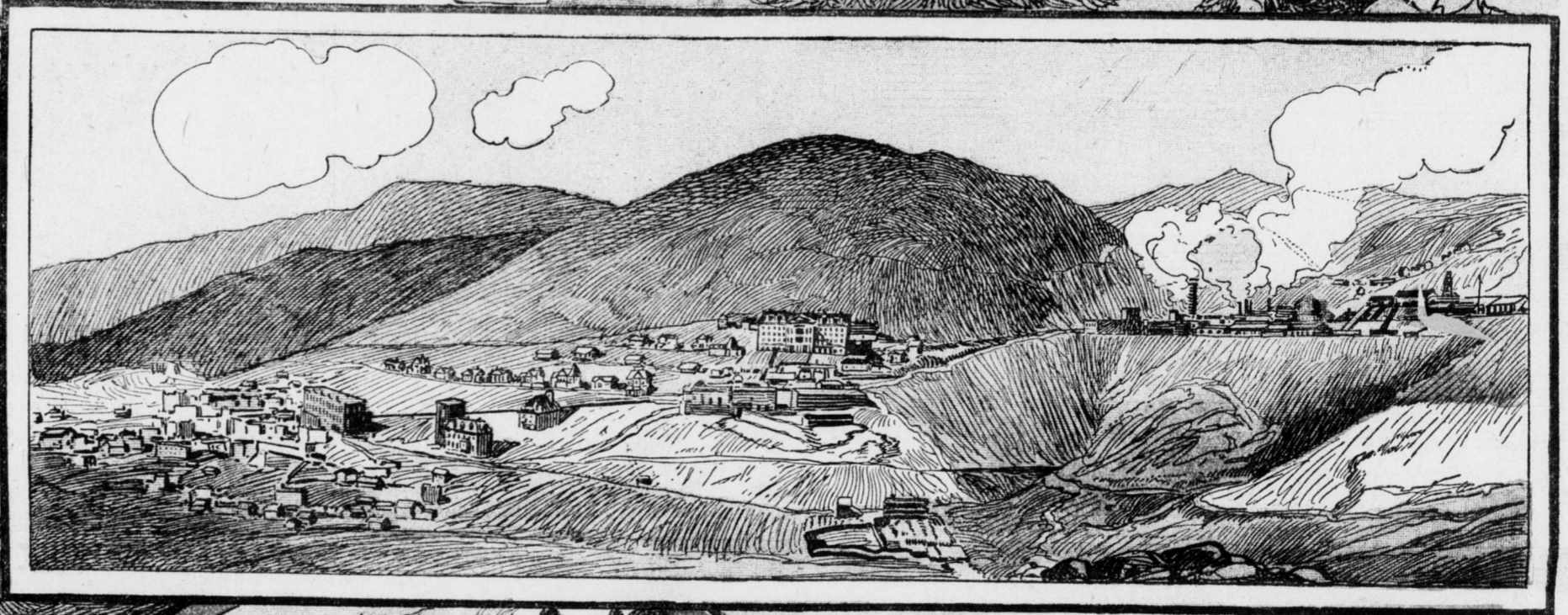


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The Romance of Mining



THIRTY-ONE years ago this coming spring, a miner of the name of Mose Manuel, and his brother Fred, found some rich float near what is now Lead, South Dakota. The brothers and their partner, Henry Harney, searched diligently for the lode, but the snow being on the ground, they were baffled in their efforts to locate the wealth. When the snow had disappeared, Mose was for renewing the search. His partners, with their old hopes cooled, laughed and scoffed at him.

Mose was dogged. He kept at his partners until Harney agreed to accompany him on a search. They looked over the ground, as only miners can, for many days—and at last, up on the hillside, Mose Manuel located the lode. "Hank," he cried, boyishly, in the joy of his success and the light of his experience, "this is surely a homestake!" Calmer inspection proved to them that the mine was, beyond the shadow of a doubt, a homestake—the term, in miners' parlance, meaning enough money to take them all "back to the States." So they called it the Homestake mine.

For a year the Manuel boys and their partner worked the property; then they sold out to the late United States Senator George Hearst, and he developed the Homestake into one of the richest gold mines the world has ever known. Last year the discoverer of the lode met his death, as a common miner, in the bottom of a deep shaft in a mine in Montana, his lamp starting an explosion.

The history of American mining, since the days of the argonauts, is full to the bursting point with stories every whit as romantic as that woven about the name of Mose Manuel.

When W. A. Clark, Senator from Montana, first set foot in the copper state, he was so shy of this world's goods that he had to peddle the few

wares that his limited capital enabled him to buy. By getting corners on provisions and tobacco, he was able to reap enormous prices, and after a few years of such business found himself in a position to invest in mines. One of the first purchases was a mine that was represented to him as being rich in silver and gold. He got it at a bargain, and he was repenting at leisure, when a stranger walked up to him and asked if he was the owner of "Clark's Colusa," the name the future Senator's chaffing companions had given his worthless hole in the ground. Clark started to order up drinks for the stranger as he had been in the habit of doing for his friends whenever they mentioned his mine, but the stranger would have none of the liquor.

"You have the richest thing in all Montana," he exclaimed, in all seriousness. "Let me congratulate you."

This was too much for Clark's good nature. "There is not an ounce of gold or silver in the old hole," he replied, with that piercing sharpness of voice for which he is noted.

"No," said the stranger, ignoring the owner's rising anger, "there is neither gold nor silver in the Colusa. But there is copper—and enough of it to put you among the richest men of your day."

And so W. A. Clark came into his millions and the title of "Copper King," simply because he had bought a "salted" hole in the ground and nobody was fool enough to take it off his hands.

The man who located the United Verde Mine, in Arizona, the richest copper mine ever discovered, is now a pensioner of Senator Clark's, the latter owning the property.

The year before Mose Manuel discovered the Homestake lode, John Boyd and two partners, hearing, in Nevada, of gold discoveries in the Tonta basin of Arizona, headed thither. Penetrating to the top of the Bradshaw mountains after many hardships and close calls from the Indians, they found ground rich in both gold and silver, took out rock that carried \$100 in silver and \$35 in gold, and staked out seven claims.

They held the property for a half dozen years, when they sold, Boyd, the leader of the venturesome trio getting ten

thousand dollars as his share of the purchase price.

Years later, Boyd, an old, old man, drifted back to the site of his discovery, now known as Jerome, to find more wealth, in the shape of copper ore, being taken from the mine in a day than he and his partners took from it during the entire period that they owned it.

The three men who bought the mine of Boyd and his partners worked out the pocket of gold and silver ore in a few years. They were endeavoring to locate the permanent vein, when W. A. Clark appeared on the scene, having been attracted to Jerome by viewing, at an exposition in the late eighties, specimens of the mine's copper ore. In the first years of his experience as a mine

owner, Mr. Clark's practical knowledge of mining had been nil. But he had attended the Columbia School of Mines, New York, in order to overcome this handicap. He went down into the bowels of the United Verde, with his own hands, took out numerous specimens of the ore, assayed them himself, and before he had bought the property knew for a certainty that it was the richest copper mine yet uncovered. The property adjoining the United Verde is now being developed, and before John Boyd, now beyond the middle eighties, passes from his comfortable chair, in the office of his hotel-home, across the great divide, he will doubtless learn of another rich copper mine opened up in the mineral country that he discovered.

The late Marcus Daly became a copper king quite as accidentally as did his bitterest enemy, Senator Clark.

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nanza King, he was sent by the Walker brothers to Butte to explore and report on the Alice mine, a silver property of uncertain extent and value.

"As a working miner, he went to a cheap hotel, stayed a week, and then told the landlord he could not pay his bill unless he got a job. The landlord secured work for him in two or three mines, one of which he found too damp for his lungs, and another unsafe; and finally, in desperation, induced the owners of the Alice to give him a chance to earn enough money to settle his account.

"Daly studied the property for three weeks while he worked, then he left

Continued on Next Page.

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