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The Canon City or Arkansas Valley Claim Club, 1860-1862

GEORGE L. ANDERSON*

The first permanent white settlement in the Canon City area was made sometime in October, 1859. During the following spring the townsite was jumped by a second company composed of sixteen persons, six of them members of the Canon City Claim Club. The townsite embraced an area of 1,280 acres, but only a few log shanties were erected prior to the heavy influx of miners and prospectors into South Park and California Gulch. The rapid increase in the farming population and the development of a "claim-taking mania" led to the organization of a claim club to protect the rights of the settlers.[1] The organization which was formed by the thirty-five men who met on March 13, 1860, was known as the Canon City Claim Club or Arkansas Valley Claim Club. The record book of the club is still extant and easily available to the student of history.[2]

The Canon City Claim Club belongs to that group of transitory frontier institutions that sprang into existence to bridge the gap between settlement and the establishment of duly authorized institutions of law and order. Its varied activities were compressed into a period of less than twenty-three months. Included within its claimed jurisdiction was a strip of territory twenty miles wide (ten miles on each side of the Arkansas River) extending from Beaver Creek on the east to the eastern border of South Park on the west.[3]

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*Dr. Anderson is Assistant Professor of History at Colorado College, Colorado Springs. His article on "The El Paso Claim Club, 1859-1862," appeared in the March, 1936, issue of this magazine.—Ed.

[1]B. F. Rockafellow, "History of Fremont County" in *History of the Arkansas Valley* (O. L. Baskin & Co., Chicago, 1881), 550, 553. Hereafter cited as Rockafellow, *Fremont County*. A brief item in the Canon City *Times*, Nov. 10, 1860, states that the town was laid out January 17, 1858, and was jumped in the fall of 1859. According to this account the first cabin was built about the first of February, 1860, with development by the regular company commencing in August, 1860.

[2]The book is now a part of the official archives of Fremont County. It is listed as Entry 81 and described on pages 44-45 of the *Inventory of the County Archives of Colorado, No. 22, Fremont County*, prepared by the Historical Records Survey. It was used through the courtesy of Katharine Komfala, County Clerk of Fremont County.

[3]During the early days of the club the members considered the land south of the Arkansas River a portion of New Mexico and designated it as such in the filing of their claims. W. M. Costan and Brother used the following sentence in locating their claims: "Description of farming claim it is situated on the South side of the River Arkansas in New Mexico." This is followed by a more specific description of the location. *Record Book of the Canon City Claim Club*, 3. Hereafter cited as *Record Book* and page numbers given only when they appear in the original.

Within this area there were filed "for farming purposes" two hundred and thirty-nine claims of one hundred and sixty acres each. In addition to the sixty sections of land thus claimed there were five claims for townsite purposes; four each for ranching and millsite purposes; three for lumbering; two to ditch rights; and one each for a burial ground, a stone quarry and "oil running." Thus two hundred and sixty separate claims were entered in the record book. The diversity of purpose for which claims were made is an effect, in part at least, of the diverse topography of the Canon City locality and indicates in a general way its future economic interests.

Altogether the names of one woman and two hundred and sixty-four men appear in the record book. Included in the list of members of the club are merchants, doctors, and preachers; lawyers, farmers, and ranchers; a newspaper editor, a blacksmith, and a hotel proprietor; miners, hunters, and freighters; saloon-keepers, swindlers, and thieves. The membership was a small cross-section of the people who came to what is now Colorado during the early days of its history. There were many people from the southern states and the outbreak of the Civil War drained the region of many of its inhabitants.[4] The exhaustion of the placers in California Gulch and the decision of the federal government to withdraw protection from persons who traveled the Arkansas River route to the mines contributed largely to the depopulation of Canon City and the surrounding area. The exodus from the region during the period 1861-1864 explains in part at least the fact that a larger number of the claim club members did not contribute to the development of Canon City and its environs.

The constitution of the Canon City Claim Club adopted on March 13, 1860, and signed by thirty-five men who presumably contributed to its formation, became the fundamental law in all matters pertaining to land titles. The decidedly unorthodox spelling suggests the lack of a trained expert in orthography among the charter members, whereas the frequent concessions to legal terminology pertinent to claim club organization indicates the presence of some who were familiar with similar organizations in other parts of the territory.[5] Indeed the preamble to the constitution is almost an exact copy of the preamble to the constitution of

[4]The A. C. Chandler claim known as Spring Ranch was the rendezvous for parties organizing to join the Confederacy. Rockafellow, *Fremont County*, 574.

[5]Three of the charter members of the Canon City Claim club were likewise members of the El Paso Claim Club. B. H. Bolin, who was recorder for the Canon City Club from March 13, 1860, until August 14, 1860, had on December 19, 1859, filed a claim within the limits of the El Paso Club. Harris Comstock recorded a claim in the El Paso Club on Dec. 19, 1859, and one in the Canon City Club on March 26, 1860. N. W. Wright's claims were recorded on Dec. 19, 1859, and March 26, 1860, also. Henry J. Burghardt, the recorder of the El Paso Club until July 11, 1860, purchased a claim near Canon City for $300 early in September, 1860. At least six other persons held claims in the two clubs at the same time.

the Arapahoe Claim Club.[6] The constitution contains so many provisions of intrinsic interest that it is herewith reproduced with all of its crude spelling of words and awkward building of sentences.

Constitution of By Laws Adopted
th
March 13, 1860
at a Meeting of the Citizens
of Canon City and the Arkasaw Valey and its
Tributaries.

Whereas it sometimes becomes necessary for persons to associate themselves together for the purpose of such as the protection of life and property and as we have left the peasfull shade of civilization, left friend and homes for the purpose of bettering our condition we therefore associate ourselves together under the name of Cenion City Claim Club or Arkansaw Valley Claim Club and adopt the Following Constitution.

First

Art. 1. There shall be elected anualy hereafter one president of one vice president one secretary and six directors who shall constitute a board of directors or managers.

Sec.

Art. 2. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Managers or club and perform all Duties generaly devolving on presidents of such meetings and in cace of a vacancy the vice President shall act in his stead and in case of the abscence of the vice President the managers shall constitute a quorum to transact Business or schose one of there number.

the

Art 3. Hear after any person taking a claim for farming purposes shall be entitled to one hundred and sixty acres in one body, provided the same shall be in a square. upon the river or any other water course and the bottoms are two narrow make it up in length by setting stakes or marking trees or mounds and have with date of taking on the same and shall within ten days after making said claim file with the recorder the Boundaries of said claim.

Art. 4. All persons now taking claims or here to fore shall within sixty days from this date have the following improvements to wit: one log cabben twelve foot square schinked covered with polls and dirt roof.

Art. 5. All claims taking hereafter within the boundries of this claim club shall not be permitted to run across the Arkansaw River But said stream shall Be the boundrey in all cases wheare said claims are contigeous thereto.

Art. 6. two or more persons may hold a claim as teants in common together provided the claims does not exceed the number of acres they would be entitled to hold individually.

art. 7. Nothing in this constitution shall be so construed as to prevent parties from selling or alienating there claims when the parties have complied with the constitution in making the improvements or holding the occupation or occupancy.

Art. 8. Owners of sall mills shall be entitled to the use of the timber on six hundred and forty acres of land anywhere they may select the same in one body soe as to not interfere with any other claim.

Art. 9. Any town company that has or may hearafter organized shall be entitled to all lands they may take for the purpose of town

[6]The former appears in Rockafellow, *Fremont County*, 553-554, and the latter in Alvin T. Steinel and D. W. Working, Collaborator, *History of Agriculture in Colorado, 1858-1926* (Ft. Collins, 1926), 40-41.

sites provided they doe not infringe on the rights of any claiment but in no case to exceede twelve hundred and eighty acres.

Art 10. Any difficulty that may occur concerning claims or theire ownership shall be referred to the managers whose decision shall be final in all cases Braught under this constitution.

Art 11 All claims made prior to this date shall be respected provided the claiment make by himself or agent satisfactory evidence that he or they have complied with the laws, heretofore in forcegoverning claims and theire ownership.

Art. 12 The president shall and it is hereby declared to be a part of his dutys to call a meeting of the managers when evere notified that it necesary by any three members of the club. Also a meeting of the whole company when he shall Deem it necesary or to the interest of the club on the request of five members.

Art 13. The Board of managers shall make such rules for theire government as they think proper provid they do not confict with this constitution.

Art 14 All persons whoes names are hereto attached shall and are hereby declared to be members of this club and all persons desireing the protection of this club shall sign the same and cause a description of theire claims to be filed with the recorder.

Art 15. This constitution may be revised or amended at any meeting of the club by a two thords vote of the members present.

Art The regular meeting of the managers of this club shall be on the first Saturday of each month and such adjournment meetings as they may through the President call.

One motion mad at a meeting of the claim club of the Arkansaw Valey was that each claiment make his own claim individually. One motion that Cenion City or Arkansas Club claim to the mouth of Beaver Creek east thence ten miles on each side of the River thence west to the East side of the south Park.

On motion no person shall make a motion to alter the laws of the constitution without being first submitted to the directors in writing.

On motion that the fees of the Recorder is to be one dollar for Recording each claim. The above laws passed March 16, 1860.

Names of the Claim Club Members

B. H. Bolin
W. M. Costan and Brother
Henry Chambers
R. C. Griswold
J. E. Morton
H. A. Fendler
Henry Niles
Lewis Prell
Osker Murphy
Eli W. Bolin
Jesse Fraser
H. Youngblood
Vincent Moore
Carleton Peasley
Wm Bach
Wm. H. Ash
John Burgen
Wm. A. Wygal
Rufus B. Wygal
A. M. Aldrich
Joseph Waggoner
Joseph Richmond
N. W. Wright
Thomas Herington
Harris Comstock
J. M. Shepherd
John A. McAlster
John H. Spalding
Robert Hill
J. J. Jenks
Henry W. Miler
J. M. McLay
J. H. Starkey
Joseph Meckay.[7]

[7]*Record Book* of the Canon City Claim Club, unnumbered pages at the beginning.

From time to time the minutes of other business transacted by the club appear on the pages of the record book. Four days after the adoption of the constitution four members of the board of managers adopted the following resolution:

Resolved that we the undersigned believe to be best for the interests of the community and the Arkansaw Valley Claim Club to form the following By laws for 1861—that each and everyone shall by the 15 of May 1861 brake 5 acres of land for the purpose of farming that is taken under the original claim club law or may be taken in 1860.[8]

When B. H. Bolin, recorder of the Club, wished to inform the members of the fact that W. W. Ramage was his duly authorized agent he caused the following notice to be inserted into the record:

This is to certify that W. W. Ramage is entitled to Record all matters and to act as my agent in all matters connected with the Canon City Claim Club.
July 7/60. B. H. BOLIN.[9]

The variety of business transacted at one of the regular meetings of the club is indicated by the minutes which follow:

A meeting called in the usual way was held in Canon City on the 18th day of August. The following business was transacted

Moved, seconded and carried that W. W. Ramage act as secretary pro tem on account of the resignation

moved

seconded that all the business of this claim club up to this date be approved—carried.

moved

seconded that we at once proceed to the election of secretary and recorder—carried

that A. L. Perkins be secretary and recorder for the Claim Club—carried

moved

seconded that Art 10 in the Constitution be amended thus: that the decision of the directors be valid unless an appeal be made to the meeting of the club—carried.

Moved

Seconded that this meeting of the Claim Club adjourn—carried.[10]

Apparently the members of the Claim Club did not believe that their constitution should be a rigid and inflexible one, for on November 2, 1860, they made provision for a method of amendment. The minutes of the special meeting are as follows:

A meeting called by Petion of M. G. Sloan and others was held in Canon City on the 2nd day of Nov 1860 the fowling business was transacted.

J. C. ALVORD, Pres.
A. L. PERKINS, secy.

[8]*Record Book*, 3. The signers were H. Youngblood, B. H. Bolin, J. N. Haguis, and J. Richmond. This by-law in all likelihood accounts for the fact that twenty-five claims were staked and at least two were jumped on May 14, 1861.

[9]*Record Book*, 33. The new deputy recorder was also associated with the Canon City Town Company. Shortly after assuming his new duties he inserted in the *Record* a notice to the effect that certain parties had registered claims to portions of the townsite. The notice also contained a protest in the name of the Company against the holding of the claims by the registering parties. *Record Book*, 43.

[10]*Record Book*, 45-46.

moved that the Sect read
seconded
Moved That a committee of 12 be appointed to erzamine the constitution and records of the Claim Club and to revise the Constitution and if necessary to add or take from the same and to lay therer procedings before the meetings which shall be adjourned untill called together by them for there aproval.
carried
Moved that the President appoint the committee—carried.[11]
Carried.

The procedure in settling disputes was direct and decisive as is suggested by the two examples given below:

Minutes of a trial for the right of certain claims wherein Mr. John H. Shaw is plaintiff and H. M. Boone is defendant. Present as directors Nathan McAlester, B. H. Bolin, H. Youngblood, Robert Middleton, Wm. Corley, President J. C. Alvord. Decision in favor of the plaintiff.

A. L. PERKINS, secretary.

June 15, 1861. McCumber being duly summoned trial was had regarding ownership of the abobe claim at 4 o'clock between McCumber as defendant and Howard & Stone [Wilbur F.] plaintiffs a quorum of the board being present viz Riddlebarger, Pratt, Corley, and Dunn and Thomas Sec. Evidence heard and decision given that the above claim had over the value of $100 in improvements and was not jumpable ownership of said claim resting jointly in McCumber, Howard and Stone.

J. J. Thomas
per J. H. Ried, D R.[12]

These extracts from the record suggest the type of business transacted at formal meetings, but the book is full of many additional hints as to the functioning of the club. There are marginal notes on practically every page. A claim has been jumped; the record has been transferred to another page; the recording fee has been paid; the tract of land is not large enough, therefore the claim has been rejected; a claim has been alienated by a brief marginal note; all these and many more are contained in the record. More formal notices, such as powers of attorney, leasing agreements, and promissory notes appear in the main body of the record. The description of claim locations are, for the most part, brief, vague and indefinite. The delineations of the boundaries rest in most cases on landmarks of a temporary character. In the realm of plant life, cottonwood trees seem to have been the most popular. Typical points of departure for the statement of a location are: "Beginning at a cottonwood tree on the south bank of the Arkansas forty rods above the bridge . . ."; "Commencing at a large cottonwood . . .";

[11] *Record Book*, 76-77. Following the appointment of the committee of 12 the meeting adjourned.

[12] *Record Book*, 67, 115. The arrangement of these minutes has been altered to conserve space. Capt. Rockafellow throws an interesting sidelight on the McCumber case in *Fremont County*, 643. He says, "The next claim above was taken by Judge John Howard and Wilbur F. Stone, in 1861, they making arrangements with Mr. P. A. McCumber to improve it, and they furnish grub, which the old gent said was too scarce, and hence he took the ranch to raise his own grub off of."

"Beginning with a dead cottown wood . . ."; and "Commencing at a grove of cottonwood trees. . . ." Bluffs, sloughs, mounds, springs, and rocks were natural features used in the course of claim description. Of the more definite and fixed natural features the Arkansas River was by far the most important. Beaver, Hardscrabble, Ute, Four Mile, and Elk Creeks were used on frequent occasions. Other watercourses of smaller size were also relied upon. Some of these were Big, Eight Mile, Dry, Long, Adobe, Thirty-Five Mile, and Cottonwood Creeks. The development activities of the first comers provided points for the location of later claims. Of these the roads were the most important. The four principal roads were the one to South Park, the one to Fountain City, the one to Colorado City, and the one to Denver. The following is a typical entry:

Wm. W. Oglesby Claim
Commencing where Beaver Creek runs the nearest to the Bluff on the east side of said creek thence southeast to whear the river runs nearest the Bluff of said river on the north side thence up the river to a certain slough thence to a stake on the west side of Beaver Creek agreed upon by the adjoining claimants supposed to be one hundred and sixty acres.
Recorded June 2, 1860 B. H. BOLIN, recorder.

The buying and selling of claims was an unimportant aspect of the history of the Canon City Claim Club. Some thirty transactions involving about 4,000 acres of land were made a matter of record. The average price of a 160 acre tract was $196, or an average of approximately $1.25 an acre. A claim adjoining the townsite sold for $600 and a two-sixths interest in the "Oil Springs" claim sold for $750. It is extremely doubtful if the latter transaction was actually consummated. The typical method of conveying title was by means of a quitclaim deed.

Turning from the land and the mechanics of obtaining a claim to the persons who constituted the membership of the Claim Club we likewise turn from a small but definite body of information to a smaller and utterly inadequate supply of material. In general the group seems to have been a typical frontier one; a cross-section of the population of Colorado during the first period of the mineral frontier. The available information, scanty and incomplete though it is, suggests that a small number of the original claimants played active roles in the development of the Canon City area. In the realm of social and economic pioneering the following "firsts" have been credited to members of the claim club: the first grist mill in the county located on Beaver Creek in 1860, by Lewis Conley;[13] the first sawmill, established by A. C. Chandler,

[13] The mill ground six bushels of grain a day, one-fourth of the product being taken for toll. Wheat ranged in price from 10c to 12½c a pound. The prices of other farm and ranch products were comparable. Thus butter was $1.00 a pound; eggs $1.50 a dozen; corn 10c a pound; flour $18 to $20 a sack, and fruit 2c to 6c a pound.

J. B. Cooper, J. C. Moore, and ——— Harkins and located just above the Soda Springs at the mouth of Sand Creek; the first shingle mill, operated by R. R. Kirkpatrick on a claim adjacent to the sawmill site;[14] the first discovery of the oil resources of the county by Gabriel Bowen;[15] the first plowing of a field[16], the first mining and marketing of Canon City coal,[17] and the first marketing in Canon City of locally produced fruit,[18] all by Jesse Frazer;[19] the first brickyard, by W. C. Catlin;[20] the first oil well promoter, Dr. James L. Dunn, who was also accused of selling counterfeit United States scrip and accused and convicted of stealing livestock in and around Canon City; the founder of the first church, Rev. H. H. Johnson, who formed the Methodist Episcopal Church in the winter of 1860-1861; the first newspaper editor in the county, H. S. Millett, who founded the Canon City *Times* in the autumn of 1860;[21] the first bakery, founded by E. B. Southerland; the first drugstore, established by Dr. James Ried;[22] and the leadership of the first irrigation enterprises.[23]

The early members of the Claim Club were quite as prominent in the political activities of the county as they were in economic and social affairs. The group of three men appointed by Governor William Gilpin to organize Fremont County were all members, i.e. Lewis Conley, J. B. Cooper, and Anson Rudd. The following members of the Claim Club group were elected to the office of county commissioner: Jesse Frazer, B. F. Allen, Anson Rudd, Lewis Conley, and S. D. Webster.[24] From time to time certain of the other county offices were held by members of the Claim Club. Thus Anson Rudd and Egbert Bradley occupied the sheriff's office from June, 1862, to October, 1863; William Locke was probate judge, 1866-1869; Egbert Bradley, August, 1864-October, 1864, William C. Catlin, October, 1864-August, 1867, and B. F. Allen, September, 1871-September, 1873, served as county treasurer during the terms indicated; Hiram Morey held the post of county superintendent of schools, 1864-1866; Lewis Conley was assessor during 1864-1865; and the office of surveyor was held at various times by T. C. Wetmore, Jesse Frazer, and S. D. Webster. William Locke and S. D. Webster each served a term in the Territorial House of Representatives. Wilbur F. Stone, who later became a member of the state supreme court, was an active member of the Claim Club. John Howard, who is famous for the quitclaim deed which he gave to his wife, was the popularly elected judge of the People's Court. His decisions led his contemporaries to refer to him as "the law, the evidence, and the Court." Mat Riddlebarger, the first postmaster in Canon City, is referred to in one book as the "local agent for Taos Lightning."[25] B. F. Allen and Anson Rudd served for a number of years in the office of warden of the Territorial prison. Other members of the Claim Club who held the office of postmaster were Lewis Conley at Beaver Creek,[26] and Anson Rudd at Canon City.

From the point of view of Fremont County history Anson Rudd was the most distinguished member of the Claim Club. He held practically every office within the gift of the people of Canon City. In addition to the offices noted above Mr. Rudd was a member of the committee to revise the constitution and by-laws of the Claim Club in November, 1860; clerk of the People's Court, 1861; provost marshal during the Civil War; oil inspector; candidate for lieutenant governor; locator of the principal wagon roads in the vicinity of Canon City; guide for the Wulsten colony during its journey to the Wet Mountain Valley; president of the Canon City Ditch Company for many years; president of the Colorado Pioneer Association, and a trustee of the First Presbyterian Church. When Mr. Rudd and his associates completed the task of organizing

[14]The shingles sold for $7 a thousand.

[15]In 1860 the oil springs produced five gallons per hour. Canon City *Times*, September 8, 1860; In 1862 Bowen sold the oil springs to A. M. Cassidy. During the period 1862-1865, Cassidy manufactured and sold 300,000 gallons of oil for lubricating and illuminating purposes. *Southern Colorado: Historical and Descriptive of Fremont and Custer Counties* (Binckley and Hartwell, Canon City, 1879), 57. Hereafter cited as *Southern Colorado*.

[16]The plow was made of a fork of a cottonwood tree, one prong forming the share, the other the beam.

[17]Hosea Hoopingarner, Jesse Frazer, Clark Harrington, and John W. Leland staked the first claims on Coal Creek in April, 1860. All of them were members of the claim club.

[18]Interview with William S. Osgood who became a resident of Canon City in 1878. Colorado Springs is the present residence of Mr. Osgood.

[19]The name is spelled Tessee Tassure in the record book. Uncle Jesse's wife was the first white woman to become an inhabitant of rural Fremont County. He was a great hunter and raconteur of bear stories.

[20]Mr. Catlin supplied the brick for the first penitentiary buildings as well as for the brick business blocks and residences in Canon City. The estimated output of his yards in 1881 was 4,000,000 bricks.

[21]Mr. Millett left Canon City after the demise of his paper in 1861. He afterwards was associated with the publishing firm of Ramsay, Millett and Company of Kansas City, Missouri.

[22]Dr. Ried was a good physician and a kindly gentleman. It is said that on one occasion when he could not obtain a horse he walked fifty miles to the Greenhorn to care for a man who was seriously ill. He was a Southern sympathizer, the manager of the Middletown Company, the president of the Claim Club from June, 1861, until he turned the records over to the county recorder on January 25, 1862, and a leader in the Farmers' Ditch Company. On February 22, 1861, he recorded a claim on behalf of the Catholic Church for a burial ground.

[23]One ditch company, composed of J. H. Ried, J. B. Cooper, Mat Riddlebarger, Anson Rudd, John Howard, and Wilbur F. Stone, filed a claim on January 10, 1862, to the right of "ditching from the Canon so as to run the water into Canon City and adjoining claims (farming) . . .". The Farmers' Ditch Company on the same date claimed "the ditching and water privilege from the River at the first bottoms below Rudd's House in Canon City to a point two miles below four mile creek."

[24]Rockafellow, *Fremont County*, 567.

[25]*Southern Colorado*, 78.

[26]Beaver Creek was the second postoffice to be located within Fremont county. At one time the members of the Canon City Claim Club who were residents of the Beaver Creek Valley seceded from the parent organization and formed their own club. Canon City *Times*, February 9, 1861. The writer has been unable to find any more information on this point.

Fremont County the Canon City Claim Club ceased to exist. On January 25, 1862, Dr. James H. Ried, president of the Club, made the final entry in the record book. It reads as follows:

> Know all men, that I J. H. Ried, President of the Canon City Claim Club have this day deposited this Book of Records in the office of M. G. Pratt, county recorder for Fremont County, Colorado Territory.
>
> In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal done at Canon City, C.T., January 25, 1862.
>
> J. H. RIED,
> Pres Canon City C Club.

Shortened-Barb Type Arrowhead

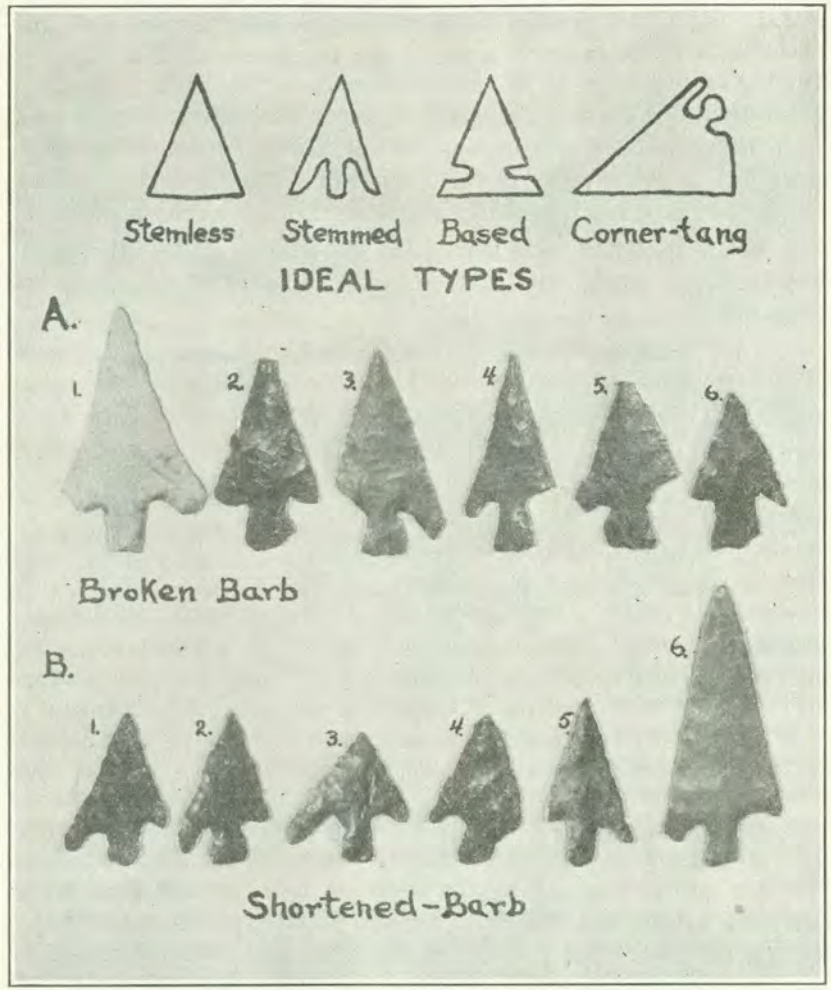
VICTOR F. LOTRICH

Mr. Homer E. Root, of Durango, Colorado, has spent a great deal of time among the prehistoric ruins located in his vicinity. In his walks, in Modified Basketmaker (Basketmaker III) regions at these points—Blue Mesa, Smelter Hill, and Wild Horse Mesa—he picked up and obtained from recognized Basketmaker burials, a fair number of arrowpoints. A representative group of these now belong to the State Historical Society. In the preparation of the group for Museum display, what is undoubtedly a type was noted. So in order to bring this type before the archaeological world the following is written.

The type falls into the stemmed variety, narrow stem with medium barbs, according to Dr. E. B. Renaud.[1] Although several classifications of arrowheads have been made, we believe for working purposes the simplicity of Dr. Renaud's system lends itself readily to an understanding both by the archaeologist and the common layman. We find that practically all points fall into three main classes, see illustrations in plate, the stemless, stemmed, and based. If there are any that cannot be placed in the above category, then they have unusual features that place them into a class of their own. An example of this is seen in the specialized knife of Texas, the corner tang, illustrated in plate. After an arrowpoint is placed in the main class the description of the base, the length of barbs, the slope of edges, etc., is then only a matter of notation, and the arrowpoint is definitely known. For the sake of the simplicity of the system, we recommend that everyone adopt Dr. Renaud's classification.

The photographs of the arrowheads, in Row A in the plate, show six of the type in which one barb is broken. The breakage

[1]E. B. Renaud, "Classification and Description of Arrowheads," *Southwestern Lore*, Vol. 1, No. 2, p. 5-8.



SHORTENED-BARB TYPE ARROWPOINTS (NATURAL SIZE)

varies somewhat as to length. Now this breakage could have been accidental; but in the group of 122 of the stemmed type in the Root collection, 22 are thus mutilated. This creates an impression of deliberate breakage. That this is so, is further strengthened by the fact that 32 in the collection—six of which are photographed in Row B in the plate—have one barb shorter, deliberately made so in construction. A conclusion is thus drawn that some special use was made of these shortened-barb arrowpoints. Whether a shortened-barb was necessary for hafting, or whether the shorter

barb was more apt to remain in a wounded animal by twisting itself in the muscle tissue, or whether some other reason for the short barb is the cause, the actual use is unknown. The type, is further strengthened in an examination of the Wetherill Collection from Mesa Verde, of 15 stemmed type points. Here we find one barb broken, and 6 with shorter barbs in construction. The proportion is about one-half in each collection. The type, then, is not confined locally, but is probably scattered throughout the Southwest.

Below follows a table giving the dimensions of the illustrated points with a comparison of the lengths of barbs of the points so constructed.

Illustration	Accession No.	Length	Width	Thickness	Length of Barbs	Material
Row A no. 1	06872	3.15 cm	1. 8cm	.5 cm		chert
Row A no. 2	06832	2.55 cm	1.35 cm	.4 cm		chalcedony
Row A no. 3	06886	2.7 cm	1.2 cm	.2 cm		chert
Row A no. 4	06888	2.6 cm	1 cm	.25 cm		jasper
Row A no. 5	06889	2.2 cm	1.2 cm	.25 cm		jasper
Row A no. 6	06833	1.95 cm	1.2 cm	.3 cm		jasper
Row B no. 1	06817	1.95 cm	1.15 cm	.3 cm	.2 and .4	chalcedony
Row B no. 2	06834	2.1 cm	1.05 cm	.15 cm	.1 and .45	opal
Row B no. 3	06995	1.7 cm	1.4 cm	.25 cm	.25 and .7	chalcedony
Row B no. 4	06890	1.95 cm	1.1 cm	.3 cm	0 and .3	jasper
Row B no. 5	06813	2.25 cm	1.05 cm	.25 cm	.2 and .4	chalcedony
Row B no. 6	06799	3.7 cm	1.5 cm	.35 cm	.15 and .3	chert

From the above table we see one barb made shorter by one-half to one-fourth, and in one case just a single barb being made. We are justified in calling the stemmed type, narrow stem with one barb either made smaller, or broken, a true type—the shortened-barb arrowhead. The evidence points to its being Modified Basketmaker (Basketmaker III), because the area and placement in which they were found belongs to that period.

That the stemmed type, both with narrow and broad stem, has been recognized as preceding the based Pueblo type,[2] gives us added assurance in recording the shortened-barb type as belonging to the Modified Basketmaker.

The problem of its usage remains. We hope in calling attention to the type that some worker in the field will be encouraged to concentrate on finding evidence to explain the shorter barb.

[2]Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr., *The Ruins at Kiatuthlanna, Eastern Arizona* (Bureau of American Ethnology, Bull. 100), 159.

Gem Mining in Colorado

RICHARD M. PEARL*

Almost from the earliest days of its gold and silver discoveries, Colorado has held a leading place in the production of gems, ranking among the first half-dozen states in value of output. Over a hundred localities may be named as having yielded material of gem quality, representing about thirty mineral species and varieties, as well as the organic substance, jet.

There have long been, of course, more or less isolated finds of gem-stones that often received the benefit of local gossip but rarely were made known to the outside world. Other than these, the first gems were obtained by scientists who used them for purposes of study and made them famous. Then prospectors, individually or as small companies, mined them commercially. In recent years mineral collectors have done their share in becoming responsible for an increasingly large proportion of the total.

But the history of the gems of Colorado goes back far beyond hobbyist or prospector or scientist. It is to the building of the Rocky Mountains, which occupy the central of the three major north-south topographic divisions of the state, that Colorado is indebted for practically all its rich mineral resources, and the gems are no exception. Most of them either were formed by depositional or metamorphic processes associated with the mountain-making activities, or were exposed by the uplift (and subsequent erosion) that followed most of the compressional folding. As one dealer has expressed it, these gems are true Western antiquities! Igneous rocks, especially those of granitic composition and the closely related pegmatites, predominate among the rocks that contain the gem minerals.

The first list of Colorado gems to appear formally seems to have been that included in the classification of metals and minerals prepared by J. Alden Smith for Ovando J. Hollister's fascinating book, *The Mines of Colorado,* published in 1867 by Samuel Bowles and Company of Springfield, Massachusetts.

In 1870 Smith, later to become Colorado's first State Geologist, published a similar list, somewhat augmented, a *Catalogue of the Principal Minerals of Colorado with Annotations on the Local Peculiarities of Several Species.* This booklet of sixteen pages, including the paper cover, was "printed at the Register office" in Central City, and described about fifteen kinds of gems.

Some more varieties were added by members of the Hayden

*Mr. Pearl is a Graduate student in the Mineralogy Department of the University of Colorado and is Secretary-Treasurer of the Colorado Mineral Society.—Ed.

Survey, the seventh annual report (for 1873) having a complete list of the minerals that had been found up to that time in the Territory,[1] as well as a separate list of those found within the district assigned to the South Park division.[2]

J. S. Randall in 1886 issued a forty-eight page paper-covered booklet, *The Minerals of Colorado,* "printed by the Courier, Georgetown, Colorado," describing several hundred minerals and giving chemical analyses and the original references. Other editions were published later, the third in 1893, in which eleven pages were added as an appendix.

There are a few scientists, field men and analysts, whose names the reader encounters repeatedly in the gem literature of Colorado's earlier years—R. T. Cross, Samuel L. Penfield, Walter B. Smith, Whitman Cross, W. F. Hillebrand, George Frederick Kunz, and, more recently, Douglas B. Sterrett, the last two of whom wrote the annual chapters on precious stones for *Mineral Resources.*

Many were the prospectors who searched the mountains of the state for signs of "color," for surface crystals of gems, and for the structures that might be likely to yield more of them. Quartz veins and pegmatite dikes were regarded as especially indicative of gem minerals. Several of the men were more generously endowed than the rest with the qualifications that make for successful mineral hunting, as well as with a bit more of luck, and they were able to report rather frequent discoveries over a number of years.

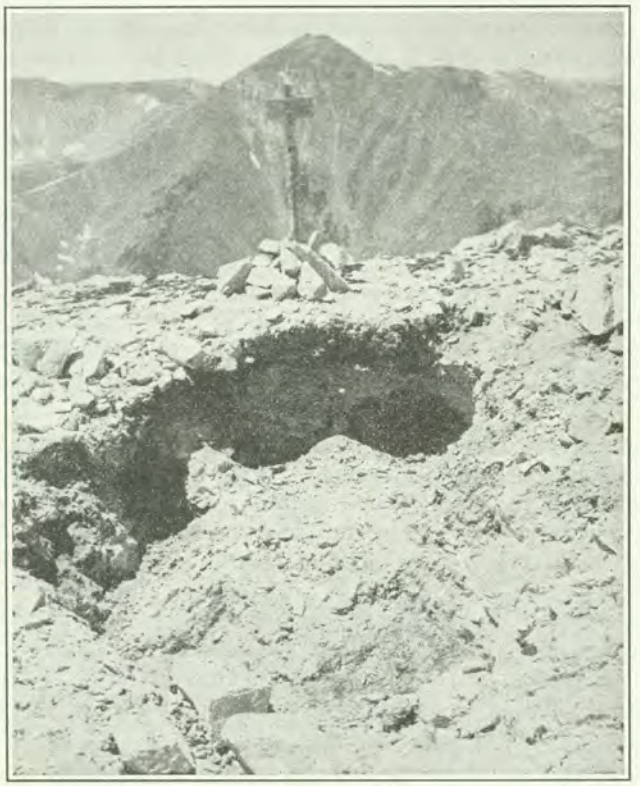
No name appears more often than that of J. D. Endicott of Canon City. During the beginning decade or so of the present century, especially around 1908, he found, claimed, and worked a variety of gem deposits throughout central Colorado.

The famous gem region around Mount Antero in the Sawatch Range must always be associated with N. D. Wanemaker, who made the first discovery of aquamarine there in 1884 or 1885. He lived for years in a small stone cabin in the glacier-gouged amphitheater on the south side of the mountain, about eight hundred feet below the summit. The roofless ruins of the old cabin still stand, entirely surrounded by barren rock, the only timber fifteen hundred feet below, the only water from a small pond which dries up before the end of summer.

W. C. Hart of Manitou was another early veteran in the search for gems in Colorado, and his activities extended almost to the Wyoming border. Mr. Hart's two daughters continued until recently to operate his store in Manitou, where part of his collection could be seen.[3]

[1]Report of Dr. F. M. Endlich, 355-361.
[2]Report of Dr. A. C. Peale, 267-270.
[3]Chester R. Howard, personal interview.

Some of Colorado's gems are particularly noteworthy. Wanemaker's discovery of aquamarine, already mentioned, opened up the highest mineral locality in North America, on the sides and virtually at the top of Mount Antero. The first account[4] of the find was somewhat vague, for the place was then quite unknown in the East, but students, collectors, and dealers everywhere are now acquainted with the stones. The gem variety is usually blue to pale blue-green, but some specimens are of the prized deep blue of the Brazilian stones.



AQUAMARINE MINE ON MOUNT ANTERO (Over 14,000 Feet Elevation) MOUNT BALDWIN IN THE BACKGROUND

Within a few months after their opening in 1906, two deposits in Eightmile Park, immediately north of the Royal Gorge of the Arkansas River, were the largest producers of tourmaline gems in the United States outside of California. Although they were soon depleted, lovely specimens were obtained in pink, green, lilac, and

[4]George F. Kunz, *Mineral Resources for 1885* (1887), 439.

blue, some of them varying in color from place to place in a single crystal.

The most characteristically Colorado gem is amazonstone. It is a variety of microcline feldspar, which in its usual form is a common and widespread mineral. Amazonstone occurs in bright green and blue, and blends of the two colors, often diluted with gray. It is opaque, and so its appeal is entirely one of color and luster. Often mistaken for jade, it is frequently sold as "Colorado jade" or "Pikes Peak jade." The first notice of amazonstone seems to have been in 1867 by Hollister, who mentioned[5] it as occurring with several other minerals at the head of Elk Creek, "five miles from the old St. Louis Ranch." Peale, of the Hayden Survey, wrote in 1873: "About the base of the peak [Pikes] I found, rather abundantly, good crystals of amazonstone (green feldspar) and smoky quartz."[6] Colorado amazonstone was made known to the world by a large display of it at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, and the quality and quantity of the specimens and their low prices drove the Russian material from the market and brought grief to the exhibitors who had shipped much of it from Europe for sale at the fair. The Pikes Peak region is still the most important source of amazonstone, and sales of cut gems, mostly to tourists in Denver and Colorado Springs, have gone above a thousand dollars annually for many of the past years.

The first recognition of phenakite in the United States was in Crystal Park, south of Manitou, in 1882. This uncommon mineral, so named from the Greek word meaning *deceiver,* because of the frequency with which the crystals have been mistaken for quartz, makes an attractive gem when fashioned. It is usually colorless, but may be in pale tints of yellow, brown, gray, and rose. It can be very transparent and, while somewhat lacking in "fire," it has a brilliant luster. Phenakite has since been found throughout the Pikes Peak region, in the Crystal Park, Crystal Peak, and Devil's Head areas, as well as in isolated pockets along Bear Creek and Elk Creek, and at Mount Antero.

"Beautiful jet, rivaling any jet known"[7] was the description given by Dr. Kunz, Tiffany's gem expert, of the material found along Fountain Creek near Colorado Springs many years ago. The same gem, with its rich black velvety luster and serene beauty, has come from Trinchera Mesa in Las Animas County, and Kunz wrote that it "admits of as fine a polish as the finest jet from Whitby, England,"[8] the time-honored source of the world's best.

[5]O. J. Hollister, *The Mines of Colorado* (Springfield, 1867), 399.
[6]A. C. Peale, *Seventh Annual Report of the Hayden Survey, 1873* (1874), 205.
[7]George F. Kunz, *Gems and Precious Stones of North America* (Scientific Publishing Co., New York, 1890), 203.
[8]*Ibid.*, 203.

Use of Colorado jet has been largely confined to its sale as mineral specimens, chiefly because the general application of jet to jewelry has so greatly declined since the introduction of inexpensively stained black chalcedony. The true connoisseur, however, does not regard this so-called "black onyx" as a serious substitute for jet.

According to Smith,[9] a few small but very brilliant and finely colored zircons were found in 1866 by prospectors at the Bear River diggings, west of Middle Park. The most interesting locality, however, for this remarkable gem, which is next to the diamond in brilliancy and colored "fire," and often mistaken for it, is in the rock of St. Peter's Dome, a conical peak directly west of Cheyenne Mountain. A number of fluorine minerals, bearing tricky names, are associated with the zircon, many of them being quite rare and some first described from that place. The smaller crystals are as remarkable for their perfection as for their colors, rich transparent honey yellows, pinks, reddish browns, and emerald greens.

Mineral collectors for fifty years have known the group of three volcanic hills at Nathrop to be an available source of attractive gem garnet and topaz crystals. Practically every piece of rock several inches square contains one or more of them. The choicest material, which is less common, includes spessartite garnet of a fine dark red color in small but transparent and partly perfect crystals, and clear yellow prisms of topaz. Some specimens have, in spite of their small size, found their way into jewelry. They are very attractive. The writer has seen a number of the garnets set pavé, that is, close together in a band, with no metal showing between them.

For many years there have been repeated references to the occurrence of pyrope garnet in the southern part of Colorado. Nothing more definite is stated than that they are found as rounded pebbles in the sand of ant hills on Navajo reservations, and are sold as "Colorado rubies," just as those found similarly in Arizona and New Mexico are sold as "Arizona rubies" and "Mexican rubies." Ant hills are certainly not confined to the two more southern states while absent in Colorado, but Navajo reservations are. The writer has made a few attempts through correspondence to locate these supposedly familiar occurrences within Colorado, but even those authors who have described them in their books do not seem to be aware of specific places where they may be found. Recently, however, several persons have expressed an acquaintance with some of them, but whether the stones are of gem quality is not known. Until more definite information is forthcoming, "Colo-

[9]J. Alden Smith, *Catalogue of the Principal Minerals of Colorado* (Central City, 1870), 15.

rado ruby'' must remain a commercial term without even the half truth of the phrases ''Arizona ruby'' or ''Cape ruby.''

Devil's Head has been the source of the finest gem topaz mined in Colorado. The crystals are colorless, light yellow, and bluish, and many of them truly beautiful, completely transparent and often of delicate color, even though almost all the surfaces are rough and stained. The largest one, perhaps the largest complete topaz crystal yet found in North America, weighed over 5,000 carats, and was taken from there in 1935.[10]

The Antero region previously mentioned is also noted for two other gems, rock crystal and its dark cousin, smoky quartz. Tourist jewelry has taken most of the supply that has been sent to Germany for cutting and returned to the United States for setting. Kunz[11] speaks of a large sphere, slightly less than six inches in diameter, cut from Mount Antero rock crystal and shown in the Mines and Mining building of the World's Columbian Exposition; it was not perfect, he says, but ''quite equal to the crystal balls of the eighteenth century.'' This may be the same rock crystal sphere as the one now in the gem hall of the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, and described by the curators as ''one of the largest''—five and a half inches in diameter. A good quality rock crystal ball of that size would probably cost several thousand dollars today, and would not be at all easy to obtain.

In *Gems and Precious Stones of North America,* Kunz[12] wrote: ''Near Trinidad, Colorado, there have been found large quantities of crystalline quartz, with small, doubly terminated crystals, resembling those from Herkimer County, New York. Some of these crystals afford larger masses of clear rock crystal than have ever before been found in the United States, and suggest its use for cut objects, such as the crystal balls, clock cases, mirrors, etc., which are now to be seen in the Austrian Treasury at Vienna.'' The writer has not been able to find further references to this locality, except a brief comment on its discovery by J. P. M. Butler of Trinidad several years previously,[13] or to its present condition.

The Pikes Peak region, which is the thousand-square-mile area[14] associated with the very old Pikes Peak granite, has produced some of the finest smoky quartz that has even been found. The sale of cut gems was estimated[15] in 1892 at $7,500 annually, though later figures are not available. Hawkins[16] has recorded two crystal

[10]M. A. Peacock, ''Topaz From Devil's Head, Colorado,'' *American Mineralogist,* XX (1935), 358.
[11]George F. Kunz, *Mineral Resources, 1892* (1893), 770.
[12]George F. Kunz, *Gems and Precious Stones of North America* (Scientific Publishing Co., New York, 1890), 113.
[13]George F. Kunz, *Mineral Resources, 1886* (1887), 596.
[14]Margaret Fuller Boos, personal correspondence.
[15]George F. Kunz, *Mineral Resources, 1892* (1893), 772.
[16]Alfred C. Hawkins, ''Two New Forms on Quartz from Pikes Peak,'' *American Mineralogist,* VI (1921), 169.

forms of smoky quartz from Pikes Peak that had never before been noticed on any kind of quartz.

Brooches, charms, and other pieces of jewelry have been set with polished pieces of agate found as a replacement of some of the bone cells of the dinosaur Atlantosaurus unearthed at Morrison early in the century.[17] Similar specimens have been found elsewhere in Colorado in continental Jurassic sediments,[18] but apparently not of gem quality. Agatized or petrified wood from various places in Colorado has been used as gems, the best material being from isolated localities in South Park.

Some amethyst, the transparent violet to reddish purple variety of quartz, has been cut in gem quality, from Creede. The rich silver deposits of that district contain a great quantity of amethyst —massive, crystallized, and in clusters in rock cavities—but little of it is suitable for gems. Good pieces have come from the famous Amethyst mine discovered in August, 1891, by Nicholas C. Creede, the pioneer prospector after whom the town was named.

Smith[19] mentioned in 1870 the occurrence of amethyst in small brilliant crystals of good color at Nevada, now Nevadaville, in Gilpin County. He said that he had obtained some especially beautiful specimens in 1864, one of which was cut into a gem described by jewelers as the finest amethyst yet found in America.

The first published mention of turquoise in Colorado appears to have been in 1870 by Smith,[20] who had in his collection specimens cut in keystone form, drilled, and formerly worn in a bracelet, which he had obtained from a Ute chief. The stones were supposed to have come from an uncertain locality in southern Colorado. ''They are highly prized by the Indians,'' he said, ''and it is with much difficulty that they can be induced to part with them.'' This is a good epitome of the whole history of turquoise in Colorado—its basis, the worship of the Indians; its use, in rude but interesting ornamental and talismanic jewelry; and its source, mostly in the southern part of the state, but the precise places obscured by mystery and legend.

Mr. and Mrs. James Rose Harvey, in an article, ''Turquoise Among the Indians and a Colorado Turquoise Mine,'' in the *Colorado Magazine,* September, 1938, described a visit to the King mine in Conejos County, with its evidences of prehistoric diggings.

An open pit west of Leadville was worked several years ago by two Navajos, who mined the rough material in summer and took it south, fashioning it in silver jewelry during the winter.[21]

[17]Arthur Lakes, ''Precious Stones,'' *Mining Science,* LX (1909), 416.
[18]Willis T. Lee, ''The Morrison Shales of Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico,'' *Journal of Geology,* X (1902), 44.
[19]J. Alden Smith, *Catalogue of the Principal Minerals of Colorado* (Central City, 1870), 4.
[20]*Ibid.,* 15.
[21]Arthur J. McNair, personal interview.

The Hall mine in the Cochetopa Hills region near Villagrove is the only turquoise deposit in the state that was first opened by the white man. The original mining was for copper, the turquoise lying unnoticed on the dump for a number of years. The mine is at present the most important gem producer in Colorado, employing three men and yielding beautiful hard blue gems in nugget and vein form.

The excellent quality of many of Colorado's gem minerals has made them widely known. The material from the Pikes Peak region, even that found up to forty miles from the mountain itself, has more often than not been labeled merely Pikes Peak, especially the stones that have been sold in tourist jewelry, because of the attraction and significance of the name. Much of the supply from elsewhere in the state, however, has been sold without any indication as to its source. Turquoise, for an example, is second among the gems of the United States in value of production, and Colorado is exceeded only by Nevada in mining activity, yet encouragement of public appreciation of Colorado turquoise has been greatly neglected. The stones are sold throughout the whole southwest and as far as Honolulu, but not one purchaser in a hundred knows where they were obtained. Sales are not affected adversely, as there is a market for all that is mined, but enthusiasm for things Coloradan ought to heighten the interest at least within the state. On the other hand, there are many tourists who buy Colorado gems which are, as Sydney Ball has said, "South American stones, cut in Germany, and mounted in Providence, Rhode Island."

The future of the gem industry of Colorado seems bright. Though the number of professional mineral prospectors, some of whom uncovered gem pockets while looking for gold and silver, has decreased, even more specimen collectors have taken their places. When the high value of gem-stones is considered in relation to their bulk, it becomes obvious that only a very small area is required to yield gems enough to easily surpass previous finds in importance. In general, the more rugged the topography, the more highly mineralized is the crust of the earth—and the less thoroughly explored is the land. The search for rare substances of industrial use may be the most successful means of disclosing the great gem mines of the future; emeralds, for instance, have been found while investigating deposits of beryllium, one of the elements of which they are composed. Tourists to the West can usually be counted upon to buy gem-set jewelry for souvenirs and gifts. Their further acquaintance with Colorado gems, and the existence of a growing group of lapidaries, consequent to the increased interest everywhere in minerals as a hobby, will probably have the effect of expanding Colorado's gem production during the years to come.

Cebert Alexander Trease, Engineer

JAMES R. HARVEY

An important and often hazardous role was that played by the pioneer surveyor. Cebert Alexander Trease, of the Denver City Engineering Department, at the age of 82 years, tells the following story of his life and activities in the West as a civil engineer.

I was born December 30, 1857, in Huntsville, Arkansas. One of my earliest recollections was that of my father, James Porter Trease, drilling soldiers, for he had been made drill master of the state troops. A few days after the battle of Pea Ridge we left Arkansas. Father was strongly opposed to the breaking up of the Union and when Arkansas joined the Confederacy he refused to go with the state troops into the Confederate army. This gave rise to a most unpleasant situation—the very troops father had drilled were sent to apprehend him and bring him into Huntsville. Here, an irate citizenry, spurred to the frantic heights of patriotism that war invariably induces, mobbed the troops, seized my father, whom heretofore they had admired and respected, and made preparations to hang him. However, a good friend of the family and an influential man in Huntsville, Albert Pike, persuaded the mob to release father on the conditions that all his property—horses, cattle, furniture, farmland, in fact everything he owned—be confiscated to the Confederacy, and that father depart at once with his family from the state of Arkansas and from the Confederacy. All that remained to us was one old wagon and a team of oxen. We were not allowed even one milk-cow, that we children might have milk on our journey.

Early the next morning we set out for the north; father, mother, four of us children, and a cousin on furlough from Price's Army. We made our way slowly northward through Missouri. At Jefferson City, where it was necessary to ferry across the Missouri River, we were delayed for five days by the Confederate troops. Each time the ferry would start out from the bank, the troops on the opposite bank would fire a cannon-ball directly in front of it, making it necessary to retreat. For five days they amused themselves in this fashion, but finally we made our way safely across.

Father decided to locate in Marshall County, Iowa, and took up a farm. We remained here until 1866, when father became enamored by the rumors of fortunes to be made in the building trade in the rapidly growing new city of Omaha. Father was skilled in this line and much preferred it to the rigors of pioneer farm life. So he moved his family to Omaha and became a contractor and builder, a trade he followed until his death in 1906.

In those days children were thought to be of help at an early age and although I was only nine years old at the time, I worked right with father laying floors as he cut and fit the boards for me.

The next year, 1867, we made a trip to Denver to look over conditions with a view to locating here. We made the trip by way of the Union Pacific railroad to Cheyenne, thence by stage through La Porte station to Denver. There were lots of buffalo and the train was stopped by them twice, but I liked the antelope best—they were a great sight, such numbers of them, and as they raced away from the track in fright, I thought they looked like balls of cotton rolling over the prairie. Times were dull in Denver and gainful employment seemed scarce, so after remaining for a few weeks, we went back to Omaha.

In 1868 the family moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where we stayed until the fall of 1873. Father worked at his trade in town, but I went to work on a near-by farm, just a few miles out of Liberty, Missouri. The James boys, Jesse and Frank, lived near me, halfway between Liberty and Kansas City, on a farm. I first met them at Arnold station, where they came to trade, and I thought them as fine men as I ever met. They seemed quiet and unassuming. Their situation was somewhat similar to ours, which made a common bond between us, for their parents had been mistreated by the Union Army and all their property and goods had been confiscated to the Union as ours had been to the Confederacy. However, the James boys sort of lost their balance and turned to crime. The folks around home never bothered them for they seemed to feel that in a way, they were justified in their actions. Both Jesse and Frank were expert shots with rifle and revolver. They started out by robbing a fair in Kansas City and escaped. Then they held up a Hannibal and St. Joe train in Missouri, where they killed a number of men. Later Jesse James was killed by Bob Ford in Missouri. I knew Bob Ford. He was later killed at Creede, Colorado. Once I saw the James boys in Denver on Larimer Street. Rafenar ran a drug store on one corner and Apple ran a dry-goods store on the opposite side. I saw the James boys across the street and asked Charley Conners, who was a policeman at that time, if he knew who they were. He said, "Yes, but I never lost anything over there." I crossed over to speak to the boys and they said Conners was safe as long as he stayed on his side of the street. So neither side cared to start anything.

From Kansas City, the family moved back to Marshalltown, Iowa, in 1873. In 1875 I again made a trip to Colorado, this time to Del Norte, with a federal officer to identify someone wanted by the law.

In 1878 I made my second trip to Denver, coming by Union

Pacific to Cheyenne and on the Colorado Central to Denver. My cousin accompanied me. I found work at once with the city Engineering Department at that time. I worked here for two months, then went out to work for "Potato Clark" in the spring of 1878. Potato Clark was a revelation to me; he was one of the toughest fellows I ever met in spite of the fact that he had "Got religion" some time previous. At the time, he lived in just a shack on the Platte River bank; later, across the road, he built the brick house which still stands at 1398 South Santa Fe Drive. Clark employed seven or eight men, and sometimes twenty-five or thirty, as the season's work demanded. He had a foreman and a man cook. He raised the first potatoes in this part of the country and, because of the large quantities of this vegetable he planted and harvested each year, he became known as "Potato Clark." He had a large tract of land bounded by present Jewel Street on the south, Pennsylvania Street on the east, the Platte River on the west, and Mississippi Street on the north. Just before I went there to work, Clark's wife had been drowned in a cloud-burst. She was hurrying in from the field when the storm overtook her. When they found her she was dead, with her long hair all entangled in a barb-wire fence. Potato Clark never called anyone by their given name; always he addressed a man by the name of his home town, or state. I worked for him for six weeks or more, and in all that time he never addressed me by any title but "Iowa." I started in plowing. After I had worked for a week I decided to go into Denver on Saturday evening to get the mail and have a visit with my cousin who would be in town. I had never touched a drop of liquor in my life, but Clark seemed to infer that I was going down to Denver to get on a good drunk. He said to me, "Iowa, this thing of going down with this man and that getting drunk—there's nothing to it, stay and go to church with me tomorrow."

I went to Denver and returned Monday morning. He set me to plowing the field just east of the old frame house still standing at Mexico Avenue and South Broadway. It was a ten acre tract with lots of gravel, and I had made only a few rounds when I got a piece of gravel in my shoe. Just then a cow-puncher rode by and told Potato Clark that I was wearing out the plow-beam, sitting on it. In a few moments here came Clark out to the field carrying a whip. He said, "Iowa, a plow wasn't made to sit on. Here's a whip; see if you can't keep the horses going." Well, by noon there wasn't a dry hair on those horses, even on the tips of their ears; we took the corners on the jump. I rubbed them down with gunnysacks and put them in the barn. At lunch the cook told me that Clark was terribly mad at me for sitting on the plow. When I tried to lead the horses out, they couldn't even step up over the

barn-sill. Well Clark gave me another team and I wore them out that afternoon; neither team was fit for use the next day. Clark then offered me a team of mules, but being a white man, I refused to work mules. Clark now took me down into the field and said he would show me how to hoe. He started out fast, but I beat him to the end of the row and sat down to wait for him. When he asked me why I didn't go right on, instead of resting, I broke loose with some of my pent-up emotions. I said, "How about that religion of yours, Clark? If you really had religion, you would be up to the house praying for those four horses that can't get out of the barn." But that was Potato Clark for you. He worked everything and everybody to death. I had enough of him. I quit at the end of the month and came into Denver. Clark later founded the Clark Colony on Cherry Creek; Castlewood Dam was built to supply the Colony with water.

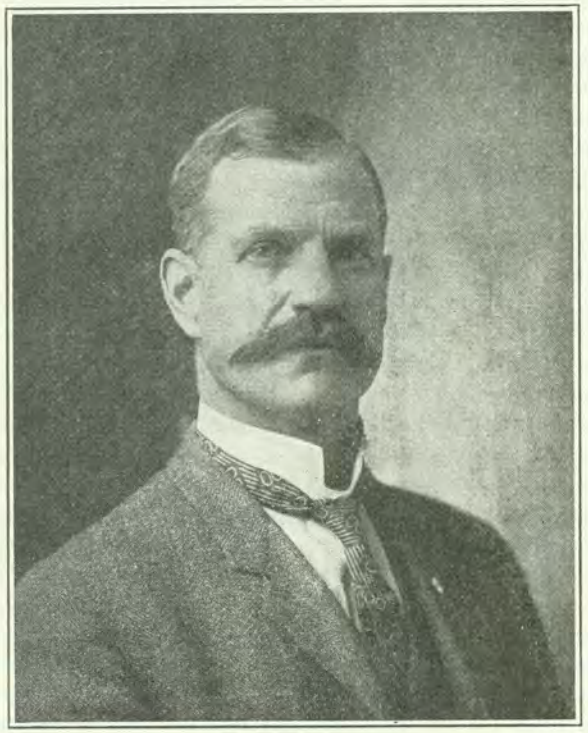
Next I went out to a farm one and a half miles north of Brighton to get some information on lime-coal. When I came back to Denver I went into the Red Lion Inn. Here I heard that there was a man looking for me. It flashed through my mind that here was an officer of the Humane Society, after me for almost killing Potato Clark's horses. As I started up the street a man tapped me on the shoulder, introduced himself as John K. Ashley, a government surveyor, and said that he had heard of me, that he was making up a party to do some surveying out east of Denver on the plains and that he would like to have me join the party. I immediately accepted the offer. There were seven of us in the party and we made camp just south of Kit Carson. This was in 1878. We started running out township lines. We ran the 3rd correction line south, forty miles south of Kit Carson. We started just west of Kit Carson and ran it through to the Kansas state line. There was lots of wild game and always plenty of meat at hand. We found buffalo and antelope meat a welcome change from a steady diet of beef. I often shot buffalo for camp meat. At Kit Carson I had met a government scout, Ed. Rilley, who ran the hotel and he had instructed me in the proper method of killing and dressing buffalo. He said to shoot right behind the left fore shoulder and it would drop them every time. I found that he was right.

From the Kansas line we came back to Kit Carson and ran the township lines north and east from there. While we were working here a band of Ute Indians passed near us. They had been down in Kansas raising cain under the leadership of old Pi-ah. Later we heard that they caught the brother of Lou McClain, station agent at Cheyenne Wells, out ten miles north of Cheyenne Wells, and had killed and scalped him.

In 1879 I went with a government survey up to Estes Park

to run township lines. Fishing was good, the streams abounding in native trout, and there was always fresh meat to be had for the killing.

From Estes the survey party went over into Middle Park. We started running township lines both to the north and south of Hot Sulphur Springs. This was in 1879. Here I met Williams, whom Williams Fork is named after and William Byers. Frank Byers had married one of the McQuery girls and lived in the Park. They



C. A. TREASE IN 1902

were divorced while I was there. The Byers owned all of the Hot Springs. Bill and Joe Coberly had a ranch here. They were cattlemen. I surveyed and sub-divided the township in which they lived. I had met them out on the plains, where they had land and were running cattle. They were in the Sand Creek Fight with Chivington.

Through the years 1879 and 1880 we worked in North Park and Middle Park. As the fall of 1880 came on, we were running the township line across Owl mountain. The whole crew was working in an endeavor to finish the line before winter set in; the

camp had been ordered to move around the mountain and meet us there at night-fall. At four o'clock it started to snow so we made haste to the place where the camp should have been—it wasn't there. Evidently our plans had not been made clear enough, and the camp hadn't moved; so the only thing to do was to make our way back across the mountain. By midnight the snow was up to our armpits in places. There were six of us and each of us had an instrument to carry. We formed a line and the only way we could move forward at all was by pushing the snow out from in front of us, then stepping forward. The going was plenty slow and we were tired and hungry to start with; but we kept moving all night through the storm. About nine o'clock in the morning we reached a ranch and safety, having traveled only a few miles in all that time.

North Park abounded in game. It was no trouble at all to go out and kill an antelope for meat, and grouse—well, they were just so thick you could not walk far without one whirring up right in front of you. There was plenty of deer, elk, and fish.

The first snow ended our work in the Park for the winter, so we started on the long trek home across Rabbit Ears range, and Berthoud Pass into Denver. We were driving teams and wagons. Sometimes the going down Rabbit Ears was so steep that we had to tie trees on behind to drag and act as brakes; the light snow made the going slippery and dangerous on the narrow road.

While working in North Park I decided to ride over to the Coberly ranch. The Colorado river was high but I swam my horse across just below Williams Fork, at the mouth of the Troublesome, near Barney Day's place. As I was riding along the trail toward Coberly's, I saw an Indian riding along the south side of the ridge. He didn't see me until I was almost upon him, when I recognized him as old Pi-ah, a little chief of the Utes, whom I had seen out on the plains. His gun was strapped on the side of the saddle under his leg, while I carried mine across the saddle in front of me. He surprised me by throwing up his hands. Then he started a long Indian talk; the gist of it all was, "How-de-do, how-de-do; me capetan, you capetan out on plains; big friends." When I got down to the ranch I learned he was wanted for murdering a white man (the brother of the station agent at Cheyenne Wells). Of course he was at a disadvantage in the encounter because of the position of his gun, but I often wonder why he didn't sneak back to get me. When I got to the ranch Coberly rushed out to me and excitedly demanded that I unsaddle and get in the house as fast as possible and he pointed up the side of the opposite mountain slope. There was a band of about 20 Utes. They would ride down the mountain slope at break-neck speed yelling at the top of their voices; when they seemed almost upon the house they would drop

into a little gully and ride up the ridge just beyond. They kept this up until almost after dark. We figured they were trying to scare us out and if they once got us on the run, they would have some fun using us as targets. We waited until we were sure they had gone, then got our horses and rode over to Sulphur Springs, swimming the Williams Fork, which was high from a recent rain. At the Springs they were amazed to see us ride out unharmed. Hot Sulphur Springs was strongly fortified and everyone had gathered here, for the Utes were really on the war path and several settlers had been killed.

While working in Middle Park, in 1879, I met Captain Dodge who was camped with his 44 negro troops near Hot Sulphur Springs. Dodge was a crack shot. You could toss up a coin and he could put a shot right through it with a rifle. I still have a dime that Dodge drilled with a rifle bullet. He was on his way to assist Meeker, but seemed in no particular hurry, I guess he did not fully realize the gravity of the situation, how tough the Utes were or how many of them there were. At Hot Sulphur he received word by mail that his services were needed at the agency at once. On September 29 he started for the agency again by way of Twelve-mile Park. Two days later we heard about the Meeker massacre and the death of Thornburg.

I worked in Denver that winter for the City Engineering Department. Edward Kellog was at the head of it. We laid out the plans for and built the old city hall. In January, 1882, I went to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to work out from there on a government surveying trip. We started out on March 2nd, and got back to Santa Fe on the 30th day of May. Those were the worst months I ever put in, in my whole life.

When we were getting ready to start, an Irishman came into camp, and said he was a plasterer and asked for work. His face was covered with red blotches which he explained as lime-poisoning. The Santa Fe doctor verified his diagnosis, so the man was hired and went along with our party. In about nine days, the smallpox broke out in camp. We were about 80 miles from Fort Wingate—the nearest doctor. Two men rode over to get the doctor but he refused to come. Eighty miles on horseback was no easy trip, and perhaps he feared he might carry the smallpox back to the government fort at Wingate, where he was stationed. However he sent back supplies and medicine and explained the best method of treating the disease. We saw that we need expect no outside help and would have to work it out among ourselves, so we immediately treated all drinking water with cream of tartar, which I am confident helped more than all the other remedies. I contracted it in a light form and never went to bed. Of the men that

went to bed and stayed, only one ever got up again. Two were fairly well on the way to recovery, when they lifted the side of their tent and let the wind blow in on them. They were laughing and having a great time when we found them and at once dropped the tent. But the damage was done; they had become chilled, which was fatal with black smallpox, and in two hours they were dead.

There were twelve men in my group when we started out. Five of them died. We rolled them up in their blankets and buried them there near the camp-site. Two of them, Neal and Armstrong, we buried only one-half mile out of Rosa, New Mexico. All of us who were able to be on our feet, kept right on working; it was the only way to avoid panic. One day several of them went a little berkshire (crazy), got together, hitched up a team and explained to me that they were going to "pull out of this filthy place at once." Albert W. Steele, later cartoonist of the Denver Post, was one of the group. I said, "How far will you get, Steele? Some of you have the smallpox. How far do you think you can go before the government stops you? They will get you right over there on the river bank." They decided not to try it. We kept on with the cream of tartar treatment and in a few more weeks, the remaining members of the party were all well.

The Indians contracted the smallpox and it spread like wildfire. An Indian was scared to death of the smallpox, and the first thing he would do when he realized he had the dread disease, was to jump into a stream to try to wash it away. Of course the chill invariably proved fatal.

I left Santa Fe May 30, 1882, for Durango, Colorado, where we did some government surveying on the San Juan; then we went to Fort Wingate, New Mexico. Here we ran the east line of the Navajo Reservation for sixteen miles. We ran out of water, so two men were sent back to the spring to bring in four kegs: that is, 40 gallons of water, on two horses. This was the first night out. The next morning we didn't have a drop of water for the men or horses. The kegs were simply empty. To this day no one knows how that water disappeared; it was just gone, and the kegs were still tightly plugged. We were now only twelve miles out of Fort Wingate, but, since we were working in a northerly direction, and knowing that there was a spring not far to the north, we decided not to go back, but to proceed with our work. We left one thing out of our calculations however, and that was through ignorance of the country. The whole face of the land was intersected by one deep canyon after another. We struck the head waters of the Rio Chico, then started following dry canyons, up and down, up and down, through a regular desert with the thermometer standing over 100°. The second day out found us still without water. One of the men went temporarily insane. He leaped from his horse,

and thinking that the white alkali prints left by the feet of animals were pools of water, he tried to drink from them. He filled his mouth with dust and sand; then his tongue started swelling so that it hung two inches out of his mouth and was as black as coal. We strapped him on his horse and went on up and down the canyons trying to get to the spring we knew to be just to the northwest of us.

On the morning of the third day, we realized we were almost upon the spring. Suddenly, quicker than you could snap your finger, a line of Navajo Indians seemed to appear from nowhere and blocked the canyon, several deep, all the way across, each holding a rifle. They refused to let us through to the spring. The horses, smelling water, tried to push through, but the Indians clubbed them back with their guns. They demanded whiskey but even when we showed them that the kegs were empty, they refused to let us through to water. One Indian was with them who had stayed for days in our camp and we had fed him. We appealed to him for the water we needed so badly but he stolidly refused to even talk with us. W. H. Placky, the instrument man, wanted to shoot it out with them but since there was around 300 of them, all armed with rifles, I persuaded him to go on. I knew of another spring 12 miles away; so taking two of the boys with me, I set out with our empty kegs and canteens to bring water back to camp. I reached the spring first, and when the others arrived I kept throwing water in their faces to prevent them from drinking too much all at once. When we got back to camp with our precious cargo of water, the men all rushed us, fought for their turns at the canteen, and washed their faces. The horses drank out of cups just like a man. We took turns dropping water upon the tongue of the poor fellow who had gone out of his head. By morning he was rational and able to drink from a canteen.

That night our horses broke loose and wandered away from camp. In the morning we saw an Indian driving them across the hills toward our camp. He proved to be the chief of the Navajo tribe that had blocked us out from the spring. He explained that he had been away at the time, but when he returned he was greatly displeased that his tribe had acted in that manner. He wanted us to return and stay with them until we were fit to go on. We now realized why the chief felt friendly towards us. It was due to the following incident which had happened just a few weeks previously. We were proceeding down the San Juan to the Mormon camp near Farmington, New Mexico. We had camped in the road about five miles from a spring where we could get water for the horses. Towards morning the camp was aroused by a band of horses which came dashing down the road, broke and ran all directions from our camp. A number of men followed and endeavored to round them up. A little later this same chief and a band of Indians

stopped at camp and asked if we had seen some white men who were stealing their horses. We pointed out the direction they had gone, and the chief, by taking a short cut, was able to overtake and recapture their entire band of from 70 to 80 horses. The rustlers abandoned the horses and made for McElmo Canyon, a hide-out for all sorts of outlaws.

When we finished this survey line, I went back to Durango, and came to Denver by train in September, 1882. The next spring I helped run the 3rd correction line west from Ohio City, Colorado. Several parties had contracts for running the lines but nothing could be done until the 3rd correction line was run. Kimberly had the government contract but was doing nothing, just letting men lie idly out of work. Jim Belford was backing me; so he wired Henry M. Teller, Secretary of the Interior, that Kimberly was doing nothing. Teller at once cancelled Kimberly's contract, and gave the work to me. I ran the line from Ohio City to Delta, over the West Elk mountains, across the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. This was indeed a real job, to cross the canyon. The river looked like a mere thread at the bottom, and how it did roar! We had to work down the canyon a long ways and then back up; most of us swam across the river. I had to run the line from Delta to the state line with just my own small party of men.

One day we reached a place where the pack-man said it was impossible to cross. I followed the game trails along the side of the mountain with sheer rock slides above and below. The game trails all converged at this point. However I saw the bench was too narrow for a horse with a pack to cross, for the pack would hit on the side of the mountain and bump him off. We tied three picket ropes on each horse; then as we pulled on the pack, the horses would lean out, and we could convey them across in safety. The bench was 50 yards across, and we took the fourteen horses all safely across, one at a time.

We worked right down to the Utah line, over the worst canyons you ever saw. I tried to persuade the boys to eat some of the other things, like oatmeal and rice, instead of so much flour; if we used a little flour each day, we could make it last. They couldn't see it that way, but when we finally ran out of flour; they had to eat the rice and oatmeal and how they did complain! At the state line we built our monument. On the way back we managed to buy two 25-pound sacks of flour from a homesteader on West Creek. It cost us $13.75 a sack.

Next we ran a line to Grand Junction, for twelve miles. I narrowly missed being killed. While on top of a mountain I slipped into a crevice filled with loose sandstone which loosened and started a slide. I spread my arms over each side of the crevice and thus saved both myself and my instrument from a fall of 350 feet. Just

a little later I tripped over a boulder, and threw my instrument. I dropped three times, and landed on my feet each lap; I must have fallen 30 feet in all. My instrument was smashed to bits. I sent it in to Denver and it cost me $180 to get it fixed. We still had the township and subdivision lines to run. We finished up in 1884. When Cleveland was elected, that changed everything for me, for I was a Republican.

I came back to Denver. In 1885 I started in with the County Surveyor in Denver. I surveyed all of Fort Logan in 1888-89, under Captain Campbell. In 1890 I was taken on by the city in the engineering department.

I played football with the Denver Athletic Club in 1893. We played two games during the World's Fair at Chicago, winning 8 to 0 against Northwestern University and losing to All-College Stars, 10 to 0. I played tackle, was six feet, two inches tall and weighed 212 pounds. I was also a member of the "Thirsty Wheel Club" and the "Century Club" and rode a "Victory Special" wheel. In 1886 I was a member of the Rio Grande Baseball team, playing at first base.

A change of political parties threw me out of work in Denver in 1895.

I then went to Cripple Creek on a mineral survey. In 1897 I came back and went to work with the Board of Public Works in Denver. Next I went to work for the Tramway as assistant engineer, and later, Chief Engineer. I reconstructed the whole system from the cable to the electric cars. After I completed this work, I obtained a position as City Engineer and have been in that department ever since. I was married in 1898 to Florence Edna Tripp, from Iowa. We had three children; two are living. My son Merritt Alexander Trease is in Honolulu with the government reclamation bureau; and my son Wilbur Steele Trease lives on our ranch near Littleton, Colorado.

Coming of the Sisters of Loretto to Denver and the Founding of St. Mary's Academy

Sister M. Lilliana Owens, S.L., Ph.D.

The discovery in July, 1938, of an old document by Sister Mary Antonella Hardy, S.L., archivist at the Loretto Mother House, has not only helped to establish the actual date of the founding of St. Mary's Academy but also gives a valuable account of the journey of the Sisters from Santa Fe to Denver. A copy of this document is in the historical files at St. Mary's Academy. It is entitled, "Sketch of the Pioneering to Denver, opening of the School, St.

Mary's Academy, June 1864," and was written by Sister Joanna Walsh, first Superior, for Sister Mary Vitalis Forshee,[1] Colorado's first high school graduate and St. Mary's first graduate. Until this document was discovered, the date of founding was considered as July 9, 1864.[2] The actual date of the foundation of the academy is June 27, 1864;[3] the formal opening took place on August 1, 1864.

Sister Joanna says the Sisters left Santa Fe in a mail coach drawn by three span of mules. This was the only means of transportation from Santa Fe to the new mission in Colorado. Father Raverdy and Captain Lambert were their companions. The coach drew up at Our Lady of Light Academy in Santa Fe on June 22, 1864. The three Sisters, Joanna Walsh, Ignacia Mora and Beatriz Maes, entered. Thus began the journey toward "The Queen City of the Plains." From Our Lady of Light Academy they drove to St. Michael's church, and from that historic building they cast a last look at their Convent home and "The City of Holy Faith."

The Civil War was actually in progress at this time. Soon the coach bearing the Sisters, Father Raverdy and Captain Lambert reached Glorieta battle field. The Sisters would have liked to linger here for awhile but they had to yield their submission to the will of the coach driver who seemed no more affected by the scene than if it were a meadow.

The coach in which they rode, according to Mother Joanna's description,[4] was a rusty looking affair, with sitting room for four passengers. Father Raverdy and Captain Lambert occupied the seat back of the driver; the Sisters tried to accommodate themselves to the space afforded by the other. The road was very rough, and Sister Joanna says the fear of being dashed against the passengers in the seat in front of them caused the Sisters no little annoyance. This ordeal continued for five days and five nights, but with intervals of rest as the driver stopped for meals and sometimes to get a relay of mules.

The accommodations at the first stopping place were all that could have been desired, but as the coach advanced beyond the lines of civilization these changed. At the second station the Sisters,

[1]Formerly, Jessie Forshee. See "Colorado's Pioneer Graduate," in the *Colorado Magazine*, XIV, 173-177.

[2]Anna C. Minogue, *Loretto: Annals of a Century*, 186. See also my *History of the Sisters of Loretto in the Trans-Mississippi West*, Ch. VIII, in the St. Louis University Library, St. Louis, Missouri; also, "Denver's Pioneer Academy," in the *Colorado Magazine*, XIV, 85-92.

[3]Sister Mary Joanna Walsh's *"Sketch,"* etc., on page 2 says "they gazed on the *June* sun in its vespertine gorgeousness." On page 1, she states, "this ordeal was to last five days and five nights." *The Anales de Neustra Señora de La Luz*, by Hermana Maria Magdalen Hayden, S.L., tells us the matter definitely, "Father Machebeuf . . . sent Father Raverdy, his assistant, for them on June 22, 1864." *The Rocky Mountain News*, June 29, 1864, mentions the fact that Father Raverdy had just arrived with three Sisters of Loretto.

[4]See "Sketch of the Pioneering to Denver," etc., by Sister Joanna Walsh, first Superior, in the Archives of Loretto Mother House, Nerinx P. O., Ky. There is also a copy of this in the Historical Files at St. Mary's Academy, 1370 Pennsylvania Street, Denver, Colorado.

covered with dust and fatigued by the journey, hoped to refresh themselves with an ablution of soap and water. They were shown to an apartment corresponding to their own dusty condition. Looks of disappointment were exchanged, but they did not give up hopes. One of the group had seen a small creek not far away as they approached the house. They quickly directed their steps to this spot as they wished to be able to be back in the house in time for the evening meal. They were rather reluctant to enter the dining room after their experience in the small bedroom above. To their surprise they found great order and cleanliness prevailing there. The hostess was neatly dressed, very polite and hospitable to them. Her dishes were savory and the table linen was clean and white.

After supper the Sisters said the prayers prescribed by their rule. During the interim that remained the trio gazed on the June sun and found comfort in the thought that at least they had this lovely sight in common with the community they had so recently left in Santa Fe, New Mexico. As soon as the mail coach was ready their musings were ended; and the Sisters took their places in it for a night travel. They stopped once during the night for a relay of mules. Dawn brought them to their next stop, a lone little house. After much knocking, and calling they were able to arouse the man of the house. He invited them to remain for breakfast and immediately set about preparing it himself. The fare was a novel one. It consisted of hard bread, rice, goat's milk and cow's milk.[5] As they did not expect another meal until very late in the day Father Raverdy advised that they add something from their own lunch box in the coach. The driver remained at this place for many hours. This gave the Sisters an opportunity of walking about the fields. The appearance of the driver warned them to prepare for another lap of their journey.

The night of the fourth day they arrived at a small frame house at about 10 p. m. Here they were served to cold milk and cold apple pie, almost raw.[6] At this stop a judge and banker joined their party. Captain Lambert had left the party some time previous. The night was very dark. There was no light except the rays from the coach lamp until the moon favored them with her borrowed rays. The coach sped on with comparative smoothness until the mules plunged into a slough or mud-hole. The passengers were forced to alight. As there was no possible way of extricating the coach from the quagmire, the driver unhitched one of the mules and drove two or three miles back to the little station for assistance. Soon the driver and the assistant returned and they were soon able to proceed on their way. After a lengthy ride

[5]*Ibid.*, 2.

[6]*Ibid.*, 3.

the driver slackened the pace of the mules to give the passengers a glimpse of the "Garden of the Gods"[7] which they were passing.

Their next stop was at the Church at Auraria (Denver), St. Mary's Catholic Church. Close by was the unpretentious residence of the Vicar General, which gave the pioneer Lorettines some idea of his missionary zeal and self-sacrifice. A warm welcome awaited them here. The Sisters were so fatigued that they were scarcely able to enjoy it at the time. Later the memory of it swept over

"THE WHITE HOUSE" (OLD ST. MARY'S)
At Fourteenth and California Streets, Denver. Former Home of George W. Clayton. Purchased by Father Machebeuf in 1864.

them to bring them courage and comfort in their daily struggles there in the pioneer academy. After lunch, which was served in Father Machebeuf's dining room,[8] the Sisters were conducted to their new home on California Street, known as the "White House."[9] One of the ladies suggested that they rest for awhile. This was most acceptable to the Sisters as they had not really slept since they left Santa Fe on June 22. They were left alone and not disturbed again until six o'clock that evening. After the evening meal the Sisters said their night prayers in the little dining room

[7]*Ibid.*, 4.
[8]*Ibid.*, 4.
[9]See *Rocky Mountain News*, Seventy-Fifth Edition, Sunday, April 22, 1935, p. 9. "March, 1864, Father Machebeuf—who was to become the first Catholic bishop of Colorado—purchased for $4,000 the two-story frame home of George W. Clayton and the grounds extending along California to Fifteenth Street. . . ."

of their new home, and then went through the house to select the most suitable room for their oratory—or chapel. Here for the first time they sang *Hail to the Queen.*[10]

School opened with a goodly number of pupils.[11] The three Sisters had to do everything themselves as no help was to be had in the little town that surrounded them. The hope of shortly receiving other recruits from the Mother House gave them courage. There was a sameness in the duties that had to be performed in that little convent home on Fourteenth and California Streets; but the Civil War was in progress and from time to time the monotony was broken by the tales of war events, of battles lost and gained, and finally by the message "Richmond is taken" that flashed over the wires.

There was another species of warfare at this time, besides that of the Civil War. It was the constant fear of Indian depredations. It was no unusual thing for the Sisters to see a company of fierce warriors marching down Fifteenth Street, mounted four abreast on splendid horses, and waving triumphantly a human scalp placed on the end of a long pole.[12]

The first winter arrived sooner than they had expected. The Sisters were not equipped to meet its rigors. The dormitory was very cold, as were the other rooms. The cold became so intense that daily the Sisters heard rumors of persons being frozen to death. They did the best they could with the aid of Father Machebeuf and Father Raverdy to keep themselves and their boarders from freezing. The privations of this first winter taught them many things. As the years rolled on they were able to make the needed improvements. In a few months three other Sisters were sent from Santa Fe to the Colorado Mission. These were Sisters Ann Joseph Mattingly, Sister Luisa Romero[13] and Sister Agatha Wall. By 1872 the Sisters were able to erect a building suitable to the needs of the time, and in 1875 St. Mary's gave its first high school diploma, the first high school diploma bestowed upon a graduate in Colorado, to Miss Jessie Forshee.[14]

[10]See "Sketch," etc., *op. cit.*, 4.
[11]*Ibid.*, 4. The *Rocky Mountain News* of July 20, 1864, carries the following story: "St. Mary's Academy—This new Seminary under the care of the Sisters of Loretto, will be opened here on the first of August, and will be conducted in the successful style of the first class schools of the States. Apart from peculiarity of tenets connected with Catholic seminaries in our country, oft-times obnoxious to parties holding to the Protestant policy, it cannot be denied that schools, such as the above is intended to be, have accomplished and are still accomplishing an immense amount of good in the cause of thorough and accomplished education. We hail good schools everywhere and of every kind, as one of the most cheering signs of American civilization. . . . The highest ideal of a well ordered State or Territory, should be realized in advanced and advancing conditions of female refinement. We should sustain to the utmost all the institutions whose object is to develop the charming qualities of modest intelligence, grace, generosity of character and geniality of temper, which are calculated to adorn, protect and dignify."
[12]See "Sketch," etc., *op. cit.*, 8.
[13]There is a picture of Sister Luisa Romero in the Historical Files at St. Mary's Academy, Denver, Colorado.
[14]This high school diploma is now in the Historical Museum at St. Mary's Academy. For the story of Miss Jessie Forshee see "Colorado's Pioneer Graduate," in the *Colorado Magazine*, XIV, 173-177.