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U.S. Forest Service.

RED CLOUD MINE

Data in reference to the Red Cloud Mine, collected from reliable sources, from men who worked in the mine, Wells Fargo & Co., ex-agents who handled the bullion as it came from the mine, personal observations such as tests of available rock taken from the waste dumps which came out of the mine, and maps made by one Mr. Hopkins, M.E. who was Supt. of the mine during its last regime.

SITUATION

The Red Cloud mining claims, comprising 3,000 ft. in length by 600 ft. in width, are situated in Mariposa County, California, 12 miles from Coulterville. The nearest station from which freighting is done at the present time is 22 miles over good wagon roads to Pleasant Valley on the Yosemite R.R. The Red Cloud mine is on the same belt and in the immediate vicinity of a number of the most famous old mines of California, the production of which reached into the millions of dollars. They were closed down because of inadequate facilities for the handling of their ores as concentrators for saving sulphurates. Electric power and power drills were not to be had during the early day mining, therefore, they could not and did not mine any ores but the highest grades found in the mines, and it seems the class of ores which they did mine and mill could not be mined profitably, only to a limited depth, owing to the old fashioned machinery and methods.

PRESENT DAY FACILITIES

With our present day methods of quartz mining, electric power, power drills, concentrators, the increased tonnage crushed per stamp and cheap transportation, these mines of which I will make further mention can all be re-habilitated and placed again among the big producers of the state.

Power is one of the most vital factors which enter into successful mining and usually when the power problem is solved and cheap power can be obtained, the mine in question can be placed on a paying basis.

The early day owners of these mines were compelled in most instances to use wood for fuel in generating steam, and when the entire plant, mill, hoist and pumps had to be operated 24 hours per day by steam their wood bill alone would have been a splendid revenue within itself. Again, their slow and expensive method of hand drilling hard rock was a handicap which nothing but a very high class of ore could overcome. I have made mention of the above facts because the present day mine investor naturally asks, "Why are these mines closed down?"

APPROXIMATE TONNAGE UNSTOPED

The Red Cloud Mine was operated through an inclined shaft which was sunk on the vein to a depth of 700 ft. there being no other surface openings and the collar of the shaft being caved prevents an underground examination. Therefore, in my approximation as to tonnage left standing in the mine

I have been guided by the Hopkins map which is appended hereto, made during the time the shaft was still open. The amount of ore stoped out as shown by the map, is a little over one-third of the ground which is opened. The amount of free gold which was recovered from the ore that was stoped known was \$800,000., according to the statement of Mr. McCarthy, Wells Fargo & Co. agent, during the time the mine was in operation, and who now resides in Berkeley. I am told that plenty of high grading was going on among the men, and it is generally estimated that enough gold was high graded to have placed the total production past the million dollar mark. However, the known production is a magnificent showing.

In the map which Mr. Hopkins made, I find only two places in the mine where the width of the vein is recorded. This is at the five and six hundred levels, the width being eight feet. Not having any other definite measurements to be guided by in measuring ground not stoped, I have approximated an average width of $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft., which would seem fair. From the approximation of $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in width, I find there is 42,000 tons of ore still standing in the mine, or already blocked out, and from a further reduction of 50%, which would seem perfectly safe, I have 22,000 tons or about 2 years work for a ten stamp mill, ready to be stamped out when the shaft shall have been unwatered. Mr. Hopkin's map shows that no stoping was done from the 5 to 6 and 6 to 7

levels, therefore, if the vein carries the width as per map, in these two levels alone there would be about 20,000 tons. Therefore, I am well within my bounds in the above estimation.

VALUES

In estimating the value of the ore still standing in the mine, I am basing my statements on the values found from tests made of the ore waste dumps, which comprise about 20,000 tons. The Bondurant I shall refer to later on. The above mentioned dumps are badly mixed with slates. I should judge there is 3/4 slates and 1/4 clean quartz. The tests I have made thus far show about \$8.00 per ton, free gold and sulphurates combined.

The ore found in the Red Cloud, Louisiana, Bondurant, and Marble Spring Mines, all being on the same vein, carry quite a large percentage of sulphurates and also of high grade.

COST OF MINING AND MILLING

Referring to the above estimate, it will be shown that there is \$198,000 worth of quartz blocked out in the Red Cloud Mine. I have managed a number of different mines and have been identified with mining the most of my life (some 30 years), I can give a pretty accurate estimate of mining and milling, and I should say a pay roll of \$3,000 per month would be ample to mine and mill the ore and continue with development work, sinking and drifting, hence there would be a net profit of \$126,000 derived from the

ore already blocked out.

ESTIMATE VALUE OF ORE MINED IN EARLY DAYS FROM RED CLOUD

From a careful estimation of the ore which has been stoped out from the Red Cloud of tonnage and a known production of \$800,000, I find that the ore must have paid \$40.00 per ton free gold. Can one wonder at the early operators of these mines frowning upon 8 and 10 dollar rock, even though it could be mined at a small profit?

POWER

The Standard Power Co's line is within 8 miles of the Red Cloud. The line could be extended to the Red Cloud at a cost of \$1,000 per mile. This cost price would have to be furnished by the owners of the mine, as a guarantee that power would be used. However, the amount paid for construction of the line would be a credit for the owner, and the cost of construction would be repaid in power.

SURFACE IMPROVEMENT

The natural place for a mill would be in a position where free water power could be used to operate it a portion of the year, having a 150 ft. pressure. The old timers obtained their water supply for battery purpose and steam by a ditch which was brought to the mine from an intake from the same stream above mentioned, quite a distance above the proposed mill site. There is quite an abundance of good timber (yellow and sugar pine) standing on the mine.

GEOLOGY AND POSSIBILITIES

The Red Cloud Mine vein is a true fissure between walls of mineralized slate, a formation conceded by most if not all mining men to be the most substantial and lasting formation in which gold bearing rock is found. By reference to the Hopkins map, I note that no cross-cutting in either foot or hanging walls has been done, and among present day mine managers, cross-cutting is seldom overlooked as vast bodies of splendid ore, which former owners knew nothing about, has been found by cross-cutting either to the hanging or foot walls. The South Eureka in Amador County is one of the most prominent illustrations of this fact. They have discovered a vein of good ore in the foot wall by cross-cutting at the 1700 ft. level which is presumably virgin ground to the surface. There is no reasonable reason why the next 700 ft. of sinking at the Red Cloud will not find the geology just as fertile and the production would be a similar amount to that which has been produced from the present 700 ft. of sinking and which should be increased owing to the improved methods of present day mining and milling, which shows that a much larger extraction can be obtained than in former-day mining. The present levels can all be extended further with reasonable expectations of encountering other large bodies of good ore, as a continuity in length of the ore bodies on this lode has been proven by extending old drifts at the Bondurant Mine which is near the Red Cloud, and which was

closed down years ago and which has been recently purchased and re-opened by men of new ideas. These men paid a large price for the property, the exact amount I do not feel at liberty to quote in this statement, however, I have been all through the mine and old stopes, which were operated through a shaft sunk to a depth of 412 ft. and I saw large bodies of ore, in some places 8 ft. in width and averaging 8 and 10 dollars per ton. No doubt a large percentage of the values are in the sulphurets. These bodies of ore still standing are mute witnesses that the old timers could not mine and mill this class of ore successfully. The Bondurant Mine vein was opened in the early days, a distance of 350 ft. along the vein, but Mr. Curkin, the present manager, has extended the drifts at the adit level some 350 ft. further, disclosing good milling ore the entire distance, which makes a known shoot 700 ft. in length, some of the ore being picture rock (very high class). I have cited this instance to verify the possibilities of the Red Cloud, and so far as depth are concerned, the geology at the Red Cloud will bear out the statement that the vein, with its present values, will go down indefinitely, and speaking from practical illustrations, the Red Cloud Mine has hardly been scratched as yet. It has only been partly stoped to the 500 ft. level.

OLD MINES IN THE VICINITY OF THE RED CLOUD

Among the noted former day mines in the vicinity of the Red Cloud, are the Marble Springs (said to have produced

over a million dollars); the Boundurant (which has produced \$350,000), the Louisiana (not very deep \$75,000). The Louisiana has been purchased recently by mining men who intend to re-open and work the above mentioned mines, which are on the same vein as the Red Cloud. Next is the Bonderita, which is 900 ft. in depth and said to have yielded \$2,000,000. The Bonderita is not for sale. The above mentioned productions were in free gold, no sulphurates having been saved.

REMARKS

Before closing this statement, I will mention the fact that mining men from all parts of the world are being attracted to California, because of its deep and lasting gold mines. The mines of Australia and South Africa are weakening, while the mines of California are showing better as depth is attained. The Kennedy Mine in Amador County is nearing the 4,000 ft. mark and is a greater producer than ever.

I will cite as an example of re-opening old mines, the Boeick-Morling Co., of London, England, who were attracted to California because of her deep mining. The Morling Co. tackled the old Plymouth Eureka Mine of Amador County, which was operated in former days and belonged to the late Alvinza Hayward. It was sunk to a depth of 1600 ft. and was thought to be worked out, therefore work was suspended and the shaft allowed to fill with water, remaining so for about 30 years, but fortunately the old mine left a good record of production behind her which appealed to the

London Co., to take it over and re-habilitate the old shaft and sink deeper. They have been generously rewarded for their work, as I note on the Scientific Press of S. F., they have 25 ft. of \$12 ore at the 2,000 ft level.

Another very noted instance is that of the Brown Bear Mine situated in Trinity County, which was owned and operated in early days by G. W. Grayson, who has long since crossed the line, but he was numbered among the wealthiest men of the State during this time. Mr. Grayson said to me during one of our conversations that one of the greatest mistakes he ever made mining was when he sold the Brown Bear, which he did, because of the Supt. advising him the mine was worked out and that he had better sell it. He sold it for \$15,000 and she was a big producer at the time of our conversation and produced many millions after he sold.

Now to summarize, the Red Cloud proposition in a nutshell, is this: The Red Cloud has been worked or sunk to a depth of 700 ft., about one-third of the ground has been stoped out which has yielded \$800,000. This amount can safely be swelled to \$1,000,000. The shaft can be rehabilitated at a cost of \$4,000, and while I have based my estimation on medium grade ore the fact should not be over looked that the Mine produced a high class ore and that all values recovered were free gold only. Therefore, it is safe to base calculations on the Mine continuing its production of high grade ore as new development work is made, and with

present day mining and milling a larger saving and profit will be derived.

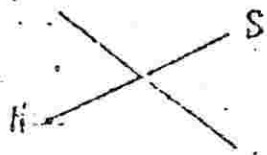
Finally it seems to me the Red Cloud holds out unusual inducements to the mine investor.

Respectfully,
(Signed...)
Geo. E. Stanton

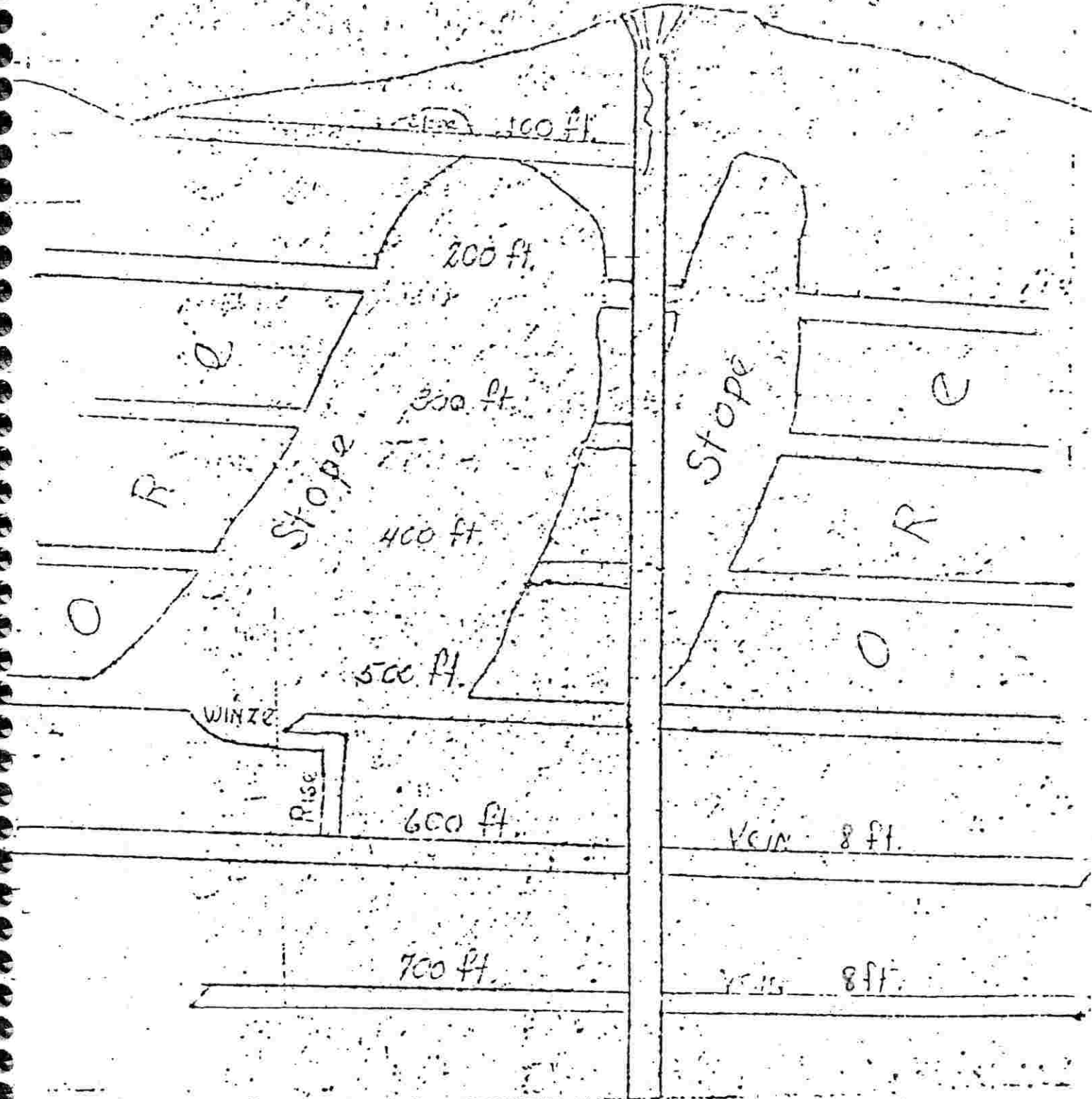
COPY - 1906
Red Cloud Mine
Mariposa County

Geo. Stanton-Mb,
Hopkins - Super
Whitman - Foreman

Scale 1" = 100'



Saved



COULTERVILLE

Chronicle

THE ANNALS OF A MOTHER LODE

MINING TOWN

BY

CATHERINE COFFIN PHILLIPS



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